

Sunday, May 17, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

**Theme:**  
Empowered  
to Serve,  
Called to Grow

**134<sup>TH</sup>**

**ANNIVERSARY**

*Celebration*

**St. John A.M.E. Church**

6070 St. Johns Chapel Road,  
Eight Mile, AL 36613

**SERVING OUR COMMUNITY  
SINCE 1890**

**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY**  
*Souvenir Booklet*

**SCRIPTURE:**  
**Colossians 1:10**

*“...that you may live a life worthy of the Lord  
and please Him in every way;  
bearing fruit in the knowledge of God.”*

Rev. Benjamin Lightner, Pastor  
Rev. Charles Lewis, Presiding Elder  
Rt. Rev. Julius McAllister, Presiding Bishop

# Rev. Benjamin Lightner & Rev. Samantha Lightner





**Rev. Charles Lewis,  
Presiding Elder  
& Rev. Dr. G. Dianne Lewis,  
Mobile District Consultant**

**Rev. Charles Lewis is  
a former Pastor of St.  
John A.M.E. Church**





**Rev. Johnnie  
Bryant, Presiding  
Elder (Retired)  
& Mrs. Johnita  
Bryant**

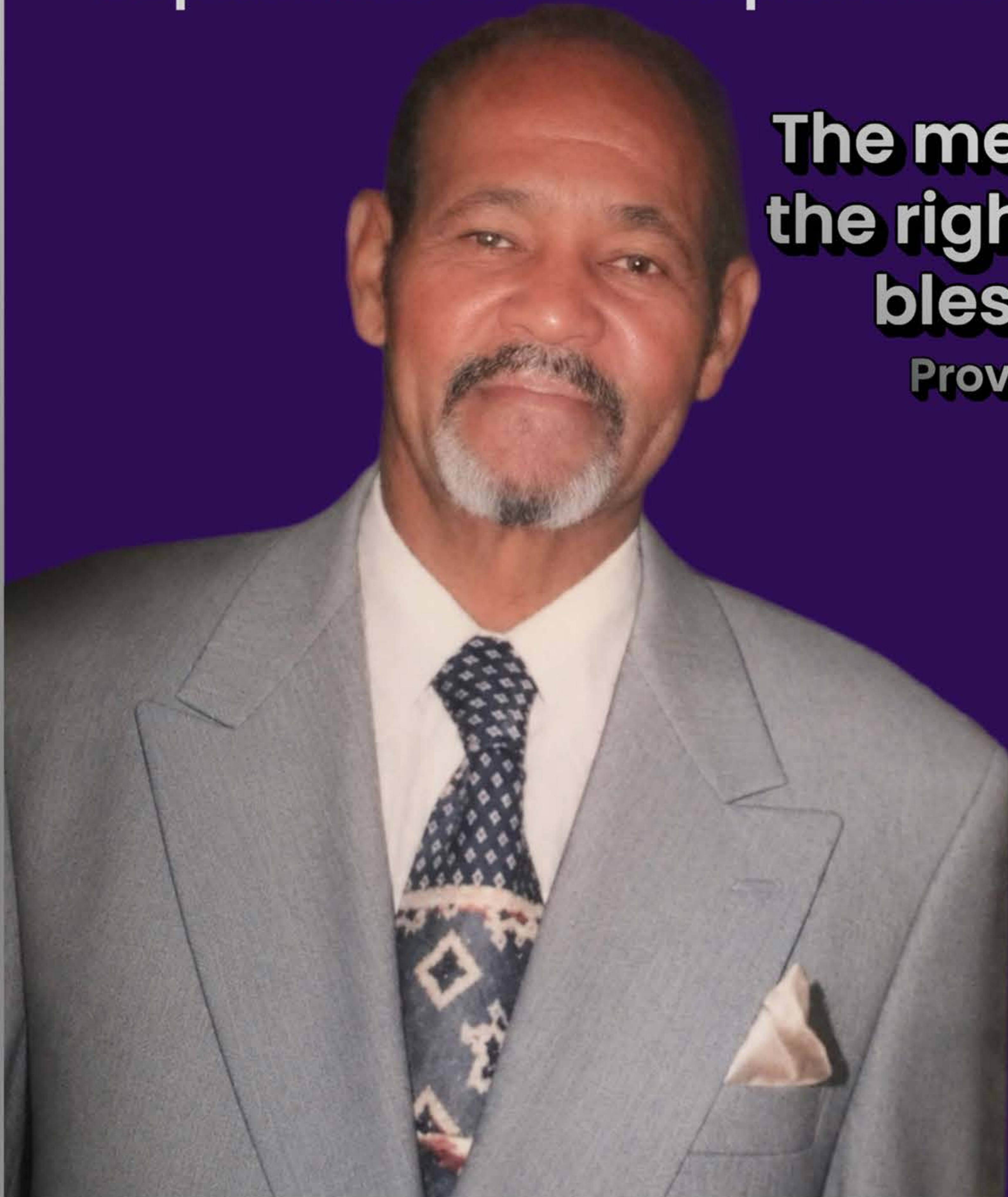


**Ret. Presiding Elder  
Bryant is a former  
Pastor of St. John  
A.M.E. Church**



# *Honoring the Legacy of* **Rev. Cleveland Smoke, Jr.**

faithfully served as Pastor of  
St. John A.M.E. Church for 23 years  
September 1960 – September 1983

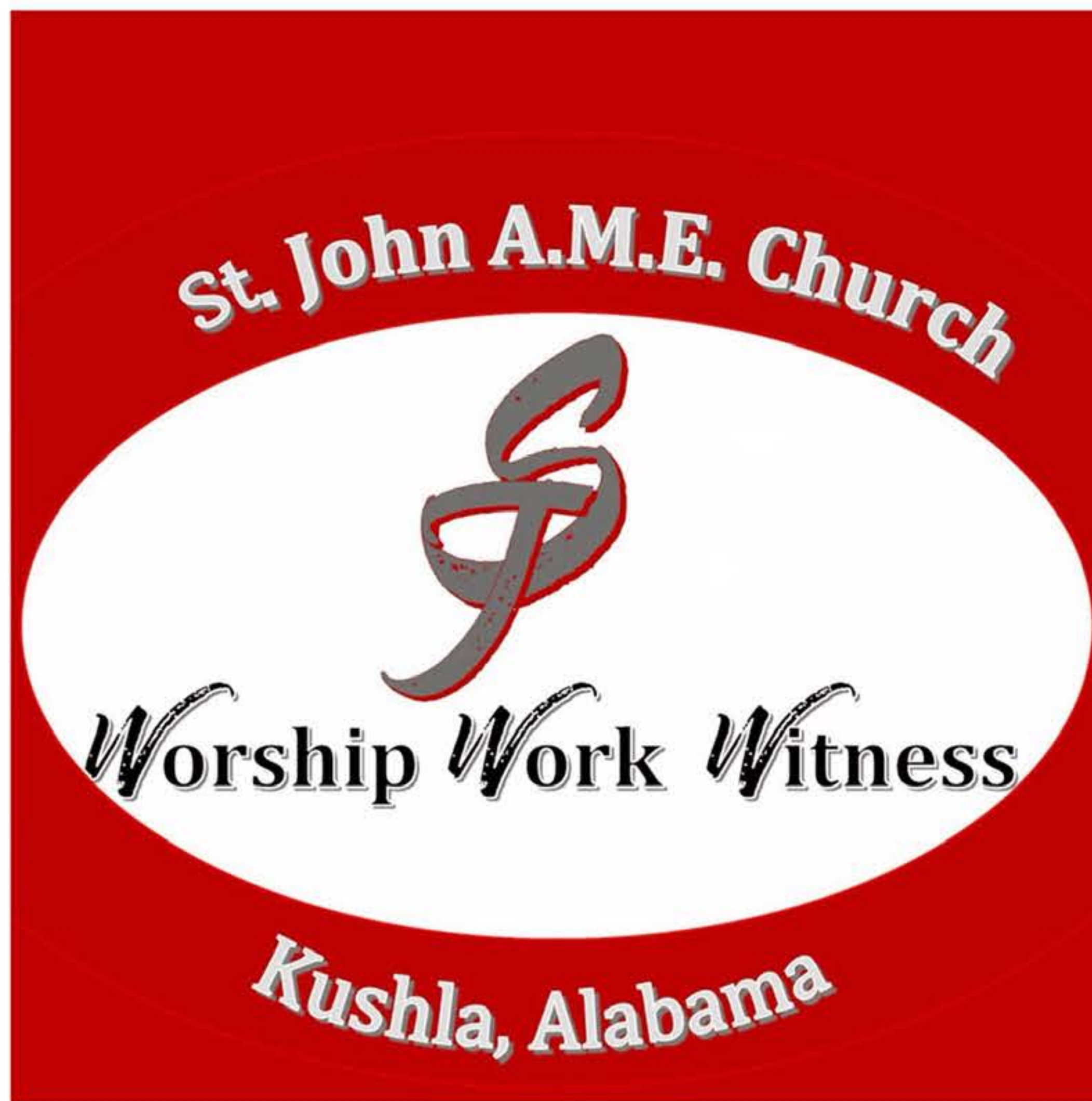


**The memory of  
the righteous is  
blessed...**

**Proverb 10: 7**

With much  
love and  
respect for  
beloved  
Servants of  
God: the  
late Rev.  
Smoke &  
the late  
Mrs. Gloria  
Smoke

