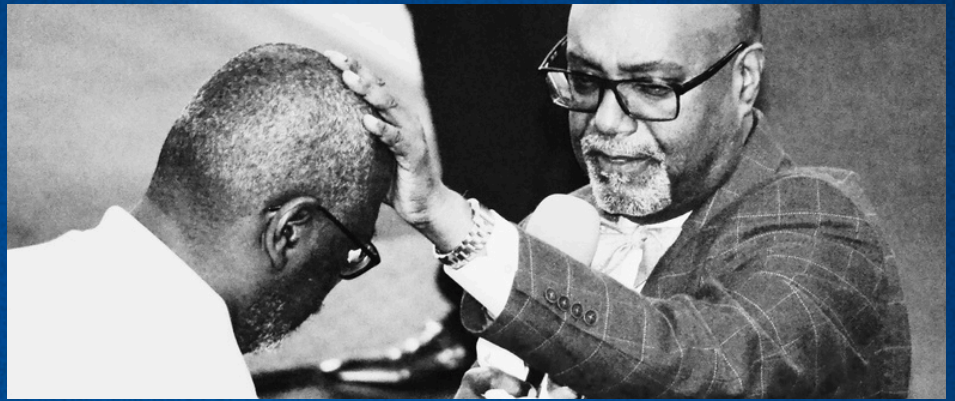


# THE METROPOLITAN MONTHLY



JULY 2026 | VOLUME 7



# STAY CONNECTED



# WITH US



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# INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Pastor's Desk	4
Christian Education	6
Prayer Ministry / JASA's Corner	7
New Member Orientation	8
Pastoral Anniversary	9
July Birthdays	10
Graduate Recognition	11
Ways to Give	12
Text Message Alerts	13

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



## Thirty Years of Grace, Gratitude, and God's Faithfulness

Beloved Metropolitan Family and Friends,  
With a heart overflowing with gratitude,  
humility, and thanksgiving, I pause during  
this special season to simply say,  
*"Thank You."*

Thirty years ago, by the grace of God and with the trust of this beloved congregation, I accepted the sacred call to serve as Senior Servant of Metropolitan Community Church. Never could I have imagined all that God would accomplish through our shared ministry. Through seasons of joy and challenge, celebration and sorrow, triumph and transition, the Lord has remained faithful.

As I reflect upon these three decades, I am reminded that ministry has never been about one individual, but about God's people walking together according to His Divine Blueprint.

To my beloved church family, thank you for your prayers, your love, your encouragement, and your faithfulness. Thank you for allowing me to walk beside you through baptisms and weddings, hospital rooms and homegoings, victories and valleys. Together, we have witnessed souls saved, lives transformed, ministries birthed, and communities blessed.

I am especially grateful to our ministry leaders, Trustees, officers, and volunteers whose dedication has strengthened the work of Christ through Metropolitan Community Church. Your commitment, wisdom, and countless acts of service have helped make our ministry fruitful and impactful.

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

To my family, thank you for sharing me with God's people. Your sacrifices, love, and unwavering support have sustained me throughout these years.

A very special expression of love is extended to my beloved sister—my "Precious Pearl." Through every season of life and ministry, your prayers, encouragement, and steadfast love have been among God's greatest gifts to me. Thank you for being a constant reminder of God's grace and for walking beside me with such devotion and compassion.

I also honor the memories of those saints who now rest in the presence of the Lord. Their faith, wisdom, prayers, and examples helped shape my ministry and strengthened my journey. Though they are absent from our sight, their legacy remains alive in our hearts and in the life of this congregation.

To the many pastors, bishops, colleagues, mentors, churches, ministries, and friends who have encouraged, supported, and poured into my life over these years—there are far too many names to mention. Yet the Lord knows each of you, and I want you to know how deeply grateful I am. Thank you for your fellowship, friendship, counsel, and prayers. Your impact upon my life and ministry has been immeasurable.

Above all, I give glory to Almighty God. Thank You, Lord, for thirty years of Senior Servant Leadership.

Thank You for Your mercy.

Thank You for Your favor.

Thank You for Your guidance.

Thank You for allowing me to serve Your people.

And thank You for proving, again and again, that Your plan is still in motion.

As we continue following "The Divine Blueprint: New Direction", may we remain steadfast, united, and committed to the work God has entrusted to us. The best is yet to come!

