



A GIFT OF BLACK MAN WISDOM



FEBRUARY 25, 2021 | 9:30A - 3:00P | ZOOM | REGISTER @ WWW.CEIO.ORG

The Wisdom of Black men has been a steady force and presence in our families, throughout our communities and in the formation of this country. Their voices ring through movements that have shaped pathways toward liberation since arriving on these stolen soils. This wisdom is a force, a way of being, moving, creating, surviving, evolving, and a way of staying free in heart, mind, body, and spirit in a world that seeks to control, cage, erase, and imprison it.

During this Forum we will sit in a circle together as black men grapple with the hows and whys (*my soul sits back and wonders...*). They will witness each other and offer what they have come to know. Others will hold space together as these black men share what they are beginning to understand as they move toward their own healing and support the healing within their families and larger community. This will be an intimate space for meeting each other where they are and where they are each seeking deeper change.

This forum's schedule & offerings:

9:30 am

- **OPENING INSIGHTS** | Reverend Byron E. Thomas
- **THE COUNCIL** | Moderated by Reverend Byron E. Thomas featuring artistic expressions and discussion, 12 Black men in council together [The morning will be in webinar format. Those not on The Council will be holding space.]

12:00 pm - 12:45 pm | BREAK

12:45 pm - 3:00 pm | DEEPENING [The afternoon will be in Meeting format. Full Group/Small breakout groups/back to Full Group]

Deeper Change Forums create spaces that invite fundamental transformation. A change that is so deep that a return to the previous conditions is utterly inconceivable. Courageous conversations - grounded in peace, justice, and love. Deeper Change Forums are open to all and offered freely.



Rev. Byron E. Thomas is a native of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. A veteran of the United States Air Force, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion and Philosophy from Virginia Union University in Richmond, Virginia and a Master of Divinity degree from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. In 2016, Pastor Thomas graduated from the Association of Chicago Theological Schools (ACTS) program with a Doctor of Ministry (D.Min) in Preaching through McCormick Theological Seminary. He has over 40 years of pastoral experience with a focus on strengthening the link between spiritual formation and missions. Learn more at www.drbyronthomas.com.

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