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ONE HUNDRED SECOND

Church Anniversary Observance

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church
229 Church Street
Huntsville, Alabama



RT. REVEREND FRANK MADISON REID, JR.
Presiding Bishop, Ninth Episcopal District, A. M. E. Church

THEME: "A HISTORY OF PROMISE — A FUTURE OF DEVELOPMENT"

Sunday, April 12, 1987
11:00 A.M.

DR. E. L. BLANKENSHIP, *Presiding Elder, South Birmingham-Huntsville District*
DR. H. L. McCALL, *Pastor*

History of St. John A. M. E. Church

St. John A. M. E. Church was organized by Dr. William Hooper Council, one of the nation's outstanding educators and founder of Alabama A&M University. Between 1883 and 1900, Dr. Council was appointed a minister in the A. M. E. Conference and delivered the first sermon from a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets.

In 1900, the first building was erected on Church Street. In 1920, twenty years after completion of the building, under the leadership of Rev. Patterson, the mortgage was burned. Ministers serving St. John besides Dr. Council and Rev. Patterson include: Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, and our present pastor, Dr. H. L. McCall. We pay tribute to these outstanding leaders for having the love, insight, determination, and dedication to guide this church where it is today.

Through their efforts we have had A History of Promise and a promising Future of Development.

Litany For Burning The Church Mortgage

- BISHOP: In 1885 St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church, Huntsville, Alabama, was founded by dedicated people to serve God and the people of this area.
- PEOPLE: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, bless his holy name!"
- MINISTER: There have been times of adversity, but they have been resisted. As the Word of God says, "If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small."
- PEOPLE: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, bless his holy name."
- BISHOP: Preparation was made by people and pastor for St. John's future, remembering the words of the Lord, "Except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it and prepare your work outside, get everything ready for you in the field and after that build your house."
- TRUSTEES: "Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off."
- MINISTER: In gratitude for this wisdom of our founders and for their gifts of land and money to encourage the work of God's Kingdom in this community, we express our appreciation.
- TRUSTEES: We enter into this service of Thanksgiving, O God.
- BISHOP: Through the years the people of this church have echoed the thought of Nehemiah who said, "We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards, and our houses to get grain because of the famine."
- MEMBERS OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE: "Surely there is a future and your hope will not be cut off."
- BISHOP: The people at St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church also felt as did Nehemiah when he said, "And there were those who said, 'We have borrowed money for the King's tax upon our fields and our vineyards.'"
- MEMBERS OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE: "Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off."
- BISHOP: We now rejoice together as the promise of yesterday is brightened by the flames of a burning mortgage, and we know that our hope will not be cut off.
- ELDEST MEMBER: "And all the assembly said 'Amen' and praised the Lord."
- BISHOP: In our love for God, Jesus Christ and his church, and in reverent memory of those who have given us this heritage, we offer you our humble thanks.
- ELDEST MEMBER: "And all the assembly said 'Amen' and praised the Lord."

BISHOP: In appreciation for the services of former ministers and members and friends of earlier congregations who have given fruitful labor, loyalty, and prayers for the advancement of of the cause of Christ and his church, we offer you our humble thanks.

YOUNGEST SUNDAY SCHOOL MEMBER: "And all the assembly said 'Amen' and praised the Lord."

MINISTER AND PEOPLE: And now we, the minister, members and friends of this congregation, offer you again our thanks for the privilege of working in St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church and rededicate ourselves to Jesus Christ in the work of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, in the extension of God's Kingdom and in our community and world.

YOUNGEST SUNDAY SCHOOL MEMBER: "And all the assembly said 'Amen' and praised the Lord."

BISHOP: With thankful hearts we praise the name of God as we burn the church mortgage in the name of the Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit.

DOXOLOGY (As the church mortgage is burning, the congregation sings.)

GOD OUR FATHER

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

MAN OUR BROTHER

Order of Service

MEDITATE: "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

—PSALMS 127:1

PRELUDE *Mr. Rufus Gilmore III, Minister of Music*

HYMN OF ADORATION

CALL TO WORSHIP *Mr. Michael Goggans*

OPENING HYMN—"To God Be the Glory" (No. 21) *Congregation*

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Mr. Percy Ashford*

CHORAL RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE (Psalms 127) *Mrs. Vera Bell*

DECALOGUE *Mr. Everett Brooks, Jr.*

MUSIC *Gospel Choir*

WELCOME *Attorney Lynn Sherrod*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GUEST RECOGNITION *Dr. Leon Bonner*

MUSIC *Senior Choir*

OFFERTORY SENTENCES "You Can't Beat God's Giving"

THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *Mrs. Agnes Bailey*

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER *Rev. Dr. H. L. McCall*

HYMN OF PREPARATION—"Amazing Grace" (No. 258) *Congregation*

SERMON *Rt. Reverend Frank Madison Reid, Jr.*
Presiding Bishop, Ninth Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church

HYMN OF INVITATION—"Just As I Am" (No. 258) *Congregation*

FINANCIAL REPORT *Mrs. Linda Walton*

MORTGAGE BURNING CEREMONY *Bishop Reid*

REMARKS

CLOSING HYMN—"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit" (No. 196)

DOXOLOGY "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

BENEDICTION *Bishop Reid*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Stewardship and Finance Commission will meet Monday.

Mid-week Prayer Service and Bible Class will be held Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The Book of Leviticus will be discussed.

All members, guests and visitors are invited to the Anniversary Dinner today after services in the Fellowship Hall.

Everyone is asked to attend the Good Friday Service at Church Street Presbyterian Church on Friday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m. Rev. McCall will preach, the Choir will sing and the Senior Ushers will serve. We look forward to seeing you there, not only with your prayers, but also with your "physical" presence. Thank you.

The Ninth Annual United Negro College Fund Banquet will be held April 16, 1987 in the Exhibit Hall of the Von Braun Civic Center at 7:00 p.m. Highlighting this occasion as master of ceremonies will be Mr. Clifton Davis, recording artist and star of the NBC hit comedy series, "Amen," a graduate of Oakwood College, a UNCF institution. Special guest star will be Emmy Award winning CBS correspondent Ed Bradley, co-editor of 60 Minutes. Also appearing will be renowned vocalist Wintley Phipps. Tickets may be purchased at D. G. Robinson Corporation, 2116 Clinton Avenue, Huntsville, Alabama 35805 and Oakwood College, UNCF Office, Room 203 Blake Center, or you may contact Dr. Bonner or Dr. McCall. Prices are \$35.00 for adults and \$25.00 for children.

Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. presents Boys' Choir of Harlem, Thursday evening, April 16, 1987, Concert Hall VBCC, 6:30 p.m. \$15.00 reserved seats, \$12.00 general admission, \$10.00 students, groups of ten and Senior Citizens. Please contact Mrs. Adrienne Pope-Kelly, Mrs. Anita Burns, or any member of the AKA Sorority, Inc. for tickets or further information.

Men/Women Day Observance will be held at Little Indian Creek P. B. Church, 933 Indian Creek Road, Rev. Jerry Crutcher, Pastor, on May 3, 1987 at 6:30 p.m. Rev. McCall will deliver the sermon, St. John's Choir will sing and the Senior Ushers will serve. The entire church is asked to cooperate in attending and supporting this service.

The Huntsville-Madison County Branch NAACP Life Membership Banquet will be held at the Carriage Inn on May 7, 1987 at 7:00 p.m. The guest speaker is Dr. Emmett C. Burns, Director, Life Membership Division NAACP National Office, Baltimore, Maryland. The initial life membership fee is \$50.00 and the banquet fee is \$10.00. For tickets see Ms. A. Houston, Dr. W. Clark, Mr. A. Elliott, Dr. J. Jones, or Dr. H. McCall.

Plan now to attend the Third Quarterly Conference at St. John, May 2-3. The special feature on Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m. will be the usual covered dish supper with the added attraction: Dr. Curtis L. V. Adams, M.D., Child Psychiatrist, Institute for Personal Change, P.A., will speak on "Child Management and Discipline." Plan now to attend.

OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-IN

Mrs. Amanda Derrick
Mrs. Fannie Ford

Mrs. Emma Humber
Mrs. Lizzie Petty

Mrs. Florence Marks
Mr. J. H. Richards

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 12-19 Holy Week
April 17 Good Friday Service, Church Street Presbyterian Church, Rev. McCall will preach
April 19 Easter (The Easter Program will be held at 4:00 p.m.—Mrs. Doris Outlaw is Chairperson)
May 2-3 Third Quarterly Conference; Dr. Curtis L. V. Adams, M.D., Child Psychiatrist,
Institute for Personal Change, P.A. will speak Saturday evening at the covered dish supper
at 6:00 p.m. on "Child Management and Discipline."
Dr. E. L. Blankenship, Presiding Elder, South Birmingham-Huntsville District will preside.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Our Father, may Your grace and mercy of all past fulfilled promises and prayers make and keep us thankful, humble, joyful and in love with each other and with the One who died for all. In His Holy Name. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

What is first in your life? Jesus or self? Faith or fear? Hope or despair? Love or hate? You are in control. Only you can decide. Remember: "For the love of Christ controls us . . ." (II Corinthians 5:14)

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR WEEK OF APRIL 13-19, 1987

Monday — Psalms 101
Tuesday — Habakkuk 2:1-4

Wednesday — Psalms 99
Thursday — Psalms 211

Friday — Psalms 145
Saturday — Deuteronomy 7:12-16
Sunday — Psalms 67

COMMITTEES FOR ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON Mrs. Phyllis Conner
ANNIVERSARY DINNER COMMITTEE Mrs. Lorene Jones, Chairperson
Mrs. Sara Ails, Mrs. Katherine Campbell, Mrs. Ada Houston, Mrs. Inez Hyter, Mrs. Donna Jones
Mrs. Yvonne Jones, Mrs. Estelle McDonald, Mrs. Lula Moses, Mrs. Hattie Sales, Mrs. Linda Walton
FINANCE COMMITTEE Mrs. Linda Walton, Chairperson
Mrs. Lou Clark, Mrs. Patricia Grier
SANCTUARY DECORATIONS Mrs. Mydell Smith

103rd Church Anniversary Observance

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church

229 Church Street
Huntsville, Alabama



THEME: *"Preparations for the Twenty-First Century —
Launch Out into the Deep."*

Sunday, April 10, 1988
11:00 A.M.

RT. REVEREND FRANK M. REID, JR., *Presiding Bishop —
Ninth Episcopal District, A.M.E. Church*

DR. E. L. BLANKENSHIP, *Presiding Elder
South Birmingham - Huntsville District*

DR. H. L. McCALL, *Pastor*

God Our Father

Christ Our Redeemer

Man Our Brother

Order of Service

MEDITATE:

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" — PSALM 27:1

PRELUDE	Mr. Rufus Gilmore, III, Minister of Music Mrs. Winnie Rivers
HYMN OF ADORATION — "Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory"	No. 572
CALL TO WORSHIP	Mr. Jerry Baldwin
OPENING HYMN	
MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION	Mrs. Kathlyn Dulaney
CHORAL RESPONSE	
SCRIPTURE	Mrs. Teresa Henry
DECALOGUE	Mrs. Tressie Stout
RESPONSIVE READING — Church Anniversary	Mrs. Linda Walton
MUSIC	Combined Choirs of St. John
WELCOME	Attorney Lynn Sherrod
INSTRUMENTAL SOLO	Mr. James E. Jamar
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GUEST RECOGNITION	Dr. L. W. Bonner
MUSIC	Combined Choirs of St. John
OFFERTORY SENTENCES	"You Can't Beat God Giving"
THE TITHES AND OFFERING TO GOD	
THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING	Dr. Clifton Pearson
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER	Dr. Homer McCall
HYMN OF PREPARATION — "Father I Stretch My Hands To Thee"	No. 318
SERMON	Rt. Reverend C. E. Thomas, Presiding Bishop, Thirteenth Episcopal District, African Methodist Episcopal Church
HYMN OF INVITATION — "All To Jesus I Surrender"	No. 251
FINANCIAL REPORT	Dr. John Gibson Col. E. C. Smith
REMARKS	Mr. Randy Love Dr. Homer McCall
CLOSING HYMN	"Lift Him Up"
DOXOLOGY	"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"
BENEDICTION	Bishop C. E. Thomas

History of St. John A.M.E. Church

St. John A.M.E. Church was organized by Dr. William Hooper Council, one of the nation's outstanding educators and founder of Alabama A&M University. Between 1883 and 1900, Dr. Council was appointed a minister in the A.M.E. Conference and delivered the first sermon from a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets.

In 1900, the first building was erected on Church Street. In 1920, twenty years after completion of the building, under the leadership of Rev. Patterson, the mortgage was burned. Ministers serving St. John besides Dr. Council and Rev. Patterson include: Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, and our present pastor, Dr. H. L. McCall. We pay tribute to these outstanding leaders for having the love, insight, determination, and dedication to guide this church where it is today.

Through their efforts we have had A History of Promise and a promising Future of Development.

Announcements

Sunday School convenes each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Plan now to attend.

Prayer Meeting and Bible Class are held Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Let us pray and study together.

Please note the following scheduled Commissions, Board or Organization meetings:

Stewardship and Finance	Monday, 1:30 p.m.
Gospel Choir Rehearsal	Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Youth Choir Rehearsal	Wednesday, 6:15 p.m.
Senior Choir Rehearsal	Thursday, 6:00 p.m.
Male Chorus Rehearsal	Friday, 6:00 p.m.
Lay Organization	Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

The flowers on the altar today were donated by Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Burks, Jr. in loving memory of their father and brother.

— UPCOMING EVENTS —

- April 12 — Mid-Year Convocation, North Alabama & West Alabama Conferences, Jones Chapel Church, Fairfield, Alabama, Rev. Dr. James L. Davis, Pastor.
- April 16 — Organizational Meeting for the General Conference, St. Luke A.M.E. Church, Birmingham, Alabama, Rev. R. J. King, Pastor
- April 28-30 — South Birmingham-Huntsville District Conference, Handy Chapel A.M.E. Church, Rev. B. W. Hunter, Pastor
- April 30-May 1 — Third Quarterly Conference
Business Session with Covered Dish Supper - 6:30 Saturday
Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Sunday

OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-IN

Mrs. Amanda Derrick
Mrs. Fannie Ford
Mrs. Emma Humber

Mrs. Lizzie Petty
Mr. J. H. Richards
Mrs. Griefie Russell

Mrs. Lucille Shepherd
Mrs. Louise Watts

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

"Gossip is ear pollution." — Selected

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Our Father, thank you for the privilege of celebrating and sharing another anniversary. Guide us by your Holy Spirit to be faithful as He was and to pray unceasingly, hopeful in Him and to know that humility goes before honor and to love as He loved because He first loved us. In His Holy name. Amen.

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 11-17, 1988

Monday — John 17:1-26

Friday — Psalm 99

Tuesday — Psalm 86

Saturday — Psalm 145

Wednesday — Psalm 101

Sunday — Deuteronomy 7:7-26

Thursday — Habakkuk 2:1-4

Committees For Anniversary Program

ANNIVERSARY CHAIRPERSONS

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Love

ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. Gloria Dawson, *Chairperson*
Mrs. Willie Heyward, *Co-Chairperson*
Mrs. Bernetta Braxton
Mrs. Mary Rankins

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dr. John Gibson, *Chairperson*
Col. E. C. Smith
Mr. Jerry Baldwin

DECORATING COMMITTEE

Lt. Audry Walker

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Ellen Lewis, *Chairperson*
Mr. Everett Brooks

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

Mrs. Bessie Smith, *Chairperson*
Mrs. Hattie Sales

St. John A. M. E. Church

104th Church Anniversary

(1989)

and

Installation of Church Officers

Theme: "A New Journey: Let It Begin with You"



Rev. Dr. Farrell J. Duncombe, I, Speaker
Church Anniversary, 10:50 a.m.

Rev. Kenneth Lankford, Jr., Speaker
Installation Services, 2:30 p.m.

229 Church Street

Huntsville, Alabama

Right Rev. Cornelius E. Thomas, Presiding Prelate

Rev. E. L. Blankenship, Presiding Elder

Rev. Dr. Homer L. McCall, Pastor

Order of Service

10:45 A.M.

MEDITATE: "O love the Lord, all ye His saints: for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer. Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord." Psalm 31:23-24

PRELUDE.....Mr. Rufus Gilmore, III, Minister of Music
Mr. Karl Henry, Musician

HYMN OF ADORATION

CALL TO WORSHIP.....Ms. Teresa Cobb Smith

OPENING HYMN (#568)....."God of Our Fathers"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION.....Mr. Percy Ashford

CHORAL RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE.....Mr. Michael Goggans, Sr.
Mrs. Zelda Cobb Goggans

DECALOGUE.....Mr. Ted Walton

RESPONSIVE READING (#754) Church Anniversary Psalms 48, 50.....Mrs. Pearlean Little

MUSIC.....Combined Choirs of St. John

WELCOME.....Young People's Department

SOLO.....Mr. Walter Williams

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GUEST RECOGNITION.....Mrs. Elaine Washington

MUSIC.....Combined Choirs of St. John

THE GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD:

The Offertory Sentences.....Dr. Ada McCray

The Prayer of Thanksgiving.....Mr. Lamar Higgins

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER.....Rev. Dr. H. L. McCall

HYMN OF PREPARATION (#513)....."Hold to His Hand"

SERMON *Psalm 34:5*.....The Reverend Dr. Farrell J. Duncombe, Presiding Elder
Montgomery District, Alabama Conference, A.M.E. Church

HYMN OF INVITATION (#364)....."My Hope Is built"

FINANCIAL REPORT.....Lt. Audrey Walker

REMARKS.....Mr. Leon Bradford, Chairman, Church Anniversary
Dr. Homer L. McCall, Pastor

CLOSING HYMN....."God Has Smiled on Me"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, APOSTLE'S CREED/DOXOLOGY

BENEDICTION.....Elder Duncombe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School convenes each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Plan now to attend.

The Stewardship and Finance Commission will meet Monday at 1:30 p.m.

Prayer Meeting and Bible Class will be held Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. I and II Kings will be discussed.

We are happy to welcome Bishop and Mrs. C. E. Thomas and family, our new episcopal family.

Please contact Mrs. Juanita Sales if you are interested in attending the District Youth Lock-In on Friday in Guntersville, Alabama.

April is "Trial Tithing Month" in the Ninth District. Try It! It's biblically based and Christ-centered.

Members, families, boards and organizations are urged to contribute food items and clothing for the less fortunate.

OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-IN

Mrs. Amanda Derrick

Mrs. Emma Humber

Mrs. Mary King

Mrs. Ruth Morris

Mrs. Lizzie Petty

Mr. J. H. Richards

Mrs. Griefie Russell

Commissions, Boards and Organization meetings for April 10-15, 1989:

Aerobics (Exercise) Class.....Monday, 6:30 p.m.

Steward Board.....Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Senior Choir Rehearsal.....Thursday, 6:00 p.m.

Male Chorus Rehearsal.....Friday, 6:00 p.m.

Sunbeam Choir Rehearsal.....Saturday, 11:00 a.m.

Youth Choir Rehearsal.....Saturday, 12:30 p.m.

Gospel Choir Rehearsal.....Saturday, 2:30 p.m.

Missionary Society.....Saturday, 2:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 13—Mid-year Conference, Ninth Episcopal District, Gaines Chapel A.M.E. Church, Atmore, Alabama; Rev. C. B. Williams, Pastor.

April 14-15—South Birmingham-Huntsville District Conference, Livingston Chapel A.M.E. Church, Guntersville, Alabama. Rev. A. D. Reed, Pastor.

April 23—Black Business Awareness, 10:50 a.m.

Revival Hour, 4:00 p.m.

Drug Prevention Workshop, 5-6:30 p.m.

(Everyone is invited)

April 30—"NO EXCUSE DAY"

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 10-16, 1989

Monday.....Ephesians 5:1-7

Tuesday.....John 17:20-26

Wednesday.....Psalm 86

Thursday.....Psalm 101

Friday.....Habakkuk 2:1-4

Saturday.....Psalm 99

Sunday.....Psalm 21

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

2:30 P.M.

Order of Service

MEDITATE: "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain that build it." Psalm 127:1

PRELUDE.....Mr. Rufus Gilmore, III, Minister of Music
Mr. Karl W. Henry, Musician

PRAYER.....Mrs. Phyllis Conner

SCRIPTURE—Psalm 127Mrs. Annette DeShields

RESPONSIVE READING (#679) Psalm 27Dr. Roy H. McCray

MUSICGospel Chorus

OCCASIONMrs. Charlsie Brooks

MUSICGospel Chorus

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERRev. Dr. Homer L. McCall

HYMN OF PREPARATION (#226) "Amazing Grace"

INSTALLATION SERMON ..Acts 9:1-4, Philippians 2:12 Rev. Kenneth Lankford, Jr.
"The 2nd Great Question of Salvation" Fletcher Chapel P. B. Church, Greenbriar, Ala.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERSRev. Dr. Homer L. McCall

REMARKS

DOXOLOGY

BENEDICTION

★ ★ ★

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH/THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead, He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

We gratefully acknowledge with deep appreciation every kindness shown, every donation given, every prayer uttered or unuttered, that have helped to make this 104th Church Anniversary a new journey that begins in each of us. Thank you.

Mr. Leon Bradford, *Chairman*
Church Anniversary

Attorney Lynn Sherrod, *Chairperson*
Program Committee

Lt. Audrey Walker, *Chairperson*
Finance Committee

Mr. Hanford Jones, *Chairperson*
Publicity Committee

Mrs. Bessie Smith, *Chairperson*
Food Committee

★ ★ ★

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Steering Committee:

Mr. Leon Bradford, *Chairman*
Mrs. Pearlean Little
Ms. Ada Houston
Atty. Lynn Sherrod
Lt. Audrey Walker
Mr. Hanford Jones

Program Committee:

Atty. Lynn Sherrod, *Chairperson*
Mrs. Zelda Goggans
Mrs. Adrienne Pope-Kelly

Finance Committee:

Lt. Audrey Walker, *Chairperson*
Mrs. Lou Clark
Mrs. Ada Houston
Mrs. Ann McCelvy
The Finance Commission
All Class Leaders

Publicity Committee:

Mr. Hanford Jones, *Chairperson*
Mrs. Pearlean Little

Installation Service Coordinator:

Mrs. Adrienne Pope-Kelly

One Hundred Sixth Anniversary
St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church

Theme:
Restructuring the Church through Rebuilding the Family



*Rev. Dr. William Hooper Council
1848-1909
Founder, First President AAMU 1875
Leader in establishment of
St. John A.M.E. Church, 1885*



*Bishop Cornelious Egbert Thomas
99th Bishop A.M.E. Church
Presiding Prelate Ninth
Episcopal District,
Proclaimer of the Word*

Sunday, April 14, 1991
10:50 a.m.

229 Church Street
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

*C. E. Thomas, Presiding Bishop
E. L. Blankenship, Presiding Elder
H. L. McCall, Pastor*

The 106th Church Anniversary Service

**Is Dedicated to All of
the Sick and Shut-In
Members of St. John A.M.E. Church**



We are praying for you and we will see you soon.

OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-IN

Mr. Percy L. Ashford
Mrs. Virginia Chavis
Mrs. Mary Davis
Mrs. Amanda Derrick
Mrs. Sarah Hamilton
Mrs. Mary King

Ms. Barbara Landrum
Mr. Joe Moore
Mrs. Ruth Morris
Mrs. Lula Moses
Dr. Dorothea D. Smith

History of St. John A.M.E. Church

St. John A.M.E. Church was organized by Dr. William Hooper Council, one of the nation's outstanding educators, and founder of Alabama A & M University. Between 1883 and 1900, Dr. Council was appointed a minister in the A.M.E. Church Conference and delivered the first sermon from a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets in Huntsville, Alabama.

In 1900, the first building was erected on Church Street, Huntsville, Alabama. In 1920, twenty years after completion of the building, under the leadership of Rev. Patterson, the mortgage was burned.

Ministers serving St. John besides Dr. Council and Rev. Patterson include: Reverends Shelton; Goodlow; Williams; Todd; Brooks; Newell; Evans; Hill; Brice; Douglas; Cook; Thompson; Oliver; Woods; Lamar; Hughes; Howard; Stone; Dennis; Foxx; Hereford, and our present pastor, Dr. Homer L. McCall. He and his wife, Mable and family have labored with us selflessly. Dr. E. L. Blankenship, Presiding Elder, South Birmingham-Huntsville District, has helped to motivate us to new heights.

We appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and many outstanding men, women, youth and Bishops of the AME Church who have labored faithfully, served sacrificially, and who have died nobly that the legacy of Richard Allen and William Hooper Council shall not perish from the earth.

Bishops of the AME Church who have been assigned to superintend the District since the formation of St. John in 1885 are: Bishop Henry M. Turner, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Frank M. Reid Jr., Bishop Philip R. Cousin and Bishop Cornelious E. Thomas, the able 99th Bishop of the A.M.E. Church who is administrating and motivating the church for change through **EVANGELISM** and **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**. We applaud him for having the vision, faith and courage to take such a stand. We are honored to have him and his wife, Mrs. J. Thomas, our efficient and compassionate Episcopal Supervisor, with us today as we celebrate the 106th anniversary of St. John A.M.E. Church.

God Our Father

Christ Our Redeemer

Man Our Brother

Order of Service

The Organ prelude is a signal to begin worship. Meditate in His presence: **"The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding."** -Nehemiah 2:20

Prelude Mr. Rufus Gilmore III, Minister of Music
Mr. Lamar Higgins, Musician

Doxology

Call To Worship Mr. Jerry Baldwin

Opening Hymn Choir & Congregation
"To God Be The Glory" (#21)

Morning Prayer of Confession Mr. Claudewell Campbell

Choral Response

Scripture Mrs. Phyllis Conner
John 21:1-19

Decalogue Dr. Katie Blanding

Responsive Reading Mrs. Teresa Smith
"Church Anniversary" (#754)

Welcome Attorney Lynn Sherrod

Music Mass Choir

Announcements and Guest Recognition Dr. L. W. Bonner

Church Expansion Progress Report ... Col. E. C. Smith Sr., Chairman, Building Committee

Music Mass Choir

The Giving of Tithes and Offerings to God

Offertory Sentences Mrs. Gwendolyn Baldwin

Prayer of Thanksgiving Dr. Clifton Pearson

Introduction of the Bishop Dr. Homer L. McCall

Hymn of Preparation Choir & Congregation
"Hold To God's Unchanging Hand" (#513)

Sermon Bishop C. E. Thomas, Presiding Prelate
Ninth Episcopal District, African Methodist Episcopal Church

Hymn of Invitation Choir & Congregation
"I Surrender All" (251)

Remarks Dr. John T. Gibson
Dr. Homer L. McCall
Bishop C. E. Thomas

Closing Hymn Choir & Congregation
"Lift Him Up" (221)

Doxology

Benediction Bishop Thomas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School convenes at 9:30 a.m. Plan now to attend.

Mid-Week Prayer Service and Bible Class will be held on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The outline of the study of Amos is available in the Pastor's Study.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Burks Sr. in memory of father and brother.

We need volunteers for the upcoming "Evangelistic Thrust." Please sign up after service today in the vestibule (narthex), the church bulletin board, financial office or the Pastor's Study. Volunteers are needed in as many of the areas you are able and willing to serve.

BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS: APRIL 15-21, 1991

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Monday | - Finance Commission - 2:00 p.m.
- Senior Choir - 6:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday | - Prayer Service/Bible Class 6:30 p.m.
Steward Board - 7:30 p.m. |
| Friday | - Male Chorus - 6:00 p.m. |
| Saturday | - Children's Choir - 11:00 a.m.
- Gospel Choir - 12:00 p.m.
- Cub Scouts - 12:00 p.m.
- Youth Choir - 1:00 p.m. |

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| April 19-20 | South Birmingham/Huntsville District Conference
Handy Chapel AME Church - Gadsden
Gadsden, Alabama - Rev. B. W. Hunter,
Pastor, Dr. E. L. Blankenship, Presiding Elder. |
| May 4-5 | - Third Quarterly Conference |
| May 12 | Mother's Day |
| May 26 | - Missionary Day - 10:50 a.m.
- North Alabama Conference Y.P.D. Annual Day |

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Pastor and his wife, the Chairman of the Church Anniversary, all committee Chairpersons and members appreciate very much the power of God, the presence and participation of our Episcopal leaders, Bishop and Mrs. C. E. Thomas, and the cooperation and contributions of everyone who have made this 106th anniversary celebration a success.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS AND MEMBERS

Dr. John T. Gibson, Chairman

Church Anniversary

Program Committee

Colonel E. C. Smith Sr., Chairman

Members:

Mr. Jerry Baldwin

Mr. Claudewell Campbell

Mr. Eddie C. Sherrod

Finance Committee

Dr. L. W. Bonner, Chairman

Members:

Mrs. Lou V. Clark

Mrs. Ada Houston

Abd All Class Leaders

Publicity Committee

Mrs. Connie Teague, Chairperson

Members:

Mr. Hanford Jones

Mr. Willie "Randy" Love

Anniversary Dinner and Fellowship Committee

Mrs. Bessie Smith, Chairperson

Members:

Mrs. Sarah Allis

Mrs. Gracie Butler

Mrs. Ada Houston

Mrs. Vivian Humphrey

Mrs. Irene Hyder

Mrs. Lorene Jones

Mrs. Hattie Sales

Mrs. Juanita Sales

Home Daily Readings for Week of April 15-21, 1991

*** "Why I Tithe?"**

Monday I Chronicles 29:14

Tuesday Proverbs 3:9-10

Wednesday Malachi 3:10

Thursday Matthew 5:17

Friday Matthew 23:23

Saturday Matthew 6:21

Sunday Luke 6:38 and I John 4:19

Thought for Today

"We love because He first loved us." I John 4:19

Prayer for Today

Our Father, we thank you for this celebration, for our leaders, our families, the church, our country and for every privilege to help bring others to Christ, Our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD OUR FATHER

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

MAN OUR BROTHER

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church

Celebrates Its

***107th ANNIVERSARY and PALM
SUNDAY SERVICE***

Theme: "One Step At A Time, God Is Guiding Us"

Scriptural Focus: Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."
(KJV)

BISHOP C. E. THOMAS, *Presiding Prelate*
Ninth Episcopal District, African Methodist Episcopal Church
PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD



10:50 A. M.
SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 1992
Huntsville, Alabama

C. E. THOMAS, *Presiding Bishop*
E. L. BLANKENSHIP, *Presiding Elder*
H. L. McCALL, *Pastor*

The 107th Church Anniversary and Palm Sunday Service

Order of Service

☆ ☆ ☆

*MEDITATE: "The stone the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone."
—I Peter 2:7*

*PRELUDE.....Mr. Rufus Gilmore, Minister of Music
Mr. Lamar Higgins and Mr. Houston Yarbrough, Musicians*

**DOXOLOGY: "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"*

**CALL TO WORSHIP.....Mr. Bernard Powers*

**HYMN OF PRAISE—"Crown Him With Many Crowns" (174).....Choir/
Congregation*

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION.....Mr. Earl Fitchard

CHORAL RESPONSE

ANTHEM.....St. John A.M.E. Church Mass Choir

OLD TESTAMENT READING—Isaiah 50:4-9.....Mrs. Gwendolyn Baldwin

EPISTLE—Philippians 2:5-11.....Mr. Brian J. Baldwin

GOSPEL—Matthew 26:14-52.....Mr. Jerry Baldwin

**DECALOGUE.....Mrs. Mildred Powers*

*From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise,
Let the Redeemer's name be sung,
Through every land, by every tongue.*

WELCOME AND OCCASION.....Mr. S. C. O'Neal

MUSIC.....St. John A.M.E. Church Mass Choir

**THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CHURCH*

ANNIVERSARY LITANY.....Dr. L. E. Williams, II

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GUEST RECOGNITION.....Dr. Katie Blanding

*PALM SUNDAY READING.....Ms. Michelle Childress
Area Y.P.D. President*

MUSIC..... *St. John A.M.E. Church Children's Choir*

GREETINGS AND COMMENTS *Dr. David Henson, President
Alabama A&M University*

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS
AND PRAYER..... *Bishop C. E. Thomas*

MUSIC *St. John A.M.E. Church Mass Choir*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *Mrs. Mary Bowser*

*CHORAL RESPONSE—"All Things Come of Thee"—Pg. 644
"All things come of Thee, Lord;
and of Thine own have we given Thee." A-men.

INTRODUCTION OF BISHOP THOMAS *Rev. H. L. McCall*

*HYMN OF PREPARATION—"When Peace Like a River" (448)

SERMON..... *Bishop C. E. Thomas, Presiding Prelate
Ninth Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church*

*HYMN OF INVITATION—"Lord I Want To Be a Christian" (282)
Choir and Congregation

REMARKS..... *Mrs. Charlsie Brooks
Dr. H. L. McCall
Bishop C. E. Thomas*

*CLOSING HYMN—"God Has Smiled On Me"
"God has smiled on me, He has
set me free
God has smiled on me, He's been
good to me."

*DOXOLOGY

*BENEDICTION AND GRACE *Bishop Thomas*

☆☆☆☆☆

*Dinner served immediately after service in the
Rev. S. S. Hereford Fellowship Hall*

*Congregation please stand

The One Hundred Seventh Church Anniversary Litany

☆

LEADER: From the very beginning of American Methodism there has been a great interest in the spiritual welfare of black Americans. In 1809 the Methodist Episcopal Tombigbee Mission's first report showed seventy-one white and fifteen black members, and from 1810 to 1870 we have annual reports of black representation.

PEOPLE: "The Lord reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof."

LEADER: The Reverend Matthew P. Sturdevant was the first Methodist preacher ever appointed to preach in Alabama. His work commenced in January of 1808, and the first appointment to black Alabamians was made in November of 1831.

PEOPLE: "Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne. A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about."

LEADER: In 1838, the Reverend L. Massengale received an appointment to minister to black converts in the Madison, Courtland Valley and Bigbee Mission Districts; in 1840, five black missions existed, namely, Huntsville, Courtland Valley, Wilcox, Tombigbee, and Green; and in 1842 there were eight missions to North Alabama blacks, including Huntsville and Courtland Valley.

PEOPLE: "His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled. The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth."

LEADER: The Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1885 with the aid of Dr. William Hooper Council, the founder of Alabama A. and M. University. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets, and Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A. M. E. Church.

PEOPLE: "The heavens declared his righteousness, and all the people see his glory. Confounded be all they that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all ye gods."

LEADER: In 1900 the first church building was erected on Church Street adjacent to the old church, which stood until 1971. Twenty years after completion of the building, the mortgage on the first church was burned in 1920 under the leadership of Reverend Patterson.

