

## REMINDER

If you are joining us for IN-PERSON Worship Celebration  
We will conduct service across the street at the  
**Saint Stephen Child Care & Learning Center**  
while renovations are taking place at the Church.

\*\*\*\*\*

Saint Stephen AME Church

# ADVENT

## *Worship Celebration*

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 11, 2022 | 10:00 AM

*Third Sunday of Advent*



CLICK ONE OF THE LINKS BELOW TO JOIN THE SERVICE!

Website: [ststephenamejax.com](http://ststephenamejax.com)

FaceBook: [@ststephename](https://www.facebook.com/ststephename)

OR

CONFERENCE CALL 605-313-4185, Access Code 369246#

THE CELEBRATION OF ADVENT | ORDER OF WORSHIP  
WAYS TO GIVE | ANNOUNCEMENTS  
WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK | UPCOMING EVENTS



**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 11, 2022**

**Brother Sammy Crawford:** God has purposed, God has planned;

**Sister Fran Crawford:** God's prophets have spoken and now fulfillment is at hand!

**Brother Crawford:** Today, we gather for the third Sunday of Advent

**Sister Crawford:** Advent the season of expectation, the season of anticipation, the season of restoration!

**Brother Crawford:** For God has purposed that humanity shall have a redeemer, sent into the world as atonement for our sin of waywardness.

**Sister Crawford:** A reading from the Disciple Luke: *"And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.'"* (Luke 1:46-49)

**Brother Crawford:** Today we remember Mary, who, at any time throughout the process, finds herself innocent and powerful, sacred and scared, worried and waiting as the Savior of all grows in her womb. She sings boldly when she might be meek; bears her role in history with the confidence of a warrior; and finds herself at the forefront of a mighty counter-cultural revolution as the high are brought low and the low are lifted high.

**People:** Today we give thanks for the Marys among us, those who step out of the roles society has planned; those unintended pioneers determined to do, 'what thus saith the LORD'; those who both fearlessly and fearfully step out in faith, and, in so doing, call us to do the same.

**Sister Crawford:** On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Mary, mother of the Christ, the bearer of the Way, who in pure Joy, proclaimed the favor of God; we light today immersed in the Joy of Jesus!

**Brother and Sister Crawford in Unison:** Let Us Pray!

**Brother and Sister Crawford** lead the People in Unison:

May the joy of the coming of the LORD serve a call to us this day and everyday to be reminded of the pure, unadulterated favor of God toward we, God's willing and waiting people, to break free from our doldrums and self-centeredness to proclaim the Joy of the LORD for all the world to hear! In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

*(Lighting of the Advent Candles)*

**Brother and Sister Crawford:** Let Us Sing!!

**The First Noel  
Hymn #111**

*The First Noel, the Angels did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel!*

## *Order of Worship*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022 | 10:00 AM**

**THE PRAISE AND WORSHIP**

**THE CELEBRATION OF ADVENT**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

***"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"***

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say "rejoice!"  
We come to worship and rejoice!  
Let your gladness be known to everyone. The Lord is near!

We come to worship and rejoice the One who is with us!

## THE SONG OF PRAISE

### *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

*Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king  
Peace on earth and mercy mild God and sinners reconciled"  
Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies  
With angelic host proclaim "Christ is born in Bethlehem"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king"*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king"*

*Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings  
Mild He lays His glory by Born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king"*

;

## THE PRAYER

### THE SCRIPTURE

#### James 5:7-11

Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. <sup>8</sup> You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. <sup>9</sup> Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

<sup>10</sup> Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup> As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord to the people of God.

**People:** Thanks be to God!

## THE MINISTRY OF GIVING

## THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC

## THE SERMON

Reverend Dr. David W. Green, Sr.

*"Experiencing Joy in This Advent Season"~Luke 1:26-38*

## THE INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

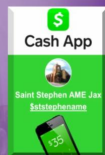
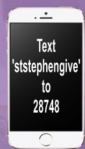
## THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VISITORS

## THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE DOXOLOGY

## THE BENEDICTION

# 4 WAYS TO GIVE



DROP OFF | WEBSITE | TEXT | CASH APP

at Church  
or US Mail

ststephenamejax.com  
'Give Online'

'ststephengive'  
to  
28748

Sststephename  
or  
Saint Stephen AME Jax

PARRISH CONCERNS | ANNOUNCEMENTS

Contact Us:

Email: [ststephen913@aol.com](mailto:ststephen913@aol.com)

