



**JULY 2023** 

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# **Pastor's Corner**

For many black families, July 4th is not a celebration of America's independence. It is more like an excuse to fire up the grill. As we look into an excerpt from Frederick Douglass' 1852 speech "What, to the Slave, is the Fourth of July?" "What, to the American slave, is your Fourth of July? I answer: a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciations of tyrants, brass fronted impudence; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mockery; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade, and solemnity, are, to him, mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy-a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages. There is not a nation on the earth guilty of practices, more shocking and bloody, than are the people of these United States, at this very hour."

Whether it's July 4 or any other day, for that matter, Black Americans are forever reminded of our complicated relationship to this country. Perspective can have a profound impact on the ways we view our country and its birthday. For me, my family and my colleagues, like Douglass, our perspectives are based on a complete and unfiltered view of America's past and present — of its tragedies as well as its triumphs. We have not claimed the American dream, however the writers left room for progress. We have come a long way, and have a long way to go. With God's guidance and blessings we will continue to strive to make the Declaration of Independence live up to it's promises. Join us every Sunday at 11am for Church Service. All other services are still online only. Here is our current schedule:

**Daily Devotion- Uploaded daily** 

<u>Tuesday:</u> 6:30pm- Women's Bible Study on Zoom: 712 712 4590

<u>Wednesday:</u> 5:00pm- Bible Study (Isaiah) online only

<u>Thursday</u>: Choir Bible Study- uploaded weekly 6:30pm- Special Needs Bible Study on Zoom: 819 0115 3607

<u>Friday</u>: 5:00pm-Bible Study (2 Chronicles) online only

<u>Saturday</u>: 2:00pm- Boot Camp Bible Study on Zoom- 884 6010 2695 5:00pm- Hour of Prayer— online only

<u>Sunday:</u> 9:00am- Sunday School- online only 10:45am Praise and Worship 11:00am- Church Service- In-person and online

Toddler Church- uploaded weekly

## Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

The effects of trauma on minority communities, including Black, Latinx, Asian American Pacific Islander, and Indigenous people, have long-lasting mental health impacts. Atrocities such as slavery, colonization, cultural eradication, and race-based terrorism play out across generations of families as complex trauma. For many communities, these traumatic events are not relegated to the past. They are unfolding in real time through gun violence, police brutality, and immigration raids, as well as ongoing microaggressions and discrimination.

Even when they are able to access mental healthcare, young people are often treated by providers who don't look like them and don't understand their experience. Providers are sometimes unable to recognize and identify the manifestations and causes of trauma, anxiety, and depression in teens from minority cultures. As defined by the American Psychological Association, cultural competency is "the ability to understand, appreciate and interact with people from cultures or belief systems different from one's own." Hence, a culturally competent mental health care provider is able to consider how a person's culture, race, and ethnicity may influence their mental health, and the most effective way to treat them. It's never too late or too early to start thinking about your brain's health — making healthy choices at any age is beneficial.

#MentalHealthAwareness #BreakTheStigma

## Summer Updates

Some of our online Bible Studies will be on hiatus for the summer and returning in September. We want to thank all those who have and continue to support our online ministry here at Community Baptist Church of Santa Rosa, as well as those who have worked tirelessly to keep it going since it began when the Pandemic made its entrance into the world. God continues to bless our online ministry and we are grateful for the opportunity to share the gospel of Christ all over the world!

During this brief hiatus, we will be updating our online ministry and making some necessary changes, improvements and adjustments to keep up with the changing times. We look forward to seeing what God has in store for our Online Ministry and to coming back in the Fall. If you have not done so already, please check out our social media pages and subscribe. We appreciate your support. Stay tuned for more announcements. May God bless and keep you is our prayer.

### SUMMER UPDATE:

Effective immediately, the following Bible Studies will be on hiatus for the Summer and will return in September:

> Women's Bible Study Wednesday Night Bible Study Thursday Night Bible Study Special Needs Bible Study Friday Night Bible Study Boot Camp Bible Study Toddler Church

Until then, please watch from our many videos on YouTube and here on Facebook. Saturday Prayer, Sunday School and Church Service will not be on hiatus and will continue to livestream each week. God bless you.