## EASTER SKIT FOR BLACK CHURCHES

THE BLACK CHURCH IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCEBLACK CHURCH BEGINNINGSBLACK CHURCH STUDIESFORTRESS INTRODUCTION TO BLACK CHURCH HISTORYMIGHTY LIKE A RIVERBLACK CHURCHES IN TEXASTHE BLACK CHURCHYOUR SPIRITS WALK BESIDE USPRACTICAL THEOLOGY FOR BLACK CHURCHESTHE BLACK CHURCH - WHERE WOMEN PRAY AND MEN PREYEVANGELISM & DISCIPLESHIP IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCHESREVIVING THE BLACK CHURCHGOD HELP USITHE BLACK CHURCH IN AMERICATHEIR OWN RECEIVE THEM NOTIN SEARCH OF WISDOMANOTHER DAY'S JOURNEYFOR MY PEOPLETHE BLACK CHURCHHIGH IMPACT AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCHES C. ERIC LINCOLN HENRY H. MITCHELL STACEY FLOYD-THOMAS ANNE H. PINN ANDREW BILLINGSLEY CLYDE MCQUEEN LEROY E. ADAMS JR. BARBARA DIANNE SAVAGE DALE P. ANDREWS DEBORRAH COOPER LEE N. JUNE THABITI ANYABWILE RAYNARD SMITH MICHAEL BATTLE HORACE L. GRIFFIN PROF. ANNE E. STREATY WIMBERLY ROBERT MICHAEL FRANKLIN JAMES H. CONE HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR. GEORGE BARNA
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A NONGOVERNMENTAL SURVEY OF URBAN AND RURAL CHURCHES OF BLACK COMMUNITIES BASED ON A TEN YEAR STUDY

BLACK CHURCH BEGINNINGS PROVIDES AN INTIMATE LOOK AT THE STRUGGLES OF AFRICAN AMERICANS TO ESTABLISH SPIRITUAL COMMUNITIES IN THE HARSH WORLD OF SLAVERY IN THE AMERICAN COLONIES WRITTEN BY ONE OF TODAY S FOREMOST EXPERTS ON AFRICAN AMERICAN RELIGION THIS BOOK TRACES THE GROWTH OF THE BLACK CHURCH FROM ITS START IN THE MID 1700s TO THE END OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY AS HENRY MITCHELL SHOWS THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES DIDN T JUST ORGANIZE THEY LABORED HARD LONG AND SACRIFICIALLY TO FORM A MEANINGFUL INDEPENDENT FAITH MITCHELL INSIGHTFULLY TAKES READERS INSIDE THIS PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT HE CANDIDLY EXAMINES THE CHALLENGE OF FINDING ADEQUATELY TRAINED PASTORS FOR NEW LOCAL CONGREGATIONS CONFRONTATIONS RESULTING FROM INTERNAL CLASS STRUCTURE IN BIG CITY CHURCHES AND OBSTACLES POSED BY EMERGING DENOMINATIONALISM ORIGINAL IN ITS SUBJECT MATTER AND SINGULAR IN ITS ANALYSIS MITCHELL S BLACK CHURCH BEGINNINGS MAKES A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY OF AMERICAN CHURCH HISTORY

