



Union of Black Episcopalians of Central Pennsylvania The Bishop Nathan Baxter Chapter

Essay Contest Honoring Absalom Jones



The Union of Black Episcopalians of Central PA, the Bishop Nathan D. Baxter Chapter, invites middle school students to participate in the **2018 Absalom Jones Essay Contest**. This contest engages youth in researching the life of Absalom Jones, who lived from 1746 – 1818, during the time that our country was still gaining its freedom from England.

As the youth research Absalom Jones, they will learn about Absalom's transition from a slave, brought to Philadelphia as a teenager, to the charismatic community leader and respected clergyman he is known for today. They will discover why Absalom Jones left the Methodist Church and moved to the Episcopal Church where he is recognized as the first African American priest in the Episcopal Church and the founder of Historic St. Thomas African Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

This contest is designed for middle school students to *use the example of Absalom Jones's life to discover ways to overcome obstacles in their own lives*. The attached form has all the necessary details. We hope you will encourage your middle school students to participate and look forward to receiving their responses by March 9, 2018. In addition to awards for the top two winners, students are invited to read their essays during the UBE's, **Absalom Jones Day Celebration on Sunday, March 17, 2018, 12:00 to 2:30 PM at St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral, 221 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101**. For questions, please contact Karen Love, klove7511@gmail.com. Thank you!

Friday, March 9, 2018 - Deadline to submit 2018 Absalom Jones Essay Contest.

For essay form and details, click [here](#).

Saturday, March 17, 2018, 12:00 to 2:30 PM - Absalom Jones Day Service & Celebration
Family and friends are welcome! The Rt. Rev. Audrey Scanlan, Bishop, celebrant.