



January 7, 2022

A New Year Building Together

Many of you probably felt as I did. The last two years increased the urgency and necessity of gathering together for the holiday season. What better way to close out the year than to celebrate community, family, and culture with a Kwanzaa celebration. Beginning on December 26, the 7 principles are celebrated and represented each day by the lighting of each of the candles on the kinara, in the colors of the Pan-African flag, 3 red (the struggle), 1 black (the people), and 3 green (the future)

The seven principles are—



1. **Umoja**- (Unity) To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation, and race.
2. **Kujichagulia** (Self-Determination)-To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves.
3. **Ujima** (Collective Work and Responsibility) To build and maintain our community together and make our community's problems our problems and solve them together.
4. **Ujamaa** (Cooperative Economics)-To build and maintain our own stores, shops, and other

businesses and to profit from them together.

5. **Nia** (Purpose)- To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.

6. **Kuumba** (Creativity)- To always do as much as we can to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.

7. **Imani** (Faith)- To believe with all our hearts in our people and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

Can you see how CAJM's values intertwine with the principles of the Kwanzaa celebration? Each year we are called by our various faith traditions (**Imani**) to strive to unite our community(**UMOJA**), to be empowered to use our stories(**Kujichagulia**) to uncover our common problems and to utilize our collective resources to build the capacity (**Ujamaa**) to work to find resolutions that help rebuild a more just fair community (**Ujima**), as God has purposed us to be. (**Nia**) When we achieve these tasks we not only make our community better now, but we leave it in a better state for future generations to come. (**Kuumba**)



Kwanzaa was created in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga to honor and celebrate the heritage and culture of African Americans. Kwanzaa implores us all to think about what community is, what it should be, and how we create and maintain it for all people. It is befitting that we end the year with the celebration of the holiday of Kwanzaa in remembrance of the struggle, determination, and hard work we have done throughout the year. Similarly, it is a great honor to celebrate in that same tradition, a renewed faith to begin the process again. As we dig deeper into our research process this year, let us honor the spirit of our cultural and holiday celebrations by remembering the love and joy of family and togetherness that we may have longed for or had the pleasure of experiencing.

UPCOMING IN CAJM

Network Meeting Dates

January 25th: Virtual on ZOOM - Nichols Chapel, St. James, Morris Street - [Click here to register for the Jan. 25 Network Meeting](#)

January 31st: In Person at Mt. Moriah - Mt. Moriah, Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian, Grace City, Circular, St. James, Morris Street, LCOTR - [Click here to register for the Jan. 31 Network Meeting](#)

February 1st: Virtual on ZOOM- KKBE, Morris Brown, Circular, Edisto PCUSA, Holy Communion, Two Rivers, Calvary Baptist, St. Patrick, St. Marks - [Click here to register for the Feb. 1 Network Meeting](#)

February 7th: Virtual on ZOOM- St. John Catholic, Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian, Calvary Episcopal, Bethal/Salem, Masjid al Jami Ar-Rasheed, CofC, St. John Catholic, Calvary Episcopal, First Scots, UU, Hebron Zion, Mt. Moriah - [Click here to register for the Feb. 7 Network Meeting](#)

February 8th: In-Person location TBA - KKBE, St. John Catholic, St. Patrick Catholic, First Scots, St. Marks - [Click here to register for the Feb. 8 Network Meeting](#)

February 10th: In-Person location TBA - Morris Brown, Nichols Chapel, Parkside, Calvary Baptist, Two Rivers, Holy Communion, Hebron Zion - [Click here to register for the Feb. 10 Network Meeting](#)

If you don't see your congregation listed, contact your team leader or organizer to make sure your congregation has scheduled a date!

Still, need to submit your 2021 investment?

Contact your CAJM organizer with any questions or invest now by clicking on the button below!

CLICK HERE TO INVEST!

UPCOMING DATES:

Network Meetings in January and February! Ask your Team Leader when your network meeting is!

March 14th at 7 PM: Rally

April 4th at 7 PM: Nehemiah Action Assembly

BRING AT LEAST 3 PEOPLE WITH YOU!

May 16th at 6:30 PM: Celebration!
(Investment Drive Kick-off!)



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