



***NBCI Black Homeownership 51% Program***



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*“Bringing people together to serve humanity”*

August 10, 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are excited to let you know about a brand new, extraordinary effort to increase Black homeownership by 9% over the next 7 – 10 years through NBCI Black Homeownership 51% Program. This will put African American homeownership over 50% for the first time. We are going to produce, over the next year, 10,000-20,000 African American couples and families across the country, who are ready to purchase homes at the market rate.

We need your help. We are asking you to become a sponsor. We plan to engage over 250 stakeholders nationwide to focus on this goal.

We are going to provide technical support in homeownership, which will consist of but will not be limited to:

- Education

Home ownership classes with an option to take those classes online. Certification will be given for those who have graduated from the course.

- Literature
- Wealth-based housing programming
- Credit analysis
- Financial analysis through NBCI Money Book

An easy to read, step-by-step tool to help that couple realize their financial goals by forcing them to write it down. This is important for lenders to see a 5-year radius such as, what are the spending habits of that couple and what that couple needs to do to achieve homeownership while incorporating new financial disciplines in order to sustain homeownership. The Money Book gives them a 5-year financial plan in order to become a strong homeowner

- Connect those graduates with financial institutions who agree to help them with down-payment plans.

We plan to use a variety of financial options here and we will keep a database of these individuals, their information, location, need and housing stocks in their areas.

- Monitoring for 3 years after they have achieved homeownership

We will help them begin to prepare their paperwork in order for them to become new homeowners through this extraordinary effort that is being made. This program will consist of 5,000 technical volunteers in housing to assist us in this new initiative.

Among our partners in this endeavor is the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA). In a couple of months, we will be meeting with HUD officials on our targeted campaign throughout the country. This is a most exciting initiative.

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino Churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all its members, congregants, Churches and the public. Our methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science.

NBCI's purpose is to partner with major organizations and officials whose main mission is to reduce racial disparities in the variety of areas cited above. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-box and cutting-edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI's programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science-based strategies and techniques, and methods that work.

According to the Census Bureau's statistical data, black homeownership peaked in 2004 at 49.1 percent. It has fallen incrementally almost every year since.

African-Americans are less than two-thirds as likely as non-Hispanic whites to own a home, and the most recent rate for African-Americans, 41.6 percent in 2016, ranks behind each of the other four major groups -- non-Hispanic whites, Hispanics, Asian-Americans and Native Americans. In fact, in 2005 the Hispanic homeownership rate overtook that of African-Americans, with the two groups diverging ever since.

"Blacks were hit disproportionately hard by the foreclosure crisis, in part because they were heavily targeted for subprime and other risky mortgages," said Alex Schwartz, a professor at the Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy at the New School. Those types of mortgages were at the center of the housing crisis that helped cause the recession.

As for the continued decline, Schwartz said, "banks and other mortgage lenders adopted much stricter underwriting standards after the crisis, making it far more difficult to qualify for mortgage credit. Since black and Hispanic households tend to have lower incomes and much less wealth than other groups, they are even less likely than before the crisis to purchase homes."

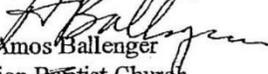
We would like you to consider this document to be a draft in nature because we would love to make sure we get a chance to talk to you in depth about some of your existing programming around the issue of homeownership so that we can incorporate it into our overall housing strategy. We look forward to talking to you in the near future.

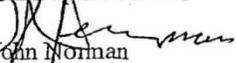
Your humble servant in Christ

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Evans', written in a cursive style.

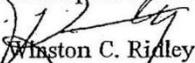
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President

  
Rev. Edwin L. Jones, Ph.D.  
Faith Christian University Church

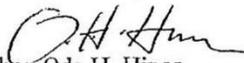
  
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Mt. Zion Baptist Church

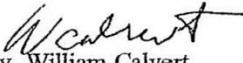
  
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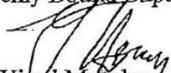
  
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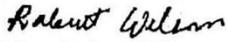
  
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The Greater First Baptist Church

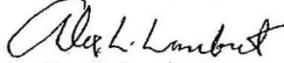
  
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Morning Star Baptist Church

  
Bishop Ode H. Hines  
Greater Good Samaritan Baptist Church

  
Rev. William Calvert  
Heavenly Bound Baptist Church

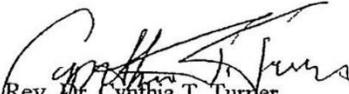
  
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Temple Missionary Baptist Church

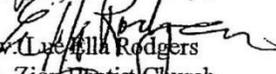
  
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Word Of Truth Church

  
Rev. Alex L. Lambert  
St. Paul Baptist Church

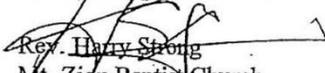
  
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All For Jesus Scripture Art

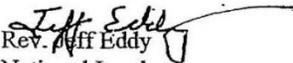
  
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First Baptist Church

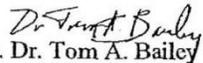
  
Rev. Dr. Cynthia T. Turner  
Dayspring Community Church

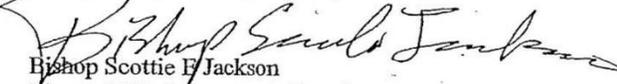
  
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Mt. Zion Baptist Church

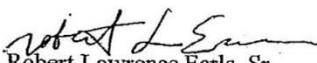
  
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Mt. Zion Baptist Church

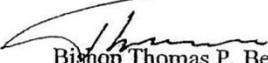
  
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Mt. Zion Baptist Church

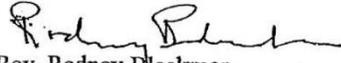
  
Rev. Jeff Eddy  
National Lay leader

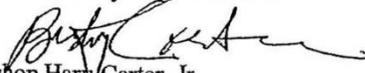
  
Rev. Dr. Tom A. Bailey  
Victory Temple Missionary Baptist Church

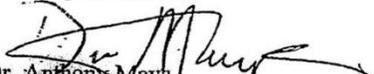
  
Bishop Scottie E. Jackson  
River of Life Pentecostal Church

  
Rev. Robert Lawrence Earls, Sr.  
St. John Baptist Church

  
Bishop Thomas P. Beale, Jr.  
Church of the Way

  
Rev. Rodney Blackmon  
Christian Unity Baptist Church

  
Bishop Harv Carter, Jr.  
Zion Baptist Church

  
Dr. Anthony Mays  
Breakthrough Bible College

  
Elder Willie R. Hunt  
New Community Church of God In Christ

*Rev. Aubrey C. Lewis*  
Rev. Aubrey C. Lewis, Pastor  
St. Luke Baptist Church

*Rudolph White*  
Rev. Dr. Rudolph White, Pastor  
New Southern Rock Baptist Church

