



Office: (973) 678-1217 Fax (973) 678-1293

Email: <u>info@stmatthewame.org</u> Website: <u>www.stmatthewame.org</u>

Streaming at stmatthewame.org/streaming

YouTube - @stmatthew336

Facebook Live - @stmatthewamechurch

Sunday, November 23, 2025|24<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost Christ The King Sunday



## The Rt. Rev. Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr.

Presiding Bishop, First Episcopal District

## Rev. Dr. C. Carlton Woodward

Presiding Elder, Newark District

## Rev. Melvin E. Wilson

Pastor/Teacher

## **Ministerial Staff**

Rev. Dr. Donna Ho-Shing, Itinerant Elder

Rev. Dr. Crystal Newby-Reynolds, Itinerant Elder|Minister of Liturgical Arts & Youth Rev. Tamoya Buckley-David, Itinerant Elder in Local Relations

Rev. Leslie Wilson, Minister to Women Rev. Marian Sykes Johnson, Local Elder Rev. Dr. Shirley Roberts, Local Elder

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For Tech/IT Support Before or During Worship, Dial (973) 678-1217, Press Option 8.

We can park at 280 S. Harrison Street with a parking permit from 8:30 am - 11:30 am.

The Nursery for parents and children is located at the rear of the sanctuary. Also, there is a Sensory Room (with a monitor to see worship) for parents and children on the autism spectrum or with special needs. See the Greeters' Ministry located at the front table for directions.

## 8:45 am: Pre-Worship Music

Setting the atmosphere for worship. If you need to talk, talk to God.

## The Order of Worship at 9:00 am

In-person worshipers may wear masks. Please be kind to those who choose to do so.

## **Members of Class #37 Sitting Together Today**

Leader: Bro. Allan Laidlow | Assistant Leader: Sis. Lisa Newby

The Worship Leader – Bro. Jonathan Ridley

\*The Doxology

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

\*The Call to Worship

Bro. H. Daryl Jones

Leader: As we gather today, let us remember the strength found in unity,

People: the power of a collective voice, and the beauty of standing together as

one.

Leader: Come, let us lift our hearts in praise,

People: knowing that when we band together, we can overcome any obstacle

and achieve great things,

Leader: guided by the love of God that binds us all.

Together: Let us worship as diverse individuals coming together as one body,

drawing strength from each other, participating in worship and

banding together in prayer, praise and purpose. Amen.

\*The Hymn of Praise

AMEH #221

"How to Reach the Masses"

(Worshipers May Enter)

1 How to reach the masses, those of every birth, For an answer Jesus gave the key; "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, Will draw all men unto Me." [Refrain]

Refrain: Lift Him up, Lift Him up, Still He speaks from eternity: "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, Will draw all men unto Me."

2 Oh! the world is hungry for the Living Bread, Lift the Savior up for them to see; Trust Him and do not doubt the words that He said, "I'll draw all men unto Me." [Refrain]

4 Lift Him up by living as a Christian ought, Let the world in you the Savior see; Then all will gladly follow Him who once taught, "I'll draw all men unto Me." [Refrain]

The Worship Through Prayer

Bro. Leroy Cromer

(No Walking, Entry, or Exit At This Time – Youth Dismissed to Youth Church after Prayer)

The Worship Through Music

Male Chorus

(Worshipers May Enter)

The Welcome of Visitors

Bro. Jonathan Ridley

The Welcome of Visitors "13 Air Hugs" Bro. Jonathan Ridley We're so glad you came to worship, we're "God's Love for God's people;" we welcome you with open arms with love that won't go away. Welcome, oh welcome; welcome, oh welcome, oh welcome, to St. Matthew, to St. Matthew!



#### First-Time Visitors: WELCOME TO ST. MATTHEW!

Please take a picture of this QR Code and complete the First-Time Visitors Information Form. Thank you. We are honored that you have joined us today. If you have a church home, return our greetings to your Pastor. If not, please consider St. Matthew as "the end of your search for a loving church."

The Pastor's Words

Rev. Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor/Teacher

Collective Mental Health Check



## The Worship Through Giving

You can give all tithes and offerings in all categories by text at (973) 272-4332, CashApp (\$StMthew), Zelle (973-280-7654), Givelify (Scan QR Code), mail, or at www.stmatthewame.org.

