

ZION



THE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH
The Freedom Church

Rooted. Rising. Reaching.

ROOTED IN CHRIST, RISING IN FAITH, AND REACHING IN LOVE

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7

LITTLE ROCK
A.M.E. Zion Church



401 N. MCDOWELL STREET

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA
REV. DR. DERRILL A. BLUE, PASTOR

CONTACT@LITTLEROCKAMEZION.ORG | WWW.LITTLEROCKAMEZION.ORG | 704.334.3782

Sunday, December 21, 2025

9:45 a.m. Moments of Centering: That we all may be aware of His Presence

Enter to Worship

“Let’s Have Church”

THE PRELUDE..

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Derrill A. Blue, Pastor

THE INVOCATION

THE RESPONSE

“Holy Ground”

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

“Joy To the World ” #96

THE RESPONSIVE READING

THE GLORIA PATRI

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (PRINTED ON SCREEN & BACK OF BULLETIN)

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS

THE CHORAL SELECTIONS

Little Rock Mass Choir

THE SERMON

Rev. Dr. Derrill A. Blue

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

THE PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

“All Things Come of Thee”

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

-Depart To Serve—Let’s Be The Church!-

The Season of *ADVENT*



ADVENT is the Season of expectation, hope, and celebration of the past, present, and future comings of Jesus Christ to the world. Much of the focus is on the prophecy of the coming of the Messiah to Israel and the expectancy of that fulfillment. This season is a time of anticipation as the Church makes ready for the coming of the Lord and the celebration of Jesus coming as a babe in Bethlehem.

The Advent season marks the beginning of the Christian Year and consists of the four weeks before Christmas. The traditional color is purple which signifies preparation and penitence. The purple background is symbolic of royalty, praying, fasting, and penitence. It represents the majesty of Christ, and Jesus' humanity, suffering, and fasting.

The large Cross symbol is a Chi Rho which is a Greek monogram for Christ. Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet and symbolize Jesus as the beginning and the end.



THE HYMN OF PRAISE

“Joy To The World” #96

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre-
pare Him room, And heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven,
and heaven and na - ture sing.

Joy to the world! the Sav - iour reigns; Let men their songs employ; While fields and
floods, rocks, hills and plains, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy,
Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.

No more let sin and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in— fest the ground; He comes to make
His bless - ings flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the
curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries of
His right - eous - ness. And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His love, And won -
ders, won - ders of His love.





THE RESPONSIVE READING

Fourth Sunday Morning in Advent

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously and godly in the present age.

Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you. Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work.

To speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men. For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures.

Living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. But when the kindness and the love of God our Saviour toward man appeared.

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us.

Through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

That having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.



Sick and Shut-in

*Please Pray for the sick and
those who care for them.*

*Heal me Lord, and I will be
healed. Save me and I will be
saved....*

Helen Ashmore
1026 Polk Street
Charlotte, NC 28206

Jennifer Mitchell
8207 Abbottsgate Lane
Charlotte, NC 28269

Damie Warren
4219 Maureen Drive
Charlotte, NC 28205

Ronald Metz
100 North Gregg St
Charlotte, NC 28216

Shirley Mack
6516 Rockwell Blvd
Charlotte, NC 28269

Stephanie Ford
3008 Tuckaseegee Rd
Charlotte, NC 28208

JoAnn Thompson
7400 Limerick Drive
Charlotte, NC 28270

Ella Turner
8011 Hub Way #102
Charlotte, NC 28227

Alfred Tillman
2400 Summer Meadows Court
Charlotte, NC 28216

Gloria Joyner Johnson
5734 Bradford Lake Lane
Charlotte, NC 28269

Carline Dinkins
9620 Haying Place
Mint Hill, NC 28227

Minnie Cole
17211 Lovers Lawn
Cornelius, NC 28031

Dorothy Cousar
1509 Chelveston Dr
Charlotte, NC 28208

Lila Blake
509 Hidden Minor Drive
Matthews, NC 28104

Deloris Armstrong
940 North Brevard Street
Charlotte, NC 28206

Natalie Bailey
Donna Bailey
5601 Trotters Ridge Road
Charlotte, NC 28227

Mabel McCullough
940 Brevard Street #213
Charlotte, NC 28206

Monica Morrison
PO Box 26102
Charlotte NC 28221

Jeffery Walls
1106 Shiloh Church Rd
Lilesville, NC 28091

Members in the hospital or assisted living facilities

Mary Ann Moore
9120 Willow Ridge Road
Pineville, NC 28210

Beverly Koontz
Kings Mountain Memory
Care
115 Ferguson Street
Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Doris Reese
Edwin Towers
201 W 10 th St. Apt. 1113
Charlotte, NC 28202

