

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING
TILL EARTH AND HEAVEN RING
RING WITH THE HARMONIES OF LIBERTY
LET OUR REJOICING RISE
HIGH AS THE LISTENING SKIES
LET IT RESOUND LOUD AS THE ROLLING SEA
SING A SONG FULL OF THE FAITH THAT THE DARK
PAST HAS TAUGHT US
SING A SONG FULL OF THE HOPE THAT THE
PRESENT HAS BROUGHT US
FACING THE RISING SUN OF OUR NEW DAY
BEGUN
LET US MARCH ON TILL VICTORY IS WON
STONY THE ROAD WE TROD
BITTER THE CHASTENING ROD
FELT IN THE DAYS WHEN HOPE UNBORN HAD
DIED
YET WITH A STEADY BEAT
HAVE NOT OUR WEARY FEET
COME TO THE PLACE FOR WHICH OUR FATHERS
SIGHED?
WE HAVE COME OVER A WAY THAT WITH TEARS
HAS BEEN WATERED
WE HAVE COME, TREADING OUR PATH THROUGH
THE BLOOD OF THE SLAUGHTERED
OUT FROM THE GLOOMY PAST
TILL NOW WE STAND AT LAST
WHERE THE WHITE GLEAM OF OUR BRIGHT STAR
IS CAST
GOD OF OUR WEARY YEARS
GOD OF OUR SILENT TEARS
THOU WHO HAS BROUGHT US THUS FAR ON THE
WAY
THOU WHO HAS BY THY MIGHT LED US INTO THE
LIGHT
KEEP US FOREVER IN THE PATH, WE PRAY
LEST OUR FEET STRAY FROM THE PLACES, OUR
GOD, WHERE WE MET THEE
LEST, OUR HEARTS DRUNK WITH THE WINE OF
THE WORLD, WE FORGET THEE
SHADOWED BENEATH THY HAND
MAY WE FOREVER STAND
TRUE TO OUR GOD
TRUE TO OUR NATIVE LAND
OUR NATIVE LAND

SONGWRITERS: JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
JOHN ROSAMOND JOHNSON

MLK Banquet Committee

Idell Gill
LaPorsche Gullatte
Walter Lacey
Erica T. Gunn Manning
Pamela Williams

Caterers

Feleisa Lovejoy
Diane Dewhart

Thank you to our Sponsors

The City of Wetumpka
525 Technology
Hillside Memorial

ABOUT THE ECCIL

The Elmore County Civic Improvement League (ECCIL) is a non-profit organization. We are here to promote awareness of social and civic relations within the Elmore County community.



THE ELMORE COUNTY CIVIC
IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE AND
THE CITY OF WETUMPKA
PRESENT

*"Injustice Anywhere
is a Threat to
Justice Everywhere"*

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

IN COMMEMORATION OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

JANUARY 15, 2023 | 3 PM
WETUMPKA CIVIC CENTER

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

SHERELL LYKES MCGREW



Mrs. Sherell Lykes McGrew is a proud Wetumpka native and the daughter of Johnny and Annie Lee Lykes. Sherell is a 1997 graduate of Wetumpka High School. She is married to Colonel Wade McGrew who serves in the United States Space Force and they have two children, Camryn and Miles. Sherell has served 21 years in the United States Air Force as a Cyberspace Operations Officer. She has been assigned to various Air Force and Space Force leadership positions to include twice as a squadron commander at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia and Vandenberg Space Force Base, California. Most recently Sherell served as the Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of the Air Force, Pentagon, Washington District of Columbia. She earned a bachelor's degree in Information Systems from Auburn University at Montgomery, Alabama in 2001. She received her commission from the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, Detachment 19, Alabama State University in 2002, where she currently serves on the Alumni Chapter mentoring cadets and newly commissioned officers. Sherell deployed to Baghdad, Iraq where she served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and earned the Global War on Terrorism medal. Additionally, Sherell earned her master's degree in Leadership and Management from Troy University, Alabama in 2005 and a second master's degree in Military Operational Art and Science from Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama in 2015. She will receive her third master's degree in National Security and Resource Strategy in June 2023 from The Eisenhower School, Ft. McNair, Washington District of Columbia. Sherell will pin on the rank of Colonel, 1 April 2023.

Awards and Decorations

Meritorious Service Medal (5 Oak Leaf Clusters)
 Joint Service Commendation Medal
 Air and Space Commendation Medal
 Joint Meritorious Unit Award
 Meritorious Unit Award
 Air and Space Outstanding Unit Award (4 Oak Leaf Clusters)
 National Defense Service Medal
 Iraq Campaign Medal (1 Service Star)
 Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
 Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal
 Air and Space Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border
 Air and Space Longevity Service Award (4 Oak Leaf Clusters)

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

EVANGELIST IDELL GILL, PRESIDING

Pledge of Allegiance

Keliscia Ward and DaKaden Chatman

Scripture

Pastor Johnathan Yarbrough

Invocation and Blessing

Reverend Claude Shuford

Welcome

Mayor Jerry Willis

Acknowledgment of Elected Officials

Walter Lacey, ECCIL President

Music Selection

Lakerri Gill and Judas Jackson

Presentation of Lynching Project

Jana Venable and Dr. John Giggie
 University of Alabama and
 Billie Rawls, Elmore County Black
 History Museum, Curator



Dinner

Dr. King's Letter from Birmingham Jail

Bobby Mays, Elmore County NAACP, President

Presentation and Awards

MLK Banquet Committee

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Erica T. Gunn Manning

Keynote Speaker

Sherell Lykes McGrew
 Colonel (Select) United States Air Force

Song

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Benediction

Reverend William T. Griffin

AWARD RECIPIENTS



Bishop Hurdis Bozeman is the recipient of the **2023 W.B. Doby Award** for exemplifying a lifelong passion and commitment to serving the Lord and her community. Bishop Hurdis Bozeman is a Trailblazer for Women in Ministry.



Ruth Duncan is the recipient of the **2023 Lewis Peake Community Service Award** for unyielding dedication to community service and increasing the quality of life for others.



Trent Hetherington is the recipient of the **2023 Percy B. Gill Visionary Award**. He is a visionary who possesses the relatively unique skill of foresight. He is able to connect divergent thoughts into a whole and foresee the future outcomes well before others.



Jacqueline Lacey is the recipient of the **2023 Thomas Daniels Outstanding Citizen Award**. As a midwife and staunch advocate for patient care she has made tremendous strides by providing education outreach and awareness in the Elmore County community.



Reverend Bernard Martin is the recipient of the **2023 S.W. White Leadership Award**. His leadership and passion for social justice is unwavering.



Gwendolyn Turner is the recipient of the **2023 Dr. Joseph Bradford Excellence Award** for making an exceptional and sustainable impact to the Elmore County community. She is a servant leader, and the servant leader always asks, "Where am I needed most?"