Phone: 904-358-2399

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday | Wednesday | Friday  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm



## SACRIFICIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

As we continue in this season of Advent, let us not forget the real reason for the season - **JESUS**. Jesus came to be the ultimate sacrifice for us, now let us make a sacrifice for Him as we continue the upbuilding of His Kingdom. We ask that you give your **Annual Christmas Offering** of **\$60.00** by December 31st. *May God continue to smile on you and bless you beyond measure!*



## Prayer Changes Things

We all have difficult circumstances and situations that arise in our lives from time to time. And every now and then we need a little "extra" help in dealing with those issues. There is comfort in knowing that others are praying with and for us for victory in our life.

### Sister Carmen West

Passing of her Nephew in Philadelphia

**Mr. James Jones, Jr.**

### Sister Stephanie Neloms

Passing of her cousin,

**Mrs. Velvet Brown Anderson**

### Brother Napoleon Allen

Baptist Hospital Downtown

### Sister Margie Witherspoon

Surgery this week

### Sister Claudette Gilbert

Recuperating at home

### Sister Marion Miller

Recuperating at home

### Sister Joritta Dotson

Sister Gloria Peterson

Sister Zenobia Williams

Sister Devena Neloms

Sister Barbara Bacon

Sister Sarah Tatum

Sister Flossie Felton

Sister Jennifer Faye Wright

Sister Mary Ravnell

Brother Mel Walker

**Mrs. Shirley Outler Kemp, Miami, FL**

Sister of Sister Charlie Lawton

### Brother Leon Morley

Former Member

### Brother Johnathan Prime

Brother of Sister Jackie Thompson

**Brother Alphonso Hodges**  
Lakeside Nursing and Rehab

**Sister Lynne Cephus**  
Sister of Lady Kimberly Green

**Roland and Connie Atkins**, Eastern, MD  
~ Family of Sister Carmen West ~

*Prayers for Comfort, Healing and Peace for the Victims, Families and all  
who are affected by natural disasters and the continued violence.*

*Continued Prayers for the victims of Covid-19  
and over 1,000,000 (US) bereaved Families who have lost loved ones.*



***Happy & Blessed 86th Birthday  
to  
Sister M. Gloria Peterson  
December 14th***



### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**Sunday, December 18th, Following Worship Service**  
**IN-PERSON TOWN HALL MEETING**

**Monday, December 19th, 6:00 pm**  
**STEWARDS BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, December 20th, 7:00 pm**  
**TRUSTEE BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, December 21st, 6:00 PM**  
**CLASS LEADERS MEETING**

### **VISION 20/20 *It's Time to Move Up!!***

*We are thankful for the dedicated and faithful members of Saint Stephen AME Church, who continued to give generously towards this effort. We also greatly appreciate those who have made a Monthly Commitment to give for the next year as we move forward:*

Pastor David Green, Sr.  
Lady Kimberly Green  
Charlene Taylor Hill  
James Crawford  
Dr. Ronald Stephens  
Hazel Agee  
Gloria Arline  
Darryl Atkins  
Quincy Axson  
George Baker  
Judith Baker-McKeithan  
Mary Barney-Kirkland  
Mary Blake-Holley  
Juliann Blackmon  
Stacie Brown

Bishop Samuel Green  
Elijah Griffin  
Erica Harvey  
Jimmy Henderson  
Juanita Henderson  
Marie Hightower  
Harriette Holland  
Thelma Howard  
Judy Hubbard  
Carolyn Jackson  
Donna Jackson  
Carole Jenkins  
Fredrick Jenkins  
Larry Jones  
Mattie Jones

Matthew McClain  
Rev. Patricia McGeathay  
Carolyn McIntosh  
Janice McIntosh  
Carole Boyd Mitchell  
Stephanie Neloms  
Terri Newberry  
Cheryl Oglesby  
Donna Okeafor  
Charlean Outler-Lawton  
Katura Owens  
Patricia Owens  
Cheryl Parker  
Velma Pearson  
Jackie Prime-Thompson



Carrie Bryant  
Kwame Chambers  
Joann Christian  
Patricia Conway  
Rev. Moses Crocker  
Sandra Crocker  
Susie Davis  
Carolyn Day  
Charles Demps  
Elizabeth Demps  
Joritta Dotson  
Jolita Durden  
Russell Earl  
Gwen Earl  
Sylvia Ebron  
Michael Finley  
Kathy Payne Foreman  
Mary Gardner-Brown  
Ronald Gardner  
Yulanda Glenn  
Doris Glover  
Dr. Nathaniel Glover  
Rev. David Green, Jr.

