

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Flushing Journal* (1841)

Flushing Journal, February 22, 1841, 2:4

The ladies of Macedonia Church propose to pay their pastor, Rev. Edward C. Africanus a friendly visit on Wed. the 26th day of November throughout the day and evening and they would respectfully invite the friends of the cause of Christ to unite with them in offering their kind purposes.

Source: Seyfried, Vincent F. (1996). *Flushing Journal: Transcript and index of news articles, 1841–1850*. Archives at Queens Public Library, Jamaica.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Flushing Journal* (1856)

Flushing Journal, June 21, 1856, 2:3

It is only this week that we have heard the death of William Paul Williams, a colored preacher, formerly resident in Flushing, where he was known as Billy Paul. He died during the last winter in Canada. Mr. Paul has left behind him some sayings that will long be remembered. On one occasion, when preaching he used an illustration as pat as any that graces the most thrilling pages of oratory: “My brethren, you are worse than master Billy Titus [sic] black horse. He will jump out of a bad pasture into good but you will not.”

Note: William Paul Williams was a trustee of the Macedonia AME Zion Church: https://s-media.nyc.gov/agencies/lpc/arch_reports/526.pdf. No further information on him was available online as of May 2024.

Source: Seyfried, Vincent F. (1996). *Flushing Journal: Transcript and index of news articles, 1856–1860*. Archives at Queens Public Library, Jamaica.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Flushing Journal* (1862)

Flushing Journal, January 4, 1862, 2:2

The dedication of the African M.E. Zion Church will take place tomorrow, Sunday afternoon, Jan. 5, 1862 at half past 2 in Liberty Street. William H. Bishop, the Supt. of the NY District Conference will perform the services of the dedication. The public are respectfully invited to attend.

Source: Seyfried, Vincent F. (1997). *Flushing Journal: Transcript and index of news articles, 1861–1865*. Archives at Queens Public Library, Jamaica.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Flushing Journal* (1868) 1 of 2

Flushing Journal, May 24, 1868, 2:3

A New African Church: An effort is being made to erect a new African Methodist Episcopal Zion church in this village. A site is selected on Linden Ave. of 50 x 100 ft. It is estimated that the cost of erection will be about \$3000. The present congregation worship in shanty in the rear of other buildings on Liberty St. which is totally inadequate to the present purposes and certainly the object is worthy of the efforts of the colored people and should meet with a cheerful response from all who take interest in the elevation and moral welfare of the colored people. We really trust that our liberal-hearted citizens will respond appropriately to this call for the field to much good is open to them. The Rev. Moses Manning will soon call upon our citizens for contributions to this object. Mr. Thomas Leggett has consented to act as Treasurer of the fund for this purpose and his name will be a guarantee that all monies subscribed will be faithfully applied to the object.

Source: Seyfried, Vincent F. (1999). *Flushing Journal: Transcript and index of news articles, 1866–1870*. Archives at Queens Public Library, Jamaica.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Flushing Journal* (1868) 2 of 2

***Flushing Journal*, July 4, 1868, 2:4**

Zion Church: Letter from Pastor Moses Manning of thanks to all those who contributed to the fund for a new church. \$418 up to the present has been collected. Congregation is negotiating for two lots on Linden Ave. Needed sum is \$3000.

***Flushing Journal*, October 3, 1868, 2:5**

Letter from the Colored Pastor of Flushing ME Church, M. Manning. All of his efforts to raise money to raise money for his church have netted only \$80 in cash. He requests permission to use some of it to pay creditors for debts incurred at concert in Town Hall and Camp Meeting.

Source: Seyfried, Vincent F. (1999). *Flushing Journal: Transcript and index of news articles, 1866–1870*. Archives at Queens Public Library, Jamaica.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Flushing Journal* (1870)

***Flushing Journal*, December 17, 1870**

Zion ME Church (colored) in Flushing, Rev. Peter Hawkins, Pastor, will make an effort to raise funds for building a new Church edifice in this Village, and arrangements are progressing for a Concert to be given at the Cooper Institute, New York, December 19th, in aid of the project. “Blind Tom” will be among the attractive features of the entertainment.