Eddie Simpson
Royal Park
2700 Royal Commons Lane
Matthew NC 28105

Imogene Martin
Five Oaks Rehab
413 Wincoff School Rd
Concord, NC 28027

James Brewer
White Oaks Nursing Home
700 Howie Mine Road
Waxhaw, NC 28173

Ledger & Shirley Morrisette
Providence Meadow
412 Kuykendall Lane
Charlotte, NC 28270

Darrell Bonapart
Novant Healthcare Mint Hill
8201 Healthcare Loop
Charlotte, NC 28215

Little Rock A.M.E. Zion Church Radio Ministry

Praise 100.9
Charlotte's Inspiration Station
PraiseCharlotte.com

Sunday Mornings at 7:30AM

<http://praisecharlotte.com>

The Little Rock Church Weekly Calendar



“Rooted, Rising, and Reaching”

Rooted in Christ, Rising in Faith, and Reaching in Love

Colossians 2:6–7 (NIV)

Sunday, December 21, 2025

- ♦ 9:00am - CED-Children Christmas Recitations in the Sanctuary
- ♦ 10:00am - Sunday Morning Worship in Sanctuary and via Website
- ♦ 12:00pm - Little Rock Pastor, his family and Ministerial Staff Reception in the Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 22, 2025

- ♦ 9:30am - Office Open
- ♦ 600pm - Zoom Meeting with Pastor for all persons attending the Mid Winter Meeting

Tuesday, December 23, 2025

- ♦ 9:30am - Office Open
- ♦ 12:00 Noon - Singles Ministry Gather for “Soulful Noel”
- ♦ 7:00pm - Little Rock Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 Christmas Eve

- ♦ Office Closed

Thursday, December 25, 2025 Christmas Day

- ♦ Office Closed

Friday, December 26, 2025

- ♦ Office Closed

Saturday, December 27, 2025

- ♦ 1:00am - Home going Service for Mr. Charles Robinson in the Sanctuary
- ♦

Sunday, December 28, 2025

- ♦ 9:00am - Sunday School for all ages
- ♦ 10:00am - Sunday Morning Worship in the Sanctuary

Little Rock website address:
www.littlerockamezion.org

MERRY
Christmas

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Class Meetings

Class #2 - Will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, January 4, 2026 immediately following Morning Worship. Class Leader, Ms. Angela Aiken

Class #12 –Will meet via Zoom on Thursday, January 8, 2026. The link information will be emailed to members. Class Leader, Dr. Angelia Fryer

Class #11—Will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, January 13, 2026. the link information will be emailed to the members, Class Leader, Ms. Glain Haynes Lewis



Altar Flowers

The Flower Ministry invites the members of Little Rock to honor a loved one or special date in yours or a loved one's life by sponsoring Altar Flowers on any Sunday(s) throughout the year—a birthday, wedding, anniversary, etc.

Altar Flowers per Sunday \$100.00 for (2)



