

God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Holy Spirit Our Comforter,
Humankind Our Family

Saint John AME Church

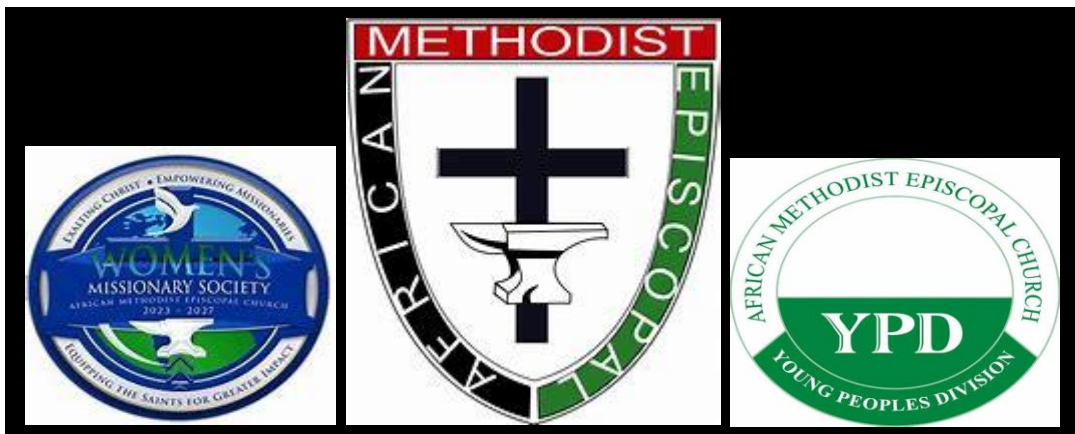
708 15th Street North

Birmingham, Alabama 35203

The Reverend Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor || Sister Kim C. Sterling, First Lady

Mission

Saint John's mission is to "love God and love others" by ministering to the social, spiritual, and physical development of all people.



Annual Missionary & YPD Day

The WMS Motto:

God's First, Missions Forward, Love Unconditionally

The YPD Motto:

Grow, Glow and Go for Christ!

Sunday, April 27, 2025

Second Sunday of Easter

The Praise & Worship.....Youth Music Ministry

The Doxology.....Sister Kionna Hooks

AMEC Hymn No. 647 [Tune: Old 100]

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

The Call to Worship.....Sister Kionna Hooks

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord! Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

People: **For a day in your courts is better than a thousand, elsewhere, I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

Leader: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

People: **They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.**

Leader: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.

People: **But the Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him.**

Leader: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock, and my Redeemer.

People: **O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, sing praises!**

The Hymn of Celebration....."This Little Light Of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'ry where I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'ry where I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'ry where I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

The InvocationSister Brenda Clayton
Gaines Chapel AME

The Choral Response.....“Jesus Is The Answer”

Jesus is the answer,
For the world today.
Above Him there's no other
Jesus is the way.

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For the world today.
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The Scripture Lesson(s)

Old TestamentSister Reagan Sims
Psalm 119:9-11

⁹How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.
¹⁰With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your commandments!
¹¹I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.

New Testament.....Sister Olivia Mede
Romans 12:9-13

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

GospelSister London Davis
(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)
Mark 10:13-16

¹³And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁵Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

The Preface to the Decalogue

AMEC Hymn No. 69 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

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

The Decalogue (Abridged)

Leader: And God spake all these words saying, "I am the Lord thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Hymn: *Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

*Nearer my God, to thee!
Nearer to thee, E'en though it be a cross
That raiseth me;
Still all my song shall be,
Nearer, my God, to thee,
Nearer, my God, to thee,
Nearer to thee.*

Leader: Hear what Christ our Savior saith, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto It: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

The Gloria Patri: *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, Amen.*

Litany.....Sister Dawn Thomas

Leader: Today, we gather as the Young People's Division and the Women's Missionary Society, united in faith and purpose.

People: We come with open hearts, ready to serve and worship the Lord.

Leader: Lord, bless our young people as they grow in wisdom, strength, and faith.

People: May they walk boldly in Your truth, shining as lights in the world.

Leader: Lord, bless the women who labor in mission, lifting up the brokenhearted and spreading Your love.

People: May their hands be strong, their voices be heard, and their hearts be filled with compassion.

Leader: Lord, empower us all to be servants of justice, peace, and love, following the example of Christ.

People: We will go forth in mission, proclaiming the Good News and serving with joy.

Leader: Lord, let our worship today be a reflection of Your glory and grace.

People: We lift our voices in praise, knowing that You are our strength and our salvation.

Leader: As we celebrate this day, may we be renewed in our commitment to faith, service, and empowerment.

All: We dedicate ourselves to Your work, O Lord, and we will serve with gladness!

Pastor's Remarks and Greeting of Visitors.....Pastor Sterling

Ministry of Stewardship (Tithes/Offerings/Benevolent).....**Sister Kim C. Sterling**
All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen

Moment of Reflection.....Sister Evelyn Beasley

Introduction of Speaker.....Sister Michelle Wilson
Bethel AME Church, Mobile, AL

The Worship through Music.....Youth Music Ministry

The Speaker.....Rev. Charlotte V. Greene
Bethel AME Church, Mobile, AL

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship.....Pastor Sterling

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and 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, dead, and buried. The third day, He arose from the Dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Church Universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Doxology (Contemporary)

Missionary Benediction....."In the Name of the Triune God"

In the name of the Triune God,
may the spirit of Christian missions enter every heart.
May the spirit of Christian missions enter every heart.
This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE FOOD