

# Newsletter

Good News, Inspiration and Information

ORDER OF SERVICE - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2017  
JUSTICE SUNDAY - UNITED MEN'S SUNDAY

Call to Worship

Choir & Clergy Processional and Opening Hymn

Praise and Worship

Opening Scripture and Prayer

The Word Sung

Baptism (11:15am Worship)

Welcome and Pastoral Greetings

Children Dismissed to The Nursery at Allen Temple  
and ATKidz' Children's Church

The Word Sung

Worship through Giving

Altar Prayer

The Word Preached

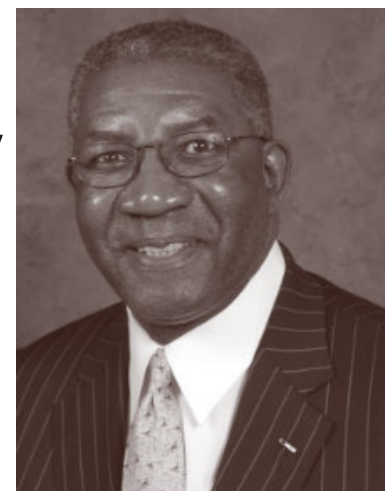
8:00 AM & 11:15 AM - *The Honorable Reverend Dr. Wendell Griffen*  
*Senior Pastor, New Millennium Baptist Church, Little Rock, Arkansas*  
*Circuit Judge, Pulaski County, Arkansas*

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Recessional & Benediction

JUSTICE SUNDAY GUEST PREACHER  
THE HONORABLE REV. DR. WENDELL GRIFFEN  
SENIOR PASTOR, NEW MILLENNIUM BAPTIST CHURCH  
CIRCUIT JUDGE, PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS

**The Reverend Dr. Wendell Griffen** has served as Pastor of New Millennium Church since its inception in May 2009. New Millennium Church defines itself as "inclusive, progressive, and welcoming followers of Jesus Christ" based on the belief that social justice is at the heart of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He is also Circuit Judge of the Fifth Division, Sixth Judicial District, for the State of Arkansas, a position he has held since January 1, 2011. Griffen is also Chief Executive Officer of Griffen Strategic Consulting, PLLC, a consulting practice focused on cultural competency and inclusion.



Reverend/Judge Griffen grew up in rural southwest Arkansas near Delight (Pike County), and attended racially segregated schools until 1965. He graduated from Delight High School in 1968 and from the University of Arkansas in 1973 (Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, and Distinguished Military Graduate). After serving three years as an Army officer, Griffen received an honorable discharge in 1976 and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for leading race relations and equal opportunity efforts within the 43d General Support Group at Fort Carson, Colorado. In 1979, he received a degree from the University of Arkansas School of Law in 1979 (Juris Doctor), where he was Associate Editor of the Arkansas Law Review.

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**Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Jr.**  
Senior Pastor

**Dr. Jacqueline A. Thompson**  
Assistant Pastor

**Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr.**  
Pastor Emeritus

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**Allen Temple Baptist Church**

**🐦 @allentemplebc**

## Mission Statement

In obedience to the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19-20, given to us by the founder of the Church, Allen Temple Baptist Church seeks excellence in the ministry of Jesus by evangelizing all persons to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, by educating all Christians to grow into the moral and spiritual likeness of Jesus Christ through the aid of the Holy Spirit, and by enlisting all Allen Temple members in personally extending the message and mission of God's love in Christ, throughout the world.

# ALLEN TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH



## Sunday Worship

8:00 am and 11:15 am  
Both worship services live  
streamed in their entirety on  
Allen-Temple.org

## Sunday School

Classes available for every age  
and stage of life at 10:15am  
in the Family Life Center!

## The Nursery at Allen Temple

Children from 6 months to 5 years  
can be nurtured with the love  
of Christ in a safe environment  
during Sunday worship in the  
Family Life Center Head Start  
Facility (First Floor). You may take  
your child to the Nursery when  
you arrive on campus or during  
the Children's Dismissal period.

## AT Kidz' Children's Church

Children from 5 to 11 years of  
age are invited to worship in a  
service just for them! Listen for  
the Children's Dismissal period  
when children are escorted to the  
J. Alfred Smith, Sr. Fellowship Hall  
(across from the Sanctuary).

