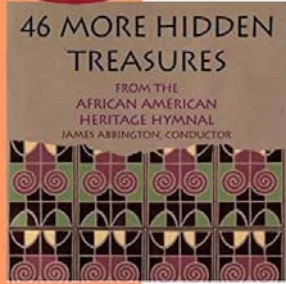




Dr. James Abbington

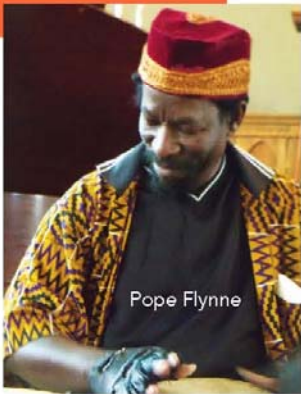


Hope Briggs

75th Jubilee Anniversary

The Church for the Fellowship
of All Peoples

24th Howard Thurman Convocation



Pope Flyne

Honoring Dr. James Abbington
Eminent Scholar, Organist, Master Choral Conductor

Sunday October 20, 2019 3:00pm

2041 Larkin Street @ Broadway in San Francisco

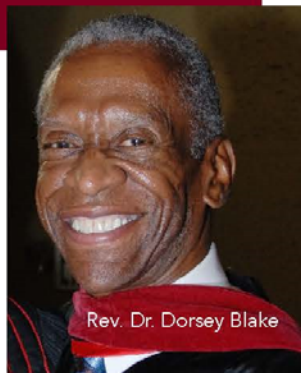
- Master drummer Pope Flyne
- Soprano Hope Briggs
- Convocation Community Choir
- Reception to follow the service



Dr. Carl Blake

open to the public

(415) 776-4910 • fellowshipssf.org • info@fellowshipssf.org



Rev. Dr. Dorsey Blake



The Church
for the Fellowship
of All Peoples



Rev. Dr. Kathryn Benton

October 20, 2019

Dear Members and friends of Fellowship Church:

Welcome to the 75th Anniversary celebration of the birth of The Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples, the nation's first intentionally interracial, interfaith church.

In 1944, during World War II when the world seemed to be on the verge of annihilating one another, Dr. Thurman along with Dr. Alfred Fisk and other visionaries acted on their belief that people of different races, nationalities, cultures, and faiths would find common ground by gathering for profound worship experiences over a sufficient time duration. This common ground would undercut all the socially imposed barriers that separate humanity. That was the genesis of our journey and continues to be the heart of our congregation.

Today, we also celebrate our 24th Howard Thurman Convocation. The Latin root of convocation is convocare meaning "to call/come together." We assemble at this time annually to honor the life and work of Dr. Thurman. During our time together, we present The Howard Thurman Award to individuals who have creatively demonstrated through their work and life a commitment to the tie that binds humanity. It recognizes that the individuals have made significant contributions to restoring and deepening harmony within themselves and with others.

Dr. Thurman said: ***"Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."***

We are elated to present the Howard Thurman Award this year to Dr. James Abbington who himself is very alive and has awakened people across this land and beyond through his exemplary scholarship and extraordinary ministry of music in a variety of forms and diverse settings.

We are joined in our celebration today by critically acclaimed soprano Hope Briggs; Pope Flyne, inimitable Master Drummer from Ghana; and a marvelous community choir organized by Dr. Carl Blake, our Director of Music.

We hope you experience through our gathering today inspiration and fortitude for the visions and tasks before us, visions and tasks we are well equipped to answer as we walk together children and don't get weary.

Trusting Life!

Rev. Dr. Kathryn Lloyd Benton, Co-Minister
Rev. Dr. Dorsey Odell Blake, Presiding Minister

BIOGRAPHIES

DR. JAMES ABBINGTON is the Associate Professor of Church Music and Worship at the Candler School of Theology at Emory. His research interests include music and worship in the Christian church, African American sacred folk music, organ, choral music, and ethnomusicology. Along with his roles at Candler, where he has taught since 2005, Abbington is executive editor of the African American Church Music Series by GIA Publications (Chicago). In addition to writing and editing, he has produced numerous recordings under GIA. One of the nation's most respected choir directors, musicians and authors, Abbington is a popular speaker, performer and conductor at universities, conferences, symposiums and churches around the world. From 2000 to 2010, Abbington served as co-director of music for the Hampton University Ministers' and Musicians' Conference, and as the national director of music for both the Progressive National Baptist Convention and the NAACP. In 2010, Hampton's Choir Directors and Organists Guild honored Abbington by naming their Church Music Academy after him, and in 2015, he became the second African American to be named a Fellow of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada.