RELIGIOUS STUDIESOVER THE LAST THIRTY YEARS AFRICAN AMERICAN VOICES AND PERSPECTIVES HAVE BECOME ESSENTIAL TO THE STUDY OF THE VARIOUS THEOLOGICAL DISCIPLINES WRITING OUT OF THEIR PARTICULAR POSITION IN THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTEXT AFRICAN AMERICAN THINKERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO BIBLICAL STUDIES THEOLOGY CHURCH HISTORY ETHICS SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION HOMILETICS PASTORAL CARE AND A NUMBER OF OTHER FIELDS FREQUENTLY THE WORK OF THESE AFRICAN AMERICAN SCHOLARS IS BROUGHT TOGETHER IN THE SEMINARY CURRICULUM UNDER THE RUBRIC OF THE BLACK CHURCH STUDIES CLASS DRAWING ON THESE SEVERAL DISCIPLINES THE BLACK CHURCH STUDIES CLASS SEEKS TO GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF THE BROAD MEANING OF CHRISTIAN FAITH IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE UP TO NOW HOWEVER THERE HAS NOT BEEN A SINGLE COMPREHENSIVE TEXTBOOK DESIGNED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS AND INSTRUCTORS IN THESE CLASSES BLACK CHURCH STUDIES AN INTRODUCTION WILL MEET THAT NEED DRAWING ON THE WORK OF SPECIALISTS IN SEVERAL FIELDS IT INTRODUCES ALL OF THE CORE THEOLOGICAL DISCIPLINES FROM AN AFRICAN AMERICAN STANDPOINT FROM AFRICAN AMERICAN AMERICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES IT WILL BECOME AN INDISPENSABLE RESOURCE FOR ALL THOSE PREPARING TO SERVE IN AFRICAN AMERICAN CONGREGATIONS OR TO UNDERSTAND AFRICAN AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STUDY OF CHRISTIAN FAITH LOOKS AT THE DIVERSE DEFINITIONS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BLACK CHURCH AS WELL AS THE WAYS IN WHICH RACE CLASS RELIGION AND GENDER INFORM ITS EVOLUTION PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE VIEW OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP TO THE CURRENT THEOLOGICAL DISCUSSION WRITTEN BY SCHOLARS WITH BROAD EXPERTISE IN A

NUMBER OF SUBJECT AREAS AND DISCIPLINES WILL ENABLE THE READER TO RELATE THE WORK OF AFRICAN AMERICAN THEOLOGICAL SCHOLARS TO THE TASKS OF PREACHING TEACHING AND LEADING IN LOCAL CONGREGATIONS WILL PROVIDE THE READER THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE UNDERSTANDING OF AFRICAN AMERICAN THEOLOGICAL SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE IN ONE VOLUME STACEY FLOYD THOMAS BRITE DIVINITY SCHOOLJUAN FLOYD THOMAS TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITYCAROL B DUNCAN WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITYSTEPHEN G RAY JR LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY PHILADELPHIANANCY LYNNE WESTFIELD DREW UNIVERSITYTHEOLOGY THEOLOGY AND DOCTRINE CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGY

THIS VOLUME CO AUTHORED BY A BLACK MINISTER AND A BLACK THEOLOGIAN PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF THE SHAPE AND HISTORY OF MAJOR BLACK RELIGIOUS BODIES METHODIST

BAPTIST AND PENTECOSTAL IT INTRODUCES THE DENOMINATIONS AND THEIR DEMOGRAPHICS BEFORE RELATING THEIR HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT INTO THE GROUPS THAT ARE KNOWN TODAY

THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN PEOPLE THERE HAS BEEN NO STRONGER RESOURCE FOR OVERCOMING ADVERSITY THAN THE BLACK CHURCH FROM ITS ROLE IN LEADING A GROUP OF FREE BLACKS TO FORM A COLONY IN SIERRA LEONE IN THE 1790s TO HELPING EX SLAVES AFTER THE CIVIL WAR AND FROM PLAYING MAJOR ROLES IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT TO OFFERING COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS IN AMERICAN CITIES TODAY BLACK CHURCHES HAVE BEEN THE FOCAL POINT OF SOCIAL CHANGE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES BASED ON EXTENSIVE RESEARCH OVER SEVERAL YEARS MIGHTY LIKE A RIVER IS THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE ACCOUNT OF HOW BLACK CHURCHES HAVE HELPED SHAPE AMERICAN SOCIETY AN EXPERT IN AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURE ANDREW BILLINGSLEY SURVEYS NEARLY A THOUSAND BLACK CHURCHES ACROSS THE COUNTRY INCLUDING ITS OLDEST THE FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH IN SAVANNAH GEORGIA THESE BLACK CHURCHES WHOSE ROOTS EXTEND BACK TO ANTEBELLUM TIMES HAVE PERIODICALLY CONFRONTED SOCIAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS FACING THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY MIGHTY LIKE A RIVER ADDRESSES SUCH QUESTIONS AS HOW WIDESPREAD AND EFFECTIVE IS THE COMMUNITY ACTIVITY OF BLACK CHURCHES WHAT ARE THE PATTERNS OF ACTIVITIES BEING UNDERTAKEN TODAY HOW DO ACTIVIST CHURCHES CONFRONT SUCH PROBLEMS AS FAMILY INSTABILITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AIDS AND OTHER HEALTH ISSUES AND CARE FOR THE ELDERLY WITH PROFILES OF THE REMARKABLE BLACK HEROES AND HEROINES WHO HELPED CREATE THE ACTIVIST CHURCH AND A COMPELLING AGENDA FOR EXPANDING THE BLACK CHURCH S ROLE IN SOCIETY AT LARGE MIGHTY LIKE A RIVER IS AN INSPIRATIONAL VISIONARY AND DEFINITIVE ACCOUNT OF THE SUBJECT