PEOPLE: "Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O LORD."

LEADER: Ministers serving St. John A. M. E. Church besides Dr. Council and Reverend Patterson include Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, and our present pastor, Dr. Homer L. McCall.

PEOPLE: "For thou, LORD, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods. Ye that love the LORD hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hands of the wicked."

LEADER: Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church assigned to superintend the District since 1885 are Bishop H. M. Turner, Bishop Henry B. Parks, Bishop William A. Fountain, Bishop Robert A. Grant, Bishop David H. Sims, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop Sherman H. Greene, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Bishop Frank M. Reid, Jr., and Bishop Cornelius Egbert Thomas, the able ninety-ninth Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

PEOPLE: "Light is shown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart."

LEADER: We sincerely appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and the many outstanding men, women and youth of this Church who have labored so faithfully, served so sacrificially, and who have died so nobly that the legacies of Richard Allen and William Hooper Council shall not perish from this earth.

PEOPLE: "Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness."

LEADER: To God be the glory.

PEOPLE: "AMEN"



(Adapted from Psalm 97 and Marion E. Lalenby's **History of Methodism In Alabama And West Florida**. Also, especial thanks to Mr. S. C. O'Neal, Mrs. Ada Houston and Mr. David W. Kelly, Rev. Dr. H. L. McCall and Bishop C. E. Thomas. Composed by Dr. L. E. Williams, II)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sunday School convenes each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Prayer Meeting and Bible Class will be held Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Burks in memory of father and brother.

Please observe the following remaining rehearsals for the Easter Service that will feature our children and youth:

Thursday: April 16 - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday: April 18 - 12:00 Noon

Everyone is asked to assemble promptly. Thank you.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Washington, the happy parents of a baby girl, Elany Marie Washington who was born April 5, 1992.

Let us remember with prayers and support Mrs. Joyce Marshall and her family during the homegoing celebration of her cousin, Mrs. Mary Pepperson, in Chicago, Illinois.

Conference claims are due. They are \$16.00 per conference year for each adult and \$8.00 for children 12 and under.

OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-IN

Mrs. Virginia Chavis
Mrs. Sarah Hamilton
Mrs. Mary Davis
Mrs. Mary King

Mrs. Susie Gandy
Mrs. Idell Merrell
Mrs. Lula Moses
Dr. Dorothea D. Smith

BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

MONDAY: 2:00 P.M.—Finance Commission
THURSDAY: 6:00 P.M.—Senior Choir
FRIDAY: 6:00 P.M.—Male Chorus
SATURDAY: 11:30 A.M.—Gospel Choir
12:00 Noon—Cub Scouts
1:30 P.M.—Youth Choir

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Our Father, thank you for this celebration of our identity in Jesus Christ through whom we have been forgiven and in whom we can forgive. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." Matthew 26:41

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR WEEK OF APRIL 13-19, 1992

Monday: Psalm 101

Thursday: Psalm 21

Tuesday: Habakkuk 2:1-4

Friday: Psalm 145

Wednesday: Psalm 99

Saturday: Deuteronomy 7:12-16

Sunday: Psalm 67

UPCOMING EVENTS

- APRIL 13-17 Holy Week/Family Week (13-15)
APRIL 16 Maundy Thursday
APRIL 17 Good Friday Service
(12:00 Noon) St. John, Birmingham; Rev. Dr. J. L. Davis, Pastor
APRIL 19 Easter Service 10:50 A.M.
E A S T E R
APRIL 24 Daniel Payne College Board of Trustees Meeting
St. John, Montgomery; Rev. James Arnell, Pastor
APRIL 25 9th District Planning Meeting for the General Conference; St. John, Montgomery
APRIL 26 Rev. Endia Scruggs Pastor's Anniversary
St. John to conduct service at 3:00 P.M., Madkins Chapel
MAY 2-3 Third Quarterly Conference
MAY 2 Sunday School Convention Planning Meeting
St. John AME Church, Huntsville; Rev. H. McCall, Pastor
MAY 10 Mother's Day
MAY 24 Missionary Day, 10:50 A.M.
MAY 31 No Excuse Sunday, 10:50 A.M.

The Pastor, Officers and Members are grateful to each person who has planned, participated, prayed and contributed toward making the anniversary celebration a success.

COMMITTEES

- CHAIRPERSON Mrs. Charlsie Brooks
CO-CHAIRPERSON Mrs. Anita Burns
PROGRAM Mr. Everett Brooks, Sr., Chairperson
Dr. Katie Blanding, Mr. Earl Fitchard, Mrs. Mary Bowser
FINANCE Dr. John Gibson, Chairperson
Mrs. Agnes Bailey, Mr. William Bell and Class Leaders
PUBLICITY Mr. Everett Brooks, Jr., Chairperson
Mrs. Barbara Bradford, Co-Chairperson
CHURCH LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP Mr. Ranyd Love, Chairperson
Mr. Eddie Sherrod, Mrs. Rickshell Love
FELLOWSHIP DINNER Mrs. Bessie Smith, Chairperson
Mrs. Irene Hyder, Mrs. Lorene Jones, Mrs. Sarah Alls, Mrs. Dorothy Fitchard,
Mrs. Hattie Sales, Mrs. Juanita Sales, Mrs. Vivian Humphrey, Mrs. Ada
Houston

DR. L. W. BONNER, Secretary
MRS. LOU V. CLARK, Treasurer
DR. H. L. McCALL, Pastor

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church

Celebrates Its

108th Anniversary Service

THEME:

"Christian Leadership to the Year 2000 and Beyond"



Sunday, April 18, 1993
10:50 A.M.

229 Church Street
Huntsville, Alabama

C. E. THOMAS, *Presiding Bishop*
E. L. BLANKENSHIP, *Presiding Elder*
H. L. McCALL, *Pastor*

God Our Father

Christ Our Redeemer

Man Our Brother

Order of Service

PRELUDE *Mr. Rufus Gilmore III, Minister of Music*
Mr. Lamar Higgins, Musician

DOXOLOGY

CALL TO WORSHIP.....*Mrs. Eunice Tucker*

OPENING HYMN (513).....*Choir and Congregation*
"Hold to God's Unchanging Hand"

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION*Mr. Bernard Powers*

CHORAL RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE (John 20:19-31)*Minister Emma Newell-Brown*

DECALOGUE*Ms. Barbara Johnson*

RESPONSIVE READING*Rev. Kenneth Johnson*
"Church Anniversary, No. 754"

WELCOME AND OCCASION.....*Mrs. Mattie Ezell*

MUSIC*Children's Choir*

HISTORY OF ST. JOHN A. M. E. Church.....*Mr. S. C. O'Neal*

MUSIC.....*Gospel Chorus*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GUEST RECOGNITION.....*Dr. Lee Williams II*

MUSIC.....*Gospel Chorus*

THE GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

Offertory Sentences*Ms. Sandra Connaway*

Prayer of Thanksgiving.....*Mr. Lafayette Townsend, Jr.*

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER*Dr. Homer L. McCall*

HYMN OF PREPARATION (364).....*Choir and Congregation*
"My Hope is Built"

ANNIVERSARY SERMON.....*Rev. James Arnell*
Pastor, St. John A. M. E. Church—Montgomery, Alabama

HYMN OF INVITATION (272)*Choir and Congregation*
"Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"

REMARKS.....*Dr. Shannon Cobb, Chairperson*
Pastor McCall

CLOSING HYMN—"Revive Us Again" (97)

DOXOLOGY

BENEDICTION*Rev. James Arnell*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School convenes each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Parents are asked to attend with their families. "Taste and see that the Lord is good."

Prayer Meeting and Bible Class will be held Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Ballard in memory of her mother and father, and his father and grandmother.

Please note the insert concerning the new pictorial church directory and sign up today if you have not already done so. Thank you.

Let us remember with prayer and support Dr. and Mrs. John T. Gibson, Sr. and family during this season of homegoing celebration of his uncle, the late Mr. Leon Payton.

OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-IN

Mrs. Virginia Chavis

Mr. David W. Kelley

Mrs. Mary Davis

Mrs. Mary King

Mrs. Sarah Hamilton

Mrs. Hattie Sales

Dr. Dorothea D. Smith

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Our Father, thank you for your grace, love, and power that bring gladness every day through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away."
—I PETER 5:4

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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS AND MEMBERS

Dr. Shannon Cobb, *Chairperson*, Church Anniversary

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. Phyllis Conner, *Chairperson*

Members:

Mrs. Vera Bell

Mrs. Katherine Campbell

Mrs. Clementene Pearson

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Ada Houston

Mr. Randy Love

Class Leaders

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Minister Chekibe Holmann, *Chairperson*

Mr. Lafayette Townsend, Jr.

ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Mrs. Bessie Smith, *Chairperson*

Macola Snell, *Co-Chairperson*

HOME BIBLE READING FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 19-25, 1993

MONDAY — Psalm 67
TUESDAY — Psalm 91
WEDNESDAY — Psalm 27
THURSDAY — Psalm 119:169-176
FRIDAY — 1 Peter 5:5-10
SATURDAY — Psalm 37:1-7
SUNDAY — Psalm 118

BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

MONDAY — Finance Commission — 12:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY — Prayer Meeting/Bible Class — 6:30 P.M.
THURSDAY — Senior Choir — 6:00 P.M.
FRIDAY — Male Chorus — 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAY — Cub Scouts — 12:00 P.M.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 23-24 — South Birmingham-Huntsville District Conference —
Handy Chapel A. M. E. Church, Rev. Horace Fitchard, Jr.,
Pastor, Dr. E. L. Blankenship, *Presiding Elder*

MAY 1-2 — Third Quarterly Conference

MAY 9 — Mother's Day

MAY 16 — Fifth Evangelistic Thrust (9th Episcopal District)
Cherry Street A. M. E. Church—Dothan, Alabama
Bishop C. E. Thomas, *Presiding Prelate*
Rev. Jonathan Brown, *Pastor*

MAY 23 — Missionary Day — 10:50 A.M.
Rev. Tanya Caulder, *Preacher*

MAY 30 — "No Excuse Sunday" — 10:50 A.M.

GOD OUR FATHER

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

MAN OUR BROTHER

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church

109th Church Anniversary and Easter Service

The Celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord

Jesus Christ

BISHOP C. E. THOMAS, *Presiding Prelate*
Ninth Episcopal District, African Methodist Episcopal Church
PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD



Sunday, April 3, 1994
10:50 A.M.

Huntsville, Alabama

C. E. THOMAS, *Presiding Bishop*
E. L. BLANKENSHIP, *Presiding Elder*
H. L. McCALL, *Pastor*

Hymn of Praise

"COME ALL YE PEOPLE"

(TUNE: AZMON)

Come all ye people great and small and praise the Lord your King;
Who triumphed o'er the monster death, And took away its sting.

With joyous step and happy heart into His courts repair;
And worship in His Holy sight, and make your offering there.

Come worship Him, who came on earth the lost to seek and save;
And bid them fix their hope beyond the darkness of the grave.

Praise Him with anthems rich and sweet and sounds of glad refrain;
For unto us He has made known that now to die is gain.

Through love divine He's unto us a new and living way;
And may the music of His name fill this glad Easter-day.



Hymn of Preparation

(TUNE: AZMON)

From out of the tomb the Saviour comes, the first of all the dead,
From out of the tomb the Saviour comes, to be our living head.

That is the stone his foes have placed to make secure the grave?
And what the great Sanhedrin seal the priests so freely gave?

He must awake, he must arise, for have not prophets said,
God's Holy One shall never share corruption with the dead?

Now see in shimmering light, he leaves the dead, no more to die.
Conqueror of sin, and death, and hell He reascends the sky.

A LIBERATING AND RECONCILING PEOPLE

The 109th Church Anniversary and Celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ

Order of Service

MEDITATE: "He has risen! He is not here . . ." (Mark 16:6)

PRELUDE *Mr. Elige Jones, Organist*
Mr. Lamar P. Higgins, Musician

*DOXOLOGY: "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Mrs. Cassandra Thompson*

*HYMN OF PRAISE—"Come All Ye People" *Choir/Congregation*
(Tune: Azmon)

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Mr. Otha Owens*

CHORAL RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE—Old Testament *Mr. William C. Bell, Sr.*
Isaiah 25:6-9
New Testament *Mrs. Rose Bell*
Mark 16:1-8

*DECALOGUE *Mrs. Willie Heyward*
From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise,
Let the Redeemer's name be sung.
Through every land, by every tongue.

MUSIC *Senior Choir*

*THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH CHURCH
ANNIVERSARY LITANY *Mrs. Thalia Love-Brown*

MUSIC *Senior Choir*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GUEST RECOGNITION *Dr. John T. Gibson*

MUSIC *Gospel Choir*

THE WORSHIP OF GOD IN GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Gospel Choir*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *Mr. Ellington Grimmer*

*CHORAL RESPONSE—"All Things Come of Thee" (Page 644)
"All things come of Thee, Lord;
and of Thine own have we given Thee." *A-men.*

INTRODUCTION OF BISHOP THOMAS *Pastor McCall*

*HYMN OF PREPARATION—"From Out of the Tomb the Saviour Comes" (Tune: Azmon)

SERMON *Bishop C. E. Thomas, Presiding Prelate*
Ninth Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church

*HYMN OF INVITATION—"Since Jesus Came into My Heart" (403)
Choir and Congregation

REMARKS *Mrs. Ethel Richards, Chairperson*
Pastor McCall
Bishop C. E. Thomas

COMMUNION HYMN—"He Arose" (168) *Choir/Congregation*

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*DOXOLOGY

*BENEDICTION AND GRACE *Bishop Thomas*

Dinner served immediately after services in the
Reverend S. S. Hereford Fellowship Hall

Mrs. Bessie M. Smith, Chairperson Anniversary Service

*Congregation please stand

The One Hundred Ninth Church Anniversary Litany

★ ★ ★

LEADER: From the very beginning of American Methodism there has been a great interest in the spiritual welfare of black Americans. In 1809 the Methodist Episcopal Tombigbee Mission's first report showed seventy-one white and fifteen black members, and from 1810 to 1870 we have annual reports of black representation.

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LEADER: The Reverend Matthew P. Sturdevant was the first Methodist preacher ever appointed to preach in Alabama. His work commenced in January of 1808, and the first appointment to black Alabamians was made in November of 1831.

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LEADER: Ministers serving St. John A. M. E. Church besides Dr. Council and Reverend Patterson include Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, and our present pastor, Dr. Homer L. McCall.

PEOPLE: "For thou, LORD, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods. Ye that love the LORD hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hands of the wicked."

LEADER: Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church assigned to superintend the District since 1885 are Bishop H. M. Turner, Bishop Henry B. Parks, Bishop William A. Fountain, Bishop Robert A. Grant, Bishop David H. Sims, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop Sherman H. Greene, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Bishop Frank M. Reid, Jr., and Bishop Cornelius Egbert Thomas, the able ninety-ninth Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

PEOPLE: "Light is shown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart."

LEADER: We sincerely appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and the many outstanding men, women and youth of this Church who have labored so faithfully, served so sacrificially, and who have died so nobly that the legacies of Richard Allen and William Hooper Council shall not perish from this earth.

PEOPLE: "Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness."

LEADER: To God be the glory.

PEOPLE: "AMEN."



(Adapted from Psalm 97 and Marion E. Lalenby's History of Methodism in Alabama and West Florida. Also, special thanks to Mr. S. C. O'Neal, Mrs. Ada Houston and Mr. David W. Kelly, Rev. Dr. H. L. McCall and Bishop C. E. Thomas. Composed by Dr. L. E. Williams II)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School convenes each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Prayer service and Bible Class will begin at 6:30 p.m. Chapters 18-20 of Revelation will be the focus this week.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Butler in memory of his father.

The Fifty Plus Club will meet Monday, April 11 at 9:30 a.m. instead of tomorrow.

The YPD's monthly meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 10th. We will begin our business session at 4:00 p.m. At 5:00 p.m. we will be honored by a series of skits entitled "Relationships," presented by Oakwood College youth. All YPD's are asked to be present. Ms. Lorraine Edwards is the coordinator.

The Church Birthday and Anniversary Calendar is being updated. If you do not have your birthday and anniversary date in, please sign up today in the Narthex (Vestibule).

The Stewards will meet Monday, April 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Sponsors are needed for our Sunday Radio Ministry. If you and/or your family would like to be one or if you know of any prospective sponsor, please call 534-3265.

A compilation list of all our members who have businesses is found in the Narthex (Vestibule). If you would like to be included, please sign up today after service.



OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-IN

Mrs. Virginia Chavis
Mrs. Mary Davis
Mrs. Mary King
Dr. Dorothea D. Smith

Mrs. Marie Cutwright
Mrs. Sarah Hamilton
Mrs. Myrtle Porter
Mrs. Lucille Shepard



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid, Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

—ST. MATTHEW 28:10



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Our Father, thank you for the victory over Satan, fear and death through Jesus Christ our LORD. Amen.

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 4-10, 1994

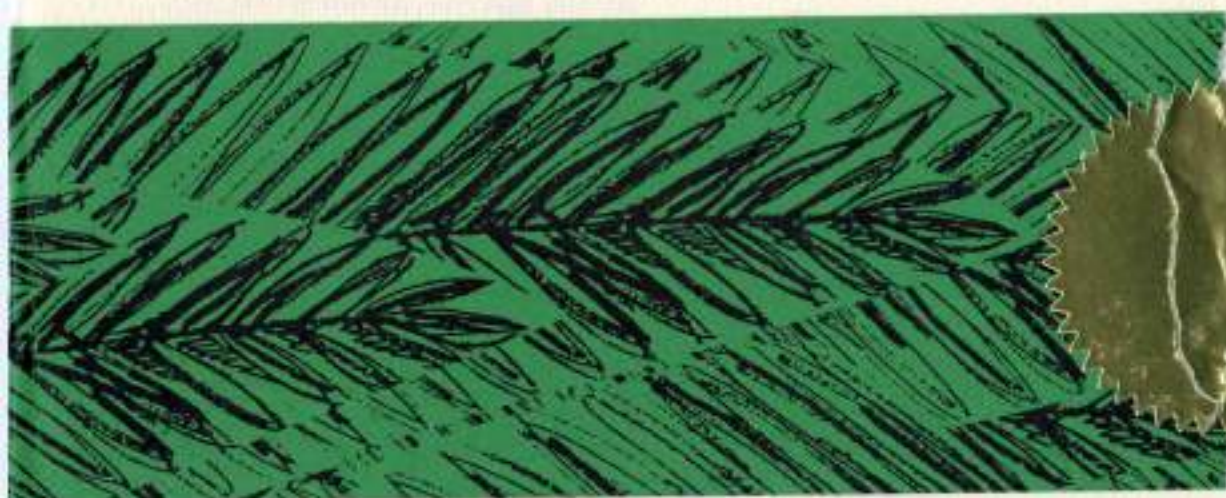
MONDAY	Psalm 50:16-23	THURSDAY	II Corinthians 5:11-15
TUESDAY.....	I John 4:19-21	FRIDAY.....	Hosea 6:1-3
WEDNESDAY.....	Deuteronomy 7:7-10	SATURDAY.....	I Corinthians 1:4-9
SUNDAY.....	Ephesians 5:1-7		

BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

MONDAY	—Finance Commission	12:00 P.M.
	Stewards.....	6:30 P.M.
WEDNESDAY	—Bible Class/Prayer Meeting	6:30 P.M.
FRIDAY	—Male Chorus	6:00 P.M.
SATURDAY	—Children's Choir	11:00 A.M.
	Cub Scouts	12:00 P.M.
	Missionary Society	1:30 P.M.
	Senior Ushers	3:00 P.M.
	Stewardess Boards	4:00 P.M.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 13-14.....	9th District Mid-Year Convocation St. John A. M. E. Church—Eufala, Alabama Reverend Albert Nixon, <i>Pastor</i> Bishop C. E. Thomas, <i>Presiding Prelate</i>
APRIL 17.....	Senior Usher Board Anniversary (6:30 P.M.) First Missionary Baptist Church Dr. Julius R. Scruggs, <i>Pastor</i> Our Entire Church Family is invited. Pastor McCall is invited to preach; The Senior Ushers are asked to serve and our Choirs are asked to sing.
APRIL 22-23	District Conference South Birmingham-Huntsville District St. John A. M. E. Church—Huntsville, Alabama Homer L. McCall, <i>Pastor</i> E. L. Blankenship, <i>Presiding Elder</i>
MAY 1	Third Quarterly Conference



St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church

110th Church Anniversary Service

THEME:

Reflecting, Reclaiming, and Reaching



Sunday, April 9, 1995
10:50 A.M.

C. E. THOMAS, *Presiding Bishop*
E. L. BLANKENSHIP, *Presiding Elder*
H. L. McCALL, *Pastor*

HYMN OF PRAISE

HOW GREAT THE WISDOM

How great the wisdom, power and grace
Which in redemption shine!
The heavenly host with joy confess
The work is all divine, The work is all divine, The work is all divine.

Before His feet they cast their crowns
Those crowns which Jesus gave
And with ten thousand tongues
Proclaim His power to save, Proclaim His power to save, Proclaim His power to save.

They tell the triumphs of His cross,
The sufferings which He bore;
How low He stooped, how high He rose,
And rose to stoop no more, And rose to stoop no more, And rose to stoop no more.

O let them still their voices raise,
And still their songs renew;
Salvation well deserves the praise
Of men and angels, too, Of men and angels, too, Of men and angels, too.
A-men.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

SAVIOR, MORE THAN LIFE TO ME

Savior, more than life to me,
I am clinging, clinging close to Thee;
Let Thy precious blood applied
Keep me ever, ever near Thy side.

Through this changing world below,
Lead me gently, gently as I go;
Trusting Thee, I cannot stray;
I can never, never lose my way.

Let me love Thee more and more,
Till this fleeting, fleeting life is o'er;
Till my soul is lost in love,
In a brighter, brighter world above.

REFRAIN

Every day, every hour,
Let me feel Thy cleansing power;
May Thy tender love to me
Bind me closer, closer, Lord to Thee.
A-men.

GOD OUR FATHER

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

MAN OUR BROTHER

Order of Services

MEDITATE: "Nevertheless not my will, but thine be done,"

—LUKE 22:42

PRELUDE *Mr. Rufus Gilmore III, Organist*
Ms. Jona Foster, Musician

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God From All Blessings Flow"

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Mr. S. C. O'Neal*

*HYMN OF PRAISE—"How Great The Wisdom" (91) *Choirs/Congregation*

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Mr. Claudewell Campbell*

CHORAL RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE—Old Testament (Deuteronomy 32:36-39) *Mr. Glenn Pippen I*
Epistle (Philippians 2:5-11) *Mrs. Regena Pippen*
Gospel (Luke 22:54-62) *Mr. Glenn Pippen II*

*DECALOGUE *Ms. Celeste Gilmore*
From all that swell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise,
Let the Redeemer's name be sung,
Through every land, by every tongue.

MUSIC *Gospel Choir*

THE ANNIVERSARY LITANY — REFLECTING *Ms. Juanita Sales*
A LITANY FOR RECLAIMING *Mr. Jerry Baldwin*
A LITANY FOR REACHING *Mr. Brian Baldwin*

MUSIC *Gospel Choir*

THE ANNIVERSARY LITANY — REFLECTING

LEADER: From the very beginning of American Methodism there has been a great interest in the spiritual welfare of black Americans. In 1809 the Methodist Episcopal Tombigbee Mission's first report showed seventy-one white and fifteen black members, and from 1810 to 1870 we have annual reports of black representation.

PEOPLE: "The Lord reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof."

LEADER: The Reverend Matthew P. Sturdevant was the first Methodist preacher ever appointed to preach in Alabama. His work commenced in January of 1808, and the first appointment to black Alabamians was made in November of 1831.

PEOPLE: "Clouds and darkness are round about him; righteousness and judgement are the habitation of his throne. A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about."

LEADER: In 1838, the Reverend L. Massengale received an appointment to minister to black converts in the Madison, Courtland Valley and Bigbee Mission Districts; in 1840, five black missions existed, namely, Huntsville, Courtland Valley, Wilcox, Tombigbee, and Green; and in 1842 there were eight missions to North Alabama blacks, including Huntsville and Courtland Valley.

PEOPLE: "His lighteningd enlightened the world; the earth saw, and trembled. The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth."

LEADER: The Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1885 with the aid of Dr. William Hooper Council, the founder of Alabama A&M University. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets, and Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A. M. E. Church.

PEOPLE: "The heavens declared his righteousness, and all the people see his glory. Confounded be all they that boast themselves of idols; worship him, all ye gods."

LEADER: In 1900 the first church building was erected on Church Street adjacent to the old church, which stood until 1971. Twenty years after completion of the building, the mortgage on the first church was burned in 1920 under the leadership of Reverend Patterson.

PEOPLE: "Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgements, O Lord."

LEADER: Ministers serving St. John A. M. E. Church besides Dr. Council and Reverend Patterson include Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, and our present pastor, Dr. Homer L. McCall.

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LEADER: Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church assigned to superintend the District since 1885 are Bishop H. M. Turner, Bishop Henry B. Parks, Bishop William A. Fountain, Bishop Robert A. Grant, Bishop David H. Sims, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop Sherman H. Greene, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Bishop Frank M. Reid, Jr., and Bishop Cornelius Egbert Thomas, the able ninety-ninth Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

PEOPLE: "Light is shown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart."

LEADER: We sincerely appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and the many outstanding men, women and youth of this Church who have labored so nobly that the legacies of Richard Allen and William Hooper Councill shall not perish from this earth.

PEOPLE: "Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness."

LEADER: To God be the glory.

PEOPLE: "AMEN."

(Adapted from Psalm 97 and Marion E. Lalenby's History of Methodism in Alabama and West Florida. Also, special thanks to Mr. S. C. O'Neal, Mrs. Ada Houston and Mr. David W. Kelley, Rev. Dr. H. L. McCall and Bishop C. E. Thomas. Composed by Dr. L. E. Williams II)



A LITANY FOR RECLAIMING

LEADER: Some of us heavenly Father are more concerned about meat to eat and money to buy things than in winning souls for Christ as we celebrate our history of victory in Jesus.

PEOPLE: "We have left undone the things we should have done."

LEADER: We sometimes complain as the Israelites did in the wilderness: "We were better off in Egypt." And we cry in 1995, "Were we not better off before 'integration?'"

PEOPLE: "We have thought, said and done the things we should not have done."

LEADER: It is written: "Without a vision a people perishes."

ALL: "On this 110th Anniversary, Eternal God, May your Spirit put your law in our minds and write it on our hearts that you will be our GOD and we will be your people."



A LITANY FOR REACHING

LEADER: Father God, help us to faithfully obey your WORD to "launch out into the deep." Enable us to expand our ministries to the disadvantaged, homeless, hungry, abused, confused, lonely and disinherited.

PEOPLE: "Let Thy will be done in us, heavenly Father."

LEADER: Teach us to love all people without calculating the cost or expecting a return. Just as Jesus our Lord came not to be served but to serve and to give His life a ransom for many, make us always ready to be servants of all.

PEOPLE: "Not our will but Thy will be done, Eternal God."

LEADER: It is written: "Without a vision a people perishes."

ALL: "As we celebrate the 110th Anniversary of St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church and as we prepare for the twenty-first century, empower us with your Holy Spirit to forget self and win others to Christ."

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GUEST RECOGNITION.....*Mr. Everett Brooks, Jr.*

MUSIC.....*Senior Choir*

THE WORSHIP OF GOD IN GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC.....*Senior Choir*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING.....*Mr. Darrell Ezell*

*CHORAL RESPONSE—"All Things Come of Thee" (Page 644)
"All things come of Thee, Lord;
and of Thine own have given Thee." A-men.

INTRODUCTION OF REV. NATHAN.....*Pastor McCall*

*HYMN OF PREPARATION—"Savior, More Than Life to Me" (373)*Choirs/Congregation*

SERMON.....*Reverend Timothy E. Nathan*
Pastor, Oak Grove A. M. E. Church
Newell, Alabama

*HYMN OF INVITATION—"All to Jesus I Surrender" (251).....*Choirs/Congregation*

REMARKS.....*Mr. Jmes O. Heyward, Chairperson*
Pastor McCall

*CLOSING HYMN—"Take the Name of Jesus With You" (44).....*Choirs/Congregation*

*DOXOLOGY

*BENEDICTION AND GRACE.....*Reverend Nathan*

Dinner served immediately after services in the
Reverend S. S. Hereford Fellowship Hall

MRS. BESSIE M. SMITH, *Chairperson/Anniversary Dinner*

*CONGREGATION PLEASE STAND

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School convenes each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Plan now to attend with your family.

Prayer Service and Bible Class convene each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The lesson scripture will focus on I and II Kings. Join the journey with your family through the Bible in '95.

Easter rehearsal for children and youth will be at the church on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday at 3:00 p.m. with choir rehearsal.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given by Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Burks, Sr. in memory of father and brothers.

Payments can be made today for Foodsource Units after services in the Fellowship Hall. The absolute deadline for payments this month is today. —Mr. A. A. Burks, Sr., *Coordinator*

The Annual Easter Services featuring the children and youth of St. John will be held on next Sunday (EASTER), April 16 at 4:00 p.m. at the church. Everyone is asked to return and to bring a friend. For further information, please contact Ms. Doris Outlaw, Chairperson, at 539-4792.

★ ★ ★

OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-IN

Mrs. Virginia Chavis
Mrs. Mary King
Mr. Joe D. Moore
Mrs. Myrtle Porter

Mrs. Sarah Hamilton
Mrs. Edna Matthews
Mrs. Lula Moses
Dr. Dorothea D. Smith

★ ★ ★

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well."

—MATTHEW 6:33 (NIV)

★ ★ ★

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Our Father, forgive us when we reject Christ and choose the crowd. In Jesus Name. Amen.

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 10-16, 1995

MONDAY.....	Ephesians 5:1-7	THURSDAY.....	Psalm 101
TUESDAY.....	John 17:20-26	FRIDAY.....	Habakkuk 2:1-4
WEDNESDAY.....	Psalm 86	SATURDAY.....	Psalm 99
SUNDAY.....	Psalm 21		

BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

SUNDAY—Finance Commission.....	After Services
Foodsource Committee.....	After Services
WEDNESDAY—Easter Rehearsal.....	6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY—Senior Choir.....	6:00 p.m.
FRIDAY—Male Chorus.....	6:00 p.m.
SATURDAY—Cub Scouts.....	12:00 p.m.
Children/Youth Choir.....	3:00 p.m.
and Easter Rehearsal	

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 14.....	Ninth District Good Friday Services (12:00 p.m.) St. John, Birmingham
APRIL 16.....	Easter Afternoon Services (4:00 p.m.)
APRIL 19-20.....	Mid-Year Convocation Ward Chapel, Prattville
MAY 6.....	Family Night
MAY 6-7.....	Third Quarterly Conference

ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Lou V. Clark
Dr. Michael S. Heard
Ms. Josylen P. Huston
Ms. Juanita Sales

Ms. Patricia Grier
Mr. James O. Heyward, *Chair*
Dr. Clifton Pearson
Mr. Terry Speight

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead, He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Universal Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. AMEN.

GOD OUR FATHER

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

MAN OUR BROTHER

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church

Celebrates its

111TH ANNIVERSARY

*REV. C. C. CUMMINGS
PASTOR, BRYANT CHAPEL A. M. E. CHURCH
BESSEMER, ALABAMA*

10:50 A.M.

*SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 1996
Huntsville, Alabama*

*C. E. THOMAS, Presiding Bishop
E. L. BLANKENSHIP, Presiding Elder
H. L. McCALL, Pastor*

"AM I A BUILDER OR WRECKER"

I watched them tearing a building down
A gang of men in a busy town
A heave ho' and lustrous yell
They swung a beam and the side wall fell.

I asked the foreman, "Are these men skilled,
The kind you would hire if you had to build?"
He gave a laugh and said, "No, indeed,
Just common labor is all I need.
I can easily wreck in a day or two
What builder have taken years to do."

I thought to myself;
Which of these roles am I trying to play?
Am I a wrecker who walks the town
Content with the labor of tearing down?
Or Am I a builder who works with care
Measuring life by the rule and square?
Am I shaping my life to God's own plan
And with His help doing the best I can?

-Selected



A LIBERATING AND RECONCILING PEOPLE

The 111th Church Anniversary

Order of Service

* * *

MEDITATE: "The stone the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone."
- 1 Peter 2:7

PRELUDEMr. Karl Henry, Organist, Ms. Joya Foster, Pianist

*DOXOLOGY: "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

*CALL TO WORSHIPMr. Marcus Bailey

*HYMN OF PRAISE .. "Hold To God's Unchanging Hand" (513)...Choir/Congregation

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSIONMr. Otha Owens, Sr.

CHORAL RESPONSE Choir/Congregation

OLD TESTAMENT READING - Psalms 127.....Mrs. Zelda Goggans

NEW TESTAMENT READING - Ephesians 5: 25-33.....Mr. Michael Goggans

*DECALOGUE..... Mr. Bernard Powers

*From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise,
Let the Redeemer's name be sung,
Through every land, by every tongue.*

WELCOME AND OCCASION..... Mrs. Voncile Gibson

MUSIC Choir

*THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTHCaptain Cheryl Boone
CHURCH ANNIVERSARY LITANY

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GUEST RECOGNITIONColonel James Heyward, (USA Ret.)

MUSICChoir

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVINGMr. LaFayette Townsend

*CHORAL RESPONSE -- "All Things Come of The" -- Page 644
"All things come of Thee, O' Lord;
and of Thine own have we given Thee." A-men.

INTRODUCTION OF REV. C. C. CUMMINGSRev. H. L. McCall

*HYMN OF PREPARATION -- "When Peace Like a River" (448)

SERMONRev. C.C.Cummings, Pastor
Bryant Chapel A.M. E. Church
Bessemer, Alabama

HYMN OF INVITATION "Just As I Am" (258)Choir/Congregation

REMARKSDr. Katie Blanding
Rev. H. L. McCall

*CLOSING HYMN -- "God Has Smiled On Me"

*"God has smiled on me,
He has set me free
God has smiled on me,
He's been good to me."*

DOXOLOGY

*BENEDICTION AND GRACERev. C. C. Cummings

* * *

*Dinner served immediately after service in the
Rev. S. S. Hereford Fellowship Hall
Mrs. Bessie Smith, Chairperson*

*Congregation please stand

The One Hundred Eleventh Church Anniversary Litany

* * *

LEADER: *From the very beginning of American Methodism there has been a great interest in the spiritual welfare of black Americans. In 1809 the Methodist Episcopal Tombigbee Mission's first report showed seventy-one white and fifteen black members, and from 1810 to 1870 we have annual reports of black representation.*

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LEADER: *To God be the glory.*

PEOPLE: *"AMEN."*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

* * *

SUNDAY SCHOOL convenes each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Plan to attend with your family.
-- Mr. Claudwell Campbell, Superintendent

PRAYER SERVICE, BIBLE CLASS AND CATECHISM CLASS will meet on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The Books of Zephariah and Haggai will be discussed.

