

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

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“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

Rev. Dr. George F. DeFord, Pastor Emeritus

Bishop LaTrelle Millet Easterling

Baltimore/Washington Conference

Rev. Sarah Schlieckert

*District Superintendent
for the Southern Annapolis Region*

Annual Men's Day

Sunday, June 9, 2024

"Men of Faith: Building a Legacy"



Elements of the Theme:

- 1. Faith: Encouraging men to deepen their faith and trust in God, standing firm in their beliefs.*
- 2. Courage: Inspiring men to be courageous in their daily lives, facing challenges with bravery and resilience.*
- 3. Strength: Promoting the importance of physical, emotional, and spiritual strength.*
- 4. Love: Emphasizing the need to do everything in love, reflecting Christ's love in all actions.*

*This theme aims to honor and empower the men of **St. Mark's United Methodist Church**, encouraging them to build a lasting legacy of faith, strength, and love within their families and the broader community.*

Welcome, as we gather here to worship!

Sunday, June 9, 2024

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Annual Men's Day

"Men of Faith: Building a Legacy"

Ushers:

Brothers Isaiah Brooks and Tyrone Mundell

Order of Service

Brother Thomas Matthews, Worship Leader

Prelude **Elder Kelvin Brown**

Lighting of the Candles

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 Thomass Matthews**

Leader: Incline your ear to me and save me.

People: Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me.

Leader: For you are my rock and my fortress.

People: Rescue me, o my God, from the hand of the wicked.

Leader: My trust, O Lord, has been from my youth.

People: My praise is continually lifted up to you.

Leader: For opening our eyes that we might see.

People: We praise your name , and give thanks for giving us spiritual vision

ALL: We Once was Blind, But Now” But Now, But Now. GLORY...

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 never failed me yet.
Oh can’t turn around, we’ve come this far by faith.

Don’t be discouraged with trouble in your life He’ll bear your burdens and remove all misery and strife, That’s why we’ve
(refrain)

Just the other day, I heard a man say he didn’t believe in God’s word. I can truly say that God has made a way, He’s never failed me yes, Thank God we’ve ***(refrain)***

Prayer of Confession and Assurance *(Unison)*

Forgive us, O God, when your words and ways seem difficult. Soften us when we harden our views about you and about others into rigid opinions inflexible to the spirit’s movement. Refresh us when we parch ourselves and others dry with formulas instead of relationships, with offense taken instead of understanding granted. Remind us through your spirit that even when we stumble, you are there to renew our spirits, to enlighten our minds to cast away that which deadens us and others, and to take on that which leads to Christ. **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer *(recite)*

The Invocation.....Brother Thomass Matthews
Song of Meditation.....Men’s Choir

The Prayer of Illumination (*In Unison*)

Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed and do what you have commanded. May we find the power and wisdom of God in the words we hear today. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1**Brother Eli Coffen**
(Psalm 133:1–3, *King James Version*)

133 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! ² It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; ³ As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

Scripture Reading #2 **Brother Jaden Coffen**
(1 Corinthians 16:13–14, *Common English Bible*)

¹³ Stay awake, stand firm in your faith, be brave, be strong.

¹⁴ Everything should be done in love.

Selection **St. Mark's Choir**

Acknowledgement of Visitors /

Announcements **Brother Thomas Matthews**

Special Presentations **Mr. James Kole**

Council President, Ward 1

Men of St. Mark's

Blessing of the Offering **Brother Thomas Matthews**

Special Offering – Men's Day

Offertory

Scripture Reading #3 (Gospel).....**Brother Jaden Coffen**
(Mark 3:20–35, *Common English Bible*)

²⁰ Jesus entered a house. A crowd gathered again so that it was impossible for him and his followers even to eat. ²¹ When his family heard what was happening, they came to take control of him. They were saying, "He's out of his mind!"

²² The legal experts came down from Jerusalem. Over and over they charged, “He’s possessed by Beelzebul. He throws out demons with the authority of the ruler of demons.”

²³ When Jesus called them together he spoke to them in a parable: “How can Satan throw Satan out? ²⁴ A kingdom involved in civil war will collapse. ²⁵ And a house torn apart by divisions will collapse. ²⁶ If Satan rebels against himself and is divided, then he can’t endure. He’s done for. ²⁷ No one gets into the house of a strong person and steals anything without first tying up the strong person. Only then can the house be burglarized. ²⁸ I assure you that human beings will be forgiven for everything, for all sins and insults of every kind. ²⁹ But whoever insults the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. That person is guilty of a sin with consequences that last forever.” ³⁰ He said this because the legal experts were saying, “He’s possessed by an evil spirit.”

³¹ His mother and brothers arrived. They stood outside and sent word to him, calling for him. ³² A crowd was seated around him, and those sent to him said, “Look, your mother, brothers, and sisters are outside looking for you.”

³³ He replied, “Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?”

³⁴ Looking around at those seated around him in a circle, he said, “Look, here are my mother and my brothers. ³⁵ Whoever does God’s will is my brother, sister, and mother.”