IN THIS BOOK THE AUTHOR CATALOGUES 375 BLACK CONGREGATIONS EACH AT LEAST ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD IN THE PARTS OF TEXAS WHERE MOST BLACKS WERE LIKELY TO HAVE

SETTLED EAST OF INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 35 AND FROM THE RED RIVER TO THE GULF OF MEXICO NINETY NINE COUNTIES ARE DIVIDED INTO FIVE REGIONS CENTRAL TEXAS EAST TEXAS

THE GULF COAST NORTH TEXAS AND SOUTH TEXAS

THE BLACK CHURCH IS A HISTORY OF A RICH PAST A VIBRANT PRESENT AND A PROMISING FUTURE PARTICULARLY WITHIN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY THE BLACK CHURCH HAS A WEALTHY TRADITION OF RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE IN THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH THE BURDEN OF CONVENTIONAL VIEWS REGARDING THE BLACK CHURCH IN OUR SOCIETY IS VAGUE AND OFTEN DISREGARDED IN THE MAINSTREAM OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH DUE TO THE LACK OF KNOWLEDGE AND POSSIBLE STEREOTYPICAL MIND SETS TO RESOLVE THIS THE BLACK CHURCH S IDENTITY MUST BE EXPRESSED AND RESPECTED IN THE HISTORY OF CHRISTENDOM THE BLACK CHURCH HAS ALWAYS BEEN A BEACON OF HOPE TO MANY PEOPLE OF COLOR WHO SEARCH FOR STRENGTH FELLOWSHIP AND VALIDATION WITH THEIR FAITH IN GOD AND AMONG ALL CHRISTIAN BELIEVERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

EVEN BEFORE THE EMERGENCE OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT WITH BLACK CHURCHES AT ITS CENTER AFRICAN AMERICAN RELIGION AND PROGRESSIVE POLITICS WERE ASSUMED TO BE INEXTRICABLY INTERTWINED IN HER REVELATORY BOOK BARBARA SAVAGE COUNTERS THIS ASSUMPTION WITH THE STORY OF A HIGHLY DIVERSIFIED RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY WHOSE DEBATES OVER ENGAGEMENT IN THE STRUGGLE FOR RACIAL EQUALITY WERE AS VIGOROUS AS THEY WERE PERSISTENT RATHER THAN INEVITABLE ALLIES BLACK CHURCHES AND POLITICAL ACTIVISTS HAVE BEEN UNEASY AND CONTENTIOUS PARTNERS FROM THE 1920s ON SOME OF THE BEST AFRICAN AMERICAN MINDS WE B DU BOIS CARTER G WOODSON BENJAMIN MAYS NANNIE HELEN BURROUGHS MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE CHARLES S JOHNSON AND OTHERS ARGUED TIRELESSLY ABOUT THE CHURCHES RESPONSIBILITY IN THE QUEST FOR RACIAL JUSTICE COULD THEY BE A LIBERAL FORCE OR WOULD THEY BE A CONSTRAINT ON PROGRESS THERE WAS NO SINGLE UNIFIED BLACK CHURCH BUT RATHER MANY CHURCHES MARKED BY ENORMOUS INTELLECTUAL THEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL DIFFERENCES AND INDEPENDENCE YET CONFRONTED BY RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND POVERTY CHURCHES WERE CALLED UPON AGAIN AND AGAIN TO COME TOGETHER AS SAVIOR INSTITUTIONS FOR BLACK COMMUNITIES THE TENSION BETWEEN FAITH AND POLITICAL ACTIVISM IN BLACK CHURCHES TESTIFIES TO THE DIFFICULT AND UNPREDICTABLE PROJECT OF COUPLING RELIGION AND POLITICS IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY BY RETRIEVING THE PEOPLE THE POLEMICS AND THE POWER OF THE SPIRITUAL THAT ANIMATED AFRICAN AMERICAN POLITICAL LIFE SAVAGE HAS DRAMATICALLY DEMONSTRATED THE CHALLENGE TO ALL RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS SEEKING POLITICAL CHANGE IN OUR TIME