*from  
Stephanie  
Robinson*



# Come, Worship with Us

## ONLINE OR IN PERSON

We **welcome** first time **visitors**,  
**appreciate** all of our returning **guests**,  
and **encourage** former members to  
reconnect for a joyous **homecoming**.



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



## **A SPECIAL NOTE FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**St. John A. M. E. Church is celebrating 134 Years  
of Service to Our Community.**

**We Have a Strong and Everlasting Legacy of  
Love, Faith and Christian Charity.**

**This year, we pay special tribute to Bro. Warren  
R. Ayler, Sr., who worked tirelessly doing the  
work of the Lord here at St. John. He wanted to  
chair this year's Church anniversary, but  
couldn't due to his health.**

**We thank Rev. Lightner for trusting his family  
to this important task.**

**We also thank our St. John Church Family for  
your prayers as we all continue to grow in  
Christ. We love you all.**

**The Ayler and Sanders Family**



**Warren R. Ayler Sr.**

# **In Loving Memory**

**“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your path straight.”**

**-Proverbs 3:5-6**

**From Your Loving Wife,  
Gladys Ayler**

**MAY THE WORK I'VE DONE  
SPEAK FOR ME**



In honor and memory of Warren Ayler, Sr.,  
from your loving children, grandchildren &  
great grandchildren

