



Reclaiming Populism

"We are the Ones We've Been Waiting for"

{contact.addressee_display}

February 27, 2025

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{contact.address_primary.city},

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{contact.email_greeting_display},

We are pleased to invite you to sponsor and participate in the 5th National *Summit for Civil Rights* to be held Thursday and Friday, May 8 and 9, 2025, at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ.

We will kick off the Summit on Thursday evening, May 8th, with a powerful labor and civil rights *unity gathering* at Fountain Baptist Church in Summit, NJ. The conference portion of the Summit will take place Friday, May 9th, from 9 AM to 4 PM at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ.

We are especially proud to announce that Claude Cummings Jr., president of the Communications Workers of America, will join this year's Summit as an honored guest and keynote speaker. President Cummings was elected in 2023 as the first African American leader of North America's largest communications, media, and public sector workers union. Other prominent faith, labor, and civil rights leaders

Since 2017, the *Summit for Civil Rights* has held a series of gatherings with prominent clergy, labor leaders, civil rights leaders, elected officials, and scholars to warn against ignoring the economic and social underpinnings of the populist upheaval of the past decade. We will again gather on May 8th and 9th of 2025 to assess the current political and economic landscape and to review, renew, and put forward a nonpartisan agenda for fully inclusive middle-class opportunity in work, schools, and housing.

As an important leader, we want to extend to you an invitation to support and participate in this important conversation. It will be presented jointly by Building One America, Seton Hall University Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Program, Union Theological Seminary, the Institute for Metropolitan Opportunity, and the Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters.

We look forward to discussing with you your participation and support for this year's Summit for Civil Rights. You can go here to register and sponsor or for more information about sponsorship levels and packages.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Willie D. Francois
Summit Co-Chair and Social Justice Chair, Progressive National Baptist Convention and Pastor of Fountain Baptist Church, Summit, NJ.

Myron Orfield
Summit Founding Director and Professor of Law and Director, Institute for Metropolitan Opportunity, University of Minnesota Law School

Anthony Abrantes,
Summit Co-Chair and Assistant Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters