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Date June 27, 2017

**Family Program – Gathering for the August Quarterly!**

**Wilmington, DE** – Bring your family for an afternoon of activities and fun centered on the August Quarterly at the Delaware Historical Society’s Mitchell Center for African American Heritage on Saturday August 19, 2017; 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; 504 North Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19801. Program included with admission. Adults \$6.00; Seniors (65+)/Military/Student (with i.d.) \$5.00; Children (3-18) \$4.00. Free Parking provided by Colonial Parking at the lot on 6<sup>th</sup> & Shipley streets.

In celebration of the annual August Quarterly, young visitors (ages 5-12) and their families will enjoy a story time with the reading of the book, *Press On! The Story of Peter Spencer*, explore the traditions of the independent black church, and make their own church fans in a hands-on activity.

Peter Spencer (1782—1843) founded the Union Church of Africans, the first independent all-black denomination, in Wilmington in 1813. Spencer also started the August Quarterly, now the oldest continuously celebrated African American festival in the United States. He became widely known and respected in Delaware as a church and community leader, preacher, pastor, teacher, and anti-slavery activist.

Guests are welcome to further explore the history of the First State by touring *Delaware: One State, Many Stories*, a comprehensive exhibition presented in a complementary dual format. *Discover Delaware* introduces a general overview of the state’s history from the 1600s to the present. *Journey to Freedom* features the history of African Americans, from the first known African brought to Delaware by the Swedes in the 1600s called “Black Anthony,” to Delaware Poets Laureate, brothers Nnamdi Chukwuocha and Al Mills.

**About the Delaware Historical Society**

The Delaware Historical Society owns and operates the Delaware History Museum; the Jane and Littleton Mitchell Center for African American Heritage; a nationally recognized Research Library; Old Town Hall; Willingtown Square, four 18th-century houses surrounding a picturesque urban courtyard located in downtown Wilmington; and National Historic Landmark, the Read House & Gardens located in historic New Castle. For more information, call (302) 655-7161, email [deinfo@dehistory.org](mailto:deinfo@dehistory.org), or visit [www.dehistory.org](http://www.dehistory.org).

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