The Doxology— “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”
(Hymnal, #95)

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

Hymn of Preparation **Men’s Choir**

Morning Message **Reverend Clifton G. Hoffler**
Reid Temple AME Church

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

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

The Baptismal Covenant III

*Holy Baptism for Those Who Can Answer for Themselves
Confirmation, Reaffirmation of Faith
Reception into the United Methodist Church
Reception into A Local Congregation*

Introduction to the Service

The Church is of God,
and will be preserved to the end of time,
for the conduct of worship
and the due administration of Gd's Word and Sacraments,
the maintenance of Christian fellowship and discipline,
the edification of believers,
and the conversion of the world.
All, of every age and station,
stand in need of the means of grace which it alone supplies.

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Do you in the presence of God and this congregation renew the solemn vow and promise made at your baptism?

I do.

Do you truly and earnestly repent of your sins?

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth,**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe 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, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.]**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
[the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.]**

Do you receive and profess the Christian faith
as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament?

I do.

Do you promise, according to the grace given you,
to keep God's holy will and commandments
and walk in the same all the days of your life
as a faithful member of Christ's holy Church?

I do.

Laying on of Hands, Confirmation, or Reaffirmation of Faith
Matilda Kamara, the Lord defend you with his heavenly grace
and by his Spirit confirm you
in the faith and fellowship
of all true disciples of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let those persons who are members of other communions
in Christ's holy Church,
and who now desire to enter
into the fellowship of the congregation,
present themselves
to be received into the membership
of The United Methodist Church,

Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church,
and uphold it by your prayers, your presence,
your gifts, and your service?

I will.

Reception into the Local Congregation

Let those who are members of other congregations
of The United Methodist Church,
and who now desire to enter
into the fellowship of this congregation,
present themselves to be welcomed.

Commendation and Welcome

Brothers and sisters,
I commend to your love and care
Matilda Kamara whom we this day receive
into the membership of this congregation.
Do all in your power to increase her faith,
confirm her hope, and perfect her in love.

**We rejoice to recognize you
as a member of Christ's holy Church,
and bid you welcome to this congregation
of The United Methodist Church.**

**With you we renew our vows to uphold it
by our prayers, our presence,
our gifts, and our service.**

**With God's help we will so order our lives
after the example of Christ
that, surrounded by steadfast love,
you may be established in the faith,
and confirmed and strengthened in the way
that leads to life eternal.**

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit
bless, preserve, and keep you,
now and evermore. **Amen.**

Benediction

Reverend Clifton G. Hoffler

Reid Temple AME Church

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Reverend Clifton G. Hoffler was born in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, and relocated to the DMV area at the age of 10. Reverend Hoffler is a retired combat veteran who served honorably in the United



States Army. He was educated in and graduated from the Maryland public school system and continued post-secondary education work, receiving two associate degrees from Stratford University in the Culinary Arts as well as a Bachelor of Business Management from Strayer University. Reverend Hoffler is currently seeking a Master of Divinity in Theology & Ministry at Regent University's School of Divinity. Reverend Hoffler has served at Reid Temple AME Church for the past 33 years. During his tenure at Reid, Reverend Hoffler has held many lay ministry leadership roles and in 2019 accepted his call to ordained ministry. In 2021, he received his license to preach in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Reverend Hoffler was ordained an Itinerant Deacon in the African Methodist Episcopal Church April 13, 2024, by the Right Reverend James L. Davis, Servant Bishop during the 74th Session of Washington Annual Conference. Reverend Hoffler has been married to Mary E. Hoffler for the past 34 years and they have two adult children Phillip and Anika, as well as six grandchildren. Reverend Hoffler loves the Lord and God's people. One of his favorite scriptures is Isaiah 6:8 "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

Announcements

Wearing a mask while in the sanctuary is at your discretion.

Worship Attendance — 06/02/2024	
In-Person	42
YouTube	15
Total	57

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.



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, June 13th (6:30 p.m.) — **Choir rehearsal**

Monday, June 17th (7:30 p.m.) — Farewell Committee Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85433720948>;
Meeting ID: 854 3372 0948

Looking for desserts for Rev. Matthew's celebration. If it is your desire, please let a member of Culinary know. Thank you.

*This is not goodbye,
This is not farewell...*

Sunday, June 23rd (10:00 a.m.)— Pastor's Goodbye/Farewell. The theme is **"I'm Done – Stick A Fork In It!"** — *Well done, good and faithful servant!*

A barbeque is being planned to feature some of Pastor Matthew's favorite foods. Please come out and share this celebration with us.



Sunday, June 30th (morning service) — **Youth, Young Adults, Educators and School System Personnel Celebration.** We will celebrate these special individual's educational endeavors and accomplishments, big and small. Please submit all student accomplishments by June

21st to Jaime Coffen. We don't want to exclude anyone from this celebratory Sunday.

Save the Date Sunday, August 11th (time to be determined) — **Crab Feast** sponsored by Emancipation Day Committee.

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

Rachel Hughes, Rico Harper, Delores Stratford, Keith Davis, Elba Hernandez, Nathaniel Watkins, Judith James, Joseph Ballard, Robert (Bobby) Marshall, Oscar Johnson, Harold (Bubby) Awkward, Jr., Tyrone Awkward, William (Jimmy) Scott, Charles Gregg, Rev. George F. DeFord, Janet Carey, Lafayette and Elaine Harvey, All branches of the Military, Bernice Jackson, Brenda Jackson, Floyd Hughes Sr., Jannette Shuford-Reeves, Phillip Reese, Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia’s Mom), Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Eric Smith, Gloria Thomas, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone Mundell, Ernestine Gibson, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Hannah Polk

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