



September 1, 2016

Dear Pastoral Friends

I need your support and the support of your parishioners for my “Walk 2 DC.” This campaign is to urge the United States Congress to sign into law Juneteenth as a National Day of Observance like Flag Day before President Obama leaves office. For over 40 years, I’ve worked to promote Juneteenth as not just a Freedom Day for African Americans, but as a unifying event of mutual understanding in Fort Worth, Texas because *“None of us are free until we’re all free.”*

After several letters and petitions from the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation of which I am a Board Member, I’ve decided to take the campaign to the people on a national level through “Opal’s Walk 2 DC”. The campaign will include circulating petitions both physical and online to the Whitehouse. We’ve got to get 100,000 signatures by September 27th in order to be guaranteed a response from the Whitehouse by the time I get there December 2016. You know I hope to see the President too, I just hope he doesn’t make me walk all the whole route.

There are several things your church can do to help. First of all please add me to your prayer list as I believe that only through His strength will I make it. Second, please encourage your congregants to go online to www.opalswalk2dc.com and sign the “Juneteenth National Day of Observance” petition. If they are not computer people, please ask them to sign the enclosed petition and mail it back as we will present these in person. Third, please join me as I make it out of your area by walking a little stretch of the way. Lastly, I need them to help this story go “viral” as the young people say by telling somebody else about what I’m doing to get the attention of the news stations. If you have churches you fellowship with along my route, please let them know so they can walk a mile or 2 with me.

I plan to make stops along the way to talk to the young people at the colleges and wherever they have me go to let them know the significance of the holiday and to ask for their support to not let the celebration die out when all us old folks are gone. You might not know that 45 states already have Juneteenth as a state holiday, so this is not just a Texas thing; but rather it is a day that the whole country can commemorate the cause of freedom that many risked their lives and their families lives for, lobbied for and died for. No other day on the national calendar has that designation.

Please let me know I can count on your support by sending me an email to team@opalswalk2dc.com. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Opal Lee