**With Love, Gratitude, and Joy,**

**Rev. Leon R. Perry, III**

**Senior Pastor**

**Metropolitan Community Church**

**1996–2026**

**"GREAT IS THE LORD, AND GREATLY TO BE PRAISED; AND HIS GREATNESS IS UNSEARCHABLE. ONE GENERATION SHALL PRAISE YOUR WORKS TO ANOTHER, AND SHALL DECLARE YOUR MIGHTY ACTS."**

**— PSALM 145:3-4**

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*Dear Friends, Family, &  
Fellow Lovers of Christ,*

The Christian Education Ministry warmly invites everyone to join our bible study lessons this month as we grow together in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

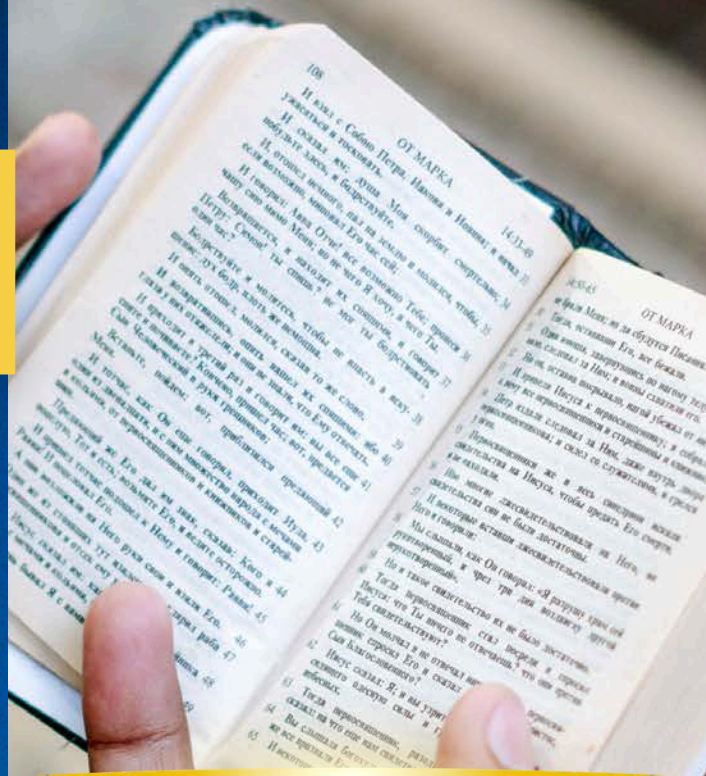
Last month we began an exciting new series titled “The Big Picture”. Through the lens of Scripture, we have unveiled God’s magnificent plan for humanity from Genesis to Revelation.

This month, we will continue the series by turning our attention to the role of men in god’s overall plan. We will conclude this series by exploring the vital part every believer is called to play and discuss practical steps to help us live in alignment with God’s purpose.

Our July lessons highlight that Christ is the perfect prototype of the servant-hearted life we are called to live as followers of Jesus. Faith shapes the quality of our service, empowering us to live holy lives—fully set apart for God’s eternal purposes.

**We’d love to see you there! Come grow with us as we discover God’s beautiful story and our place in it.**

**OUR THEME FOR THE MONTH IS:  
“CHRIST IS THE PROTOTYPE”**



## **JULY 2026 FACILITATORS & LESSONS:**

**July 5th – Brother Max Bakana**  
Embrace Salvation, Avoid  
Distractions (Titus 3:1-11)

### **The Big Picture Part 2 – Men’s Role**

**July 12th – Deacon Janice Thomas**  
Christ Our Great High Priest  
(Hebrews 4:14-5:10)

**July 19th – Deacon Deborah Peters**  
Faith Without Works Is Dead  
(James 2:14-26)

**July 26th – Reverend Darnette  
Solomon**  
Live Holy Lives (1 Peter 1:13-25)

# PRAYER MINISTRY



## JOIN US FOR INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Each Sunday at 8:30am in the sanctuary, we gather with expectant hearts for a powerful time of intercessory prayer. Together, we lift up our church, our community, our families, and the needs around us, trusting God to move with wisdom, healing, strength, and peace.

Your voice in prayer makes a difference, and we invite you to come stand with us in faith as we seek the Lord together.

“The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth.” –Psalm 145:18

# JASA'S CORNER



## GET READY MCC FAMILY!

This July, we will joyfully celebrate our **Senior Pastor's Pastoral Anniversary** and honor the special covenant relationship between our pastor and the congregation of MCC.

