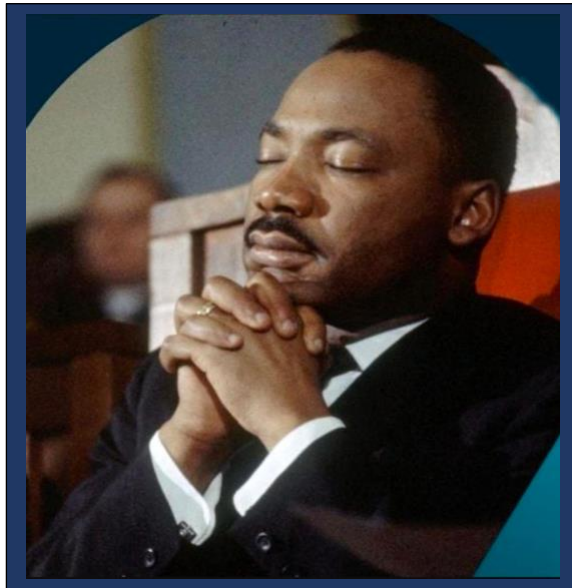


HISTORIC EBENEZER AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

5151 W. Chicago Boulevard
Detroit, Michigan 48204

**FAMILY HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026
10:00 AM**



Church Office: (313) 933-6943

Email: ebename@yahoo.com

Website: www.historicebenezeramedetroit.org

Rev. Gladys J. Burroughs, Local Elder

Rev. Elaine M. Donaldson, Local Elder

Rev. Vickie R. Gray, Local Elder

Rev. Gwendolyn Y. Wilson, Local Elder

Rev. Amelia Dortch, Itinerant Elder

Rev. Dr. Willie A. Gholston II, Senior Pastor

Rev. Larry J. Bell, Presiding Elder

Rt. Rev. Frederick A. Wright, Sr., Presiding Bishop

"FAMILY HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY"

WORSHIP AND LIVE STREAM SERVICE

MUSICAL PRELUDE

Musicians

PROCESSIONAL

"Just Want To Praise You," by Maurette Brown Clark

I just want to praise you Forever and ever and ever For all you've done, done for me Blessings and glory and honor They all belong to you Thank you Jesus for blessing me!

GREETINGS

Rev. Vickie Gray

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Elaine Donaldson

MINISTER:

I was glad when they said unto 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. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

MINISTER:

For the sake of the House of the Lord our God. I will seek Your good.

PEOPLE:

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

MINISTER:

O Lord, I have loved the habitation of Your house and the place where Your honor dwells.

PEOPLE:

For the Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him.

MINISTER:

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 unto the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises.

OPENING HYMN AMECH #355

Rev. Elaine Donaldson

“Farther Along,” by W. B. Stevens

1 Tempted and tried, we’re oft made to wonder Why it should be thus all the day long; While there are others living as about us, Never molested, though in the wrong.

[Refrain]

**Farther along we’ll know all about it, Farther along we’ll understand why;
Cheer up, my brother, live in the sunshine, We’ll understand it all by and by.**

2 When death has come and taken our loved ones. It leaves our home so lonely and drear; Then do we wonder why others prosper, Living so wicked year after year.

[Refrain]

3 Faithful to death, said our loving Master, A few more days to labor and wait; Toils of the road well then seem as nothing, As we sweep through the beautiful gate.

[Refrain]

4 When we see Jesus coming in glory, When He comes from His home in the sky; Then we shall meet Him in that bright mansion, We’ll understand it all by and by.

[Refrain]

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Gwendolyn Wilson

PRAYER RESPONSE

“I Love The Lord He Heard My Cries”

CHORAL SELECTION

SCRIPTURE

“Philippians 1:1-6” (NIV)

Rev. Gwendolyn Wilson

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all God’s holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God every time I remember you.

4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy

5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now,

6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

May God bless the hearers and doers of His Holy Word. The Word of God for the people of God.

DECALOGUE

Rev. Gwendolyn Wilson

(Please see page xix of the African Methodist Episcopal Hymnal.)

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

MINISTER:

And God spake all these words, saying: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me.

PEOPLE:

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

HYMN

“Near 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.”

MINISTER:

Hear what Christ our Savior saith, Thou shall 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.

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.

CHORAL SELECTION

WELCOME OF VISITORS AMECH #196

Rev. Vickie Gray

"There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit," by Doris Akers

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, And I Know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; There are Sweet expressions on each face, And I know they feel the Presence of the Lord.