Myschelle Jones  
Mildred Lambert  
Euzella Lawrence  
Henry Lawrence  
Mazie Lawrence  
Reginald Lawrence, Sr.  
Bethany Lawton  
Vanita Lawton  
Marco Leathers  
Taige Leathers  
Linda Mack  
Reverend Amy Mainor  
Edith Mainor  
Paula Maple  
LuCretia McBride  
Leola McCants  
Ariel McClain  
Darrell Hampton-McClain  
Deneen McClain  
Geneva McClain  
Jaylon McClain-Sapp  
Jeannetta McClain  
Johnnetta McClain  
Joshua McClain-Sapp

Robert Ray  
Sonya Ray  
William Roberson  
Rev. Donald Rocker  
Seyburn Rocker  
Ola Rutledge-Cargile  
Selma Rutledge  
Velma Rutledge-Ross  
Rosa Salter  
Crystal Sapp  
Rose Simfukwe  
Herman Stewart  
Isabelle Tarver  
Donna Thomas  
Patricia Timmons  
Claudia Tremble  
Christian Turner  
Carmen West  
Zenobia Williams  
Margie Witherspoon  
Davis Wright  
Le'mmon Wright  
Patricia Wright

If you have not yet made your pledge, it is not too late to do so. In-person, ask the Usher for a Commitment Card and submit it today, or click the Image below to access the Commitment Card and return it to the church as soon as possible.



### SENIOR VILLAGE CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

**Saturday, December 17th,  
10:00 - 11:30 am**



The Christian Education Department will carry out the Senior Village Outreach this year by giving Gift Cards to the elderly residents. There are 100 residents who we would like to send Christmas Cheer!

We solicit the help of the Church Family in donating \$10.00 gift cards from Walgreens, Walmart or Harveys/Winn Dixie. Please bring or mail your donations to the church by **December 16th**.

Thanks to each of you!  
Sister Kim Brooks-Hall, Director



## HELP CHANGE A CHILD'S LIFE FOREVER!!

Children with a parent in prison grow up wondering if their mom or dad still loves them. Through Angel Tree, you can be the one to show them they do!

The Catherine Dawson Women's Missionary Society is inviting the entire St. Stephen Family and Friends to share the love of God with 60 young people!

### What is ANGEL TREE?

- A ministry to children with parents who are incarcerated
- Christmas gifts are delivered on behalf of their incarcerated parent, and in the process, share the Gospel
- The gift of love can go beyond Christmas (birthday celebrations, caregiver support, camping, mentoring, etc...)

Please select a child's name **TODAY** following worship service. Wrapped gifts should be dropped off at the Childcare and Learning Center by Thursday, **December 15th!** Don't feel like shopping? No problem, we have **professional shoppers** available until **December 11th!**

Thank you in advance for your prayers and support!

*"If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing the right thing." ~James 2:8~ NIV*

### ST. STEPHEN YOUTH



### CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM



**DATE:** Saturday December 17, 2022 **TIME:** 6 PM-10 PM **DEPARTURE:** 5 PM  
**COST:** \$16.00-PP **YOUR PRICE:** \$8.00 PP **2 & UNDER:** FREE  
**DUE:** Tuesday December 13th (Must register 2 & under though not paying)  
(7 and Under must be accompanied by an adult)



**INCLUDES:** RT Transportation and.....

Hayride Light Show Bounce Pads Swings Tube Slides Barn Yard Ball Zone  
Santa & Mrs. Claus Hot Chocolate/Hot Apple Cider .....and much, much more!!  
Available For Purchase on Site:

Hot dogs Hamburgers Sausage dogs Corn dogs Nachos & cheese  
French fries Chips Pickles Water Gatorade Coke products

**CONTACT:** Sis Sylvia Ebron (904-434-4323 or sylviaebtron@gmail.com)



SAINT STEPHEN A.M.E. CHURCH

*Come Home for Christmas*

**WORSHIP CELEBRATION**  
(In-Person and Virtual)

**SUNDAY**  
**DECEMBER 25, 2022**  
**10:00 am**

BISHOP  
ROBERT V. WEBSTER  
*Preaching*



SAINT STEPHEN A.M.E. CHURCH

*New Year's Eve*

**WATCHNIGHT**  
**CELEBRATION**

Saturday, December 31, 2022  
11:00 pm

Virtual Worship  
ONLY


FaceBook  
[@ststephename](#)  
[ststephenamejax.com](http://ststephenamejax.com)

