

"The Future Is Now"



Clair Memorial UM Church

679 Communipaw Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07304

Phone: 201-942-6286

Email: info@clairumcjc.org

Website: www.clairumcjc.org

Contact Us



[ClairChurchJerseyCityNJ](https://www.facebook.com/ClairChurchJerseyCityNJ)



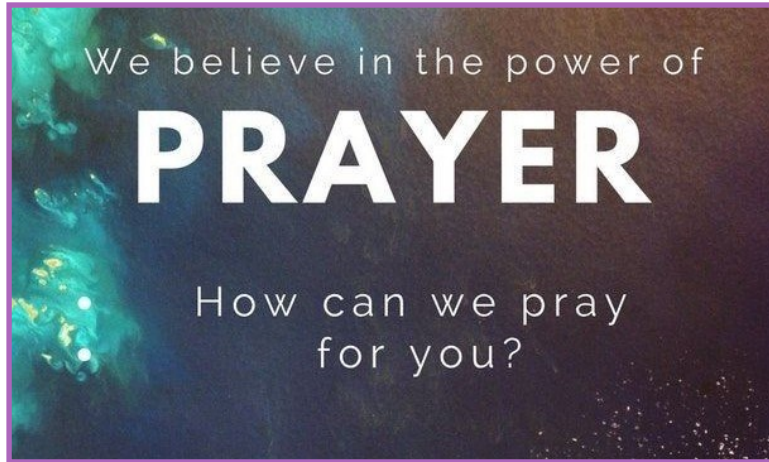
[clairumcjc](https://www.instagram.com/clairumcjc)



Dial In: (929) 205-6099
ID: 7127705506#



- If anyone is celebrating a birthday today or this week, we would like to wish you a Happy birthday!
- This Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent. Advent is a season of four weeks including four Sundays. The season proclaims the comings of the Christ whose birth we prepare to celebrate once again, who comes continually In Word and Spirit, whose return in final victory we anticipate.
- Email list update – Everyone is asked to check the email list that is being circulated today, to make sure their email information is on the list and is correct, if not, please add or make the necessary corrections. This request is coming from the Pastor.
- On next Sunday, Christmas Eve, there will be a candlelight service at the close of the service. Everyone is asked to come out, to worship, and celebrate this this wonderful day.
- The Online Adult Bible Class is held each Wednesday at 7:00P.M. Sister Dorothy Tisdale will be the teacher for the month of December. The topic for this quarter is Justice is Worship. If you have not registered, please do so. The registration forms are on the table in the narthex.
- The Nurture Ministry is planning on starting a Book Club in 2024, if anyone is interested, please contact Sister Dorothy Tisdale or anyone on the Nurture Team.
- We are now in Phase 3 of our OVER-THE-TOP Financial Campaign. It started on Sunday October 1, 2023, and will end on December 31, 2023. A pledge of \$100 or more or whatever you can give beyond your regular tithes and offerings is the goal, for every \$300 each member donates to the Campaign, a leaf can be purchased for our TREE OF LIFE Recognition.
- Please make sure your announcements are provided to the communication team no later than Wednesday of each week. If your ministry team would like to make an announcement, you may do so; just let the communication team know by Wednesday so your name can be added for Sunday.



If you have a prayer request or want to add someone to the prayer list, please email us at info@clairumcjc.org or go to [Clair's website](#) and let us know how we can pray for you.

Please continue praying for our church, community, state and country.

Our prayer list includes:

- Pastor Dawrell Rich and the Rich and Allen families
- The sick and shut in members of Clair Memorial
- Rosalie Brown
- Pat Martinez
- Herbert Malone
- Jeanette Drayton and Family
- Mollie Smith and Family
- Alan Barboza
- Rev. Dionne Boissiere — Chaplain at the United Nations
- Judge Tanya Chutkin
- President Joseph Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris
- Pray for the people that are affected by the war in the Middle East.

Please invite someone to worship with you next Sunday.

These are your announcements for this week. Please govern yourselves accordingly.