*Queen Shepherd*  
Rev. Queen Shepherd, Pastor  
Powerhouse Ministry International

*Darrell Lewis*  
Rev. Darrell Lewis, Pastor  
Family Fellowship Church

*Elijah Sutton*  
Rev. Elijah Sutton, Pastor  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Lloyd Fennell*  
Rev. Lloyd Fennell, Assistant Pastor  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Cleophas W. Atkins*  
Rev. Dr. Cleophas W. Atkins, Pastor  
Restoration Christian Fellowship Church

*Arafa Speaks*  
Rev. Arafa Speaks  
New African Church

*Anthony White*  
Rev. Anthony White, Youth Minister  
New Southern Rock Baptist Church

*Edward Cole*  
Rev. Edward Cole  
Associate Minister

*Milton R. Baker*  
Rev. Milton R. Baker  
Christian Faith Center Ministry, Inc

*Ruth Sutton*  
Rev. Ruth Sutton  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Ronald Patterson*  
Rev. Ronald Patterson  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Lanier C. Twyman*  
Rev. Lanier C. Twyman, Sr.  
St. Stephens Baptist Church

*Betty Crawford*  
Rev. Betty Crawford  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Alan Horton*  
Rev. Alan Horton  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Antonio Lowery*  
Rev. Antonio Lowery  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Tommy Lee Gilbert*  
Rev. Tommy Lee Gilbert  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Deoise Mills*  
Rev. Deoise Mills  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Tereasa Blanks*  
Rev. Tereasa Blanks  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Richard Winston*  
Rev. Richard Winston  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Matthew Robinson*  
Rev. Matthew Robinson  
Guildfield Baptist Church

*Eugene W. Wilson, Sr.*  
Rev. Eugene W. Wilson, Sr.  
Wilson Ministries

*Walter A. Pettiford, Sr.*  
Rev. Walter A. Pettiford, Sr.  
New Beginning Ministries

*Wilbert & Dolores Gray*  
Rev. Wilbert & Dolores Gray  
PG Sheriff Office Chaplin

*Larry Phillip McCray*  
Rev. Larry Phillip McCray  
Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist

*Jerome Williams*  
Rev. Jerome Williams  
Williams Ministries

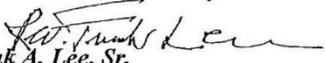
  
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First Baptist Church

  
Rev. L.D. Williams  
Divine Prosperity Baptist Church

  
Dr. Edrick R. Upshur  
New Generation Baptist Bible Church

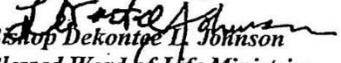
  
Bishop William H. Thompson  
Greater Praise Temple Ministries

  
Frank A. Lee, Sr.  
Abounding Love Church

  
Rev. Albert W. Montgomery, Sr.  
Agape Missionary Baptist Church

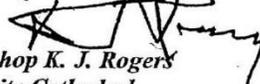
  
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Bishop Dekontae H. Johnson  
Blessed Word of Life Ministries

  
Dr. Williams Wright  
Emmanuel Bible Fellowship Church

  
Bishop Joshua Paul Logan  
Promised Land Ministries

  
Bishop K. J. Rogers  
Unity Cathedral

  
Bishop M. Preston Stancil  
Providence Harvest Church

## **Here Is Our Strategic Housing Strategy/Game Plan**

There are eight components to the National Black Church Initiative's strategic game plan:

- 1) This initiative will learn from the mistakes of other multi-level housing initiatives and only employ the best practices set forth. We will not waste our time trying to reinvent the wheel. The entities spelled out in this strategy have been contacted and agree to expend the necessary technical assistance to make this housing initiative a success.
- 2) We have persuaded and have commitments from over 2,500 of our key churches throughout the country in 8 separate communities who have agreed to implement this program and its principles over the next several years. These initial 2,500 churches will serve as our demonstration project in the key cities that we will spell out later in this document. On average we have 312 churches in each community who are ready to go once we receive the proper resources and technical assistance.
- 3) Our research over the past year and a half has indicated why these broad based initiatives fail our communities and we have corrected those points as you will see in the course of this strategy document. We plan to solicit every major federal entity to play a decisive role in helping us carry out this particular initiative. For instance, we have asked Fannie Mae and Sally Mae to provide our members with their FICO scores so that they would understand where they are in the path to homeownership.
- 4) Our counsellors will meet with them to assess where they need to be referred to concerning their path to homeownership. This is why this is a 7-10 year initiative because we recognize that our members are at every stage to homeownership. Some are ready and actively looking in this tight market, some are just starting out, some are in the midst of resolving their debt structure, some need counselling and some need homeownership education. At each stage we have created a structure to assist them in those demonstration churches through those initial 312 churches.
- 5) Debt relief. One of the things that we recognize quite early as we looked back at other broad based initiatives and why they fail, is that they did not encourage those couples and individuals who are becoming homeowners for the first time on how to restructure and resolve their debt over a significant time period extending 1-3 years. This is why we have announced for the first time in the Black Church, working with Rev. DeForest Soaries and his nationally renowned Debt Free Program; My Dfree, that the National Black Church Initiative, a coalition Of 34,000 Churches vows to reduce African American debt by \$5,000,000,000.00 and increase Black homeownership over 51%.

Rev. DeForest is a member of our coalition as we are a member of his. The National Black Church Initiative has supported and continues to support Rev. DeForest since the time our President Rev. Anthony Evans lent his voice in uplifting Rev. DeForest in his first book entitled, *dfree: Breaking Free from Financial Slavery*.<sup>1</sup>

“As President of the National Black Church Initiative, a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino Churches, we fully endorse *dfree™: Breaking Free from Financial Slavery* by Rev. DeForest B. Soaries Jr. Debt-free living is not a goal – it is a biblical principle that God has for all our lives. What Rev. Soaries has done is what I urge all pastors to do for their congregations – teach financial literacy to every member... Rev. Soaries has done the Black Church a great favor.”

His teachings have proven successful for the African American community as can be seen through testimonies posted on social media like Youtube.<sup>2</sup>

- 6) We plan to provide each couple with the National Black Church Initiative Money Book. The NBCI Money Booklet is both unique and effective in that it knows its audience. A thoughtful and comprehensive layout allows individuals and families to get a complete picture of their assets and liabilities in an easy-to-read, unintimidating format. Having their financial scorecard at their fingertips will give users a sense of control over their finances and encourage smart money decisions. NBCI's Money Booklet will consist of information including but not limited to – salaries, tax status, insurance, stocks, retirement and other relevant financial data.

This is a removable booklet that you can take pages into and out of because of the changing financial picture. The value of the Money Booklet is that it gives you a total summary of your wealth and viability thereof including whether or not you can buy a house, how much you can save for retirement, what is an actual retirement plan. All of these entities will be in one portfolio, the value will also be shown in how to qualify for credit cards, mortgagers, student loans etc.... instead of a banker asking you to pull together these documents you will already have them at your fingertips. The Money Book is a proprietary project of the National Black Church Initiative.