The sisters of JASA are preparing our hearts to celebrate God's faithfulness, our pastor's leadership, and the continued work of ministry in our church family.

# NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION



We encourage all new members to attend orientation classes held on the First and Second Sundays of each month.

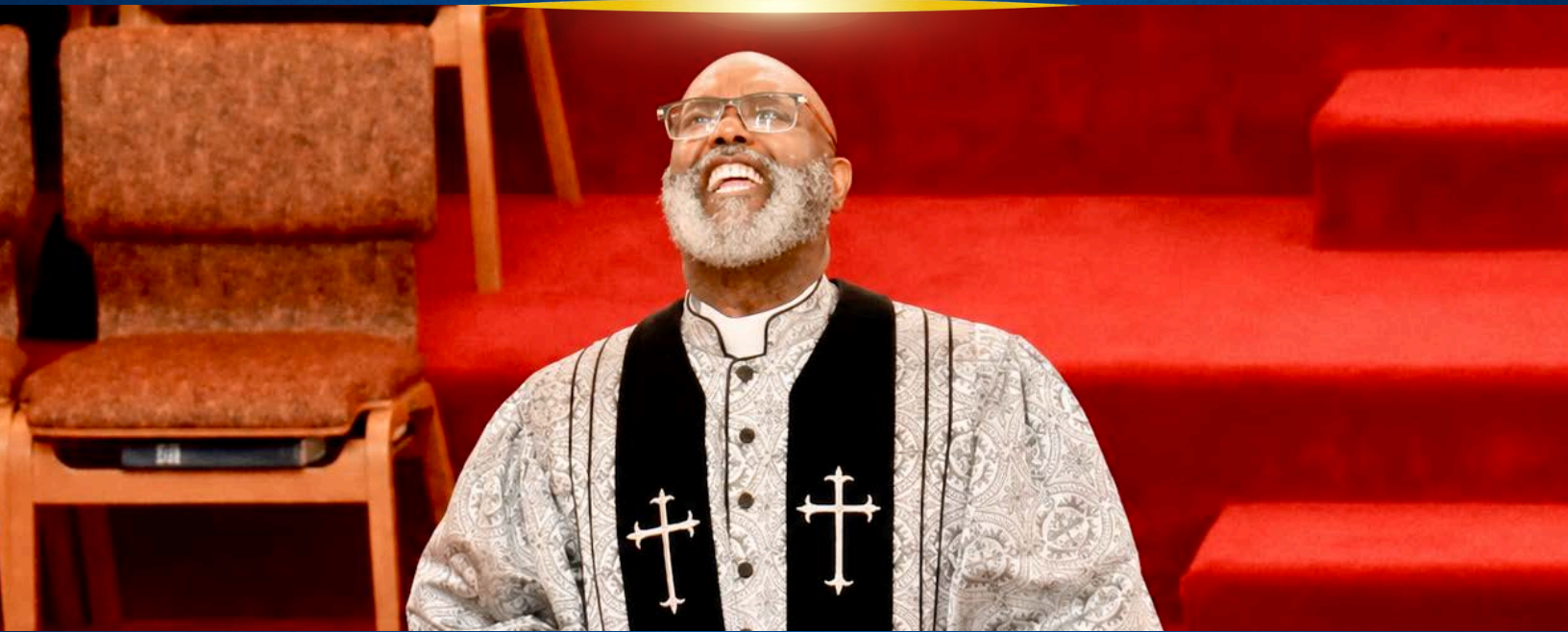
These sessions provide an opportunity to learn about the history of Metropolitan Community Church, foundational biblical doctrine, and ways we can grow together as a faith community while building up the Kingdom of God.

We warmly invite all new members to come, learn, connect, and grow in fellowship with us on the **first & second Sundays** of each month!



# 30TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

“HONORING THE SHEPHERD, CELEBRATING THE JOURNEY, EMBRACING THE FUTURE”



For 30 years, our Pastor has faithfully led Metropolitan Community Church with unwavering dedication, wisdom, and love. Through the faithful preaching of God's Word, compassionate leadership, and a heart for His people, Pastor Leon Perry, III has encouraged countless lives to grow deeper in their relationship with Christ and share His hope with others.

As we celebrate this special milestone, we thank God for our pastor's faithful service and joyfully honor the lasting impact of his ministry. We invite our church family to join us in expressing our love, appreciation, and gratitude for 30 years of spiritual leadership and steadfast commitment to God's people.



# JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 03 - Claudette Lexsee

July 06 - Brianna Stewart

July 07 - Gary Brooks

July 07 - Mason Simpkins

July 07 - Maxime Bakana

July 09 - Kevin Siler Blockman

July 10 - Maliyah Thomas

July 11 - Yvette Graham

July 11 - Loretta Moppins

July 12 - Vanessa Ramey

July 13 - Helena Wiley

July 17 - Dana Clark

July 19 - Yvonne N. Bryant

July 19 - Isiah Lasenby

July 19 - Breon Smith

July 20 - Frank Smith

July 22 - Sylva Harris

July 24 - Tiffany Wilson

July 25 - Janice Thomas

July 26 - Jahree Keys

July 26 - Veronica Johnson

*Happy Birthday*



# GRADUATE RECOGNITION



**Jamaal Simms**  
Graduated from National Teachers Academy



**Mya Williams**  
Graduated from Lincoln-Way East High School



**Brian Anthony Stewart**  
Graduated from Governors State University with a Master of Arts in Counseling



**Morgan Hawthorne**  
Graduated Magna Cum Laude from Texas Southern University



**Bryon Isaac**  
Graduated from Burnham Academy



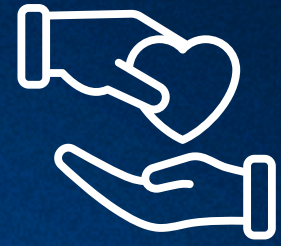
**Jah'ree Keys**  
Graduated from Aviation Institute of Maintenance



**Alissa Elzey**  
Graduated from Citronelle High School

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO ALL OF OUR 2026  
GRADUATES!**

# WAYS TO GIVE



**SCAN ME**



**1**

**GO TO GIVELIFY.COM,  
GIVELIFY APP, OR  
SCAN THE QR CODE**

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**2**

**DROP OFF**

Have someone pickup and drop off for you in the mailbox at the front door of the church.

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**3**

**TEXT “MCCGIVE”  
TO 554-69**

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**4**

**CHECK OR MONEY  
ORDER BY MAIL**

Metropolitan Community Church  
Attn: Ministry of Trustees  
4610 S Prarie Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60653

*Stay Connected!*

# DON'T MISS A MESSAGE!

🔔 EVENTS | ❤️ UPDATES | 💬 REMINDERS

Join our Tuesday Text  
Message Alerts... *again!*

1



TEXT  
**MCC1920**  
to 833.965.1280

2

You must reply YES now to  
join Metropolitan Community  
Church alerts.