Please remember gifts to the Restoration Fund (\$83)

The Worship Through Scripture Acts 10:23b-48 NIV Bro. Vincent Laurore (Please Read In Unison – No Walking, Entry, or Exit At This Time)

The next day Peter started out with them, and some of the believers from Joppa went along. 24 The following day he arrived in Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. <sup>25</sup> As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet in reverence. <sup>26</sup> But Peter made him get up. "Stand up," he said, "I am only a man myself." <sup>27</sup> While talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. <sup>28</sup> He said to them: "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile. But God has shown me that I should not call anyone impure or unclean. 29 So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?" <sup>30</sup> Cornelius answered: "Three days ago I was in my house praying at this hour, at three in the afternoon. Suddenly a man in shining clothes stood before me <sup>31</sup> and said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your prayer and remembered your gifts to the poor. <sup>32</sup> Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner, who lives by the sea.' 33 So I sent for you immediately, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to

tell us." <sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism <sup>35</sup> but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. <sup>36</sup> You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through lesus Christ, who is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. <sup>39</sup> "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, 40 but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. 41 He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." 44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. 46 For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, 47 "Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." 48 So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

## Leader: This is God's Word for God's people. It is already blessed. Amen.

The Sermonic Selection

Male Chorus

(Worshipers May Enter)

The Preached Word

Rev. Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor/Teacher

Subject: "What Can Happen When We Listen"

\*The Invitation to Salvation|Church Membership|Recommitment/Rededication If you want to be Saved, join St. Matthew, St. Paul, Mt. Zion, or Recommit/Rededicate Your Life to Jesus Christ, you can identify yourself now or text the word JESUS to (973) 840-8874

\*The Doxology & Benediction

Rev. Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor/Teacher

\*Pentecostal Prayer Power at the Altar After the Benediction\*

Rev. Marian Sykes Johnson is the Prayer Minister today. If you need personal prayer, please meet her in the Chapel on the second floor.

**SERMON NOTES**Please take notes on the teaching message of the day!

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#### EXPERIENCE the POWER of PRAYER!

Resources for Your Spirit and Soul Rev. Leslie Wilson, Spiritual Advisor Sis. Karen Deas, President, Prayer Ministry Rev. Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor/Teacher

#### Daily Prayer Call Line - (206) 806-9984

Join us at 6 AM and 9:30 PM Sunday through Saturday-7 Days a week. Our prayer call line is open to everyone. Invite your friends, family members, and colleagues from anywhere in the United States or internationally. All are welcome!

#### Altar Prayer @ St. Matthew AME Church, 336 Oakwood Ave, Orange, NJ 07050

The Sanctuary and 2nd floor Chapel altar are open for prayer, Monday through Friday when the church office is open.

#### St. Matthew Prayer Wall - https://bit.ly/3b4V4U5

Request Prayer for an individual by placing their name on the Prayer Wall. Our Prayer Ministry partners pray over these requests daily. The wall is open to the public.

#### How to Request Individual Prayer

- Dial Church office (973) 678-1217; choose option 7 to leave a confidential prayer request.
- Easy Tithe Click on the Request Prayer button and leave a confidential message.
- Church Website <a href="https://stmatthewame.org/">https://stmatthewame.org/</a> Click on the Request Prayer button and leave a confidential message.

A prayer partner will return your call or email when you leave your contact information and pray with you directly regarding your confidential request. If no contact information is left, the prayer partner will pray as you requested.

#### Monthly Congregational Prayer Service - WE ARE A PRAYING CHURCH!

Prayer service is held every month on the **4th Monday** at 6:30 PM on the general Zoom connection and in the sanctuary (when scheduled). The service is on the church's General Zoom and on FaceBook and YouTube every month.

#### Want to Grow in Prayer?

We encourage everyone to participate in all prayer opportunities. You are invited to pray on the prayer call and the congregational Prayer services. Let anyone from the Prayer Ministry know that you are interested or call the church office, choose option 7, and leave a message. Additionally, our Ministry is open to all St. Matthew members. Join our ministry, learn about prayer and intercession, and become a prayer partner. All are welcome!

#### Do you have the St. Matthew Daily Devotional App?

Download "The Word for You Today" app from the Apple App Store or Google Play. After you have downloaded the app, click here to register: <a href="https://app.wordforyou.com/churches/access-code/MVP/register">https://app.wordforyou.com/churches/access-code/MVP/register</a>.

You can also share this link with anyone. The link is available on our website.

The Sanctuary & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Chapel are open for Prayer whenever the church is open. The Chapel is open on Sundays from 8:15 am – 8:45 am and after 9 am worship for personal prayer.

