

The 2012 Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast



Quotables

Attendees at the breakfast had some great things to say:

Louise Waters: I think they do a good job of keeping up his birthday. And we're in it every year. We celebrated seven years yesterday at Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church.

Fay West: I'm just thankful that Martin Luther King's dream has come true. And we have come a long way but we still have a long way to go. I'm just so thankful to be here to observe the holiday.

Cathy: We lived when he was alive. It's wonderful watching him change the world and not just for African Americans but for everybody. He's really a universal person. The more we learn about him, the more we listen to what he says, the more it applies to today as well as back home, the early part of the 20th century. It's really great that we honor him and everything that he did. Not just for African Americans.

George Bell: We've been citizens of Portland for about 30 years. It's a great city. We've seen a lot of growth here. I use to be on the board for the Convention Center. We always appreciate the people who attend the Martin Luther King breakfast. It's a very important symbol for who we are and where we should be headed in the future.

I think he (Dr. King) would still be concerned about the equality issue and who has jobs, who is able to take care of their families. What kind of help are they getting. He would be very concerned about the living situation for all citizens, especially African Americans.

Karanja Crews (audio): I'm just truly thankful to be here. Just honoring Dr. Martin Luther King. A drum major for justice. It's truly a blessing to be here and just to honor this great man.

Amos Smith, Senior Pastor at Meridian UCC: The thing that always jumps out of me for some reason and

I'm not sure why, maybe because my name is Amos, but I love that scripture from Amos 5:12. It says, "Let justice roll on like a river and righteousness like a never failing stream." And I remember Dr. King used to use that a lot in his speeches. And for me that's an awesome scripture because it has two parts. It has righteousness, which begins with me and can be attained today. But justice, which is always something that's alluding us and is going to be happening tomorrow. For me it kind of contains the breadth of what faith is about and what faith in Dr. King's dream is about. Righteousness and justice. I love that verse. Amos 5:12. It speaks to me. In my high school everyone was putting down different quotations in their senior year book. The quote I put down was Amos 5:12. But I come from seven generations of Amoses going back into Ireland so Amos is kind of this thing you know. But Martin Luther King represents a hope that we haven't fully seen yet. Some people think with Obama it's here. It's not here. We've got a long way to go but the dream is alive.

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