

*St. Mark's United Methodist Church*

*601 Eighth Street | Laurel, Maryland 20707*

*301.776.8885 | stmarksfmd@gmail.com*

*Annual Men's Day*

*"God in Search of Men"*

*Sunday, March 27, 2022 | 10:00 a.m.*

*Brothers Wayne Coffen and Larry Powell,  
Co-Chairs*



# *St. Mark's United Methodist Church*

*601 Eighth Street | Laurel, Maryland 20707*

*301.776.8885 | stmarkslmd@gmail.com*



*"We come together at St. Mark's to praise God, celebrate His love for us, and grow together in Christ by equipping the people of God to implement and spread His Word to the world."*

***Rev. Eugene W. Matthews, Pastor***

*401.379.0600 | 443.257.2710 (cell) | [reveugene@comcast.net](mailto:reveugene@comcast.net)*

***Rev. Dr. George F. DeFord, Pastor Emeritus***

***Bishop LaTrelle Millet Easterling***

*Baltimore/Washington Conference*

***Rev. Sarah Schlieckert***

*District Superintendent  
for the Southern Annapolis Region*

*Welcome, as we gather here to worship!*

*Sunday, March 27, 2022*

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

*Annual Men's Day*

*"God in Search of Men"*

*Order of Service*

*Brother Thomas Matthews, Worship Leader*

**Prelude .....Rev. Henry Tindal**

**Lighting of the Candles ..... Usher**

**Gathering Song..... Men's Choir/Congregation**

**"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"**

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the spirit of the Lord; There are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord. Sweet holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.

**Greeting/Call to Worship ..... Brother Thomas Matthews**

Leader: Come, children of God: know that God has blessed you today.

**People: We are blessed by work and rest, by word and silence.**

Leader: Come, women and men who follow the Christ, who has not led you astray.

**People: Come, saints and sinners all, receive God's love and bounty.**

Leader: We offer our sacrifice of praise; we offer our very selves.

**People: Let us worship God.**

*“Hold to God's Unchanging Hand”*

- 1 Time is filled with swift transition.  
Naught of earth unmoved can stand.  
Build your hopes on things eternal.  
Hold to God's unchanging hand.

**Refrain:**

Hold to His hand, God's unchanging hand.  
Hold to His hand, God's unchanging hand.  
Build your hopes on things eternal.  
Hold to God's unchanging hand.

- 2 Trust in Him who will not leave you.  
Whatsoever years may bring.  
If by earthly friends forsaken,  
Still more closely to Him cling. **[Refrain]**

- 3 Covet not this world's vain riches  
That so rapidly decay.  
Seek to gain the heav'nly treasures.  
They will never pass away. **[Refrain]**

- 4 When your journey is completed,  
If to God you have been true,  
Fair and bright the home in Glory  
Your enraptured soul will view. **[Refrain]**

**Prayer of Confession and Assurance** (*Unison*)

Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; be merciful to me and hear my prayer. How long will humanity turn your glory into shame? How long will your people love delusions and seek false gods? In my anger I have sinned; though you continue to search my heart for love. Forgive me, O Lord, and help me to follow your teaching and live a life that is pleasing to you, so that your face may once again shine upon me. **Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer** (*sung*)

**The Invocation**..... **Brother Thomas Matthews**  
**Song of Meditation**..... **Men's Choir**

**Poem — Test of A Man ..... Brother Wayne Coffen**

**Presentations ..... Brothers Wayne Coffen & Larry Powell**

**The Prayer of Illumination ..... Brother Thomas Matthews**

Holy God, Word made flesh, let us come to this word open to being surprised. Silence our agendas; banish our assumptions; cast out our casual detachment. Confound our expectations; clear the cobwebs from our ears; penetrate the corners of our hearts with this word. We know that you can, we pray that you will, and we wait with great anticipation. **Amen.**

**Scripture Reading #1 ..... Master Eli Coffen**  
*(Jeremiah 5:1–5, NIV)*

**Not One Is Upright**

**5** “Go up and down the streets of Jerusalem,  
look around and consider,  
search through her squares.

If you can find but one person  
who deals honestly and seeks the truth,  
I will forgive this city.

<sup>2</sup> Although they say, ‘As surely as the Lord lives,’  
still they are swearing falsely.”

<sup>3</sup> Lord, do not your eyes look for truth?  
You struck them, but they felt no pain;  
you crushed them, but they refused correction.

They made their faces harder than stone  
and refused to repent.