# November Is National Diabetes Awareness, Alzheimer's Awareness, & Military Family Appreciation Month

November Birthdays: 11/1 Shuwanna Sapp-Greene 11/2: Ruth Deas, Angela McGinnis, Carol Johnson 11/3: Leon Morton, Daisy Terry 11/4: Sheila Myricks 11/6: Nicole Neal, Joe Sorbino 11/7: Jacquelyn Henry, Desmond Thorne, 11/9: Dorothy Wilson 11/10: Heather A. Solomon, Durwin Coppock 11/12: Rev. Dr. Crystal Newby-Reynolds 11/13: Lavern Palmer 11/16: Ruth Fleming 11/18: H. Daryl Jones 11/19: John Clark, Sr., Sincere Tilus, Darnell Mason 11/20: Jerry Roberts 11/22: Emily Grimball 11/23: Deborah Woody 11/24: Sharon Collier 11/25: Kristian Reynolds, Terrisine Spicer 11/27: Nathalia Boncamper 11/28: Genia Philip 11/29: Dr. Lisa LaCon

**November Anniversaries:** 11/15: Joseph & Leslie Allen – 27 Years; Yoa & Cassandra Sheffield-Kassegnin – 14 Years; 11/26: Herman and Andrea Williams – 27 Years

## THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW A.M.E. CHURCH

Church office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 am – 4 pm. Friday, 9 am – 12 Noon.

Today – G4C Youth Church. Anyone who brought food for the food pantry can drop it off in the food pantry office. All youth Church School classes & the Tribe will help pack the Thanksgiving packages after worship. Adult Church School to meet in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor boardroom. WMS Community Blessing Table at 12 pm.

Monday 11/24 – MFH Food Pantry at 11:30 am. Last week: 93 people were served 2,454 pounds of food distributed. YTD: 3,965 people served; 128,092 pounds of food distributed. Congregational Prayer Meeting online at 6:30 pm. Mass Choir at 7:30 pm. Spiritual Movement Exercise at 7 pm.

<u>Tuesday 11/25</u> — Thanksgiving package distribution at 11 am. Bible Study online at 6:30 pm.

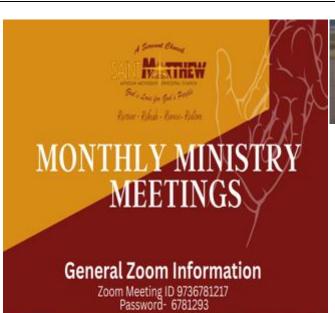
**Wednesday 11/25** – Church office closes at 12 noon. Spiritual Movement Exercise at 7 pm.

<u>Thursday 11/27</u> - <u>Thanksgiving Day.</u> Online worship at 10 am. Use Zoom Meeting ID: 973 678 1217, Passcode 6781293.

Friday 11/28 – Church closed. Youth roller skating party 1 pm. Make sure you register.

Saturday 11/29 — Men's Bible Study at 8 am. Rescheduled ASK Monthly Study of Women in the Bible at 9 am. Memorial Celebration of Life Service for Bro. Christopher Thorne at 11 am. Repast to follow.

<u>Sunday 11/30</u> — 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent. Divine Worship & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Scholarship Ministry Offering at 9 am.



## Pastor's Bible Study

Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm Zoom Meeting ID 9736781217 Password- 6781293

## Men's Bible Study

Every Saturday at 8 am for adult and young men

Zoom Meeting ID: 875 0243 0162 Passcode - 497743

### Women's Bible Study Every second Saturday at 9 am

Zoom Meeting ID: 786 035 380 Passcode – 6781293 Phone Dial-In Number: (929) 205-6099, Meeting ID 786 035 380

## **Nutrition Class**

## Every third Saturday at 10 am

Zoom Meeting ID: 866 862 387 Passcode – 6781293 Phone Dial-In Number: (929) 205-6099, Meeting ID 866 862 387

## Exercise and Spiritual Movement Class Thursday at 7 pm.

Zoom Meeting ID: 860 4686 5587 Passcode – 6781293 Video class. No dial-in option.

## **ASK Women's Ministry**

Every fourth Saturday at 9 am

Zoom Meeting ID: 716 275 876 Passcode - 6781293 (929) 205-6099, Meeting ID 716275876

If you are not on the church's email list or text messaging list, please forward your name, cell number, and email address to Pastor Wilson at sstukes@stmatthewame.org. You are also invited to join the church's WhatsApp group



We Are Bringing Food for the Food Pantry Every Sunday for the Rest of This Year!

