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## JOANNE BLAND CIVIL RIGHTS HERO: ON THE BRIDGE TO FREEDOM

Y-COP of Mount Vernon, the First United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon, Foot Soldiers Park and Journeys to Change invite you to a special event to meet and hear the story of Joanne Bland. By the time she was 11 years old, Joanne had been arrested 13 times (that are documented). She was an active participant in Bloody Sunday, marching alongside 600 or more only to get brutally beaten, tear gassed and hit by policemen on horses with billy clubs. Joanne is the found of the Foot Soldiers Park, a nonprofit organization based in Selma, Alabama dedicated to preserving civil rights history, revitalizing the community and inspiring youth.

## "My early involvement in the struggle against "Jim Crow," the American apartheid, has been the foundation and fuel for my civil and human rights work."

This historic event will take place on:

Date: Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 3:30 pm Place: The First United Methodist Church 227 East Lincoln Avenue Mount Vernon, NY 10552

Joanne Bland, Civil Rights Hero: She marched in Selma as a young girl. Now she wants to inspire others. This event is ideal for youth of all grade levels including college students and after school youth programs.

Ms. Bland will tell her story followed by a Q & A segment led by Rev. Tisha M. Branch, Pastor – The First United Methodist Church

RSVP: ycopmvny.org (or) ycop2012@gmail.com Please indicate number attending