

LaMott African Methodist Episcopal Church

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Rt. Rev. Julius H. McAllister Sr., Presiding Bishop

Rev. Dr. Stanley Smith, Presiding Elder

Rev. Dr. Louis P. Attles, Pastor

Elder Richard Safford, Minister of Music

Peace
I leave with you
John 14-27

Sunday, November 26, 2023 – Time - 10:00 a.m.

Church School Lesson: Lesson Text: “Freedom to Edify” 1st Corinthians 10:23-11:1 **Key Text:** “I have the right to do anything: -but not everything is constructive.” 1st Corinthians 10:23b

Summary of the Lesson: - Corinth was an ancient Greek city with rich historical and cultural legacy. Part of this legacy was numerous temples to the various Greek gods., the most dominant being the temples to Apollo, the god of wisdom, and to Aphrodite, the goddess of love. These two temples seem to have captured the spirit of Corinth, because, like Apollo, the Corinthians placed a high priority on the pursuit of wisdom, and, like Aphrodite, they place a high priority on the pursuit of “love”. In fact, Corinth had become so intimately connected with ritual prostitution that the Greek verb “to corinthianize” meant “to engage in sexual relations”. The Corinthians’ love of learning and loving helps explain Paul’s focus in his letters on what constitutes true wisdom and love. Paul argues that true wisdom comes not from studying philosophy or religion but from knowing God. Read 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8 for Paul’s definition of love. The believers in Corinth were surrounded by all kinds of ideas and practices contrary to God and His purpose and plans. The believers had the freedom through the work of Christ on the cross. But, this freedom was not to be used to justify certain behavior. There are important considerations to be made. The freedom in Christ allows the believer to not have to adhere to the Law of Moses, or any tradition, man-made command beyond what God requires. Verse 23 says “I have the right to do anything, but not everything is beneficial. I have the right to do anything, but not everything is beneficial.” The idea here is that the believer has to consider how his/her actions/behavior impacts other believers whose spiritual maturity is at risk. The example in verse 27 indicates while the believer who chooses to have a meal at an unbeliever’s house, he/she is free in Christ to eat whatever is being served. Conversely, if the believer is told that the meal being served has been offered as part of idol ritual/sacrifice, then the believer is not to eat whatever that is. Certainly, idol worship, Jewish dietary and circumcision requirements, philosophical teachings infiltrating the church at Corinth was of concern to Paul. The same concern regarding outside of God influences exists for believers today. We are bombarded daily with all kind of influences that are potentially damaging to our spiritual health: social media platforms; places and things that those who see us come to associate with us when they see us; places and things that work against holiness. We have to be mindful of how what we do, or participate in, affect the openness to receive the Gospel Message of those who observe us. The key word in the title of the lesson is “edify”. That word means to make better; to uplift; to build up. The freedom we have in Christ is not meant to be selfish or self-centered. What this means is that we are to share our faith with others; to make the people we meet better. It does not mean that we will win every person we meet. What it does mean is that we can, perhaps, add brightness to their lives because we bring something of the spirit and character of Christ into their lives. It means that even though we are in the world, we are to live with a sense of duty to honor and glorify God and be a witness to others. This freedom means that our thoughts, words, and deeds are anchored in personal holiness. It does not mean that we lower our standards or that we become “holier than thou” or become hypocritical. It does mean that we are to be determined to be like the One above who made us better – our future in eternity depends on it. Freedom in Christ liberates us from slavery to sin. In the world freedom is often misunderstood and abused. As believers, we are to represent our freedom in Christ in a way that honors God and edifies others. Amen.

Zoom Conference Access Number: (301) 715-8592 - **Meeting ID:** 576 600 0754 – **Conf. Passcode:** 1234
Watch the 10 a.m. Morning Worship Service & Bible Study @ www.lamottamec.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS - “Virtual Bible Study” – Tuesdays @ 7:30p - All are Welcome! Invite someone!

TODAY @ 3:00 p.m. - **Elder Richard Safford** is taking the stand for the word assignment at the “**Flow in the Spirit Ministry Church**”, 3820 N. Broad St Phila., , PA He is asking for your prayers.

The Month of Nov., The Mary Campbell WMS is “**Helping Robert’s Kids**” –. (See Insert)

Sun., Dec 3rd – “**Hot Dog & Bake Sale**” after the morning service. Sponsored by the Health Ministry. See insert

Sun., Dec. 10th – “**Stewards’ Board- Annual Day**” – celebrated during the morning worship service.

Sun., Dec. 10th – “**We celebrate our Pastor’s Birthday**” all clubs, organizations and church family prepare your gifts and cards. No food served.

Sun., Dec. 17th “**Fellowship Sunday**” all clubs, organizations and church family prepare your gifts and cards.

Sun., Dec. 24th @ 7:00 p.m. – “**Christmas Eve Hour of Power Service**” via our Zoom Line.