<sup>4</sup> I thought, “These are only the poor;  
they are foolish,  
for they do not know the way of the Lord,  
the requirements of their God.

<sup>5</sup> So I will go to the leaders  
and speak to them;  
surely they know the way of the Lord,  
the requirements of their God.”

But with one accord they too had broken off the yoke  
and torn off the bonds.

**Scripture Reading #2 ..... Master Jeremiah Laguerre**  
*(Acts 13:16–22, NIV)*

<sup>16</sup> Standing up, Paul motioned with his hand and said: “Fellow Israelites and you Gentiles who worship God, listen to me! <sup>17</sup> The God of the people of Israel chose our ancestors; he made the people prosper during their stay in Egypt; with mighty power he led them out of that country; <sup>18</sup> for about forty years he endured their conduct in the wilderness; <sup>19</sup> and he overthrew seven nations in Canaan, giving their land to his people as their inheritance. <sup>20</sup> All this took about 450 years.

“After this, God gave them judges until the time of Samuel the prophet. <sup>21</sup> Then the people asked for a king, and he gave them Saul son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, who ruled forty years. <sup>22</sup> After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.’

**Blessing of Offering ..... Brother Thomas Matthews**  
**Offertory**

**Selection ..... Men’s Choir**

**Scripture Reading #3 ..... Master Isaiah Brooks**  
*(Matthew 1:17–19, New International Version)*

<sup>17</sup> Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.

**Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son**

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

**Doxology – “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be low; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

**Introduction of Speaker ..... Brother Wayne Coffen**

**Hymn of Preparation.....Men’s Choir**

**Inspirational Message..... Rev. Levone Ward**

*McKendree-Simms-Brookland UMC*

## ***“What Does It Take***

**Sermonic Scripture** (*1 Samuel 16:3, 7; 30:1–9a, NIV*)

<sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate.”

<sup>7</sup> But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

**30** David and his men reached Ziklag on the third day. Now the Amalekites had raided the Negev and Ziklag. They had attacked Ziklag and burned it, <sup>2</sup> and had taken captive the women and everyone else in it, both young and old. They killed none of them, but carried them off as they went on their way.

<sup>3</sup> When David and his men reached Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. <sup>4</sup> So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep. <sup>5</sup> David’s two wives had been captured—Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. <sup>6</sup> David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the Lord his God.

<sup>7</sup> Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelek, “Bring me the ephod.” Abiathar brought it to him, <sup>8</sup> and David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?”

“Pursue them,” he answered. “You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue.”

<sup>9</sup> David and the six hundred men with him came to the Besor Valley, where some stayed behind.

### **Praise and Prayer Concerns**

**Invitation / Altar Call ..... Rev. Levone Ward**

**Invitation Selection ..... St. Mark’s Choir**

**Announcements / Benediction**

## *Rev. Levone T. Ward*

**R**ev. Levone T. Ward, Sr. is a native of Cambridge, Maryland and now resides in Catonsville, Maryland with his family.

Rev. Ward grew up and was a member of Mount Olive Baptist Church in Cambridge where he learned about God and to love Jesus from the pastor and his great grandfather, the late Rev. John W. English. The time spent with his great grandfather, watching him study and prepare the word of God, was the training ground for a later call to the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus the Christ.

Rev. Ward joined Morning Star Baptist Church in 1999 and accepted the call to preach the Gospel on November 16, 2001, becoming a licensed Baptist preacher on December 29, 2003. Rev. Ward was later ordained, in 2009, after joining Star of Bethlehem African Methodist Episcopal Church. Rev. Ward has been blessed to serve the United Methodist Church through 12 years of side-by-side ministry with Pastor Eric W. King; a ministry birthed from 35 years of brotherhood and friendship.

Rev. Ward is a graduate of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, and the University of Phoenix, where he received a Master of Arts in Organizational Management. Rev. Ward currently serves as the Chief of Information Technology for the Maryland Health Care Commission. Rev. Ward continues his theological education through online seminary course work.

Rev. Ward has been described as a teaching preacher because of his aggressive and authoritative speaking style and his ability to dig deep into God's word and make it real and relevant to God's people. Rev. Ward is a preacher who recognizes the moves of God in his life and realizes that he can continue to grow spiritually through obedience and focused living by the Word of God.



# Announcements

## Pray Daily at Noon

Please remember to pray daily at NOON. Some areas to include in your prayer, can include the pandemic, racial healing, government leaders, educational challenges, and most importantly for our sick and shut-ins and each other.