679 Communipaw Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07304
Reverend Dawrell Rich, Pastor
Phone: (201) 946-4679 | Fax: 201-432-1604

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Historic Church Preservation



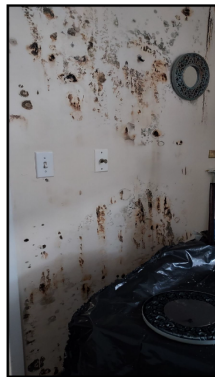
Clair Memorial United Methodist Church (CMUMC) has been a beacon of hope for the City of Jersey City residents for nearly 80 years. The product of a merger between two congregations, Thirkield Methodist Episcopal Church and St. Mark Zion Methodist Church, affords Clair Memorial the distinction of being the first African-American church built by blacks in the city.

Since its inception, CMUMC has served its changing community through social services (i.e., food pantry, free lunch program, youth ministry, community outreach, after-school programs, and homeless assistance). A 2001 New York Times article called us “one of the most stable institutions in the city’s working-class, largely black Bergen-Lafayette neighborhood since it was built” - until a fire raged, leaving only the front-facing facade of the historic building designed by Architect Abraham Davis. After ten years of praying and building, on April 18, 2011, CMUMC reopened after marching from the Temple Beth El, where it held temporary services, to the newly rebuilt sanctuary amid songs and shouts of joy.

Today, the aging congregation is met with another crisis. Severe weather events, including heavy storms, have caused substantial damage to the building - especially the tower - putting the future of this vital institution at risk.

The damages include:

- **Roof Damage:** The roof has sustained significant water damage, leading to leaks
- **Exterior Building Wall:** Deteriorated mortar between bricks allows water to infiltrate
- **Tower:** Interior walls are deteriorating due to water damage and weather-related stress
- **Basement:** Existing mold due to water-related damage





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Therefore, we are requesting financial support for a historic African-American congregation that is still a cornerstone in the community.

Under the leadership of our current pastor, Reverend Dawrell Rich, CMUMC is not only preserving the cultural and spiritual heritage of the community in Jersey City but expanding our footprint to address social and environmental justice issues like affordable housing, food insecurity, health and hygiene, education, and LGBTQ and immigrant advocacy. We strive to be more than a Sunday morning church but a hub that provides resources for residents in our city.

To ensure this historical congregation's preservation, we seek financial support to address these critical issues. With your assistance we will raise \$120,000 by December 31, 2025 for repairs to the roof, foundation, and tower, as well as restoration work to maintain the architectural integrity of the building. We are confident that we can repair the damages and strengthen the structure to withstand future extreme weather events with your support. Our objective is to restore the church building and enhance its resilience to protect this vital piece of African-American heritage. Your financial support would make a significant difference in preserving this historic African-American congregation, allowing it to continue serving the community, promoting cultural awareness, and providing a place of worship for future generations.

We kindly request a meeting to discuss this proposal further and explore how your organization can contribute to this vital cause. We believe that by joining hands, we can ensure the longevity of Clair Memorial United Methodist Church and its historical significance.

Please feel free to reach out to me at info@dawrellrich.com or 908-445-5841 to arrange a time for a meeting or if you require any additional information.

Thank you for your consideration and support in preserving the rich history of African-American culture in Jersey City.

Sincerely,

In Christ, I remain,

Dawrell Rich

Reverend Dawrell Rich, Pastor
Clair Memorial United methodist church



OVER THE TOP CAMPAIGN

This campaign is to raise additional funds to meet our budgeted expenses and fund our ministries. Each member is asked to give \$100 or more or whatever they can give over their regular tithes. Envelopes are available for this campaign.

This campaign will be ongoing. Anyone who exceeds \$300 in donations will have their name placed on a leaf on the Tree of Life on the wall in the back of the church

We will plan other fundraiser events to help us. Your love, support and prayers are needed as we move forward. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Mollie Smith or any member of the Church Council.

Financial Appeal

We want to thank our members and friends who continue to sow into this ministry. Your financial contributions help us address local, state, national and international needs. If you do not currently sow into this ministry, we invite you to trust God and give. We believe, if we give, God will return it to us in good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over. Your donation will help us continue to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ around the world.



May The Lord's Choicest

Blessings Be Yours!

CLAIR MEMORIAL UMC
WWW.CLAIRUMCJC.ORG
679 Communipaw Ave, Jersey City, NJ 07304

Amazing!
THINGS HAPPEN HERE

WE ARE LIVE
@11AM SUNDAY

  @CLAIRUMCJC  <https://www.claирumcjc.org>

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Reverend
Dawrell Rich
Pastor