Note: The Rev. Hawkins is not listed among the clergy in

https://ia800204.us.archive.org/22/items/historyoftownoff00wall_0/historyoftownoff00wall_0.pdf

Source: Seyfried, Vincent F. (1999). *Flushing Journal: Transcript and index of news articles, 1866–1870*. Archives at Queens Public Library, Jamaica.

*photocopy (p. 403; not indexed)

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Flushing Journal* (1872)

Flushing Journal, September 28, 1872, 2:3

The Rev. Jarvis Prince of the AME Church of “Flushing Springville,” a portion of our village which lies on the Smart estate near the line of the Central RR (railroad) is soliciting contributions to erect a suitable place of worship there. There is already a good colored school in Springville and the inhabitants of the place compose a very respectable portion of the colored population of the village. The object is a worthy one and it is hoped that Mr. Prince will succeed.

Note: The Rev. Prince is not listed among the clergy in

https://ia800204.us.archive.org/22/items/historyoftownoff00wall_0/historyoftownoff00wall_0.pdf

Source: Seyfried, Vincent F. (2003). *Flushing Journal: Transcript and index of news articles, 1871–1875*. Archives at Queens Public Library, Jamaica.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Newtown Register* (1898)

Newtown Register, August 11, 1898, 2:3

Flushing Zion Church: The Rev. J. Henry Taylor of the AME Zion Church at Flushing says the colored people of that section are in a deplorable state morally. He came to Flushing two months ago and found the church with a membership of over 100. He says he found but three of that number living lives that would permit them to enjoy membership in the church and struck from the roll the names of the wicked ones. The preacher says that drunkenness and bigamy are prevalent among the Flushing negroes. He styles these failures "loathsome luxuries." The Rev. J. Henry say[s] that when he announced that he proposed to preach against this state of affairs, a committee waited on him and threatened that he would be dragged from the pulpit and mobbed if he attempted it. Protected by the police, he has started his campaign and the congregation has shut off his supplies.

[Note: The Rev. Hawkins is not listed among the clergy in https://ia800204.us.archive.org/22/items/historyoftownoff00wall_0/historyoftownoff00wall_0.pdf]

He appears to have moved to a congregation in New Paltz, NY, not long after, as reported in a news article of July 6, 1900:

<https://omeka.hrvh.org/exhibits/show/ame-zion-church-in-new-paltz/introduction>. This article lists him as a native of St. Kitts and editor of *The New York Pilot* (given variously in other sources as *New York and New Jersey Pilot* or simply *Pilot*. According to <https://books.google.com/books?id=yDAIDQAAQBAJ&pg=PA92m> indicates the *Pilot* as a conservative newspaper published in Virginia. Evidently the newspaper was published from wherever Taylor was working at the time. A photo including Taylor is available at <https://books.google.com/books?id=HQJ3EAAAQBAJ&pg=PT170>. <https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=tjd19060105-01.1.5&e=-----en-20--1--txt-tx|N-----> notes the death of Taylor's wife in Schenectady in 1906. Taylor's own funeral in 1916 is reported in <https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/33454048/> (log in through subscribing libraries).]

Source: Seyfried, Vincent F. (1993). *Newtown Register: Transcript of news articles, 1898*. Archives at Queens Public Library, Jamaica.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Newtown Register* (1903)

***Newtown Register*, August 13, 1903, 5:3**

Flushing Black church: Flushing's 3rd oldest church is the Methodist A.M.E. Society, of which the Rev. E.T. Lawton is pastor and which was founded in 1810 [actually 1811]. The church is now in difficulties owing to the erection of a new house of worship on which \$3000 is due the Portable House Co. of Corona. At first \$1700 was raised and the pastor, a practical man, took a shovel and worked in excavating for the foundations and later helped the masons on the walls. Bishop W.B. Derrick has come to the rescue of the church and on Aug. 30th will hold a grand rally in the clubhouse of the Good Citizenship League for the purpose of raising money.