**Mon. 12/1 – World AIDS Day.** Mental Health Support Group at 6:30 pm. World AIDS Day Night of Healing online at 7 pm.

**Tues. 12/1** – Oakwood School emergency evacuation drill at 9 am.

**Sat. 12/6** – We go to St. Thomas AME Church, Jackson, NJ at 8 am. Ushers, Harmony Choir, anyone interested & available is asked to go.

**Sun. 12/7** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent. **All White Sunday.** Love Feast at 8:30 am. Divine Worship & Holy Communion at 9 am. Special celebration for Rev. Dr. Shirley Roberts' 90<sup>th</sup> birthday following worship. New Jersey Conference WMS Advent Service at 6 pm at Mt. Zion AME Church, New Brunswick. The Us Bus is leaving at 4 pm. Donation is \$20.

**Weds. 12/10** – Lay Organization monthly meeting at 6:30 pm.

**Sun. 12/14** – 3rd Sunday of Advent. Divine Worship & Youth Sunday at 9 am. Bro. Hashim Garrett, Speaker. "Book Signing Sunday" with several authors from 12 pm – 2 pm.

Weds. 12/17 – Pastor Wilson preaches for Mt. Zion United Methodist Church's Advent Service (Rev. Martin Odom) online at 7 pm. See flyer. Fri. 12/19 – Sight & Sound trip canceled. Advent Candlelighting Gathering at 6 pm. Sun. 12/21 – Christmas Sunday. Divine Worship & Church School presentation at 9 am. Mon. 12/22 – Monthly Congregational Prayer Meeting online at 6:30 pm.

**Thurs. 12/25 – Celebration of the Birth of Jesus Christ.** In-person Christmas Worship at 10 am. 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Never Alone Gathering from 11 am − 2 pm. "No one should/has to be alone on Christmas Day."

Sat. 12/26 – Church closed.



Member	Class Number	Class Leader
Bro. Thomas Thornton	4	Bro. Durwin Coppock
Sis. Emma Rhymes	5	Sis. Karen Taylor
Sis. Carol Goodson	8	Bro. Jonathan Ridley
Sis. Laura Taylor	9	Sis. Veronica Morton
Sis. Dorothy Dix	10	Sis. Sherrill Austin
Bro. Euistace Pryor	15	Sis. Verna Leath-Young
Sis. Mary Green	17	Sis. Shanda Johnson Toler
Sis. Karen Newkirk	19	Sis. Tamika Robinson
Evang. Eva Douglas	20	Sis. Marcie Johnson
Sis. Mary Gibson	24	Sis. Veronica Deveaux
Sis. Laurie Crowley-Martin	25	Sis. Robyn Sorbino
Sis. Joyce Wooden	33	Sis. Mattie Crowley
Sis. Roxanne Blair	35	Sis. Valerie Tummings
Sis. Theresa Pryor	38	Sis. Michele Murchison
Sis. Arise Brown		

## **Our Prayer List**

Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr & Supervisor Phyllis Green, Rev Dr C Carlton & Rev Blanche Woodward, Rev Melvin E & Rev Leslie Wilson & Family, Sis Linda Callahan, All Persons on Sick & Shut-In List, All Bereaved Families, All Elected Officials, All Persons & Situations On Our Prayer Wall, The Unjustly Imprisoned, Domestic Violence Survivors, Sexual Assault & Abuse Survivors, Cancer Patients & Survivors, All Pastors & Churches of the First Episcopal District AME Church, Churches & Houses of Faith of All Denominations, All Veterans, Gov Phil & Tammy Murphy, Gov-Elect Mikie Sherrill & Jason Hedberg, All Candidates In Public Office, Rev Dr Ronald Slaughter & his Episcopal Campaign, Sis Theresa Pryor, Rev Dr Shirley Roberts, Sis Sarah Williams, Sis Shirley Suddoth-Lewis, Bro Fred Ludd, Bro Emile Arsenec, Bro Christopher Massop, Sis Valcy Brown, Sis Tamika Robinson, Bro Christopher Glenn, Sis Alzada Gatling, Sis Laura Taylor, Bro Ronald Royal, Bro Stanley V Wade, Bro Calvin & Sis Geri Ficklin, Sis Barbara Meraz, Rev Larry Smith, Sis Karen Cooper, Sis Pamela Brooks, Sis Lucinda Bullock, Sis Kathleen Turpin Merritt, Sis Lavern Palmer, Sis Drewsilla Thorne, Sis Rose Tilus, Bro James Johnson, Sis Barbara Copeland, Sis Andrea & Bro Herman Williams, Bro Anthony Williams, Bro Leon Morton, Sis Eve Newton & Family, Sis Michal Simmons, Sis Diane Worley

