



AFRICAN-AMERICAN CONGREGATIONS CONNECT SPIRITUAL ROOTS WITH AFRICAN ROOTS THROUGH CHURCH-BASED DNA TESTING

African Ancestry, Inc. partners with Black Churches Nationwide to Empower Self-Defining Spiritual Hubs Across the Country

From secret “*call and response*” spiritual expressions of African slaves to world-resounding influence in present-day America, black churches have not only survived, but have become a defining force in African-American culture today. African Ancestry, Inc. salutes the resilience of the Black Church by empowering congregations to take a vital “spiritual journey” that will scientifically and emotionally transport members to their present-day African country of origin and the ultimate continuation of self-definition!

African Ancestry, the only company that can trace ancestry back to the specific, present-day African country of origin, announces an unprecedented partnership with Black congregations nationwide that not only produces a more enlightened congregation, but also provides partner churches with an enriching, customizable tool to enhance existing programs such as fundraising.

““Godly worship and spirituality survived during the slave trade and we salute that resilience. The creation of a DNA-testing program for faith-based organizations underscores our commitment to enhancing lives through ancestry tracing,” said Gina Paige, President & Co-founder of African Ancestry.

Where Faith and Science Meet ... How Your Church Can Get Involved:

1. Church-based entity accepts program and engages African Ancestry (churches@africanancestry.com);
2. African Ancestry DNA tracing experts facilitate free workshops at partner churches to explain the process;
3. Partner churches offer DNA testing through a customizable church event where participants get specially priced DNA testing kits; Members can do their swabbing together or individually (see below for specifics on testing);
4. African Ancestry experts return to reveal the results to the congregation. This is where participants can see where they're from, who else in the congregation is from their country and join a community of thousands already tested; and
5. Each participant becomes a part of a larger online family through Africanancestry.com. Visitors can interact with people across the country and learn more about their heritage.

African Ancestry Testing Process

Through a proprietary process led by African Ancestry geneticist and Scientific Director Dr. Rick Kittles, all DNA samples are confidential and destroyed after the results are known. Every sample in its lab is identified by a bar code and no personal information is shared. The test is executed as follows:

- Obtain a maternal and/or paternal ancestry test [online](#), via [paper order form](#) or by phone at 202-723-0900.
- In 7-10 business days after you place your order, you'll receive your test kit in the mail. Simply swab the inside of your cheek and return your DNA sample via the prepaid envelope supplied. Learn more about [taking the test](#).
- Once we receive your DNA sample, our laboratory extracts your DNA's genetic sequence. Then, scientists compare your genetic sequence to our exclusive [African Lineage Database](#) to determine your present-day African country of origin.
- In 6 weeks after you submit your DNA sample, you'll receive your results package and your journey truly begins. Find out what comes in your [results package](#).

“Praise the Roof”

For more information on African Ancestry's faith-based initiatives or other partner opportunities, please contact Gina Paige at gpaige@africanancestry.com or visit churches@africanancestry.com.

About African Ancestry

Founded in 2003 on years of research, African Ancestry, Inc. is the ancestry tracing company that pioneered African lineage matching in the United States utilizing its proprietary DNA-database of more than 25,000 African DNA lineages to more accurately assess present-day country of origin for people of African descent. Since its inception, African Ancestry's lineage reveals have impacted the lives of more than 100,000 people in the U.S. from communities at large to global leaders such as Oprah Winfrey, Tom Joyner and the Reverend Jesse Jackson. African Ancestry has been featured across the globe in outlets such as CNN's *Black in America* series, NBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?* and *Essence Magazine*; and was the centerpiece to the ground-breaking PBS special "African American Lives 1 & 2" with Skip Gates. African Ancestry is African-American-owned and operated and headquartered in Washington, DC. For more information, go to www.africanancestry.com.