

Our next Legacy Lecture Series presentation will be held on Monday, March 6th at 12 noon in the St. George Tabernacle - featuring Dr. F. Ross Peterson

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Dear Friends,

Our Monday, March 6th Legacy Lecture Series will feature retired Utah State University Professor of African American Studies, **Dr. F. Ross Peterson**. The title of his presentation is, **Religion, Baseball, and Civil Rights: The Evolution of Passion**.

F. Ross Peterson is a native of Montpelier, Idaho. After graduating from Utah State University, he received a PhD from Washington State University in 1968. His first position was at the University of Texas-Arlington, the year the school was integrated. During his second year there, he was asked to prepare a class in African American History. He has taught that class or the History of the Civil Rights movement almost every year since. He returned to USU in 1971 and six years later received a Fulbright fellowship to Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand. While there, he lectured at every university in New Zealand, as well as the American University in Bangkok, Thailand, and several Australian universities, on the Civil Rights movement and Martin Luther King, Jr. In 2004, Dr. Peterson became the President of Deep Springs College in California, where he served for three years. He returned to USU as Vice President for Advancement, leading the school's first comprehensive fundraising campaign. In December 2022 he received an award as the Emeriti Professor of the Year.

After serving on the Utah Humanities Council and the Utah State Board of History, Peterson was asked by Utah's Martin Luther King Commission to address the Legislature on why they should approve the Martin Luther King Holiday and stop opening the Legislature on that national holiday. Peterson has authored many books on Western U.S. History. Another of his books, ***Christmas in Montpelier***, has many stories about his education. He is currently finishing a second volume of Christmas stories and an autobiographical book, ***In Search of Henry Aaron***, as explanation of how Dr. Peterson was catapulted toward teaching Civil Rights because of baseball.

He and his wife, Mary Kay, are the parents of three sons, and have 11 grandchildren and six great-grandsons, all of whom are products of public education. Beyond family, his passion is the students. We hope you will all be able to join us on Monday, March 6th, for this great presentation.

Looking ahead, our meeting on Monday, April 3rd will feature Brad Pelo, CEO and one of the Executive Producers of ***The Chosen***.

Thank you so much for your interest and support of the Legacy Lecture Series.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Lamoreaux

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