# **Congratulations**

**on 134 years of unwavering  
faith and service. Our  
journey inspires us all to  
walk more closely with God.**

**As Psalm 92:12 says:  
The righteous will flourish  
like the Palm tree.”**

**I pray our Church  
continues to flourish  
in Gods's grace for  
many more years.**

*Sis. Georgia Jones*





*Congratulations - 134 years of service*

IN LOVING

MEMORY

OF

LAWAENCE WALKER

MARY WALKER

GREGORY WALKER

EURSSIE WALKER FRAZIER

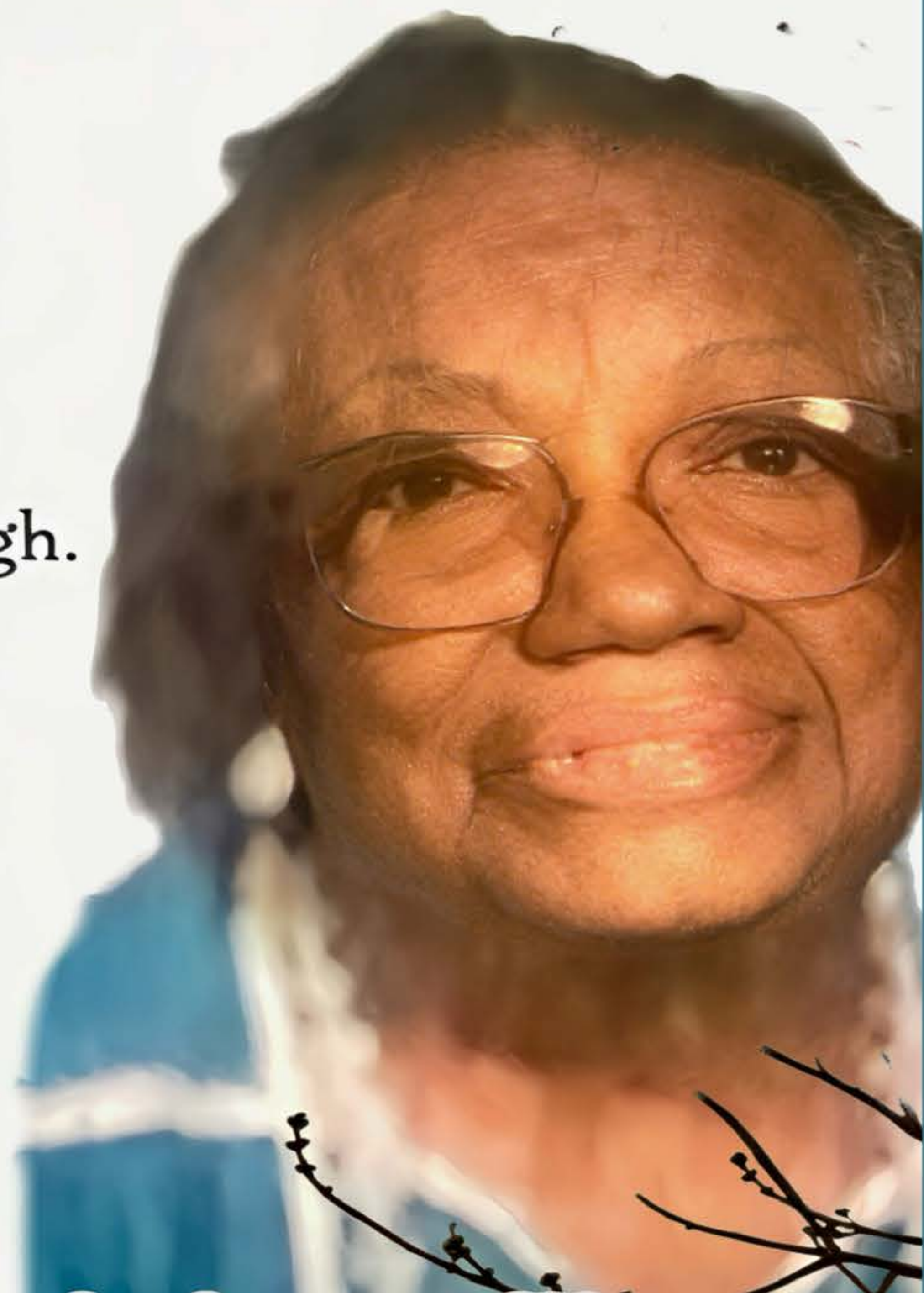


*The Walker  
Family*



# A Fallen Limb

A limb has fallen from the family tree.  
I keep hearing a voice that says,  
“Grieve not for me.  
Remember the best times,  
the laughter, the song.  
The good life I lived  
while I was strong.  
Continue my heritage,  
I’m counting on you.  
Keep smiling and surely  
the sun will shine through.  
My mind is at ease,  
my soul is at rest.  
Remembering all,  
how I truly was blessed.  
Continue traditions,  
no matter how small.  
Go on with your life,  
don’t worry about falls.  
I miss you all dearly,  
so keep up your chin.  
Until the day comes  
we’re together again.”



***In Loving Memory,  
Sis. Lorena Wilson  
“Your Family”***

# *In Our Hearts*

*We thought of you today.  
But that is nothing new.  
We thought about you yesterday.  
And days before that too.  
We think of you in silence.  
We often speak your name.  
Now all we have are memories.  
And your picture in a frame.  
Your memory is our keepsake.  
With which we'll never part.  
God has you in his keeping.  
We have you in our heart.*

*- Unknown*

**In Loving Memory**

**Of our**

**Parents and Brother**

**Cleo G. Malone, Mary E. Malone, Cleo B. Malone**

**Grandparents**

John S. Malone Sr., Sara Malone, Henrietta Malone, John Malone Jr., Theodore  
Malone, Lorena (Clarence) Wilson, Gladys Williams, William Malone, Dorothy  
William's, Myrtle Dennis



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William's, Myrtle Dennis**

# Mom

Your beauty, wit and sense of humor  
Your scrumptious meals particularly desserts...  
Those great times on our fishing trips...  
Your sincere love and wisdom shared...  
Your gentle spirit and tough love with a smile...  
Your prayers and living a life walked  
in faith and God's Grace

# Dad

Your total recall of events, facts, and dates at 97+ young...  
Your meticulous gardening skills and knowledge of planting...  
Your love for fishing and talking on the phone...  
The stories of our family history and the days past and gone...  
Your playing the piano, organ, and singing at home, church or  
Where ever to say "It is well"

Always loved,  
missed and  
remembered  
Emerson  
Robinson, Jr.  
Georgia Jones  
James &  
Veronica  
Robinson  
David & Eddric  
Robinson  
Sarah &  
Joseph Kelly,  
Sr.  
Esther Johnson



Your strong bond of love for each other and family  
Because of God's 'Amazing Grace'  
"It is well with your souls"