North Charlotte District WH&OMS-Supply

Department Prayer Breakfast And Mass Meeting



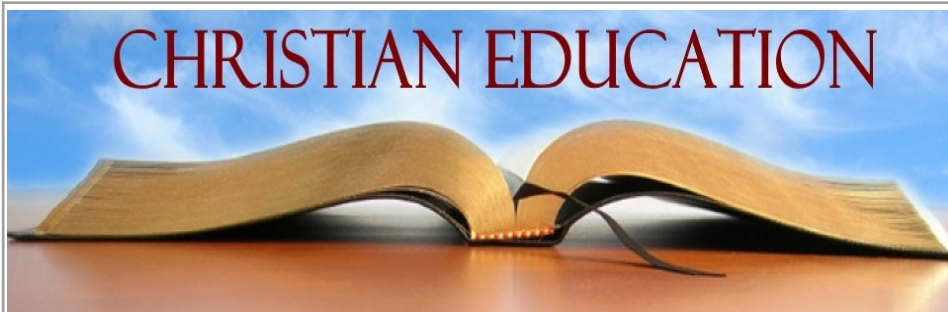
The Supply Department Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, January 10, 2026—8AM, Little Rock AME Zion Church Fellowship Hall, tickets are \$8. Please see Mrs. Kay Frazier for a ticket.

Little Rock's Bureau of Supply Department are collecting personal items and toiletries for men and women college students. Supplies will be given to our two local A.M.E. Zion schools, Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina and Clinton College in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Please support this effort. You may donate your items now. You may put your supplies in the designated containers in the Fellowship Hall.

Woman's Home and Overseas Missionary Society Third Mass Meeting will be Saturday, January 10, 2026—9:30am

Celebrating the Youth Department Founder, Mrs. Victoria Richardson
Little Rock AME Zion Church Sanctuary

All ministries are asked to please be prepared to host this meeting.



Sunday, December 28, 2025

Scholarship Available

The Second Ward High School Alumni National Foundation is pleased to announce the opening of their 2026 scholarship application. We invite students to apply for this year's scholarship to support their educational goals. Our scholarship letter includes the eligibility requirements and the scholarship application is located on the bookcase in the hall. The deadline: May 28.



Girl Scouts®

Join Troop #2176

Troop #2176 is looking for some scouts! If you have a little girl in grades K-3 that would like to be a Daisy or Brownie, we'd love to have them join the new troop. For more information, please email

lrtroop2176@gmail.com or see Mrs. Sharelle McNair after worship service

Lesson: 4

Christ the Savior

Devotional Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21

Background Scripture

Joel 2:28-29; Luke 11:9-13; John 3: 5-8; 14:16-17, 26; 15:26-27; 16:7-15; Acts 2:1-2, 32-33; Romans 8:1-17, 1 Corinthians 12:1-12; Ephesians 1:13-14, 3:14-21; 4:1-6, 30

;

Affirmation

We reject fear in favor of living confidently as God's Spirit-led Children.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Christian Educators, Varick's Children, Youth, YACM, Adults, mark your calendars now for "Zion University," the 26th Quadrennial Convention on Christian Education, July 18-22, 2026, Greenville SC. In order to begin planning, we need to know who is interested in attending. Please complete the QR code by December 7.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Antoinette Cody, CED Director acody13@yahoo.com or 704.281.2765.



Christmas Gift List

Christmas Gift List			
Name	Gift	Bought	Wrapped
Rev. Dr. Derrill A. Blue		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Simon Ajose		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Belinda Austin		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Michelle Courtney		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Dr. Sonya Campbell		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Anthony Redfern		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Dr. Paula Blue		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Dr. Barbara Marshall		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. James H. Lenoir		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rev. Diane Commander		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Share Your Love

Please remember
to include the
Ministrial Staff on
your giving list
this year .



THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

2024

AVAILABLE FOR PRE-ORDER NOW
AND SHIPPING SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

PURCHASE ON WEBSITE

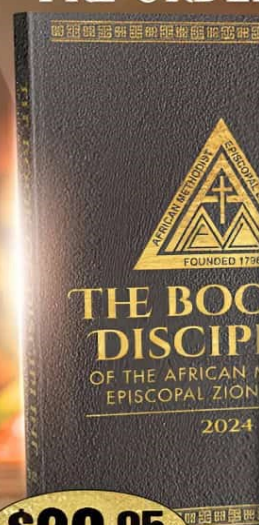


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Publishing House

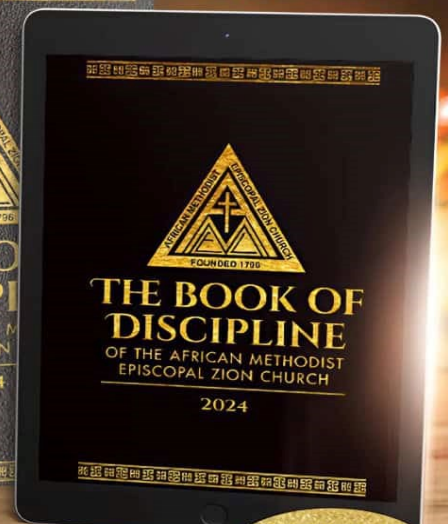
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\$29.95