THE FLOWERS on the altar today are given Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Burks, Sr. in memory of their father and brothers.

Everyone is invited to the Annual Church Anniversary Dinner which will be served at the church immediately after worship service today. Mrs. Bessie M. Smith, Chairperson.

The *GOSPEL CHOIR* will rehearse Wednesdays from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the church. New members are invited to join. Mrs. Phyllis Barrett, President

The *WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY FOOD PROJECT* will climax on Sunday, April 21, 1996 at 10:50 a.m. with the blessing and distribution of all items received. You can participate in this worthy cause by leaving all non-perishable items in the Stewardesses' Room. Mrs. Sandra Conway, President.

Please observe the following Food Source schedule for April, 1996. Bagging will take place on Saturday, April 20; Bagging Week -- April 22-24; Distribution Day -- April 27 (7:30-8:30 a.m.) Consider contributing a \$15.00 unit for the less fortunate. Contact the FoodSource committee after service today. Mr. A. A. Burks, Chairman.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) Sean Myhand | (19) Nikki Rankin |
| (2) Barbara Landrum | (19) Martin E. Vaughn |
| (2) Lee. E. Williams, II | (20) Mattie Davis |
| (5) Phoebe R. Bowser | (21) Adrina Sconiers |
| (7) Gwendolyn Baldwin | (22) Kendall Jones |
| (8) Bartaau Landrum | (24) Lou V. Clark |
| (10) Vivian Humphrey | (25) Rose M. Bell |
| (16) A. A. Burks, Sr. | (27) Marcus Bailey |
| (17) Tonya McCree | (27) Sharon Butler |
| (19) Vanona L. Walton | (27) Dorothy O'Quinn |

ANNIVERSARIES

- (9) Everett and Charlsie Brooks
(11) Leon and Mamie Bonner

HAVE A BLESSED AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY!

(Please note and leave any corrections and/or additions to the above list in the Secretary's box in the church office. Thank you.)

The Pastor may be contacted at (205) 534-3265 (Office)
205) 852-7541 (Residence) 707-1570 (Pager)

OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-IN

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------|
| Mrs. Mary Alice Johnson | 404 Darryl Ave. | 539-7216 |
| Mrs. Mary King | Madison Manor Nursing Home
3891 Sullivan Street
Madison, AL 35758 | 772-9243 |
| Mrs. Edna Matthews | Ardmore Nursing Home
25385 Main Street
Ardmore, TN 38449 | (615) 427-2143 |
| Mrs. Edna Matthews
Mrs. Myrtle Porter | Lynchburg Nursing Center
P. O. Box 447 (Hwy 55)
Lynchburg, TN | (615) 759-6000 |
| Mrs. Rosie Russell | 2903 Alaska Avenue
Huntsville, AL 35816 | 536-6841 |
| Mrs. Mary Shinault | 193 Pinoak Drive
Madison, AL 35758 | 722-9822 |
| Dr. Louise Wyche-Gittens | 2000 Grand Avenue
Apt. 302
Nashville, TN | (615) 329-3030 |

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|----------|---|
| April 19 | Bishop C. E. Thomas' Retirement Banquet - Sheraton Civic Center-- Birmingham, AL 7:00 p. m. |
| April 27 | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon
Christian Leadership Training Workshop for all officers of the church -- boards and organizations. Ms. Pat Grier, Coordinator, Rev. H. L. McCall Facilitator |
| May 4-5 | Third quarterly Conference |
| May 12 | Mother's Day |
| May 18 | 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p. m.
Christian Leadership Training Workshop for all members of Saint John A. M. E. Church.
Ms. Pat Grier, Coordinator |

-- JESUS SAVES --

HOME DAILY BIBLE READING FOR THE WEEK OF
April 15-21, 1996

MON. PSALM 99 TUES. PSALM 21
WED. PSALM 145 THURS. DEUTERONOMY 7: 12-15
FRI. PSALM 67 SAT. PSALM 91

SUN. PSALM 27

STAY IN THE WORD

"IT TAKES A WHOLE VILLAGE TO RAISE ONE CHILD." Selected

BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

SUN.	---	Finance Commission -	--	After Service
	---	Foodsource Committee	--	After Service
WED.	---	Gospel Chorus	--	5:30 p. m.
THURS.	---	Sanctuary Choir	--	6:00p.m.
FRI.	---	Male Chorus	--	6:00 p.m.
SAT.	---	Cub Scouts	--	2:00 p.m.
	---	Children/Youth Choir -	---	3:00 p.m.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH." -- HABAKKUK 2:4

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

THANK YOU FATHER FOR GIVING US HEALTH, HEALING, AND
RECONCILIATION THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead, He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

TITHING IS GOD'S ANSWER TO CHURCH FINANCE

The Principle of Tithing: Tithing is taught through the Bible.

- GOD is sovereign of the universe and is owner of all things (Genesis 1:1, Psalm 24:1, John 1:3-11)
- HE has made man a steward or trustee (Ecclesiastes 5:18-19, Acts 17:28, James 1:17)
- Man is therefore accountable to GOD (Philippians 2:10, Luke 16:1-2, Romans 14:10-12, Matthew 12:36)

The Preaching of Tithing:

- It is the responsibility of every proclaimer of GOD'S word to preach about tithing. CHRIST'S disciples are ordered to preach the Word (Mark 16:15, Matthew 28:19-20)
- Tithing must be fully preached, clearly explained and the definites pointed out (II Timothy 4:2, Titus 2:15).
- 1. **A DEFINITE Person:** Who does GOD hold responsible for tithing? The answer is every Christian (II Corinthians 9:6-7). Tithing is a Christian's privilege and responsibility.
- 2. **A DEFINITE Sequence of Giving.** II Corinthians 8:1-15 stipulates the GOD ordered sequence of giving. There we are told that the Macedonians "First gave themselves, then their money." Giving to GOD is an act of worship (Isaiah 60:6, Matthew 2:11).
- 3. **A DEFINITE Proportion.** The Bible is clear in its teachings that 10% (Genesis 28:22, Leviticus 27:32) of the Christian's income is "Holy unto GOD" (Leviticus 27:30).
- 4. **A DEFINITE Place.** Malachi 3:10 states that tithes are to be brought into the storehouse. Also Malachi 3:10, GOD refers to this storehouse as "My house." This storehouse is your local congregation (Deuteronomy 12:10-14, Deuteronomy 26:1-4).
- 5. **A DEFINITE Time.** When are we to bring tithes to the storehouse? I Corinthians 16:2 tells us, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as GOD has prospered him."
- 6. **A DEFINITE Purpose.** By tithing Christians demonstrate their love for the SAVIOR (John 14:15, I John 5:3). By tithing Christians demonstrate that they are truly a spiritual being (John 6:63, I Corinthians 2:12-14). By tithing a Christian shows tangible evidence of their interest in the CHURCH and GOD'S KINGDOM Work (Matthew 12:30, Malachi 3:8). GOD wants meat in HIS storehouse (Malachi 3:10). By tithing the Christian places himself in position for receiving the personal blessings, which GOD has promised him (Malachi 3:10-12). By not tithing the Christian places himself in position for receiving judgment (Malachi 3:8-9, Haggai 1:3-9).

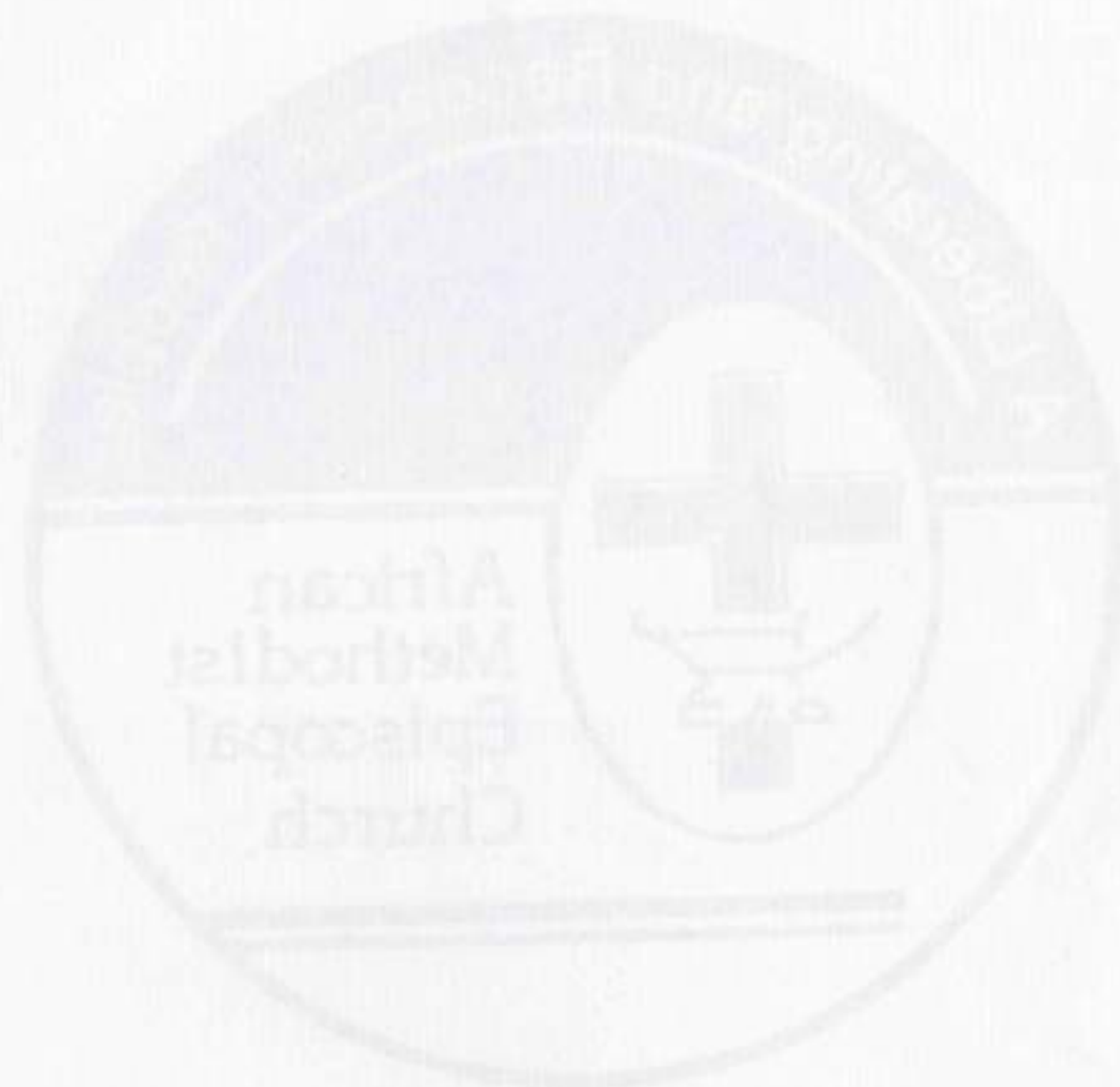
The Practice of Tithing:

- Unfortunately, untold numbers of professing Christians still continue to rob GOD (Malachi 3:8). Many problematic excuses are offered for this:
- Some say that "tithing is legalistic" (part of the Old Testament, therefore not applicable in these New Testament times).
- Some say, "I'm in so much debt, that I cannot afford to tithe." The answer is, very logically, to whom do you owe the most? (Acts 17:28, Psalm 116:12-14, James 1:17, Genesis 1:26-30).

Acknowledgments

Dr. and Mrs. Homer McCall, Dr. Katie Blanding, (chairperson), officers and members of St. John A. M. E. Church acknowledge with grateful appreciation, the support and contributions of everyone who assisted in making this 111th Church Anniversary a success.

We extend a special note of appreciation to Mrs. Bessie M. Smith and the Food Services Committee for preparing and serving the Anniversary Dinner.





GOD OUR FATHER

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

MAN OUR BROTHER

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church

Celebrates

its

112 TH ANNIVERSARY

**"Celebrating and Strengthening
Worship, Discipleship, Leadership, and Stewardship"**

**REV. W. G. TREADWELL
PRESIDING ELDER**

**Tuskegee District
East Alabama Conference
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

10:50 A.M.

**Sunday, April 27, 1997
Huntsville, Alabama**

**Rt. Rev. Z. L. Grady, Presiding Bishop
Rev. Dr. E. L. Blankenship, Presiding Elder
Rev. Dr. H. L. McCall, Pastor**

A LIBERATING AND RECONCILING PEOPLE

Order of Service

* * *

Meditate: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" - Mark 8:36

Prelude Mr. Rufus Gilmore III, Director of Music
Mr. Karl Henry, Musician

* Doxology "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

* Call to Worship Dr. Clifton Pearson

* Hymn of Praise "Time Is Filled With Swift Transition" (513).... Choir/Congregation

Morning Prayer of Confession Mrs. Agnes Bailey

Choral Response Choir & Congregation

Old Testament Scripture Psalm 127..... Mr. Terry Speight

Epistle I John 4:13-21..... Mrs. Cora Speight

Gospel Matthew 5:1-10 Ms. Meagan Speight

* Decalogue..... Mr. Jason Brown

From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise,
Let the Redeemer's name be sung,
Through every land, by every tongue.

Welcome and Occasion..... Judge M. Lynn Sherrod

* The One Hundred - Twelfth Mrs. Claire Philadelphia
Church Anniversary Litany

Music Choir

Reflections on Discipleship "I Have A Dream" Mr. Rodney Thompson

Announcements and Recognition of Guests Colonel James Heyward, (USA Ret.)

Music Choir

Pastoral Prayer for April Birthdays
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

* Prayer of Thanksgiving Mr. Earl Fitchard

* Choral Response Page 644 "All Things Come of Thee"
"All Things Come of Thee, O' Lord;
and of Thine Own Have We Given Thee." A-men.

Introduction of The Presiding Elder Pastor McCall

* Hymn of Preparation ... "I'm Pressing on the Upward Way,"... Choir & Congregation
No. 347

Sermon *Matthew 16:18 - 'THE CHURCH IS STILL ALIVE'* Rev. W. G. Treadwell
Presiding Elder, Tuskegee District
East Alabama Conference

Hymn of Invitation ... "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me,"..... Choir & Congregation
No. 358

Remarks..... Dr. Katie Blanding
Rev. H. L. McCall

* Closing Hymn "This Little Light of Mine"

Doxology

* Benediction..... Rev. W. G. Treadwell

* Congregation please stand

The One Hundred Twelfth Church Anniversary Litany

* * *

LEADER: From the very beginning of American Methodism there has been a great interest in the spiritual welfare of black Americans. In 1809 the Methodist Episcopal Tombigbee Mission's first report showed seventy-one white and fifteen black members, and from 1810 to 1870 we have annual reports of black representation.

PEOPLE: "The Lord reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof."

LEADER: The Reverend Matthew P. Sturdevant was the first Methodist preacher ever appointed to preach in Alabama. His work commenced in January of 1808, and the first appointment to black Alabamians was made in November of 1831.

PEOPLE: "Clouds and darkness are round about him; righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne. A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about."

LEADER: In 1838, the Reverend L. Massengale received an appointment to minister to black converts in the Madison, Courtland Valley and Bigbee Mission Districts; in 1840, five black missions existed, namely, Huntsville, Courtland Valley, Wilcox, Tombigbee, and Green; and in 1842 there were eight missions to North Alabama blacks, including Huntsville and Courtland Valley.

PEOPLE: "His lightening enlightened the world; the earth trembled. The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth."

LEADER: The Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1885 with the aid of Dr. William Hooper Council, the founder of Alabama A & M University. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets, and Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A. M. E. Church.

PEOPLE: "The heavens declared his righteousness, and all the people saw His glory. Confounded be all they that boast themselves of idols; worship Him, all ye gods."

LEADER: In 1900 the first church building was erected on Church Street, adjacent to the old church, which stood until 1971. Twenty years after completion of the building, the mortgage on the first church was burned in 1920 under the leadership of Reverend Patterson.

PEOPLE: "Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O' LORD."

LEADER: Ministers serving Saint John A. M. E. Church besides Dr. Council and Reverend Patterson include Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, and our present pastor, Dr. Homer L. McCall.

PEOPLE: "For Thou, LORD, art high above all the earth; Thou are exalted far above all gods. Ye that love the LORD hate evil; He preserveth the souls of His saints; He delivereth them out of the hands of the wicked."

LEADER: Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church assigned to superintend the District since 1885 are Bishop H. M. Turner, Bishop Henry B. Parks, Bishop William A. Fountain, Bishop Robert A. Grant, Bishop David H. Sims, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop Sherman H. Greene, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Bishop Frank M. Reid, Jr., Bishop Cornelius Egbert Thomas, and since 1996, we have been blessed with the spirit-filled leadership of Zedekiah L. Brady, the 111 th elected Bishop of the A.M.E. Church.

PEOPLE: "Light is shown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart."

LEADER: We sincerely appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and the many outstanding men, women and youth of this church who have labored so faithfully, served so sacrificially, and who have died so nobly that the legacies of Richard Allen and William Hooper Council shall not perish from this earth.

PEOPLE: "Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of His Holiness."

LEADER: To God be the glory.

PEOPLE: "AMEN."

(Adapted from Psalm 97 and Marion E. Lalenby's History of Methodism in Alabama and West Florida. Also, special thanks to Mr. S. C. O'Neal, Mrs. Ada Houston and Mr. David W. Kelly, Rev. Dr. H. L. McCall and Bishop C. E. Thomas. Composed by Dr. L. E. Williams, II).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* * *

Church School convenes each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Plan to attend with your family.
-- Mr. Claudwell Campbell, Superintendent

Prayer Service, Bible Class & Catechism Class will meet on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The Theme of Prayer in the Book of Acts is the topic for discussion. A Love Feast will also be held.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Mrs. Mary Powers and Family in memory of husband and father, Mr. Alfred Powers.

Future Generations: Come and spend some time with us each Saturday, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Share an opportunity to improve, strengthen, and enjoy a learning activity. Please share your love, time, and talents helping children in our church and community. -- Mrs. Rosa Walker, Coordinator -- Mr. Homer McCall II, Director.

The persons responsible for serving with the St. John Nursery and Children's Church today are Mrs. Thalia Love-Brown and Mrs. Claire Philadelphia

The Stewards and Stewardesses who have duty to assist during the invitation to Christian Discipleship today are:

Stewards	Stewardesses
Mrs. Martha Smith	Mrs. Hazel Gilmore
Mrs. Vanona Walton	Mrs. Doris Outlaw

The Stewards responsible for serving with the Finance Committee today are: Dr. Jeanette Jones, Dr. James I. Dawson, Mr. William C. Bell, and Mr. Michael Goggans.

The Women's Missionary Society is having a church yard sale on May 10. They are requesting donations of clothing and household items. Call Mrs. Mydell Smith, Mrs. Ada Houston or Mrs. Sandra Connaway if you need items picked up. This is your opportunity to do Spring cleaning and help the Women's Missionary Society.

Remembering Mother -- The May issue of the St. John A.M.E.N. will include an article of phrases and expressions of a mother. If you have a favorite phrase or expression that you can attribute to your mother, please share it with the St. John Family. Submit the information to the newsletter staff by Sunday, May 4. You may leave the material in the church office, fax it to Mrs. Nedra McDaniel at 205-721-7719, or e-mail it to nmcd220@aol.com.

VISIT ST. JOHN'S WEB SITE AT:

<http://members.aol.com/stjohnameh/stjohn.html>

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

stjohnameh@aol.com

St. John's Singles Ministry: Please contact Ms. Kathlyn Dulaney at 837-2650 or Ms. Patricia Banks if you are interested in joining, supporting or if you want further information about St. John's Singles Ministry.

Upcoming Events

May 4, 1997 ----- Third Quarterly Conference

May 4, 1997 ----- Men -- Women Day Celebration -- Little Indian Creek P. B. Church. Dr. McCall will preach. The Sanctuary Choir will sing and the ushers will serve -- 6:00 p.m. Rev. Jerry L. Crutcher, Pastor

May 11, 1997 ----- Mothers' Day

May 24, 1997 ----- Foodsource Distribution, 7:30 a.m.

May 25, 1997 ----- Missionary Day, 10:50 a. m.

May 25, 1997 ----- Men's Day -- New Jerusalem M.B. Church on Bob Wade Lane. Pastor McCall will preach and the Male Chorus will sing. Rev. Rickey Sykes is the Pastor

Sick and Shut In

Dr. Leon W. Bonner	132 Chase Road (Hsv) 35811	534-6662
Mrs. Mary A. Johnson	404 Darryl Avenue (Hsv) 35810	539-7216
Mrs. Mary King	Madison Manor Nursing Home 3891 Sullivan Street Madison, AL 35758	772-9243
Mrs. Edna Matthews	Healthcare Center of Ardmore Route 1, Box 257 Ardmore, TN 38449	615-427-2143
Mrs. Myrtle Porter	Lynchburg Nursing Center P. O. Box 447, Hwy. 55 Lynchburg, TN	615-759-6000
Mrs. Rosie Russell	2903 Alaska Ave. (Hsv) 35816	536-6841
Mrs. Mary Shinault	2814 Taylor Street Chattanooga, TN 37406	423-622-0669

April Birthdays

(1) Sean Myhand	(17) Tonya McCree	(25) Rose M. Bell
(2) Barbara Landrum	(19) Vanona Walton	(27) Marcus Bailey
(2) Lee. E. Williams, II	(19) Nikki Rankin	(27) Sharon Butler
(5) Phoebe R. Bowser	(19) Martin E. Vaughn	(27) Dorothy O'Quinn
(7) Gwendolyn Baldwin	(20) Mattie Davis	
(8) Bartaau Landrum	(21) Adrina Sconiers	
(10) Vivian Humphrey	(23) Kendall Jones	
(15) Ronald Robinson II	(23) L. C. Jamar, Jr.	
(16) A. A. Burks, Sr.	(24) Lou V. Clark	

Anniversaries

(9) Everett and Charlsie Brooks (11) Leon and Mamie Bonner

(Please note, and leave any corrections and/or additions to the above list in the Secretary's box in the church office. Thank you.)

The Pastor may be contacted at: (205) 534-3265 (Office)
(205) 852-7541 (Residence) 707-1570 (Pager)

HAVE A BLESSED AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY!

Thought For the Week

" For whoever will save his life shall lose it; but whoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it." Mark 8:35

Prayer for the Week

Our Father, Thank you for inspiring us to worship you in spirit and in truth. Increase our faith in our Lord, Jesus Christ, so that we may become more like Him each day. Amen.

-- JESUS SAVES --

HOME DAILY BIBLE READING FOR THE WEEK OF

April 28 - May 4, 1997

Stay in the Word

Monday --- I Thessalonians, 5: 16-23	Thursday --- I Chronicles 29:10:13
Tuesday -- I Corinthians 16:3-18	Friday --- Luke 11: 1-13
Wednesday -- Psalm 98	Saturday -- Romans 8: 25-30

Sunday -- Psalm 27

"It Takes A Whole Community to Educate One Child." --- Selected

BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

Sunday	Finance Commission Foodsource Committee	After Service After Service
Thursday	Sanctuary Choir	6:00 p.m.
Friday	Male Chorus	6:00 p.m.
Saturday	Cub Scouts Youth & Choir Gospel Choir	9:00 a.m. 3:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead, He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen



Acknowledgment

Dr. and Mrs. McCall, the Officers and Members and the Chairperson for the 112 th Church Anniversary, Dr. Katie E. Blanding, are grateful for everyone's prayers, participation and contributions toward making this occasion a Spirit-filled event. A special note of gratitude also to Presiding Elder and Mrs. W. G. Treadwell.

God Our Father

Christ Our Redeemer

Man Our Brother

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church

Celebrates

its

113th Anniversary

"A Backward Look for a Forward Thrust"

Reverend William E. Jackson 8:00 A.M. Worship Service
Reverend Dr. Kenneth H. Hill 10:50 A.M. Worship Service

April 19, 1998
Huntsville, Alabama

Rt. Rev. J. L. Grady, Presiding Bishop
Rev. Dr. E. L. Blankenship, Presiding Elder
Rev. Dr. H. L. McCall, Pastor

A Liberating and Reconciling People
~A People in the Word-Serving People in the World~

One Hundred Thirteenth Church Anniversary
Theme - "A Backward Look for a Forward Thrust"

Early Morning Worship
Sunday, April 19, 1998 ~ 8:00 A.M.

Order of Worship

Meditate: "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize" ~Philippians 3:13

PreludeMr. Rufus Gilmore, III, Director of Music
Mr. Craig King, Musician

~Enter and Worship. Depart and Serve~

Doxology

Call to Worship.....M r. Jason Brown

Minister: I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within Thy gates, O Jerusalem.

People: **For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

Minister: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

People: **They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.**

Minister: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.

People: **But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.**

Minister: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

People: **O sing unto the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises!**

*Hymn of Praise....."Hold to God's Unchanging Hand"(513).....Congregation
Morning Prayer of Confession.....Mr. Earl Fitchard
Scripture.....Old Testament.....Psalm 127.....Mrs. Brenda Jones
New Testament.....Revelation 1:9-20.....Mr. Hanford Jones
Decalogue.....Pages xix-xxii.....Ms. Jana Goggans
The One Hundred Thirteenth Church Anniversary Litany.....Dr. L. E. Williams II
*Music.....Gospel Choir
Announcements & Guest Recognition.....Mrs. Lanita Slaton
*Music.....Gospel Choir
Welcome and Occasion.....Mr. Everett E. Brooks Jr.
The Giving of Tithes & Offerings: Offertory Sentences

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give Thee but thine own * All that we have is thine alone
What e'er the gift may be: * A trust, O Lord from Thee. Amen

Oration/"Excellence for the 21st Century:Prayer Makes the Difference".....Ms. Janell Williams
Winner (14-17) South Birmingham-Huntsville District

Introduction of the Preacher.....Pastor H. McCall

Hymn of Preparation....."Father I Stretch My Hands to Thee" (318).....Congregation

Sermon.....*Living in God's Home*.....Reverend William E. Jackson, St. Peter AME Church, Minneapolis, MN

John 15:1-5
Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Hymn of Invitation....."My Hope Is Built" (364).....Congregation

Remarks.....Mr. David Russ Jr., Chairman Church Anniversary and Pastor H. McCall

Closing Song....."There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit" (196).....Congregation

Recessional The Apostles' Creed Doxology Benediction

* The Asterisk Indicates When People May Enter To Worship

Church School.....9:30 - 10:45 A.M.

"Jesus Is Rejected" (Mark 12:1-12)
Mr. Claudewell Campbell.....Superintendent

One Hundred Thirteenth Church Anniversary

April 19, 1998

Morning Worship

~Order of Worship~

10:50 A.M.

Meditate: "The just shall live by faith." ~Habakkuk 2:4

Prelude.....Mr. Rufus Gilmore III, Director of Music
Mr. Craig King, Musician

~Enter and Worship. Depart and Serve~

Doxology

Call to Worship.....Mrs. Gloria Dawson

*Hymn of Praise.....**Hold to God's Unchanging Hand(513)**.....Choir~Congregation

Morning Prayer of Confession.....Mr. Otha Owens, Sr.

Choral Response

Scripture.....**Old Testament.....Psalm 127**.....Major Kenneth Avery

New Testament.....Revelation 1:9-20.....Mrs. Janice Avery

Decalogue.....**Pages xix-xxii**.....Ms. Jennifer Slaton

The One Hundred Thirteenth Church Anniversary Litany.....Dr. John T. Gibson

*Music.....Youth~Children Choir

Announcements & Guest Recognition.....Col(Ret) James O. Heyward

*Music.....Youth~Children Choir

Welcome and Occasion.....Judge Lynn Sherrod

The Giving of Tithes & Offerings: Offertory Sentences ~ Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give Thee but thine own * All that we have is thine alone

What e'er the gift may be: * A trust, O Lord from Thee. Amen

Drum Call to Celebrate the 113th Church Anniversary.....Mr. Ivy Joe Milan, Sr.

Oration/ "Excellence for the 21st Century: Prayer Makes the Difference".....Ms. Janell Williams

(Winner 14-17) - South Birmingham-Huntsville District

Introduction of the Preacher.....Pastor H. McCall

Hymn of Preparation.....**"In Shady Green Pastures" (391)**.....Choir~Congregation

Sermon.....Reverend Dr. Kenneth H. Hill, Secretary-Treasurer

Department of Christian Education, AME Church

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Hymn of Invitation.....**"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" (358)**.....Choir~Congregation

Remarks.....Mr. David Russ Jr., Chairman, Church Anniversary and Pastor H. McCall

Closing Song.....**"Take the Name of Jesus With You"(44)**.....Choir ~Congregation

Recessional The Apostles' Creed Doxology Benediction

*

The Asterisk Indicates When People May Enter To Worship

****Please join us in the S. S. Hereford Fellowship Hall for a repast after the 10:50 worship service**

The One Hundred Thirteenth Church Anniversary Litany

LEADER: From the very beginning of American Methodism there has been a great interest in the spiritual welfare of black Americans. In 1809 the Methodist episcopal Tombigbee Mission's first report showed seventy-one white and fifteen black members, and from 1810 to 1870 we have annual reports of black representation.

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LEADER: Ministers serving Saint John A.M.E. Church besides Dr. Council and Reverend Patterson include Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, and our present pastor, Dr. Homer L. McCall.

PEOPLE: "For Thou, LORD, art high above all the earth; Thou are exalted far above all gods. Ye that love the LORD hate evil; He preserveth the souls of His saints; He delivereth them out of the hands of the wicked."

LEADER: Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church assigned to superintend the District since 1885 are Bishop H. M. Turner, Bishop Henry B. Parks, Bishop William A. Fountain, Bishop Robert A. Grant, Bishop David H. Sims, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop Sherman H. Greene, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Bishop Frank M. Reid, Jr., Bishop Cornelius Egbert Thomas, and since 1996, we have been blessed with the spirit-filled leadership of Zedekiah L. Brady, the 111th elected Bishop of the A.M.E. Church.

PEOPLE: "Light is shown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart."

LEADER: We sincerely appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and the many outstanding men, women and youth of this church who have labored so faithfully, served so sacrificially, and who have died so nobly that the legacies of Richard Allen and William Hooper Council shall not perish from this earth.

PEOPLE: "Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of His Holiness."

LEADER: To God be the glory.

PEOPLE: "AMEN."

(Adapted from Psalm 97) and Marion E. Lalenby's History of Methodism in Alabama and West Florida. Also, special thanks to Mr. S. C. O'Neal, Mrs. Ada Houston and Mr. David W. Kelly, Rev. Dr. H. L. McCall and Bishop C. E. Thomas. Composed by Dr. L. E. Williams, II).

~UPCOMING EVENTS~

April 29-May 1.....Connectional Annual Ministries in Christian Education Training and Planning Meeting, Birmingham, Alabama

May 2.....Episcopal District Level Judging for Oratorical Contestants

May 2-3.....Third Quarterly Conference

May 10.....Mother's Day

May 17.....Missionary Day 10:50 a.m.