**We're Resting Now  
No more sorry, or pain  
No more burdens to bear  
No more heartache to endure  
No more weight of earthly cares,  
On earth we did our best, friends we tried to be,  
Our lives lived to say 'you can count on me'  
But, we are resting now  
Safe in the loving arms of Jesus  
"To God Be the Glory!"**



**Charlie & Annie Mosley**



**Nell Richardson**



**Albert & Gladys Robinson Sr**



**Frank & Lillie Robinson**



**Dianne White**



**Rudy Files**

**Sadly missed, never forgotten, and loved forever!**

**Your children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and Sisters & Brothers  
Robinson Family**



# *A Mother's Love*

In every breeze, your whisper's near,  
A gentle hug to calm our fear.  
Your laughter rings in morning dew,  
A melody so pure and true.

Your hands that held, your eyes that shone,  
In our hearts, you're never gone.  
Through life's vast and winding road,  
You light our way, you share our load.

Though now you rest beyond the skies,  
Your love remains, it never dies.  
In every heart you've touched and graced,  
Your spirit's warmth will be embraced.

**In loving Memory  
of Our Mother**

**Mary A. Sanders**

**Love Your Children**

**Carolyn (Keith) Morrell,**

**Robert (Veronica) Sanders**

**Rickey Sanders**



*...I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; ... they will not sweep over you. ... because I love you,*



## **In Memoriam of**

**Grandson Zachery Mixon  
Niece Sonia Robinson  
Sister Alfredetta Robinson  
Brother Floyd "Ray" Robinsn  
Cousin James Richardson, Sr.  
Aunt Mary B. Blackston  
Aunt Susie Blackston  
Aunt Florida Ruffin  
Aunt Alice Moore  
Uncle Nathaniel Blackston  
Uncle William Lee Blackston  
Uncle Marion Blackston  
Mother Christina Robinson  
Father Eddie Robinson  
From Earnestine  
Robinson Kelly & Family**

**Those we love don't go away  
They walk beside us everyday  
Unseen, unheard, but always near  
Still loved, still missed and very dear**



**A SPECIAL THANK  
YOU TO  
THE BUSINESS  
COMMUNITY.**

**WE APPRECIATE  
YOUR SUPPORT.**

**Congratulations**



**St. John  
A.M.E.**

**134 Year Legacy**

**of Greatness**



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**Taking care of  
yourself is the most  
powerful way to  
begin to take care of  
others.**

**Bryant McGill**

DEXTER'S FITNESS CENTER



# Congratulations

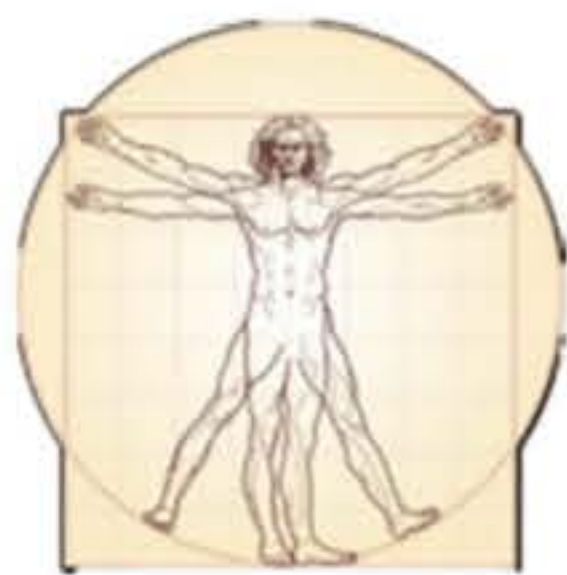
**St. John A.M.E. Church**  
on your historical milestone  
celebration

**134<sup>+</sup> years**

of faith, worship and  
community service.



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Physician*



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# *Congratulations*

## **St. John A.M.E. Church Family**

**Celebrating 134 years  
of faith, worship &  
community service**

**MEMORIAL**



**Funeral Home**

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# Congratulations St. John A.M.E. Church Celebrating 134 Years!

