

ZION HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

rites of passage PROGRAM

"FAITHFULLY PREPARING YOUTH
FOR YOUNG ADULthood"

REGISTRATION



ADIGUNKOSI



KENTAKE



DR. AARON L. PARKER, PASTOR

Program Goal

The goal of the Rites of Passage Program is to facilitate the transition of youth by preparing them spiritually, culturally, physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually for passage into adulthood.

Program Objectives

- **To present historical and contemporary dimensions of faith and spirituality**
- **To expose participants to their history and how it impacts their present and future**
- **To assist participants mentally and physically in preparation for adulthood and its responsibilities**
- **To encourage positive self-esteem through a comparative exposure to various social images and ideas about personal and communal development**
- **To discuss the development, roles, values and responsibilities of family life**
- **To provide an opportunity to participate in community service that encourages accountability and responsibility to humankind**
- **To provide sound information on good health, anatomy and morally responsible sexuality**
- **To teach participants about the importance of nutrition and exercise**
- **To tap into the creative spirit and talents of each participant**

Zion Hill Baptist Church Rites of Passage Program

Practiced by many ancient and contemporary Africans, a rite of passage indicates a movement from one stage of life to another. Following this venerated tradition, the Rites of Passage Program of Zion Hill Baptist Church was incorporated in 1994 to help prepare youth of the church ages 13-18 for passage into adulthood. The program has now been extended to include youth in the community and is free to all participants.

The program includes 12 weeks of intensive training in areas such as spirituality, African/African-American history, identity-formation, peer selection, male/female relationships and cultural definitions, health and hygiene, careers and goal-setting, financial planning and investing, leadership and entrepreneurship.

These sessions are conducted by men and women of the church called Elders, who share their varied experiences with the youth. Some sessions are presented by community leaders with specialized expertise in session topics. Participants are also required to keep journals to document their experience.

At the end of the program, the church body joins the community in an impressive celebratory ceremony referred to as OUKUMO (West African origin), marking the official acceptance of the transformation of the youth from childhood to young adulthood. With this ceremony, the graduates' journey as young adults begins!



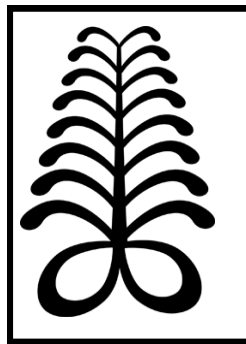
KENTAKE



The Rites of Passage program for female youth ages 13-18 is named Kentake after one of the strongest and most powerful groups of women leaders the world has ever known. From Ethiopia, the complex word “Kentake” conveys the idea of a female advocate guide and ruler for the family and nation. Also known as Candace, from the Latinized form, this group of fearlessly influential warrior women is mentioned in the biblical book of Acts.

Kentake is designed to engage young women in such a way that they are able to recognize and realize their full potential as future trendsetters and leaders in their immediate communities and beyond.

The Kentake symbol “Aya” which means “fern” represents endurance, defiance against difficulties, hardiness, perseverance, independence and resourcefulness. At the close of the program, graduates proudly wear this symbol of accomplishment.



“AYA”, meaning “Fern”
endurance, perseverance,
independence and resourcefulness.



KENTAKE 2018 SCHEDULE

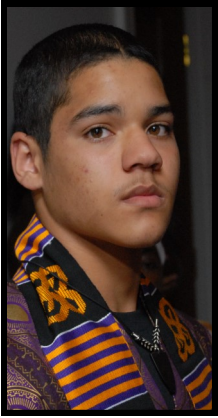
DATE	TIME	KENTAKE SESSIONS
8/18 – Sat.	Noon-1:00pm	ORIENTATION – Sanctuary
8/19 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Opening Session
8/26 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Faith and Spirituality
9/2 - Sun	5:00pm-7:30pm	History
9/9 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Values and Decision Making/Finance
9/16 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Self-Discipline
9/21-22 Fri.-Sat.	Fri. 7:00 pm – Sat. 11:30 am	Sleep Over
9/23 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Self -Esteem
9/30 - Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Health and Sexuality
10/6 - Sat.	10:30am-4:30pm	Community Service
10/7 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Peer Relationships
10/14 – Sun.	4:00pm-7:30pm	Nutrition and Etiquette
10/21 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Personal & Professional Presentation
10/26 – 27 Fri.-Sat.	Fri. 5:00pm – Sat. 2:30 pm.	13. Outing
10/28 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	14. Creativity
11/4 -Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	15. Closing Session/OUKUMO Rehearsal
11/9 – Fri.	6:00pm -8:30pm	OUKUMO Rehearsal
11/10 - Sat	12:00pm-6:00pm	OUKUMO Rehearsal
11/11 – Sun.	TBA	OUKUMO