## Bible Study

Tuesday Teleconference with  
Rev. Pamela Wilson at 7:00pm  
(605) 475-3200 Code 562221#

Youth Bible Study  
First and Fourth Wednesdays  
at 5:30 pm  
in the Family Life Center

Thursday Daytime with  
Senior Pastor J. Alfred Smith, Jr at  
12 Noon in the Family Life Center  
Mary Morris Room

Thursday Evening with  
Senior Pastor J. Alfred Smith, Jr at  
7:30 pm in the Family Life Center  
Mary Morris Room

Women's Bible Study  
with Rev. Pamela Wilson  
Saturdays (twice monthly)  
at 10:00 am  
in the Family Life Center  
Prayer Room

## Prayer Warriors

Tuesdays from 11:30 am to  
12:30 pm in the Family Life Center

## REVEREND DR. WENDELL GRIFFEN (CONTINUED)

Since 1979, Griffen has actively devoted himself to law, public policy, and ministry. He was the first person of color to become an associate and later a partner in a major Arkansas law firm (Wright, Lindsey, and Jennings in Little Rock). For almost two years, he was Chairman of the Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission by appointment of then Governor Bill Clinton. He pursued seminary extension studies through Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and was ordained in May 1988 after being called to his first pastorate. From January 1996 to December 2008, he served as a Judge on the Arkansas Court of Appeals. Then Griffen taught administrative law, constitutional law, criminal procedure, and a seminar he developed on law and cultural competency as a Visiting Professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law before being elected Circuit Judge for the Sixth Judicial District, Fifth Division, in Arkansas, his current post.

Inspired by the gospel of Jesus, Griffen regularly speaks and writes about legal ethics and professionalism, religion and social justice, cultural competency and inclusion, and public policy. His sermons and other essays can be found on the websites of New Millennium Church, Ethics Daily, and on his blogs, Justice Is a Verb! and Wendell Griffen on Cultural Competency.

Reverend Griffen is married to Dr. Patricia Griffen, a clinical psychologist in private practice, and they are parents of two adult sons.

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## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Did you know that there are five ways that you can worship through giving at Allen Temple? You're welcome to use one or all of the following methods!

1. Online via Allen-Temple.org/Giving;
2. Via the ATBC Community on Allen-Temple.org;
3. Via the Allen Temple Mobile App (*free for Apple & Android devices*);
4. Via Text to Give (*send a text to 30131, include the shortcode of the fund to which you are giving {General Offering: atbc1; Special Offering: atbc2} and the numerical dollar amount (i.e., atbc1 \$25). You will receive text confirmation and receipt*);
5. By using a giving envelope (located in the pews or from the Ushers)

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## 98TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY ASSESSMENT

This month, Allen Temple is blessed to celebrate 98 years of unbroken ministry! Let's join together and give great praise to God by showing our gratitude for this rich blessing by worshipping through giving our sacrificial anniversary assessment over and above your tithe, percentage giving and offering!

**Adults - \$98.00 • Youth - \$19.80 • Children - \$9.80**

You may designate your gift one of two ways:

- 1) by marking your giving envelope with "Anniversary," or;
- 2) by selecting "Anniversary" via online giving

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## PREACHING SCHEDULE - OCTOBER 2017

### Sunday, October 22 - Justice Sunday

8:00 AM & 11:15 AM

The Honorable Reverend Dr. Wendell Griffen  
Pastor, New Millennium Church, Little Rock, Arkansas  
Circuit Judge for Pulaski County Arkansas

### Sunday, October 29

8:00 AM - Reverend Dr. Barbara Jim-George

11:15 AM - Reverend Dr. Brenda Guess

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## SANCTUARY RESTROOM RENOVATIONS EXTENDED

**The Women's and Men's sanctuary restroom renovation project has been extended; now projected to reopen on Sunday, October 29.** These renovations will provide a fresher environment and will bring the restrooms up to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. **Please use the restrooms located in the Family Life Center (first and second floors) or in Bailey Hall (first floor).**

## PASTORAL TRANSITION UPDATE AND 14-DAY PRAYER & MEDITATION FOCUS

The Senior Pastor of Allen Temple Baptist Church, Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Jr., has announced his plans to retire on January 31, 2019. If the church completes the process earlier, his retirement date could be as early as September 30, 2018. During this transition process, the Senior Pastor, J. Alfred Smith, Jr., and the Assistant Pastor, Dr. Jacqueline Thompson, will continue in their respective roles, as Allen Temple Baptist Church functions normally, in accordance with God's will and the stated mission of the church.

