

# *St. Mark's United Methodist Church*

*601 Eighth Street | Laurel, Maryland 20707*

*301.776.8885 | [stmarkslmd@gmail.com](mailto: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*

*443.257.2730 | [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*

## *Men of St. Mark's*

*Remember your crown is made up of gold,  
And stone like the enamel of a lion's teeth,  
You are a King worthy of abundance,  
Fight and roar for yourself,  
your soul, your family, keep pushing,  
Your enemy knows how strong you are  
and you are stronger than them!  
Know that and find abundance!!*

*St. Mark's United Methodist Church*  
601 Eighth Street | Laurel, Maryland 20707  
301.776.8885 | stmarksfmd@gmail.com

*Annual Men's Day*

*Men Standing Firm on  
Faith and God's Promise*



*Sunday, March 12, 2023*  
*10:00 a.m.*

*Rev. Eugene W. Matthews, Pastor*  
*St. Mark's United Methodist Church*



*Welcome, as we gather here to worship!*

*Sunday, March 12, 2023*

*Women History Month*

*Third Sunday in Lent*

*Annual Men's Day*

*Men Standing Firm on Faith  
and God's Promise*



*Ushers: Ralph Laquerre and Tyrone Mundell*

*Order of Service*

*Brother Thomas Matthews, Worship Leader*

**Prelude ..... Rev. Henry Tindel**

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

**Gathering Song..... St. Mark'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: When I think of God's presence in the world, I am grateful:

**People: Grateful for the presence of hope; grateful for the gift of life.**

Leader: And when I think of God's presence in my life, I am humbled:

**People: Humbled by the gift of grace; humbled by the invitation to begin again.**

Leader: And when I think of God's presence in this community, I am glad:

**People: Glad to be surrounded by holy people worshipping our Holy God.**

**All: Thank you all; thank you, God.**

**Hymn of Praise..... Choir / Congregation**

***"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 us – yet.  
Oh, oh, oh, can't turn a-round,  
We've come this far by faith.

**Verse One:**

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 ***(Refrain)***

**Verse Two:**

Just the other day, I heard a man say  
He didn't believe in God's -Word,  
But I can truly say that I have found the way,  
And He's never failed me yet. That's why we've ***(Refrain)***

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

O God, Father that you are, you know what is right for us, but too often we only want our way or no way, instead of your way. Have mercy upon us when we turn from you. Forgive us when we do not realize your fatherly love and direction for us. Have mercy upon us indeed, and teach us anew how to follow you, Father that you are. We pray this through your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer** (*sung*)

**The Invocation**.....**Brother Charles Gregg**  
**Song of Meditation**.....**Men’s Choir**

**Special Presentations**

**The Prayer of Illumination** (*In Unison*)

Draw us close, Holy Spirit, as the scriptures are read, and the Word proclaimed. Let the word of faith be on our lips and in our hearts, and let other words slip away. May there be one voice we hear today, the voice of truth and grace. **Amen.**

**Scripture Reading #1** .....**Brother Eli Coffen**  
(*1 Samuel 17:45–46, King James Version*)

<sup>45</sup> Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

<sup>46</sup> This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

**Scripture Reading #2** .....**Brother Eli Coffen**  
(*Hebrews 11:1–3, King James Version*)

**11** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

<sup>2</sup> For by it the elders obtained a good report.

<sup>3</sup> Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

**Selection ..... Men's Choir**

**Acknowledgement of Visitors /**

**Announcements ..... Brother Thomas Matthews**

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

**Scripture Reading #3 (Gospel)..... Brother Isaiah Brooks**  
*(Mark 11:22–24, King James Version)*

<sup>22</sup> And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

<sup>23</sup> For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

**The Gloria Patri – “Glory Be to the Father” (Hymnal, #71)**

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 without end. **Amen.**

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

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

**Inspirational Message..... Pastor James E. Henson, Jr.**  
*Youth Pastor, JTM Crusaders for Christ*

## ***“Faith It Til You Make It”***

**Praise and Prayer Concerns ..... Rev. Eugene W. Matthews**

**Invitation / Altar Call ..... Rev. Eugene W. Matthews**  
**Invitation Selection**

**Benediction**

## James E. Henson, Jr.



James, also known as Jim, is the son of the late James Henson, Sr. and Deborah Henson. He is the youngest and only boy of seven children. James was raised in Severna Park, MD where he graduated from Severna Park High School. He received a B.S. degree in Computer Science from Bowie State University.

While studying at BSU he became a brother of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

James is married to his high school sweetheart Genea and they have three children: James III, Sydney, and Seth. They currently reside in Severna Park, MD.

Words that describe James are entrepreneur, motivational speaker, and a recruiter. From a very young age James discovered how to transform vision into reality and how to give back more than he received. As an adult it is that same desire to succeed and help others that make him successful. You will often hear him say, "Failure is not an option."

