

# CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY



A BLACK HISTORY EVENT


KARI MCCA W-BLAISE  
FEBRUARY 19, 2012

# Black History Month: What & Why?

- ▣ Started in February 1926 as national Negro History week

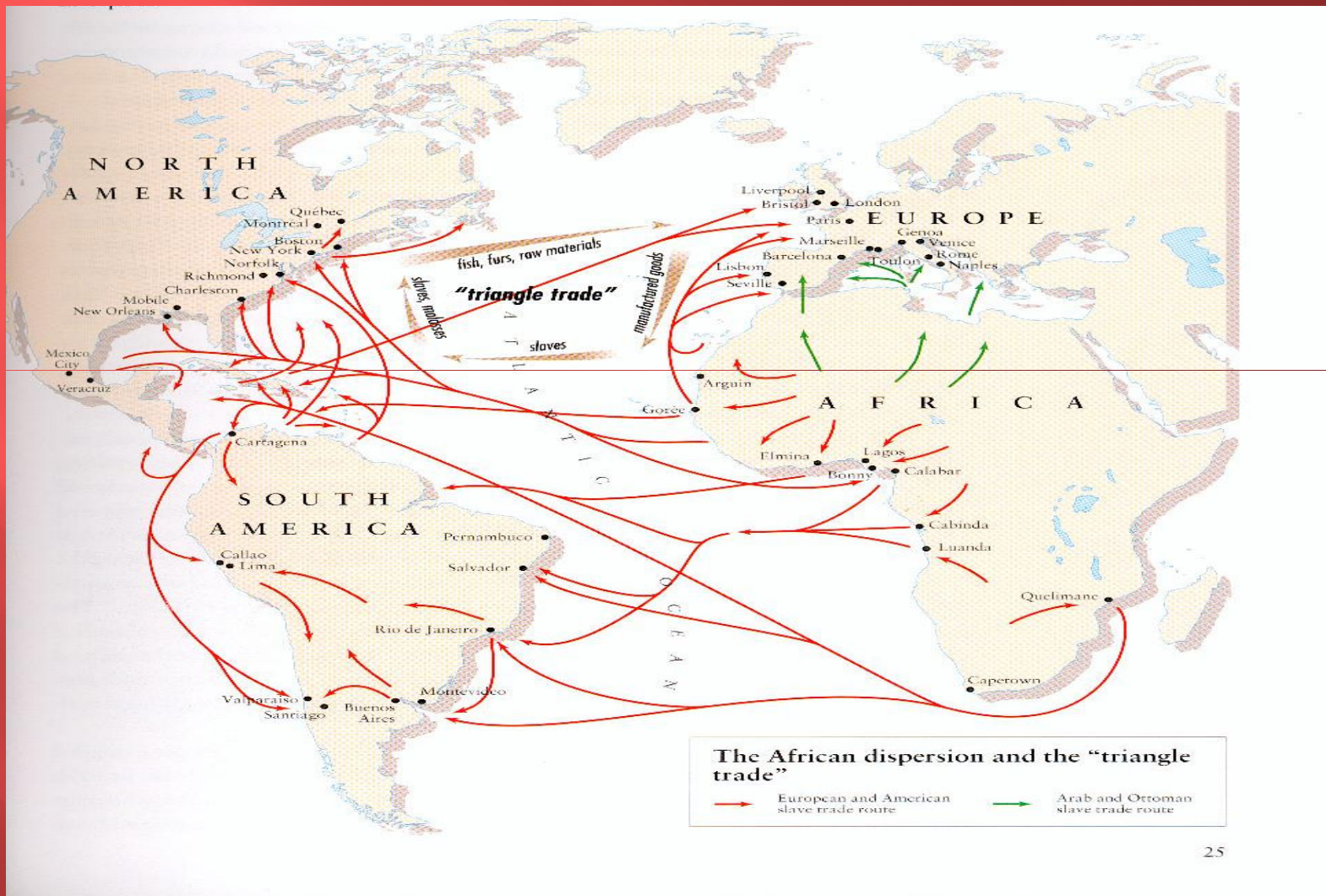


1976 – Gerald Ford  
1<sup>st</sup> Black History Month



2012 – Barack Obama  
Black History Month  
Theme – Black Women

# Phillis Wheatley



# Phillis Wheatley



Published according to Act of Parliament, Sept. 1. 1773 by Arch. Bell.  
Bookfeller N<sup>o</sup> 8 near the Saracens Head Aldgate.

