

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. Walter L. Smith, Jr., Pastor

301.776.8885 | waltsmith561@gmail.com

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, August 18, 2024

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Ushers:

Ralph Laguerre, Thomas Matthews, Tyrone Mundell

Order of Service

Brother Floyd Hughes, Worship Leader

Prelude **Bros. Gary Barham & Justin Carter**

Lighting of the Candles **Brother Larry Powell**

Processional **St. Mark's Choir and Clergy**

Greeting **Brother Floyd Hughes**

Opening Hymn **Hymnal, #526**

"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

Prayer **Minister Nena Hughes**

Greeting/Call to Worship **Brother Floyd Hughes**

Leader: Rejoice, seeker of wisdom and truth.

People: **God's wisdom calls us here.**

Leader: Behold, followers of godly direction and guidance.

People: **Christ's love shows us the way.**

Leader: Sing, children of thanksgiving and praise.

People: **The Spirit's presence gathers us together.**

Selection **St. Mark's Choir**

Passing of the Peace

**Acknowledgement of Visitors /
AnnouncementsSister Tina Thomas-Matthews**

Pastor's Moment

Selection St. Mark's Choir

**Offering Prayer Brother Floyd Hughes
Offering
Offertory**

**Scriptures.....Sister Jacqueline Jones
Old Testament – 2 Samuel 9:1–10
New Testament – 1 Peter 5:10 (please stand)**

Sermonic Selection St. Mark's Choir

Sermon Minister Matilda Kamara

“Restored Identity”

**Invitation / Altar Call Rev. Walter L. Smith, Jr.
Invitation Selection**

**Recessional / Closing Hymn Rev. Walter L. Smith, Jr.
St. Mark's Choir**

Extinguishing of Candles..... Brother Larry Powell

Benediction

Minister Matilda Kamara

Matilda hails from Sierra Leone in West Africa. She fled for her life during the rebel war and left her position as Personal Assistant to the then President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, to relocate to the USA on the invitation of the United States Agency for International Development.



With the gift of preaching, worship and teaching, Matilda has served in ministry for over 15 years. She has declared her return to the United Methodist Church to fulfill her grandfather's legacy, the late Rev. James A. Mackie.

People who know her describe her as a very loyal friend, dedicated and on fire for God. She is also a widely traveled international motivational speaker. Matilda was one of 6 women that received the 2022 African Women in Advocacy trophy in France.

Her mission's ministry, Destiny House, expands to 6 nations. Matilda is a Notary Public for the State of Maryland and the President of the Diaspora International platform.

She graduated from the Harford School for Girls Moyamba, a UMC high school and later pursued Journalism (Mass Communication) and Conflict Resolution.

Matilda received her education from various institutions including: the Institute of Public Administration and Management, University of Sierra Leone, the Nairobi Peace Initiatives in Kenya, Human Rights Commission in Liberia, Christian Leadership at Haggai Institute of South Africa, Omega Christian University and Southern Wesleyan University.

She graduated as a fellow from the Barack Obama Organizing for Action Advocacy school in Chicago and has been a guest on radio and television programs including AFRICA 24 at the Voice of America in DC. Matilda is the author of two books, *Battle for the Goal Post* and *So You Think You Can Pray?* Which can be found on Kindle and Amazon.

Favorite scripture Romans 8:18. Favorite Hymn: My Jesus, I Love Thee. My song of charge: *A charge to keep I have, A God to glorify, A never-dying soul to save, And fit it for the sky.*

Announcements

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

Worship Attendance — 08/11/2024	
In-Person	58
YouTube	17
Total	75

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.



Thursday, August 22nd (6:30 p.m.) — **Choir rehearsal**

Monday, August 26th (Tee Time 8:30 a.m.) — **Golf Tournament** at Glade Valley Golf Club, Woodsboro, MD. Looking for sponsors for 18 holes at \$50 per hole. For additional information contact: Robert “Chip” Hawkins, 301.806.6084). Proceeds will benefit Emancipation Day.



Saturday, September 7th (8:00 a.m. rain or shine) — **5K for Diabetes** being held at Alice B. McCullough Field (Montgomery & Eighth Street, Laurel). **For Online Registration/ Additional Information** go

to <https://Runsignup.com/Race/MD/Laurel/EmancipationDay5K>

Saturday, September 7th (11:00 a.m.–Dusk) — **Annual Emancipation Day** celebration. Fun for all. St. Mark’s UMC, 601 Eighth Street, Laurel.

Week of September 9th — Rev. Smith will be attending the 56th Annual National Fellowship Pastor Conference. He will return to service on Sunday, September 15th.

SAVE THE DATE Saturday, September 28th (2:00 p.m.) — **Paint and Sip Fellowship**. More information to follow.

Women's Day — Please submit your suggestions for Women's Day speakers, themes, ideas, activities to Cynthia Augustus at 301.437.6436 and/or cynthiaspedtchr@yahoo.com

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>)



4. [Scan the barcode](#)

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

Volunteers Needed

Chair and co-Chair needed for Annual Homecoming (September 22nd).

To participate in **Sunday morning worship service** (i.e., liturgist, morning prayer, scriptures and announcement readers). **Everyone can volunteer, especially our youth and young adults.** If you are interested, please let Sisters Deborah Ford or Sandra Johnson know, they will be doing a monthly schedule so you will know in advance when you will be serving. Thank you for your cooperation.

Finance Chair — Sister Andrea Gibson will be stepping down. We are seeking a replacement for this position. We thank Sister Gibson for her service in this position.

Ushers Needed — **Youth and adults**, please speak with Sister Gemma DeSouza-Ottley

President and Vice President for the **St. Mark's United Methodist Men.** Please see Rev. Smith for more information.

People are needed to join the **Communion Steward's** ministry please see Rev. Smith or Cynthia Whitfield.



*“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. Walter L. Smith, Jr. (301.776.8885), waltsmith561@gmail.com

Jannette Shuford-Reeves, 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., 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

Eunice Dumas

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