AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH HISTORY

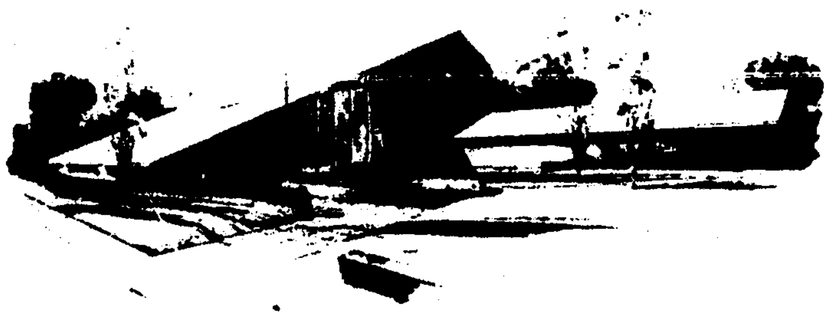
The African Methodist Episcopal Church is the oldest Black Christian denomination in the United States, tracing its roots back to 1781 and the city of Philadelphia.

It was organized by the Rev. Richard Allen, an ex-slave, and the other Black members of Philadelphia's St. George Methodist Episcopal Church who withdrew their membership as a result of racial discrimination in the church.

In 1787, they began worshipping at a blacksmith shop, the site of which became ***Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church*** *in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, which is the oldest Mother Church of African Methodism and the oldest piece of U.S. property owned consecutively by Blacks.*

In 1816, the first General Conference convened in Philadelphia. Delegates from other independent Black Methodist congregations from Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania were present at this Conference. Together they organized the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Inc., the country's first national denomination headed by Blacks, and Richard Allen was consecrated its first Bishop.

The motto of the A.M.E. Church is "God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Man Our Brother." The mission of the A.M.E. Church is to minister to the spiritual, intellectual, physical and emotional needs of all people by spreading Christ's liberating gospel through word and deed. Today there are approximately 3,000,000 A.M.E.'s around the globe in Africa, the West Indies, South America, Europe, Canada, The Bahamas, Bermuda, and throughout the continental United States.



8-15
Elizabeth

Bethel A.M.E. Church

401 E. Park St.
Champaign, Illinois 61820
Phones: Church 356-0323
Parsonage 351-4060

Rev. John Nettles, Jr., B.S., M. Div.
Pastor

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS IN THIS PLACE

SERVING GOD AND MAN SINCE 1863

Rt. Rev. Robert Thomas, Jr.	Presiding Bishop
Rev. Dr. Cornelius Hayes	Presiding Elder
Rev. Osborne Munroe	Associate Minister

"THE LORD WILL MAKE A WAY SOMEHOW"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 29, 1996

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS IN THIS PLACE!

Quiet Moments: As we come into the Sanctuary, let us come with an attitude of Prayer and Thanksgiving. Give God all the Praise and the Glory. For it was He who allowed us to come together to Worship Him.

Instrumental Prelude

The Introit: #619 "Spirit of the Living God"

Processional

CALL TO WORSHIP - Traditional

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 thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

M: Because of the house of the Lord, our God, I will seek thy good.

P: Those that be planted in the house of the Lord, shall flourish in the courts of our God.

M: Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. Lord, I have loved thy habitation, the place where thy honor dwelleth.

P: For the Lord is in his Holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him.

M: Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

P: 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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP - Continued

Hymn of Praise: #221 "How to Reach the Masses" *(Lift Him Up)*

Invocation

Choral Response: #601 "He Is Lord"

The Ministry of Music

Responsive Reading: #687 "Be Merciful to Me, O God" *Psalm 57*

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

Decalogue: The Ten Commandments & Response *(Abridged)*

Benevolent Offering

Announcements: Church Clerk

Introduction of Visitors: Usher

The Church in Fellowship: #522 "Blest Be the Tie"

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

Pastor's Notes

Children's Message: #549 "Jesus Loves Me"

Altar Call: #307 "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

Pastoral Prayer

The Ministry of Music

Pre-Sermonic Solo

THE SERMON: The Reverend John Nettles, Jr., Pastor

The Chant: #634 "Sentence and The Lord's Prayer"

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Worship Through Giving: Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the Most High: *(Psalm 50:14 KJV)*

Choral Response: #644 "All Things Come of Thee"

Recessional: #594 "Bless the Lord, O My Soul"

ORDER OF WORSHIP - Continued

Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Benediction

Instrumental Postlude

We extend to YOU, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, a loving WELCOME. May YOU find, here at Bethel, an experience of true Christian Worship and Fellowship. We consider it a privilege to have YOU worshiping with us today and we hope to see YOU again. If YOU are seeking a church home, we invite YOU to join our Christian Family.