Over the past 5 years we have successfully been able to give over 30,000 of our members the Money Book. This is a small amount compared to the millions that we need to purchase and fill out in its entirety, the Money Book. The Money Book tells you exactly where you are and how to grow your wealth making. It also tells you most importantly when you need a wealth advisor.

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<sup>1</sup> Soaries, DeForest B. *Dfree: Breaking Free from Financial Slavery*. Zondervan, 2011.

<sup>2</sup> Mydfree, Denise Whitfield describes her *dfree®* journey of eliminating \$25k in debt”, Online video clip, Youtube, 9 Jul 2018

This would allow our couples what their debt structure is and begin to map out a plan to reduce their debt so that they can be qualified for a mortgage. We plan to work with financial institutions like Wizely Financial and your institution to create products to help reduce their debt structure in a systematic way.

- 7) We have developed relationships with three entities to help us throughout the country, properly refer couples to these entities who have existing expertise in housing:
  - a. The National Community Stabilization Trust located at 910 17th St. NW, Suite 500-A, Washington, D.C., 20006 and lead by President Rob Grossinger. ([www.stabilizationtrust.org](http://www.stabilizationtrust.org))
  - b. The Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America, whose headquarters are located at 225 Centre Street Suite 100, Boston, MA 02119 and is led by CEO Bruce Marks. (<https://www.naca.com/>)
  - c. Home Free – USA, whose headquarters is located at 6200 Baltimore Avenue, Riverdale, MD 20737 and is led by President and Founder Marcia Griffin. (<http://www.homefreeusa.org/>)
  
- 8) We will start out with 4 cities we have identified already for our pilot program. We will also work with existing partners to determine the next priority cities. Here are the participating cities:
  - a. Stage 1- cities
    - i. Detroit, MI
    - ii. Miami, FL
    - iii. Hinesville, GA
    - iv. Baltimore, MD
  
  - b. Top 10 cities with the lowest homeownership rate
    - i. Jersey City, PA
    - ii. Greenville, NC
    - iii. Las Vegas, NV
    - iv. Henderson, NV
    - v. Paradise, NV
    - vi. Manhattan, KS
    - vii. Merced, CA
    - viii. Hinesville, GA
    - ix. Bryan, TX
    - x. College Station, TX

c. Next 15 cities with the lowest homeownership rate

- i. Fresno, CA
- ii. Salinas, CA
- iii. Los Angeles, CA
- iv. Long Beach, CA
- v. Anaheim, CA
- vi. New York, NY
- vii. Newark, NJ
- viii. San Diego, CA
- ix. Carlsbad, CA
- x. Corcoran, CA
- xi. Hanford, CA
- xii. Athens, GA
- xiii. Clarke County, GA
- xiv. Ames, LA
- xv. Santa Maria, CA

# 2017 BLACK HOMEOWNERSHIP REPORT ISSUED WITH CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM



***National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB) issues the 2017 State of Housing in Black America report with a view to push for a more equitable mortgage lending landscape.***

Washington, DC – September 20, 2017 – African Americans are returning to the homebuying marketplace in numbers greater than projected a year ago by the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB). ***The 2017 State of Housing in Black America (SHIBA) report***, found that Black home ownership rose from its near 50-year low of 41.3 percent in the third quarter of 2016 to above 42 percent in the first two-quarters of 2017, according to Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data.

“While the economic recovery is still out of reach for far too many Black Americans, NAREB sees a break in the storm. Black consumers are slowly regaining confidence in the marketplace, but institutional obstacles remain,” said Jeffrey Hicks, President of NAREB formed in 1947 to ensure equal and fair access by Black Americans to own homes. This year’s report, co-authored by James H. Carr, Michela Zonta, and Steven P. Hornburg takes aim at traditional systemic barriers and economically-driven displacement trends that continue to impede Black homeownership.

According to the prepared remarks of Melvin L. Watt, Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) at the National Association of Real Estate Brokers’ 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention:

*“While applications for conventional home loans have declined by 58 percent overall since the foreclosure crisis, the decline in African American applicants has been a whopping 77 percent compared to a 45 percent decline for white applicants.*

*A second factor adversely impacting African American homeownership rates has been the increasing value placed on staying flexible. In a difficult job market, where the ability to move quickly can be important to get to new job opportunities or to take advantage of promotions, many people, especially recent graduates, are simply placing a higher priority on the flexibility provided by renting. African Americans probably haven’t thought as much about the value of being able to move since our great migration from the south to the north years ago.*

*Third, let’s not underestimate the impact of some cultural and social changes that are taking place in our communities. For example, marriage, which has long had a high correlation to becoming a first-time homebuyer, is increasingly likely to be delayed these days. I was barely 22 when I got married, but both my sons delayed marriage until they were approaching 40. Thankfully, after they got married, both of them saw the value of becoming homeowners and it seemed reasonable for me to help them do so.*

*Another thing adversely impacting minority homeownership is something we’re often reluctant to talk about in “mixed company,” the vexing issue of gentrification. After ignoring our communities for years because of racial attitudes and stereotypes, the world has finally realized that many of our communities are situated in the most valuable and convenient locations. Living in the “inner city” has taken on new meaning. Changing racial attitudes, the trendy appeal of living in diverse neighborhoods and the age-old attraction of “location, location, location” are resulting in a double negative impact on African American homeownership. On one hand, African American families who have lived in these neighborhoods for years, often generations, are faced with escalating property taxes, and they are finding it hard to resist rapidly escalating, often cash, offers from buyers. On the other hand, African Americans looking to buy homes are finding it increasingly difficult, if not impossible, to compete to buy in these suddenly attractive, inner city neighborhoods.”*

It is a sign that NAREB's target for Black home ownership is not only achievable but also is a reasonable expectation as NAREB pushes to change the narrative to one that encourages Black Americans to build wealth and economic sustainability through home ownership.

To achieve that goal, the SHIBA report indicates that key federal policy changes are needed to strike down unequal access to credit, to eliminate unfair fees and cost equivalences of mortgage products, and to enhance mortgage loan disposition.

Given the fact that nearly 30 percent of denials for loans to Blacks are due to credit history, the delay in making changes to government-sponsored enterprises' (GSEs) credit-scoring policy until 2019, is unnecessary and unfair, according to the report.

While recent data shows signs of improvement in the homeownership arena, the report noted, the forces that sustain the Black-White disparity are enhanced by policies that NAREB wants to eliminate. Blacks remain on the sidelines of the recovery of the nation's cities, the report states. The forces that are fueling the rebirth of the cities have exacerbated rather than closed the racial wealth gap, the report also finds.