DR. CARL BLAKE is the Director of Music for Fellowship Church. He holds three degrees in piano performance: Bachelor of Music (*magna cum laude*) from Boston University, Master of Arts from San Jose State University, and Doctor of Musical Arts from Cornell University. He is the first recipient of the Marian Anderson Young Artist Award (presented by Ms. Anderson herself) that led to a year of private study with Pierre Sancan of the Paris Conservatory of Music. Blake has performed in the United States, Russia, France, England, Central and South America, and the Caribbean Islands. To creditable acclaim, he performed several recitals at Carnegie Recital Hall and Wigmore Hall (London) and has toured with cellist Kim Cook to Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Central America, and the Caribbean Islands under the auspices of the Artistic Ambassador Program of the United States Information Agency. Dr. Blake has received two Fulbright Senior Scholar Awards to lecture, teach, and perform at national music schools in Honduras, Central America.

HOPE BRIGGS has performed far and wide, including with Oakland Symphony, San Francisco Choral Society at Davies Symphony Hall, Opéra Louisiane, Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, Carnegie Hall with the New England Symphonic Ensemble, Frankfurt Opera, Staatstheater Stuttgart, and Opera Company of Brooklyn. She drew a rave review from Opera News for her San Francisco Opera debut as the Duchess of Parma in Busoni's *Doktor Faust* "... *Hope Briggs was stellar, delivering one of the evening's highlights with her lusciously intoned, lovelorn aria.*" She is a Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions National Finalist, Metropolitan Opera International Vocal Competition Award Winner, and recipient of an Encouragement Award from the Licia Albanese Puccini Foundation. Hope Briggs is also an ABC KGO-TV 2012 African American Salutes Honoree, Marion Anderson Historical Society Scholar and a 2013 Heritage Keeper Award Recipient from Friends of Negro Spirituals. Ms. Briggs is featured on PBS nationally performing the role of Emma Hyers in the documentary film: *Voices for Freedom - The Hyers Sisters' Legacy*.

POPE FLYNE is a Ghanaian performer, composer and educator. He was once known as lead vocalist for the legendary Sweet Talks band of Ghana, where he helped bring the art of highlife music to new heights. When not on stage, he shares his joyful spirit and vast knowledge of African folk music, dancing and percussion with his legions of American students. Pope is also a recording artist publishing under Akwaaba Records and Spiraling Music.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude	African American Spirituals Medley	Dr. Carl Blake
Processional		
Call to Assembly		Master Drummer Pope Flyne
Opening Music	<i>We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder</i>	Congregation
Invocation		Rev. Kathryn Benton
Welcome		Bryan Caston
Music		Hope Briggs, Soprano
	<i>Guide My Feet</i> Jacqueline B. Hairston, arranger	
Introduction of Speaker		Rev. Dorsey Blake
Speaker		Dr. James Abbington
	<i>Howard Thurman as Liturgist: His Use of the Negro Spirituals, the Arts, and Literature</i>	
Offertory	(Offertory Music: <i>We've Come This Far by Faith</i>)	Courtney Brown/ Congregation
Music		Convocation Community Choir
	<i>The Lord Will Make A Way Somehow</i> (Thomas Dorsey) arr. Robert Morris	
Presentation of Howard Thurman Award		Mike Brown and Brenda Reinertson
Remarks		Rev. Dorsey Blake
Sending Forth Music	<i>I'm On My Way</i>	Congregation
Benediction		Rev. Dorsey Blake
Postlude	<i>Renew Thy Church, Her Ministries Restore</i>	Traditional

WE ARE CLIMBING JACOB'S LADDER

Traditional African American Spiritual
Stanzas #5 and #6 by Dr. Vincent Harding

Stanza 1

WE ARE CLIMBING JACOB'S LADDER (3 times) WE ARE CLIMBING ON!