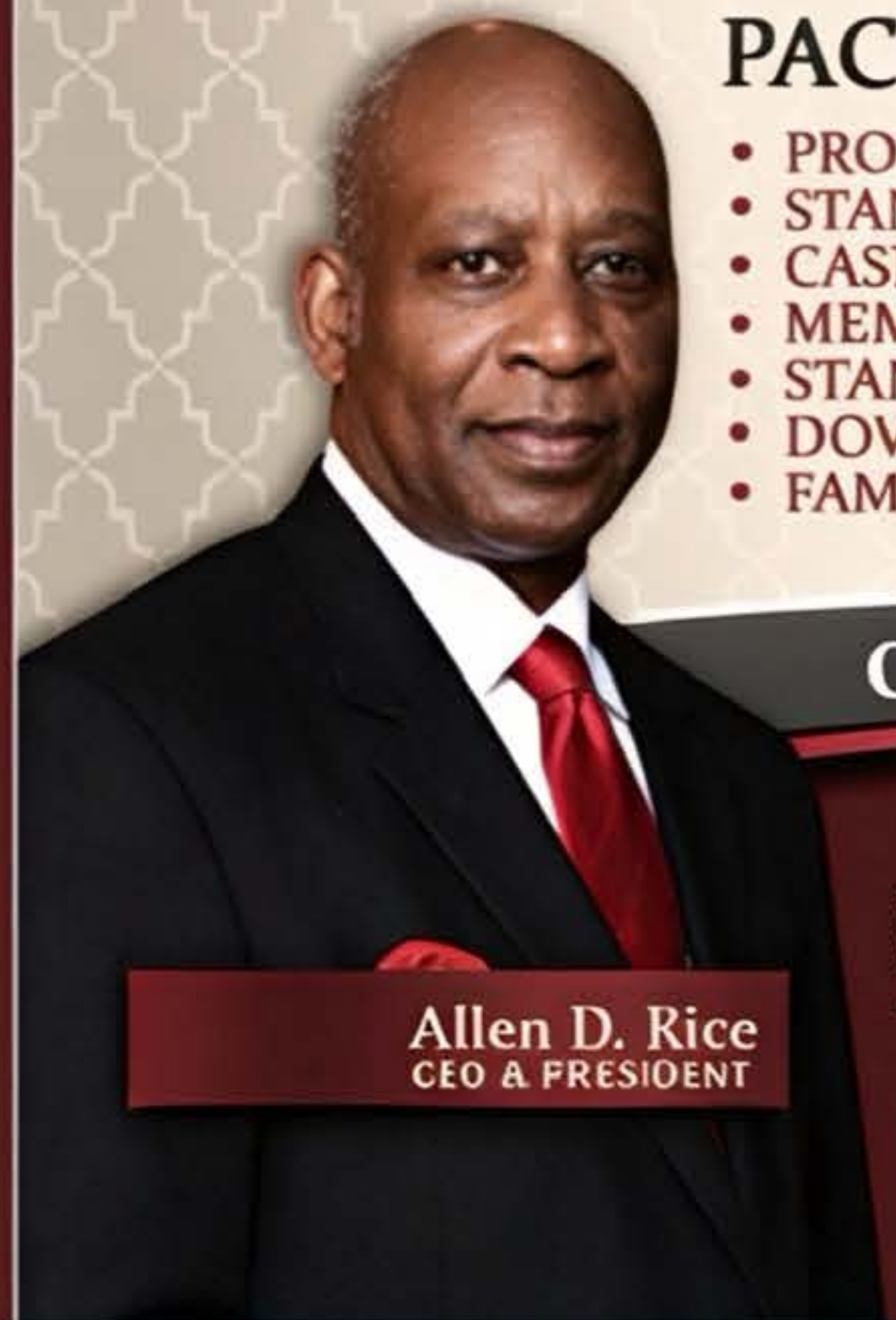


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God's will.*

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**Allen D. Rice**  
CEO & PRESIDENT



**Celebrating 50 Years!**

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*“Felicitations & Congratulations  
St. John A.M.E. Church  
On Your 134<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary”*



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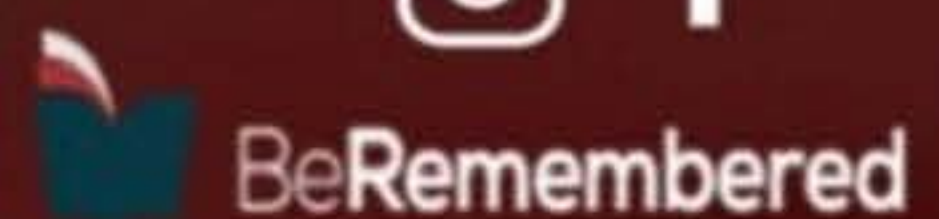
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# CONGRATULATIONS

## St. John AME Church

### &

## Veronica and Robert Sanders

### On Your

## 134th Church Anniversary



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