

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Committee to Host 37th Annual Interfaith Service

TAMPA, FL — The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Committee will hold its **37th Annual Interfaith Service** on **Sunday, January 18, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.** at **Mt. Calvary Seventh-day Adventist Church**, located at **4902 North 40th Street, Tampa, Florida**. Admission is free, and the event is open to the public. A **complimentary dinner** will be provided to all attendees immediately following the service.

The annual service brings together faith leaders, civic officials, and community members to honor the legacy of Dr. King through unity, reflection, and service. Greetings will be extended by **Congresswoman Kathy Castor, Mayor Jane Castor**, and representatives from the **Hillsborough County Commission, Tampa City Council**, and the **NAACP**.

The program will feature a rich and diverse musical and cultural presentation, including performances by musical groups representing the **Baha'i faith**, the **Ethiopian Orthodox Children's Chorus**, the **Bible-Based Fellowship Church Ensemble of Tampa Bay**, **Ismaili singers and dancers**, and an **all-star MLK Community Choir**, directed by **Rev. Isaac Ruffin**.

During the service, the **Robert Saunders Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award** will be presented to **Rev. Sharon Streater**, who recently retired after distinguished service as the organizer of the **Hillsborough Organization for Progress and Equality**. The **Patricia Spencer Volunteerism Award** will be presented to **William Sanders** and **Ruby Jackson** in recognition of their dedication to making the community more livable.

The winner of the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest** will be announced, and **prayers for peace** will be offered by students representing various faith traditions. The **Keynote Address** will be delivered by **Rev. Dr. Anthony White**, Senior Pastor of the **Bible-Based Fellowship Church of Tampa Bay**.

Members of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Committee include: **Dr. H. Roy Kaplan, Clark Jordan-Holmes, Rev. Isaac Ruffin, Dr. Samuel L. Wright, Sr., Maxon Victor, Jaida Clark, Rev. Glenn Dames, Rev. Dr. Norman Harris, Quenita Oats, Dr. Kimberly Michele, and Laron Washington**.

For more information, please contact:

Rev. Isaac Ruffin

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