## **Recently Bereaved Families**

Sis Dawn Nelson & Family; The Family of Sis Paulette Jennings; Sis Beulah Sapp, Sis Yasmine Johnson, Sis Shuwanna Sapp-Greene & Family; The Family of Sis Tracee Baker; Sis Donna Hunter & Family; Bro David Armstrong, Sis Shanda Toler & Family; Bro Elonza & Sis Tracy Stokes & Family; Sis Dorothy Wilson, Sis Tamia & Dalya Wilson & Family; Sis Veronica Morton & Family; Sis Drewsilla Thorne & Family; Rev. Dr. Donna Ho-Shing & Family, Sis Stephyne Walker-Hill & Family

### Want to know more about the ministry of St. Matthew? Scan this QR code.





## **November is Diabetes Awareness Month**

Your body breaks down most of the food you eat into sugar (glucose) and releases it into your bloodstream. When your blood sugar goes up, it signals your pancreas to release insulin. Insulin acts like a key to let the blood sugar into your body's cells for use as energy.

With diabetes, your body doesn't make enough insulin or can't use it as well as it should. When there isn't enough insulin or cells stop responding to insulin, too much blood sugar stays in your bloodstream. Over time, that can cause serious health problems, such as heart disease, vision loss, and kidney disease.

There isn't a cure yet for diabetes, but losing weight, eating healthy food, and being active can really help. Other things you can do to help:

- Take medicine as prescribed.
- Get diabetes self-management education and support.
- Make and keep health care appointments.

### Prediabetes

In the United States, about 1 in 3 adults has prediabetes. More than 8 in 10 people with prediabetes don't know they have it. With prediabetes, blood sugar levels are higher than normal, but not high enough for a type 2 diabetes diagnosis. Prediabetes raises your risk for type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. Prediabetes and type 2 diabetes can be prevented with lifestyle changes.

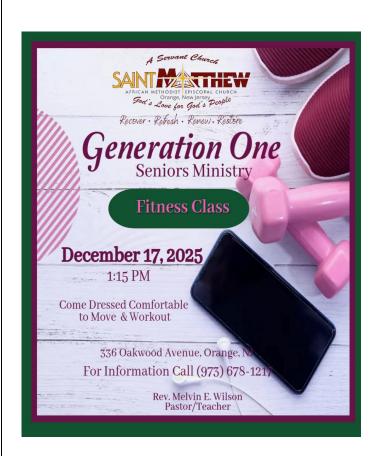
Here's the link to Diabetes Prevention Program: https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes-prevention/lifestyle-change-program/index.html

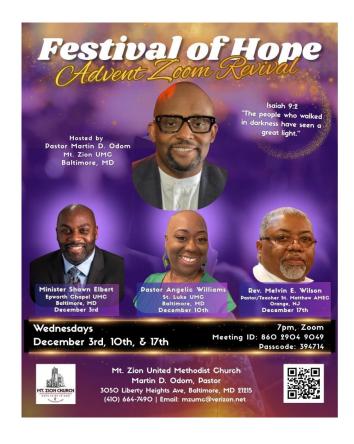
You can plug in your zip code to see if there are programs near you.

From the St. Matthew Health & Wellness Ministry





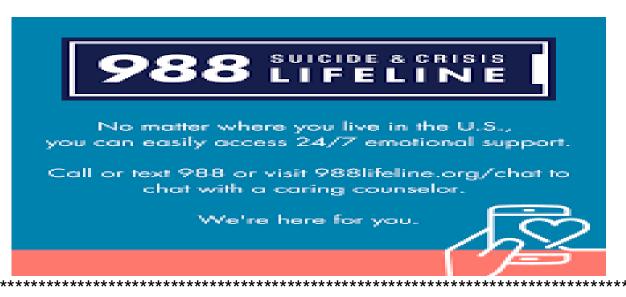




Page 11 - Please Recycle This Bulletin When You Are Finished Using It!

## Main Core Value Of Our Congregation: Radical Hospitality!







**LIKE US** on social media! The more Likes we have, the more exposure the Church as to the world!