P O E M S

O N

V A R I O U S S U B J E C T S,

R E L I G I O U S A N D M O R A L,

B Y

*P H I L L I S W H E A T L E Y,*

N E G R O S E R V A N T T O M R. J O H N W H E A T L E Y,  
O F B O S T O N, I N N E W E N G L A N D.

L O N D O N:

Printed for A. BELL, Bookfeller, Aldgate; and sold by  
Messrs. COX and BERRY, King-Street, BOSTON.

M D C C L X X I I I.

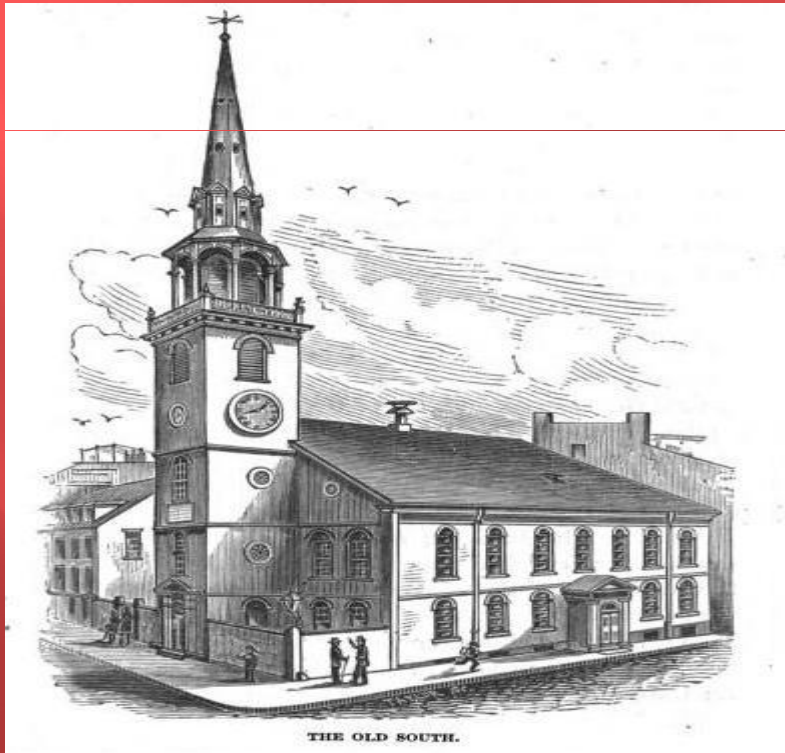
# Phillis Wheatley

- ❑ First African-American to publish a book of imaginative writing.
- ❑ Started the African-American literary tradition.
- ❑ Started the African-American women's literary tradition.
- ❑ Use of meter and rhyme-scheme is precise and correct.
- ❑ Combined the influences of religion and neo-classicism in her poems.



# Phillis Wheatley

- ▣ Old South Meeting House: 1877



- ▣ Old South Meeting House: Present Day



# *ON BEING BROUGHT FROM AFRICA TO AMERICA*

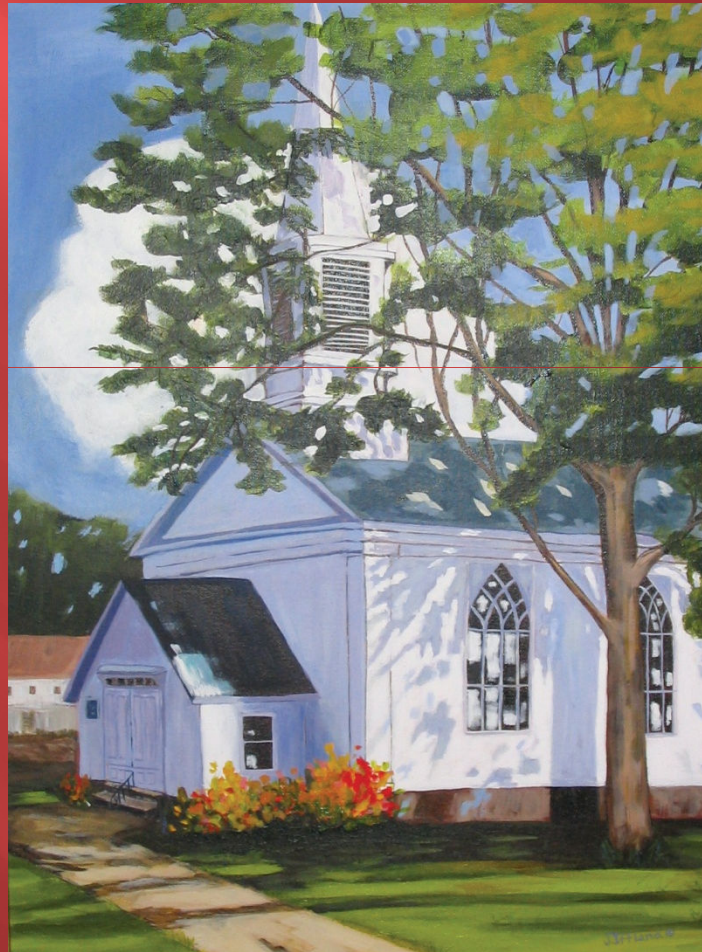
**"Twas mercy brought me from my Pagan land,  
Taught my benighted soul to understand  
That there's a God, that there's a Saviour too:  
Once I redemption neither sought nor knew.  
Some view our sable race with scornful eye,  
"Their colour is a diabolic die."  
Remember, Christians, Negros, black as Cain,  
May be refin'd and join th'angelic train.**