**Please plan to attend our next Transition Prayer and Discussion Session on Saturday, October 28 at 10:00 AM in the J. Alfred Smith, Sr. Fellowship Hall. This session will immediately follow the Third Quarter Church Business Meeting. A light lunch will be served.**

As we continue seeking the will of God and His discernment through the processes of prayer and meditation, we invite you (now) to focus on these three (3) themes and three (3) biblical scripture references, for the next fourteen (14) days, beginning on Monday, October 23rd. If possible, let's pray together during the 7:00am hour, 7:00pm hour or 12:00 noon time-frame. The prayer topics are as follows:

- Adoration to God Almighty - 1 Chronicles 29:11-13 (KJV)
  - <sup>11</sup> Thine, O LORD is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all. <sup>12</sup> Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. <sup>13</sup> Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.
- Confession - 1 John 1:4-9 (KJV)
  - <sup>4</sup> And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. <sup>5</sup> This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- Thanksgiving - Psalm 107:1(KJV)
  - <sup>107</sup> O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Please visit the Pastoral Transition page on the Church website (Allen-Temple.org) via the top blue bar on the homepage where you may review information pertaining to the transition. Should you have questions concerning the transition process, feel free to send an email to [transition@allen-temple.org](mailto:transition@allen-temple.org); your query will be handled with the utmost confidentiality and honesty.

As we go through this pastoral transition process, we reflect and are guided by 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV): *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

Peace and Blessings,  
Deacon Ted Carter, Chairperson, Deacons Ministry

## General Information

**Prayer Requests:** Need prayer? Would you like for us to agree with you? There are two ways you may submit your prayer request: 1) Obtain a prayer request card from the ushers (return to the Prayer Bowls at either end of the altar); 2) Email [prayer@allen-temple.org](mailto:prayer@allen-temple.org)

**Legacy Giving:** Our new Legacy Giving option provides recognition of a person or group as a way to both honor and memorialize birthdays, homegoings, anniversaries, weddings or any significant event. You may give online or by mailing in your gift. Details can be found under Legacy Giving on the Home Page or by going to [allen-temple.org/legacy-giving](http://allen-temple.org/legacy-giving). Your gift will be acknowledged on our Legacy Giving page.

**Support Allen Temple by Using AmazonSmile:** Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price of eligible items to Allen Temple when you use AmazonSmile. Click on the yellow AmazonSmile button at the bottom of the Allen-Temple.org homepage. Your account at AmazonSmile is the same as your Amazon.com account.

**Weekly E-Mail Newsletter:** Visit Allen-Temple.org and sign up by clicking on the newsletter icon on the top right of the homepage and stay abreast of events and information at Allen Temple and in our community above and beyond those listed in the print newsletter!

**Multimedia Store (JASSR Fellowship Hall):** Feed your spirit during the week with CDs and DVDs of worship services! The store accepts major credit and debit cards for your convenience!

**Bookstore (FLC Lobby #D-111):** Purchase Bibles and books between Sunday services!

**Prayer Room (FLC First Floor #D-103):** Need a sacred place of solitude where you can connect with our Heavenly Parent and find restoration and renewal for your spirit? The Prayer Room is open to you! Ask a Custodian for entrance to the Prayer Room!

**Print & Electronic Newsletters Available Online Via Smartphone & Tablet:** Did you know that you can access the weekly newsletters online on your smartphone or tablet by going to Allen-Temple.org's mobile version and clicking bulletin? Help us to be a good steward of our environment and save paper by using the online newsletters!

## STRATEGIES FOR GOD'S MISSION

**For additional announcements & details on ministry and community events, as well as opportunities to serve, subscribe to the weekly e-newsletter, and visit us at [Allen-Temple.org](http://Allen-Temple.org), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), & [Instagram](#)!**

**Every Sunday - 10am to 12 Noon - Sunday Morning Mobile Farmers Market (Courtyard):** Visit the Mobile Farmers Market by Fresh Approach at Allen Temple, which features local California produce, low prices, fresh fruit, heirloom vegetables and tasty prepared meals by Soul Oakland! Get 50% off when you pay with a CalFresh EBT card or show a recent SSI benefits deposit. Get up to \$20 in free fruits and vegetables! Pay \$5, get an extra \$5 free. Pay \$20, and get an extra \$20 free.

**Today - 10:15am - Justice Sunday 2017 Sunday School General Assembly with California State Senator Pro Tem Kevin De León (FLC Auditorium):** Join us for a timely and informative keynote address by Senator Kevin De León, who helped to plan the largest civil rights march in California history against Proposition 187, represents the 24th Senate District, which encompasses Downtown and East Los Angeles. His important justice related legislative work includes bills on behalf of the working poor, energy and the environment, gun control, affirmative consent, as well as introducing Senate Bill 54, dubbed as the 'sanctuary state bill,' generally blocks local law enforcement agencies from helping federal agents find, detain or deport immigrants in the country illegally.