May 25.....Memorial Day

May 31.....Heritage Day

Thought for The Week

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." ~Matthew 9:37

Prayer for The Week

Our Father, thank you for your guidance, forgiveness, comfort and empowerment through Jesus Christ our savior and LORD. Amen

Visit Our Web Site at:

<http://members.aol.com/stjohnameh/stjohn.html>

E-mail

Our E-mail Address Is: stjohnameh@aol.com

Announcements

- ♦ Church School convenes each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Plan to attend with your family.
~~~~M r. Claudewell Campbell, Superintendent
- ♦ Prayer Service and Bible Class will be held Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is urged to attend. The schedule for April 22 and 29 is as follows:

|          |                                    |                 |
|----------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| April 22 | II Thessalonians 2-3 & I Timothy 1 | Classes 9 & 10  |
| April 29 | II Timothy 2-4                     | Classes 11 & 18 |

- ♦ Mr. and Mrs. Herman Ballard in memory of her mother, father (Rev. M. T. Steward), brother, sister and nephew and his father and grandmother.
- ♦ The pickup for Food source units is Saturday, April 25 from 7:30-8:30 a.m. Consider donating a unit for the less fortunate next month. Please see the Committee after service. ~~~Mr. A. A. Burks, Chairperson
- ♦ Rev. McCall teaches new members and other interested persons about AME Church doctrine, discipline and other concerns at 12:30 p.m. each Saturday.
- ♦ The monthly Official Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, April 21, 1998 at 6:30 p.m. in the S. S. Hereford Fellowship Hall of the church. Plan now to attend. Thank you.
- ♦ The Steward Board will meet Sunday, April 26, 1998 at 4:00 p.m.
- ♦ The Stewards and Stewardesses with duties today and next Sunday are

### Invitation to Christian Discipleship

#### April 19, 1998

##### Stewardesses

Mrs. Hazel Gilmore  
Ms. Doris Outlaw

##### Stewards

Mrs. Vanona Walton  
Col. E. C. Smith Sr.

#### April 26, 1998

##### Stewardesses

Mrs. Estella McDonald  
Mrs. Marjorie Reed

##### Stewards

Mr. Jerry Baldwin  
Mr. William C. Bell Sr.

### Finance Committee (Stewards)

#### April 19, 1998

Mr. Ronald Robinson  
Mr. Claudewell Campbell  
Mr. Michael Goggans

#### April 26, 1998

Mr. Ronald Robinson  
Mr. Claudewell Campbell  
Mr. Michael Goggans

### Ministerial Support for Children's Church

#### April 19, 1998

Reverend Kenneth D. Johnson

#### April 26, 1998

Rev. Vickie L. Sanders

## April Birthdays

|                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| /01/ Jean Myhand          | /19/ Niki Rankin       |
| /02/ Lee E. Williams 11   | /19/ Martin Vaughn     |
| /03/ Nedra McDaniel       | /20/ Mattie Davis      |
| /05/ Phoebe R. Bowser     | /21/ Adrina Leoniers   |
| /05/ Barbara Etheridge    | /22/ Kendall Jones     |
| /05/ Elany Washington     | /23/ L. C. Jamar, Jr.  |
| /07/ Gwendolyn Baldwin    | /24/ Lou V. Clark      |
| /08/ Bartau Landrum       | /25/ Rose M. Bell      |
| /10/ Vivian Humphrey      | /27/ Marcus Bailey     |
| /15/ Ronald Robinson      | /27/ Sharon Butler     |
| /16/ A. A. Burks, Jr.     | /27/ Dorothy O'Quinn   |
| /17/ Tonya Mcrec Anderson | /29/ Lauretta Teague   |
| /19/ Vanona L. Walton     | /30/ Charles L. Flaton |

## Anniversaries

09 Everett & Charlie Brooks

11 Leon & Mamie Bonner

*Have A Blessed Happy Birthday and Anniversary!!!*

*Please note, and leave any corrections and/or additions to the above list in the Secretary's box in the church office. Thank you*

### Sick And Shut In

Dr. Leon W. Bonner  
Mrs. Mary A. Johnson  
Mr. David Kelley  
Mrs. Mary King  
Mrs. Christine McMillan  
Mrs. Edna Matthews  
Mrs. Ethel Richards  
Mrs. Rosie Russell  
Mrs. Mary Shinnall

## ~Jesus Saves~

### Home Daily Bible Reading for April 20~April 26, 1998

#### Stay In The Word

|                |                   |               |                      |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Monday.....    | Psalm 91          | Thursday..... | I Peter 5:1-11       |
| Tuesday.....   | Psalm 27          | Friday.....   | Psalm 37:1-7         |
| Wednesday..... | Psalm 119:169-176 | Saturday..... | Psalm 118:22-29      |
|                | Sunday.....       |               | I Chronicles 28:9-10 |

"It Takes A Whole Community To Educate One Child."

#### Boards & Organizational Meeting

|               |                            |               |
|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Sunday.....   | Finance Commission.....    | After Service |
|               | Food Source Committee..... | After Service |
| Thursday..... | Sanctuary Choir.....       | 06:00 P.M.    |
| Friday.....   | Male Chorus.....           | 06:00 P.M.    |
| Saturday..... | Finance Committee.....     | 08:30 A.M.    |
|               | Cub Scouts.....            | 09:00 A.M.    |
|               | New Members Class.....     | 12:30 P.M.    |

#### The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead, He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Universal Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

#### Acknowledgment

Dr. and Mrs. McCall, the Officers and Members and the Chairperson for the 112<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary, Mr. David Russ Jr., are grateful for everyone's prayers, participation and contributions toward making this occasion a Spirit-filled event. A special note of gratitude also to Reverend and Mrs. William E. Jackson and Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth H. Hill.

## THE ANNIVERSARY LITANY — REFLECTING

**LEADER:** From the very beginning of American Methodism there has been a great interest in the spiritual welfare of black Americans. In 1809 the Methodist Episcopal Tombigbee Mission's first report showed seventy-one white and fifteen black members, and from 1810 to 1870 we have annual reports of black representation.

**PEOPLE:** "The Lord reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof."

**LEADER:** The Reverend Matthew P. Sturdevant was the first Methodist preacher ever appointed to preach in Alabama. His work commenced in January of 1808, and the first appointment to black Alabamians was made in November of 1831.

**PEOPLE:** "Clouds and darkness are round about him; righteousness and judgement are the habitation of his throne. A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about."

**LEADER:** In 1838, the Reverend L. Massengale received an appointment to minister to black converts in the Madison, Courtland Valley and Bigbee Mission Districts; in 1840, five black missions existed, namely, Huntsville, Courtland Valley, Wilcox, Tombigbee, and Green; and in 1842 there were eight missions to North Alabama blacks, including Huntsville and Courtland Valley.

**PEOPLE:** "His lightningd enlightened the world; the earth saw, and trembled. The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth."

**LEADER:** The Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1885 with the aid of Dr. William Hooper Council, the founder of Alabama A&M University. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets, and Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A. M. E. Church.

**PEOPLE:** "The heavens declared his righteousness, and all the people see his glory. Confounded be all they that boast themselves of idols; worship him, all ye gods."

**LEADER:** In 1900 the first church building was erected on Church Street adjacent to the old church, which stood until 1971. Twenty years after completion of the building, the mortgage on the first church was burned in 1920 under the leadership of Reverend Patterson.

**PEOPLE:** "Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgements, O Lord."

**LEADER:** Ministers serving St. John A. M. E. Church besides Dr. Council and Reverend Patterson include Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, and our present pastor, Dr. Homer L. McCall.

**PEOPLE:** "For thou, LORD, art high above all the earth; thou art exalted far above all gods. Ye that love the LORD hate evil; he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hands of the wicked."

**LEADER:** Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church assigned to superintend the District since 1885 are Bishop H. M. Turner, Bishop Henry B. Parks, Bishop William A. Fountain, Bishop Robert A. Grant, Bishop David H. Sims, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop Sherman H. Greene, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Bishop Frank M. Reid, Jr., and Bishop Cornelius Egbert Thomas, the able ninety-ninth Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

**PEOPLE:** "Light is shown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart."

**LEADER:** We sincerely appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and the many outstanding men, women and youth of this Church who have labored so nobly that the legacies of Richard Allen and William Hooper Councilll shall not perish from this earth.

**PEOPLE:** "Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness."

**LEADER:** To God be the glory.

**PEOPLE:** "AMEN."

(Adapted from Psalm 97 and Marion E. Lalenby's History of Methodism in Alabama and West Florida. Also, special thanks to Mr. S. C. O'Neal, Mrs. Ada Houston and Mr. David W. Kelley, Rev. Dr. H. L. McCall and Bishop C. E. Thomas. Composed by Dr. L. E. Williams II)



## A LITANY FOR RECLAIMING

**LEADER:** Some of us heavenly Father are more concerned about meat to eat and money to buy things than in winning souls for Christ as we celebrate our history of victory in Jesus.

**PEOPLE:** "We have left undone the things we should have done."

**LEADER:** We sometimes complain as the Israelites did in the wilderness: "We were better off in Egypt." And we cry in 1995, "Were we not better off before "integration?"

**PEOPLE:** "We have thought, said and done the things we should not have done."

**LEADER:** It is written: "Without a vision a people perishes."

**ALL:** "On this 110th Anniversary, Eternal God, May your Spirit put your law in our minds and write it on our hearts that you will be our GOD and we will be your people."



## A LITANY FOR REACHING

**LEADER:** Father God, help us to faithfully obey your WORD to "launch out into the deep." Enable us to expand our ministries to the disadvantaged, homeless, hungry, abused, confused, lonely and disinherited.

**PEOPLE:** "Let Thy will be done in us, heavenly Father."

**LEADER:** Teach us to love all people without calculating the cost or expecting a return. Just as Jesus our Lord came not to be served but to serve and to give His life a ransom for many, make us always ready to be servants of all.

**PEOPLE:** "Not our will but Thy will be done, Eternal God."

**LEADER:** It is written: "Without a vision a people perishes."

**ALL:** "As we celebrate the 110th Anniversary of St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church and as we prepare for the twenty-first century, empower us with your Holy Spirit to forget self and win others to Christ."

# St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church

Huntsville, Alabama

## 117<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

*Theme: "Recommitment to Praise and Serve the Lord"*



### *Guest Preacher*

*Reverend Dr. Anderson Todd, Jr., Retired General Officer A.M.E. Church*

*Sunday, April 28, 2002*

*10:00 A. M.*

*Rt. Reverend J. Larry Kirkland, Presiding Bishop*

*Ninth Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church*

*Reverend Dr. E. L. Blankenship, Presiding Elder*

*Reverend Dr. H. L. McCall, Senior Pastor*

*A Liberating and Reconciling People*  
*~A People in the Word-Serving People in the World~*  
*Fifth Sunday After Easter*  
**117<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Order of Worship**

*Meditate: "Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples. For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.*  
*Psalm 117<sup>th</sup>*

Prelude.....Mr. Rufus Gilmore, III, Director of Music  
 Mr. Talbert Cox, Percussionist  
 Acolytes.....Elany Washington & Christina Sanders

~Enter and Worship. Depart and Serve~

**Prayer and Praise Service**

Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all Creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Call to Worship.....Rev. Claudewell Campbell

Minister: I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within Thy gates, O Jerusalem.

People: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Ministers: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

People: They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.

Minister: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.

People: But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Minister: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

People: O sing unto the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises!

Hymn of Praise....."Great is Thy Faithfulness" (84) ~ Choir/Congregation

Prayer of Confession.....Mr. Otha Owens, Sr.

Scripture: Old Testament ~ Joshua 24: 14-22 .....Mrs. Beverly Hill

Epistle ~ I John 3: 1-8 .....Ms. Yvette Cooper

New Testament ~ John 14 1-14 .....Mrs. Clarence Cooper

Decalogue.....Mr. Carlos Clark

From all that dwell below the skies      Let the Redeemer's name be sung  
 Let the Creator's Praise arise.      Through every land by every tongue.

Welcome and Occasion.....Dr. Jeanette Jones

\*Music.....Male Chorus

Announcement & Guest Recognition .....Col. (Ret.) James O. Heyward

Anniversary Litany.....Reverend Dr. James R. Johnson

**Pastor's Moments**

The Giving of Tithes Offerings:      Offertory Music

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We give Thee but thine own      All that we have is thine alone  
 What e'er the gift may be:      A trust, O Lord from Thee. Amen

Introduction of the Preacher .....Pastor H. L. McCall

Hymn of Preparation ... "We Are Often Tossed and Driven" (394)..... Choir/Congregation

\*Music .....Male Chorus

SERMON ..... *Reverend Dr. Anderson Todd, Jr.*  
*Retired General Officer AME Church*

Hymn of Invitation.... "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" (358)....Choir/Congregation

Closing Remarks...Mr. William Hammond Chairman, Senior Pastor and Dr. Todd

Closing Hymn..... "We Praise Thee, O God" (97)..... Choir/Congregation

Recessional

The Apostles' Creed

Doxology

Benediction

\* The Asterisk Indicates When People May Enter To Worship

## *The One Hundred Seventeenth Church Anniversary Litany*

\* \* \*

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PEOPLE: "For Thou, LORD are high above all the earth; Thou are exalted far above all gods. Ye that love the LORD hate evil; He preserveth the souls of His saints; He delivereth them out of the hands of the wicked."

LEADER: Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church assigned to superintend the District since 1885 and Bishop H. M. Turner, Bishop Henry B. Parks, Bishop William A. Fountain, Bishop Robert A. Grant, Bishop David H. Sims, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop Sherman H. Greene, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Bishop Frank, M. Reid, Jr., Bishop Cornelius Egbert Thomas, Bishop Zedekiah L. Grady, and since March 20, 2002 we have been blessed with Spirit filled, evangelical leadership of the Right Reverend T. Larry Kirkland, the 114<sup>th</sup> elected and consecrated Bishop of the A. M. E. Church.

PEOPLE: "Light is shown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart."

LEADER: We sincerely appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and the many outstanding men, women and youth of this church who have labored so faithfully, served so sacrificially, and who have died so nobly that the legacies of Richard Allen and William Hooper Council shall not perish from this earth.

PEOPLE: "Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of His Holiness."

LEADER: To God be the glory.

PEOPLE: "AMEN"

## Announcements



**Church School** convenes each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. after the Early Morning Worship plan to attend with your family.  
---Mr. Willie Sandifer, Superintendent



**Prayer Service and Bible Class** will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. Chapters 39-41 of Genesis will be the topic for discussion. The Senior Pastor and Ministers will lead the devotional period and the Bible Study. Everyone is urged to attend.



The flowers in the Sanctuary are donated by Ms. Agnes Bailey in Honor of her Son Marcus Birthday.

All women are asked to meet at the church Tuesday, April 30, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. Thank you very much.

The 127<sup>th</sup> Founder's Day of Alabama A&M University will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 4, 2002 at the EHSB. In 1875 and 1885, the Reverend Doctor William Hooper Council led in the founding of AAMU and St. John AME Church respectively. Let's join together in spirit-filled prayer and invite the community to celebrate the legacy of Dr. William Hooper Council. Mr. Odysseus Lanier of Houston Texas and an Alumnus of AAMU will be the guest speaker.

Please note that our next service at Limestone Facility is Monday, April 29, 2002. We will assemble at LCF at 6:30 p.m and enter together for the service at 7:00-8:30 p.m.



Where There Is No Vision A People Perishes" - Ask God to help you make your TITHING Commitment to Him today. You may place your TITHES and OFFERINGS in the TITHES Container and your PRAYER REQUESTS in the Prayer Container that are located in the front of the sanctuary near the piano and organ.

The 133<sup>rd</sup> Church Anniversary of Indian Creek P.B. Church will be Sunday, May 26, 2002. St. John A.M.E. Church family has been invited to lead in this service. Pastor McCall will preach; the Male Chorus will sing; the Sr. ushers will serve. All ministers, officers and members are asked to attend. Rev. Timothy Rainey is pastor.



**JOIN NOW! PRAISE HIM IN SONG** - The choir of St. John want you, your children, youth and young adults to join in praising God in song. You join up by simply showing up at any of the rehearsals listed below:

|                                                 |                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Children-Youth .....                            | Saturdays after the 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Sundays @ 3 p.m. |
| Gospel Choir .....                              | Last Monday of each month and Thursday after the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 6 P.M.         |
| Male Chorus .....                               | Each Friday except Friday after 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 6 p.m.                          |
| Sanctuary Choir .....                           | Each Thursday except Thursday after the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday                           |
| (Rehearsal Time Subject to Change Periodically) |                                                                                          |



Donors are needed for the Food Source Program. Please contact Rev. or the less fortunate. The cost of each standard unit is \$21.00 and the Family unit is \$37.00. Claudewell Campbell (852-7103) if you plan to donate or purchase unit(s) for yourself.

March for Jesus T-Shirts (It's all about Jesus) are now available. They are \$12.00 per shirt. Please see Mrs. Nedra McDaniel (721-0022) for details or call the church office at 534-3263.

## Sick and Shut In

|                   |                            |          |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Mrs. Mamie Bonner | Edenbrook of Huntsville    | 536-8497 |
|                   | 4801 Whitesport Circle, SW |          |
|                   | Huntsville, Alabama 358101 |          |

|                        |                           |          |
|------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Mrs. Bonita B. Elliott | 3313 East Tucker Drive    | 851-6458 |
|                        | Huntsville, Alabama 35810 |          |

|                     |                           |  |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Mrs. Susie Hammonds | 119 Whitney Avenue        |  |
|                     | Huntsville, Alabama 35811 |  |

|                      |                     |          |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Mrs. Mary A. Johnson | 404 Davryl Avenue   | 539-7216 |
|                      | Huntsville, Alabama |          |

|                    |                           |          |
|--------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Mrs. Resie Russell | 2903 Alaska Avenue        | 536-6841 |
|                    | Huntsville, Alabama 35816 |          |



Sick and shut-in members can receive a taped recording of any worship service upon request. Call the church office or contact Rev. McCall, Mrs. McCall or a Steward.

534-3265 (Office)

Pastor McCall's Contact Numbers

852-7541 (Home)

707-1570 (Pager)

## April 2002 Birthdays

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 01) Sean Myhand         | (17) Tonya McCree      |
| 02) Lee E. Williams, 11 | (18) Dana Johnson      |
| 03) Nedra L. McDaniel   | (19) Vanona I. Walton  |
| 05) Phoebe R. Browser   | (19) Niki Rankin       |
| 05) Barbara Etheridge   | (20) Mattie Davis      |
| 06) Nathaniel Brownlow  | (21) Adrina Sconiers   |
| 06) Carolyn Russ        | (22) Kendall Jones     |
| 07) Gwendolyn Baldwin   | (24) Lou V. Clark      |
| 08) Brandon Moore       | (25) Rose M. Bell      |
| 08) Ladon Moore         | (27) Marcus Bailey     |
| 10) Vivian Humphrey     | (27) Sharon Butler     |
| 15) Ronald Robinson, 11 | (27) Dorothy O'Quinn   |
| 16) A. A. Burks, Sr.    | (28) Sharon Lott       |
| 16) Kianah Israel       | (29) Laurretta Teague  |
|                         | (30) Charles L. Slaton |

## Anniversaries

- (09) Everett & Charlsie Brooks  
 (20) Theodore & Omega Tysom 111  
 (26) Kenneth & Lorraine Parham

*Have A Blessed Happy Birthday and Anniversary!!!*

*leave any corrections and/or additions to the above list in the Secretary's box in the church office*

## Listening to the Sermon



Listen to the message from God's Word. Use this sheet to make some personal notes. Go back over them during the week. Let God crystalize His Truths in your life.

Minister: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sermon Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Biblical Text: \_\_\_\_\_

Main ideas from the sermon:

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Illustration(s) I want to remember:

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What I should do as a result of hearing this sermon:

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## April 2002 Birthdays

|       |                 |       |                 |
|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|
| 11/11 | James McLeod    | 11/11 | James McLeod    |
| 11/12 | John C. McLeod  | 11/12 | John C. McLeod  |
| 11/13 | John L. McLeod  | 11/13 | John L. McLeod  |
| 11/14 | James B. McLeod | 11/14 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/15 | James B. McLeod | 11/15 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/16 | James B. McLeod | 11/16 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/17 | James B. McLeod | 11/17 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/18 | James B. McLeod | 11/18 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/19 | James B. McLeod | 11/19 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/20 | James B. McLeod | 11/20 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/21 | James B. McLeod | 11/21 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/22 | James B. McLeod | 11/22 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/23 | James B. McLeod | 11/23 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/24 | James B. McLeod | 11/24 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/25 | James B. McLeod | 11/25 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/26 | James B. McLeod | 11/26 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/27 | James B. McLeod | 11/27 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/28 | James B. McLeod | 11/28 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/29 | James B. McLeod | 11/29 | James B. McLeod |
| 11/30 | James B. McLeod | 11/30 | James B. McLeod |

## Invitation to Christian Discipleship

| April 28, 2002                                                                            | Stewardesses        | May 5, 2002                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mrs. Regina Pippen<br>Mrs. Willie Heyward                                                 | 10:00               |                                                                         |
| Mr. Willie Sandifer<br>Dr. Jeanette Jones                                                 | Stewards            | Mr. William C. Bell, Sr.<br>Mr. Everett E. Brooks, Sr.                  |
| Mrs. Vanona Walton<br>Mrs. Martha Smith<br>Mr. Otha Owens, Sr.<br>Dr. John T. Gibson, Sr. | ~Finance Committee~ | Ms. Patricia Grier<br>Dr. James I. Dawson<br>Mr. Everett E. Brooks, Sr. |

## Prayer for the Week

*Our Father, fill us with your Holy Spirit so that our praise to You will be pure and our service to others will be selfless through Jesus Christ our Savior and LORD. Amen*

## Thought for the Week

*"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD." Psalm 150:6*

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead, He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

*~ Jesus Saves ~*

*Home Daily Bible Reading ~ April 29 - May 5, 2002*

*Stay In The Word*

|                               |                                      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Monday.....1 John 2: 1-6      | Thursday.....1 Corinthians 10: 23-32 |
| Tuesday.....1 John 2: 7-17    | Friday.....Galatians 1: 1-5          |
| Wednesday.....1 Corinthians 8 | Saturday .....Galatians 1: 11-24     |
| Sunday.....Galatians 2: 15-21 |                                      |

*"It Takes a Whole Community to Educate One Child"*

*Boards & Organizational Meeting*

Sunday ~ April 28, 2002

Finance Committee ..... After Service

Food Source Committee ..... After Service

Monday ~ April 29, 2002

Service at Limestone Correctional Facility 7:00-8:30 P.M. (Please assemble at 6:30 p.m. at LCF)..... 6:30PM

Wednesday ~ May 1, 2002

Mid-Week Prayer Service & Bible Study ..... 6:30 PM

Thursday ~ May 2, 2002

Prayer-Time ..... 12 Noon

Sanctuary Choir ..... 6:00 PM

Friday ~ May 3, 2002

Male Chorus ..... 6:00 PM

Saturday ~ May 4, 2002

Finance Committee. .... 8:30 AM

127<sup>th</sup> Founders Day Celebration Alabama A&M University (EHSB) ..... 9:00 AM

*Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church Vision/Mission Statement*

*Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church strives to set a Christian standard within the Huntsville-Madison county area, the Nation and the World through its commitment to the Proclamation and study of the Word, Worship, Stewardship, Missions, and Evangelism. We are called to be a people in the Word, serving people in the World by meeting the total needs of our members and people from all walks of life, regardless of age, gender, national origin, or economic background.*

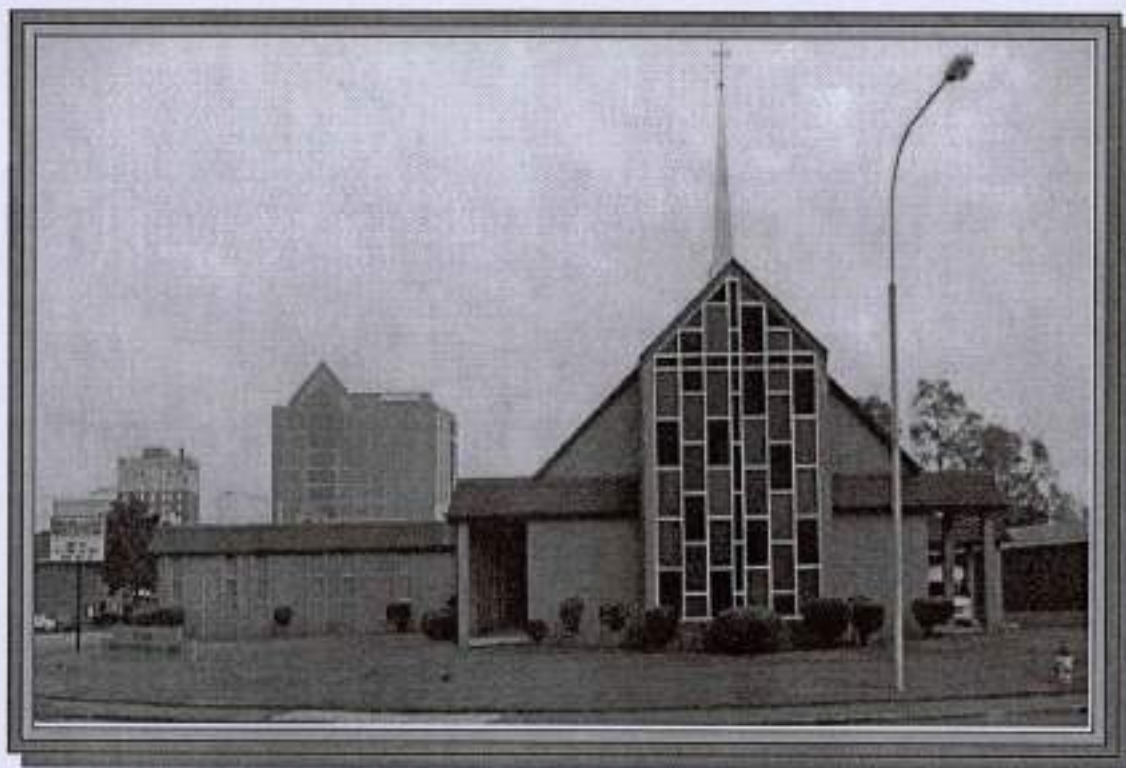
Visit Our Web Site at: <http://members.aol.com/stjohnameh/stjohn.html>

E-mail Address: [stjohnameh@aol.com](mailto:stjohnameh@aol.com)

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church  
Huntsville, Alabama

122<sup>nd</sup> Church Anniversary Celebration  
Sunday, March 25, 2007

*Theme: Reflecting God's Love*  
*Ephesians 5*



*The Right Reverend T. Larry Kirkland, Presiding Bishop*  
*Reverend Dwight C. Dillard, Presiding Elder*  
*Reverend Dr. W. L. McCall, Senior Pastor*



Bishop Theodore L. Kirkland, Sr.  
*Presiding Prelate*  
*Ninth Episcopal District AME Church*

Bishop T. Larry Kirkland was elected and consecrated the one hundred and fourteenth Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Louisville, Kentucky in 1996. He was assigned to the Seventeenth Episcopal District encompassing the countries of Zaire, Zambia, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Malawi and Zimbabwe. During the General Conference 2000, Bishop Kirkland was assigned to serve as Ecumenical Officer. In 2001, he served as the President of the Council of Bishops and in 2002 was assigned to serve the Ninth Episcopal District (Alabama), his birth state. This gave him the distinct pleasure of serving two offices at once. He was reassigned to the "Notable Anointed Ninth" District in 2004.

Prior to being elevated to the Episcopacy, Bishop Kirkland was the pastor of Brookins Community AME Church in Los Angeles, California. The Los Angeles Community of AME ministers dubbed him "The Down Home Preacher" as an insult to his southern roots and style of worship. Taking this insult as a challenge, the Bishop began to distinguish himself as a pastor and grew the mission church of twelve members (including his family of five), into a congregation of more than eight thousand. Rev. T. Larry Kirkland helped establish the AME presence in the large metropolis with southern-style teaching, preaching and singing and was dubbed by the community "The Down Home Preacher with the Uptown Message."

Bishop Kirkland received his early education in the Jefferson County Public Schools of Birmingham, Alabama. His preparation for ministry began under the tutelage of his father Rev. H.E. Kirkland (an AME minister), and from getting his feet wet by pastoring several small churches in the Eighth Episcopal District (Mississippi). He received a B.A. degree in Sociology from Alcorn State University where he was an All-American Football player and a Master's degree from Mississippi State University. Bishop Kirkland continued to develop his ministry through further study at the School of Theology at Claremont in Claremont, CA.

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Bishop Kirkland is married to Mrs. Mary L. Kirkland and is the proud father of three adult children and one grandchild.

A Liberating and Reconciling People  
 A People in the **WORD** Serving People in the **WORLD**  
 March 25, 2007  
 Fifth Sunday in Lent  
 122<sup>nd</sup> Church Anniversary

Meditate "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us," Ephesians 5:1-2a

Prelude ..... Mr. Rufus Gilmore, Director of Music

Prelude ..... Mrs. Antoinette Wilson, Musician, Mr. Cleveland Wilson, Director  
 Mr. Talbert Cox Percussionist

Acolytes ..... Wallace Parham & Daisha Rembert

*Enter and Worship & Depart and Serve*

*The Worship of God in Dance ~ St. John Youth Praise Dancers.*

Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Call to Worship

Minister: I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within Thy gates, O Jerusalem.

People: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Minister: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

People: They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.

Minister: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.

People: But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Minister: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

People: O sing, unto the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! Make a Joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth sing praises!

## *Litany*

### The 122<sup>nd</sup> Church Anniversary

*Leader: Dr. William Hooper Council was born in Fayetteville, N.C., in 1848, and brought to Alabama by the traders in 1857, through the Richmond Slave Pen. He was a self-made man, having had only few school advantages. He attended one of the first schools opened by kind Northern friends at Stevenson, Alabama in 1865.*

*People: "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."*

*Leader: By private instruction and almost incessant study, Dr. Council gained a fair knowledge of some of the languages, higher mathematics and the sciences.*

*People: "In my anguish I cried to the LORD, and he answered by setting me free."*

*Leader: But he never left the profession of teaching for a day. Normal was founded by him in 1875. He occupied high positions in church and other religious, temperance and charitable organizations, and was an exceptional preacher and public speaker. Rev. Dr. Council traveled abroad in Great Britain and on continental Europe. He was received by William E. Gladstone, His Majesty, King Leopold, and other great personages.*

*People: "It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes."*

*Leader: The Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1885 with the aid of Dr. William Hooper Council, the founder of Alabama A&M University. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Street, and Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A. M. E. Church.*

*People: "The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation."*

*Leader: In 1900 the first church building was erected on Church Street, adjacent to the old church, which stood until 1971. Twenty years after completion of the building, the mortgage on the first church was burned in 1920 under the leadership of Reverend Patterson.*

*People: "Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD."*

*Leader: Ministers serving Saint John A. M. E. Church besides Dr. Council and Reverend Patterson included Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Fox, Hereford, and our present pastor Dr. Homer L. McCall.*

*People: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD."*

## *Litany ~ Continued*

*Leader: Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church assigned to superintend the District since 1885 are Bishop H. M. Turner, Bishop Henry B. Parks, Bishop William A. Fountain, Bishop Robert A. Grant, Bishop David H. Sims, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop Sherman H. Greene, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Bishop Frank M. Reid, Jr., Bishop Cornelius Egbert Thomas, Bishop Zedekiah L. Grady, and since March 20, 2002 we have been blessed with the Spirit-filled, evangelical leadership of the Right Reverend T. Larry Kirkland, the 114<sup>th</sup> elected and consecrated Bishop of the A. M. E. Church.*

*People: "The stone the builders rejected has become - The Chief Cornerstone."*

*Leader: We sincerely appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and the many outstanding men, women, and youth of this church who have labored so faithfully, served so sacrificially, and who have died so nobly that the legacies of Richard Allen and William Hooper Council shall not perish from this earth.*

*People: "This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."*

*Leader: To God be the glory.*

*People: AMEN*

*Response taken from Psalm 118*



## Order of Worship

Hymn of Praise ..... (#5) "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" ..... Choir/Congregation

Prayer of Confession ..... *(I KNOW I HAVE BEEN CHURCH)* ..... Mr. Otha Owens, Sr.  
*(THANK YOU, LORD) - Choral Response*

Scripture & Old Testament Isaiah 43: 16-21 ..... Mrs. Pearlean Myhand  
 Epistle Philippians 3: 8-14 ..... Mrs. Carol Ball  
 Gospel John 8: 1-11 ..... Mrs. Gwendolyn Baldwin

Decalogue ..... (#797) Contemporary ..... Mrs. Nedra L. McDaniel  
*From all that dwell below the skies Let the Redeemer's name be sung.*  
*Let the Creator's praise arise: Through every land, by every tongue.*

Welcome and Occasion ..... Mrs. Lauretta Teague  
 Anniversary Litany ..... Mrs. Vicki Cox  
 ★Music ..... *you brought me from a mighty long way* ..... Gospel Choir  
 Announcement & Guest Recognition ..... Col. (Ret.) James O. Heyward  
 Pastor's moments ..... *Rev. H. L. McCall*

*Renewal of Marriage Vows and Birthday Prayer*

*The giving of Tithes & Offerings ~ Offertory Music - Praise Him!*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving - Rev. M. Garrett*

*We give Thee but thine own All that we have is Thine alone*  
*What e'er the gift may be A trust, O Lord from Thee. Amen.*

Introduction of the Preacher ..... Pastor McCall

Hymn of Preparation ..... (#364) "My Hope Is Built" ..... Choir/Congregation

★Music ..... *No Greater Love* ..... Gospel Choir

Sermon ..... Bishop T. Larry Kirkland  
 Presiding Prelate 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District A. M. E. Church

Hymn of Invitation ..... "We Offer Christ" ..... Choir/Congregation

Closing remarks ..... Bishop Kirkland

Closing Hymn ..... (#400) "Tis the Promise of God" ..... Choir/Congregation

Recessional ..... The Apostles' Creed ..... Doxology ..... Benediction

*\*The Asterisk Indicates When People May Enter To Worship*



## Announcements



Church School Convenes each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. after the Early Morning Worship. Make plans to attend with your family  
 Mr. Willie Sandifer, Superintendent



Prayer Service, Bible Class and Love Feast will be held Wednesday, March 28, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. Selected passages on LOVE Will be the topic for discussion. Everyone is encouraged to attend.



The flowers in the Sanctuary are donated by Mrs. Martha Smith ~ IN LOVING MEMORY OF HER PARENTS AND sister, Mrs. Leona Townsend.



*Sunday - April 8, 2007*

|                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Sunrise Service               | 6:00 AM  |
| Breakfast                     | 7:30 AM  |
| Church School                 | 8:45 AM  |
| Children/Youth Easter Program | 9:45 AM  |
| Morning Worship               | 10:50 AM |