# Lemuel Haynes



That an African...has an undeniable right  
to his liberty.

# Lemuel Haynes



# Lemuel Haynes

- ▣ Grace Congregational UCC
- ▣ Formerly West Parish Congregational Church



# Lemuel Haynes

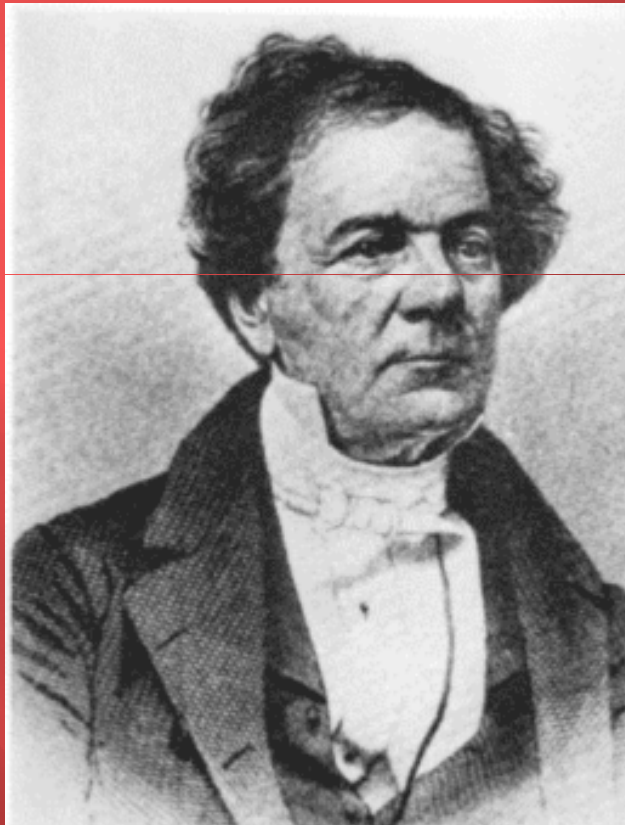


# Lemuel Haynes House



# Abolitionist = Congregationalist ?

▣ Lewis Tappan



▣ The most famous Quaker



# The Amistad



1839

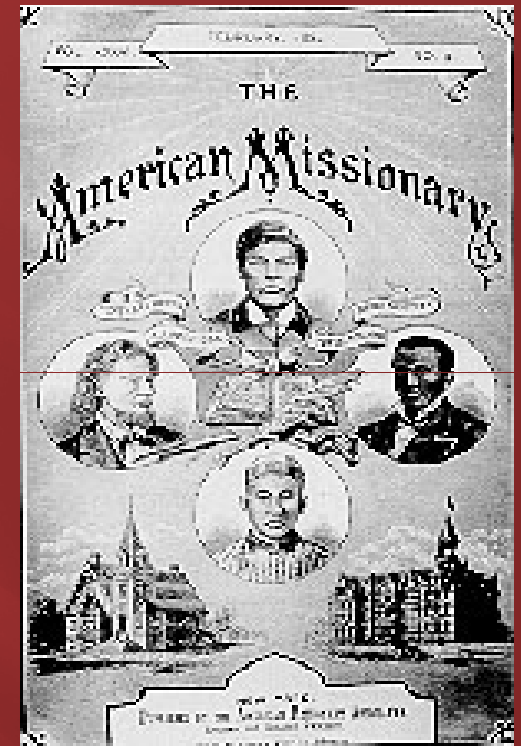


# American Missionary Association (AMA)

ABCFM  $\neq$  EQUALITY

AHMS  $\neq$  EQUALITY

AMA  $=$  EQUALITY



## AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION (AMA)

**LeMoyne Owen College - Memphis, TN**

**Huston-Tillotson College - Austin, TX**

**Fisk University - Nashville, TN**

**Talladega College - Talladega, AL**

**Tougaloo College - Tougaloo, MS**

**Dillard University - New Orleans, LA**

**Clark-Atlanta University - Atlanta, GA**

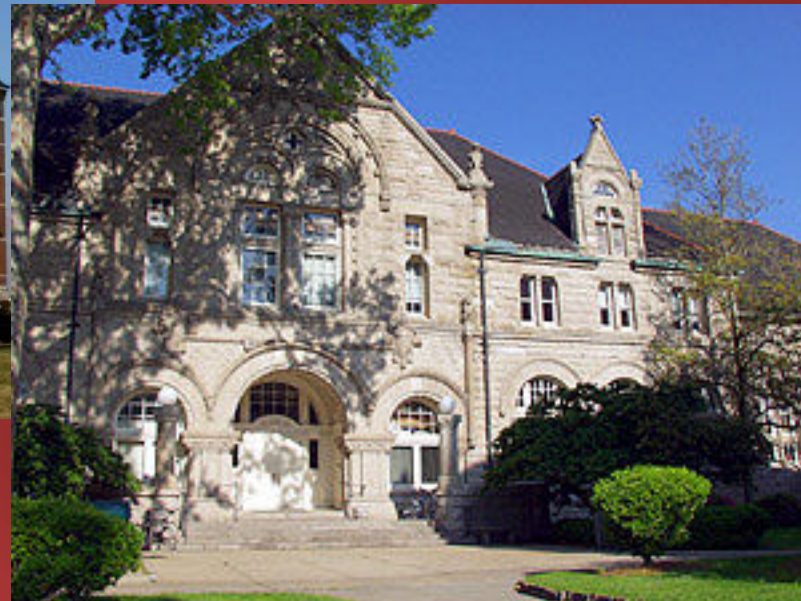
**Howard University - Washington, DC**

# American Missionary Association (AMA)

▣ Fisk University Nashville,  
TN



▣ Amistad Research Center  
New Orleans, LA