EXPLORING THE CONCEPT OF CHURCH AS REFUGE OFFERS A WAY TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN BLACK THEOLOGY WITH ITS SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CONCERNS AND BLACK CHURCHES WITH
THEIR EMPHASES ON PASTORAL CARE AND PIETY

THIS BOOK CONTINUES AN UNCOMFORTABLE EXAMINATION OF PROSPERITY GOSPEL THE CON GAME OF RELIGION AND SLICK PREACHERS THE TRUTH IS REVEALED ABOUT THE MANY WAYS

BLACK WOMEN ARE SET UP IN CHURCHES BY UNSCRUPULOUS MEN OUT TO CONTROL DEMEAN SEXUALLY ABUSE AND ROB THEM AND THEIR CHILDREN BACK COVER

HERE IS A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE HOW TO S OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCH AND MANY ASPECTS OF ITS MINISTRY

IS THE BLACK CHURCH DYING THE PICTURE IS MIXED AND THERE ARE MANY CHALLENGES THE CHURCH NEEDS SPIRITUAL REVIVAL BUT REVIVING AND STRENGTHENING THE BLACK CHURCH WILL REQUIRE GREAT WISDOM AND COURAGE REVIVING THE BLACK CHURCH CALLS US BACK TO ANOTHER TIME BORROWING THE WISDOM OF EARLIER FAITHFUL CHRISTIANS BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY IT CALLS US BACK TO THE BIBLE ITSELF FOR THERE WE FIND THE DIVINE WISDOM NEEDED TO SEE ALL QUARTERS OF THE BLACK CHURCH LIVE AGAIN THRIVING IN THE SPIRIT OF GOD IT S PASTOR AND CHURCH PLANTER THABITI ANYABWILE S HUMBLE PRAYER THAT THIS BOOK MIGHT BE USEFUL TO PASTORS AND FAITHFUL LAY MEMBERS IN REVIVING AT LEAST SOME QUARTERS OF THE BLACK CHURCH AND CHURCHES OF EVERY ETHNICITY AND CONTEXT ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

GRIEF AND LOSS ARE FAMILIAR STORIES IN THE BIBLE SO ARE STORIES OF IMMIGRATION AND BELONGING SO ARE STORIES OF INCARCERATION RECONCILIATION PARENTING AND COMPLICATED FAMILIES GOD HELP US SHINES LIGHT ON THE RELEVANCE OF THESE STORIES FOR PASTORAL SOLIDARITY IN CONTEMPORARY BLACK CHURCHES

EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF THE BLACK CHURCH IN AMERICA ITS AFRICAN ROOTS ITS BELIEFS PRACTICES POLITICS AND MORAL DILEMMAS EPISCOPAL PRIEST MICHAEL BATTLE GIVES
READERS A BROAD UNDERSTANDING OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY AND A SENSE OF ITS UNIQUENESS IN THE WIDER WORLD

THIS BOOK OFFERS NEW APPROACHES TO UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE AND HOMOSEXUALITY THROUGH PASTORAL THEOLOGY AND BLACK LIBERATION THEOLOGY THE AUTHOR PROVIDES A
HISTORICAL OVERVIEW AND CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE BLACK CHURCH AND ITS CURRENT ENGAGEMENT WITH LESBIAN AND GAY CHRISTIANS AND SHARES WAYS IN WHICH BLACK CHURCHES

CAN LEARN TO REACH OUT AND CONFRONT ALL TYPES OF OPPRESSION NOT JUST RACE IN ORDER TO DO THE WORK OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY

EDITED BY ANNE E STREATY WIMBERLY A GUIDE FOR PASTORS CHURCH LEADERS AND ALL WHO HELP AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THEIR SEARCH FOR A MEANINGFUL CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE
FORMING CHRISTIANS LEADING FALLEN AND FLAWED HUMAN BEINGS INTO THE PATH OF DISCIPLESHIP TO A CRUCIFIED AND RISEN LORD IS ONE OF THE CENTRAL IF NOT THE CENTRAL TASKS