Support the American Heart Association by participating in the 2007 Heart Walk on Saturday, March 31, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. at the Botanical Garden. The church bus will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. Anyone that would like to participate, please be on TIME!

The South Birmingham-Huntsville District Conference will be held April 13, 2007 at Livingston Chapel A. M. E. Church, Guntersville, AL, Reverend William Slade, Pastor.

The Y. P. D. will be volunteering at the 2007 Panaply Arts Festival on Saturday, April 28, 2007. The shift will be 12:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Children's Area. We will meet at the church at 12:00 Noon and walk to Big Spring Park. Those members wishing to volunteer, please call Mrs. Cheryl Anderson at 858-8646 by April 1, 2007 so that coordination of shifts can be made with the Panaply staff.

*Serving the City Together as One!* St. John is asking for your support as we unite with churches within the city of Huntsville to serve Searcy Homes and other communities through our volunteer efforts on April 21, 2007. For more information please call Tommy Anderson at 858-8646.



"Where there is no vision a people perishes." Ask God to help you make your TITHING commitment to Him today. You may place TITHES and OFFERINGS in the TITHES CONTAINER and your PRAYER requests in the PRAYER CONTAINER that are located in the front of the Sanctuary near the piano and organ.



JOIN NOW! PRAISE HIM IN SONG ~ The choirs of St. John want you, your children, youth and young adults to join in praising God in song. You join up by simply showing up at any of the rehearsals listed below.

|                             |                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Children/Youth/Young Adults | Wednesday after the 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday @ 6:00 PM            |
| Gospel Choir                | Last Monday of each month and Thursday after the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 6:00 PM |
| Male Chorus                 | Each Friday except Friday after the 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 6:00 PM              |
| Sanctuary Choir             | Each Thursday except Thursday after the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 6:00 PM          |

*Rehearsal Time Subject to Change Periodically*

# Sick & Shut-In

|                           |                                                                                         |       |          |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Mr. Jason Brown           | 138 Champions Green Drive<br>Madison, Alabama                                           | 35758 | 837-7082 |
| Mrs. Anita Burns          | Parkview Health Care Center<br>2004 Max Luther Drive<br>Room 152<br>Huntsville, Alabama | 35810 | 859-7786 |
| Mrs. Mae Dawson           | 615 East Brook Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                             | 35810 | 852-6458 |
| Mrs. Bonita B. Elliott    | 3313 East Tucker Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                           | 35810 | 851-6458 |
| Mrs. Evelyn Hildreth      | 3810 Sparkman Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                              | 35810 | 859-3195 |
| Mrs. Mary A. Johnson      | 404 Darryl Avenue<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                                | 35801 | 539-7216 |
| Mr. Ernest Jones          | 5044 Grizzard Road<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                               | 35810 | 852-7246 |
| Mrs. Christine McMillan   | 100 Glenhaven Circle<br>Harvest, Alabama                                                |       | 479-4343 |
| Mrs. Christine Meriwether | Huntsville Hospital<br>Room 734                                                         |       | 265-8734 |
| Mr. Carver Myhand         | 3922 Timbercrest Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                           | 35810 | 852-8265 |
| Ms. Doris Outlaw          | 2014 Chalet Lane<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                                 | 35810 | 539-4792 |



Sick & Shut-In members can receive a taped recording of any worship service upon request. Call the Church Office or contact Rev. McCall, Mrs. McCall, or a Steward.

Pastor McCall's Contact Numbers  
534-3265 (Office)  
707-1570 (Pager)

## Birthdays of the Month

|                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Ronald Lockett, Jr.    | 19 Barbara Leonard      |
| 2 Raymond Nomel          | 21 Rosa Walker          |
| 3 Yvette Cooper-Clark    | 23 Arthur Sconiers      |
| 4 Tianna Brown           | 23 Laura Sherrod        |
| 4 Antonio Brown, II      | 24 Larry Davis          |
| 4 Alejandra D. Sutton    | 24 Jerard Gibson        |
| 6 Lydia Ash Owens        | 24 Kevin Anderson       |
| 10 Jabbar Daniel Haygood | 24 Andrea Gregory       |
| 11 Mariah Gullatte       | 26 Ronald McIntosh, Sr. |
| 12 Marie Sanchez         | 28 Lynn Sherrod         |
| 17 Charique Richardson   | 29 Myles J. Terry       |
| 18 Lorene Jones          | 31 Kenneth Parham       |
| 18 Talesa Cox            |                         |

## Celebrating an Anniversary this Month

12 Lenel & Vanona Walton  
22 Terry & Cora Speight  
Wilie & Lou Clark (52<sup>nd</sup> Anniv)

Have a Blessed Happy Birthday and Anniversary!!  
Please leave any corrections and/or additions to the above list in the Secretary's box in the church office.

# Listening to the Sermon

Listen to the message from God's Word. Use this sheet to make some personal notes. Go back over them during the week. Let God crystallize His Truth in your life.

Minister Bishop T. Larry Kirkland

Date 25 March 2007

Biblical Text I Thess 1:1-8

Sermon Title 'The Kind of Church God Wants'

Main ideas from the sermon: Key Points: The Kind of Church God Wants is:

- (1) Elected by God - (v4)  
and  
saved by God - accepts Christ as Saviour
- (2) EXAMPLES OF Christ (Christ-like) - (vs 5-7) - Exemplary  
walk right
- (3) Enthusiastic about Christ (v8)

Illustration(s) I want to remember: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sam B. - Surgery on 3/26 Tracy - Baby son - OUTREACH -  
Nikka Rankin - Baby Girl (early March)  
What I should do as a result of hearing this sermon: Serving The City As ONE - April 31<sup>st</sup>

ST. JOHN'S  
SONS OF ALLEN + COMPUTER  
MINISTRY  
see Tommy Anderson  
858-8646  
FOR DETAILS!

- + Church Board Mtg: 3/27 @ 6:30 pm
- + Call/email Tommy Anderson @ 4/21
- + Sign + Send Easter cards TO Erin
- + Complete Bulletin Board changes

## Invitation to Christian Discipleship

March 25, 2007

Stewardesses

April 1, 2007

10:00 A. M.

Mrs. Clementine Pearson

Mrs. Geneva Fontenot

Mr. Eddie Sherrod

Dr. Clifton Pearson

Stewards

Mrs. Vanona Walton

Mr. Otha Owens

Mr. Rufus Gilmore

Mr. William Bell

Mr. Ronald McIntosh

Mr. Jerry Baldwin

Finance Committee

Mr. Rufus Gilmore

Mr. William Bell

Mr. Ronald McIntosh

Mr. Jerry Baldwin

### Prayer of the Week

Our Father, teach and help us to pray unceasingly in the Spirit and to love one another as Christ loves us all. In His Name. Amen.

### Thought for the Week

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

# Jesus Saves

## *Home Daily Bible Reading March 26 - April 1, 2007*

|                 |                         |                |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Monday .....    | I Peter 2: 4-10         | Thursday ..... | Psalms 118: 21-28 |
| Tuesday .....   | Hebrews 3: 1-6          | Friday .....   | Luke 19: 28-34    |
| Wednesday ..... | Matthew 21: 14-17       | Saturday ..... | Luke 19: 35-40    |
|                 | Sunday Revelation ..... |                | 1:1-18            |

*"It Takes a Whole Community to Educate One Child"*

## ***Boards & Organizational Meeting***

### *Sunday ~ March 25, 2007*

Finance Committee ..... After Service

### *Wednesday ~ March 28, 2007*

Prayer Service, Bible Study and Love Feast ..... 6:30 PM

### *Thursday ~ March 29, 2007*

Noon Prayer ..... 12 Noon

Sanctuary Choir ..... 6:00 PM

### *Saturday ~ March 31, 2007*

Finance Committee ..... 8:30 AM

### *Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church Vision / Mission Statement*

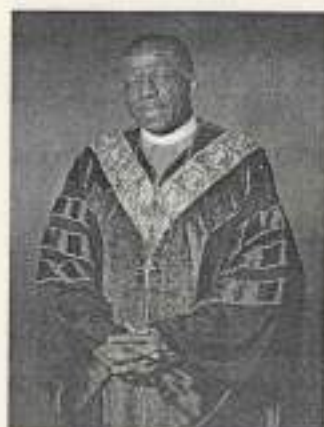
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*St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church*  
*Huntsville, Alabama*  
*123<sup>rd</sup> Church Anniversary Celebration*  
*Sunday, March 30, 2008*

*Theme: Victory In Christ*  
*I Corinthians 15: 57*



*The Right Reverend T. Larry Kirkland, Presiding Bishop*  
*Reverend Dwight E. Dillard, Presiding, Elder*  
*Reverend Dr. H. L. McCall, Senior Pastor*



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**A Liberating and Reconciling People**  
**A People in the WORD Serving People in the WORLD**  
**March 30, 2008**  
**Second Sunday of Easter ~ 10:00 A. M.**  
**123<sup>rd</sup> Church Anniversary**

*Meditate: Jesus said to him.... "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."*  
*John 20: 29*

*Prelude ..... Mr. Rufus Gilmore, Director of Music*

*Prelude ..... Mrs. Antoinette Wilson, Musician, Mr. Cleveland Wilson, Director*  
*Mr. Talbert Cox Percussionist*

*Acolytes ..... Talese Cox & Taylor Cox*

**Enter and Worship † Depart and Serve**

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD IN DANCE ~ ST. JOHN YOUTH PRAISE DANCERS .**

*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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*Minister: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.*

*People: They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.*

*Minister: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.*

*People: But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.*

*Minister: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.*

*People: O sing, unto the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! Make a Joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth sing praises!*

*The Decalogue  
(Contemporary)*

*Leader: Hear the commandments of God to His people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.*

*People: Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Leader: You shall not make for yourself any idol.*

*People: Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Leader: You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.*

*People: Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Leader: Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.*

*People: Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Leader: Honor your father and your mother.*

*People: Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Leader: You shall not commit murder.*

*People: Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Leader: You shall not commit adultery.*

*People: Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Leader: You shall not steal.*

*People: Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Leader: You shall not be a false witness.*

*People: Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Leader: You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.*

*People: Amen. Lord have mercy.*

**SUMMARY**

*Leader: And He said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.*

**GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.*



**Order of Worship**

*Hymn of Praise ..... Victory in Jesus ..... Choir/Congregation*  
*Prayer of Confession ..... Mr. Otha Owens, Sr.*  
*Choral Response*

*Scripture † Acts 2: 42-47 ..... Mrs. Bettina Moore*  
*I Peter 1: 3-9 ..... Mr. Gerald Moore*  
*John 20: 19-31 ..... Mrs. Charlotte Brisker*

*Decalogue ... (#797) ... Contemporary ..... Dr. Rena Lott*  
*Welcome and Occasion ..... Mrs. Rosa R. Walker*  
*Anniversary Litany ..... Mrs. Vicki Cox*  
*\*Music ..... THERE IS A BRIGHT SIDE SOMEWHERE! ..... Gospel Choir*  
*Announcements and Guest Recognition ..... Mr. Darryl Floyd*  
*Music ..... Trumpet Solo ..... Mr. Peter Lott*  
*Accompanied by Mr. Rufus Gilmore, III*

*Remarks ..... Mrs. Gwendolyn Baldwin*  
*Chairperson, 123<sup>rd</sup> Church Anniversary*

**Pastor's Moments**

*Renewal of Marriage Vows & Birthday Prayer*



*The giving of TITHES & OFFERINGS Offertory Music*  
*We give Thee but thine own All that we have is Thine alone*  
*What e'er the gift may be A trust, O Lord from Thee. Amen.*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving - Rev. James R. Johnson*

*Introduction of the Bishop ..... Pastor McCall*  
*Hymn of Preparation ..... (# 84) "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" ..... Choir/Congregation*

*\*Music ..... Jesus Promised - He'll Take Care of Me ..... Gospel Choir*

*Sermon ..... Bishop T. Larry Kirkland*  
*Presiding Prelate 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District A. M. E. Church*

**Invitation to Christian Discipleship**

*Hymn of Invitation ..... "We Offer Christ" ..... Choir/Congregation*

*Closing Remarks ..... Bishop Kirkland*

*Closing Hymn ..... "Victory Is Mine" ..... Choir/Congregation*

*Benediction ..... Bishop Kirkland*

*Recessional ..... The Apostles' Creed ..... Doxology ..... Benediction*

**\*The Asterisk Indicates When People May Enter To Worship**

## Litany The 123<sup>rd</sup> Church Anniversary

- Leader:** *Dr. William Hooper Council was born in Fayetteville, N.C., in 1848, and brought to Alabama by the traders in 1857, through the Richmond Slave Pen. He was a self-made man, having had only few school advantages. He attended one of the first schools opened by kind Northern friends at Stevenson, Alabama in 1865.*
- People:** "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."
- Leader:** *By private instruction and almost incessant study, Dr. Council gained a fair knowledge of some of the languages, higher mathematics and the sciences.*
- People:** "In my anguish I cried to the LORD, and he answered by setting me free."
- Leader:** *But he never left the profession of teaching for a day. Normal was founded by him in 1875. He occupied high positions in church and other religious, temperance and charitable organizations, and was an exceptional preacher and public speaker. Rev. Dr. Council traveled abroad in Great Britain and on continental Europe. He was received by William E. Gladstone, His Majesty, King Leopold, and other great personages.*
- People:** "It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes."
- Leader:** *The Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1885 with the aid of Dr. William Hooper Council, the founder of Alabama A&M University. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Street, and Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A. M. E. Church.*
- People:** "The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation."
- Leader:** *In 1900 the first church building was erected on Church Street, adjacent to the old church which stood until 1971. Twenty years after completion of the building, the mortgage on the first church was burned in 1920 under the leadership of Reverend Patterson.*
- People:** "Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD."
- Leader:** *Ministers serving Saint John A. M. E. Church besides Dr. Council and Reverend Patterson, included Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, and our present pastor Dr. Homer L. McCall.*
- People:** "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD."

## Litany ~ Continued

- Leader:** *Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church assigned to superintend the District since 1885 are Bishop H. M. Turner, Bishop Henry B. Parks, Bishop William A. Fountain, Bishop Robert A. Grant, Bishop David H. Sims, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop Sherman H. Greene, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Bishop Frank M. Reid, Jr., Bishop Cornelius Egbert Thomas, Bishop Zedekiah L. Grady, and since March 20, 2002 we have been blessed with the Spirit-filled, evangelical leadership of the Right Reverend T. Larry Kirkland, the 114<sup>th</sup> elected and consecrated Bishop of the A. M. E. Church.*
- People:** "The stone the builders rejected has become - The Chief Cornerstone."
- Leader:** *We sincerely appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and the many outstanding men, women, and youth of this church who have labored so faithfully, served so sacrificially, and who have died so nobly that the legacies of Richard Allen and William Hooper Council shall not perish from this earth.*
- People:** "This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."
- Leader:** To God be the glory.
- People:** AMEN

*Response taken from ~ Psalm 118*

# Listening to the Sermon

## Victory in Jesus

I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory,  
How He gave His life on Calvary to save a wretch like me:  
I heard about His groaning, of His precious blood's atoning,  
Then I repented of my sins and won the victory.

I heard about His healing, of His cleansing pow'r revealing,  
How He made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see;  
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit,"  
And somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory.

I heard about a mansion He has built for me in glory,  
And I heard about the streets of gold beyond the crystal sea;  
A bout the angels singing and the old redemption story,  
And some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of victory.

## (Chorus)

O victory in Jesus, my Savior, for ever! He sought me and  
bought me with His redeeming blood; He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my  
love is due Him He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.

Listen to the message from God's Word. Use this sheet to make some personal notes. Go back over them during the week. Let God crystallize His Truth in your life.

Minister: Bishop T. Larry Kirkland

Date: 30 March 2008

Biblical Text: Acts 11:19-26

Sermon Title: The Church That Refused to Play Church' (Antioch)

Main Ideas from the sermon: Key Points: Antioch did not play church because they:

(1) placed a high priority on winning souls (v19)

(2) insisted on strong spiritual leadership (v22-24)

(3) were faithful to the cause of Christ

Illustration(s) I want to remember:

⊙ persecution makes you stronger!

What I should do as a result of hearing this sermon:

qualifications -  
Godman, full of the Holy Spirit, & of faith



# Announcements

Church School convenes each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. after the Early Morning Worship Service. Make plans to attend with your family.

*Mrs. Willie Sandifer, Superintendent*



Prayer Service, Bible Class & Love Feast will be held Wednesday, April 2, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. Matthew Chapter 26 will be the topic for discussion. Everyone is encouraged to attend.



The flowers in the Sanctuary are donated by Mrs. Martha Smith IN LOVING MEMORY OF HER PARENTS, AND SISTER, Mrs. Leona Townsend.

Don't forget - St. John A. M. E. Church & Church Street CPCA Church will participate in Serving the City Together as One event on Saturday, April 19, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed. Please bring your donation(s) of fruit cups and sodas for the event by April 9, 2008. Thank you for your cooperation and please come out and share in the fun.

Point of contact - *Mr. Tommy Anderson - 541-5436*

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP!! Have you signed up to have your picture taken for the Church's 2008 Pictorial Directory? If you have not, please do so today!!! There are only two days left before the photography sessions begin (April 1-5) and we want so much to have all our members included. You may call Mrs. Paulette Williams at 721-7863 to reserve a time slot.

*Mrs. Paulette Williams, Chairperson*



The Sons of Allen Second Annual Men's Retreat will be held June 20-21, 2008 at Guntersville State Park. Come join us for a weekend of fellowship and fun!! For event details please contact Mr. Michael Clark - 656-5182 or Mr. Theodore Tyson - 653-1980.



"Where there is no vision a people perishes." Ask God to help you make your TITHING commitment to Him today. You may place TITHES and OFFERINGS in the TITHES container and your PRAYER request in the prayer container that are located in the front of the Sanctuary near the piano and organ.



Join now! Praise Him in Song. The choirs of St. John want you, your children, youth and young adults to join praising God in song. You join by simply showing up to any of the rehearsals listed below.

|                                               |                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Children .....                                | 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday @ 11 AM                           |
| Youth/Young Adults .....                      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday @ 11 AM                           |
| Gospel Choir .....                            | Last Monday of each month & Thursday after the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 6 PM |
| Male Chorus .....                             | Each Friday except Friday after the 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 6 PM            |
| Sanctuary Choir .....                         | Each Thursday except Thursday after the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 6 PM        |
| Rehearsal Time Subject to Change Periodically |                                                                              |

## Sick & Shut-In

|                         |                                               |       |          |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Mr. Jason Brown         | 138 Champions Green Drive<br>Madison, Alabama | 35758 | 837-7082 |
| Mr. Everett Brooks, Sr. | 251 Natches Trail<br>Huntsville, Alabama      | 35816 | 830-9102 |
| Mrs. Altonette Burks    | 6020 Carmel Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama      | 35810 | 859-1927 |
| Mrs. Anita Burns        | 2118 Wimberly Road<br>Huntsville, Alabama     | 35816 | 837-2933 |
| Mrs. Mac Dawson         | 615 East Brook Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama   | 35810 | 852-6458 |
| Mrs. Mildred Herclford  | 6108 Trent Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama       | 35810 | 859-2605 |
| Mrs. Irene Hyder        | 4619 Broadmeadow<br>Huntsville, Alabama       | 35810 | 859-9951 |
| Mrs. Evelyn Hildreth    | 3810 Sparkman Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama    | 35810 | 859-3195 |
| Mr. L. C. Jamar         | 6401 Trailwood Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama   | 35811 | 859-0582 |
| Mrs. Mary Johnson       | 404 Darryl Avenue<br>Huntsville, Alabama      | 35801 | 539-7216 |
| Ms. Doris Outlaw        | 2014 Chalet Lane<br>Huntsville, Alabama       | 35810 | 539-4792 |



Sick & Shut-In members can receive a taped recording of any worship service upon request. Call the Church Office or contact Rev. McCall, Mrs. McCall or a Steward.

Pastor McCall's Contact Number  
534-3265 (Office)



# March

## *Birthdays*

|                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Ronald Lockett, Jr.    | 19 Barbara Leonard      |
| 2 Raymond Nomel          | 19 Courtney Smalls      |
| 3 Yvette Cooper Clark    | 21 Rose Walker          |
| 4 Tianna Brown           | 23 Arthur Scomiers      |
| 5 Antonio Brown II       | 23 Laura Sherrod        |
| 6 Lydia Ash Owens        | 24 Shane Bloemeltje     |
| 6 Peter Lott III         | 24 Larry Davis          |
| 10 Jabbar Daniel Haygood | 24 Kevin Anderson       |
| 11 Mariah Gullatte       | 24 Andrea Gregory       |
| 12 Marie Sanchez         | 26 Michael Goggans, Jr. |
| 17 Charique Richardson   | 26 Ronald McIntosh Sr.  |
| 18 Lorene Jones          | 28 Lynn Sherrod         |
| 18 Telese Cox            | 29 Myles J. Terry       |
|                          | 31 Kenneth Parham       |

## *Anniversaries*

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| 12 Lenel & Vanona Walton |
| 22 Terry & Cora Speight  |

Have a Blessed Happy Birthday and Anniversary!!

Please leave any corrections and/or additions to the above list in the Secretary's box in the church office.

## Invitation to Christian Discipleship

| <u>March 30, 2008</u>                                       | <u>Stewardess</u>        | <u>April 6, 2008</u>                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mrs. Pearline Myhand<br>Mrs. Lauretta Teague                |                          |                                                            |
| Dr. Clifton Pearson<br>Mr. Eddie Sherrod                    | <u>Stewards</u>          | Mr. Vanona Walton<br>Mr. Otha Owens                        |
| Dr. Jeanette Jones<br>Mr. Eddie Sherrod<br>Mr. Carol Cooper | <u>Finance Committee</u> | Mr. Rufus Gilmore<br>Mr. William Bell<br>Mr. Jerry Baldwin |

### PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Our Father, thank you for giving us the victory and making us more than conquerors in every test, trial or temptation through trusting in Jesus Christ alone. In His Name. Amen.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."  
1 Corinthians 15: 57

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

## Jesus Saves

Home Daily Bible Reading — March 31 — April 6, 2008

|                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Monday.....Psalm 141: 1-4   | Thursday.....Daniel 1: 8-10   |
| Tuesday.....Daniel 1: 1-2   | Friday.....Daniel 1:11- 14    |
| Wednesday.....Daniel 1: 3-7 | Saturday.....Daniel 1: 15- 17 |
| Sunday Daniel.....1: 18- 21 |                               |

*"It Takes a Whole Community to Educate One Child"*

## Boards & Organizational Meetings

Sunday, March 30, 2008

Finance Committee ..... After Service

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Prayer Service, Bible Class, & Love Feast ..... 6:30 PM

Thursday, April 3, 2008

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ..... 6:00 PM

Friday, April 4, 2008

Male Chorus Rehearsal ..... 6:00 PM

Saturday, April 5, 2008

Finance Committee ..... 8:30 AM

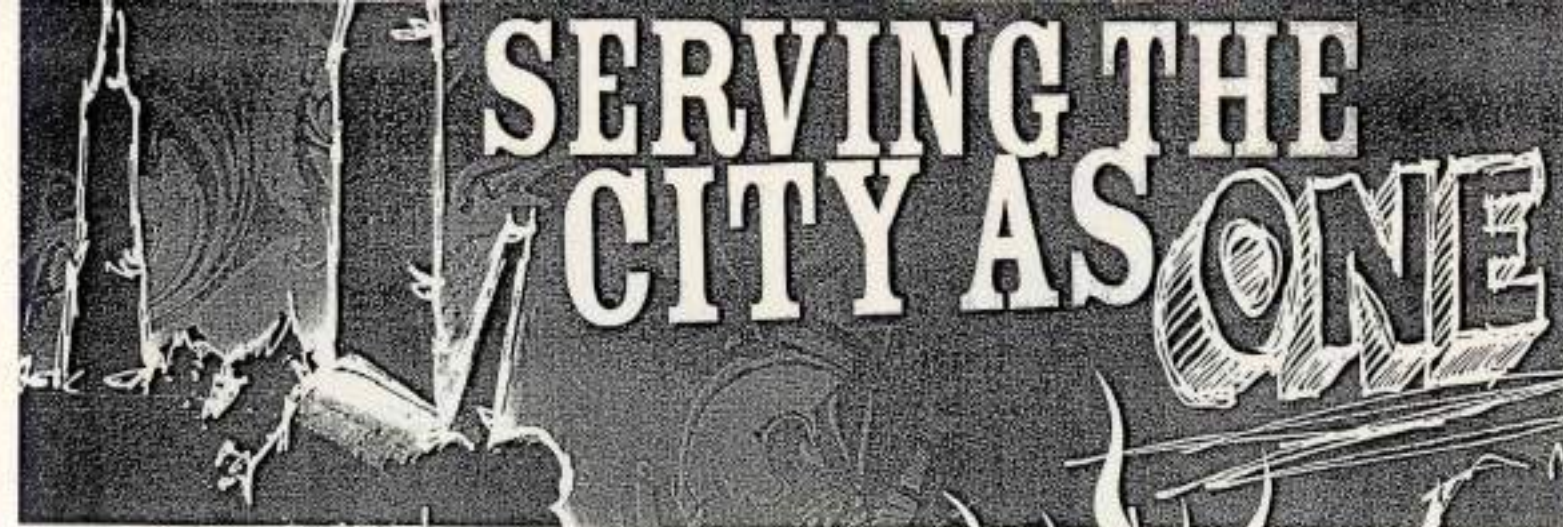
Children's Choir Rehearsal ..... 11:00 AM

Missionary Society Meeting ..... 1:30 PM

## Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church Vision/Mission Statement

Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church strives to set a Christian standard within the Huntsville/Madison County area, the Nation and the World through its' commitment to the Proclamation and study of the Word, Worship, Stewardship, Mission and Evangelism. We are called to be a people in the word, serving people in the World by meeting the total needs of our members and people from all walks of life, regardless of age, gender, national origin, or economic background

Visit Our Web Site at: <http://member.aol.com/stjohnameh/stjohn.html>  
E-mail Address: [stjohnameh@aol.com](mailto:stjohnameh@aol.com)



# Serving the City as ONE

## Saturday, April 19, 2008

*A day of service to our communities*

Serving the city is a multi-church, area wide effort to serve our communities on Saturday, April 19, 2008. The impact made on our area for Christ will be wide spread and will touch people in many different ways. Last April there were 1067 Christians doing 68 various projects from 31 different congregations impacting 7000 to 8000 people with the love of God. Our church plans to be involved in this exciting day of serving our community.

The projects involve seven different area of service

Construction – In House Projects – Servant Projects – Ministries and Agencies Work  
Environmental Projects – Adoption of Schools – Block Parties

SEE THE SIGN-UP BROCHURE FOR MORE INFORMATION  
LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX OF THE CHURCH. FOR FURTHER  
INFORMATION CONTACT: *Mr. Tommy Anderson 541-5456*

*123<sup>rd</sup> Church Anniversary*

*Committee Chairpersons*

*Mrs. Guendolyn Baldwin, Chair*

*Mrs. Laurretta Teague*

*Mrs. Joyce Sales*

*Dr. Rena Lott*

*Mrs. Regina Phippen*

*Mrs. Lorraine Parham*

*Food Coordinators*

*Mrs. Charlesie Brooks*

*Mrs. Pearlean Myhand*

*Mrs. Maeola Snell-Peoples*

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church  
Huntsville, Alabama  
124<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary Celebration  
Sunday, April 19, 2009

Theme: R.E.V.I.V.E.

Renewal of Zeal  
Enthusiasm for the Labor  
Vigilance in the Calling  
Integrity in the Work  
Vision lest we perish  
Elect for unending service



"Leaders Embracing the Vision"

The Right Reverend James L. Davis, Presiding Servant Bishop  
Reverend Dwight E. Dillard, Presiding Elder  
Reverend Homer L. McCall, Senior Pastor

## BISHOP JAMES LEVERT DAVIS



**James Levert Davis**, a fifth generation African Methodist Episcopal minister, is the son of the late Mother Dorothy Lynch, the late Reverend Sam Davis and Mother Alma Davis.

Bishop Davis attended both the public and private schools of Alabama. Having received the call to ministry at age 12, he attended Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia where he earned the Bachelor of Science degree; Master of Divinity degree from the Turner Theological Seminary; and the Doctorate of Ministry degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

Bishop James L. Davis has preached and taught the good news of Jesus the Christ for over 40 years. After seeking the divine guidance of He who called him to higher service in Kingdom building campaigned for twenty-two months on his mantra – ***"I Showed Up for Work and God Blew My Mind"***. On July 3, 2004, in Indianapolis, Indiana he showed up for an opportunity to serve and was elected and consecrated the 123<sup>rd</sup> Bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church during its 47<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial General Conference.

Bishop James L. Davis currently serves as the servant prelate of the 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District which encompasses the entire state of Alabama. As the spiritual shepherd for the District, in the first six weeks of assignment (July 2008) Bishop Davis visited over 250 of the 275 churches throughout Alabama. On a mission to **R.E.V.I.V.E.** (Rekindling Eternal Vision, Inspiring Victory Everywhere) our responsibility as the service agents in our communities to those in need, he has developed an ABC – Back to Basic Christian Education program that is being taught every second Sunday by all A.M.E. churches statewide.

During the 2009 Founder's Day Celebration the 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District dedicated its newly purchased and renovated District Headquarters located in the Downtown area of Birmingham, AL.

Bishop Davis is Chairman of the Board of Directors for Daniel Payne College, Birmingham, AL., Chairman of the Global Witness and Mission of the AME Church, and a member of the AME Re-Insurance Corporation, Ltd. Bishop Davis served as Chair of the Commission on the Development of the Continent of Africa.

Bishop Davis is a doer as well as a caring, insightful manager of human and material resources, which he utilizes effectively and efficiently to achieve desired outcomes. While serving his first assignment as presiding prelate in the 19<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District (Republic of South Africa) Bishop Davis' vision of furthering the legacy of self-help and self-reliance led to accomplishing the following while living on the continent for four years (2004-2008):

- **SOLOMON'S BOOK STORE:** Established in 2006, to meet the enormous demand for all kinds of religious supplies throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District.

- **H. B. SENATLE AME CENTER:** Solicited tenants to occupy the over 75 percent vacant four (4) story building complex situated in the business district of Johannesburg. Now operates in the financial black, with an average expense of R 10,000.00 and a monthly income up to R 24,000.
- **RICHARD ROBERT WRIGHT SCHOOL OF RELIGION:** Secured the entire campus with a brick wall and 24 hour manpower security service-maximizing elimination of crime on campus. Renovated a state of the art Administration Building that also serves as a means for generating outside income – by renting office space to South Africa's Department of Housing.
- **COUSIN-SENATLE CONVENTION RETREAT CENTER:** Renovated at the sum of over 1 million rand the Convention Retreat Center is an up-to-date meeting space and guest quarters designed to provide comfortable lodgings that can sleep over 210 people; and has the capacity to serve meals to over 350 people. The building is named in honor of retired senior Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Sr. and in memory of the late Bishop Harold B. Senatle. Additionally, **The Bonner Hall Building** has been transformed into a modern place of worship.
- **HOPE VILLAGE:** By negotiating with squatters and sidewalk businesses to vacate the land owned by AME Church since 1911, a 5.1 million rand project, which Phase I (10 of 50 housing complexes) is completed and its entire infrastructure today was paid for in cash with money raised in the United States of America. **HOPE Village** will provide housing for low-income families in the Evaton community.

Bishop Davis has pastored in Alabama and Georgia over his 40 year span of pastoral ministry. Prior to his election as a Bishop, he served as Senior Pastor of Big Bethel A. M. E. Church in Atlanta, Georgia for twelve years. As an innovator, builder, visionary and Spiritual leader, he is remembered for leading over 1200 souls to Christ and spearheading many dynamic programs and projects to better serve the people of the community. Among them are:

- The Big Bethel Village (an independent Living Facility for adults in Southwest Atlanta); a Youth Retreat and Recreation Center and Administrative Complex; Trinity House for homeless men; Big Bethel Credit Union; the Big Bethel Endowment Fund; and in partnership with another congregation built twelve (12) Habitat for Humanity Houses.
- The purchase of over 20 pieces of property for the expansion of the kingdom on earth.
- The development to construct, on the more than 20 pieces of property purchased, the oldest Black Community in Atlanta into what will be known as "Auburn Renaissance."

Bishop Davis has many civic affiliations to his credit and has done much to improve the quality of life in the communities in which he has served.

Bishop Davis has traveled throughout the continental United States; and his travels outside the United States have taken him to the Dominican Republic; Hong Kong; Bermuda; Bahamas; England; Singapore; Spain; Malaysia; Germany; Brazil; Canada; West, East, and South Africa.

He is married to his partner in the ministry, the lovely Mother Arelis Beevers Davis. They are the very proud parents of Nicole Titiana (pursuing her doctorate degree) and Damarys Monique (teacher with the Atlanta Public Schools) and two grandsons-the love of his life-Patrick James and Ashton James Pass.

## Victory in Jesus

*I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory,  
How He gave His life on Calvary to save a wretch like me;  
I heard about His groaning, of His precious blood's atoning,  
Then I repented of my sins and won the victory.*

*I heard about His healing, of His cleansing pow'r revealing,  
How He made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see;  
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit,"  
And somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory.*

*I heard about a mansion He has built for me in glory,  
And I heard about the streets of gold beyond the crystal sea;  
About the angels singing and the old redemption story,  
And some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of victory.*

### (Chorus)

*O victory in Jesus, my Savior, for ever! He sought me and  
bought me with His redeeming blood; He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my  
love is due Him He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.*

## A Liberating and Reconciling People A People in the WORD Serving People in the WORLD

Sunday, April 19, 2009

Second Sunday Of Easter

124<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary

Meditate: "When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon. "Put out into deep water,  
and let down the nets for a catch." Luke 5: 4

Youth Praise and Worship ..... Mr. Dennis DeLoach  
Prelude ..... Mr. Rufus Gilmore, Director of Music  
Mrs. Antoinette Wilson ..... Musician  
Mr. Cleveland Wilson ..... Gospel Choir Director  
Mr. Phillip Saulsbury ..... Musician  
Mr. Talbert Cox ..... Percussionist  
Acolytes ..... Scottie Smalls & Wallace Parham

### Enter and Worship & Depart and Serve

The Worship of God in Dance - St. John Adult and Youth Praise Dancers.

Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here  
below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy  
Ghost. Amen

Call to Worship ..... Mr. Gerald D. Moore

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me; Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet  
shall stand within Thy gates, O Jerusalem.

People: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere, I would rather be a  
doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Leader: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

People: They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.

Leader: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.

People: But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Leader: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your  
sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

People: O sing unto the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! Make a joyful  
noise unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises!

The Decalogue  
(Contemporary)

Leader: Hear the commandments of God to His people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Leader: You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Leader: You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Leader: Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Leader: Honor your father and your mother.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Leader: You shall not commit murder.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Leader: You shall not commit adultery.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Leader: You shall not steal.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Leader: You shall not be a false witness.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Leader: You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

SUMMARY

Leader: And He said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.



Order of Worship

Hymn of Praise & Worship ..... "Victory In Jesus" ..... Choir/Congregation  
Prayer of Confession ..... Mrs. Lillie Rivers  
Choral Response

Scripture ✠ Acts 4: 32-37 ..... Mrs. DeAdrian Maddox  
I John 5: 1-6 ..... Mr. Keith Maddox  
John 20: 19-31 ..... Mr. John Butler

Decalogue, .... Contemporary (#797) (see insert) ..... Dr. Monica Dillihunt  
Welcome and Occasion ..... Mrs. Adrian Pope-Kelly  
Anniversary Litany ..... Dr. Lee Williams, II  
\*Music ..... Gospel Choir  
Announcements and Guest Recognition ..... Ms. Erin Lott  
\*Music ..... Solo ..... Dr. Annie Savage  
Remarks ..... Mr. Randy Love  
Chairperson, 121<sup>st</sup> Church Anniversary

Pastor's Moments

Tithes & Offerings ✠ The giving of TITHES & OFFERINGS - Offertory Music  
We give Thee but thine own All that we have is Thine alone  
What e'er the gift may be A trust, O Lord from Thee. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ..... Mr. Arthur Sconiers

Introduction of the Bishop ..... Pastor McCall

Hymn of Preparation ..... (#84) "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" ..... Choir/Congregation  
\*Music ..... Gospel Choir

Sermon ..... Servant Bishop James L. Davis  
Presiding Prelate 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District A. M. E. Church

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Hymn of Invitation ..... "We Offer Christ" ..... Choir/Congregation  
Closing Remarks ..... Servant Bishop James L. Davis  
Closing Hymn ..... (#100) " 'Tis the Promise of God" ..... Choir/Congregation  
Benediction ..... Servant Bishop James L. Davis

Recessional The Apostles' Creed Doxology Benediction

\*The Asterisk Indicates When People May Enter to Worship

## Litany The 124<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary

*Leader: Dr. William Hooper Council was born in Fayetteville, N.C., in 1848, and brought to Alabama by the traders in 1857, through the Richmond Slave Pen. He was a self-made man, having had only few school advantages. He attended one of the first schools opened by kind Northern friends at Stevenson, Alabama in 1865.*

*People: "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."*

*Leader: By private instruction and almost incessant study, Dr. Council gained a fair knowledge of some of the languages, higher mathematics and the sciences.*

*People: "In my anguish I cried to the LORD, and He answered by setting me free."*

*Leader: But he never left the profession of teaching for a day. Normal was founded by him in 1875. He occupied high positions in church and other religious, temperance and charitable organizations, and was an exceptional preacher and public speaker. Rev. Dr. Council traveled abroad in Great Britain and on continental Europe. He was received by William E. Gladstone, His Majesty, King Leopold, and other great personages.*

*People: "It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes."*

*Leader: The Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1885 with the aid of Dr. William Hooper Council, the founder of Alabama A&M University. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets, and Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A. M. E. Church.*

*People: "The LORD is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation."*

*Leader: In 1900 the first church building was erected on Church Street, adjacent to the old church which stood until 1971. Twenty years after completion of the building, the mortgage on the first church was burned in 1920 under the leadership of Reverend Patterson.*

*People: "Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD."*

*Leader: Ministers serving Saint John A. M. E. Church besides Dr. Council and Reverend Patterson, included Reverends Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, and our present pastor Dr. Homer L. McCall.*

*People: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD"*

## Litany ~ Continued

*Leader: Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church assigned to superintend the District since 1885 are Bishop H. M. Turner, Bishop Henry B. Parks, Bishop William A. Fountain, Bishop Robert A. Grant, Bishop David H. Sims, Bishop Decatur W. Nichols, Bishop Sherman H. Greene, Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, Bishop I. H. Bonner, Bishop H. N. Robinson, Bishop V. R. Anderson, Bishop Philip R. Cousin, Bishop Frank M. Reid, Jr., Bishop Cornelius Egbert Thomas, Bishop Zedekiah L. Grady, Bishop T. Larry Kirkland, and since July 14, 2008 we have been blessed with the Spirit-filled, evangelical leadership of the Right Reverend James L. Davis, the 123<sup>rd</sup> elected and consecrated Bishop of the A. M. E. Church.*

*People: "The stone the builders rejected has become - The Chief Cornerstone."*

*Leader: We sincerely appreciate and pay tribute to these leaders and the many outstanding men, women, and youth of this church who have labored so faithfully, served so sacrificially, and who have died so nobly that the legacies of Richard Allen and William Hooper Council shall not perish from this earth.*

*People: "This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever."*

*Leader: To God be the glory.*

*People: AMEN*

*Response taken from ~ Psalm 118*



# Announcements

Church School convenes each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. after the Early Morning Worship Service.

Make plans to attend with your family.

*Mr. Willie Sandifer, Superintendent*



Prayer Service and Bible Class will be held Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. ACTS Chapters 3 and 4 Will be the topic for discussion. Everyone is encouraged to attend.



The flowers in the Sanctuary are donated by Mr. Christopher Butler ~ IN MEMORY OF HIS GRANDPARENTS, Dr. & Mrs. A. T. Butler.

The Stewards will meet this afternoon, Sunday, April 19, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. here at the church.



The 13<sup>th</sup> Founders Week Celebration of Alabama A & M University by will begin with worship service at St. John during the 10:50 a.m. Worship Service on Sunday, April 26, 2009 and the celebration will close with the 10:50 a.m. service on Sunday, May 3, 2009.

Due to Easter activities on the second Sunday of April, Back to Basics for the month of April will be held on the fourth Sunday, April 26, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. The topic of discussion is PRAYER. Talk with God and God will talk with you!!!

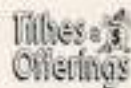
If you would like to purchase a Church Directory, you may do so in the Pastor's Study after service. They are \$10.00. Please make checks payable to St. John A. M. E. Church.



Introduction to Computers will be conducted by the Computer Ministry on Saturday, April 25, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. here at the church.

It's time NOW to start plans for our Women's Day Celebration 2009 which is scheduled for July 12, 2009. Our guest minister is Bishop Sarah Frances Davis of the 16<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District of the A. M. E. Church. We can have the best Women's Day Celebration ever, but it will only happen if each of you give a little of your time and talents. If you would like to serve on the steering committee for Women's Day 2009 please place your name on the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board or you may give me a call @ 852-3599 or email me at apokekelly@aol.com. May God continue to bless each of you and your families.

*Adrienne Pope-Kelly, Chairperson*



"Where there is no vision a people perishes." Ask God to help you make your TITHING commitment to Him today. You may place TITHES and OFFERINGS in the TITHES CONTAINER and your PRAYER requests in the PRAYER CONTAINER that are located in the front of the Sanctuary near the piano and organ.



Join now! Praise Him in Song. The choirs of St. John want you, your children, youth and young adults to join praising God in song. You join by simply showing up to any of the rehearsals listed below.

|                          |                                                                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Children .....           | 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday @ 11 AM                           |
| Youth/Young Adults ..... | 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday @ 4 PM                            |
| Gospel Choir .....       | Last Monday of each month & Thursday after the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 6 PM |
| Male Chorus .....        | Each Friday except Friday after the 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 6 PM            |
| Sanctuary Choir .....    | Each Thursday except Thursday after the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 6 PM        |

Rehearsal Time Subject to Change Periodically

# Announcements

The Ninth Episcopal District *Pentecost Explosion* - Sunday, May 31, 2009 at the Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex, Birmingham, AL. All St. John Members and friends are invited to participate in the celebration of Pentecost. There will be chartered buses available to transport persons from the Huntsville area to the Pentecost Explosion. Worship Service will convene at 8:00 a.m. (there will be only one Service), Church School convenes at 9:00 a.m. Breakfast will be served immediately after Church School. Please note: there is no charge for transport to and from Birmingham; for breakfast or for lunch box. lunch. Be prepared to board buses immediately after breakfast.

The Evangelist for the Pentecost Explosion is the Reverend Doctor William D. Watley, Pastor of St. James A. M. E. Church Newark New Jersey. Dr. Watley, as you know is a national and internationally renowned preacher, pastor, scholar, writer, builder who has not "lost the common touch."

## Pentecost

I Will Pour out My *Spirit* on all Flesh  
Joel 2: 28



# Sick & Shut-In

|                        |                                                                                     |       |          |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Mr. Everett Brooks     | Tut Fann Veterans Home<br>Room G 141-B<br>Huntsville, Alabama                       |       |          |
| Mr. Jason Brown        | 138 Champions Green Drive<br>Madison, Alabama                                       | 35758 | 837-7082 |
| Mr. & Mrs. A. A. Burks | 6020 Carmel Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                            | 35810 | 859-1927 |
| Mrs. Anita Burns       | Millennium Health Care Facility Room 245<br>Millennium Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama |       | 489-7292 |
| Mr. Rufus Gilmore      | 3125 McDow Street<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                            | 35816 | 536-9131 |
| Mrs. Mildred Hereford  | 6108 Trent Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                             | 35810 | 859-2605 |
| Mrs. Evelyn Hildreth   | 3810 Sparkman Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                          | 35810 | 859-3195 |
| Mrs. Irene Hyder       | 4619 Broadmeadow<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                             | 35810 | 859-9951 |
| Mr. James Jamar        | 2217 Beasley Avenue<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                          | 35816 | 536-6661 |
| Ms. Doris Outlaw       | 2012 Chalet Lane<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                             | 35810 | 539-4792 |
| Mr. Ellie Russell      | 2903 Alaska Avenue<br>Apt. B<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                 | 35816 | 536-6841 |
| Mrs. Lanita Slaton     | 502 Max Luther Drive<br>Huntsville, Alabama                                         | 35811 | 859-5895 |



Sick & Shut-In members can receive a taped recording of any worship service upon request. Call the Church Office or contact Rev. McCall, Mrs. McCall, or a Steward.

Pastor McCall's Contact Number  
534-3265 (Office)

# April Birthdays of the Month

## Birthdays

|                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Anthony Harbin       | 18 Dana Johnson             |
| 1 Sean Myhand          | 19 Niki Rankin              |
| 2 Lee E. Williams, II  | 19 Martin E. Vaughn         |
| 3 Nedra L. McDaniel    | 20 Mattie Davis             |
| 3 Ira Bargon           | 21 Adrina Sconiers          |
| 3 Jamie James          | 21 DeAdrian Maddox          |
| 3 Jewel James          | 22 Kendall Jones            |
| 5 Elany Washington     | 22 Eric Kendal James        |
| 5 Phoebe R. Bouser     | 23 L. C. Jamar              |
| 5 Barbara Etheridge    | 23 Blake Kerrington Johnson |
| 6 Nathaniel Brownlow   | 24 Lou V. Clark             |
| 6 Carolyn Russ         | 24 Carolyn Scruggs          |
| 7 Gwendolyn Baldwin    | 25 Rose M. Bell             |
| 8 Brandon Moore        | 27 Marcus Bailey            |
| 8 Ladan Moore          | 27 Sharon Butler            |
| 10 Vivian Humphrey     | 27 Dorothy O'Quinn          |
| 15 Ronald Robinson, II | 28 Erin Lott                |
| 15 Sarah L. McGraw     | 29 Lauretta Teague          |
| 16 A. A. Burks, Sr.    | 30 Devon Scott              |
| 16 Kianah Israel       |                             |
| 17 Tonya McCree        |                             |
| 17 Vanona I. Walton    |                             |
| 17 Michael James Clark |                             |
| 17 Jason Gilmore       |                             |

## Celebrating Anniversaries this Month

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| 7 Bill & Paulette Williams      |
| 9 Everett & Charlsie Brooks     |
| 16 Ronald & Brandy Lockett, Sr. |
| 20 Theodore & Omega Tyson III   |
| 26 Kenneth & Lorraine Parham    |
| 27 Glenn & Erical Harbin        |

Have a Blessed Happy Birthday and Anniversary!!  
Please leave any corrections and/or additions to the above list in the Secretary's box in the church office.

# Listening to the Sermon

Listen to the message from God's Word. Use this sheet to make some personal notes. Go back over them during the week. Let God crystallize His Truth in your life.

Minister: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Biblical Text: \_\_\_\_\_

Sermon Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Main Ideas from the sermon: \_\_\_\_\_

*Cast your net on the other side*

Illustration(s) I want to remember: \_\_\_\_\_

What I should do as a result of hearing this sermon: \_\_\_\_\_

***Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."***

Matthew 28: 19-20

# Listening to the Sermon

## "Thy Will be Done"

Thy presence, Lord, the place shall fill,  
My heart shall be thy throne;  
Thy holy, just, and perfect will,  
Shall in my flesh be done.

I thank thee for the present grace,  
And now in hope rejoice,  
In confidence to see thy face,  
And always hear thy voice.

I have the things I ask of thee,  
What shall I more require?  
That still my soul may restless be,  
And only thee desire.

Thy only will be done, not mine,  
But make me, Lord, thy home;  
Come as thou wilt, I that resign,  
But O, my Jesus, come!

C. Wesley

## Invitation to Christian Discipleship

|                           |                          |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>April 19, 2009</u>     | <u>Stewardess</u>        | <u>April 26, 2009</u>    |
| 10:00 a.m.                | 8:00 a.m.                | Mrs. Clementine Pearson  |
| Ms. Lula Rochelle         |                          | Mrs. Geneva Fontenot     |
| Mrs. Lauretta Teague      | 10:50 a.m.               | Mrs. Dawn Lewis          |
|                           |                          | Mrs. Rose Bell           |
| Col. (Ret.) James Heyward | <u>Stewards</u>          | Dr. Clifton Pearson      |
| Mrs. Adrienne Pope-Kelly  |                          | Mr. Eddie Sherrod        |
| Mr. Rufus Gilmore         | <u>Finance Committee</u> | Mr. Rufus Gilmore        |
| Mrs. Adrienne Pope-Kelly  |                          | Mrs. Adrienne Pope-Kelly |
| Mr. Otha Owens            |                          | Mr. Otha Owens           |

### PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Our Father, help us by your grace and mercy through faith in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior to walk in your Anointing all the days of our lives on earth. In Jesus' Name. AMEN.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing, to God this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform and longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12: 1-2

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

## *Jesus Saves*

*Home Daily Bible Reading — April 20 - April 26, 2009*

|                        |                         |                       |                          |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Monday</i> .....    | <i>John 14: 18-14</i>   | <i>Thursday</i> ..... | <i>Psalm 41</i>          |
| <i>Tuesday</i> .....   | <i>Isaiah 57: 14-21</i> | <i>Friday</i> .....   | <i>Jeremiah 3: 19-23</i> |
| <i>Wednesday</i> ..... | <i>Psalm 6</i>          | <i>Saturday</i> ..... | <i>Psalm 30: 1-5</i>     |
|                        | <i>Sunday</i> .....     |                       | <i>Acts 9: 32-43</i>     |

*"It Takes a Whole Community to Educate One Child"*

## *Boards & Organizational Meetings*

*Sunday, April 19, 2009*

*Finance Committee* ..... *After Service*

*Wednesday, April 22, 2009*

*Prayer Service & Bible Class* ..... *6:30 PM*

*Thursday, April 23, 2009*

*Noon Prayer* ..... *12 Noon*

*Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal* ..... *6:00 PM*

*Friday, April 24, 2009*

*7 MINUTES PRAYER RENEWAL*

*Male Chorus Rehearsal* ..... *6:00 PM*

*Saturday, April 25, 2009*

*Finance Committee* ..... *8:30 AM*

*Children's Choir Rehearsal* ..... *11:00 AM*

## *Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church Vision/Mission Statement*

*Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church strives to set a Christian standard within the Huntsville/Madison County area, the Nation and the World through its' commitment to the Proclamation and study of the Word, Worship, Stewardship, Mission and Evangelism. We are called to be a people in the word, serving people in the World by meeting the total needs of our members and people from all walks of life, regardless of age, gender, national origin, or economic background*

*E-mail Address: stjohnameh@aol.com*

## *124<sup>TH</sup> Church Anniversary Committee Chairpersons*

*Mr. Randy Love  
Mrs. Rickshel Love  
Mr. Willie Sandifer  
Dr. Monica Dillihunt  
Mr. John Butler  
Mrs. Glenda Sconiers  
Dr. Lee Williams, II  
Mr. Gerald Moore*

*St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church*  
*Established 1885*



*St. John*



AME Church

229 Church Street - Huntsville, Alabama 35801

(256) 534-3265

[www.stjohname-hsv.org](http://www.stjohname-hsv.org)

# *128th Anniversary*

April 14, 2013

*Worship Service*  
8 a.m. & 10:50

The Right Reverend James L. Davis, Servant Bishop  
The Reverend Oliver Allen, Jr., Presiding Elder  
The Reverend Patrick D. Clayborn, Ph.D., Pastor

# Order of Worship

*Subject to change per the movement of the Holy Spirit*

## Announcements

Bro. Gerald Teague 8am  
Sis. Erica Harbin 10:50am

## Doxology

## \*Call to Worship

Sis. Barbara Johnson 8am  
Sis. Chelsea Carter 10:50am

Minister: I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

People: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Minister: For the sake of the House of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.  
People: They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God.

Minister: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.  
People: But the Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him.

Minister: Let the words of my mouth and the mediation of my heart be acceptable in your sight.  
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

People: O sing unto the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises.

\*Opening Song *We've Come This Far By Faith*  
\* see insert for lyrics

St. John Gospel Choir / Congregation

## Prayer

Bro. Guy Ginn 8am  
Sis. Lula Rochelle 10:50am

Scripture John 21: 15-19

Sis. Martha Smith 8am  
Sis. Abbiegail Hugine 10:50am

## Recognition of Guests

Rev. Sheri Smith Clayborn

128th Church Anniversary Litany  
\* located on the next page

Bro. Clifton Miller 8am  
Sis. Donna Gullatte 10:50am

## Ministry through Dance

St. John AME Dance Ministry

## Ministry through Giving

## Offertory Prayer

Bro. Anthony Harbin 8am  
Bro. Lars Avery 10:50am

## Sermonic Selection

St. John Gospel Choir

## \*\*Sermon

Pastor Patrick Clayborn

## \*Invitation to Christian Discipleship

## Benediction

\*Please stand if you are able. \*\*Please refrain from walking during this time.

# 128th Church Anniversary Litany

Leader:

Dear Lord, thank You for drawing us, as a congregation to become part of Your church.

People:

**Thank you for our ancestors, William Hooper Council and those who listened to Your voice and were obedient to Your call to organize this congregation for Your purpose.**

Leader:

Help us to teach our young your ways and their history, so they will know who You are and who they can be.

People:

**Inspire us with a vision for the future and use that vision to direct the path of this congregation.**

Leader:

Help us to lean not on our own understanding but to lean on every promise of Your Word.

People:

**Grant us the authority to conquer all divisiveness, and fill us with a desire to love one another.**

Leader:

Lord, please hide us in your bosom and protect us from all evil and from the wiles of those spirits that seek to destroy the peace You have given us.

People:

**May Your spirit continue to infuse our church with courage, hope, and grace.**

Leader:

Teach us to know Your voice and give us the courage to obey it.

People:

**You are the vine and we are the branches; apart from You, we have no work of our own.**

Leader:

As we move forward in this ministry, we recommit ourselves to the principles of Your Word—to love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind, and soul.

People:

**To love our neighbor as we love ourselves.**

Leader:

To feed the hungry and to clothe the naked.

People:

**To work for justice on behalf of those whose voices are not heard.**

All:

**Lord, we thank You for the rich history of our church, and pray that You will continue to bless St. John AME Church to be a people in the Word - serving people in the world.**

*Based on readings from the African American Lectionary*

## St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church History



St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church is in the South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer District of the Northwest Alabama Conference of the Ninth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church was the first major religious institution for African Americans. The church was founded by Bishop Richard Allen in 1787 in Philadelphia. The church began as a protest against racial injustice to worshipers of African descent at St. George's Methodist Church. The first organization was known as the Free African Society. In 1816, the church held its first General Conference and elected Richard Allen the first Bishop. Today the church has millions of members and twenty Episcopal Districts in North and South America, England, Africa and India.

The Ninth Episcopal District consists of the state of Alabama and the Presiding Bishop is the Right Reverend James Levert Davis. The Ninth

District was originally the Seventh Episcopal District. It was officially formed at the General Conference of the AME Church in 1868. Bishop John W. Brown was assigned as the first Bishop. Between 1868 and 1920 the district was geographically reorganized several times and at different times Alabama was attached with Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. In 1920, Alabama became the Ninth District. Currently the District has five (5) conferences.

Bishop Henry McNeil Turner organized the North Alabama Conference, beginning with Greater St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Florence, AL, in 1878. The North and West Alabama Conferences were combined and the Presiding Elder Districts realigned under the leadership of Bishop James L. Davis. St. John is in the South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer District of this conference. The current Presiding Elder is Reverend Oliver Allen, Jr.

St. John Huntsville was organized by Dr. William Hooper Council and others in 1885. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets and Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A.M.E. Church. In addition to organizing St. John and serving as the first Pastor, Dr. Council was the founder and one of the most distinguished presidents of Alabama A&M University. In 1900 the first church building was erected on Church Street. Ministers serving St. John besides Dr. Council include Reverends Patterson, Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, McCall, and our present pastor, Reverend Patrick Clayborn.

In 1971 the church moved into a newly erected facility at 229 Church Street. From this location at the corner of downtown Huntsville, St. John opened its doors to the community. The many civic and cultural events hosted by St. John include NAACP meetings and programs, inaugural prayer services for the President of the City Council of Huntsville, graduation for the Phoenix program, Greater Huntsville Interdenominational Ministerial Fellowship and Interdenominational Ministerial Spouses Association services, voter registration, Alabama Democratic Conference meetings, Race Unity programs, and the originating point for the NAACP Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. March.

St. John continues to have a strong affiliation with Alabama A&M University through its members, outreach to students and financial support. Transportation is available for students who desire to attend worship. Five of Presidents of the eleven Alabama A&M University have been members of St. John; the founder and first president, Dr. William H. Council, the eighth President Dr. David B. Henson, the ninth president, Dr. John T. Gibson, Sr., and the eleventh President, Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr.

St. John has numerous active ministries serving members and the community. The church purchased 53 acres of land in northwest Huntsville in 2008 and an expansion committee is making plans for future use of this property. Strong emphasis is placed on the WORD - through preaching, teaching and Christian living.

*St. John's motto is "A People in the Word- Serving People in the World."*

## We've Come This Far By Faith

### Refrain

We've come this far by faith,  
leaning on the Lord;  
Trusting in His Holy Word.  
He's never failed me yet.  
Oh! We can't turn around,  
we've come this far by faith.

### Verse 1

Don't be discouraged  
when trouble's in your life,  
He'll bear your burdens,  
and move all misery and strife.  
That's why we've ...

### Verse 2

Just the other day I heard a man say  
he didn't believe in God's Word  
But I can truly say, that God has made a way and  
He's never failed me yet.  
That's why we've ...

Albert A. Goodman



## Announcements

The flowers on the altar are donated by Rev. Sheri Smith Clayborn in honor of her mother, Mrs. Cassandra Smith's birthday.

ATTENTION: Tickets for the Feeding of the 5,000 are available. Adults 16 yrs. and over - \$50 each. Children 6 yrs. - 15 yrs. \$25 each. 5 yrs. and under are free. Please stop by the Admin office for tickets or more information. ALSO, if you plan on riding the bus to Birmingham for the event, please sign up on the sheet located on the bulletin board outside the church office.

April is the Month of the Military Child! This special celebration is a legacy of former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger - established to underscore the important role children play in the Armed Forces community. Please join us in celebrating our military youth and the sacrifices that they make daily.

Next Sunday, April 21st is Alabama A&M University recognition day. Help spread the Bulldog pride by inviting past or present AAMU students, supporters and friends to church!

The Northwest Alabama Conference Women's Missionary Society Conference Institute will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2013, 8:00 a.m. at Grant Chapel AME Church - Birmingham, AL. The sign-up sheet is up by the main office.

The next WMS Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 27 at 10:30 am. The compassionate out-reach project for April is St. John Soup Kitchen & First Stop Homeless Food Pantry. Members are asked to support this effort by bringing toiletry items: deodorant, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrush, socks, soap, hand wipes, individually wrapped tissue. Please note: Razors and mouth wash are not permitted.

Get Ready! The 2013 Summer Meeting that will include Christian Education, Ministers' Institute, and Leadership Congress will be held July 22- 25 at Troy University. There will be workshops, activities, and tons of fun for all ages. Please plan to attend. See Rev. Sheri Smith Clayborn for further information.

JOIN US for weekly PRAYER TIME each Tuesday at 6:00 am. Call in on the U.S. TOLL NUMBER (530) 881-1212, Meeting ID: 876-863-940. If you're not able to join the call at 6:00 am, you may listen to the playback any time. PLAYBACK number (530) 881-1219. Meeting Id 876-863-940. Press # to ignore any requests or reference numbers when calling for playback.

GET READY FOR THIS YEAR'S PENTECOST EVANGELISM EXPERIENCE. The 9th District Prayer Books, which will be used as we walk and pray over various communities in our area are available for \$10 in the Church Office. They feature powerful offerings from AME members throughout the District. Get your copy today.

PRACTICE SHARING YOUR TESTIMONY. Training for the Pentecost Evangelism experience is set for

- Wednesday, April 17th at 11am & 5:30pm
- Friday, April 18th - 6pm
- Friday, April 26th - 5:30pm (Trial Run in nearby neighborhoods)

The next EMERGE- Young Men's Group get-together will be Monday, April 22nd at 6pm. Young men interested in being a part of the organization of activities should see Sis. Janette Smith in the main church office.

THE 50 plus Auxilliary is holding a canned-food drive to help replenish the food pantry for those in need. They are requesting any canned items with easy to open tops. Please bring your donations to the church office.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The 2013 Women's Day Service is set for June 30th. The Rev. Raquel St. Clair Lettsome, Ph.D., New Testament Scholar, Minister and Author from New York, New York will be the guest preacher.

THANK YOU for your offerings toward the Daniel Payne Legacy Village. Please continue to support this effort with your financial contributions. Those who have made pledges, please continue to be faithful to your promise. Please send all donations directly to the Ninth Episcopal District Office.

Please place your tithes and offerings in an envelope; include your name and the amount of the offering on the envelope. To give online visit [www.stjohname-hsv.org](http://www.stjohname-hsv.org), click on Online Giving. Follow the instructions from there. Giving made easy!

## Known Sick and Shut-In Members

Mrs. Susie Akins  
256-890-0469

Mr. Jason Brown  
256-837-7082

Mrs. Mildred Hereford  
256-859-2605

Mr. Robert Hyder  
256-426-8795

Ms. Doris Outlaw  
Kindred Whitesburg Gardens  
Room 408-B  
256-265-1000

Ms. Mary Powers  
256-585-9919

Mr. Hodges Washington  
256-895-4450

Mrs. Altonette Burks  
256-859-1927

Mrs. Evelyn Hildreth  
256-859-3195

Mrs. Ada Houston  
Big Spring Manor | Room 117  
256-564-6027

Mr. James Jamar  
256-518-6121

Mr. Ernest Jones  
256-715-8951

Mrs. Lorene Jones  
Millenium | Room 130  
256-489-6800

## April Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Anthony Harbin, Sean Myhand
- 2 Lee Williams, II
- 3 Ira Bargon, Nedra L. McDaniel
- 5 Elany Washington
- 6 Nathaniel Brownlow, Carolyn Russ
- 7 Gwendolyn Baldwin
- 8 Brandon Moore, Ladon Moore
- 10 Vivian Humphrey
- 15 Sarah McGraw
- 16 Arthur Burks
- 17 Michael James Clark, Jason Gilmore, Tonya M. McCree, Vanona L. Walton
- 18 Dana Johnson
- 19 Nicole Rankin
- 20 Mattie Davis
- 21 Adrina Sconiers
- 23 Charles Glover, Kendall Jones, Blake Johnson
- 24 Lou Clark
- 25 Rose Bell
- 27 Marcus Bailey, Sharon Butler, Dorothy O'Quin
- 28 Erin Lott
- 29 Laurretta Teague

### Anniversaries

- 7 William D. & Paulette Williams
- 20 Theodore & Omega Tyson
- 22 Charles & Vanessa Glover
- 26 Kenneth & Lorraine Parham
- 27 Glenn & Erica Harbin



*"...pray for each other so that you may be healed.*

*The prayer of a righteous person is  
powerful and effective"*

*James 5:16 NIV*

# Calendar Events

## **St. John's Week at a Glance**

|                                                                                                        |                 |                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>128th Church Anniversary</i><br>Church School                                                       | Sun., Apr. 14   | 8:00am & 10:50am<br>9:45am       |
| Koinonia<br>Media Meeting- Leadership only                                                             | Mon., Apr. 15   | 6:00pm                           |
| Weekly Prayer Call<br>Soup Kitchen<br>VIP Choir Rehearsal<br>Trustee Board<br>Lay Organization Meeting | Tue., Apr. 16   | 6:00am<br>11:30am<br>6:00pm      |
| Bible Study<br>Evangelism Training                                                                     | Wed., Apr. 17   | 12Noon & 6:30pm<br>11am & 5:30pm |
| Evangelism Training                                                                                    | Thurs., Apr. 18 | 6:00pm                           |
| Male Chorus Rehearsal                                                                                  | Fri., Apr. 19   | 6:00pm                           |
| WMS Conference Institute- Grant Chapel, Bham<br>Dance Ministry Rehearsal<br>Children's Choir Rehearsal | Sat., Apr. 20   | All Day<br>9:30am<br>11am        |

## **Home Daily Bible Reading for April 15th - April 21st**

|                                    |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Monday - Isaiah 59: 9-15a          | Tuesday - Isaiah 59: 15b-21 |
| Wednesday - Psalm 38: 9-15         | Thursday - Romans 4: 16-25  |
| Friday - Hebrews 6: 13-20          | Saturday - Romans 15: 7-13  |
| Sunday - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11 |                             |

*St. John*



AME Church

229 Church Street - Huntsville, Alabama 35801

(256) 534-3265

[www.stjohname-hsv.org](http://www.stjohname-hsv.org)

# 129th Anniversary

April 13, 2013

## PALM SUNDAY

The Right Reverend James L. Davis, Servant Bishop  
The Reverend Oliver Allen, Jr., Presiding Elder

# Order of Worship

Subject to change per the movement of the Holy Spirit

*Mr. McCraw had a stroke, in Hov. Hospital  
Bw leaving at 5:00AM Friday for St. Philip's Atlanta  
\*Doxology 9:00 Easter Program 8:00 Breakfast*

## \*Call to Worship

Minister: I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.  
People: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.  
Minister: For the sake of the House of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.  
People: They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God.  
Minister: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.  
People: But the Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him.  
Minister: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight. O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.  
People: O sing unto the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises.

\*Opening Song All Hail the Power of Jesus Name #5 St. John Mass Choir / Congregation

## Prayer

Scripture *Luke 29-40*

Recognition of Guests Rev. Sheri Smith Clayborn

129th Church Anniversary Reflection  
\* located on the next page

Sis. Patrice Holland 8am  
Bro. Ronald McIntosh 8am

Sis. Celeste Gilmore 10:50am  
Bro. Rufus Gilmore 10:50am

+Ministry through Dance St. John AME Dance Ministry

## Ministry through Giving

*Offertory Prayer*  
*Soloist - Sis. Reggie Jackson - "God You Are Worthy of our Praise"*  
Sermonic Selection St. John Mass Choir

\*\*Sermon Pastor Patrick Clayborn

