

~What's Happening At The Met~

January 2025



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Rev. Allen Page, III ~ Senior Pastor



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Greetings Metropolitan and Happy New Year!

Here we are, once again, at the start of a New Year. While I recognize that I am joyful and thankful that God has granted me entry into this new experience, I am profoundly aware of the fact that I have been here before. What does God want me to do differently? What does God require that I change, as I approach the start of this fresh beginning, as God sends us on our way? Let's revisit the scriptural text of my sermon on the fourth Sunday in December 2024 - Matthew 2:1-12. God is sending us on our way in another year, but what if God is inviting us to go another way? God likes to do things in our lives by sending us another way? Ancient Israel had long expected a glorious reign of a promised king from the line of David. But as you review the record of the leaders Israel had since their exile in Babylon, the kings were not close to anyone's hope for good leadership. And they were not related to David. In the text, we have Herod the Great, the ruthless king who had multiple wives and murdered members of his family, He was not even fully Jewish. He had risen to power as an opportunistic military commander, placed into leadership by the Romans to further their own agenda. But remember God sometimes commands we go another way. God does not march to the beat of humanity; rather God's desire is that we strive to align with His heartbeat and will for our lives.

According to the text, wise men recognized the wonderful change that has come into the world through the birth of Jesus, and resolve to make a trip from Babylon, in search of the Messiah, the King of Jews. They resolve to follow the star from the East for the long journey. Through the seasons of the journey and experience, they travelled faithfully and upon reaching Jerusalem, they raised their voices in inquiry about the location of the King of Jews, but the Jews already had a king - God was already taking them another way. Upon hearing, about their inquiries King Herod summoned them to his palace to give them orders, that upon finding this King of Jews to return to him with information about his location, so he too may go and pay homage to the new king. The wise men left his presence, following the star to the place where Jesus was; upon finding him they worshipped and shared gifts with him, but they obviously rested also. In their moments of rest, God spoke in another way, through their dreams and admonished them to not return to King Herod and go another way home.

This story convicts me to understand that if I am going to travel successfully through this new year, God's travel plans may require I go another way! But the story also lets me know that God is with me on the journeys I take and will lead and guide me and speak to me along the journey, so that my footsteps are ordered by the Lord. Therefore, fellow travelers, let us resolve to follow the guidance of God, but be willing to go another way, if He commands!

Reverend Allen Page, III
Pastor

Happy
2025
New Year

Follow the Star

Thanks to each of you who gave during our "Follow The Star—End of The Year Fund Raiser. A special thanks to those who gave in memory of someone who is no longer with us. They Are:

Mrs. Carristine Wiley gave in memory of her husband, Mr. Silas Wiley & daughter, Mrs. Nan Wiley Hendley

Mrs. Annita Lakey gave in memory of her husband, Rev. Lawrence Lakey

Mrs. Susie Stephens gave in memory of her friends Mrs. Annie E. Douglas & Mr. Samuel B. Douglas

Ms. Carolyn Williams gave in memory of her parents, Mr. Sam & Mrs. Evelyn Williams

Ms. Carolyn Williams gave in memory of her friends, Mrs. Christine Marshall & Mrs. Hattie Collins

Ms. Allison McLemore gave in memory of The Dearly Departed McLemore Family Members: David, Maggie, Stephen Dan, Elouise and Stephen Dan, Jr. Rest In Peace.

Mrs. Claudia Bradford gave in memory of her husband, Mr. Walter Bradford

Nicole "Toni" Lockett gave in memory of her father, Bishop W. Edward Lockett

Ms. Elayne Scott gave in memory of her mother, Mrs. Martha Williams — and her father—Mr. C. W. McCray

Ms. Sheree Wilmore Roberts gave in memory of her father, Mr. George Wilmore

Last Day to Donate to Food Pantry at Metropolitan	Bagging/sorting & Distribution at Blueridge
January 12, 2025	January 18, 2025
February 09, 2025	February 15, 2025

Information regarding Food Pantry with Blueridge UMC and Tuscany Village Outreach

Tuscany Village Rehab Scripture Reading
January 25, 2025—Sunday/Church School Ministry
February 22, 2025—New Member/Prayer Ministry



Trustees on Duty for JANUARY
Peggy Robinson (832) 885-0178
& Allen Casey (832) 656-623



Please pray for the members listed below. You may request personal contact information by sending an email to Metrocme@aol.com. To add/remove names on the list, send an email to the same address. Please be sure to include the member's name, address and phone number. Thank you!

- Sister Freddia Bradley
- Sister Brenda Hayter/ Family
- Brother Calvin Brown, Jr.
- Sister Jeanne Grimes
- Sister Gracie Deason
- Sister Patrecia Bailey
- Sister Willie Frances Greer
- Rev. Waldo Murphy
- Sister Allison McLemore
- Sister Ollie Byrd
- Sister Annie Melson
- Rev. E. Anne Ross
- Sis. Jo Alice Scott
- Bro. L. C. Patterson
- Sis. Phyllis Wilkerson

Please pray for Sis. Susie Stephens & Brother Calvin Brown, Jr. on the loss of their sister, Annie McCrary.

Please pray for the family of our former Bishop, Bishop Henry Williamson who passed away on Christmas Day.

Black History Moment

Martin Luther King Jr.



Martin Luther King Jr. was an American Baptist minister and activist who became the most visible spokesperson and leader in the civil rights movement.

Born: January 15, 1929, [Atlanta, GA](#)

Assassinated: April 4, 1968, [Memphis, TN](#)

Famous speech: [I Have a Dream](#)

Celebrate his life on January 15, 2025



JANUARY 2025 PROPOSED CALENDAR

Again asking for "sacrificial" commitments, from all singers and choir members of all choirs, for this
NEW YEAR.