What is evolving is a stubborn form of economic segregation that will keep the gap in homeownership wide and daunting. NAREB is determined to reverse this trend.

Unless federal housing policy is modified to encourage, instead of discouraging lending to Blacks, there will be an "overwhelming lack of access to affordable credit as well as to more effectively manage the large stock of distressed assets to promote homeownership, particularly in communities that have historically lacked adequate homeownership opportunities," according to the report.

The bright signs reflect modifications in federal policy, NAREB noted. These changes include creation of new mortgage products by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac; capping of the Loan Level Price Adjustment (LLPA) fees for these new mortgages; changing required debt-to-income ratios from 45 to 50 percent, and

the GSEs' incorporation of trended data in their underwriting platforms. NAREB labeled these changes as accomplishments that are the result of two years of diligent advocacy by NAREB and other stakeholders seeking equality in mortgage access.

Still, NAREB is pushing for an elimination of the barriers to homeownership and at the same time, urging Black Americans to take advantage of educational resources and homeownership counseling to ensure homeownership sustainability in the communities of their choice. "NAREB's guiding principle of 'Democracy in Housing' means choice and the ability to lay down roots or continue to live in legacy neighborhoods. That's NAREB's goal - equality of choice for Black Americans," said Hicks.

The full SHIBA report can be downloaded at <http://www.nareb.com/publications/2017-shiba-report/>.

# # # # #

*The National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB) was formed in 1947 out of a need to secure the right to equal housing opportunities regardless of race, creed, or color. Since its inception, NAREB has instigated, participated in, or actively supported legislative initiatives and legal challenges to ensure fair housing for all Americans.*

# NBCI Black Homeownership Program

## The Giving Levels

**Bronze Tier**

\$0 up to \$35,000

**Silver Tier**

\$35,000 - 75,000

**Gold Tier**

\$75,000 - \$150,000



According to Census Bureau data, black homeownership peaked in 2004 at 49.1 percent

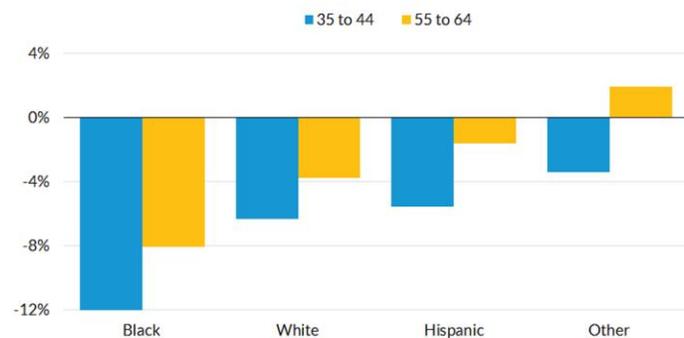
**It has fallen incrementally almost every year since**

**The rate is now about one-sixth lower than it was at its peak**

**In fact, in 2005 the Hispanic homeownership rate overtook that of African-Americans with the two groups diverging ever since**

African-Americans are less than two-thirds as likely as non-Hispanic whites to own a home, and the most recent rate for African-Americans, 41.6 percent in 2016, ranks behind each of the other four major groups -- non-Hispanic whites, Hispanics, Asian-Americans and Native Americans.

Since 1990, Black People of All Ages Experienced Big Homeownership Setbacks  
Change in homeownership by householder race and age, 1990-2015



Sources: Data for 1970 to 2010 come from "5-Percent Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) Files," US Census Bureau, last updated June 14, 2010, <https://www.census.gov/census2000/PUM55.html>. Data for 2015 come from the University of Minnesota, Minnesota Population Center, American Community Survey 1% Public Use Microdata Series.  
Notes: "Other" includes Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, American Indians and Alaska Natives, people who identified as "other," and (starting 2000) people who chose more than one racial identity. Hispanics can be of any race; all other categories are non-Hispanic. Estimates for 1970 are based on Integrated Public Use Microdata Series imputation procedures (see <https://www.ipums.org/>).

The only positive news is that the quarterly figures for 2017 have been a little higher than they were in 2016. In 2016, the quarterly black homeownership rate fluctuated between 41.3 percent and 41.7 percent.

In 2017, the rates in the first three quarters were 42.7 percent, 42.3 percent, and 42 percent, respectively. But that's still below the annual levels from 2004 to 2014.



***So why has the African-American homeownership rate fallen for the past dozen years?***

More than anything, it's been the Great Recession and its aftermath.

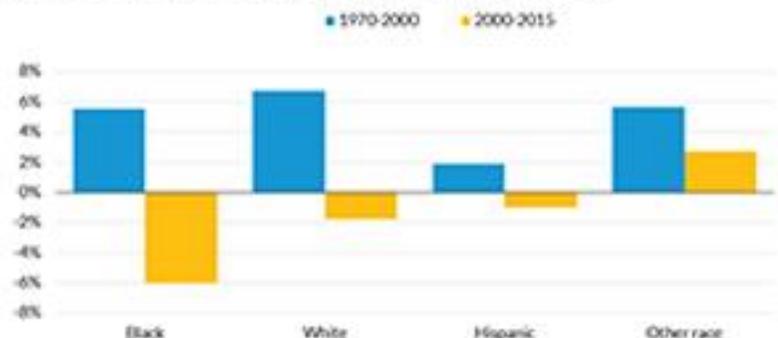
"Blacks were hit disproportionately hard by the foreclosure crisis, in part because they were heavily targeted for subprime and other risky mortgages," said Alex Schwartz, a professor at the Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy at the New School.

Those types of mortgages were at the center of the housing crisis that helped cause the recession.

As for the continued decline, Schwartz said, "banks and other mortgage lenders adopted much stricter underwriting standards after the crisis, making it far more difficult to qualify for mortgage credit. Since black and Hispanic households tend to have lower incomes and much less wealth than other groups, they are even less likely than before the crisis to purchase homes."

All Gains in Black Homeownership since the Fair Housing Act Have Been Erased since 2000

Percentage-point change in homeownership by homeowner's race/ethnicity



Meanwhile, rising inequality and slow income growth for the bottom 80 percent of the income spectrum have made it more difficult for families to accumulate the savings necessary to make the down payment to purchase a home.

Parks Chapel AME Church

Ever Increasing Faith Ministries

New Hope Baptist Church

Atherton Baptist Church

City of Refuge Church

City of Refuge UCC

Faithful Central Bible Church

Shiloh COGIC

Trinity Baptist Church

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church

Tabernacle of Faith Baptist Church

Full Gospel Baptist Church

Greater True Light Missionary Baptist  
Church

Bryant Temple AME Church

According To Prophecy Ministries

Bethel Baptist Church

Christian Life Center

Grand Avenue Church of Christ

Faith Tabernacle COGIC Grace

Covenant Christian Church of the

Harvest Antioch C.O.G.I.C.

