

**Reverend John L. Dees Jr. | Pastor
Emanuel A.M.E. Church
654 Saint Michael St.
Mobile, AL 36602**



Rev. John Lewis Dees Jr., is the first of six children born to Mr. John L. and Mrs. Hattie R. Dees Sr. He grew up in the Hillsdale Heights Community in the City of Mobile, under the pastorate of his father in ministry, the Late Rev. Dr. D. J. Smith at Smith Memorial A.M.E. Church, where he was licensed to preach.

Rev. Dees is a product of the Mobile County Public School System and a graduate of the Alabama Interdenominational Seminary. Rev. Dees is biblically based and Holy Spirit-led. He operates under the motto of “Stay In His Grip”, built on the foundation of Psalm 34:1...I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise shall continuously be in my mouth.

His humble beginnings in ministry took him to Little River, Alabama, where he served as pastor for 4 ½ years at Tate Chapel A.M.E. Church. He was ordained as a Deacon and an Elder in the Central Alabama Conference and began his second pastoral appointment at St. Matthew A.M.E. Church, located in Brantley, Alabama. He served there for 5 ½ years. In November 1999, at the closing session of the Planning meeting, Rev. Dees was appointed pastor of Emanuel A.M.E. Church, Mobile, Alabama, where he is currently in his 26th year of serving.

He served as a delegate at the 2012, 2016, and 2024 General Conference. Rev. Dees presently serves as the treasurer of the Southwest Alabama Annual Conference and a member of the Board of Examiners for the Mobile District. He is a member of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, which is comprised of clergymen and women that addresses the social, economic, political, and spiritual needs of the members of their congregation and their community. Rev. Dees is also retired from the Mobile County Public School System after 31 years of service.

Rev. Dees has been married 46 years to the love of his life, Florence R. Dees, and is the father of two adult children, John L. Dees III and Ashley Moman. He is the godfather of the Late Rev. Lakenya Anderson. He has six grandchildren, Jordan, John IV, Jonathan, Napriecie, Alex, and Zoe, one God-grandson, Braden Green, and one great-grandson, Montana Taylor.

**Sons of Allen Worship Service
16th Session of the Southwest Alabama Annual
Conference**

**October 22, 2025
Samuel Chapel AME Church
717 W Prichard Ave
Prichard, AL 36610**



**Host Coordinator Bro. Leon Turner
Mobile District Coordinator, Rev. Keith Robinson
Camden District Coordinator, Rev. LaDarrell Thames
Ninth Episcopal District Sons of Allen Co-Coordinator - Bro. Terry
Jones
Ninth Episcopal District Sons of Allen Co-Coordinator - Bro. Robert
Turner
Host Pastor, Samuel Chapel AMEC, Rev. Vernon McLeod
Mobile District Presiding Elder, Rev. Charles Lewis
Camden District Presiding Elder, Rev. Antonio Thomas**

**Supervisor of the Ninth Episcopal District, Mrs . Deana Young
McAllister Presiding Prelate of the Ninth Episcopal District, Bishop Julius H.
McAlister Jr.**

Order of Service

Rev. Keith Robinson, Worship Leader
Tate Chapel AME Church

The Call to Worship.....Bro. Leon Turner
Samuel Chapel AME Church

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!” Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

People: For a day in your Courts is better than a thousand elsewhere, I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Leader: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

People: They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.

Leader: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.

People: But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Leader: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight. O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

People: O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, sing praises!

**The Opening Hymn
(Rise Up, O men Of God #559)**

Rise up, O men of God! Have done with lesser things
Give heart and mind and soul and strength to serve the King of kings.

Rise up, O men of God! His kingdom tarries long:
Bring in the day of brotherhood And end the night of wrong.

Rise Up, O men of God! The Church for you doth wait.

Her strength un equals to her task; Rise up and make her great.

Lift high the cross of Christ! Tread where His feet have trod:
As brothers of the Son of Man. Rise up, O men of God!

PrayerRev. Richard Collins
Wayman Chapel AME Church

Prayer Response He is Lord
He is Lord, He is Lord!
He is risen from the dead and He is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord

ScriptureBro. Paul Martin
Metropolitan AME Church

Selection.....Southwest Conference Male Choir

The OfferingConference Finance Team

Selection.....Southwest Conference Male Choir

Presentation of the BishopBro. Terry Jones Sr.

The Introduction of the Speaker.....Bishop Julius H. McAlister Jr.
Presiding Prelate of the Ninth Episcopal District

The Sermonic Selection Just a Little Talk with Jesus (351)

The Preached WordRev. John Dees Jr.
Pastor, Emanuel AME Church

The Invitation to Christian DiscipleshipRev. Franklin Robinson Jr.
New Hope AME Church

The Invitational Hymn.....How to Reach the Masses (221)
Acknowledgments
Bro. Terry Jones, 9th Episcopal District SOA Coordinator

Bro. Robert Turner, 9th Episcopal District SOA Coordinator
Bishop Julius H. McAlister, Presiding Prelate of the Ninth Episcopal District

Benediction.....Rev. John Dees Jr.