Subject to Change

Rehearsal Thursday- 1/2/2025, 6:30pm

Mass Choir Rehearsal

1st Sunday, MASS CHOIR SINGS 1/5/2025

MASS CHOIR SINGS (Communion)

Rehearsal -Thursday, 1/9/2025, 6:00pm

Saturday, 1/11/2025, 1:00pm

MALE CHORUS REHEARSAL

2nd Sun., 1/12/2025- MALE CHORUS SINGS

Rehearsal-Thursday, 1/16/2025, 6:30pm

PRAISE TEAM

3rd Sunday, PRAISE TEAM SINGS-1/19/2025

Rehearsal Thursday, 1/23/2025, 6:30pm

MASS CHOIR-Rehearsal for Choir Mania Black History Mth.

Rehearsal-Saturday, 1/25/2025, 12:00 Noon

YOUTH/CHILDREN

4th Sun., YOUTH/CHILDREN SINGS -1/26/25

Tuesday, 1/28/25-EJ'S BIRTHDAY

Rehearsal - Thursday 1/30/2025, 6:30pm

Rehearsal for First Sunday in Feb., Choir Mania and Black History Month—**MANDATORY**

January 2025—Confirmed Meeting

- 4 Stewardess Meeting at 10:00 am
- 5 **Holy Communion Sunday – 10:30 AM**
Join us at the church—**IN PERSON** or
Join us via Facebook Live - Metropolitan CME Church—
Restoration Blvd. or Free Conference Call Line 605-475-
4821 Access Code 306019#
Regular Weekly Services each Sunday Morning
- 6 **Missionary Meeting at 6:00 PM Via Zoom**
Meeting ID: 897 9050 0870 Passcode 8955
OR Phone 346-248-7799
- 6-9 **Annual Pastor's Conference/Phillips School of Theology**
Founder's Day Celebration
- 11 **HD Women's Missionary Society Meeting**
- 12 **Last date to donate to the Food Pantry for January 2025**
- 15 **MLK'S Birthday**
- 15 Prayer and Bible Study at Noon and 6:00 pm **RESUMES**
- 18 Houston District Lay Prayer Breakfast @ 9:00 AM-Miles
- 18 Food Pantry sorting and bagging at Blueridge UMC
- 25 HD Ministers Alliance Meeting
- 25 Ministers Spouses Meeting at 10:00 am
- 25 **Ushers Quarterly Training at 10:00 am**
- 25 Church School to visit Tuscan Village at 2:30 PM
- 26-2/2 Connectional Youth & Young Adult Week



Noon Day and Wednesday Evening Bible Study will Resume on Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Wednesday Noon-Day Bible Study at 12:00 Noon.

Join us on Zoom ;

Meeting ID: 88528967154 Passcode 8955

Wednesday Evening Prayer and Bible Study

Prayer @ 6:00 PM & Bible Study @ 6:30 PM

Free Conference Call Line 605-475-4821

Access Code 306019 or Join Us on ZOOM

Meeting ID: 975 142 7923; Passcode 8955

For Audio only Call 1 (346) 248-7799 Number is good at Noon or evening session. Make sure you have the meeting ID and passcode handy.

Prayer led by Sister Peggy Robinson at 6:00 PM, Bible Study led by Pastor Allen Page, III is at 6:30 PM each Wednesday Evening.

Thank you

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Those words are not enough to express how much the Children's Ministry is grateful for your donations for our annual outreach. As always, Metropolitan Family, you have risen to the occasion. We were able to gift 110 residents (66 women and 44 men) of Tuscany Village with your contributions.

Thank you to the parents and volunteers who helped prepare the gift bags for the residents. We worked together to make each bag with love, and I thank God for each of you. This couldn't have been pulled off without your help. A "shout out" to Ms. Llonda Toney for providing snacks for the children, youth, and volunteers who came early to prepare the gifts. All that you've done has been truly appreciated.

Lastly, I appreciate those who came to minister with us at Tuscany Village to sing Christmas Carols, pray, dance, and pass out the gifts to the residents. We had a wonderful time in the Lord starting with a heartfelt prayer led by our very own pastor, Rev. Allen Page, III. I'm so grateful for you all! Looking forward to the next one!

Sis. La Ronda Walker,
Children's Ministry Director

Following is a picture of those who went to Tuscany Village



Happy New Year! 🎉

As we kick off the second semester of the school year, **The Met Back-to-School Collaborative Team** needs your help to ensure all students have the supplies they need to succeed.

Please take a few minutes to complete the **School Supply Survey** by January 12th, 2024.

Your input will help us prepare and provide essential materials for students.

<https://forms.office.com/r/a4gVK4g1X>



Supplies will be available for pick up on January 25th, 2025, after church



January Birthdays



Josalind Casey
Ubong Inyang
DeAndrea Jones-Crooms
David Tonsall
Tianni Williams
Telia Marshall
Demir Carothers
Sherri L. Myles
Janie Morris
Richard Spiller
Flozella Ayers
Jamica Smith
Brent Green
Demetria Williams
Brenda Davis

January 02
January 02
January 02
January 02
January 05
January 06
January 07
January 08
January 09
January 09
January 09
January 10
January 10
January 11
January 14
January 15

Evelyn Monmouth
Ella Boxley
Jamie Dooley Renfro
Cyrus Hill
James Crowder
Paula Nervis
Roshanda Williams
Gloria Broom
Lola Morris
Kourtney Mitchell
Alexandria Green
Rev. Jerry Smith, Sr.
Patricia Jones-Valdez

January 15
January 16
January 17
January 19
January 22
January 24
January 24
January 25
January 29
January 29
January 30
January 30
January 31