Stanza 2

EVERY ROUND GOES HIGHER, HIGHER (3 times) WE ARE CLIMBING ON!

Stanza 3

IF I STUMBLE, WILL YOU HELP ME? (3 times) WE ARE CLIMBING ON!

Stanza 4

THOUGH the ROAD is STEEP and RUGGED (3 times) WE ARE CLIMBING ON!

Stanza 5

WE ARE BUILDING UP a NEW WORLD (3 times) WE ARE CLIMBING ON!

Stanza 6

COURAGE, BROTHERS, DON'T BE WEARY

COURAGE, SISTERS, DON'T BE WEARY

COURAGE, PEOPLE, DON'T BE WEARY WE ARE CLIMBING ON!

WE'VE COME THIS FAR BY FAITH

Albert Goodson (arr. James Abbingtion)

Refrain:

WE'VE COME THIS FAR BY FAITH,

LEANING ON THE LORD;

TRUSTING IN HIS HOLY WORD,

HE'S NEVER FAILED ME YET.

Oh----- CAN'T TURN AROUND,

WE'VE COME THIS FAR BY FAITH.

Verse:

Don't be discouraged when trouble's in your life,

when trouble's in your life,

He'll bear your burdens

and move all misery and strife.

I'M ON MY WAY

Traditional African American Folk Song

Stanza 1

I'M ON MY WAY (I'm on my way) TO THE FREEDOM LAND (to the freedom land).

I'M ON MY WAY (I'm on my way) TO THE FREEDOM LAND (to the freedom land).

I'M ON MY WAY (I'm on my way) TO THE FREEDOM LAND (to the freedom land).

I'M ON MY WAY GREAT GOD, I'M ON MY WAY.

Stanza 2

I ASKED MY SISTER (I asked my sister) COME and GO with ME (come and go with me).

I ASKED MY SISTER (I asked my sister) COME and GO with ME (come and go with me).

I ASKED MY SISTER (I asked my sister) COME and GO with ME (come and go with me).

I'M ON MY WAY GREAT GOD, I'M ON MY WAY.

Stanza 3

I ASKED MY BROTHER (I asked my brother) COME and GO with ME (come and go with me).

I ASKED MY BROTHER (I asked my brother) COME and GO with ME (come and go with me).

I ASKED MY BROTHER (I asked my brother) COME and GO with ME (come and go with me).

I'M ON MY WAY GREAT GOD I'M ON MY WAY.

Stanza 4

IF THEY SAY NO, (If they say no) I'LL GO ANYHOW (I'll go anyhow).

IF THEY SAY NO, (If they say no) I'LL GO ANYHOW (I'll go anyhow).

IF THEY SAY NO, (If they say no) I'LL GO ANYHOW (I'll go anyhow).

I'M ON MY WAY GREAT GOD I'M ON MY WAY.

Stanza 5

I'M ON MY WAY (I'm on my way) AND I WON'T TURN BACK (and I won't turn back).

I'M ON MY WAY (I'm on my way) AND I WON'T TURN BACK (and I won't turn back).

I'M ON MY WAY (I'm on my way) AND I WON'T TURN BACK (and I won't turn back).

I'M ON MY WAY GREAT GOD I'M ON MY WAY.

