

**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

**City Officials**

Hon. Connie Schroeder, 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  
 Mr. Robert Tamble, City Manager, City of Smithville

**School District Officials**

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



*(Photo credit: Steven Kasher Gallery, New York)*

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

**Bastrop**

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

**Elgin**

Byron Caldwell  
 Gwen Johnson  
 Dr. Marilyn Jones  
 Hon. Bettye Lofton  
 Bishop Mayes  
 Hon. Theresa McShan  
 Amy Miller  
 Hon. Byron Mitchell  
 Hon. Mary Penson  
 Hon. Theresa Scott  
 Hon. Mertis Thomas  
 Hon. Gladys Ward\*  
 Elsie Williams

**Smithville**

Annette Anderson  
 Barbara Burleson  
 Gina Chronis-Bayer  
 Hon. Eric Culberson  
 Willy Culberson  
 Andy Esquivel  
 Hon. Sharon Foerster  
 Hon. Bill Gordon  
 Cara Moore  
 Abeline Oliver  
 Jill Strube  
 Robert Tamble  
 Betty Walker  
 Hon. Samella Williams

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

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

**Acknowledgements**

Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday Commission  
 Bastrop & Elgin Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Committees  
 Smithville Martin Luther King, Jr. Beautification Committee  
 Smithville Homecoming Organization  
 City of Bastrop ----- City of Elgin ----- City of Smithville  
 Bastrop ISD --- Elgin ISD --- McDade ISD --- Smithville ISD  
 Bastrop Advertiser ----- Elgin Courier ----- Smithville Times  
 Meyer's Sausage Co. ----- Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative  
 Elgin Area Churches ----- Elgin Juneteenth Organization  
 Elgin NAACP Branch 6174 ----- Elgin Main Street Board

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

**Black History Month Events/Programs**

**“Steal Away Home”, February 3-19, 2023**  
 Bastrop Opera House,  
[www.bastropoperahouse.org](http://www.bastropoperahouse.org)

**Hatitude Salutes Gwen Johnson**  
 Saturday, February 4, 2023 at 9am  
 Firewild, 201 N Main St, Elgin

**Joining Together**

**Bastrop County Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Holiday Commission**

**Celebrate! Remember! Act!**

*A Day On... Not a Day Off!!!*



**34th Annual Walk for  
Peace, Justice, and Equality**

**Monday  
January 16, 2023**

**Elgin**

10AM: Walk begins at the  
 Veterans Memorial Park, 109 Depot St

Welcome  
 Hon. Theresa McShan, Mayor of Elgin  
 11AM: Program at  
 Booker T. Washington Elementary School

**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, Led 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)

**2023 MLK Walk for Peace Program  
Monday, January 16, 2023  
Booker T. Washington Elementary School**

**Master of Ceremonies**

Hon. Theresa McShan, Mayor of Elgin

**Musical Prelude**

Mrs. Carolyn Carter

**Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing**

Hon. Byron Mitchell, Linda Green, Hon. Dock Jackson

**Invocation**

Rev. Steven Ward, Pastor of Mt. Moriah, Elgin

**Entertainment**

Elgin Choir

**Remarks**

City of Bastrop: Hon. Connie Schroeder, Mayor  
City of Smithville: Hon. Sharon Foerster, Mayor  
City of Elgin: Hon. Theresa McShan, Mayor  
Bastrop County: Hon. Gregory Klaus, County Judge

**Entertainment**

MPBC Praise Team, Smithville

**Student Speakers from  
Bastrop County High Schools**

Bastrop High School: Xenia Jackson  
Cedar Creek High School: Alexa McDonald  
Smithville High School: Tiyonna Washington

**Entertainment**

Bastrop's Dazzling Diamonds Dance Factory

**Student Speakers from  
Bastrop County High Schools**

Colorado River Collegiate Academy: Ramon Gutierrez-Bruno  
McDade High School: Mariana Palacios-Suaste  
Elgin High School: Ralyssa Enueshike

**Acknowledgements**

Mrs. Bettye Lofton

**2024 Host: Remarks & Acknowledgements**

Hon. Bill Gordon, Mayor Pro tem, Smithville

**Joint Appeal for Student Scholarships**

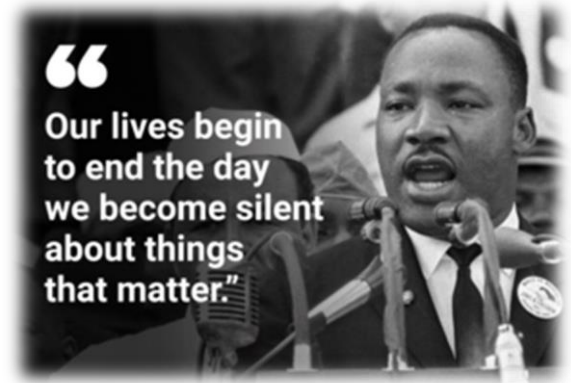
**We Shall Overcome**

**Benediction**

Rev. Steven Ward

“

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



(Source: Business Insider: [businessinsider.com/inspiring-martin-luther-king-jr-quotes-2017-1](https://www.businessinsider.com/inspiring-martin-luther-king-jr-quotes-2017-1))

**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