Rising Star Baptist Church

Front Land Church

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church

Roosevelt Community Church

Immanuel Temple Apostolic Church

Integrity Christian Fellowship

Mesa View Baptist Church

New Paradise Baptist Church

Nu-Way International Christian  
Ministries

St. Stephen's Cathedral COGIC

Total Deliverance Worship Center

Voices of Victory Christian Ministries

Witness of the Word

Word for Life Ministries

Greater Victory Church

Third Baptist Church

Jones Memorial United Methodist  
Church

Providence Baptist Church

Calvary Hill Community Church

Rock of Ages Baptist Church  
Community Baptist Church

First AME Church

Allen Temple Baptist Church

Paradise Baptist Church

Greater St. Paul Church

Temple Missionary Baptist Church

Life COGIC

Center of Praise Ministries

Christ Our Redeemer Church  
Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church  
Beth Eden Baptist Church  
Harmony Missionary Baptist Church  
St Andrew Missionary Baptist Church  
Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church  
Bethany Baptist Church  
Saints Rest Missionary Baptist Church  
Victory Baptist Church  
Greater St. John Missionary Baptist Church  
Cosmopolitan Baptist Church  
Crossroads Baptist Church  
United Ministries  
Bible Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church  
Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church  
Moriah Christian Fellowship Baptist Church  
7th Avenue Baptist Church  
Ephesian Missionary Baptist Church  
Brookins Community AME Church  
Greater Cooper AME Zion Church  
St. Paul AME Church  
New Vision Ministries  
St Paul AME Church  
St. John Missionary Baptist  
Glorious Day Apostolic Church  
St. Paul Baptist Church

Bethel Ministries  
Victory Life Bible Church  
St. Andrews AME Church  
Antioch Progressive Church  
Mount Calvary  
New Hope Baptist Church  
Del Paso Union Baptist Church  
New Home Missionary Baptist Church  
First AME Church  
Into the World Ministries  
The Biblical Alternative Peace Baptist Church  
Friendship Baptist Church  
New Beginnings Full Gospel Baptist Ministry  
Zoe Christian Fellowship of Long Beach  
Big Bethel AME Church  
Community of Faith Bible Church  
New Birth Missionary Baptist Church  
Saint Reed Missionary Baptist Church  
Salem Bible Church  
Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church  
Destiny Metropolitan Worship Church  
First Baptist Church of LA  
Faith Christian Center  
Grace Baptist Church  
The Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church  
The Resurrection Life Fellowship Missionary and Evangelistic Church  
Changing A Generation Full Gospel Baptist

Bread of Heaven Ministries Church  
Elizabeth Baptist Church  
Macedonia Christian Fellowship Church  
Cascade United Methodist Church  
Holy Deliverance Pentecostal Church  
Jackson Memorial Baptist Church  
Second Baptist Church  
Hillside International Truth Church  
New Creation Church of San Diego  
Berean Christian Church  
West Angeles Church  
Impact Church  
Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
Mount Zion Baptist Church  
Second Mt. Zion Baptist Church United  
for Christ Church  
Tabernacle Baptist Church New Birth  
Community AME Church  
Sixth Episcopal District Headquarters  
Antioch Missionary Baptist Church  
New Bethel AME Church Bethel AME  
Church  
Behold the Light Christian Ministries  
Ebenezer Baptist Church  
Beulah Missionary Baptist Church  
Evangel Fellowship C.O.G.I.C.  
Friendship Community Church  
Lumberton First Baptist Church  
New Hope Baptist Church  
Friendship Missionary B.C.  
New Life Ministries

Lincolntonville AME Church  
Same Like Faith Family Christian  
Center Church  
Little Rock AME Zion Church  
Triumphant Community Church  
Night Light Missionary Baptist Church  
Friendship Baptist Church  
Greater Salem Church  
Good Hope Missionary B.C.  
St. James AME Church  
Greenforest Community Baptist Church  
Saint Paul AME Church  
Lovejoy Baptist Church  
The Park Church  
Mount Zion AME Church  
Trinity AME Zion  
Shaw Temple AME Church  
Watts Chapel Missionary Baptist Church  
St. James United Methodist Church  
Nehemiah Christian Center COGIC  
Greater Travelers Rest Baptist Church  
Shiloh COGIC  
Life Abundantly Christian Church  
New Restoration Community Church  
Blooming Lighthouse Ministries  
Powerhouse COGIC  
Fully Rely on God Christian Min.  
Macedonia New Life Church  
New Testament Christian  
Church Center

The Fountain of Raleigh  
Nazareth Baptist Church  
Oberlin Baptist Church  
New Unity Christian Fellowship Church  
Elevation Baptist Church  
Turner Chapel AME  
First Baptist Church  
Vison For Souls Family Worship Center  
First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church

St. Matthew AME Church  
Living Waters AME Church  
Union Hill AME Church  
Emmanuel AME Church  
Gaines Chapel AME Church  
Holland Chapel AME Zion Church  
Fair Promise AME Zion Church  
Greater Bethel AME Church  
Macedonia Baptist Church  
First Baptist Church-West  
St. Paul Baptist Church  
Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church  
New Zion Missionary Baptist Church  
Reeder Memorial Baptist Church  
Greater Providence Baptist Church  
New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
New St. John Baptist Church  
Trinity Park Baptist Church  
Second Calvary Baptist Church

Word of Faith Family  
Worship Cathedral  
Tupper Memorial Baptist  
Church  
The Enon Church  
Christian Faith Baptist Church  
Word of Faith Love Center  
Oak City Baptist Church  
World Changers Church  
International  
Wake Chapel Church  
Greater Galilee Baptist Church  
Tabernacle Baptist Church  
Walls Memorial AME Zion Church  
New Covenant AME Church  
Steele Creek AME Zion Church  
Orange Grove Missionary Baptist  
Church  
New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church  
Simon Temple AME Zion Church  
Piney Grove A.M.E. Zion Church  
Harrison Chapel A.M.E. Church  
St. Joseph AME Church  
Mt. Zion AME Church  
St. Luke AME Church  
St. Julia AME Zion Church  
Rockwell AME Zion Church  
Reeves Temple AME Zion Church  
Metropolitan AME Zion Church

