

Bastrop County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission Ex-Officio Members

County Officials

Hon. Gregory Klaus, Bastrop County Judge
 Hon. Mel Hamner, Bastrop County Commissioner, Pct. 1
 Hon. Clara Beckett, Bastrop County Commissioner, Pct. 2
 Hon. Mark Meuth, Bastrop County Commissioner, Pct. 3
 Hon. David Glass, Bastrop County Commissioner, Pct. 4
 Hon. Krista Bartsch, Bastrop County Clerk

City Officials

Hon. Lyle Nelson, Mayor, City of Bastrop
 Ms. Sylvia Carrillo, City Manager, City of Bastrop
 Hon. Theresa McShan, Mayor, City of Elgin
 Mr. Thomas Mattis, City Manager, City of Elgin
 Hon. Sharon Foerster, Mayor, City of Smithville
 Hon. Robert Tamble, City Manager, City of Smithville

School District Officials

Mr. Barry Edwards, Superintendent, Bastrop ISD
 Dr. Jana Rueter, Superintendent, Elgin ISD
 Mrs. Cheryl Burns, Superintendent, Smithville ISD
 Mrs. Heather Stidham, Superintendent, McDade ISD



(Photo credit: Steven Kasher Gallery, New York)

\$250-\$1,000 Sponsorships

**Born Again Emporium * City of Smithville * Tom & Debi Etheredge
 First National Bank - Bastrop**

Bastrop County Cares * Calbri Logistics Oilfield Svcs, LLC

City of Bastrop * City of Elgin * Sharon Foerster, Mayor of
 Smithville * Karen W. Carter, The Hope of Zion * Bastrop County
 Accountable Communities for Health (BCACH) * Smithville Area
 Chamber of Commerce * Smithville Volunteer Fire Department *
 Smithville Police Association

Lunch Sponsors

Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative * Brookshire Brothers
 V&V Sausages * Feed the Need

Raffle Sponsor

Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative

Bastrop County Martin Luther King, Jr. 2024 Holiday Commission Members

Bastrop

Beverly Anderson
 Hon. Joe Beal
 Karen Wilson Carter
 Linda Greene
 Nelia Kerr Greene
Hon. Dock Jackson*
 Tammy Johnson
 Hon. Willie Pina
 Joel Reed
 Hon. Tom Scott
 Andy Sevilla
 Lucy Todd
 Doedee Vann
 Elroy Williams

Elgin

Byron Caldwell
Hon. Bettye Lofton
 Gwen Johnson
 Dr. Marilyn Jones
 Bishop Mayes
 Amy Miller
 Hon. Byron Mitchell
 Hon. Mary Penon
 Hon. Theresa McShan
 Hon. Theresa Scott
 Hon. Mertis Thomas
 Hon. Gladys Ward*
 Elsie Williams
 Charles Wilson, Jr.

Smithville

Alta Yevett Alexander
 Annette Anderson
 Barbara Burleson
 Hon. Eric Culberson
 Willy Culberson
 Edith Denmon
 Hon. Sharon Foerster
 Hon. Bill Gordon
 Monique Lewis
 Cara Moore
Pamela Noell
 Abeline Oliver
 Jose Rivera
 Jill Strube, Ph.D.
 Hon. Robert Tamble
 Betty Walker

McDade

Gina Franke Sanders & Heather Stidham

* **Founders:** Hon. Dock Jackson, Hon. Gladys Ward, Hon. Clinton Wright

2024 Chairpersons: Hon. Dock Jackson, Hon. Bettye Lofton, Pamela Noell

In Memoriam: Hon. Judge Clarence Culberson, Ida Mae East, Rev. Q.S. Goins, Bernice Green, Jewell Hodges, Marjorie Franklin Johnson, Hon. Judge Ron Jones, Otha Powell McDuff, Zenobia Robinson, Mildred Rogers, David Sartain, Charles and Ernestine Sawyer, Rev. RD Smith, Rev. LR White, Hon. Clinton Wright

Acknowledgements

Smithville Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Committee

Smithville Homecoming Organization

Bastrop Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Committee

Elgin Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Committee

Bastrop ISD Elgin ISD McDade ISD Smithville ISD

Bastrop Advertiser Elgin Courier Smithville Police Dept.

Bastrop Power & Light BEDC Elgin NAACP Branch 6174

Bastrop, Elgin, and Smithville Area Churches

Bastrop & Elgin Main Street Boards Action Screen Graphics

Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce La Cabaña

Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday Commission

The Commission thanks everyone who helped in any way to assure that the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Walk and Tribute succeeds.

