

Portland Branch NAACP, held memorial march to Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, where ecumenical service was held.

I have the audacity to believe that people everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality and freedom for their spirits. I believe that what self-centered men have torn down, other-centered men can build up. I still believe that one day mankind will bow before the altars of God and be crowned triumphant over war and bloodshed, and nonviolent redemptive goodwill will proclaim the rule of the land. "And the lion and the lamb shall lie down together and every man shall sit under his own vine and fig tree and none shall be afraid." I still believe that we shall overcome.

—Martin Luther King, Jr., Oslo, 1964



"We will suffer and die if we have to"

... I don't know what will happen now. We have got difficult days ahead. But it doesn't matter with me because I've been to the mountain top. Like anyone else, I would like to live a long life. But I'm not concerned with that. I just want to do God's will and He has allowed me to go up the mountain. I see the promised land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land. I am happy tonight that I am not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

You all know the story of Rip Van Winkle. . . .

Everyone remembers that Winkle slept for twenty years.

But what is important is that when he went up on that mountain to sleep there was a picture of King George hanging in the town.

When he came down, there was a picture of George Washington in its place.

Rip Van Winkle slept through a revolution, but we cannot afford to remain asleep. . . .

Our world is as a neighborhood.

"We must all learn to live together as brothers, or we will all perish as fools. . . ."

There are two challenges to America.

The challenges are racism and poverty.

In a few weeks a few of us are coming to Washington to see if the will to meet those challenges still lives among us.

We're not coming to engage in any histrionic action.

We are not coming to tear up Washington.

We are coming to engage in dramatic, nonviolent action.

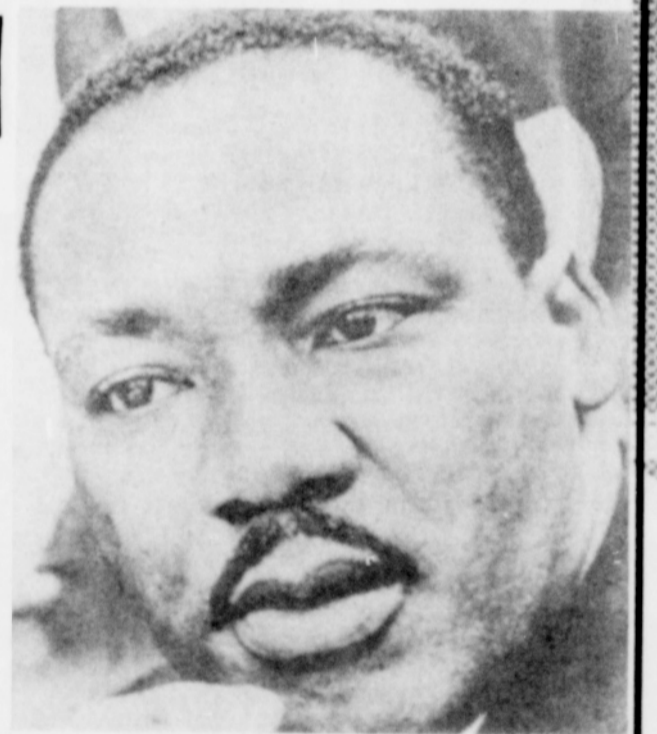
We are coming, and we will stay as long as we have to. . . .

We will suffer and die if we have to. For I submit, nothing will be done until people put their bodies and soul into this.

April 3, 1968

Memphis, Tennessee

MARTIN
LUTHER
KING, JR.



1929-1968

Dedication

Martin Luther King, Jr., dedicated his life to the crusade for racial equality. To millions of black Americans, he was the country's foremost civil rights leader. He urged his people to be proud of their race. He asked them to stand up for their rights. He led them in nonviolent demonstrations against the evils of hatred and segregation. He was a prophet of peace. Dr. King believed in the basic goodness of man and in the philosophy of nonviolence. It was his hope and dream that nonviolent protest action would create an America where all men might truly be equal. His efforts brought him worldwide fame, and death at an early age.

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