Note: Rev. E.T. Lawton is not listed among the clergy in

https://ia800204.us.archive.org/22/items/historyoftownoff00wall_0/historyoftownoff00wall_0.pdf

William B. Derrick, 1843-1913, was an AME minister based at the time of this report in New York City:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=5Es4AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA83>

Source: Seyfried, Vincent F. (1991). *Newtown Register: Transcript of news articles, 1903*. Archives at Queens Public Library, Jamaica.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Brooklyn Times* (1896)

***Brooklyn Times*. “The Country Considered Safe by a Committee of the African Methodist Conference.” June 23, 1896, 3:1.**
<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/556097425/?match=1&terms=Macedonia%20African%20Methodist&pqsid=4aPHILVkmkRSNUj8V2wwOg%3A1791598%3A556951043>

This article, not transcribed due to length, reports on the African Methodist Episcopal Conference, and includes details on the Flushing congregation: An opening sermon by Rev. P.E. Mills, and the appointment of J.W. Fishburn as minister.

Note: Newspapers.com requires sign-in; available at many libraries.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* and *Newtown Register* (1898)

***Brooklyn Daily Eagle*. “German Takes a Negro Bride.” January 7, 1898, 5:5:**

Bay Side, L I., January 7

News of the marriage of a German to a colored woman, both of this place, created quite a sensation here yesterday. The couple are Mrs. Emma Schenck, a buxom colored widow, and George Behringer, a German farm hand. The ceremony was performed Monday by the Rev. J. W. Fishburn of the Macedonia African Methodist Episcopal Church at Flushing.

<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/50373337/?match=1&terms=Macedonia%20African%20Methodist&pqsid=4aPHILVkJMkRSNUj8V2wwOg%3A1791598%3A556951043>

Note: Newspapers.com requires sign-in; available at many libraries.

***Newtown Register*, January 20, 1898, 2:4:** Some days ago the Rev. J.W. Fishburn, D.D., of the Macedonia AME Church in Flushing united in matrimony Henry Behringer and, Emma Skent [sic], both of Bayside, the groom being a German and a white man and the bride a colored woman. This is the second mixed marriage that has taken place in Flushing within three weeks, and it is supposed to be the first instance of a German marrying a colored woman.

Source: Seyfried, Vincent F. (1989). *Newtown Register: Transcript of news articles, 1900*. Archives at Queens Public Library, Jamaica.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (1898)

Brooklyn Daily Eagle. "South Carolina Responsible." March 12, 1898, 4:5

Flushing, L. I., March 12 — A meeting of the congregation of the Macedonia African Methodist Episcopal Church in Flushing was held last night and resolutions were adopted holding the state government of South Carolina responsible for the killing of Postmaster Baker at Lake City, South Carolina. The Rev. John Fishburn, pastor of the church; the Rev. Edward Luther Harway and Judson Williams addressed the audience.

<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/50375880/?match=1&terms=Macedonia%20African%20Methodist&pgsid=4aPHILVkJMkRSNUj8V2wwOg%3A1791598%3A556951043>

Note: Newspapers.com requires sign-in, available at many libraries.

Commentary: Postmaster Frazier Baker and his family were terrorized by a lynch mob on February 22, 1899 in the post office in Lake City, South Carolina, that doubled as their home. Postmaster Baker and his two-year-old daughter, Julia, were killed as the fleeing family ran a gauntlet of bullets. Baker, the first Black postmaster in the predominantly white community, had been appointed in July 1897. The state having refused to prosecute, 13 men were tried in Federal District Court, with an all-white jury, resulting in a mistrial. Federal prosecutors declined to reopen the case.

The community meeting at the Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church speaks to the church's historical role as the Freedom Church, active in the fight for emancipation and civil rights.

Additional Sources: <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/exhibition/behind-the-badge-case-histories-assaults-and-murders/1898-postmaster-lynching>

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (1902)

***Brooklyn Daily Eagle.* "A Church With A History: The Flushing A.M.E. Society Dates Back To 1810." July 6, 1902, 40:2.**

Flushing, L.I.—July 5. It was ninety-two years this week since the Macedonia African Episcopal Church at Flushing was organized, and the congregation is jubilant over the fact. The church was organized in 1810, when the town of the Flushing barely numbered much more than 2,000 souls. There were only two established churches at Flushing at that time, the Friends and the Episcopalians, and the negro church has thus the undisputed right and honor of being third in seniority of established churches in Flushing. Charles T. Smith, secretary of the board of trustees of the Macedonia Church, says that previous to the year of 1820 the congregation of this church was composed of negroes and Indians, and that many white persons were regular attendants. The Rev. Benjamin Graham, of Jamaica, and other white elders were assigned to minister to this little flock. It was not until 1822 that the first white Methodist Church of Flushing was organized.