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If there is sickness, please call Pastor Nettles at 356-0323 *(Church)*, 351-4060 *(Parsonage)* or the Pastor's Steward, Sister Odessa Hudson at 359-4623. In the event of a death, please call the Pastor before deciding on the date and time of the service.

HAVE YOU Heard?

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CONCERT VIDEO TAPES

PROFESSIONALLY VIDEO TAPED, STATE OF THE ART VIDEOS OF PASTOR NETTLES CONCERT ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE. PLACE YOUR ORDER WITH ANNA WALL SCOTT OR DIANE MITCHELL.

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HAVE YOU Heard?

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

THE ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1 AT 7:00 P.M. HERE AT BETHEL. PLEASE PUT THIS DATE ON YOUR AGENDA.

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PRESIDING ELDER - REV. DR. CORNELIUS HAYES

Rev. Dr. Cornelius Hayes, Presiding Elder will be here at Bethel, Thursday, October 3 at 7:00 p.m.

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IN CONCERT

Pastor Nettles will be in Concert, Saturday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m. at Shaffer Chapel A.M.E. Church, Harvey, IL. The Van will be leaving the church at 4:30 p.m.

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CHURCH SCHOOL

Our Church School convenes at 9:30 a.m. Please come and bring your children. Classes for all ages.

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The root of the troubles

The remarkable thing is that we really love our neighbor as ourselves; we do unto others as we do unto ourselves. We hate others when we hate ourselves. We are tolerant toward others when we tolerate ourselves. We forgive others when we forgive ourselves. It is not love of self but hatred of self which is at the root of the troubles that afflict our world.

—Eric Hoffer

PEOPLE, PLACES, and EVENTS

SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 29 — Donna Butts, Daviette Henderson, Henrirtta Woodruff
Church School - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Monday - September 30 — George Pope

Tuesday - October 1
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY - Donna & Charles Butts (21)
ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday - October 2
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday - October 3
Meeting with Presiding Elder - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday - October 5
Youth Choir Rehearsal - 11:00 p.m.
YPD Meeting - 12:00 Noon
Stewardess Board Meeting - 1:00 p.m.
Pastor In Concert, Harvey, IL - 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY - OCTOBER 6 — Willeta Donaldson
Church School - 9:30 a.m.
HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE - 11:00 a.m.
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Monday - October 7 — D. Michael Greene
STEWARD BOARD MEETING - 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday - October 8
Lay Organization Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

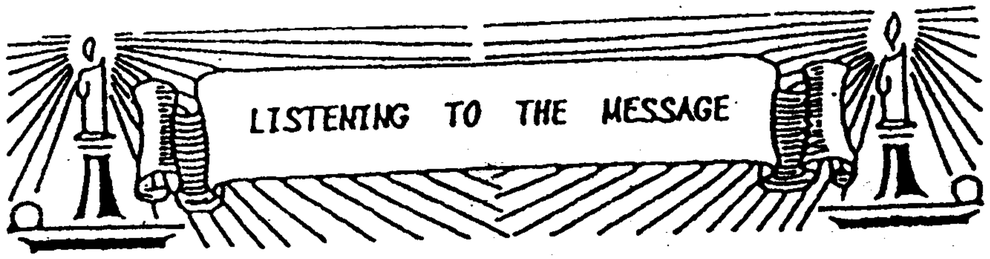
Wednesday - October 9
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday - October 10 — Cecil Bridgewater, Jr.
Bethel Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.

Friday - October 11

Saturday - October 12 — Brandon Vonner
Youth Choir Rehearsal - 11:00 a.m.

DON'T FORGET TO CONTRIBUTE TO "PENNIES FROM HEAVEN." THE CONTAINER IS IN THE EDUCATIONAL WING. THE BEGINNING OF THIS FUND WAS THE LAST THING SISTER MARJORIE BANKS DID FOR HER CHURCH BEFORE SHE TOOK HER PLACE WITH JESUS. LET'S KEEP IT GOING.



I pray that something is said today to help you tomorrow. If so, write it down, take it home, and pray that God will hide his word in your heart that you might not sin against him. As you pray, remember to ask God for a double portion of his Spirit.

MESSAGE TITLE: _____

SCRIPTURE: _____

Scripture References: _____

Main ideas of the message:

HOW CAN I APPLY THIS MESSAGE TO MY LIFE?

DON'T FORGET!

* TO INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH EACH SUNDAY. Ask members that have not been attending regulary.
* the weekly meetings and your financial obligations of the church.
* to support the Sunday School. BRING your children. There's a class for you too.
* the Steward Board wants to remind you that Class Dues are the African Methodist Episcopal way.
* announcements for the Bulletin are due in the Pastor's office by Wednesday, 5:00 p.m. Announcements to be read on Sunday are due in his office by Friday, Noon.
* to support your church. If you don't who else will?