OF ALL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES IT IS A DIFFICULT ENOUGH TASK ANYWHERE BUT FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS BESET BY RACIAL CONFLICT PERSONAL CRISES GENERATIONAL SEPARATION AND

OTHER CONCERNS IT IS ESPECIALLY SO AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES MUST WORK PARTICULARLY HARD TO COUNTER THE MESSAGES THEIR MEMBERS RECEIVE FROM THE DOMINANT AND

OFTEN UNFRIENDLY CULTURE THIS BOOK EMPLOYS THE BIBLICAL TEXT AND AFRICAN TRADITION TO DRAW ON THE IDEA OF THE SEARCH FOR WISDOM AS A POTENT WAY TO HELP

AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THEIR PURSUIT OF GENUINE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP WISDOM IN AFRICAN AMERICAN TRADITION IS NOT SIMPLY KNOWLEDGE RATHER IT IS THOSE INSIGHTS ATTITUDES

BELIEFS BEHAVIORS AND PRACTICES THAT CREATE AND SUSTAIN A LIFE OF HOPE AND THAT PRODUCE AN INHERENT SENSE OF THE WORTH OF ONE S SELF IF THEIR MEMBERS ARE TO

ENGAGE IN THE SEARCH FOR WISDOM AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES MUST BUILD AN INTENTIONAL MINISTRY OF FAITH FORMATION WISDOM CAN BE GAINED THE AUTHORS ARGUE WHEN

AFRICAN AMERICANS LISTEN TO THE BLACK ORAL TRADITION WITH ITS PROVERBIAL SAYINGS REVERED BIBLE STORIES SONGS AND NARRATIVES FROM THE LIVES OF EXEMPLARY INDIVIDUALS

THE BOOK OFFERS SEVERAL SIMILAR AVENUES FOR THE SEARCH FOR WISDOM INCLUDING HELPFUL MODELS OF BLACK MALES MENTORING YOUNGER BLACK MALES AS A REMEDY TO THE

DESTRUCTIVE EFFECTS THAT CONTEMPORARY CULTURE HAS ON THIS SEGMENT OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

FRANKLIN S BOOK URGES DIRECT ENGAGEMENT BY AFRICAN AMERICAN AND OTHER CHURCHES WITH AMERICA S MOUNTING SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND DETAILS PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN ELDERS
AND ECONOMIC ACTION

LOOKS AT THE HISTORY OF BLACK THEOLOGY DISCUSSES ITS RELATIONSHIP TO WHITE AND LIBERATION THEOLOGY AND IDENTIFIES NEW DIRECTIONS FOR BLACK CHURCHES TO TAKE IN THE EIGHTIES

THE INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER AND COMPANION BOOK TO THE PBS SERIES ABSOLUTELY BRILLIANT A NECESSARY AND MOVING WORK EDDIE S GLAUDE IR AUTHOR OF BEGIN