## \*Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Benediction

# 129th Church Anniversary Reflection

By: Darrell Ezell, Ph.D.

## Part I

*O Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; his mercy endures forever!*

Religion and higher-education are two narratives that are inextricably linked in the African American community. Our beloved St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church was established in 1885 with the aid of Alabama A&M University founder, Dr. William Hooper Council. Long before W.E.B. DuBois published the Souls of Black Folks or Booker T. Washington challenged African Americans to 'caste down their buckets,' the American statesman, Fredrick Douglas lifted Dr. Council in complement as a beacon of hope to the people in the South. 'This great orator, William Hooper Council, a slave child brought to North Alabama from North Carolina through the slave trade, began educating the Negro in the South a few years after the American Civil War.'

Council, a self-made man, with only the bare educational necessities, taught himself to read and write the classical languages: Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. To become an ordained elder in the AME Church, he taught himself theology which enabled him to pass the required examination. In addition, he taught himself law and passed the Alabama Bar exam on his first attempt. Out of a great calling to educate our community, Alabama A&M University was first erected in downtown Huntsville, Alabama in 1875. Compelled to build a house of worship, the first church services for St. John AME Church were held in a barbershop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Street.

In 1900, the first church building was erected on Church Street, adjacent to the old church site, which stood until 1971. Twenty years after the completion of the building, the mortgage on the church was burned in 1920 under the leadership of Reverend Patterson.

In addition to Dr. Council and Reverend Patterson, we give thanks for the legacy of all ministers who have served St. John AME Church: Reverends: Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, McCall, and our present pastor, Dr. Patrick Dewitt Clayborn.

## Part II

The stone that the builder refused shall be the chief cornerstone!

129 years later, we stand at 229 Church Street. Being founded by freed slaves, there is plenty of work to do. It is therefore essential we embrace a theology of liberation to tackle the issues that confront our people today. In honoring the legacy of St. John AME Church, we shall not ignore the powerless of the black community and the role our dear St. John must play in shaping the advancement of those lives.

The affirmation of greatness in this church comes from the whole experience of being free and responsible. The freedom of those who came before us was not given lightly—it was taken by force. It is our responsibility in the 21st century to continue laying stones of hope where there is a path of despair.

## This morning:

We thank God for the *struggle*.

We thank God for *social action and change*.

We thank God for the resources to *feed the hungry and clothe the naked*.

We thank God for the *wisdom of our elders*.

We thank God for the *courage to rise up and take control to lead our youth*.

To restore our communities and lift the bloodstained banner of hope requires that we, as a people, continue to take risks. To bring sight to the blind, we must move beyond these walls and onto the streets where young black boys—who are really men—congregate.

We must walk through prisons and offer a balm to the sin sick soul. We must travel to the group homes and affirm the dignity of women marginalized by domestic violence and to the wards where patients with HIV and AIDS live. We must pour back into our communities markets, schools, and resources that will sustain our **children**.

This means it is time we stand on a stone of hope, producing greatness in the midst of despair. With the legacies of Richard Allen and Dr. William Hooper Council, we must educate, refine, and build anew that which is broken.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good: His mercy endures forever!*

# St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church History



St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church is in the South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer District of the Northwest Alabama Conference of the Ninth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church was the first major religious institution for African Americans. The church was founded by Bishop Richard Allen in 1787 in Philadelphia. The church began as a protest against racial injustice to worshipers of African descent at St. George's Methodist Church. The first organization was known as the Free African Society. In 1816, the church held its first General Conference and elected Richard Allen the first Bishop. Today the church has millions of members and twenty Episcopal Districts in North and South America, England, Africa and India.

The Ninth Episcopal District consists of the state of Alabama and the Presiding Bishop is the Right Reverend James Levert Davis. The Ninth

District was originally the Seventh Episcopal District. It was officially formed at the General Conference of the AME Church in 1868. Bishop John W. Brown was assigned as the first Bishop. Between 1868 and 1920 the district was geographically reorganized several times and at different times Alabama was attached with Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. In 1920, Alabama became the Ninth District. Currently the District has five (5) conferences.

Bishop Henry McNeil Turner organized the North Alabama Conference, beginning with Greater St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Florence, AL, in 1878. The North and West Alabama Conferences were combined and the Presiding Elder Districts realigned under the leadership of Bishop James L. Davis. St. John is in the South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer District of this conference. The current Presiding Elder is Reverend Oliver Allen, Jr.

St. John Huntsville was organized by Dr. William Hooper Council and others in 1885. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets and Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A.M.E. Church. In addition to organizing St. John and serving as the first Pastor, Dr. Council was the founder and one of the most distinguished presidents of Alabama A&M University. In 1900 the first church building was erected on Church Street. Ministers serving St. John besides Dr. Council include Reverends Patterson, Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, McCall, and our present pastor, Reverend Patrick Clayborn.

In 1971 the church moved into a newly erected facility at 229 Church Street. From this location at the corner of downtown Huntsville, St. John opened its doors to the community. The many civic and cultural events hosted by St. John include NAACP meetings and programs, inaugural prayer services for the President of the City Council of Huntsville, graduation for the Phoenix program, Greater Huntsville Interdenominational Ministerial Fellowship and Interdenominational Ministerial Spouses Association services, voter registration, Alabama Democratic Conference meetings, Race Unity programs, and the originating point for the NAACP Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. March.

St. John continues to have a strong affiliation with Alabama A&M University through its members, outreach to students and financial support. Transportation is available for students who desire to attend worship. Five of the eleven Presidents of Alabama A & M University have been members of St. John: the founder and first president, Dr. William H. Council, the eighth President, Dr. David B. Henson, the ninth president, Dr. John T. Gibson, Sr., and the eleventh President, Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr.

St. John has continued to follow the vision of Christ: feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting those who are sick and shut in, and preaching the gospel to all. Now, the church seeks to more fully follow that vision into the 21st century

## Announcements

The flowers on the altar are donated by Dr. Lee Williams, II in loving memory of his parents Dr. Lee E. Williams, Sr. and Mrs. Ruth H. Williams.

**ATTENTION: Tickets for the Pentecost Explosion are available. Adults 19 years and over - \$50 each. 18 and younger are free. Please stop by the main office for tickets or see a Steward for more information immediately following services. ALSO, if you plan on riding the bus to Montgomery for the event, please sign up when you purchase your ticket.**

April is the Month of the Military Child! This special awareness month was established to underscore the important role children play in the Armed Forces community. Please join us in praying for and celebrating our military youth and the sacrifices that they make daily.

**ATTENTION 50+ AUXILIARY MEMBERS:** There will be no meeting in April. The Estate Planning workshop will be rescheduled. PLUS, the Older American Picnic will be held Tuesday, May 6 from 10am -1pm at Sharon Johnston Park in New Market. Please give your \$3.00 ticket cost to Rev. Meriam Garrett or Mattie Ezell today. Tickets will be available for distribution at the May 5th monthly meeting. You should also let them know if you plan to ride the bus to the event.

This year's Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, April 19th immediately following the Easter Program rehearsal. Members are asked to donate plastic Easter eggs that are already filled with candy by Thursday, April 17th.

### NOTABLE UPCOMING DATES IN APRIL

**APRIL 14-16**

HOLY WEEK REVIVAL 6:30PM NIGHTLY

**APRIL 17**

MAUNDY THURSDAY

PRAISE, PRAYER & WORSHIP SERVICE 6:30PM

**APRIL 18 | GOOD FRIDAY**

REV. PATRICK CLAYBORN preaches for 7 LAST WORDS

St. Philip AMEC | Atlanta, Georgia

A Sign up sheet for the bus is posted outside the main office.

**APRIL 20 | RESURRECTION SUNDAY**

SUNRISE SERVICE - 6:00AM

SPECIAL PROGRAM - 9:00AM

WORSHIP SERVICE - 10:50 AM

**APRIL 21 | CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

**APRIL 24**

LEADERSHIP PRAYER MEETING - 6:00PM

**WOMEN OF ST. JOHN:** The Women's Retreat is set for Friday, June 20 - June 21, 2014. Reservations may be made to the Marriott Shoals Hotel and Spa in Florence, Alabama by calling 1-800-593-6450. PLEASE SIGN THE SIGN UP SHEET OUTSIDE THE MAIN OFFICE IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND.

**ALL MEN:** The Sons of Allen will hold its annual Men's Retreat July 11-12, 2014, in Guntersville, AL. Contact Bro. Theodore Tyson, Bro. Carl Lewis, or Bro. Justin L. York for more information about this year's retreat. Please RSVP (whether you will stay overnight or not) with the Sons of Allen by June 10, 2014.

**THANK YOU** for your offerings toward the Daniel Payne Legacy Village. Please continue to support this effort with your financial contributions. Those who have made pledges, please continue to be faithful to your promise. Please send all donations directly to the Ninth Episcopal District Office.

Please place your tithes and offerings in an envelope; include your name and the amount of the offering on

## Known Sick and Shut-In Members

Mrs. Susie Akins *telephone*  
256-890-0469

Mrs. Gwen Baldwin *returned to church*  
256-859-3935

*Card* Mrs. Altonette Burks  
256-859-1927

*Card* Mr. Arthur Burks  
Huntsville Hospital | Room 294  
(256) 265-1000

*Card* Mr. Jason Brown *card*  
256-837-7082

Mrs. Evelyn Hildreth *Telephone*  
256-859-3195

Mrs. Mildred Hereford *Mudcar*  
256-859-2605

Mr. Robert Hyder  
256-426-8795

Mr. James Jamar *Telephone*  
256-518-6121

Mrs. Lorene Jones *returned to church*  
256-217-1561

Mr. Ernest Jones *returned to church*  
256-715-8951

Mrs. Idell Merrell *Telephone*  
256-534-7511

*"...pray for each other so that you may be healed.*

*The prayer of a righteous person is  
powerful and effective"*

*James 5:16 NIV*

## April Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Tawanda Buford, Anthony Harbin
- 2 Lee Williams, II
- 3 Ira Bargon, Nedra L. McDaniel
- 5 Elany Washington, London Williams
- 6 Nathaniel Brownlow, Carolyn Russ
- 7 Gwendolyn Baldwin
- 10 Vivian Humphrey, Tyrrell Hutchins
- 15 Sarah McGraw
- 16 Arthur Burks
- 17 Michael James Clark, Jason Gilmore,  
Tonya M. McCree, Vanona L. Walton
- 18 Dana Johnson
- 19 Nicole Rankin
- 20 Mattie Davis
- 21 Caylon Mayes, Adrina Sconiers
- 23 Blake K. Johnson, Kendall Jones
- 24 Lou Clark
- 25 Rose Bell
- 27 Marcus Bailey, Sharon Butler,  
Dorothy O'Quin
- 28 Erin Lott
- 29 De'Shaun Harden, Laurretta Teague



### *Anniversaries*

- 7 William D. & Paulette Williams
- 20 Theodore & Omega Tyson
- 22 Charles & Vanessa Glover
- 26 Kenneth & Lorraine Parham
- 27 Glenn & Erica Harbin

# Calendar Events

## **St. John's Week at a Glance**

|                                                    |                 |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <i>128th Church Anniversary</i>                    | Sun., Apr. 13   | 8:00am & 10:50am |
| PALM SUNDAY                                        |                 |                  |
| Church School                                      |                 | 9:45am           |
| <i>Holy Week Revival</i>                           | Mon., Apr. 14   | 6:30pm           |
| <i>Holy Week Revival</i>                           | Tue., Apr. 15   | 6:30pm           |
| <i>Holy Week Revival</i>                           | Wed., Apr. 16   | 6:30pm           |
| <i>Maundy Thursday</i>                             | Thurs., Apr. 17 | 6:30pm           |
| GOOD Friday                                        | Fri., Apr. 18   | 12:00pm          |
| Pastor Clayborn preaches at St. James AMEC Atl, GA |                 |                  |
| Dance Rehearsal - Human Video Only                 |                 |                  |
| Dance Ministry Rehearsal                           | Sat., Apr. 19   | 9:30am           |
| Mass Choir                                         |                 | 10:00am          |

## **Home Daily Bible Reading for April 14 - April 20**

|                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday - Job 30:20-31              | Tuesday - Psalm 49: 5-15          |
| Wednesday - Psalm 73: 16-28        | Thursday - Ezekiel 37:1-14        |
| Friday - Mark 12:18-27             | Saturday - 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 |
| Sunday - Hosea 6:1-3; Luke 24:1-12 |                                   |

# 130th Anniversary



**MARCH**  
**22**  
**10:00AM**  
**SERVICE**

**ST. JOHN AME CHURCH**  
**1971 - PRESENT** **1900 - 1971**

*Transformed through Time  
Envisioning the Future"*



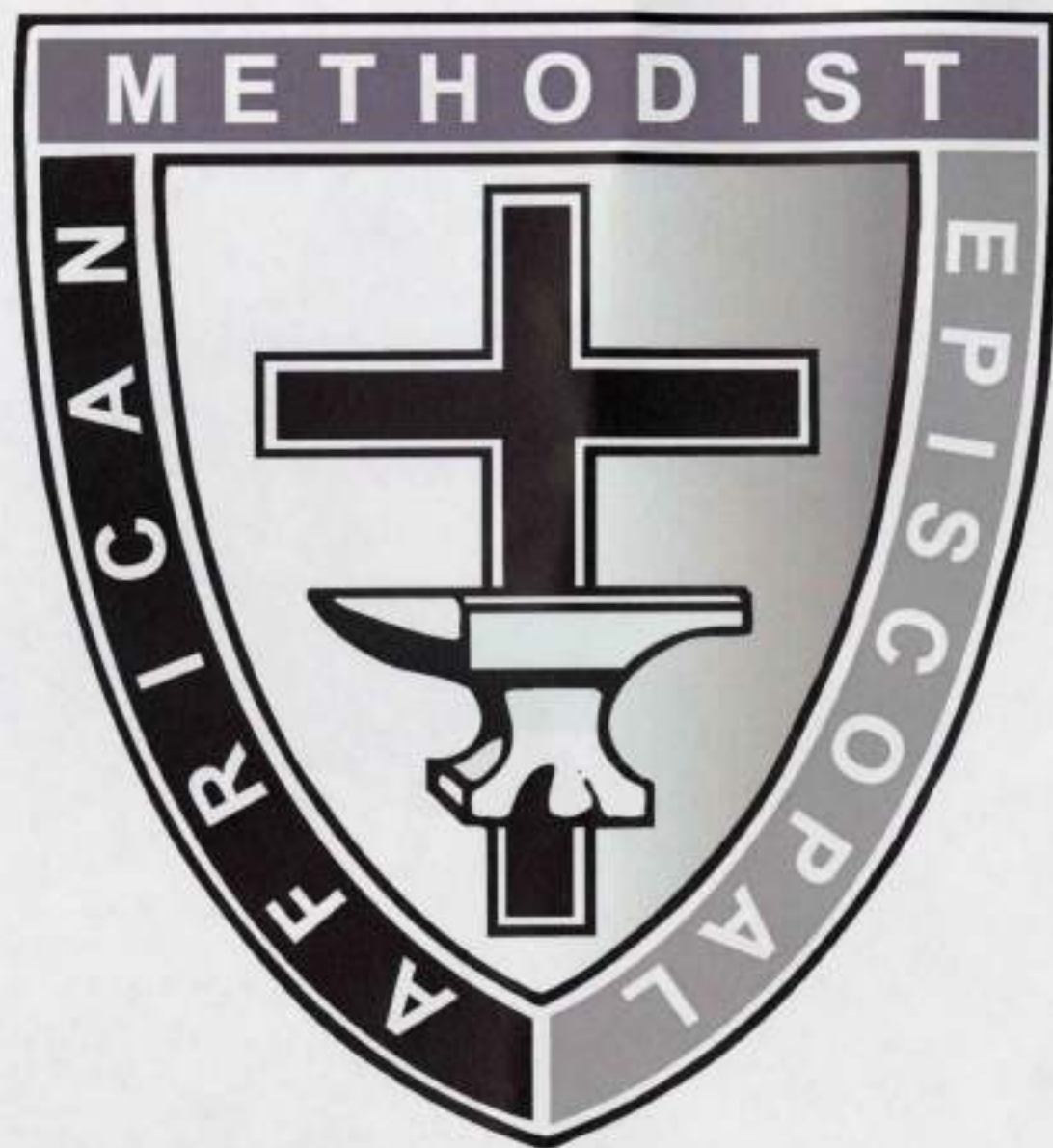
**GUEST PREACHER**  
**BISHOP JAMES L. DAVIS**

**Presiding Elder Oliver & Mary Allen**

**Rev. Dr. Patrick D. & Rev. Sheri Smith Clayborn**

**The Right Reverend James L. Davis, Servant Bishop**  
**The Reverend Oliver Allen, Jr., Presiding Elder**  
**The Reverend Patrick D. Clayborn, Ph.D., Pastor**

**GOD CENTERED. VISION DRIVEN. PEOPLE LOVING**



## Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church

229 Church Street | Huntsville, Alabama  
Email: stjohnameh@aol.com

The Right Reverend James L. Davis, Servant Bishop  
The Reverend Oliver Allen, Jr., Presiding Elder  
The Reverend Patrick D. Clayborn, Ph.D., Pastor

## Letter from Pastor Patrick Clayborn & Rev. Sheri



When William Hooper Council and others organized St. John AME Church 130 years ago, they could not have imagined all that this congregation would accomplish. St. John has been a consistent voice of salvation, justice, liberation, education, empowerment, healing, and help in this Huntsville community. Great preachers – such as Revs. Foxx, Hereford, and McCall – have mounted this pulpit and declared “what thus sayeth the Lord”: how God is able to bless in spite of our circumstances; how God’s word has the wisdom and guidance we seek; how we are all God’s children regardless of our race or ethnicity or gender; how we have been called to be disciples of Jesus Christ; how we must love our fellow brothers and sisters; how we must work to make this world a place of peace, justice, and mercy; how God’s love and forgiveness can

penetrate the coldest heart; and how we must give the best of our service to

honor God. Wonderful church members have served faithfully as stewards, trustees, stewardesses, ushers, church school teachers, and so much more. Ministries have gone out in the city to: repair the homes of senior citizens; build houses for Habitat for Humanity; provide resources for neonatal care units; feed the hungry in the area surrounding the church; tutor students in school; mentor juveniles to prevent incarceration; join other churches to form a coalition of assistance for those with financial need; register voters; provide scholarships and care for college students; visit the sick; and witness door to door to the saving power of Jesus Christ.

We are excited to celebrate this momentous occasion. We are thrilled to have our Servant Bishop – The Right Reverend James L. Davis – honor this day with his presence and his preaching. We are elated that the membership of St. John is still working, serving, dreaming, and doing all it can to build those dreams. We thank the anniversary committee (co-chairs and members), the office staff, the music and media departments, the stewards and trustees, the worship council and its ministries, and the kitchen committee for their hard work and faithfulness. We praise God for the honorees highlighted at the anniversary concert. We thank God for your diligence and loyalty to God and church. Most importantly, we are grateful that God continues to bless!! God still blesses when we reach 130 years old. When Jacob reached 130 years old, God rescued him and his family from famine. Therefore, God has blessings for St. John that eyes have not seen nor ears heard! Let us give God praise for what God has done for 130 years, and let us thank God in advance for what God is about to do!

In the grip of God’s grace,

*Patrick Clayborn*

Rev. Patrick D. Clayborn, Ph.D.

*Sheri Smith Clayborn*

Rev. Sheri Smith Clayborn

# The Ninth Episcopal District

## AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

P O Box 11705, Birmingham, AL 35202 ♦ 205-326-4499 ♦ 205-326-4434 (Fax) [www.ninthamec.org](http://www.ninthamec.org)

James Levert Davis, Servant Bishop

Arelis Beevers Davis, Supervisor



March 21, 2015

The Reverend Dr. Patrick Clayborn  
St. John A. M. E. Church  
229 Church Street, NW  
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

It is in the Majestic and Powerful Name of Jesus the Christ that I send greetings to you and the congregation at St. John AME Church as you celebrate the 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of your founding and establishment as a beacon of God's light in this community.

To reach such a milestone — 130 years of being the beacon of hope in the city of Huntsville and surrounding communities — is a testimony that the good people of St. John have been steadfast and unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

We give thanks and praise to the Lord, for we know that it is only by His grace and faithfulness that the church continues on and we count it a blessing to have come this far by faith.

May the abundant gifts and blessings of the Triune God accompany and sustain His congregation here at St. John as you strive by grace to bring Him glory in your worship and as you go about the task of bringing the lost into the fold.

In the Spirit to REVIVE, I remain

James L. Davis  
Servant Bishop



Post Office Box 22346  
Huntsville, AL 35814

Telephone: (334) 797-5386  
FAX: (256) 715-0733

### South Birmingham Huntsville Bessemer District

Northwest Alabama Conference • Ninth Episcopal District  
African Methodist Episcopal Church

Reverend Oliver Allen, Jr.  
Presiding Elder  
[mailto:coallenjr@aol.com](mailto:mailto:coallenjr@aol.com)

March 12, 2015

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is a pleasure to write you and extend our best wishes and blessings to Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church as you celebrate the 130<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary. It is truly a blessing to be God's light within the community for many years.

A church anniversary celebration is a time that we set aside to reflect on our past, but more importantly to appreciate the present while focusing on a divine, strategic vision for the future. As God continues to bless us and send new sheep our way, I would like to challenge and encourage everyone to appreciate the goodness of God in their lives and for His peace that reigns in the church, our families and the Huntsville community. It is important that we remember that the journey has just started and in our quest for a better society, the church must be visible.

It is an honor to have such a historical, dynamic and blessed church in the South Birmingham Huntsville Bessemer District, and I am humbled that God would use me to connect the passionate, purposeful, and powerful members of St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church to carry out the vision of fulfilling the "Great Commission".

Again, Mrs. Allen and I take this opportunity to congratulate Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church, and thanks be to God Almighty for His continued protection, guidance, and mercies upon the church family and the blessing of the 130<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary.

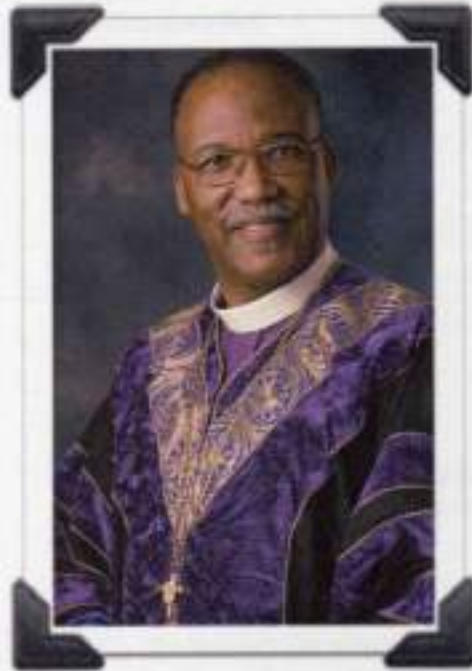
Yours in Service,

*Reverend Oliver and Mrs. Mary Allen*

Reverend Oliver and Mrs. Mary Allen

## Servant Bishop James Levert Davis

Ninth Episcopal District -AME Church



James Levert Davis, a fifth generation African Methodist Episcopal minister, is the son of the late Mother Dorothy Lynch, the late Reverend Sam Davis and Mother Alma Davis. Bishop Davis attended both the public and private schools of Alabama. Having received the call to ministry at age 12, he attended Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia where he earned the Bachelor of Science degree; Master of Divinity degree from the Turner Theological Seminary and the Doctorate of Ministry degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

Bishop James L. Davis has preached and taught the good news of Jesus the Christ for over 45 years. After seeking the divine guidance of He who called him to higher service in Kingdom building campaigned for twenty-two months on his mantra – "I Showed Up for Work and God Blew My Mind". On July 3, 2004, in Indianapolis, Indiana he showed up for an opportunity to serve and was elected and consecrated the 123rd Bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church during its 47th Quadrennial General Conference. He was appointed to the 19th Episcopal District

which encompasses the Republic of South Africa. While serving his first assignment Bishop Davis' vision of furthering the legacy of self-help and self-reliance led to many accomplishments while living on the continent for four years (2004-2008).

Bishop James L. Davis currently serves as the servant prelate of the 9th Episcopal District which encompasses the entire state of Alabama. As the spiritual shepherd, in 2008 and 2014, Bishop Davis visited all 275 churches throughout the state of Alabama. Under his leadership the 9th Episcopal District purchased and renovated the District Headquarters located in the Downtown area of Birmingham, AL. Twenty-five months later the District celebrated the mortgage burning, while still reporting \$1.8 million in budget assessments and giving back to the local churches over \$60,000 to assist in various areas of need.

For six years, the 9th District saw phenomenal growth in evangelism through Pentecost gathered and Pentecost scattered. He prayerfully spearheaded the coordination of a myriad of details executed by District leaders and members, resulting in unforgettable worship experiences that have drawn over 25,000 worshippers and witnesses throughout the state of Alabama, resulting in numerous accessions, conversions and commitments.

As Chair of the Board of Directors for Daniel Payne College, Bishop Davis has presented a phenomenal vision for its property. This project will serve as one of the instrument for which the District will find another way to finance our church by erecting an income-generating facility. In August 2014 the Daniel Payne College Foundation, Inc. of the 9th Episcopal District purchased the Daniel Payne Middle School as a \$2.5 million cash-sale. Making this the largest property owned by an African American institution in the state of Alabama. The Daniel Payne Community Plaza will be the new home for the District Headquarters, and become a thriving space catering to the needs of the immediate Birmingham community and the state of Alabama.

He is married to his partner in the ministry, Arelis Beevers Davis. They are the very proud parents of Dr. Nicole Davis Pass and Damarys Monique Burnett, her husband, Christopher, three grandsons, Patrick James and Ashton James Pass and Baron Christopher Valentino Burnett and one granddaughter-Noel Olivia Burnett.

## Order of Worship

|                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Announcements.....                                                                | Miss Kaitlyn McClung                                                                                                              |
| *Doxology                                                                         |                                                                                                                                   |
| *Call to Worship (Traditional).....                                               | Mr. Ricardo Williams                                                                                                              |
| Hymn of Praise #364.....                                                          | My Hope Is Built.....Choir / Congregation                                                                                         |
| **Prayer / Choral Response.....                                                   | Mr. Earl Fitchard<br>(Representing the Watts/Pride/Fitchard Family)                                                               |
| Worship Through Dance.....                                                        | St. John AME Church Dance Ministry                                                                                                |
| **Scripture.....                                                                  | Old Testament : Habakkuk 2:1-4.....Mrs. Mattie Ezell<br>New Testament : II Corinthians 5:17-18.....Ms. Erin Lott                  |
| Decalogue (Abridged).....                                                         | Mrs. Zelda Goggans<br>(Representing the Cobb Family)                                                                              |
| Welcoming of Guests & Occasion.....                                               | Maria Walton, Yvonne Barbour,<br>Karen Minor, Shayla Wilson, and Channing Ransom<br>(Representing the Hatton/Lowery/Jones Family) |
| *Litany.....                                                                      | Ms. Barbara Johnson and Mr. Jesse Johnson<br>(Representing the Powers Family)                                                     |
| HERstory Moment                                                                   |                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Ministry Through Giving</b><br>Prayer of Thanksgiving - Bro. Curtis Mayes, Jr. |                                                                                                                                   |
| Introduction of Servant Bishop James L. Davis.....                                | Pastor Patrick Clayborn                                                                                                           |
| Worship Through Song.....                                                         | St. John AME Church Mass Choir                                                                                                    |
| Sermon.....                                                                       | Servant Bishop James L. Davis<br>9th Episcopal District                                                                           |
| Invitation to Christian Discipleship                                              |                                                                                                                                   |
| Baptism.....                                                                      | Servant Bishop James L. Davis                                                                                                     |

Doxology

Benediction

## Mother Arelis Beevers Davis



Mother Arelis Beevers Davis serves as the Episcopal District Supervisor of the Women's Missionary Society and Young People's Division of the Ninth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Born in Samana, Dominican Republic, to Mr. Federico Beevers and the late Mrs. Luz Francisca Beevers, Mother Davis moved to the United States and was educated in the Belmar Public School System in Belmar, New Jersey. Mother Davis earned the Bachelor of Arts degree from Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia and Master of Education degree, with an emphasis in Spanish Education, from the University of Alabama in Birmingham. While fulfilling the requirements for her master's degree, Mother Davis studied at the University of Guadalajara in Mexico. Mother Davis has nearly thirty years of experience as an educator during which time she has impacted, molded and inspired students in the public school systems and at the college level in the state of Alabama and Georgia. Mother Davis has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors from numerous organizations including:

Who's Who Among Black Americans and the National Hispanic Society. She is a member of the Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the prestigious sisterhood of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

In the Ninth Episcopal District, Mother Davis supervises missionaries which encompass the state of Alabama. Beyond her mission in Alabama, Mother Davis' travels have taken her to Hong Kong, Bermuda, Bahamas, England, Singapore, Malaysia, Germany, Brazil, Canada, and East, West and South Africa. While serving in the Nineteenth District, Mother Davis established the "Hope and Healing" Ministry which focuses on health awareness, breast cancer awareness and other women's health issues. Mother Davis developed extensive plans to effectively minister to those who are impacted by health issues that plague our community especially HIV and AIDS. Her ministry also includes giving hope and support to women and families that are directly affected by breast cancer.

Prior to becoming the Episcopal Supervisor of the Nineteenth Episcopal District, Mother Davis faithfully served the Lord at Big Bethel AME Church in Atlanta, Georgia. She faithfully fulfilled her duties as a Stewardess, member of the Scholarship Committee and the Married Couples' Ministry.

Mother Davis has been married to Bishop James L. Davis for thirty-five years. She has provided support and co-leadership to their ministry team by being an example of true partnership in ministry and marriage. Mother Davis considers her greatest gift in life is being a mother to her two daughters, Damaris Monique Davis and Nicole Tatiana Pass. The greatest joys of her life are her two grandsons, Patrick James and Ashton James Pass.

As Supervisor of Missions, Mother Davis is charged with preparing missionaries for their role in the church, counseling and serving as a role model to ministers' spouses. Mother Davis lives her life to serve God and humanity. She is greatly inspired by the Word of God, especially Psalm 116:1, 2 and 12, "I love the Lord, for He heard my voice: He heard my cry for mercy. Because He turned His ear to me. I will call on Him as long as I live. How can I repay the Lord for all His goodness to me?"

## Church Anniversary Litany "Transformed Through Time . . . Envisioning The Future"

*Dr. Lee Williams II*

**Leader:** Dear Lord, thank you for drawing us as an African Methodist Episcopal congregation to You to become part of Your church. Thank you for our ancestors and those who listened to your voice and were obedient to Your call to organize this congregation for Your purpose.

**People:** Help us to remember our past and to teach our youth Your ways and their history, so that they will know who You are and who they can be. Inspire us with a vision for the future and use that vision to direct the path of this congregation.

**Leader:** Help us to lean not to our own understanding but to lean on every promise of Your Word. Grant us the authority to conquer all divisiveness and fill us with a desire to love one another.

**People:** Lord, please hide us in Your bosom and protect us from all evil and from the wiles of those spirits that seek to destroy the peace You have given us. May Your spirit continue to infuse our church with courage, hope, and grace.

**Leader:** Teach us to know Your voice and give us the courage to obey it. Lord, please continue to provide this church with a light for the world.

**People:** God, we gather in this place to acknowledge that we did not choose You, but You chose us, and appointed us, to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. We praise You for choosing us and calling us out of darkness into Your wonderful light.

**Leader:** You have searched us and You know us, yet You continue to love and use us. Wash away all our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. As we reflect upon the work You, oh Lord, have done through us, help us never to forget the message, mission, and work to which You have called St. John AME Church because You are the vine and we are the branches—apart from You we have no work of our own.

**People:** As we move forward in this ministry, we recommit ourselves to the principles of Your Word—to love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind, and soul; to love our neighbor as we love ourselves; to feed the hungry and to clothe the naked; to work for justice on behalf of those whose voices are not heard.

**Leader:** For this is how our God is glorified, that we bear much fruit, showing ourselves to be Jesus' disciples.

**People:** We shall always keep a dream in our hearts, for when we have the Lord's dream, then—by all means—we shall do what it takes to make the dream become true; when we have a goal, we shall make it something to strive to accomplish; when we have hope, then we shall hope for it with all our hearts.

**All:** Amen, Amen, and Amen again!!

*[References; Selected]*

# St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church History

The African Methodist Episcopal Church was the first major religious institution for African Americans. The church was founded by Bishop Richard Allen in 1787 in Philadelphia. The church began as a protest against racial injustice to worshipers of African descent at St. George's Methodist Church. The first organization was known as the Free African Society. In 1816, the church held its first General Conference electing and consecrating Richard Allen the first Bishop. Today the church has millions of members and twenty Episcopal Districts in North and South America, England, France, Africa and India. The Ninth Episcopal District consists of the state of Alabama and the Presiding Bishop is the Right Reverend James Levert Davis. The Ninth District was originally the Seventh Episcopal District. It was officially formed at the General Conference of the AME Church in 1868. Bishop John W. Brown was assigned as the first Bishop. Between 1868 and 1920 the district was geographically reorganized several times and at different times Alabama was attached with Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. In 1920, Alabama became the Ninth District. Currently the District has five (5) annual conferences.

Bishop Henry McNeil Turner organized the North Alabama Conference, beginning with Greater St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Florence, AL, in 1878. The North and West Alabama Conferences were combined and the Presiding Elder Districts realigned under the leadership of Bishop James L. Davis. St. John is in the South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer District of this conference. The current Presiding Elder is Reverend Oliver Allen, Jr. St. John Huntsville was organized by Dr. William Hooper Council and others in 1885. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets and Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A.M.E. Church. In addition to organizing St. John and serving as the first Pastor, Dr. Council was the founder and one of the most distinguished presidents of Alabama A&M University. In 1900 the first church building was erected on Church Street. Ministers serving St. John besides Dr. Council include Reverends Patterson, Shelton, Goodlow, Williams, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Foxx, Hereford, McCall, and our present pastor, Reverend Patrick Clayborn, Ph.D.