Mayfield Memorial Missionary Baptist Church

Chapel Memorial Baptist Church

Springfield Baptist Church

St. Matthew Baptist Church

Baptist Grove Church

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church

New Breed Community Church

First Calvary Baptist Church

Mount Vernon Baptist Church

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

Peace Missionary Baptist Church

Community Baptist Church

North East Baptist Church

Greater New Birth Baptist Church

St. Johns Missionary Baptist Church

Lincoln Memorial-Baptist Church

Mt. Gilead Baptist Church

West Durham Baptist Church

New Metropolitan Faith Winners Baptist Church

Mount Level Missionary Baptist Church

Henderson Grove Missionary Baptist Church

First Baptist Church

New Ebenezer Baptist Church

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

Emanuel AME Church

7th District AME Church

Bethel AME Church

Francis Burns United Methodist Church

Friendship Baptist Church

Union AME Church

Cumberland United Methodist Church

Progressive Church

New Light Beulah Baptist Church

Silver Bluff Baptist Church

First Providence Baptist Church

Friendship AME Church

Bible Way Church

Brookland Baptist Church

Genesis Church of God in Christ

Zion Baptist Church

First Nazareth Baptist Church

Second Nazareth Baptist Church

Greater St. Luke Baptist Church

New Ebenezer Baptist Church

Saint John Baptist Church

Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church

Trinity Baptist Church

Gill Creek Baptist Church

Antioch Baptist Church

Cornerstone Baptist Church

Reid Chapel AME Church

Pine Grove AME Church

Columbia District AME Church

Bethel AME Church

Allen Temple AME Church

Morris Street Baptist Church

Morris Brown AME Church

St. Peter's AME Church

Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church  
Mt. Prospect Baptist Church  
Corinth Baptist Church  
Royal Missionary Baptist Church  
Spring Hill AME Church  
Greater Saint James AME Church  
Moncks Corner AME Church  
Mt. Olive AME Church  
Campbell Chapel AME Church  
Mount Carmel AME Church  
Adams Chapel AME Church  
Mt. Lebanon AME Church  
Beulah AME Church  
Magnolia AME Church  
Greater Saint Paul  
Spring Hill AME Church  
Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church  
Union Baptist Church  
Jerusalem Baptist Church  
Victory Missionary Baptist Church  
Mount Zion Baptist Church  
First Mount Zion Baptist Church  
Bethel AME Church  
First AME Church  
First Baptist Church  
Allen Chapel AME Church  
Ebenezer Baptist Church  
New Mount Zion AME Church  
Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church

First Baptist Church  
Breakforth Ministries and Consulting Inc.  
High Street Baptist  
Double Anointing COGIC  
Bethel AME Church  
Mount Zion African Baptist Church  
Trinity Missionary Baptist Church  
Pilgrim Baptist Church  
Hill Street Baptist Church  
First Baptist Church  
Mount Zion AME Church  
Chapman Grove Baptist Church  
First Baptist Church  
Ebenezer Baptist Church  
Jerusalem Church Inc.  
First Timothy Baptist Church  
Centurion Apostolic International Ministries  
New Birth Baptist Church  
Southern Heights Church of Christ  
Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church  
United Christian Church of God  
Antioch Missionary Baptist Church  
Greater St. Paul AME Church  
Parkway Baptist Church  
Logos Baptist Church  
93rd Street Community Baptist Church  
Mt. Hermon AME Church  
Mt. Zion AME Church  
Saint Paul AME Church

Bethel Naples AME Church  
Bethel Punta Gorda AME Church  
Martin Memorial AME Church  
Universal Truth Center for Better Living  
New Jerusalem Primitive Baptist Church  
Allen Temple AME Church  
St. Paul AME Church  
Wayman Chapel  
Saint Stephen AME Church  
Mount Olive AME Church  
Greater Grant Memorial AME Church  
First Baptist Church  
Bethel Baptist Institutional Church  
Bible-Based Fellowship Church  
Grand Central Progressive Missionary Baptist Church  
Love Fellowship Christian Church  
St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church  
Zion Hope Primitive Baptist Church  
Greater Payne AME Church  
Saint Mark AME Church  
Mount Olive AME Church  
New Bethel AME Church  
Mount Olive AME Church  
Carter Tabernacle CME Church  
Greater Mt. Zion AME Church  
St. James AME Church  
Shekinah Glory Church of God in Christ

Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church  
Turner Chapel AME Church  
Greater Faith AME Church  
Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church  
Allen Chapel AME Church  
Mount Zion Commandment Keeping Church of the First Born  
New Mount Zion AME Church  
Bethel Missionary Baptist Church  
Greater Bethel AME Church  
Greater Friendship Baptist Church  
Bethel AME Church  
New Mount Olive Baptist Church  
Faith Deliverance Worship Center  
Judah Worship Word Ministries International  
First AME Church  
Capital City Baptist Church  
Fraternity Baptist Church  
Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Liberty City  
New Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church  
Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church  
Vine Missionary Baptist Church  
Glendale Missionary Baptist  
Broadmoor Baptist Church  
Second Baptist Church  
New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
New Seventh-Ninth Street Word Church Intl.

South Miami Heights Haitian Baptist  
Emmanuel Church

Goulds Church of Christ

St James AME Church

St Paul AME Church

New Bethel AME Church

Mt. Moriah AME Church

Hurst Chapel AME

St. Lawrence AME Church

Bethel AME Church

Saint Paul AME Church

Ward Chapel AME Church

Gregg Chapel AME Church

Harvest AME Church

Saint Paul AME Church

Hurst Chapel AME

Talbot Chapel AME Zion Church

Spirit of God

New Mt Zion Missionary Baptist  
Church

Memorial Temple Missionary Baptist  
Church

Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist  
Church

Highland First Baptist Church

First Haitian Baptist Church

First New Zion Missionary Baptist  
Church

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Mount Tabor Missionary Baptist  
Church

St. John Missionary Baptist Church

St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church

Greater Union Baptist Church

Greater Union First Baptist Church

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

New Bethel Progressive Missionary  
Baptist Church

First Baptist Church Warrington

Zion Hop Missionary Baptist Church

New Berean Baptist Church

New Covenant Baptist Church

Shiloh Baptist Church

Agape Assembly Baptist Church

First Haitian Baptist Church

Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church

Southside Church of Christ

Tangelo Baptist Church

Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church

Greater Refuge Memorial Church

The New Church of Faith

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church

Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church

Abyssina Missionary Baptist Church

St. Paul Church

King Solomon United Baptist Church

Faith Temple Missionary Baptist  
Church

First Union Missionary Baptist Church

Central Tampa Baptist Church

New St. Matthew Missionary Baptist  
Church

Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist  
Church

First Baptist Church of West Tampa  
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church  
Grace Baptist Sanctuary  
Mount Zion Baptist Church  
New Life Worship Center  
Mt. Zion Apostolic Church  
Galilee Baptist Church  
Greater St. John Missionary B.C.  
Memorial Baptist Church  
New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
Northside New Era  
Friendship M.B. Church  
Zion Hope Baptist Church  
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church  
Bethesda Baptist Church  
Progressive Baptist Church  
Greater Northwest Baptist Church  
Greater Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church  
Davis Memorial AME Church  
First AME Church  
Greater St. James AME Church  
Mt. Zion AME Church  
Gary New Covenant  
Temple of Praise Assembly  
St. John AME Church  
St. Paul AME Church  
Scott United Methodist Church  
Allen Chapel Ame Church Care  
Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

