

Allen Temple African Methodist Episcopal Church

The Lifeline Annual Gift Program

Lifeline: 'līf, līn/

noun



September 2017

1. a rope or line used for life-saving, typically one thrown to rescue someone in difficulties in water or one used by sailors to secure themselves to a boat.
2. a thing on which someone or something depends or which provides a means of escape from a difficult situation.

Dear Friend,

Next month we are excited to celebrate our **119th Church Anniversary**; we hope to continue being a beacon of light and life in the Marion community for another one hundred years! **I have been blessed to pastor Allen Temple AME Church for the past five years** and during that time, **our congregation has grown** numerically, with many of the newest members being from the **statistically underrepresented millennial population**. **We have made significant strides** in accomplishing many of our annual faith goals, such as **enhancing Allen Temple's strategic community partnerships**, particularly with Minority Health Coalition of Grant County, Indiana Wesleyan University, Ivy Tech Community College, Marion NAACP, and Marion Community Schools. **We have invested in the lives of youth and young adults in crisis** through the Allen Temple Christian Youth Community Leadership Exploration program, funded in part by a grant from the Forum for Theological Exploration. **We continue to have Spirit-filled worship on Sundays** and we have even added to our weekly offerings to include wholistic health programming through partnerships with Purdue Extension and other local partners. **We are a "living church"!**

Despite our active discipleship program and intentional outreach, **we are facing a dire financial situation** that we are believing GOD to help us overcome with a little help from our friends. We have a **mortgage debt** that is greater than our annual offerings can healthily manage and we desperately desire to retire the debt over the course of the next year. We can **liquidate** the mortgage debt with the tithes and offerings of our membership and the generous support of our friends and partners like you who will commit to our **"Lifeline Annual Gift Program."**

Our congregation is situated in a community where **18.7% of the population live below the federal poverty line**. Many people who are part of the life of our community depend on the services we provide to help them **overcome the social, emotional and economic hardships of poverty**. We can continue to **invest** in our community with the tithes and offerings of our membership and the generous support of people like you who will commit to our **"Lifeline Annual Gift Program."**

We have operated a **full day preschool** for three years; a ministry that was the first of its kind when we began in 2014. In addition to the preschool, we have a vision for future expansion that includes building **"The Life Center"** that will house both **The Allen Early Learning Academy** and **The Thomas-Balthrope Center for Health and Wellness**. With the tithes and offerings of our membership and the generous support of our partners in the **"Lifeline Annual Gift Program,"** we can realize the vision for **future expansion** to address some of the same health challenges that contributed to the deaths of my two predecessors (**Rev. Teresa Thomas and Rev. Dr. Robert G. Balthrope, Jr.**) and that continue to challenge many others in our community.

We are a living church, with great vision, facing a difficult situation, but we are holding onto hope and belief in the scripture recorded in John 10:10b, wherein Jesus declares, **"I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly."** In addition to this Word, can we depend on you to throw us a lifeline and give today?

Godly regards,

Rev. Shonda Nicole Gladden, M.Div., M.T.S., Pastor



Will you be part of our "LIFE" line?

Help us continue the **LIFE** changing ministry of serving the Greater Marion community with a gift of:

\$20/week \$80/month Other \$ _____ (one time gift) \$1,000 (one-time life-line)

Your participation in the lifeline program will help us meet critical needs in sustaining the life of the Allen Temple AME Church in Marion, IN. The successful completion of this one-time year long program (October 2017-October 2018) will enable us to:

Liquidate the existing mortgage, **Invest** in our community, and plan for **Future Expansion**.

Thank you for considering a gift to Allen Temple AME Church, Inc.

**Allen Temple AME Church, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable religious organization and donations are 100% tax deductible.*



Fellowship | Worship | Discipleship

1898-2017 | Celebrating 119 Years

www.AllenTempleMarion.org

#WeAreWhereItsAT

Worship Services are held Sundays at 11am
Children's Church is held 2nd & 3rd Sunday Mornings
Nursery Ministry for ages Birth-4 available EVERY Sunday
Adult Church School meets Mondays at 6:30pm
Intercessory Prayer Meetings are Tuesdays at 6pm

For more information about us, contact us at:

Phone: (765) 674-6371

3440 S. Washington Street, Marion, IN 46953



@AllenTempleMarion

Please detach bottom, place in envelope with your gift and mail to:

Allen Temple AME Church

3440 S. Washington Street

Marion, IN 46953

or donate online at www.AllenTempleMarion.org

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