**BIBLE DISCOVERY/BIBLE STUDY NIGHT**

*Zoom!* YOUTH & ADULT CLASSES

**TUESDAY EVENINGS**

**6:00-7:00pm - Adult Class**  
**6:30-7:00pm - Youth Classes**



Meeting ID: 947 517 678  
Passcode: 312539  
Dial In Using Home or Cell Phone: 646-876-9923

TO JOIN THE CLASSES ON LINE:



DIAL IN USING HOME or CELL PHONE:  
646-876-9923

Meeting ID: 947 517 678  
Passcode: 312539

Click [HERE](#) to access ADULT LESSON for 12/13/2022  
Click [HERE](#) to access ADULT LESSON for 12/20/2022

CHURCH SCHOOL BOOKS FOR THE WINTER QUARTER MAY BE PICKED UP FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY OR FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE THIS WEEK.


**WEDNESDAY @ 6:00 am**

*Unity Prayer*  
**CONFERENCE CALL**



**605-313-4185**  
Access Code: 369246#

**SAINT STEPHEN A.M.E. CHURCH**

*Virtual*   
**LINE DANCE CLASS**

With Instructor  
*Michael Albertie*

**Thursday @ 6:00 pm**

Join Us on *Zoom!* Meeting ID: 838 6344 7478  
Passcode: 011108

**SHOWERS OF BLESSINGS**

**Radio Broadcast**

Every Thursday | 5:00-5:15pm  
Every Friday | 5:45-6:00pm



*Sermons of Reverend Dr. David W. Green, Sr.* WCGL - 1360 AM

*Friday Conference Call*  
**SENIOR ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Every Friday  11am - 12noon

Dial In: 605-313-4185 Access Code: 369246#



## SCHOOL SHOWCASE **SATURDAY**

All our schools will be open for family visits! Principals and staff will be on hand to answer questions, so you can select the best school for your child for the next school year.



**JANUARY 7, 2023**

**SCHOOL TOUR TIMES:**  
9 A.M., 10:30 A.M.  
12 P.M., 1:30 P.M.

Sponsored by  
**FSCJ**  
Florida State College  
at Jacksonville

**GET MORE INFORMATION:**  
Traditional Comprehensive Schools  
Magnet Schools  
Special Transfer Schools

**Explore Schools Online:** Go to  
[www.duvalschools.org/showcase](http://www.duvalschools.org/showcase)

**ENROLLMENT:**  
Enrollment Applications for  
Magnet and Special Transfer  
Schools are available January 1  
through February 28, 2023.

Go to [www.duvalschools.org/enroll](http://www.duvalschools.org/enroll)



### HEALTH NOTES from the NURSING GUILD

#### RECAP OF COVID-19

This is especially not a time to let your guard down regarding Covid-19. It is still around. Gatherings and traveling have increased along with contact with more people in closed spaces. PLEASE CONTINUE TO PROTECT YOURSELF. If you feel sick (even light symptoms) and have a fever, see your Doctor asap or take a Covid-19 home test. Remember that our seniors are most vulnerable and our children catch colds from visiting other's homes and swimming.

Please, as much as possible, continue to abide by the Covid Protocol:

1. Wash your hands often, for 20 seconds
2. Properly wear your mask.
3. Observe social distancing of 3 feet and avoid large gatherings
4. Sanitize your hands, especially entering and exiting buildings and touching door handles.

# Six THINGS TO REMEMBER

## *In-Person Worship Service*

**1** FACE MASKS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

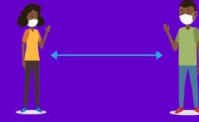


**2** TEMPERATURE CHECKS PRIOR TO ENTERING SANCTUARY

**3** WHEN ENTERING, EXITING AND BEING SEATED, PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIVES OF THE USHERS

**4** NO CROSSING OVER OTHERS WHEN BEING SEATED

**5** SOCIAL DISTANCING TO BE OBSERVED AT ALL TIMES



**6** LIMIT PERSONAL ITEMS BROUGHT INTO SANCTUARY (Purses, Bibles, etc.)

Saint Stephen A.M.E. Church | 913 West Fifth Street, Jacksonville, FL 32209

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