



First AME Church of Los Angeles

Rev. Dr. Timothy E. Tyler, Pastor

*In trouble, deep
Trouble,
I prayed
to God.
He answered
Me.*

Jonah 2:2

First African Methodist Episcopal Church
“ F i r s t t o S e r v e ”
August 23, 2026
9a.m.

Praise & Worship		First Fruit & Voices of Gospel Choirs
Call to Worship		Ife Davis
Morning Hymn	<i>“I Will Bless Thee Oh Lord”</i>	First Fruit & Voices of Gospel Choirs
Invocation		Aniyah Graham
Prayer Response		Music Ministry
Musical Selection		First Fruit & Voices of Gospel Choirs
Scripture Reading	<i>Jonah 2: 1, 2, 10 (NIV)</i>	Ayo Davis
Summary of the Decalogue		Alexander Bond
Ministry through Dance		Living Word Liturgical Dancers
FAMEtv		See Video Monitors
Welcome to our Guests/Visitors		Amaya Holland
Sermonic Selection		First Fruit & Voices of Gospel Choirs
The Preached Word	<i>“Get Out”</i>	Rev. Dr. Thema Bryant
Invitation to Discipleship		Rev. Dr. Thema Bryant
Offering and Online Giving		Rev. Judi Wortham
Pastoral Announcements		Rev. Judi Wortham
Affirmation of Faith		Elijah Bond
Doxology & Benediction		Ife Davis

TODAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School for children, youth, and adults. Children meet on the plaza level, adults meet on both Zoom and in person at 2249 S. Hobart Bl. at 7:45 a.m.

Meeting ID: 678 244 0722 **Passcode:** 2270

FAME FREE LEGAL CLINIC: Provides free, expert legal advice to low income residents. Hours: 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 2249 S. Hobart Blvd. No appointment necessary.

Next session: **September 13**

FAME FREE MEDICAL SCREENING: From 8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., in the church lobby, every 4th Sunday, the Commission on Health and Fitness will conduct medical screenings. The medical screenings will consist of blood pressure, glucose monitoring and more.

Next Screening: **September 27**

UPCOMING EVENTS

SARAH ALLEN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY will hold its Annual Day on Sunday, August 30, 9 a.m. The Men of FAME Choir will bless us in song.

WMS MONTHLY FOOD GIVE-AWAY: is scheduled for September 26, 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Male volunteers are needed. Call 323-735-1251 to find out how you can help.

13TH ANNUAL COMEDY EXPLOSION: Usher Board #4 is hosting their 13th Annual Comedy Explosion hosted by Ramona Stephens on Saturday, September 19, 4 p.m. in the FAME sanctuary. See any Usher Board #4 member for tickets and information.

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES INSTITUTE WITH DR. TYLER: will reconvene on Wednesday, September 2 at noon on the FAME plaza and 7 p.m. on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 895 8469 1580 **Passcode:** 1st2Serve

SPONSOR ALTAR FLOWERS in memory of a loved one, to celebrate an anniversary or a birthday. Call the church office for available dates and information. (323-735-1251).

LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BREATH PRAISE THE LORD. You are invited to join the revival of the Living Word Dance Ministry for adults of all ages and skill level who want to worship God through dance. Dr. Thema will be providing spiritual guidance and inspired choreography all summer long. To join us leave your name and number at the front office or email Dr. Thema at info@drthema.com today.

WELLNESS GARDEN: Join us every Saturday from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m., 2249 S. Hobart Blvd., for a lesson in gardening from master gardeners. Please bring your own gardening tools. Vegetable seedlings will be provided.

SONS OF ALLEN BIBLE STUDY: Rev. Alfonzo Washington is inviting all men to the Sons of Allen Bible Study held on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom where they are studying the book of Ezekiel. Women are also welcome.

Meeting ID: 284 179 1968

Password: 2F3wfM

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Join the Young Adult Bible Study held every Wednesday from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 891 595 275

Password: 058410

RADIO MINISTRY: KJLH, 102.3 FM, Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Weekly Internet radio broadcasts are available at www.famechurchla.org. The morning broadcast is sponsored by Bernard & Shirley Kinsey and The Kinsey Collection.

JOIN THE LAY ORGANIZATION: This is where you have an opportunity to create a love and true appreciation for the history and principles of African Methodism and educate the Laity in the total workings of the church. Call the church office for more information.



CHURCH HISTORY



First AME Church of Los Angeles

Blacks began holding religious services in Los Angeles around the early 1850's in the home of Robert and Winnie Owens, one of Los Angeles' earliest black families. In 1872, First A.M.E. was officially organized in the home of Biddy Mason on Spring Street with twelve members. The group soon purchased a lot and erected our first edifice on 4th and Charity (Grand) streets with Rev. J.E. Hamilton serving as the first minister. Biddy Mason has been credited with donating \$500 towards the building of the first church as well as sending for the minister.

The first two decades were troublesome for the church. Due to financial hardships it was difficult to maintain the church building, property and ministerial staff. Consequently, the building on 4th & Charity was sold in 1882. From 1883 to 1886 F.A.M.E. conducted services in homes and rented spaces until a new site was purchased at 31 San Pedro St. in 1887. Through it all, the small congregation held on to "God's unchanging hand." As blacks migrated to Los Angeles, the church grew.

In 1890 F.A.M.E. purchased another site at 312 Azusa Street. By 1893 F.A.M.E.'s membership had grown to over 125 members. For 13 years F.A.M.E. was the only black church in Los Angeles where it played a major role in the black community. It housed the first black school, fought segregation, and many other organizations originated in FAME church such as the Sojourner Truth and the Forum.

"First to Serve" *Since 1872*

Stevens A.M.E. Church was the official name of the church in 1888. Rev. Jarrett Edwards led the congregation with a vision to build another church edifice at 8th & Towne. In 1904 dedication of Stevens A.M.E. Church took place. It was then a window was dedicated to Biddy Mason who died in 1891.

The church was always referred to as "First Church" and was officially named First A.M.E. Church in 1920. In 1937 Rev. Mansfield Collins is credited with renovating the entire church.

In 1950 Rev. Alvia A. Shaw led the purchase of a church parsonage at 1809 Wellington Road. He was known for the slogan "The Path to Tomorrow Leads Through Yesterday." In 1959 Rev. H. Hartford Brookins held a thirteen year tenure as pastor. After the Watts Riot, Rev Brookins met with John Factor who donated to the building fund and a new church was put on the drawing board.

Rev. Brookins moved members from 8th & Towne to 2270 S. Harvard in 1969. Rev. Fred Stephens led the congregation in 1972 when Rev. Brookins was elected Bishop. The 8th & Towne old church site was declared a historical site #71 by the city of Los Angeles. In 1977 Rev. Cecil L. Murray was appointed pastor. He served 27 years demonstrating strong leadership skills and our membership grew from 300 to 17,000. F.A.M.E. is always addressing Christian mission beyond the walls of the church and into the community. Our motto: First To Serve symbolizes the concept that our church is known for universally. In 2004 Rev. John Hunter served First AME as pastor for 8 years. In 2012 Rev. J Edgar Boyd was assigned as pastor. He was a strong leader who has demonstrated leadership skills Church-wide. He has also been an active leader throughout the community as well.

Rev. Robert R. Shaw, II was assigned as Pastor in October 2023.

Rev. Dr. Timothy E. Tyler was assigned September 2025. We know that great things are in store for our church and our community.