In 2007, after working seven years in the technology field, he fired his full-time job to pursue the vision that God gave him, owning his own business to educate families on how to navigate through their finances to live out their own dreams.

When not working, James enjoys his love for music, coaching sports, and spending time with his family. In 1998, following in his father's footsteps, he decided to start his own gospel quartet group, The New Dynamic Travelers. In 2005 the group recorded and released their first CD. He cherished every moment that he sang alongside his father.

James and his family joined Judah Temple Ministries January 2007 where he serves as the Minister of Music. James knew he was called to the ministry in 2008 but didn't answer the phone until 2013 when he was ordained as a minister. James was elevated and ordained as an Elder in 2015. He now serves as the youth pastor over the JTM Crusaders for Christ. James realized that God had a greater purpose for his life. He believes that his goal in life is to be a master recruiter and bring many souls to Jesus Christ. He also wants to teach people, especially the youth that they must have a personal relationship with God and not just attend church.

James' favorite scripture is Philippians 4:13, *"I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."*



# Announcements

**Reminder from Pastor Matthews:** With the new variants of Covid, please remember to wear your mask while you are in the sanctuary.

Worship Attendance — 03/5/2023	
In-Person	50
Zoom	13
Total	63

## 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.



**Tuesday Women’s Roundtable** (6:30 p.m.) — Join Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88571184455?pwd=UmpvVERkcjkyVFVoVHRlYlJxK284Zz09>,

**Meeting ID:** 885 7118 4455; **Passcode:** 459563

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 88571184455#, \*459563#

**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 16<sup>th</sup>** (7:00 p.m.) — **Choir rehearsal**

**Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> — Special offering for UMCOR.** Purpose of UMCOR — UMCOR equips local churches, annual conferences and nonprofit organizations to be in mission with their communities and to respond to those left most vulnerable during challenging times. UMCOR responds to U.S. and international disasters, addresses diseases and poverty, assists refugees and immigrants, provides clean water and works to reduce hunger. UMCOR doesn’t just respond to the emergency for the short term. Working with local organizations, churches in the community and United Methodist volunteers, UMCOR builds relationships and helps communities rebuild, in the years following a disaster.

**Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>** (2:00 p.m.)

— **“Shout Sister Shout”** —

**Ford Theater, Washington, DC.**

Donation: \$90 per person. Need 10 people to get this group rate.

Contact Cynthia (301.776.2420).

**All money due on Sunday,**

**March 19<sup>th</sup>.** Please let me know

if you would like to go on this outing.



Inspired by Gayle F. Wald’s book *Shout, Sister, Shout!*, this new musical tells the story of Sister Rosetta Tharpe—one of America’s most influential rock, R&B and gospel crossover singers and guitarists. Ambitious, courageous and uncompromisingly public, Tharpe became a pioneer of the women’s movement for racial and sexual equality and musical legend who redefined the national and international music scene in the 1930s and 40s and beyond.

The **Laurel TV** conducted an interview with **Mr. Gregg** about his **Stamp Collection**. Below is the Youtube link for your viewing:

<https://youtu.be/Szc9nEICGIM>.

**Special Note:** Our members, Jerral and Umbrenda Fisher’s niece had a fire in the Pennsylvania area and has been displaced with 6 children. Below is a link to a GoFundMe page with her story:

[Fundraiser by Mori Barksdale : Recovering from Fire](#)

[\(\[gofundme.com\]\(https://gofundme.com\)\)](https://gofundme.com). I’m sure they will appreciate whatever you can do to help.

**Sacred Grounds: Free Native Plants!** Our Mother’s Day Native Plant giveaway has been scheduled for **Sunday, May 14, 2023**. To receive plants, please register online at [www.nwf.org/NativePlantPledge](http://www.nwf.org/NativePlantPledge). If you have questions, please contact Jackie Jones.

**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/stmarks1md>)

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 needs special prayer or is taken to the hospital, please contact: Rev. Eugene Matthews (443.257.2730), [reveugene@comcast.net](mailto:reveugene@comcast.net).

Rev. Henry Tindal, Rev. George F. DeFord, Janet Carey, Lafayette Harvey, All branches of the Military, Bernice Jackson, Brenda Jackson, Floyd Hughes Sr., Shawn Settles, Jannette Shuford-Reeves, Chantel Ashley, Beverly Wright, Phillip Reese, Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia's Mom), Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Marvin Hebron, Francis Desouza (Gemma's son), Eric Smith, Nena Hughes, Gloria Thomas, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone Mundell, Ernestine Gibson, 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

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

**Grace Elaine Catchings**  
15505 Clayburn Drive  
Laurel, MD 20707  
301.312.7465 (Grace cell)

**Ruth Miller**  
1206 Peachwood Ln.  
Bowie, MD 20716  
240.245.4560

