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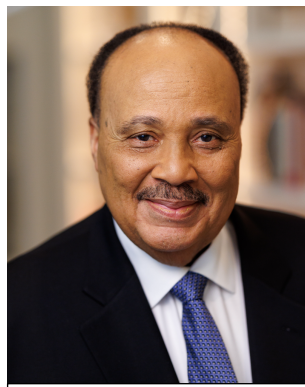


The \$11 million restoration and expansion of the Scotland AME Zion Church highlights the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the facility.

# Martin Luther King III to Mark 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Church

SPORTSCASTER JAMES BROWN, BISHOP BRIAN R. THOMPSON  
AMONG EXPECTED DIGNITARIES TO HONOR SCOTLAND AME ZION

POTOMAC, MD. — Members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century Project committee for the Scotland African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Zion Church on Seven Locks Road announced they will host Martin Luther King III, the son of America’s foremost Civil Rights icon, to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of their building.



Martin Luther King III

The event, featuring several national dignitaries including Bishop Brian R. Thompson and CBS sportscaster James Brown, will be held Oct. 14, at 3 p.m. at the Potomac church to unveil new construction progress and celebrate the past century of interfaith cooperation that began when doors opened on Sept. 14, 1924.

“We are deeply honored to share this historic occasion with the oldest son of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,” said April Swales, a church congregant and sixth-generation resident of the historic community of Scotland that was founded by formerly enslaved

families in 1880. “Mr. King is a globally respected activist in his own right, and we are excited to talk about our shared dreams that continue to build on where his father left off.”

The event featuring Mr. King will include a ceremony marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Scotland AME Zion at 3 p.m. inside the newly repaired and expanded structure at 10902 Seven Locks Road. Other expected guests include the newly appointed Bishop Thompson, broadcaster Brown, Ambassador David Saperstein, County Executive Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Council President Andrew Friedson, and state delegate Lily Qi.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Century Project was launched in 2022 by Scotland AME Zion’s pastor, the Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, and other Montgomery County community leaders to raise funds and awareness for the church that was catastrophically flooded in 2019. Approximately \$8.8 million has been raised toward an \$11 million goal, with a projected completion of late December of this year if fundraising goals can be met.

“I am deeply honored and excited to be celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the remarkable Scotland AME Zion Church of Potomac as it works to achieve its dream of a repaired and larger space for its ministries, and to celebrate its history,” said Martin Luther King III. “The work of Scotland’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Century Project keeps my father’s own dream very much alive 60 years later. I can’t wait to meet everyone on Oct. 14.”

MEDIA NOTE: Also on Oct. 14, beginning at 6:30, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century Project team will also hold a private event at a prominent museum in Washington, D.C. Mr. King and Ambassador Saperstein will headline a reception and panel discussion with the theme: “From Selma to Scotland: Interfaith Cooperation, Then and Now.” Other expected presenters include Maryland Rep. Jamie Raskin, Jewish Council for Public Affairs CEO Amy Spitalnick, and Dr. Erika Gault, Director of African American Religious Studies at the African American Museum.

Tickets for the evening event are free to the public, but advance reservations are required. Contact April Swales at [friendsofScotland54@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofScotland54@gmail.com) for more information about the location.