\$27.95

CHRISTMAS AT THE ROCK

21st DEC 2025 Christian Education Department—Children 9:00AM
Christmas Recitations
Little Rock Sanctuary

21st DEC 2025 (Continental Breakfast in Fellowship Hall at 8AM)
Reception for Pastor, His Family and Ministerial Staff 12:00 Noon
Fellowship Hall

23rd DEC 2025 Singles Ministry 1:00PM
"Soulful Noel"
Blumenthal Performing Arts Center



Happy Holidays



From

**Dr. Derrill Blue Dr. Paula Blue Makis and Norie
And The Little Rock Church Family**



The Church office will closed on Tuesday evening, December 23rd, at 6:30pm for Christmas. The office will reopen on Monday, December 29th regular hours.

LITTLE  ROCK
A.M.E. Zion Church

Wax Night

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

Wednesday

DECEMBER 31, 2025

10:30 PM

401 North McDowell Street
Charlotte, NC 28204

PASTOR

Dr. Derrill A. Blue

Rooted. Rising. Reaching.



Little Rock AME Zion Church
401 N McDowell Street, Charlotte NC
Dr. Derrill A. Blue, Senior Pastor

2026

MILITARY VETERANS MINISTRY



Offering encouragement, spiritual support, and
advocacy for LRAMEZion service members.



Charles McDonnell, USAF
Darrell Bonapart, USA
Carl Daniels, USMC
Barbara Summey Marshall, USN

FOR MORE INFORMATION
910-977-2303

SOULFUL NOEL 13



Singles Ministry Holiday Outing

The Singles Ministry is invited to a festive holiday outing to see "Soulful Noel" at the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center on

Tuesday, December 23, 2025, at 1:00 PM.

Soulful Noel is an original music revue that tells the age-old story of the reason for the season through soul-stirring music, powerful vocals, and uplifting performances.

Ticket Price: \$50.30 per person

Members are responsible for purchasing their own tickets.

The church will provide transportation to and from the performance.

If you plan to attend, please contact Erica Bridges at 704-492-0789 by December 15th

Let's celebrate the joy of the season together! ✨

*Christmas Reception for Pastor
Rev. Dr. Derrill A. Blue & Family
and Ministerial Staff*



On TODAY, December 21st, the Little Rock Church family will present the pastor & his family and the Ministerial Staff with a Christmas Reception.

*This will allow members time to **express their Christmas greetings** to the pastor, his family and the Ministerial Staff.*

There will also be finger foods for your enjoyment.

Please plan to attend.

Sponsored by the Board of Stewards and Pastor's Aide Ministry.

Ministry Month

January, the first month of the new calendar year, is a time of new resolutions, setting goals for improvement and letting go of unproductive habits. Have you included in your 2026 goals to become more involved in your church?

During the month of January, many ministries will make appeals for members and elaborate on its ministry's activities. Please consider how you can become more involved in YOUR Church.

Change of Address



Please notify the Church Office if you have moved, or have made changes in your address in the past 12 months. We also need correct email addresses to maintain contact with our members. If your marital status has changed please let us know. Registered members may update their information from the website on the Membership Engage Platform. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bible Study



No Bible Study This Wednesday,



BOARD OF BISHOPS' & INTERNATIONAL

MINISTERS AND LAY ASSOCIATION'S

Annual Meeting

ZION
THE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

FEBRUARY
9-13
2026



LOCATION:
Hilton Norfolk The Main
100 East Main Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
(757) 763-6200



Bishop Brian R. Thompson, Sr.



Bishop Eric L. Leake



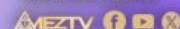
Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr.

