

Rev. Maurice S. Daniels, Sr.
Presiding Elder of the Camden District
Pastor of the St. Mark AME Zion Church



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Rev. Maurice S. Daniels, Sr. is a native Virginian where he was born and raised in the city of Alexandria. By God's Grace, Rev. Daniels attests that he is the product of a loving Christian home and the nurturing communities he grew up in.

As a youth, instilled in him were the importance of integrity, respect, academic excellence, and healthy participation in extracurricular activities. Together, each afforded Rev. Daniels the discovery of his gifts and opened many doors for advancement in education, athletics, and eventually attain his faith in God.

As a graduate of Annandale High School in 1995, Rev. Daniels was awarded an athletic scholarship to play football at The Pennsylvania State University. There he honed an appreciation for the brotherhood of his football family which would eventually lead to a saving faith in Jesus Christ. It was there in 1996 that Rev. Daniels surrendered his life to Christ and God's call began to unveil itself. At the University, Rev. Daniels would become a team captain and spiritual leader participating in campus ministries, singing in the gospel choir, and leading campus Bible Studies.

After a brief stint with the Indianapolis Colts of the National Football League (NFL), Rev. Daniels relocated to New Jersey in 2001 in pursuit of purpose and direction. While his academic achievements (Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Business) allowed him to find employment in the Financial Sector and Rev. Daniels' spiritual background empowered him to trust the direction of God.

It was God's guidance that led Rev. Daniels to the Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church in Jersey City, NJ (2002) under the pastoral leadership of Rev. Dr. George W. Maize, III. With God leading, during that same year Rev. Daniels received the call to pastoral ministry and soon preached his trial sermon. Today, the theme of his Trial Sermon, "Your Consistency is Your Destiny", serves as his motto:

The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you - 2 Chronicles 15:2b (NIV)

As a testament of his life and faith journey, Rev. Daniels stands by his favorite Bible verse:

⁵ Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
⁶ In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. - Proverbs 3:5-6 (KJV):

At Metropolitan Church, Pastor Daniels met the love of his life and wife of 22 years, Johnsilynn. Together, they are blessed with their son, Maurice, Jr. The family enjoys spending time together, taking long road trips, and are sealed by their faith and unfailing love for God and each other.

On June 8th, 2024, the Right Reverend Dr. Dennis V. Proctor, Bishop of the NJ Conference, appointed Rev. Daniels Presiding Elder of the Camden District. After serving under Presiding Elders Dr. Lawton Nelson, and his predecessor, the Rev. Dr. Laticia Hill Godette, Rev. Daniels is honored to have received this great assignment having followed their impactful leadership and mentorship.

In ministry, Rev. Daniels has served the NJ Conference in many capacities, such as the Jersey City District Treasurer, Camden District Financial Secretary, and Chair, NJ Conference Trustee to name a few. It was in May of 2016, that Rev. Daniels received his appointment to his current pastorate, "The Church with a Glad Heart and a Helping Hand", The St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church, (Cliffwood, NJ). Rev. Daniels has also pastored the St. Thomas A.M.E Zion Church in Somerville, NJ (2011-2016) and the New St. Mark A.M.E Zion Church in Westwood, NJ (2009-2011).

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you...
- 1 Peter 5:6 (ESV)