[Refrain]

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove, Stay right here with us, Filling us With Your love; And for these blessings We lift our hearts in Praise; Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived When we shall leave this place.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Vickie Gray

- **Cover Photo:** *"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in a quiet moment of prayer."*
- Thanks to all who participated in respective meetings during this past week.
- Join us in praying for this country, world and every individual that is part of the Historic Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church Family.
- I sincerely thank Pastor Gholston the Steward Board, Trustee Board and everyone who showed me love at my retirement celebration on **Sunday, August 2, 2026**. I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness. May the Lord continue to bless you as you have blessed me. Love Makes the Difference. Sis. Andrea Williams

- Let us practice good stewardship and discipleship by sharing in God's generosity in our lives. Give towards our **Ebenezer Emergency Operational Funds**. Your sacrifice will bless us to meet all of our obligations and needs, plus be a blessing to others.
- Ebenezer Community and Cultural Center (ECCC) is recruiting volunteers to assist with **Thursdays Community Outreach Day for two to four hours per week**. Volunteers are needed to assist in the Center's Food Pantry and to provide other outreach services. For more information contact **(313) 635-3355** or email eccc@ebenezerccc.org.
- The Steward Board will meet **in person Tuesday, September 8th at 6:30 pm**.
- ***"Wednesday in the Word"*** at Noon via Zoom and the 6:00pm Evening Bible Study **(605.313.5346 - Access Code 8679984#)** will resume **Wednesday, September 9th**.
- Submit First Quarterly Summarization Reports for ministry of June, July and August by **Friday, September 11th**.
- The Rosa Parks Movie will be shown on **Saturday, September 12th at 6:00pm** in the Richard Allen Park. Come join the fun and fellowship. Food trucks and concessions will be available to purchase.
- Official Board Ministry Reports are due for the months of July and August **Tuesday, September 15th**.
- Elder Larry Bell's First Quarterly Conference is **Wednesday, September 16th at 6:00pm**.
- **Young Adults** on **Saturday, September 20th at 1:00pm** come to chill, chat, relax, connect and bring a friend. This event will occur at the Garden Bowl, 4140 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, and sponsored by the Historic Ebenezer AME Church.

- Praise Team rehearsals will take place **on Sunday, September 20th and Sunday, September 27th** immediately after worship service.
- All auxiliaries need to meet for leadership dates and budgeting purposes to be submitted by **Sunday, September 27th**.
- **Save the Date for District Training and Planning Meeting** for Pastors, Clergy and Officers **Saturday, October 31, 2026 at 8:30am - 1:00pm**. The location is Quinn Chapel Flint AMEC, 2101 Lippincott Boulevard, Flint.
- **Important:** All members are asked to complete an updated **Membership Contact Form** to ensure that our church records remain current and accurate.
- **Quote of the Week:** *"Let us renew our commitment to loving by any means necessary while the Lord works on us."*

BIRTHDAYS

Sis. Brenda Burnley – September 1	Sis. Brittany Kelly – September 9
Sis. Sheila McClain – September 1	Bro. Ledell Gary – September 13
Sis. Triandis Crim – September 3	Sis. Carolyn Jones – September 14
Sis. Kristen Gatson – September 3	Sis. Mildred Waters Pitts – September 20
Bro. Aaron R. Jones – September 3	Sis. Arlester Carter – September 24
Bro. William Darby – September 6	Sis. Deborah Webb – September 24
Sis. Cheryl Ellerbe – September 7	Sis. Angela Felder – September 26
Sis. Tiffany Walker – September 7	Bro. Robert Walker IV – September 29

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

ALTAR CALL HYMN

"Pass Me Not"

EBENEZER HOUSE OF PRAYER

Community of Care and Concern
The Family of Sis. Vivienne Anderson
Sis. Scheryl Brooks and Family

Sis. Maggie and Bro. Randall Levi
The Melvin Family
The Meredith Family

EBENEZER HOUSE OF PRAYER (cont.)

The Collins Family
The Crawford Family
The Dawkins Family
Sis. Willamina Forrest
The Family of Rev. Dr. Charita Hardy
Rev. Dr. Dennis Laffoon
Sis. Nathalie Addai and Family
Sis. Gwendolyn Wilkes and Family

Rev. Karen Moorman and Family
The Morgan Family
Sis. Sandra Morrison and Family
The Family of Sis. Gwen Reeves
The Robinson Family
Bro. Richard Staples and Family
Bishop Frederick Wright and Family
The City of Detroit

MINISTRY OF GIVING

Rev. Vickie Gray

OFFERTORY SELECTION

"God Has Smiled On Me"

BLESSING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

"All Things Come Of Thee"

All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

SERMONIC SONG

"Nobody Greater"

Rev. Dr. Willie Gholston, II

1 I climbed up to the highest mountain I looked all around, couldn't find nobody
Went down into the deepest valley Looked all around down there, couldn't
find nobody I went across the deep blue sea Couldn't find one to compare... to
your grace, your love, your mercy Nobody greater... nobody greater than you
[Refrain]