Eastern Star Church  
Greater Galilee Institutional Missionary Baptist Church  
Holy Angels Catholic Church Indianapolis  
Jones Tabernacle AME Church  
Providence AME Church  
Robinson Community AME Church  
St. Philips Episcopal Church  
Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church  
Mount Olivet Baptist Church  
3rd Episcopal District  
McKinley United Methodist Church  
Omega Baptist Church  
Higher Ground Always Abounding Assemblies, Inc.  
Liberty Hill Baptist Church  
Mega Church  
New Jerusalem Baptist Church  
Quinn Chapel AME Church  
St. Paul AME Zion Church  
Wayman AME Church  
Antioch Baptist Church  
Morning Star Baptist Church  
Mt. Hermon Baptist Church  
Olivet Institutional Baptist Church  
East Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
Providence Baptist Church  
Mount Sinai Ministries  
Affinity Missionary Baptist Church  
Shiloh Baptist Church

# Map of NBCI Churches



# **NBCI Faith Communities Demographics and Statistical Composition**

**NBCI has created a statistical analysis of its churches, locations and demographics**

The South-East Faith Command 16,830 Churches

The West Faith Command 8,502 Churches

The Mid-West Faith Command 3,047 Churches

The South West Faith Command 3,265 Churches

The Western Faith Command 2,356 Churches

## THE NATIONAL BLACK CHURCH INITIATIVE DEMOGRAPHIC AND STATISTICAL COMPOSITION

Faith Command	No. of Churches	Age Range	Gender %		Race %	
			Male	Female	Black	Hispanic
<b>SOUTHEAST FAITH A COMMAND</b> <i>Atlanta, GA</i>						
<b>Florida</b>						
Tallahassee	268	30-75	36	64	100	
Miami	280	42-80	35	65	100	
West Palm Beach	12	34-80	39	61	100	
Fort Lauderdale	58	45-80	35	65	100	
<b>Georgia</b>						
Atlanta Savannah	2,560	28-85	45	55	100	
	99	39-85	34	66	100	
<b>Louisiana</b>						
Baton Rouge	600	45-85	34	66	100	
New Orleans	356	46-85	35	65	100	
<b>Alabama</b>						
Birmingham Montgomery	780	28-85	45	55	100	
	656	32-85	45	55	100	
<b>Arkansas</b>						
Little Rock	86	35-85	40	60	100	
<b>Tennessee</b>						
Memphis	860	28-85	45	55	100	
Nashville	906	28-85	45	55	100	

<b>Chattanooga</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>28-85</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Kentucky</b>						
<b>Louisville</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>33-85</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Lexington</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>35-85</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Mississippi</b>						
<b>Jackson</b>	<b>1,807</b>	<b>24-85</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100</b>	

Faith Command	No. of Churches	Age Range	Gender %		Race %	
			Male	Female	Black	Hispanic
<b>E</b>						
<b>North Carolina</b>						
Charlotte	450	25-85	45	55	100	
Winston Salem	346	25-85	45	55	100	
Raleigh	462	25-85	45	55	100	
Durham	241	25-85	45	55	100	
Greensboro	250	25-85	45	55	100	
<b>South Carolina</b>						
<b>F</b> Columbia	838	29-85	45	55	100	
Charleston	99	39-85	34	66	100	
<b>Washington, DC</b>						
Washington, DC	1609	45-85	40	60	100	
<b>Virginia</b>						
Richmond	780	28-85	45	55	100	
Northern-Virginia	656	32-85	45	55	100	
<b>NORTHERN FAITH COMMAND</b>						
<b>A</b>						
<b>New York</b>						
New York City	2,680	47-85	32	68	99	1
Albany	156	38-85	50	50	100	
<b>New Jersey</b>						
<b>B</b> Newark	680	45-85	31	69	100	
Trenton	692	45-85	31	69	100	
<b>Pennsylvania</b>						
<b>C</b> Philadelphia	1,001	38-85	35	65	100	
Pittsburgh	500	43-85	35	65	100	

**16,830**

Faith Command	No. of Churches	Age Range	Gender %		Race %	
			Male	Female	Black	Hispanic
<b>Maryland</b>						
Baltimore Prince Georges County	1,008 985	28-85 28-85	45 45	55 55	100 100	
<b>Massachusetts</b>						
Boston	400	47-85	32	68	100	
<b>Connecticut</b>						
Hartford	200	38-85	38	62	100	
New Haven	200	39-85	38	62	100	
<b>MIDWEST FAITH COMM</b>	ND					
<b>Chicago</b>						
<b>Ohio</b>						
Columbus	162	47-85	32	68	100	
Cleveland Dayton	289 316	47-85 47-85	32 32	68 68	100 100	
Cincinnati	186	47-85	32	68	100	
<b>Illinois</b>						
Chicago	800	27-85	40	60	100	
<b>Kansas</b>						
Kansas City	89	38-85	38	62	100	
Topeka	69	38-85	38	62	100	
<b>Wisconsin</b>						
Milwaukee	58	38-85	38	62	100	
<b>Michigan</b>						

Detroit	969	38-85	38	62	100	
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**8,502**

Faith Command	No. of Churches	Age Range	Gender %		Race %	
			Male	Female	Black	Hispanic
<b>Indiana</b>						
Indianapolis	109	38-85	38	62	100	
<b>SOUTHWEST FAITH COMMAND</b>						
<b>A</b> Dallas						
<b>Texas</b>						
Dallas	956	26-85	48	52	96	4
<b>B</b> Houston	1,206	26-85	48	52	96	4
Forth Worth	603	26-85	48	52	98	2
San Antonio	500	26-85	48	52	95	5
<b>WEST FAITH COMMAND</b>						
Oakland						
<b>California</b>						
Oakland	1,356	41-85	33	67	100	
Los Angeles	700	41-85	33	67	100	
San Francisco	300	48-85	32	68	100	

**34,000**

# National Black Church Initiative

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www.naltblackchurch.com

Contact:

Rev. Anthony Evans  
202-744-0184

April 19, 2018

**For Immediate Release**

## **The National Black Church Initiative Supports Senator Mike Crapo's Regional Banking Bill S.2155 Economic Growth Regulatory Relief and Consumer Protection Act**

*We urge the House to pass this Bill*

**Washington DC** – The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) a faith-based coalition of 34,000 churches comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African Americans, is urging the House of Representatives to approve Senator Mike Crapo's Economic Growth Regulatory Relief and Consumer Protection Act to help regional banks be able to engage into economic development in depressed communities across the country.

