

LaMott African Methodist Episcopal Church

1505 West Cheltenham Ave., Elkins Park, Pa 19027

Pastor's Cell Number-973-449-1104 www.lamottame.org

E-Mail attleslamott@gmail.com

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

Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023 – Time - 10:00 a.m.

Unto Us a **Child is Born**

Peace King of Joy to the
Joy Hope Love Kings World

Church School Lesson: **"Faith of the Wise Men"** Lesson Text: Matthew 2:1-12 **Key Text:** "and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'" Matthew 2:2

Black History Moment~ The Historical Legacy of "Watch Night"

"It is a day for poetry and song, a new song. These cloudless skies, this balmy air, this brilliant sunshine . . . are in harmony with the glorious morning of liberty about to dawn up on us." Frederick Douglass - December 31, 1862. On the night of Dec. 31, 1862, enslaved and free blacks gathered, many in secret, to ring in the new year and await news that the Emancipation Proclamation had taken effect. Just a few months earlier, on Sept. 22, 1862, Pres. Lincoln issued the executive order that declared enslaved people in the rebelling Confederate States legally free. However, the decree would not take effect until the clock struck midnight at the start of the new year. The occasion, this is the first "Watch Night" or "Freedom's Eve," marks when African Americans across the country watched and waited for the news of freedom. They gathered to pray, worship, sing, and danced. White enslavers, wrote laws that restricted worship and large gatherings, such as that in the 1848 Georgia Slave Code: "No person of color . . . shall be allowed to preach, to exhort, or join in any religious exercise with any persons of color, either free or slave, there being more than seven persons of color present. 1848 Georgia." Despite these laws, they convened at praise houses on plantations or secretly gathered in the woods, where they practiced their faith under the protective cover of the trees and brush in what became known as "hush harbors."

Today, Watch Night is an annual New Year's Eve tradition. The Watch Night service starting time varies but begins in the evening on Dec. 31st and lasts through midnight. Coming together to pray, worship and give testimonies as they did on the 1st Watch Night. Many congregants across the nation bow in prayer minutes before the midnight hour... I remember LaMott's Watch night service, I can hear Rev. Banks calling out "Watchman, watchman please tell me the hour of the night.".... Some welcome in the new year with celebratory foods that can be traced back to Southern superstition, influenced by beliefs across West Africa. The eating of collard greens, representing the promise of prosperity, and eating black-eyed peas with rice, also known as Hoppin' John. Traditionally, Hoppin' John consists of black-eyed peas, rice, red peppers, and salt pork, and it is believed to bring good fortune to those who eat it. Before finding its way into American traditions, the black-eyed pea (also known as cowpea) traveled from Central Africa to the West Indies and finally to the Carolinas in the early 1700s. Many West African cultures regard the pea as lucky, and memories of its luck remained with enslaved black people in the American South and still endure today. Initially meant to welcome emancipation, today the Watch Night service encourages reflection on the history of slavery and freedom, as well as reflection on the past year,—both its trials and triumphs—and bringing us through another year, while also anticipating what the new year will have in store. It is a continuation of generations of faith that freedom and renewal lie ahead.

Happy New Year to All from the LaMott Church School!!

Sunday Worship Webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/93197056304> - **Webinar ID:** 931 9705 6304 –

Dial in +1 (646) 931-3860 - **Then dial** 931 9705 6304 #

Bible Study, Meetings, Church School & Special Services - Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/99882887220> -

Meeting ID: 998 8288 7220 **Mobile** +1 (301) 715-8592 then dial 998 8288 7220#

ANNOUNCEMENTS - "Virtual Bible Study" – Tuesdays @ 7:30p – CANCELLED All are Welcome!

TODAY @ 7:00 p.m. – "New Year's Eve Hour of Power Service" –" via our Zoom Line. All are Welcome.

Please don't forget to get your **2024 Church Calendar.** They are in the rear of the sanctuary on the bench.

Bible Study is CANCELLED -Jan. 2nd . – Bible Study will resume – Tues., Jan. 9th @ 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 20th @ 3:00 p.m. "Zoom Church School" All are welcome. Via our Zoom line,

Happy New Year

HE HAS MADE EVERYTHING BEAUTIFUL IN ITS TIME.
ECCLESIASTES 3:11



Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

Scripture of the Month: "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."

Order of Service

Mark 9:23 NIV

Call To Worship – (based on Matthew 2:1-12, Isaiah 60:1-6)

L: Light! Light, light and more light! Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of God has risen upon you.

P: Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

L: When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men came from the East, saying: Where is he who is born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East and have come to worship him.

All: The wonderful light of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Opening Hymn – "Go, tell it on the Mountain"

chorus: Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.

1) The shepherds feared and trembled, When lo above the Earth rang out the angel's chorus, That hailed our Savior's birth. --Chorus --

2) Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn. --Chorus -

Prayer



Prayer Response

Worship through Music

Declaration

Brother Robert Love – 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-Deuteronomy 18:14-22 New Testament ~ Galatians 4:21-27

The Gospel- Luke 1:39-45

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

Sermon

Evangelist Ernestine Johnson

Invitational

Giving of our Tithes/Offering

The Pastor's Word/Announcements

Benediction "Reach out and Touch Somebody's Hand"

Brett Patterson's brother and Natasha's brother-in-law, Bryan Patterson. He is in the hospital for diabetes and heart emergencies, Bro. Carl Rollins and Sis. Maggie Bullard at home healing, Our country, Our youth and senior citizens, 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 Dec.,

Happy Birthdays

December - Pastor Attles - Dec. 7th



Happy Anniversary - December - Natasha & Brett Patterson 31st - 13 years



LET US CONTINUE IN OUR GIVING. ~ YOU CAN GIVE BY DROP OFF OR MAIL TO THE CHURCH.

YOU CAN ALSO – TEXT TO GIVE: – phone # 1888-364-4483 (Give) Text word: lamottame – click link

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

Peace
on Earth
goodwill towards
man Luke 2:14

