

## **“Reconnect, Revise and Restore”**



### **Clair Memorial UM Church**

**679 Communipaw Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ 07304**

**Phone: 201-942-6286**

**Email: [info@clairumcjc.org](mailto:info@clairumcjc.org)**

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### **Contact Us**



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



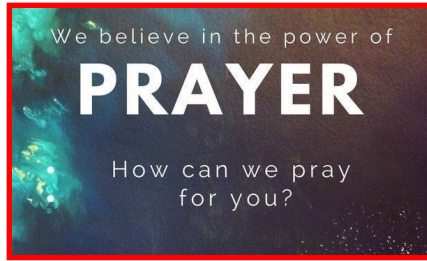
**[clairumcjc](https://www.instagram.com/clairumcjc)**



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



- If anyone is celebrating a birthday today or this week, we wish you a Happy birthday!
- Our summer worship time will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 7, 2024 and continue through August 31, 2024.
- Our Family & Friends Day - Cook -Out is Sunday July 21, 2024, at 10: a.m. Please mark your calendar. We are asking all our members to get involved in this special fellowship. Please invite your family & Friends and people you may know who are without a church home. Our goal is to Reconnect, Revive & Restore our relationship with God and with one another. We have a Special Guest Speaker who will bring the Word. You will be hearing more about her next week. The Cook -Out will follow the service. This is a casual, dress-down event. Come as you are. We ask that you confirm the number of people you intend to bring, no later than Sunday July 14, 2024. Please give your count to Sister Mollie Smith or Sister Dorothy Tisdale.
- The Online Adult Bible Class will be on recess for the summer. We will resume in September. Please continue to stay in the Word so we can continue to grow in Christ.
- Please see Sister Dorothy Tisdale for your Tree of Life Order Form. (For Over-the-Top Giving of \$300.00 or more).



If you have a prayer request or want to add someone to the prayer list, please email us at [info@clairumcjc.org](mailto: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
- Herbert Malone
- Rosalie Browne
- Essie Copeland
- Pat Martinez
- Judy Jennings
- Alan Barboza
- Let us continue to pray for Sister Sally Malone and her family.
- President Joseph Biden and his cabinet
- Vice President Kamala Harris
- Pray for the people that are affected by the war in the Middle East.
- Pray for World Peace

Please invite someone to worship with you next Sunday.

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

## 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.





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 will make a 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.

You can donate online at [www.clairumcjc.org/onlinegiving](http://www.clairumcjc.org/onlinegiving) or send a check payable to Clair Memorial UMC.

|                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Visionary - \$24,000 & above   | Steward - \$1,000 to \$2,499   |
| Builder - \$12,000 to \$23,999 | Patron - \$500 to \$999        |
| Catalyst - \$6,000 to \$11,999 | Supporter - \$250 to \$499     |
| Partner - \$3,000 to \$5,999   | Helper - \$100 to \$249        |
| Influencer- \$2,500 to \$2,999 | Circle of Friends - up to \$99 |

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.

**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

**@11AM SUNDAY**



@CLAIRUMCJC



www.clairumcjc.org