

**“The Future Is Now”**



**Clair Memorial UM Church**

679 Communipaw Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ 07304

Phone: 201-942-6286

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

Website: [www.clairumcjc.org](http://www.clairumcjc.org)

**Contact Us**



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



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

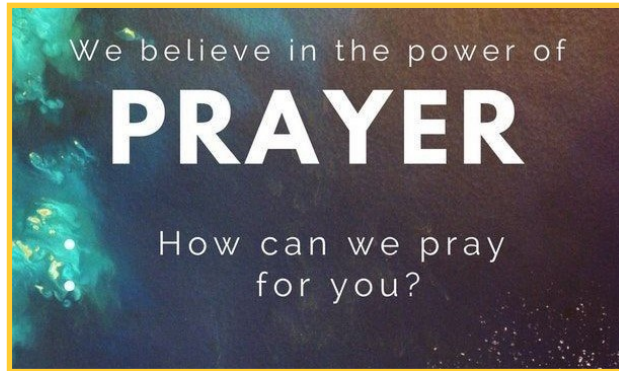


Dial In: (929) 205-6099  
ID: 7127705506#



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If anyone is celebrating a birthday today or this week, we would like to wish you a Happy birthday!
- Our Sunday morning worship service time will remain at 11:30 am. until this new time can be evaluated.  
We will continue to come together for prayer from 11:00 am to 11:15 am.
- The Annual Conference for the United Methodist of Greater New Jersey is set to take place from May 19 – 21, 2024 at Wildwood Convention Center, New Jersey. Registration is now opened.
- The Online Adult Bible Class will be held Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 7pm. Sister Rosalind Grant is the teacher for the month of April. The Theme for this quarter (March, April, May) is: Called to New Relationship.
- If anyone is interested in joining the book club that is being planned, please contact Sister Dorothy Tisdale or any member of the Nurture team.
- 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, also 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](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
- Pray for Sister Sally Malone, Mother, Mrs. Norma White and the entire family.
- Herbert Malone
- Rosalie Browne
- Essie Copeland
- Pat Martinez
- Rosalind Grant
- Cory Livingston
- 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.



CLAIR MEMORIAL UMC  
AMAZING THINGS HAPPEN HERE

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

## 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.

**TITHE & OFFERING**  
**3 WAYS TO GIVE**

  
by mail  
679 Communipaw Ave  
Jersey City, NJ 07304

  
Tap. Give. Done.  
mobile  
<https://giv.li/sm4c7v>

  
in person  
during designated hours



## **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

**WE ARE LIVE**

@11AM SUNDAY



@CLAIRUMCJC



www.clairumcjc.org

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*Reverend*  
**Dawrell Rich**  
Pastor