A Black History Month Message from Pastor Taylor

Lift Every Voice And Sing! These words are from the first stanza of the Negro National Anthem. They echo a sentiment that has energized our people, our movements, and yes, our churches over the centuries. The singing of God’s people has brought us through dangers mostly seen, and many unseen. Our songs of faith gave us the courage, the hope, and the fortitude to keep on pressing forward towards freedom.

In this month designated as “Black History Month” we will hear some of the songs that brought us this far. But more than that, we will be reminded that it was faith and faith alone that kept an oppressed people optimistic. Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. The Hebrew writer emphatically states in the 11 chapter, “By faith...by faith...by faith...” depicting countless miracles, sufferings, and victories of God’s people who journeyed as homeless folk in a shelterless brutal existence.

Therefore, while this month gives us an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of our people, we also remember that it was faith that fueled the fight. That faith was not placed in humanity, but in Divinity! To that end, we return back to the words found in the Negro National Anthem, last stanza; “God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way, Thou who hast by Thy Might, led us into the light, keep us forever in the path we pray!”

Welcome to the Community Baptist Church of Englewood as we remember the journey!

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