

505 North Market Street
Wilmington, Delaware 19801
Ph: 302-655-7161
FaxL 302-655-7844
dehistory.org



Trustees

Linda R. Boyden
Chair

Theodore H. Dwyer, Jr.
First Vice Chair

Melva L. Ware, Ph.D.
Second Vice Chair

Barbara M. G. Cooch
Secretary

Tina D. Betz
Assistant Secretary

Robert T. Wright
Treasurer

Anne P. Cahby
Assistant Treasurer

James M. Baker

Mary W. Davis

E. Bradford du Pont, Jr.

Mark A. Graham

Glen C. Gray

Niki Hawkins

Alison K. Hoagland

Steven G. Kochie

Margaret L. Laird, Ph.D.

Edmond L. Lincoln

Dr. Lawrence M. Livingston

G. Arno Loessner, Ph.D.

Thomas P. McGonigle, Esq.

La Wanda Newton

Richard E. Poole, Esq.

Douglas R. Quaintance

Geoffrey M. Rogers

George D. Rotsch

Beverley W. Rowland

Dan Scholl

Michelle D. Shepherd

Chief Justice Myron T. Steele

William J. Wade, Esq.

Clint Walker

Toni Young

Chief Executive Officer

Scott W. Loehr

MEDIA ADVISORY

Contact: Jen Wallace at jwallace@dehistory.org or 302-295-2390
February 18, 2015

**Book Launch Celebration for *Forging Faith, Building Freedom: African American Faith Experiences in Delaware, 1800-1980*
February 28, 2015**

The Delaware Historical Society continue its commitment to documenting, preserving and sharing the story of the African American faith experience in Delaware and the U.S. with release of new book.

Wilmington, DE —The Delaware Historical Society will hold a book launch celebration to commemorate the release of *Forging Faith, Building Freedom: African American Faith Experiences in Delaware, 1800-1980* on February 28, 2015 from 2-4 pm. The project began in 2013 with the *Forging Faith, Building Freedom* exhibition at the Delaware History Museum that documented the faith experiences of African Americans in Delaware as well as their significant contributions to the development of African American religion in the United States. As the exhibition's curators delved into the research, they realized that the story they were telling was only the beginning and the idea of a book was born. Illustrated with a rich selection of images and documents provided by the African American community, *Forging Faith, Building Freedom* explores and celebrates the African American faith experience in Delaware, from its very beginnings through the late 1900s, and places Delaware into the larger historical context of African-American religion and faith.

WHAT: *Forging Faith, Building Freedom: African American Faith Experiences in Delaware, 1800-1980* Book Launch. Following a brief program, books will be available for purchase at a special introductory price of \$16.00 hardbound and \$10.50 softbound (regularly priced \$18.00 hardbound and \$12.00 softbound). The authors will also be available to sign copies. Light refreshments will be served.

WHO: Featuring authors Dr. Constance J. Cooper, chief curator at the Delaware Historical Society and curator of *Forging Faith, Building Freedom* and Dr. Lewis V. Baldwin, Emeritus Professor of Religious Studies at Vanderbilt University and consultant historian for *Forging Faith, Building Freedom*. Published by the Delaware Heritage Press for the Delaware Historical Society.

WHERE: Christopher Ward Reading Room, Delaware Historical Society Research Library. 505 N. Market St., Wilmington, DE 19801

WHEN: Saturday, February 28 from 2-4 pm

Reservations for the program can be made by calling (302) 655-7161 or deinfo@dehistory.org.

The Delaware Historical Society owns and operates the Delaware History Museum; a nationally recognized Research Library; Old Town Hall; Willingtown Square, four 18th-century houses surrounding a picturesque urban courtyard located in Wilmington; as well as the Read House & Gardens located in historic New Castle, recognized as an “American Treasure” by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Park Service; and The Center for African American Heritage, which will be included as part of the expansion of the Delaware History Museum, expected to reopen in 2016.

For more information on the Delaware Historical Society, call (302) 655-7161 or visit www.dehistory.org.

Links: <http://dehistory.org/online-exhibitions-collections-museum/forging-faith>

###