In 1821 the church became an independent organization, it having withdrawn from the conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and having allied itself with the African Methodist Episcopal connection, under the supervision of the Rev. Richard Allen, founder and first bishop of that church. The reason for the withdrawal was, it is said, the denial of the conference the right to license negro preachers. Bishop Allen, presiding over several churches, has under him fourteen bishops to-day, 5,471 ministers, 9,000 local preachers, 663,700 members, 65 annual conferences and 5,093 churches.

In July, 1821, the Rev. Henry Harden of Baltimore, one of the founders of the African Church connection, held the first quarterly conference at the Flushing church, and this church to-day is recognized as being the oldest church in the New York Conference. The Rev. Stephen Dutten was the first elder in charge.

The present pastor is the Rev. C. J. Lawton, a young man and a graduate of Lincoln University. He is trying to build a new church to replace the present building. He appeals to the sympathy and generosity of the white citizens of the community to aid him.

Bishop William B. Derrick, who recently sailed for Europe to preach in the Church of the Catacombs, Canterbury, London, presides over this district and has assured Mr. Lawton of his moral and financial support in this undertaking. In a few months, over \$200 has been raised and an equal sum pledged by the congregation.

<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/50411515/?match=1&terms=%22Macedonia%20African%22&pgsid=T7LhFyAk1hkOZxulg2Hd7A%3A136990%3A651320539>

Note: Newspapers.com requires sign-in, available at many libraries.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (1903)

***Brooklyn Daily Eagle.* “An Event at Flushing: Corner Stone of Macedonia A.M.E. Church to be Laid on Sunday.” June 3, 1903, 8:2.**

Flushing, L.I.—June 3. The corner stone of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, on Lincoln Street, will be laid next Sunday afternoon, at 2:30. The sermon will be preached by Bishop William B. Derrick. All the ministers of Greater New York African Methodist Episcopal conferences have been invited. Choirs from Jamaica, Brooklyn and Manhattan will take part in the services. Dinner will be served by the stewardesses and the Lend-A-Hand Society.

The Macedonia Church Society is the oldest in the New York Conference. It was established in 1810. The frame building, which has served the society as a church edifice for many years, became inadequate and is to be replaced with a large modern structure. The Rev. C. J. Lawton is pastor of the church. The trustees are J. Addison Williams, George Treadwell, John S. Williams, Samuel Ward and Charles T. Smith. The finance committee consists of Bishop William B. Derrick, D.D.; Thomas S. Willets, Philip Gallego, Henry A. Bogart and J. A. Williams. Charles T. Smith is secretary.

<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/53408763/?match=1&terms=Macedonia%20African%20Methodist&pgsid=4aPHILVkJMkRSNUj8V2wwOg%3A1791598%3A556951043>

Note: Newspapers.com requires sign-in; available at many libraries.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Daily Standard Union* (1903)

Daily Standard Union. "The Fourth Cornerstone Laid." June 8, 1903, 5:2. This article was not transcribed due to length.

<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/543791626/?match=1&terms=Macedonia%20African%20Methodist&pqsid=4aPHILVkmkRSNUj8V2wwOg%3A1791598%3A556951043>

Note: Newspapers.com requires sign-in, available at many libraries.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing) in the *Brooklyn Times* (1905)

***Brooklyn Times*. “Macedonia Church, Flushing, Historic: Dates Back to 1810, And Has Had Many Important Dates Since Then.” June 1, 1905, 11:3.**

<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/555949472/?match=1&terms=%22Edward%20%20Africanus%22&pqsid=iC6EANTRpk0oj70YYDj4oQ%3A64980%3A284839442>

This full-column article was not transcribed due to length.

Note: Newspapers.com requires sign-in, available at many libraries.

Macedonia A.M.E. Zion Church (Flushing): Additional Sources

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