

There is no registration fee for this study workshop, materials will be passed out until they are none to pass out.

Wednesdays

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

&

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

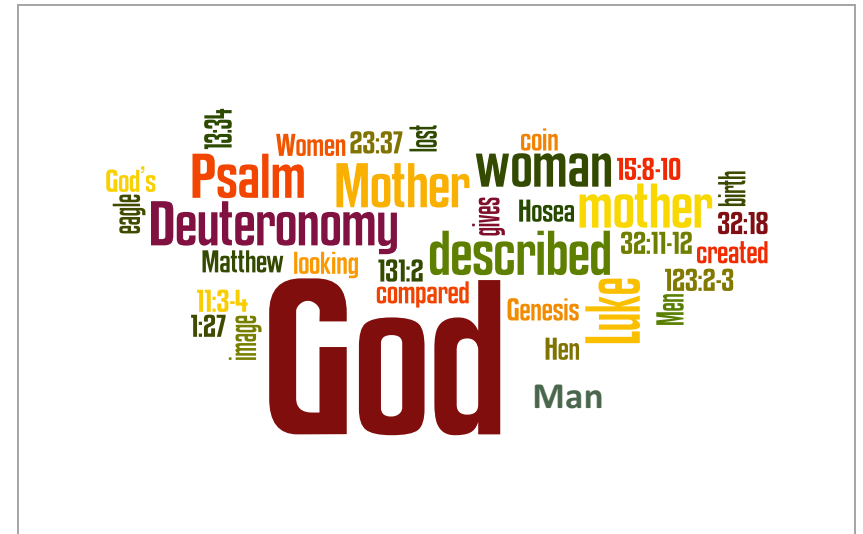
Lunch at 12:15 p.m.

Dinner at 6:15 p.m.

Hosea 11:3-4 God described as a mother

God: "Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I who took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them."

The Mothering Spirit



CENTER FOR AFRIKAN BIBLICAL STUDIES MAY WORKSHOP

A two-session study on the spirituality of mothering

CFABS Center For Afrikan Biblical Studies May Workshop
First Afrikan Church
5197 Salem Road, Lithonia Georgia 30038

God Is A Mothering Spirit, since we are made in the image of Our Creator, we also possess these traits...

Using Hebrew Bible and New Testament scriptures, we will explore the traits of the mothering spirit of God providing balance in the cosmos and in our daily lives. All too often we allow human interests to shape our understanding of spiritual principles, God created both male and female in the image of God. We all possess both feminine and masculine energy. Our discussions will address:

- *What are the outward manifestations of the mothering spirit?*
- *What is the inward journey when we apply these spiritual traits as activities of our individual and collective spiritual discipline?*
- *Who in our story as Afrikan people lived out the “mothering spirit”*
- *How did it show up for the benefit of Afrikan people?*

This study workshop provides reading, reflection and hands-on engagement with the Spirit of Mothering

May 3rd Session-The Gelede



For more than a century, this ceremony has been performed **to pay tribute to the primordial mother Iyà Nlà and to the role women play in the process of social organization and development of Yoruba society.** The Gelede takes place every year after the harvests, at important events and during drought or epidemics and is characterized by carved masks, dances and chants, sung in the Yoruba language and retracing the history and myths of the Yoruba-Nago people. We at First Afrikan have been a part of the Gelede Festival here in Atlanta, the Sacred Mother Tree is right here in the FAC park!

May 10th Session-Community of Healers-Granny Midwives of the South



Alice walker introduced us to these healing women in the “Temple of My Familiar”. Many of us are unaware of the persecution these women incurred for being gifted healers. This class session introduces us of these notable unnamed Ancestors!

“They said the mother of their white Christ (blonde, blue-eyed, even in black-headed Spain) could never have been a black woman, because both the color black and the female sex were of the devil. We were evil witches to claim otherwise. We were witches; our word for healers. We brought their children into the world; we cured their sick; we washed and laid out the bodies of their dead. We were far from evil. We helped Life, and they did not like this at all. Whenever they saw our power it made them feel they had none (Walker, 1989: 196)