



## Off The Pews Newsletter

Summer 2020

**2020 Virtual Summer Program**  
Coming to a device near you!

“The Color of Food” Art Project

Organic Gardening

Financial Literacy

Zoom Lessons with suggested projects to do offline

Materials Supplied

July 6 - July 31

Registration is open for the **2020 Virtual Summer Program!** Additional details about the program and a link to register are available on the [program page](#).

### It's Juneteenth!

Off The Pews applauds the effort of civil rights activist, [Ms. Opal Lee](#), to make Juneteenth a national holiday. According to [The Hill](#), there is support from both sides of the aisle in Congress to make this happen.

There is much work ahead to bring equity and social justice to our society. It is the work of the entire nation to achieve. Celebrating Union General Gordon Granger's arrival in Galveston, TX on June 19, 1865 to announce the Civil War had ended and all enslaved African Americans had been freed by President Lincoln's signing of the Emancipation Proclamation is a good place to start.

Juneteenth Day is a celebration of freedom—a tenet of the United States of America's founding. In Ms. Lee's words, "...I keep saying, none of us are free until we are all free. There are too many disparities even now to say we are free...." Click to read the rest of her [interview with NBC News, Dallas Fort Worth](#).

### Happy Father's Day!

A very Happy Father's Day this Sunday to all of the Dads reading this newsletter!

Our good wishes extend to all of the men who've taken the responsibility to be mentors, role models and a solid support for their communities.

Thank you for all you do!



### Community Partners

We are very grateful to all of our community partners for their continued support. We encourage you to visit [OTP Community Partners page](#) to find links to their sites.

We would particularly like to thank these partners for organizing and/or leading the lessons in the 2020 Virtual Summer Program:

[Canaan Community Church](#) - Pastor Jonathan Brooks, Cheryl Benson, Sheila Barber, and Beverly Moores

[Hyde Park Art Center](#) - Gregory Smith and Mia Gholar

[Sunshine Gospel Ministries](#) - Donnell Williams

*Thank you so very much for your leadership and dedication!*

**FINDING YOUR ROOTS: HOW TO TRACE YOUR GENEALOGY**

**TUESDAY JUNE 30**  
2 0 2 0  
6:30-7:30 P.M.  
GOOGLE HANGOUTS

PLEASE RSVP FOR THE EVENT ON [EVENTBRITE](#)

Office of Community Affairs

### Interested in Genealogy?

Lakisha David, a PhD candidate is hosting "Finding Your Roots: How to Trace Your Genealogy" June 30th at 6:30 pm. The presentation will take place in Google Hangouts. Visit the Afro-American Genealogical and Historical Society of Chicago to learn more. Registration is free on Eventbrite.

[Learn more](#)

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