# James W.C. Pennington



- ▣ "I have no knowledge of distance or direction. I know that Pennsylvania is a free state, but I know not where its soil begins, or where that of Maryland ends?"

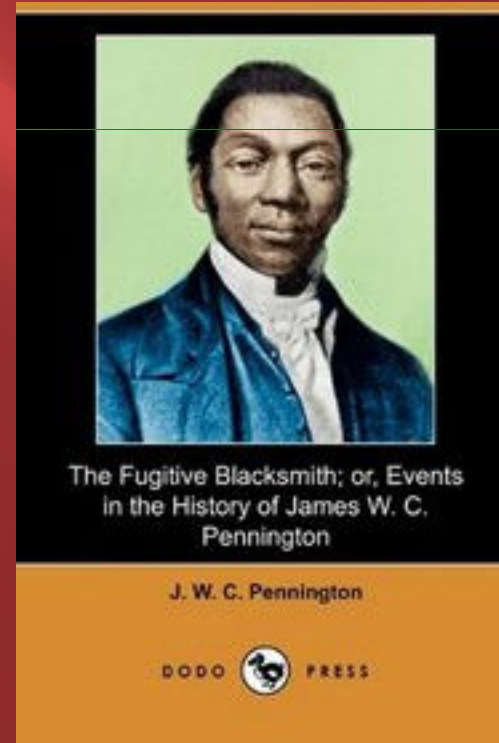
# James W.C. Pennington



# James W.C. Pennington



# Rev. Dr. James W.C. Pennington, D.D.



God has spoken



# Still Speaking



- ▣ General Minister and President of the UCC since June 2009
- ▣ First black man elected to full 4 year term

# Geoffrey Black

- ❑ **Other Positions**
- ❑ Minister for Church Life and Leadership with the Parish Life Leadership, UCC
- ❑ Pastor, Congregational UCC, South Hempstead, NY
- ❑ Assistant Chaplain, Brown University
- ❑ Associate Minister, St. Albans Congregational Church UCC, Queens, NY
- ❑ Lecturer in Field Education Department at Union Theological Seminary, New York City
- ❑ Protestant chaplain, Adelphi University



# Geoffrey Black



“I love the UCC because it is a church that affirms and respects your intellect, while affirming the presence of Jesus Christ in the midst of all that we do”

# Questions



THANK  
YOU

SPECIAL THANKS TO:  
JOHN VAN EPPS &  
KAREN ZIEL @ THE CT  
CONFERENCE UCC