3

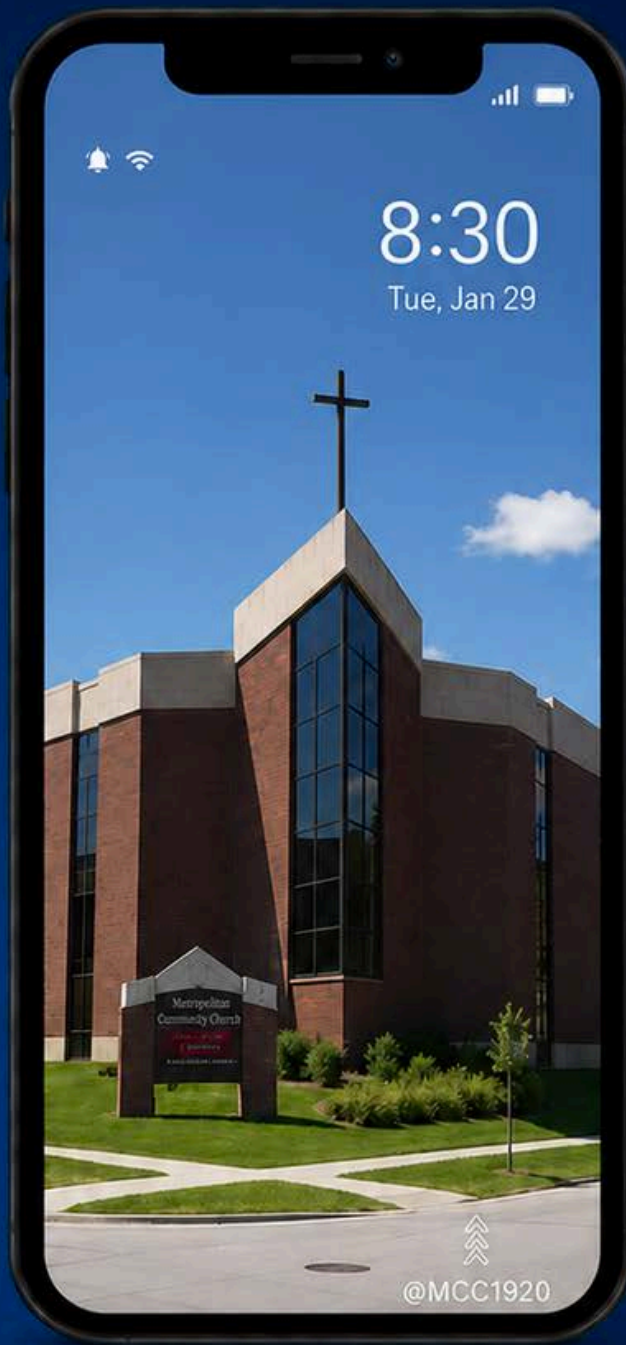


REPLY  
**YES**

4



Thanks for joining  
Metropolitan Community  
Church alerts.



## OR SCAN THE QR CODE



OPEN YOUR  
CAMERA



SCAN THE  
QR CODE



PRESS 'SEND'  
REPLY 'YES'



*It's that  
EASY!*

We're so glad  
to keep you  
in the loop!



**BUILDING GOD'S PLAN**

*Moving in*

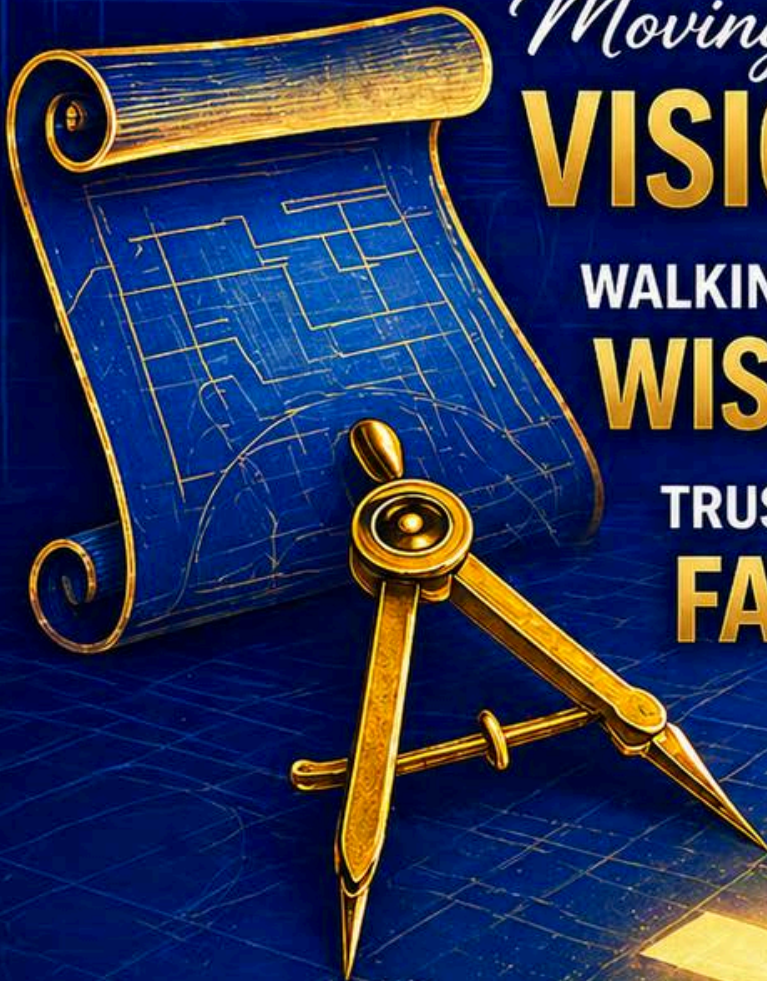
**VISION.**

**WALKING IN**

**WISDOM.**

**TRUSTING IN**

**FAVOR.**




**PLEASE SUBSCRIBE**

AND FOLLOW US ON

**FACEBOOK** AND **YOUTUBE.**



**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**

 4610 S PRAIRIE AVENUE  
CHICAGO, IL 60653