**Today - 1pm to 4pm - Justice Sunday 2017 Stay In The Bay Housing Justice Pop Up with Black Panther Party Chairman Bobby Seale (FLC Auditorium):** Justice Sunday at Allen Temple will culminate with the Stay in The Bay Housing Justice Pop-Up with Oakland's own Black Panther Party Chairman Bobby Seale! Join us along with our valued Community Partner OnTrack Resources as we celebrate and learn from the legacy of Chairman Seale as he delivers a keynote address centered on the Black Panther Party's legacy of working towards housing justice for all! We will celebrate The Party's 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary as well as Chairman Seale's birthday! People of all ages are invited to share in this afternoon of education and inspiration!

**Tuesday, October 24 - 10am - Free Computer Classes at The Leadership Institute at Allen Temple Begin (FLC Room C-124):** The Leadership Institute is offering free computer classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Learn computer basics on Tuesdays 10am - 12pm or 1pm - 3pm. Boost your presentation skills with Google Slides & Powerpoint on Thursdays 10am - 12pm. Create holiday cards, presentations and more on Tuesdays in December 10am - 12pm. And finally, learn to use your tech through a Biblical lens on Thursdays in December 10am - 12pm. Sign up today by calling Jessica Jones at 510-965-7876. Classes begin Tuesday, October 24.

**Friday, October 27 - 7pm - Spirit & Image Reader's Theater - A Benefit for the Music & Performing Arts Ministry (JASSR Fellowship Hall):** The Allen Temple Music & Performing Arts Committee (MCPAC) invites the community to a staged reading of two one act plays: Woman at the Well and Job: Up From Tragedy, which will include actors from the Allen Temple Family and other churches. Both plays are written by J.E. Franklin and directed by Flo Wiley. A love offering will be collected to support Black Nativity Revisited 2018. If you are interested in acting or production, please contact [flo@flowiley.com](mailto:flo@flowiley.com) or call (646) 721-4735.

**Saturday, October 28 - 10am - Third Quarter Church Business Meeting and Pastoral Transition Prayer & Discussion Session (JASSR Fellowship Hall):** All Church Members are asked to be present. Lend your ear, voice and presence to the life of our Church! Immediately following the conclusion of our business meeting, we will segue into our Pastoral Transition Prayer & Discussion Session. A light lunch will be served.

**Sunday, October 29 - 6:30pm - In The Spirit Awards Honoring Pastor Emeritus J. Alfred Smith, Sr. (Scottish Rite Auditorium, 1547 Lakeside Dr., Oakland):** Allen Temple Family and Friends are invited to attend! Our beloved Pastor Emeritus J. Alfred Smith, Sr. is one of this year's honorees, and our Music Ministry will bless The Lord in song! To purchase tickets, visit [inthespiritawards.eventbrite.com](http://inthespiritawards.eventbrite.com).

**Monday, November 6 - 6pm (doors open) 7pm (concert begins) - November Jazz Jam Session - A Benefit for the Betty D. Gadling Fine Arts Academy (JASSR Fellowship Hall):** Join us for the November Monday Jazz Jam Session at Allen Temple, a benefit for the Betty D. Gadling Fine Arts Academy! Enjoy tasty food and an evening of cool jazz featuring the Jazz Jam Session Band and special guests! Doors and concessions open at 6:00 PM; session begins at 7:00 PM. Admission \$10 for adults, \$5 for children. Tickets may be purchased at the door. For more information, call (510) 544-8924.

**Sunday, November 12 - Immediately Following 11:15am Worship - Launch Meeting for the Allen Temple Parents and Educators Ministry (Sanctuary):** Parents, guardians, active and retired educators, Children's and Youth leaders, activists, and concerned persons are invited to join Pastor Smith for the launch meeting of the Parents and Educators' Ministry. This ministry's task is to ensure that as a community, we do not sit idly by and allow current and future African American students to be left behind due to poor math and English proficiency standards test scores. We welcome your input and participation as we advocate for our young people's education!

**Allen Temple Family Members with expertise in public relations, advertising and communications are invited to participate in a working group!** If you are interested, please send your contact information including your area of expertise to Rev. Charlotte Williams, Minister & Director of Communications, at [cwilliams@allen-temple.org](mailto:cwilliams@allen-temple.org).