Black History Month Programs and Events

Hatitude Salutes Elsie Williams

Saturday, February 3, 2024 @ 9AM

Firewild / 201 N. Main Street, Elgin, TX

Expressions of African American Culture Part 2

Saturday, February 17, 2024 @ 7PM

Bastrop Opera House / 711 Spring Street, Bastrop, TX

Smithville Black Historic Walk, beginning at MLK Park, Smithville, TX

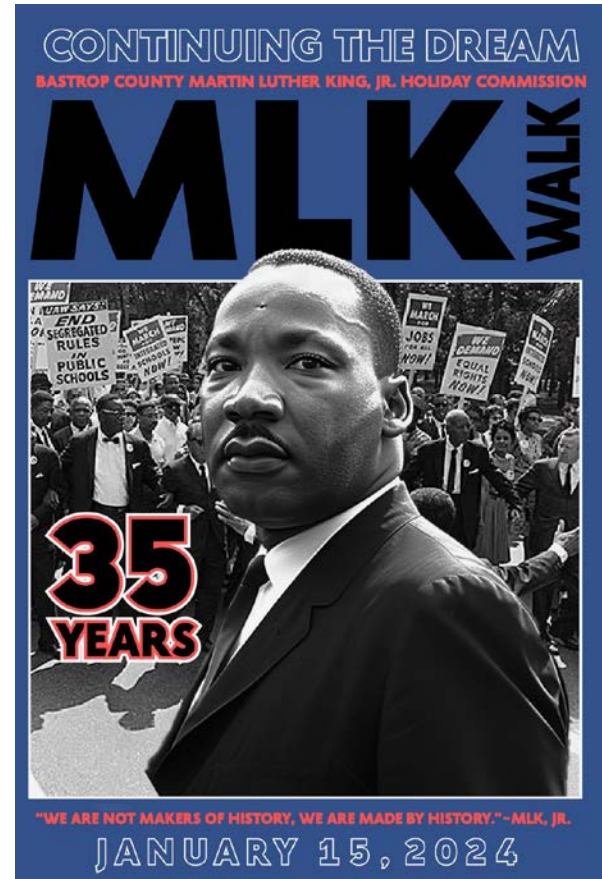
Saturday, February 17, @ 11AM (an It's Time Texas event)

**Legacy Alliance: Safe Space for Black Men of Bastrop County
 (February 2) Contact Krystal Grimes for details: krystal@ammaheal.org**

**Bastrop County African American Cultural Center and Freedom Colony
 Museum / 1303 Pine Street / Bastrop, Texas 78602 /
coalitionoffreedomcolonies.org / Open Saturdays 11AM-3PM**

Joining Together

Bastrop County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission



Smithville, TX

www.BastropCountyMLKDay.com

**11:15AM: Program
 Smithville Recreation Center**

****MLK History Walk Canceled
 due to severe weather conditions****

The Negro National Anthem
Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing
James Weldon Johnson

Lift ev'ry voice and sing. Till earth and heaven ring.
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty
Let our rejoicing rise, High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us,
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died,
Yet with a steady beat, Have not our weary feet,
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has
been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of
the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, Here now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might, Lead us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forgot Thee,
Shadowed beneath thy hand, May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.



(Photo by Francis Miller/The LIFE Picture Collection/Getty Images)

2024 MLK Celebration for Peace Program
Monday, January 15, 2024
Smithville Recreation Center

Master of Ceremonies

Willy Culberson

Musical Prelude

Pastor Exie Henry

Invocation/Blessing of the Food

Pastor Clark Jackson, Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

Entertainment

Mt. Pilgrim Praise Dancers

Remarks

City of Smithville: Hon. Sharon Foerster, Mayor

City of Elgin: Hon. Theresa McShan, Mayor

City of Bastrop: Hon. Lyle Nelson, Mayor

Entertainment

Lone Star Praise and Mime Ministry

Bastrop County Student Speakers

Smithville High School: Jade Elam

Bastrop High School: Trinity Whitson

Cedar Creek High School: Seth Staples

Colorado River Collegiate Academy: Hunter Laskowski

Elgin High School: Jaylan Roberson

McDade High School: Areli Lugo-Lopez

Acknowledgements: 35-Year Commemoration

Pamela Noell, Smithville Homecoming Organization

2025 Host: Remarks & Acknowledgements

Hon. Dock Jackson, Bastrop MLK Jr.

Scholarship Committee

Entertainment

Elgin Gospel Choir

Appeal for Student Scholarships

Alta Yevett Alexander

We Shall Overcome

Benediction

Pastor Clark Jackson, Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church

Lunch service sponsored by:

*Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Brookshire Brothers,
V&V Sausage, and Feed the Need*

“

Our lives begin
to end the day
we become silent
about things
that matter.”

We Shall Overcome
Charles Albert Tindley

We shall overcome
We shall overcome
We shall overcome some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
We shall overcome some day

We'll walk hand in hand
We'll walk hand in hand
We'll walk hand in hand some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
We'll walk hand in hand some day

We are not afraid
We are not afraid
We are not afraid today
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
We are not afraid today

The truth shall make us free
The truth shall make us free
The truth shall make us free some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
The truth shall make us free some day

We shall live in peace
We shall live in peace
We shall live in peace some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
We shall live in peace some day