

January 12, 2012 - Mayor Glover Issues Call To Make MLK Holiday a Day of Service

Monday's Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday will be highlighted by an array of celebrations, tributes and reflective moments that focus on the inspirational lessons taught by a great American leader. The day also features opportunities for citizens to honor King's memory through community service.

Mayor Cedric Glover is reissuing his call to citizens give back to their communities through various acts of charity and volunteerism.

The federal holiday Monday, Jan. 16, 2012, provides most people with a day off from work, but Mayor Glover traditionally leads an organized effort to marshal citizens throughout the city to supply the manpower needed to participate in projects ranging from landscaping to serving lunch to senior citizens.

“This is a unique opportunity not only to reflect on Dr. King's legacy but also to keep his dream alive by renewing our commitment to serving our neighbors and reenergizing our community,” Mayor Glover said. “We honor Dr. King by demonstrating how much we care about our neighbors.”

Monday's day of service culminates with a special service at Galilee Baptist Church. Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III, Pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City, is the featured speaker. Mayor Glover and the Baptist Ministers Fellowship Conference of Shreveport-Bossier will host the event, which starts at 6:30 p.m.

The Interdenominational Observance also includes special recognitions of the 2012 “Spirit of Dr. King Award” recipients by Mayor Glover and the City of Shreveport. This year's honorees are: the honorable Carl E. Stewart, Dr. Phillip Rozeman, Myra Robinson, Leonard Barnes and Donald Moss.

The evening observance is free and open to the public.

The daylong tribute to Dr. King begins at 8 a.m. at Centenary College's Kilpatrick Auditorium, where Mayor Glover will deliver greetings and remarks to students, citizens and community volunteers. Shortly thereafter, the Mayor, his Executive Staff and City Department Heads will embark upon a series of volunteer activities that include:

- 9 a.m. – Old Galilee Baptist Church, 854 Williamson Street. Volunteers will assist with beautification service project to keep historic site free of blight.
- 10 a.m. – Dr. King's statue on MLK Drive, where volunteers will assist with the MLK neighborhood gateway sprucing at the statue.
- 11 a.m. – Senior Citizens' Luncheon at MLK Association Building, 1422 MLK Drive, where Mayor and staff will prepare plates and serve.
- 11:30 a.m. – Press Conference to announce 1st MLK Oratory Competition
- 5:30 p.m. – Reception for Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance at Galilee Baptist Church
- 6:30 pm. – Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance

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