The quest

I asked for bread!
Life led me to a plain,
And put a plough at hand,
And bade me toil until my bread I earned.
I asked for drink!
Life led me to a sand
As dry as tearless grief –
Forced me to find the springs of sympathy.
I asked for joy!
Life led me to a street,
And had me hear the cries
of wayward souls who waited to be freed.
I asked for words!
Life led me to a wood,
Set me in solitude
where speech was still and wisdom came by prayer.
I asked for love!
Life led me to a hill,
And bound me to a cross
To bear and lift and be hanged upon.

PRAYER

Prayer & Praise Communication

Please pray for:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Their specific need is:

_____

_____

For more information, please call:

Name _____

Phone _____

Sunday Bulletin Report Sheet

If you have an announcement or a news item for our weekly bulletin, please describe below and drop at church office.

_____

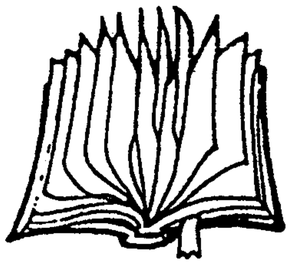
_____

_____

_____

Announcements for the BULLETIN must be written, dated and in the hands of the Pastor by Wednesday, 12 Noon. Announcements to be READ must be in the hands of the Pastor by Friday, 5:00 p.m. The Church Clerk will no longer take information for announcements over the phone.

HAVE YOU HEARD? - Continued



PRAYER SERVICE
and BIBLE STUDY

Through the Bible

WEDNESDAY - 7:00 P.M.

All are invited to participate. The Bible contains the KEY that will unlock the door to the answers to the questions of life.

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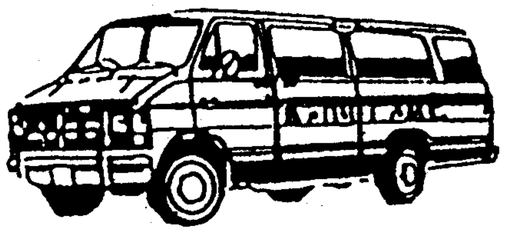
TRANSPORTATION



If you need transportation to **SUNDAY SCHOOL, MORNING WORSHIP, BIBLE STUDY** and **PRAYER SERVICE**, please call **George Pope** at **356-0370** on **Tuesday** for Wednesday Bible Study and on **Saturday** for Sunday Services.

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CHOIRS REHEARSAL SCHEDULE
AUGUST

FIRST SUNDAY - Bethel A.M.E. Choir

SECOND SUNDAY - A.M.E. & Youth

THIRD SUNDAY - Bethel A.M.E. Choir

FOURTH SUNDAY - Bethel A.M.E. Choir

JOIN THE CHOIR

BETHEL A.M.E. CHOIR - Thursday - 7:30 p.m.
YOUTH CHOIR - First & Second Saturdays - 11:00 p.m.
MALE CHORUS - Rehearsal time to be announced

We are praying for...

DONALD ALEXANDER - Care Center of Champaign
1915 S. Mattis, C. 61821
ODELIA ALEXANDER - 903 N. Busey, U. 61801
MATTIE BAINES - 911 Frank Dr., C. 61821
RUFUS BAINES - 911 Frank Dr., C. 61821
CECIL BRIDGEWATER - 608 E. Washington St., C. 61820
NETTIE COOK - 1607 Trails Dr., U. 61801
CALLIE GLOVER - Care Center of Urbana
907 N. Lincoln, U. 61801
EDDIE GLOVER - Care Center of Urbana
907 N. Lincoln, U. 61801
MILLARD GRAY - Americana Healthcare Center
309 E. Springifeld, C. 61820
LOVIA HENDERSON - 1206 W. Bradley, C. 61821
WILDA HERNDON - 1002 N. Busey, U. 61801
LOUIS HUNLEY - 1109 N. Walnut, C. 61820
LIZZIE JOHNSON - Fairhaven Christian Home
1709 Fairview Ave.
Decatur, IL 62521 - Rm. 313, Bed 1
MARY L. JONES - 108 W. Washington, C. 61820 #511
MARGUERITA MYERS - Heritage Nursing Center
1315 Kirk Dr., C. 61826-6179 - Rm S-12
CLAUDIA PICKENS - 406 E. White, C. 61820
GEORGE POPE - 1301 N. Sixth, C. 61820
RICHARD RIVERS - 1011 E. Rio Grande
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
M. ODESSA SAYLES - 203 E. Washington, C. 61820
NAOMI WHITE - 405 Phillips Dr, C. 61820

"Tell of God's SALVATION"