In 1971 the church moved into a newly erected facility at 229 Church Street. From this location at the corner of downtown Huntsville, St. John opened its doors to the community. The many civic and cultural events hosted by St. John include NAACP meetings and programs, inaugural prayer services for the President of the City Council of Huntsville, graduation for the Phoenix program, Greater Huntsville Interdenominational Ministerial Fellowship and Interdenominational Ministerial Spouses Association services, voter registration, Alabama Democratic Conference meetings, Race Unity programs, and the originating point for the NAACP Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. March. St. John continues to have a strong affiliation with Alabama A&M University through its members, outreach to students and financial support. Four of the eleven Presidents of Alabama A & M University have been members of St. John: the founder and first president, Dr. William H. Council, the eighth President, Dr. David B. Henson, the ninth president, Dr. John T. Gibson, Sr., and the eleventh President, Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr.

Over the long history of St. John A.M.E.C there have been many strong members and leaders who have done herculean work in the church for the glory of God. St. John strives to set a Christian standard within the Huntsville/Madison County area, the Nation and the World through its commitment to the Proclamation and study of the Word, worship, stewardship, mission and evangelism. Under the current leadership of Pastor Patrick D. Clayborn, the church continues to grow and expand its current ministries to continue serving the needs of its church and the community at large.



## HUNTSVILLE

Tommy Battle  
Mayor

### Greetings,



*As Mayor of the City of Huntsville and on behalf of our citizens, it is an honor and pleasure to send greetings to Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church in celebration of its 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this March 22, 2015.*

*A special acknowledgement is given to the chairperson and staff for tirelessly coordinating this time of celebrating the past and embracing the future. Many hours were spent preparing and planning to create a successful occasion and our community benefits from those efforts.*

*It is my sincere hope that your celebration will be a renewal experience and I'm positive that your speaker and*

*Pastor, Patrick D. Clayborn, will bring messages of encouragement making this a grand event. Ministers and church members along with their friends need an opportunity to celebrate while learning, reflecting and creating a strong commitment working toward the future goals of their church community.*

*Congratulations on the 130 years of faithful service. Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church has made quite a contribution not only to the Christian community, but to the North Alabama community as well.*

*I wish each of you a meaningful and spiritual experience. I hope you take home many wonderful memories from this special occasion. Again, thank you for the tremendous work that you do.*

Sincerely,

Tommy Battle  
Mayor

## The Star of Alabama

P.O. Box 308 · Huntsville, AL 35804-0308 · Phone 256-427-5000 · FAX 256-427-5257

[www.huntsvilleal.gov](http://www.huntsvilleal.gov)

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Saint John African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church will be celebrating its 130<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary on Sunday, March 22, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, St. John A.M.E. has been a fixture in the Huntsville Community since its organization in 1885; and

**WHEREAS**, St. John A.M.E. strives to set a Christian standard within the Huntsville/Madison County area, the Nation and the World through its commitment to the Proclamation and study of the Word, worship, stewardship, mission and evangelism; and

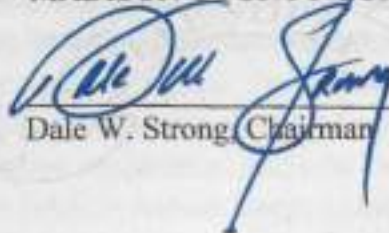
**WHEREAS**, over the long history of St. John A.M.E. Church, there have been many stalwart members and leaders in the church who have done extraordinary work in the church for the glory of God; and

**WHEREAS**, under the current leadership of Pastor Patrick D. Clayborn, the church continues to grow and expand its current ministries to continue serving the needs of its church and the community at large.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Dale W. Strong, Chairman of the Madison County Commission, does hereby bring greetings of the people of Madison County to the members and guests of Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church on its 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Done this the third day of March, 2015.

MADISON COUNTY COMMISSION

  
Dale W. Strong, Chairman



DISTRICT NO. 19  
MADISON COUNTY  
**LAURA HALL**  
POST OFFICE BOX 3367  
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA  
35810  
HOME 256/859-2234  
OFFICE 256/539-5441  
MONTGOMERY 334/242-7688

## **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**ALABAMA STATE HOUSE**

**MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130**

COMMITTEES:  
WAYS AND MEANS GENERAL FUND  
CHAIR, SALARIES AND BENEFITS  
SUBCOMMITTEE  
JUDICIARY  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE  
MADISON COUNTY LEGISLATION  
CHILDREN IN STATE CARE INTERIM  
JOINT BUDGET INTERIM  
JUVENILE JUSTICE INTERIM  
WATER ASSISTANCE OVERSIGHT  
INTERIM

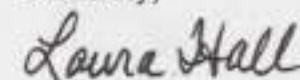


## **Greetings!**

What a joyous occasion for celebration! On this 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary, St. John AME can be proud of its rich heritage of service and outreach both locally and globally.

St. John is a thriving congregation and a loving church home because of the dedication and faith of its members and leaders. Congratulations to all of you who have contributed throughout the years to help St. John evolve into such an integral part of our community!

Sincerely,

  
Laura Hall



Representative Anthony Daniels, District 53  
Alabama House of Representatives

*is honored to congratulate*

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church  
on the occasion of your 130<sup>th</sup> church anniversary.

St. John is such a vital part of our community, a frontrunner in stewardship, missions, and evangelism. Throughout the years of your service and outreach, you have indeed set the bar high. You have consistently opened your doors to the Huntsville Community, with your strong emphasis on preaching, teaching, and Christian living. Please accept my best wishes as you continue to thrive and grow in your faith.

*Anthony Daniels*

Anthony Daniels



Alabama  
A&M  
University

Office of the President

P.O. Box 1357

Normal, Alabama 35762

March 7, 2015

St. John AME Church  
229 Church Street, NW  
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

Dear Rev. Dr. Clayborn and Congregation:

It is my pleasure as President of Alabama A&M University to bring you greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and First Lady Abbiegail Hugine on the occasion of the 130<sup>th</sup> observance of the founding of St. John AME Church. Dr. William Hooper Council understood the need for wholeness of the human spirit and mind. In 1875, consistent with the scripture, "study thyself to be approved" he founded Alabama A&M University to foster the development of the human mind. As an ordained itinerant elder in the AME Church, he also understood that ministering to the spirit was essential for the actualization of wholeness. Thus, in 1885, he led the efforts to establish St. John AME church to minister to the human spirit. Since that time, there has been a symbiotic relationship between these two pillars of the Huntsville Community. St. John AME is home church to many alumni, students, employees and supporters of Alabama A&M University. St. John has also served as home church to several presidents of AAMU and others in university leadership positions. Over the years, St. John has provided support to Alabama A&M University through programs such as AAMU Day, the First Lady's Scholarship Luncheon, the Black Tie Gala, and the Homer McCall Endowed Scholarship.

We commend St. John AME Church on her commitment to bettering human kind in Huntsville, Alabama and wish for St. John AME Church God's continued blessings as she continues to implement ministries that address "the present age, her calling to fulfill." As St. John continues to be a beacon of hope in our community, she must envelope, embrace and rededicate herself to the same boldness of Richard Allen and William Hooper Council in fulfilling the great mission of our church to minister to the social, spiritual, physical development of all people including caring for the needy, providing for the education of our people, providing for the economic empowerment of our people, ensuring that our government meets the requirement of the constitution by providing for the common good of all persons, and being the champion for rights and the moral conscience of the country.

Again, congratulations on the celebration of 130 years of making a difference in the lives of human kind. We wish God's continued blessings upon you.

Sincerely,

*Andrew Hugine Jr.*

Andrew Hugine, Jr., Ph.D.  
President

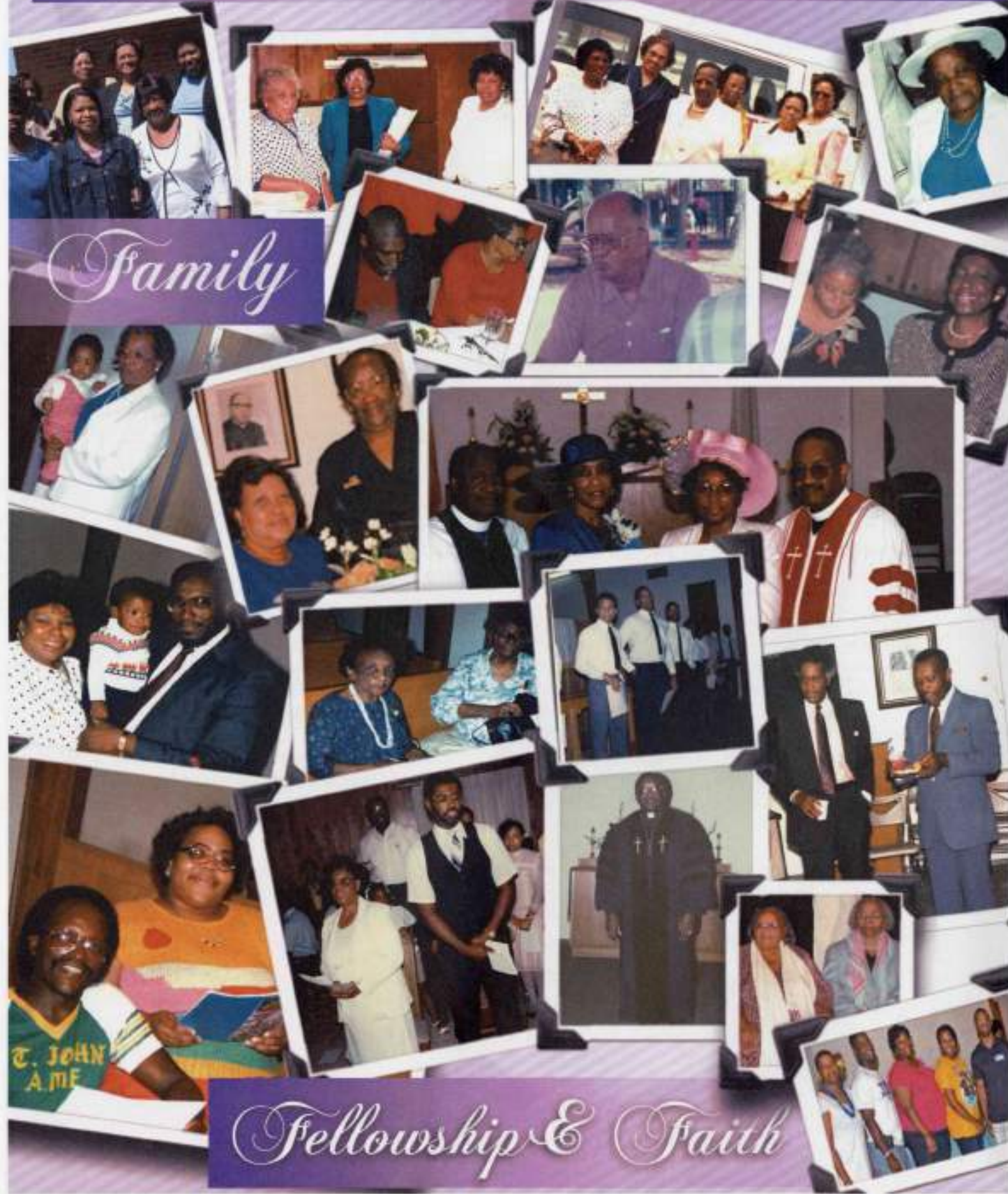
# Building Through the Years

## Family

## Fellowship & Faith

# Sowing Through Service

## Legacy



# Honoring the Past

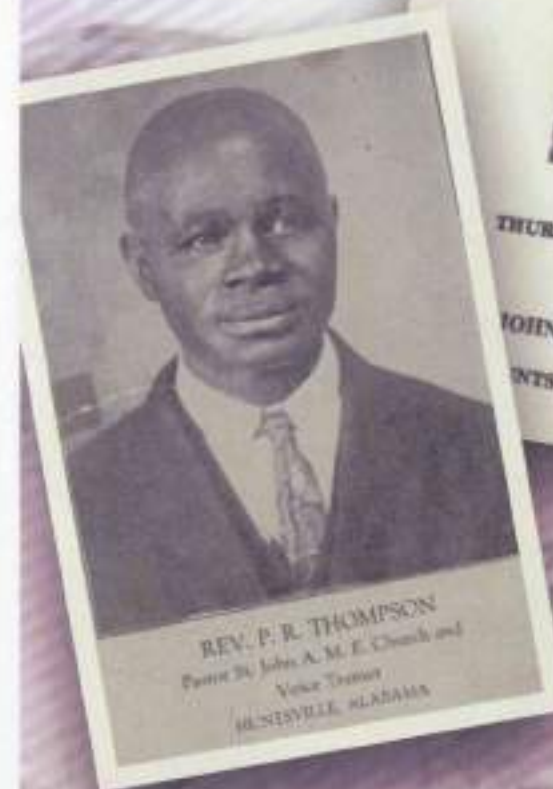


## Present



## Future

# Rich Roots



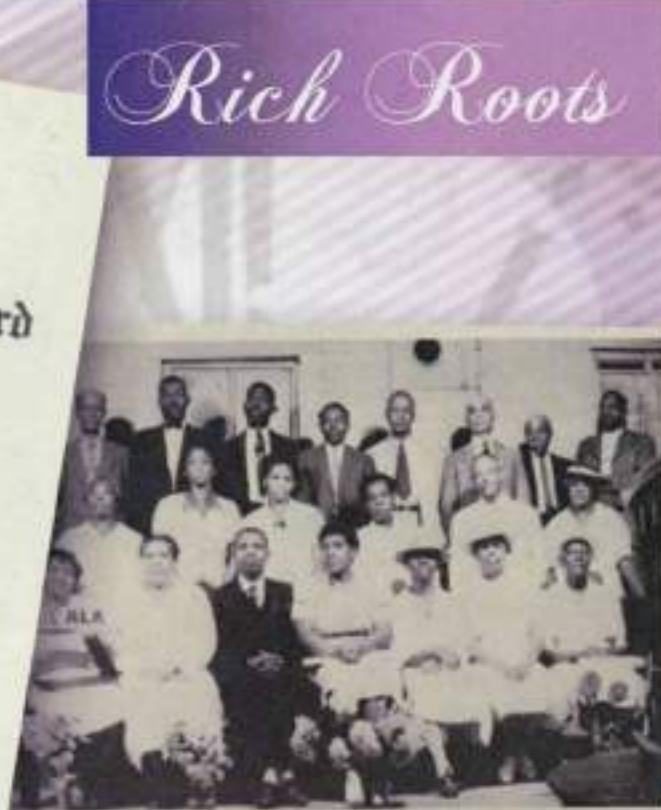
Rev. Claudewell Campbell



Rev. Homer L. McCall, D.Min



Rev. Kenneth Donald Johnson



Rev. and Mrs. Stone



Rev. Vicki Mayberry



Rev. Debra Ballard



# 130th Anniversary Concert & Honoree Celebration

**MARCH**  
**20**  
**6:30 PM**

St. John AME Church

1971 - PRESENT

1900 - 1971

*"Transformed through Time  
Envisioning the Future"*



## 130th Church Anniversary Concert

Theme: Transformed Through Time, Envisioning the Future

20 MARCH 2015

### Honoring Visionaries

Worship Leader - Rev. Dennis DeLoach

Meditation

Mrs. Charlsie Brooks

Praise and Worship

Praise & Worship Ensemble

### GOSPEL CHOIR

*God Never Fails Traditional*

*You've Been So Faithful by Eddie James*

### Special Presentations

- Rev. and Mrs. Homer L. McCall
- Mrs. Mildred Hereford
- Mrs. Sarah Bell
- Mr. Homer McCraw
- Mrs. Idell Merrill
- Mr. James Jamar

### VOICES IN PRAISE CHOIR

*Peace and Favor by Kurt Carr*

*Watch God Move by Joe Pace*

### CHILDREN'S CHOIR

*Old Time Religion (style of Cedarhurst Kids)*

### Offering

### MALE CHORUS

*Jesus Christ Is the Way by Walter Hawkins*

*No Cross, No Crown by James Cleveland*

### Special Presentations

- Dr. and Mrs. Willie Clark
- Dr. Lee Williams
- Mrs. Martha Smith
- Mrs. Vanona Walton
- Mr. Otha Owens

### MASS CHOIR

*All In His Hands by Florida Mass Choir*

*I Am Redeemed by Jessy Dixon*

*You've Been Good to Me by Min. Lawrence Thomason*

*(You've Brought Me from A Mighty Long Way)*

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Pastor Patrick Clayborn

Remarks & Benediction

Reception to follow

## St. John A.M.E Church Honorees

### Reverend and Mrs. Homer L. McCall



Dr. Homer Littlefield McCall, a native of Montgomery, Alabama, served as the pastor of St. John A. M. E. Church, Huntsville, for four decades. Reverend McCall is a man of God and a family man. He emphasizes that his first commitment is to God, and immediately follows this with his statement of undying commitment to his wife, Mable (to whom he refers to as his first lady and partner in ministry). They are the proud parents of Homer II, Sonya, and Gale.

He has served as Pastor of St. John A.M.E. Church, Huntsville, Alabama from 1971-2011; Assistant Professor, Department of English and Foreign Languages and as University Chaplain AAMU, Normal, Alabama. Mrs. McCall retired after 28 years as an elementary school teacher in the Huntsville City School system. Reverend and Mrs. McCall are involved in religious, educational, civic, and community activities and received many honors and awards in each area. Among the most prestigious ones are the distinguished Pastor and First Lady of the Year Award from the Ninth Episcopal District bestowed upon him and Mrs. McCall in 2010.

### Mrs. Mildred Dunn Hereford

Mildred Dunn Hereford, 93, was born in Florence, Alabama, to Bernard and Emma (Smith) Dunn. As a child, she demonstrated maturity at an early age by caring for her ailing mother and her three siblings, Olivia Brown, William Dunn and Junious Dunn. She accepted Christ at an early age and was active in her home church, Mount Zion AME Church in Florence. Through her involvement with the Sunday School program, she not only became the Sunday School District Superintendent, but she also found her calling as an educator. She and her husband, the late Reverend Samuel S. Hereford Sr., were the parents of five children: Barbara Hereford Turner (J.B. Turner Jr.), the late Samuel S. Hereford Jr. (Fannie Barnett), Reverend Robert Hereford Sr. (Janice Johnson), Brenda Hereford Powell (James Vernon Powell) and Sharon Hereford Fiorentino (Michael Fiorentino).

During the 13 years that her husband served as pastor of St. John AME Church in Huntsville, Mrs. Hereford was active as a Stewardess and a member of the Missionary Society at the church. Mrs. Hereford holds bachelors and master's degrees in education from Alabama A&M University. During a long and distinguished career, she taught at Mims High School in McCormick, S.C., and also at Carlisle Park Junior High and Lakeview School in Guntersville, Alabama. She also taught at Toney Junior High, New Hope Elementary and Madison Cross Roads Elementary, eventually retiring from the Madison County School System. Mrs. Hereford has a talent for gardening and cooking, and her joy has come through sharing the word of God with her 14 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. The edifice we sit in was built as a result of the labor of love and planning of she and her late husband Rev. Samuel Shelby Hereford.



### Mrs. Sarah Bell



Mrs. Sarah Bell affectionately known as "Granny" has been a member of St. John AME since 1932. She joined St. John under the leadership of Pastor P.R. Thompson who baptized her on September 23, 1932. A lifelong resident of Madison County, Granny is the 9th of 11 children born to the late John and Sarah Davis. Never one to rest on her laurels; Granny loves being busy, working in her yard and just loving everyone even if they don't love her back. The catalyst for her love of people came from having examples of love in her parents and siblings. She worked for many years with the children of St. John and in the nursery. Her love for children was not only for her own six children, but for the children she cared for while employed for 18 years with the Department of Human Resources. She at worked at Chi-Ho Mansion for Children which serviced abandoned, abused and neglected children.

Granny has served in many capacities at St. John including Choir member, Stewardess, and Usher. She currently serves as a Deaconess and has the distinction as the most seasoned member of St. John. She will celebrate

96 years of age in May of this year. Her favorite scripture is Psalm 23 with special focus on verse 4 which states in part, "...I shall fear no evil for Thou art with me..."

### Mr. Homer McCraw

This young man, Homer H. McCraw, Sr. is the second of three sons born to Mr. and Mrs. Isaac McCraw on August 11, 1920, in Oakman, Alabama. His family moved to Huntsville where he enrolled in Normal Training School. Shortly after entering College at Alabama A & M, Homer was drafted into World War II. After three years of service in The European Theatre, Staff Sergeant McCraw returned home. His honors and medals consisted of a Silver Star, a Bronze Star and an Honorable Discharge.

Mr. McCraw enrolled again at Alabama A & M and received a B.S. Degree in Agricultural Education. He taught veterans in Madison County for a few years before becoming Principal of Farmers' Capital (in 1953) now known as Lynn Fanning. During his tenure as Principal of Farmers' Capital he earned a Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision and a Double AA Certificate in Administration and Supervision. He retired in 1982. Mr. McCraw is a previous member of the Kiwanis Club and is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

Mr. McCraw became a member of St. John in 1972 under the leadership of Reverend McCall. He immediately accepted his Christian duties by becoming a member of the Sanctuary Choir, joining the 50 Plus Auxiliary, and serving as Chair of the Trustee Board. Mr. McCraw remained faithful until his health prevented him from serving regularly. Homer is married to Hodie Lanier for 71 years. They are the proud parents of 3 children, Denise, Dana (Dr. Johnson), and Homer Jr. (Isabella).



### **Mrs. Idell Merrill**



Mrs. Idell Merrill was born in Guntersville, AL and joined the AME church at an early age when she confessed her faith in Christ. Mrs. Merrill's grandfather was an AME, and she can remember going to church with him and hearing the song, "O for a Thousand Tongues." She indicated that hearing that song was the catalyst for her joining church and is still her favorite hymn. She joined St. John AME in Huntsville under the leadership of Pastor Homer L. McCall in 1971. She was a homemaker for many years serving as a helpmate to her husband and caring for her eight children. She served as a volunteer in the school system, teacher in the Head Start program and as a Teacher's Aid for 20 years in the Huntsville City School system.

Mrs. Merrill assisted in the Kitchen Ministry and both the Gospel and Sanctuary Choirs. She was also instrumental

in constructing some of the first bulletin boards at St. John. She enjoys singing and often remembers her grandmother's tears as she sang hymns. She stated that, "Singing is a God sent thing to me, Amazing Grace is bred in me.... it is just a part of me".

### **Mr. James Jamar**

Mr. James Edward Jamar was born to Reverend L.C. and Bessie Jamar in Bessemer, AL and joined St. John in 1945 under leadership of Pastor E.D. Hughes when Decatur Ward Nichols was Bishop. His father, Reverend Jamar, was a member of St. John and editor of the Huntsville Mirror, one of the first African American news publications in Huntsville. As a child he was a Boy Scout and a newspaper carrier. He later served as a Scoutmaster. When asked why he did not follow in the father's footsteps in the newspaper business, he replied, "That was not my calling." He was married to the late Helen Nance Jamar, is the father of one daughter and has 2 grandchildren. He graduated from Councill High and earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Secondary Education and Masters of Science in Secondary Education degree from Alabama A & M University. He studied further at Tennessee State University, University of South Alabama, Peabody University and University of Alabama-Huntsville. Mr. Jamar, an accomplished clarinetist and saxophonist, conducted a musical ensemble under the leadership of Reverend McCall. He served as a member of the Steward Board under Reverend Hereford and as a member of the Male Chorus and the Sanctuary choir. He is also a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Some of his fondest memories are of attending Annual Conferences in Birmingham, Alabama and his baptism. Reverend Hughes was assisted by his father during his baptism as well as by Stewardess' Betty Derrick, Amanda Derrick and Dora Ashford.



### **Dr. Willie & Mrs. Lou Clark**



Dr. and Mrs. Willie Clark joined St. John under the leadership of Reverend Samuel S. Hereford in 1968. Mr. Clark, "Mingo" to those who really know him, sang in the Sanctuary choir, the Men's Chorus and served on the Trustee Board. He is most proud of the additions that were made to the church while he was a Trustee that included exterior lighting and the addition of lighting and microphones in the choir lofts. Mrs. Lou D. Clark served as a Stewardess for so long that she can't remember. She indicated that serving is something that she enjoys and that it has never felt like a chore. She served as the Church Secretary under Reverend Homer McCall.

Mrs. Clark retired from Alabama A & M University where she worked in the Finance Office and Mr. Clark retired from the Huntsville City School system after 40 years of service. High School sweethearts - he was the captain of the football team and she was the Queen, have been married for 60+ years. He asked to walk her home one day after school and has been walking her home ever since. His fondest memories at St. John revolve around singing especially Negro Spirituals and hers, the church family. She continues to serve as a member of the Naomi Council.

### **Dr. Lee Williams II**

Dr. Lee Williams II joined and became a member of St. John in 1974 under the leadership of Pastor McCall. He is an ever present figure at St. John, particularly in Church School. The Church School class can depend on Dr. Williams to thoughtfully provide a perspective with a historical reference that promotes conversation and food for thought. Dr. Williams retired after 36 1/2 years at University of Alabama - Huntsville serving in the History Department. Dr. Williams, who specialized in African-American history, also served as director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Former Chair of University Review Board, member of the Faculty Senate, Curriculum Committee Member, Intercollegiate Athletic Committee, Promotion Tenure and Reappointment Committee, Academic Advisory Team, and Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Committee.

Dr. Williams has served as a member of the Steward Board for 5 years, Trustee Board for 34 years and as former Music Committee Chair. He continues to serve as a member of the Sons of Allen, Lay Organization, 50+ Auxiliary and Sunday School Teacher. Two of his favorite memories that occurred at St. John are the baptism of son, Lee William III, and when his son joined church.



### **Mrs. Martha Smith**



Mrs. Martha Smith is a native of Lincoln County, Tennessee and recounts that she has lived more years in Huntsville. Mrs. Smith grew up as an AME and after marrying, relocating and eventually attending church with family members sought out that which she was familiar - St. John. She has been a member for 40+ years and has served St. John faithfully.

She has served as a member of the Pastor's Aid Board, the Usher Board for 40+ years and Steward Board for 17 years. She served on the Wellness Committee in the 1980's that was created under the leadership of Pastor McCall to educate regarding health issues and assisting with monitoring blood pressure. Mrs. Smith retired after 30 years of service from Huntsville Hospital where she was a Charge Nurse and Supervisor. She has recently started attending Church School and is enjoying the experience.

One of her favorite memories is of joining St. John and being approached by the late Mrs. Ada Houston regarding serving on the Usher Board not long after being given the right hand of fellowship. Mrs. Smith's call to service was spurred although unexpected by that one act. She stated that, "It opened me up, it got me started ....I had a duty, a responsibility".

### **Mrs. Vanona Louise Walton**

Vanona Louise Walton is the oldest of five children born to Mrs. Ruth Beacham and the late Mr. Floyd Beacham, Sr. of Birmingham, Alabama. Vanona graduated from the old Samuel Ullman High School in Birmingham, which is now part of University of Alabama, Birmingham. Vanona received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Alabama A&M University. She is married to Lenel Walton and they have one daughter, Dr. Dominique Suzette Walton Brooks (Thomas Wesley) and two beautiful grandchildren.

Vanona worked for Computer Sciences Corporation as a Programmer/Analyst until her retirement in 2002 after 25 years of service. She has been a member of St. John for 38 years and has served in many capacities within the church. She taught the Primary class in Church School for over twenty years, first as an assistant working with Mrs. Townsend (deceased) and Mrs. Rose Thomas. She has served as a member of the Sanctuary and Gospel choirs, the Praise Dance Ministry, Stewardess Board, and the Senior Usher Board for over 36 years and a Steward for 16 years. She supports the Soup Kitchen and is a member of the Fifty Plus Auxiliary. Her favorite Bible verse is, "Always humble yourself in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up" - James 4:10



### **Mr. Otha Owens**



Mr. Otha Owens was raised in the AME church and maintained his relationship with the denomination as he and family relocated from Alabama to Connecticut and back to Alabama. The Owens relocated to Huntsville in 1987 and joined St. John AME in 1988 under the leadership of Pastor McCall. They joined St. John because of their connection to Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Burks. Mr. Burks was their Principal and Mrs. Burks their English teacher when they were growing up in Centreville, AL. Not one to rest on his laurels, Mr. Owens soon began serving. He was elected as a Trustee in 1990 and appointed to the Steward Board 1995. He sang briefly with the Sanctuary Choir and the Male Chorus.

A devoted family man, Mr. Owens has been married to Edna Mack for 50 years and they are the parents of 4 children, Otha Jr. (Felicia), Myron (Lydia), Karen Hudson (Marc) and Shanti Mangrum (Victor). They have 9 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. His favorite memories of how his family was received by the St. John family when they joined. Everyone was so friendly. He also has fond

### **Mr. Rufus Gilmore III**

Rufus Gilmore III, has served the congregation of St. John faithfully. In 1977, he became one of the church musicians. Later, he became the music director. Mr. Gilmore thrived in that position for over thirty years. He also served as a steward and in various other ministries of the church. He serves as the co-chair for this 130th church anniversary.

Outside of St. John, Mr. Gilmore has done substantial work in the community. He served as the manager of Council Federal Credit Union. The Birmingham, Ala., native earned the Bachelor of Science degree in business administration with an emphasis on accounting from Miles College. He later earned the Master of Business Administration degree in accounting from Clark Atlanta University. Mr. Gilmore pursued additional studies at the University of Georgia and Alabama A&M University.

In the area of higher education, Mr. Gilmore has served as a part-time accountant at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College and as an assistant professor at Alabama A&M University, ultimately retiring from the latter.

Other experiences include service as an assistant director of financial aid at Miles College; part-time instructor, Lawson State Community College; part-time instructor, Oakwood University; and manager, accounting department, Miles College. Mr. Gilmore has also been affiliated with the Institute of Management Accountants, National Association of Black Accountants, and the Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development at Alabama A&M University.



**Ministers**

Rev. Patrick Clayborn, Pastor  
 Rev. Sheri Clayborn  
 Rev. Horace Fitchard, Jr.  
 Rev. Meriam Garrett  
 Rev. Robert B. Hereford, Sr.  
 Rev. James R. Johnson, Sr.  
 Rev. Homer L. McCall  
 Rev. Daniel Wims

**Steward Board**

Roselyne Akines  
 William Bell  
 Darrell Ezell  
 Guy Ginn  
 James O. Heyward  
 Marcus Hill  
 Abbiegail Hugine  
 Jeanette Jones  
 Nedra McDaniel  
 Clifton Miller  
 Clifton Pearson  
 Willie Sandifer  
 Eddie Sherrod  
 Adrienne Washington  
 Hodges Washington  
 Pamela Whitehead

**Deaconess**

Sara Bell  
 Ernestine Barnes-Ivery

**Trustee Board**

Bridget Floyd  
 Karl Gullatte  
 Erica Harbin  
 Jesse Johnson  
 Carl Lewis  
 Randy Love  
 Thalia Love  
 Pearlean Myhand  
 Maeola Peoples  
 Glenn Pippen  
 Claudinette Purifoy-Fears  
 Mary Rankin  
 Lula Rochelle  
 Eva Smith  
 Terry Speight  
 Darwin Washington  
 Eddie Whitehead  
 Bill Williams  
 Justin York

**Stewardess Board**

Gwendolyn Baldwin  
 Carol Ball  
 Paulette Bargon  
 Rose Bell  
 Sarah Bell  
 Brittany Bell-Cowan  
 Charlsie Brooks  
 Angeline Brownlow  
 Sharon Butler  
 Felicia Carter

**Stewardess Board (cont)**

Lou Clark  
 Yvette Clark  
 Angelina Daniels  
 Kathlyn Dulaney  
 Geneva Fontenot  
 Agnes Gilmore  
 Zelda Goggans  
 Willie Heyward  
 Dawn Lewis  
 Barbara Johnson  
 Patricia McIntosh  
 Tullie Miller  
 Karen Minor  
 Edna Owens  
 Clementine Pearson  
 Claire Philadelphia  
 Regina Pippen  
 Mary Powers  
 Mildred Powers  
 Ashley Rhodes  
 Carolyn Russ  
 Glenda Sconiers  
 Templena Stanley  
 Laurretta Teague  
 Donnie Thompson  
 Rosa Walker  
 Elaine Washington  
 Juanita Washington  
 Rosemary Wells  
 Paulette Williams  
 Rosetta Williams

Secretary for Official Board - Pamela Whitehead

Treasurer for Official Board - Nedra McDaniel

Financial Secretary - Cheryl Anderson

**Ministry/Auxiliary Leaders**

Christian Education Director, Monica Dillihunt  
 Church School Superintendent, Willie Sandifer  
 Lay Organization President, Hodges Washington  
 Women's Missionary Society President, Donnie Thompson  
 YPD Director, Yvonne Sanderson  
 YPD President, Mariah Gullatte  
 Sons of Allen President, Justin York  
 Class Leader, Rosa Whittaker  
 Koinonia Ministry, LaCondria Bryant  
 Senior Usher Board President, Agnes Gilmore  
 Jr. Usher Board, Alicia Brownlow  
 AMENewsletter, Nedra McDaniel  
 Computer Ministry, Ricardo Williams  
 Congregational Care, Abbiegail Hugine  
 Dance Ministry, Jennifer Patterson  
 Fifty Plus Auxiliary  
 Health Matters Ministry, Rosemary Wells and Maeola Peoples  
 Holiday Basket Ministry, Paulette Williams and Maeola Peoples  
 Hospitality, Pamela Whitehead  
 iTHRIVE, Janette Smith  
 Kitchen Ministry, Pearlean Myhand and Maeola Peoples  
 Media Ministry, Curtis Mayes and Darwin Washington  
 Military Ministry, Felicia Carter  
 Music Director, Reginald Pearson  
 Children's Choir, Mary Rankin  
 Gospel Choir, Cleveland Wilson  
 Pastor's Aide Board, Claire Philadelphia  
 Prayer Ministry, Pastor Patrick Clayborn  
 Women's Ministry, Laurretta Teague

# *130th Church Anniversary Committee*

## **Co-Chair Persons**

Claudinet Purifoy-Fears  
Rufus Gilmore III

## **Committee Members**

Roselyne Atkins  
Abbiegail Hugine  
Jeanette Jones  
Rickshel Love  
Claire Philadelphia  
Adrienne P.K. Washington

Special thanks to the St. John office staff, Stewards, Trustees, Worship Council, Music Ministry, Media Ministry, Kitchen Ministry, Hospitality Ministry, and Pastor's Aid Board.

ST. JOHN AME CHURCH

*135th Church Anniversary*

REV. MAURICE WRIGHT, II—SERVANT PASTOR

WELCOME TO OUR

135TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

DINNER

&

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR

THE RIGHT REVEREND

HARRY L. SEAWRIGHT

1885

2020

ST. JOHN AME CHURCH

137<sup>th</sup>

ANNIVERSARY

ENGAGING, ENCOURAGING &  
EMBRACING THE PEOPLE OF  
GOD



*Church  
Anniversary*

229 Church Street NW ■ Huntsville, AL 35801 ■ 256-534-3265

*Founded 1885*

SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2022

10:00 A.M.

*Reverend Maurice Wright, II  
Servant Pastor*

*Dr. William Hooper Council  
Founder*

*Open for In-Person Worship*



*Rev. Maurice Wright, II—Servant Pastor  
Rev. Joretha Wright—First Lady*



## ST. JOHN A.M.E. CHURCH HISTORY



St. John Huntsville was organized by Dr. William Hooper Council and others in 1885. The first church services were held in a barber shop on the corner of Miller and West Holmes Streets. Dr. Council was ordained an elder in the A.M.E. Church. In addition to organizing St. John and serving as the first Pastor, Dr. Council was the founder and one of the most distinguished presidents of Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University. In 1990 the first church building was erected on Church Street. Ministers serving St. John besides Dr. Council included Reverends Patterson, Shelton, Goodlow, Todd, Brooks, Newell, Evans, Hill, Brice, Douglas, Cook, Thompson, Scott, Oliver, Woods, Lamar, White, Hughes, Howard, Stone, Dennis, Fox, Hereford, McCall and Clayborn. Our current pastor is The Reverend Maurice Wright, II.

In 1971 the church moved into a newly erected facility at 229 Church Street. From this strategic location at the corner of downtown Huntsville, St. John opened its doors to the community. The many civic and cultural events hosted by St. John included NAACP meetings and programs, inaugural prayer service for the President of the City Council of Huntsville, graduation for the Phoenix Program, Greater Huntsville Interdenominational Ministerial Fellowship and Interdenominational Ministerial Spouses Association services, voter registration, Alabama Democratic Conference meetings, Race Unity Programs, and the origination point for the NAACP Annual Martin Luther King Jr. March.

St. John continues to have a strong affiliation with Alabama A&M University through its members, outreach to students and financial support. Transportation is available for students who desire to attend worship. Five of the eleven presidents of Alabama A&M University have been members of St. John; the founder and first president, Dr. William Hooper Council, the eighth president Dr. David B. Henson, the ninth president, Dr. John T. Gibson, Sr., and the eleventh president, Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church was the first major religious institution for African Americans. The church was founded by Bishop Richard Allen in 1787 in Philadelphia. The church began as a protest against racial injustice to worshipers of African descent at St. George's Methodist Church. The first organization was known as the Free African Society. In 1816, the church held its first General Conference and elected Richard Allen the first Bishop. Today the church has millions of members and twenty Episcopal Districts in North and South America, England, and Africa.

The Ninth Episcopal District consists of the state of Alabama and the presiding bishop is The Right Reverend Harry L. Seawright. The Ninth District was originally the Seventh Episcopal District. It was officially formed at the General Conference of the AME Church in 1868. Bishop John W. Brown was assigned as the first bishop. Between 1868 and 1920 the district was geographically recognized several times and at different times Alabama was attached with Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. In 1920, Alabama became the Ninth District. Currently the district has five conferences.

Bishop Henry McNeil Turner organized the North Alabama Conference, beginning with Greater St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Florence, AL, in 1878. The North and West Alabama Conferences were combined, and the Presiding Elder Districts realigned under the leadership of Bishop James L. Davis. St. John is in the South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer District of this conference. The current Presiding Elder is Reverend Bruce W. Hunter.

St. John has a strong commitment to uphold our mission of service to our members and the community. Through the leadership of Rev. Homer McCall, the church purchased 53 acres of land in northwest Huntsville. Under the leadership and guidance of Pastor Wright, we have launched our building project for a new worship edifice and plan to break ground in September of 2020.

After 137 years of service St. John continues to serve through preaching, teaching and Christian living. We believe in **"Sharing the Word and Serving the People"**.

## Order of Worship

DEACONESS SARAH "GRANNY" BELL - WORSHIP LEADER

### "A LEGACY OF FAITH AND A BRIGHT FUTURE"

Matthew 16:18



Church Anniversary Video

Women's Recognition Moment

Welcome & Announcements..... Sister Macola Peoples

The Doxology ..... Deaconess Sarah "Granny" Bell

Call to Worship ..... The Deaconess Board

The Hymn of Praise ..... #21 "To God Be The Glory"

The Invocation ..... Reverend Meriam Garrett

The Prayer Response ..... "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

The Ministry of Music ..... Mass Choir

The Scripture Reading

The Old Testament - Psalm 100 ..... Addison & Breanne Bradford

The Epistle - Ephesians 1:15-23 ..... Sister Jana Goggans

The Gospel - Matthew 16:13-18 ..... Mother Mattie Ezell

The Ministry of Music ..... Mass Choir

The Proclamation of the Word  
The Reverend Maurice Wright, II  
"Don't Sleep On The Church"

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Offering

The Celebration Video

The Doxology & Benediction



**SAINT JOHN AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

229 Church Street NW, Huntsville, Alabama 35801

Office 256-534-3265—Parsonage 256-964-8188

office@stjohnhuntsville.com—www.stjohnhuntsville.com

The Right Reverend Harry L. Seawright  
Presiding Prelate, 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District, AMEC

The Reverend Bruce W. Hunter  
Presiding Elder, South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer District

**The Reverend Maurice Wright, II**  
**Servant Pastor**  
pastorwright@stjohnhuntsville.com

REVEREND JORETHA WRIGHT  
REVEREND OLIVER ALLEN (RET.)  
REVEREND CHARLES GLOVER  
REVEREND DR. JAMES R. JOHNSON  
REVEREND DR. DANIEL WIMS  
REVEREND ROBERT HEREFORD, SR. (RET.)  
REVEREND MERIAM GARRETT  
BROTHER JUSTIN YORK  
BROTHER JASON GILMORE  
SISTER LILLIE RIVERS  
SISTER KELSEY WILSON

FIRST LADY  
ITINERANT ELDER  
ITINERANT ELDER  
ITINERANT ELDER  
ITINERANT ELDER  
ITINERANT ELDER  
LOCAL ELDER  
LICENTIATE  
LICENTIATE  
EXHORTER  
LICENTIATE