■ REQUIRED SESSIONS and REHERSALS

Participants MUST ATTEND 12 out of the 15 sessions to graduate

TBA – To be announced

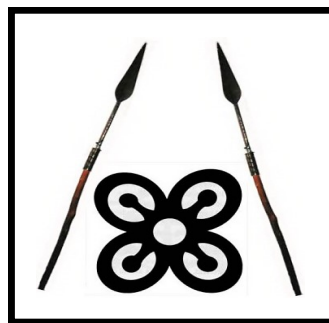
ADIGUN NKOSI



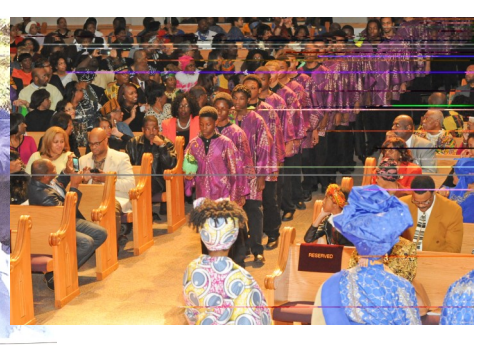
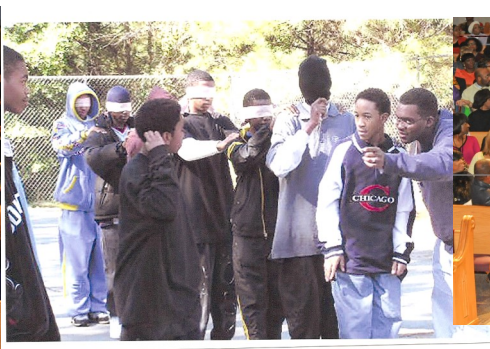
Alex Haley in his book *Roots*, describes a traditional African ritual known as “manhood training” in which adolescent boys were taken into the woods for an extended period of time and given rigorous physical and mental training considered important in the development of men. If a boy successfully completed the training, he was formally acknowledged as a man among his people. Adigun Nkosi rites were developed within the context and spirit of this tradition.

The program involves a sequence of planned activities and experiences that have been designed to teach young males, ages 13 -18, the qualities that are required in becoming strong responsible men.

Adigun Nkosi is represented by the “Bese Saka” Adrinka symbol. From the Yoruba language in Nigeria, the word “Adigun” means “righteous” and the word “Nkosi” means “ruler”.



“Righteous Ruler”



ADIGUN NKOSI 2018 SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	ADIGUN NKOSI SESSIONS
8/18 – Sat.	Noon-1:00pm	ORIENTATION -Sanctuary
8/19 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Opening Session
8/26 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Faith and Spirituality
9/2 - Sun	5:00pm-7:30pm	Defining Black Manhood
9/8 – Sat.	10:30am-4:30pm	Community Service
9/9 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Historical Significance
9/16 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Self-Discipline
9/21-22 Fri.-Sat.	Fri. 5:30pm – Sat. 11:00 am	Camping
9/23 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Personal & Professional Presentation
9/30 - Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Healthy Lifestyle and Sexuality
10/7 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Peer Relationships
10/14 – Sun.	4:00pm-7:30pm	Nutrition and Etiquette
10/21 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Financial Management
10/26 – 27 Fri.-Sat.	Fri. 7:00 pm. - Sat. 11:30 am	Sleep Over/ Community Awareness and Interaction
10/28 – Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Values and Decision Making
11/4 -Sun.	5:00pm-7:30pm	Closing Session/ OUKUMO Rehearsal
11/9 – Fri.	6:00pm -8:30pm	OUKUMO Rehearsal
11/10 - Sat	12:00pm-6:00pm	OUKUMO Rehearsal
11/11 – Sun.	TBA	OUKUMO

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TBA – To be announced

Application availability
July 8 through August 11

DEADLINE : August 11

Apply soon—spaces are limited!!



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Dr. Aaron L. Parker, Pastor