**Searched all over... couldn't find nobody I looked high and low... still couldn't
find nobody Nobody greater... nobody greater no... nobody greater than you**

2 Nobody can heal... like you can Oh most holy one you are the Great I Am
Awesome in all your ways and mighty is your hand You are He who carried out
redemption's plan You are He who carried out redemption's plan
[Refrain]

SERMON

"All In A Day's Work"

Rev. Dr. Willie Gholston, II

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP HYMN

"Because He Lives," by Gloria and William Gaither

- 1 God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus, He came to love, heal, and forgive; He lived and died to buy my pardon. An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

[Refrain]

**Because He lives I can face tomorrow; Because He lives all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future, and Life is worth the living just because
He lives.**

- 2 How sweet to hold a new born baby, And feel the pride and joy he gives; But greater still the calm assurance, This child can uncertain days because He lives.

[Refrain]

- 3 And then one day I'll cross the river; I'll fight life's final war with pain; And then as death gives way to victory; I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives.

[Refrain]

APOSTLES' CREED

Sis. Lauren Nichols

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 sits 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 Church Universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION AMECH #255

"There is a Fountain Filled With Blood"

- 1 There is a fountain filled with blood Drawn from Emmanuel's veins; And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains, Lose all their guilty stains, Lose all their guilty stains; And sinners plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains.

- 2 The dying thief rejoiced to see That fountain in his day; And there may I, though vile as he, Wash all my sins away, Wash all my sins away, Wash all my sins away; And there may I, though vile as he, Wash all my sins away.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

- **The Solicitation** **Rev. Dr. Willie Gholston, II**
- **The General Confession** **Congregation**

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness which we from time to time most grievously have committed by thought, word, and deed against Your divine Majesty, provoking most justly Your wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us.

Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father for Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake; forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- **First Collect** **Rev. Elaine Donaldson**
- **Second Collect** **Rev. Gwendolyn Wilson**
- **Prayer of Adoration** **Rev. Gwendolyn Wilson**
- **Prayer of Humiliation** **Rev. Vickie Gray**
- **Prayer of Consecration** **Rev. Dr. Willie Gholston, II**
- **Partaking of Elements** **Congregation**
- **The Lord's Prayer** **Congregation**
- **The Prayer of Thanksgiving** **Rev. Dr. Willie Gholston, II**

COMMUNION HYMN

"I Know It Was the Blood"

DOXOLOGY

CLOSING SONG

"Let the Church Say Amen"

BENEDICTION

SEPTEMBER 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

“LABOR OF LOVE”

- **Thursday, September 3rd -
Saturday, September 5th** Illinois Annual Conference
St. John Springfield, Illinois
- **Sunday, September 6th, 10:00am** Family Communion Sunday
- **Monday, September 7th, 8:00pm** Racial Trauma Stress and Healing with
Dr. Thema Bryant via Zoom
- **Monday, September 7th** Labor Day, (Church Closed)
- **Tuesday, September 8th, 6:30pm** Steward Board Meeting **in Person**
- **Wednesday, September 9th** Noon Bible Study Via Zoom
6:00 Evening Bible Study
(605.313.5346 - Access Code 8679984)
- **Saturday, September 12th, 6:00pm** Rosa Parks Movie at Richard Allen Park
- **Sunday, September 13th** Church Conference Following Worship Service
Annual Conference Recap and Ministry Updates
- **Tuesday, September 15th** Official Board Ministry Reports are Due
for the Months of July and August
- **Tuesday, September 15th, 6:30pm** Trustee Board Meeting via Zoom
- **Tuesday, September 15th, 7:30pm** Class Leaders Meeting via Zoom
- **Wednesday, September 16th -
Saturday, September 19th** Indiana Annual Conference, Bethel-Indianapolis
- **Wednesday, September 16th, 6:00pm** Elder Larry Bell's First Quarterly Conference
- **Sunday, September 20th, 10:00am** Sickle Cell Awareness Sunday
(Rock Burgundy / Dark Red)
- **Sunday, September 20th, 1:00pm** Young Adult Gathering (After Worship Service)

- **Monday, September 21st, 6:00pm** Ministerial Meeting via Zoom
- **Sunday, September 27th, 3:30pm** Pleasant Valley AME Church Anniversary
- **Tuesday, September 29th, 6:30pm** Official Board Meeting via Zoom
- **Mondays – Weekly – 5:00pm** Stewardship and Finance Meeting
- **Tuesday and Thursday Prayer Line 7:00am** (848) 220-3300 Access Code: 5987183#
- **Wednesdays in the Word** Noon Bible Study – 12:00pm via Zoom
Evening Bible Study – 6:00pm
(605) 313-5346 Access Code: 8679984

***ALL MEETINGS ARE VIA ZOOM UNLESS SPECIFIED**