**2025 Black History Moment** (3 minutes)

**Focus: How to Celebrate Black History Month**

 **Youth Presenter: David Miller**

2nd SUNDAY, February 9, 2025 (Superbowl Sunday)

**Let’s Learn about our Black history** by exploring our local community; reading books by Black authors, visiting Black or [African-American history museums](https://nmaahc.si.edu/) and cultural centers and searching on-line. Right here in Atlanta, make a point to Visit:

National Center for Civil and Human Rights;

Apex Museum

Albany Civil Rights Institute

King Center Visitor Center, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Park

**Learn about Black leaders.**

**Watch films and documentaries created by Black filmmakers.**

**AND Get to know our Black Holidays:**

(Did you know that there are 12 Black Holidays & Commemorations)

**January 20th – Martin Luther King Day:**

Federal holiday that honors the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a civil rights leader, also known as the father of the Civil Rights movement*.*

**February – Black History Month**

Time set to honor the contributions of African Americans is recognized and celebrated in venues nation wide

**February 4th - Rosa Parks Day**

Officially celebrated in several states, including California, Ohio, Alabama, Missouri, Oregon, and Tennessee, there have been proposals for the day to be made into a federal holiday, unifying the day it is celebrated*.*

**February 13th - Black Love Day**

It’s a day to celebrate Black love, culture and community and to focus on self-love and connection. Ayo Handy-Kendi, a community organizer and Washington, DC native created this holiday on Feb. 13, 1993

**March 10th - Harriett Tubman Day**

*Honors her heroic work in freeing slaves and her work toward the overall abolishment of slavery in America. Holiday enacted as a national holiday in 1990*

**May 19th** (or third Friday in May) **- Malcolm X Day**

Honoring and celebrating the life of this Civil Rights leader who worked to combine the work of civil rights leaders while prioritizing Black autonomy and empowerment. The first celebration was held in Washington DC in May 19, 1972 as a pre-rally to the First Africa Liberation Day Celebration

**May 25th - Africa Liberation Day**

Commemorates the glorious moment in 1961when Africa secured its independence from 450 years of Portuguese rule.

**June 19th – Juneteenth**

A.K.A. Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Cel-Liberation Day & Emancipation Day. June 19, 1865, two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation was ratified in the U.S., the last enslaved people in Texas were freed, i.e. the end of slavery

**June - African American Music Appreciation Month**

In 1979, President Jimmy Carter created this month-long holiday to commemorate the African American musical influences of our nation.

**July 4th - U.S. Independence Day**

Celebrates the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. It marks our independence from Great Britain.

**July 18th -Nelson Mandela International Day**

Celebrating Nelson R. Mandela who was a South African anti-apartheid activist and politician who served, from 1994-1999 as the first president of South Africa. Everyone is encouraged to make a difference in your communities

**December 26th – Kwanzaa**

Founded in 1966 by Maulana Karwenga, an activist. Annual week-long celebration and is based on African harvest festival traditions from various parts of West, East and Southeast Africa. It is a celebration of African American culture, family, and community. Designed to encourage people to honor seven principles, including unity, self-determination and creativity. It lasts for seven days culminating in a communal feast called Karamu usually on the 6th day*.*

*Proposed* **Year-Long Challenge**: Let’s get excited about our History. Do you have a little known story to share?

Wesley Chapel members and community are challenged to independently learn more about our Black history. Then bring your findings to the Archives & History Ministry to be included in the selection of topics for the 2025 Black History Moment presentations.