



January 24, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER THROUGH BOOKSALIVE ‘WE ARE CHARLESTON’ BOOK & AUTHOR EVENTS

(Panama City, FL) The Bay County Public Library Foundation and the LEAD Coalition have organized a memorable weekend with *“We are Charleston: Tragedy and Triumph at Mother Emanuel”* authors Herb Frazier (award-winning journalist and childhood member of Mother Emanuel), Dr. Bernard Edward Powers (A.M.E. Church member and professor of history at the College of Charleston) and Marjory Wentworth (South Carolina’s Poet Laureate). The book covers extensive interviews with family and friends of “The Emanuel Nine” – the church members who lost their lives on June 17, 2015, when a young man opened fire on a prayer meeting at the church. The Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church has a 200-year history of the community continually triumphing over adversity through powerful acts of love and forgiveness.

BooksAlive “We are Charleston” Weekend Itinerary

Friday, February 3rd at 6 pm

Bay County Public Library
898 W. 11th Street, Panama City, FL 32401

Community invited to join in song and attend the *“We are Charleston”* authors’ talk. Copies of *“We are Charleston: Tragedy and Triumph at Mother Emanuel”* will be available to purchase. Event is free and open to the public.

Saturday, February 4th at 10 am

Greater Bethel AME Church
829 Hamilton Ave, Panama City, FL 32401

The *“We are Charleston”* authors will talk on *Tragedy and Triumph at Mother Emmanuel*. Local ministers will read scripture, community choir will perform, and there will be a saxophone solo by Rev. Lawrence Gantt. The service offering will be donated to LEAD Coalition Voices against Violence Project. Reception to be held in the lower basement of the church. Event is free and open to the public.

Saturday, February 4th at 6:30 pm

Woman’s Club of Panama City
350 N Cove Blvd, Panama City, FL 32401

There will be an elegant dinner, music, and the “*We are Charleston*” authors’ talk on “Writing about Race and Community.” Ticketed event for \$20 each with funds going to the LEAD Coalition Home for Good and Teen Mentoring projects.

Authors will be available for press interviews at 10 am on February 3rd at the Bay County Public Library. The Bay County Public Library Foundation promotes literacy and provides cultural enrichment that enhances the Bay County Library System and strengthens the community. For more information about this BooksAlive program and others, visit www.booksalive.net or www.nwrls.com.

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