



First AME Church of Los Angeles

Rev. Dr. Timothy E. Tyler

Pastor

You are my God
and I will *praise You.*

Psalm 118:28

2270 S. Harvard Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90018
323-735-1251 | www.famechurchla.org

First African Methodist Episcopal Church
“First to Serve”
September 20, 2026
9a.m.

Praise & Worship		Brookinaires Gospel Choir
Call to Worship		Rev. Dr. Thema Bryant
Morning Hymn	<i>“Just Wanna Praise You”</i>	Brookinaires Gospel Choir
Invocation		Rev. Dr. Charolyn J Jones
Prayer Response		Music Ministry
Musical Selection		Brookinaires Gospel Choir
Scripture Reading	I Kings: 9 - 18 CEV	Rev. Lenora Ingram
Summary of the Decalogue		Rev. Dr. Barbara Brooks
Holy Sacrament of Baptism		Dr. Timothy E. Tyler
FAMEtv		See Video Monitors
Welcome to our Guests/Visitors		Rev. Walter “Baby Love” Shaw
Sermonic Selection		Brookinaires Gospel Choir
The Preached Word	<i>“How Did We Get Here”</i>	Dr. Timothy E. Tyler
Invitation to Discipleship		Dr. Timothy E. Tyler
Offering		Dr. Timothy E. Tyler
Pastoral Announcements		Dr. Timothy E. Tyler
Doxology & Benediction		Rev. Al Washington
Threefold Amen		

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBER:

Morris Miller

UPCOMING EVENTS

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES INSTITUTE WITH DR. TYLER: are held every Wednesday at noon on the FAME plaza and 7 p.m. on Zoom. Visit the FAME website for the link.

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 27**

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**

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 3, 9 a.m.—12 noon, FAME Church in partnership with the John B. Langston Bar Association of Los Angeles will host “LAW DAY” on the Plaza Level. Services will include Pro Bono Will Preparation, free legal consultation and more. This event is free. Scan the QR code to register.



SAVE THE DATE: The FAME Commission on Scholarship, Education and Training is hosting the Career Awareness Fair Saturday, October 10, 9am - 2 p.m. Come and explore high-paying career paths without requiring a four-year college degree. Register by October 1. Snacks and lunch will be provided.

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.

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

SPONSOR ALTAR FLOWERS in memory of a loved one, to celebrate an anniversary or a birthday. Call the church office for available



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.