AGAIN ENGAGING IN GATES S TELLING THE BLACK CHURCH SHINES BRIGHT EVEN AS THE NATION ITSELF MOVES UNCERTAINLY THROUGH THE GLOAMING SEEKING JUSTICE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN JON MEACHAM NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF STONY THE ROAD AND THE BLACK BOX AND ONE OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT VOICES ON THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE COMES A POWERFUL NEW HISTORY OF THE BLACK CHURCH AS A FOUNDATION OF BLACK LIFE AND A DRIVING FORCE IN THE LARGER FREEDOM STRUGGLE IN AMERICA FOR THE YOUNG HENRY LOUIS GATES IR GROWING UP IN A SMALL RESIDENTIALLY SEGREGATED WEST VIRGINIA TOWN THE CHURCH WAS A CENTER OF GRAVITY AN INTIMATE PLACE WHERE VOICES ROSE UP IN SONG AND NEIGHBORS GATHERED TO CELEBRATE LIFE S BLESSINGS AND OFFER COMFORT AMID ITS TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS IN THIS TENDER AND EXPANSIVE RECKONING WITH THE MEANING OF THE BLACK CHURCH IN AMERICA GATES TAKES US ON A IOURNEY SPANNING MORE THAN FIVE CENTURIES FROM THE INTERSECTION OF CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE TO TODAY S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE AT ROAD S END AND AFTER GATES S DISTINCTIVE MEDITATION ON THE CHURCHES OF HIS CHILDHOOD WE EMERGE WITH A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPORTANCE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN RELIGION TO THE LARGER NATIONAL NARRATIVE AS A CENTER OF RESISTANCE TO SLAVERY AND WHITE SUPREMACY AS A MAGNET FOR POLITICAL MOBILIZATION AS AN INCUBATOR OF MUSICAL AND ORATORICAL TALENT THAT WOULD TRANSFORM THE CULTURE AND AS A CRUCIBLE FOR WORKING THROUGH THE BLACK COMMUNITY S MOST CRITICAL PERSONAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES IN A COUNTRY THAT HAS HISTORICALLY AFFORDED ITS CITIZENS FROM THE AFRICAN DIASPORA TRAGICALLY FEW SAFE SPACES THE BLACK CHURCH HAS ALWAYS BEEN MORE THAN A SANCTUARY THIS FACT WAS NEVER LOST ON WHITE SUPREMACISTS FROM THE EARLIEST DAYS OF SLAVERY WHEN ENSLAVED PEOPLE WERE ALLOWED TO WORSHIP AT ALL THEIR MEETINGHOUSES WERE SUBJECT TO SURVEILLANCE AND DESTRUCTION LONG AFTER SLAVERY S FORMAL ERADICATION CHURCH BURNINGS AND BOMBINGS BY ANTI BLACK RACISTS CONTINUED A HALLMARK OF THE VIOLENT EFFORT TO SUPPRESS THE AFRICAN AMERICAN STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY THE PAST OFTEN ISN T EVEN PAST DYLANN ROOF COMMITTED HIS SLAUGHTER IN THE MOTHER EMANUEL AME CHURCH 193 YEARS AFTER IT WAS FIRST BURNED DOWN BY WHITE CITIZENS OF CHARLESTON SOUTH CAROLINA FOLLOWING A THWARTED SLAVE REBELLION BUT AS GATES BRILLIANTLY SHOWS THE BLACK CHURCH HAS NEVER BEEN ONLY ONE THING ITS STORY LIES AT THE HEART OF THE BLACK POLITICAL STRUGGLE AND IT HAS PRODUCED MANY OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY S MOST NOTABLE LEADERS AT THE SAME TIME SOME CHURCHES AND DENOMINATIONS HAVE ESCHEWED POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT AND EXEMPLIFIED PRACTICES OF EXCLUSION AND INTOLERANCE THAT HAVE CAUSED POLARIZATION AND PAIN THOSE TENSIONS REMAIN TODAY AS A RISING GENERATION DEMANDS FREEDOM AND DIGNITY FOR ALL WITHIN AND BEYOND THEIR COMMUNITIES REGARDLESS OF RACE SEX OR GENDER STILL AS A SOURCE OF FAITH AND REFUGE SPIRITUAL SUSTENANCE AND STRUGGLE AGAINST SOCIETY S DARKEST FORCES THE BLACK CHURCH HAS BEEN CENTRAL

AS THIS ENTHRALLING HISTORY MAKES VIVIDLY CLEAR

THROUGHOUT OUR NATION HUNDREDS OF VIBRANT AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES ARE LEADING PEOPLE TO DEEP LIFE CHANGING SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATIONS WITH VISIONARY LEADERSHIP POWERFUL WORSHIP CHALLENGING FAITH FORMATION STRATEGIES AND A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND MISSION THESE CHURCHES FORM THE BACKBONE OF AMERICAN SPIRITUALITY WHAT GENERATES THIS VITALITY AND HOW CAN YOU BRING THAT SAME PASSION ENERGY AND IMPACT TO YOUR CHURCH IN HIGH IMPACT AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES RESEARCHER GEORGE BARNA AND BISHOP HARRY JACKSON IR COMBINE THEIR RESEARCH KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE TO DESCRIBE WHAT THESE CHURCHES DO THAT IS CHANGING LIVES

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PERFORMANCE OF DISCOVERIES. REGULAR UPDATES ENSURE

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INTRODUCING READERS TO NEW AUTHORS, GENRES, AND

PERSPECTIVES. THE UNPREDICTABLE FLOW OF LITERARY

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