THE CHURCH FOR THE FELLOWSHIP OF ALL PEOPLES

Upcoming Events –

Date	Event
10/27/2019	9:30 AM – Engaged Spirituality Discussion Group Book: “Mysticism and the Experience of Love” by Howard Thurman Howard Thurman gave the 1961 Rufus Jones lecture sponsored by the Religious Education Committee of the Friends General Conference at the Baltimore Friends School. He revised that address for this publication as a Pendle Hill pamphlet. The discussion will focus of pages 3 through 19.
11/10/2019	2:00 PM – Ordination of Dr. Karen Melander-Magoon
11/24/2019	11 AM – Service Transgender Day of Remembrance Service Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) is an annual observance on November 20 that honors the memory of those whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence.
12/08/2019	9:30 AM – Engaged Spirituality Discussion Group Book: “Mysticism and the Experience of Love” by Howard Thurman The discussion will focus of pages 19 through 23, and any other thoughts people have on the entire pamphlet.
12/13/2019	7 PM – Big Tech Comedy Roast: Holiday Event This event is hosted by former Amazon executive, and entrepreneur Vahid Razavi, author of <i>Ethics in Tech, or The Lack Thereof</i> , and founder of Ethics In Tech. Ethics In Technology works towards increased awareness around the ethical use of technology and seeks to make a positive impact through engaging the public at all levels of our society in conversation about these issues. It promotes the use of technology for nonviolent purposes, sustainable environmental practices and elimination of ecological harm from the waste produced by the tech industry, workers’ rights, action to mitigate income inequality, civil and individual rights and liberties, including privacy, and finally, using emerging AI technology in a positive, ethical way. Performances by several comedians: Will Durst, Chloe, Annette and Mean Dave.
12/22/2019	11 AM – Service Annual Christmas Program – The Mood of Christmas A Special Christmas Service of music and readings from Dr. Thurman’s book, <i>The Mood of Christmas</i> - Dr. Carl Blake, Director of Music. The Mood of Christmas celebrates the season, through song and poetry. Some of Dr. Thurman's poetry is: <i>Christmas is the Season of the Heart, I Will Light the Candles of Christmas, This Is the Season of Promise, The Singing of Angels, Madonna and Child, and I Will Sing a New Song.</i>
01/19/2020	11 AM – Service Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in conjunction with the Northern California Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Foundation Guest Speaker: To be determined.

The Commitment

I affirm my need for a growing understanding of all peoples as children of God, and I seek after a vital experience of God as revealed in Jesus of Nazareth and other great religious spirits whose fellowship with God was the foundation of their fellowship with all people.

I desire to share in the spiritual growth and ethical awareness of people of varied national, cultural, racial, and creedal heritage united in a religious fellowship.

I desire the strength of corporate worship through membership in The Church for The Fellowship of All Peoples, with the imperative of personal dedication to the working out of God's purposes here and in all places.

The Membership

The membership of the Church is open to any person who is willing to accept its commitment, to participate in its programs, and to share in its responsibilities.

Rev. Dr. Dorsey O. Blake

Presiding Minister

Rev. Dr. Kathryn L. Benton

Co-Minister

Rev. Elizabeth Olson

Rev. Suzi Spangenberg

Rev. Elena Rose Vera

Ministers-at-Large

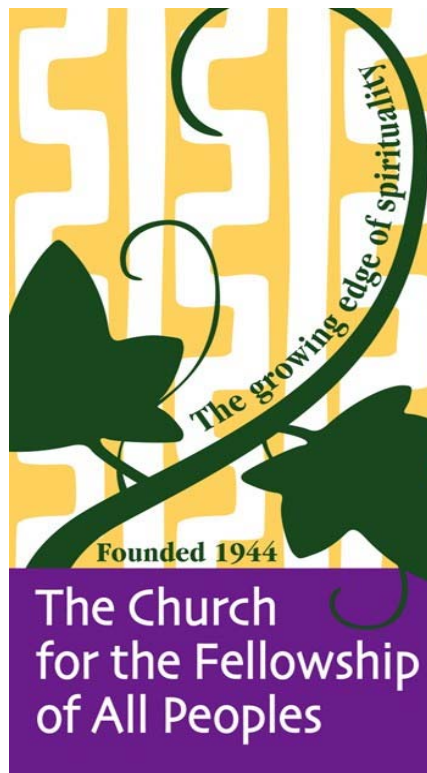
Dr. Carl Blake

Director of Music

Founding Ministers

Dr. Howard Thurman

Dr. Alfred Fisk



Board of Trustees

Courtney Brown

Michael Brown, Vice-Chair

Bryan Caston, Chair

Stephen Leeds, Treasurer

Rev. Elizabeth Olson

Brenda Reinertson, Secretary

Rev. Elena Rose Vera

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Dorsey O. Blake Forum for Social Transformation, the 75th Jubilee Anniversary, and the 24th Howard Thurman Convocation a success.