The following Bible selections are provided for this week:

### March 28<sup>th</sup> – April 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Day 87** – 1 Samuel 17:32–58      **Day 91** – 1 Samuel 25:1–42  
**Day 88** – 1 Samuel 18:1–30      **Day 92** – 1 Samuel 28:1–25  
**Day 89** – 1 Samuel 20:1–42      **Day 93** – 2 Samuel 5:1–12  
**Day 90** – 1 Samuel 24:1–22

### Men's Bible Study — On Hiatus until mid-April

**Ladies Roundtable** (**Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**, 6:30 p.m.) — New Zoom information will be sent out before meeting.

**Wednesday Night Experience** (7:15 p.m.) — This is our weekly Bible Study, based on the Wednesday reading in Upper Room.  
**Call in #267.807.9611; Access Code: 331960.**

**Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>** (7:00 p.m.) — **Choir** rehearsal

**Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>** (7:00 p.m.) — **FREE Virtual Gardening Workshop** — “*Sacred Grounds Caring for Creation in Prince George’s County*” (*Non-residents welcome*). **Register and receive the Zoom link here:** [bit.ly/regPGgarden](https://bit.ly/regPGgarden). **Topics include:**

**(1)** What are the best native plants for my yard? **(2)** Where can I buy them? **(3)** How will they help with flooding and pollution into our local streams and Chesapeake Bay? **(4)** Designing a garden with native plants. **(5)** Other features to help birds and butterflies thrive at our homes. **(6)** County financial aid application/rebate information. **(7)** How to be an ambassador for wildlife and answers to your other questions!

**Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>** — **Special offering for UMCOR** — As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to respond with extravagant grace. Through the ministry of **The United Methodist**

**Committee on Relief (UMCOR)**—the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church—we are able to work alongside those in need to make a difference in communities and individuals whose lives have been upset by storms, wars, fires, displacement and climate change.

Link for **Sacred Grounds Pledge**:

<https://support.nwf.org/page/37119/survey/1>. The deadline to register for the plants are **Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**. Flowers will be distributed on Mother's Day.



Exhibition Opened at **The Laurel Museum**,  
817 Main Street, Laurel  
Hours 12:00–4:00 p.m. Saturday/Sunday

**Note from Finance:** First, let us give a big thank you to all that have been giving. This is a reminder that there are several ways to get your offering to the church:

1. You can drop it off at the church and place it in church mailbox
2. You can mail it to the church (601 Eighth Street, Laurel, MD 20707)
3. You can use on-line giving (Give–St. Marks — <https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/stmarks/md>)

Again, thank you. Just remember, even during the pandemic, the church building still has obligations that need to be met.



*“Proclaiming Christ to the generations...  
Equipping disciples to transform the world”*

**Special Prayers / Sick and Shut-In List:** If you hear of anyone that is in need of special prayer or is taken to the hospital, please contact: Rev. Eugene Matthews (443.257.2730 (cell), 410.379.0600 (home), [reveugene@comcast.net](mailto:reveugene@comcast.net))

*Condolence to the family of  
Sister Nancy Daniels*

*Celebration of Life for Nancy Daniels*

*Friday, April 1, 2022*

*10:00 a.m. – Family Hour/Viewing | 11:00 a.m. — Celebration of Life*

*Queens Chapel United Methodist Church*

*7410 Old Muirkirk Rd | Beltsville, MD 20705*

*If Zoom information becomes available, I will forward it to you.*

*Condolence to the family of  
Brother Hugh Awkard*

Shawn Settles, Gail Edwards (Gemma's cousin), James Wilson Sr. (Shimaine's grandfather), Chantel Ashley, Beverly Wright, Phillip Reese, Larry Powell, Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia's Mom); Floyd Hughes Sr., Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Marvin Hebron, Francis Desouza (Gemma's son), Eric Smith, Nena Hughes, Gloria Thomas, Jeanette Reeves, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone / Pat Mundell, Joan Moore, Ernestine Gibson, Mildred Awkward, Grace Elaine Catchings, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Hannah Polk

**Eunice Dumas**

1909 Sheffield Court  
Severn, MD 21144  
410.551.2435

**Umbrenda Fisher**

9160 Charlton Place  
Douglasville, GA 39135

**Ruth Miller**

1206 Peachwood Ln.  
Bowie, MD 20716  
240.245.4560

**Edlin Chambers**

14904 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Laurel, MD  
347.423.2764

