

have worked together in the last decade. The documentary ends with interviews of people who have taken part in community conversations, conveying a message of hope for race relations today. We will give a brief introduction, show the 30-minute documentary, and then have discussion and answer questions. Joan D. Thomas is currently employed with USAMMDA at Ft. Detrick. Joan joined AARCH in 2015 to deepen her knowledge of Frederick County's African American history and to support her mother who was a Living Treasure. She and her family are fifth generation Fredericktonians and have spent many years researching their family history. Joan is a member of Asbury United Methodist Church and was interviewed for this documentary. Joan is a member of the AARCH Research Committee. Sarah H. Heald is a retired National Park Service historian, curator, and exhibits planner. She has a MA in American History and has been a member of AARCH Society since 2013. She has worked on a variety of AARCH Society projects and has been a member of the Education Committee since 2018. She is also a member of All Saints' Episcopal Church and was on the team that made this documentary in 2021-22.

LIR198 | **AFRICAN AMERICAN SCHOOLS IN FREDERICK COUNTY IN THE RECONSTRUCTION ERA**

By Dean Harrin, Ph.D. •  In-Person • April 10 • 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. • Conference Center/E138

After emancipation in Maryland in 1864, African Americans in Frederick County were eager to establish schools for their children. The first school opened in 1865 in Quinn Chapel AME Church in Frederick. With the assistance of the Freedmen's Bureau and philanthropic and religious organizations, at least 14 schools operated between 1865 to 1872 when the state of Maryland began public schooling for African Americans. This class will explore the challenges and achievements of this early chapter in African American education. Dean Herrin, Ph.D. is the instructor for the class. He is the former chief historian of the National Capital Region, National Park Service, now retired. He is chair of the AARCH Society Research Committee, and the former NPS coordinator of the Catocin Center for Regional Studies at Frederick Community College.

LIR198 | **THE BLACK CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE IN AMERICA**

By David Owens •  In-Person • April 19 • 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. • Conference Center/E138

The history of black Catholics presents us with a wondrous but too often forgotten cloud of witnesses. Black Catholics desperately need and want a sense of identity. Could it be that the lives of these saints challenge many of us in ways that strike too uncomfortably close to home? We'll explore the relationship, past and present, between the Catholic Church and black communities, beginning with the expansion of Christianity in West Africa. Black American bishops, religious orders, and Pioneer parishes will be discussed, and we'll look specifically to the contributions of Black Catholics to the Frederick County community. David Owens is a recently retired senior theology teacher who has created online theology courses for a multitude of providers. He is currently the director of the Black Catholic Experience.



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AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

LECTURE SERIES, LIR198

Spring 2024

*Presented in
partnership with*



The African American History lecture series, which was organized for Frederick Community College (FCC) and is presented by instructors from the African American Resources-Cultural and Heritage (AARCH) Society, offers opportunities to expand the knowledge and understanding of students about present-day Frederick by learning about the history of African Americans in Frederick County. The lectures provide both regional and national perspectives ranging from 18th-century enslavement to genealogy as well as perspectives on contemporary life in the county. The Society identifies, collects, preserves, and makes publicly accessible, through its programs and services, the objects, artifacts, and stories about the history, rich heritage, and culture and the contributions of African Americans in Frederick County past and present, and in doing so educates, enriches, and enlightens this and future generations. Through its programs, services, research, and activities, the Society also recognizes and celebrates the extraordinary resiliency of African Americans in the County.



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Students may register for the session by going to [Frederick.edu/quickenroll](https://frederick.edu/quickenroll) and searching LIR198. **All sessions are free but registration is required.** Please note that there is a \$9 one-time-per-year registration fee charged by FCC for Continuing Education courses that you may be required to pay.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS, DATES, AND TIMES

LIR198 | **FREDERICK DURING THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT**

By Grace Schofield • ● In-Person • February 7 • 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. • Conference Center/E138

In Frederick, segregation was the way of life before the Civil War well into the mid-twentieth century. Although small towns like Frederick were not always recognized nationally in the Black freedom struggle, the stories from their citizens are important for a true understanding of the local and regional impact of the Civil Rights Movement. This class will include stories and a panel discussion from local civil rights activists, focusing on their lasting influence on the Frederick community. Grace Schofield is a local special education and social studies high school teacher in Frederick County Public Schools. Along with teaching, she advises a service club and co-advises a Black Lives Matter club at her school. She serves on the AARCH Society Research and Education committees and contributes to AARCH Reads and to the FCPS/AARCH Society Partnership subcommittee. She brings to the class her love of local history, researching Black history of Frederick, and helping students of all ages learn about the Frederick community.

LIR198 | **BACK TO OUR BYGONE DAYS**

By Barbara Thompson • ● In-Person • February 8 • 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. • Conference Center/E138

AARCH Society will present their documentary "Back to Our Bygone Days," featuring the recollections of former students of Lincoln School, Frederick County's only secondary school for African Americans until the 1960s. Included is the history of the school building. Following the screening, there will be a Q & A session. Barbara Thompson worked for Frederick County Public Schools for almost 40 years. Because of her interest in her culture and family genealogy, she was often invited to various schools to speak on Black History, that was not typically taught in-depth in FCPS classrooms. Ms. Thompson joined the AARCH Society in 2012. She is the chairperson of the Living Treasures program and of AARCH Reads, a member of the Education Committee, Growth & Development Committee, Speakers Bureau, and presently serves as the Secretary of the AARCH Society Board of Directors.

LIR198 | **LECTURE FEATURING LOCATIONS FROM THE FREDERICK MARYLAND AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY WALKING TOUR**

By Sonja Brown-Jenkins • ● In-Person • March 21 • 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. • Conference Center/E138

This lecture will highlight the places featured in the AARCH walking tour including the Old Hill Church, Asbury UMC, Sam Jenks Cafe, Pythian Castle, Elks Lodge, Lincoln High School, and establishments listed in the Greenbook. Sonja Brown-Jenkins is a retired insurance professional. She joined AARCH Society in 2018 due to her desire to learn more about her local history. She has served on the Living Treasures, Education, and Gala committees. Sonja enjoys leading the walking tours for AARCH around All Saints Street, the mecca of Black life in Frederick County from the mid-19th century to the late 20th century. She has a BA from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, and a masters in theological studies from Liberty University.

LIR198 | **A STORY OF TWO CHURCHES: MOVING FROM THE PAST, BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE**

By Joan Thomas • ● In-Person • March 27 • 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. • Conference Center/E138

"The Story of Two Churches: Moving from the Past, Building a Better Future," is a 2022 AARCH Society documentary. It explores the shared history of two of Frederick's oldest churches, an African American church, Asbury United Methodist, and a white church, All Saints' Episcopal. After looking at the period of enslavement and emancipation, the film looks at more recent history and how the two congregations

LEARNING FORMAT | SPRING 2024

● **In-Person** courses meet on campus at a designated location and scheduled class time. A room number will be provided to you one week in advance of the lecture via email.