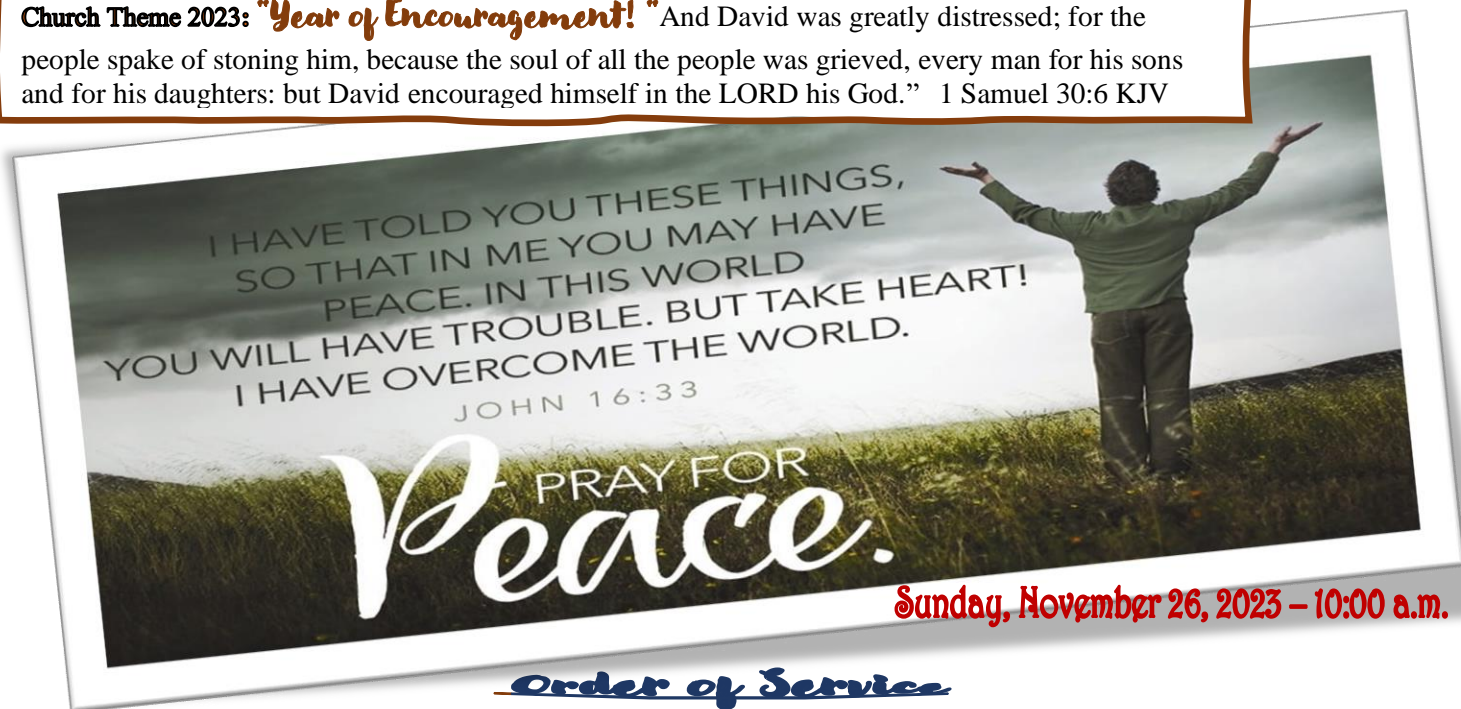
Sun., , Dec. 31st @ 7:00 p.m. - “**New Year’s Eve Hour of Power Service**” - via our Zoom line:

Bible Study is CANCELLED - Dec. 26th & Jan., 2nd.



The Christmas Card box is in the rear of Sanctuary. - deposit cards for your church family

Church Theme 2023: "Year of Encouragement!" "And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God." 1 Samuel 30:6 KJV



Scripture of the Month: "Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil. *"This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones."* Proverbs 3:7-8 NIV

Call To Worship – (inspired by Psalm 23)

L: In the darkest valley, at the banquet table; in the hard work of life, at the moments of ease;
P: in our day-to-day reality, at times set aside– like this time, now– for worship, for listening,
A.:–for paying attention; with every step we take: goodness and mercy follow us; *our cups overflow.*

Opening Hymn "Thank You Lord"

Prayer 

Prayer Response

Worship through Music

Declaration This is my Bible. I am what it says I am. I can have what it says I can have. I can do what it says I can do. Today I will be taught the word of God. My mind is alert. My heart is receptive. I'll never be the same again. In Jesus' name. Amen

Reading of the Will

Old Testament: Esther 9:11-19 **New Testament** James 1:2-8 **The Gospel** John 15:9-17

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty
Gloria Patri – "Glory Be To The Father"

Worship through Music


Sermon Rev. Dr. Louis P. Attles, Pastor


Invitational

Giving of our Tithes/Offering

Benediction "Reach out and Touch Somebody's Hand"

Sis. Hester Alcorn, Sister of Charlotte & John Alcorn, Sis. Mary English, Sis. Maggie Bullard, Sis. Jeanette Congelton, Our country, Our youth, Bro. Carl Rollins, Bro. Leroy Williams, husband of Sis. Debbie Williams,, Sister Lottie Chisholm's mother, Lula King, Tuwana Jones, niece of Sis. Mary & Keith English, Rev., Dr. & Mrs. Melvin D. Wayns, Sis. Deb Williams' Mom & Dad, Bro. Bill Walker, Brother of Sis. Wanda Samuels, and All those who have family members and friends who are sick and have lost loved ones. **All those who have Birthdays or Anniversaries in the Month of Nov.**

Happy Birthday **November** Anthony Lim 1st Solana Martinez 2nd James Carter 4th David Goodman 5th
Yvette Banks 5th Mary English 5th George Roberts 10th Jackie Sewell 11th
 Kamari Brasher 19th Ashley Banks 24th David Bullard 26th Dorothy Wright 28th Catherine Moore 29th

Happy Anniversary – Nov. Roy & Catherine Moore – 24th – **20 years** George & Deborah Roberts - 28th - **13 years** 

Let us continue in our giving. **You** can give by drop off, mail or online through "Tithe.ly" You can place your offering

Cash app -[https://cash.app/\\$LaMottAMEChurch](https://cash.app/$LaMottAMEChurch)
1. Download App. On your phone 2. Find LaMott AME
3. Put in the Amount - 4. Check box pay fee