Rev. Anthony Evans, President of the National Black Church Initiative says, "The Black Church sees this as a grand opportunity to demonstrate to the banking community that we understand very acutely their burdens and regulations and the affects that they have on regional banks inability to invest into depressed communities around the country. We want the shackles off of these banks so that the 10-Year Economic Development Plan by the National Black Church Initiative can be realized. In the coming months we will be announcing, as a part of our 10-Year Economic Development Plan, an ambitious initiative to raise Black Homeownership over 50%. We want to work with the regional banks around the country to make this and our economic development strategy a reality."

Our inner-cities need economic revitalization in light of the overall improvement of the economy. We cannot continue to be left out of economic improvement, more money for houses and small businesses when the overall economy continues to improve at an enormous rate.

The legislation will now move to the House, where it will need to be reconciled with possible fixes proposed by Rep. Jeb Hensarling, chairman of the House Financial Services Committee.

### **About NBCI**

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino Churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, Churches and the public. Our methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science.

NBCI's purpose is to partner with major organizations and officials whose main mission is to reduce racial disparities in the variety of areas cited above. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-box and cutting-edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI's programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science-based strategies and techniques, and methods that work. Visit our website at [www.naltBlackChurch.com](http://www.naltBlackChurch.com).

# National Black Church Initiative

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July 21, 2018

**For Immediate Release**

## **The National Black Church Initiative A Coalition Of 34,000 Churches Vows To Reduce African American Debt By \$5,000,000,000.00 And Increase Black Homeownership Over 51%**

*Our focus should be on wealth building*

**Washington DC** – The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) a faith-based coalition of 34,000 churches comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African Americans, is set to announce one of the most ambitious initiatives ever spurred in the Black community. We want to, over the next 7-8 years, reduce Black personal and Church-based debt by \$5,000,000,000.00. At the same time, we want to increase African American homeownership over 51%. We plan to kick-off this initiative as of September 1<sup>st</sup> of this year.

Black homeownership rates peaked before the housing crisis. Almost 50 percent of African Americans owned homes. That was then. This is now: “From 2000 to 2015, that gain was more than erased as forces within and beyond the housing market aligned to reduce the black homeownership rate to 41.2 percent,” according to Urban Institute researchers. In 2015, the black homeownership rate was virtually unchanged since 1968. The homeownership rate among white Americans is about 64 percent. Put another way, black homeownership is as low as it was when housing discrimination was legal.

Rev. Anthony Evans, President of the National Black Church Initiative says, “This is in keeping with the National Black Church Initiative 10-Year Economic Development Plan of promoting homeownership and sustaining wealth in the African American community. Therefore, we are looking for partners and companies, especially financial companies who will offer products like consolidated loans at a low interest rate so that we can achieve our goal.”

The Black church, among the most prosperous institutions in America, has long led movements for the spiritual, social and civic uplift of Black people. When the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968, he had just launched the Poor People's Movement, which quickly fizzled after his death. With this historical backdrop, the Black Church - with a legacy of leadership in its own right - is announcing the most sweeping, innovative economic wealth building program ever in the Black community.

What we hope to do is very simple. We hope to work with the US government, state and local housing partners throughout the country, financial institutions and mortgage companies and focus them on helping us move the Black homeownership rate from the current 42% to 51% over the next 8 years. Critical to achieving that, the first thing we need to do is a massive financial literacy/wealth building program in the Black community that will cut African American personal and church-based debt by at least \$5,000,000,000.00.

Using that money, we can increase African American homeownership. This simply means that we will be targeting some 10,000 – 30,000 young African American couples giving them all of the resources they need: home education, savings, budgeting, debt reduction, how to invest, etc.... so that they can turn their debt into actual wealth.

There has not been a greater time in American history than now to focus African Americans in reducing their personal and church-based debt. In other words, we are going to tighten our budgets. In doing so we are asking African Americans to take on a second job, start a business, for churches to mainstream their budgets, sharpen their giving programs so that everyone will be in a position over the next 8 years to equip those couples to purchase homes so that they can become wealth owners. Not homeowners, wealth owners. These are the tools that we intend to give them in this extraordinary campaign over the next 8 years.

According to Chairman Jerome Powell there has never been an opportunity like this for African Americans to reduce their debt and focus on wealth building. We plan to launch a massive initiative through the 34,000 churches and the additional 116,000 churches that are in the African American community to achieve this goal.

### **Current Economic Situation and Outlook according to the Testimony of Chairman Jerome H. Powell from his Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress**

“Since I last testified here in February, the job market has continued to strengthen, and inflation has moved up. In the most recent data, inflation was a little above 2 percent, the level that the Federal Open Market Committee, or FOMC, thinks will best achieve our price stability and employment objectives over the longer run. The latest figure was boosted by a significant increase in gasoline and other energy prices.

An average of 215,000 net new jobs were created each month in the first half of this year. That number is somewhat higher than the monthly average for 2017. It is also a good deal higher than the average number of people who enter the workforce each month on net. The unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage point over the first half of the year to 4.0 percent in June, near the lowest level of the past two decades. In addition, the share of the population that either has a job or

has looked for one in the past month--the labor force participation rate--has not changed much since late 2013. This development is another sign of labor market strength. Part of what has kept the participation rate stable is that more working-age people have started looking for a job, which has helped make up for the large number of baby boomers who are retiring and leaving the labor force.

Another piece of good news is that the robust conditions in the labor market are being felt by many different groups. For example, the unemployment rates for African Americans and Hispanics have fallen sharply over the past few years and are now near their lowest levels since the Bureau of Labor Statistics began reporting data for these groups in 1972. Groups with higher unemployment rates have tended to benefit the most as the job market has strengthened. But jobless rates for these groups are still higher than those for whites. And while three-fourths of whites responded in a recent Federal Reserve survey that they were doing at least okay financially in 2017, only two-thirds of African Americans and Hispanics responded that way.

Incoming data show that, alongside the strong job market, the U.S. economy has grown at a solid pace so far this year. The value of goods and services produced in the economy--or gross domestic product--rose at a moderate annual rate of 2 percent in the first quarter after adjusting for inflation. However, the latest data suggest that economic growth in the second quarter was considerably stronger than in the first. The solid pace of growth so far this year is based on several factors. Robust job gains, rising after-tax incomes, and optimism among households have lifted consumer spending in recent months. Investment by businesses has continued to grow at a healthy rate. Good economic performance in other countries has supported U.S. exports and manufacturing. And while housing construction has not increased this year, it is up noticeably from where it stood a few years ago.”

### **About NBCI**

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino Churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI’s mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, Churches and the public. Our methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science.

NBCI’s purpose is to partner with major organizations and officials whose main mission is to reduce racial disparities in the variety of areas cited above. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-box and cutting-edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI’s programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science-based strategies and techniques, and methods that work. Visit our website at [www.naltBlackChurch.com](http://www.naltBlackChurch.com).