REGISTER NOW



<https://bobimla.amezion.org>

WATCH LIVE



SAVE~THE~DATE

Women's Home & Overseas Missionary Society

LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE

April 9-12, 2026

**"Cultivating & Empowering Leaders Through
Empathy & Compassion"**

Lamentations 3:22-23

RIDGECREST CONFERENCE CENTER

1 Ridgecrest Drive, Ridgecrest, NC 28770



Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr. &
Sis. Camille C. Starnes,
Host Prelate & Missionary Supervisor,
Piedmont Episcopal District



Mrs. Sandra B. Crowder,
International President



Reverend Patty Smith,
Connectional 2nd VP &
Dean of Institute

Little Rock A.M.E. Zion Church

Dr. Derrill A. Blue, Pastor



The Twelve Classes of Little Rock

Gilbert McRae, Leader of Leaders 704-567-7588

Class #13—New Members

<u><i>Class Number</i></u>	<u><i>Class Leader</i></u>	<u><i>Contact Number</i></u>
<i>Class #1</i>	<i>Dr. Sonya Campbell</i>	<i>704 858-4601</i>
<i>Class #2</i>	<i>Angela Aiken</i>	<i>864 608-7158</i>
<i>Class #3</i>	<i>Keith Powe</i>	<i>704 968-7353</i>
<i>C-class #4</i>	<i>Tasha Powell</i>	<i>704 605-9659</i>
<i>Class #5</i>	<i>Lynn Crump</i>	<i>704 756-8762</i>
<i>Class #6</i>	<i>Mary Davis</i>	<i>704 691-5448</i>
<i>Class #7</i>	<i>Loretta Jefferson</i>	<i>704 651-1146</i>
<i>Class #8</i>	<i>Stafford Mackey</i>	<i>704 898-3890</i>
<i>Class #9</i>	<i>Rev. Michelle Courtney</i>	<i>704 281-1661</i>
<i>Class #10</i>	<i>Chella Mills</i>	<i>980 353-6317</i>
<i>Class #11</i>	<i>Glain Haynes Lewis</i>	<i>704 399-0581</i>
<i>Class #12</i>	<i>Dr. Angelia Fryer</i>	<i>704 572-8517</i>

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:00 A.M.
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP	10:00 A.M.
MEN'S BOOSTERS MINISTRY	1ST SATURDAY, 9:30 A.M.
BREAD OF LIFE/HEAVEN STORE HOUSE MINISTRIES	1ST & 3RD SATURDAYS, 11 A.M.
BIBLE STUDIES	
ADULTS	WEDNESDAYS 12 NOON & 7:00 P.M. *
YOUNG LIFE STUDY	2ND & 4TH MONDAYS, 7:00 P.M. *
CHILDREN	WEDNESDAYS, 6:00 P.M. *
CHOIR REHEARSALS	
MASS CHOIR	TUESDAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.
SANCTUARY	TUESDAYS 7:00 P.M.
A.M.E.N. CHOIR	1ST & 3RD MONDAYS, 7:00 P.M.
YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT	1ST AND 2ND SUNDAY
LITURGICAL DANCE MINISTRY (ADULTS)	THURSDAYS, 7:00 P.M.

*VIA ZOOM

The Apostle's 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; The third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Holy Catholic* Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of sins, the Resurrection of the Body, and the Life Everlasting. Amen.

**Universal Body of Christ*

MINISTERIAL STAFF

REV. SIMON AJOSE	MINISTER OF DISCIPLESHIP AND EVANGELISM
REV. BELINDA AUSTIN	MINISTER OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE
REV. JAMES LENOIR	RETIRED MINISTER
REV. MICHELLE COURTNEY	MINISTER OF COUNSELING
REV. DR. SONYA CAMPBELL	MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
REV. ANTHONY REDFERN	MINISTER OF OUTREACH AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
REV. DIANE COMMANDER	RETIRED MINISTER
REV. DR. PAULA BLUE	MINISTER OF SPIRITUALITY AND WORSHIP
REV. DR. BARBARA MARSHALL	MINISTER OF MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

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