November 7, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Allen Chapel Church Offers Free**

**Christmas Concert in Chatham Arch**

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Indianapolis, IN

The Allen Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church welcomes all to its family Christmas concert, featuring music, readings and theatrical performances. The concert titled "Coming Home to Allen Chapel: A Christmas Celebration” is scheduled for Saturday, December 13, 2014 with a 6:00 PM pre-show reception and a 7:00 PM show time. The church is located in the historic Chatham Arch neighborhood, 629 E. 11th Street, Indianapolis 46202 at the corner of east 11th Street and Broadway.

Allen Chapel A.M.E Church is an open and welcoming historically African-American congregation seeking to attract and serve the diversity of new neighbors in the Chatham Arch area. The title of the evening carries a special connection with many of the featured artists who grew up in Allen Chapel, and now as professional artists, they are "coming home" to share their gifts for Christmas.

This ninety-minute concert will deliver something to touch everyone’s spirit, from gospel, contemporary to classical music. Artists from many disciplines will provide music, stories, audience participation and dramatic readings.

The lineup includes actor/singer James Solomon Benn; classical soprano Rosemarie Gore Bigbee, former host of the local children’s television show “Rainbow Rosie” on WFYI-Channel 20; jazz bassist Bill Myers; tenor George Benn and tenor Arish Rountree. Also featured will be the Allen Chapel Christmas Choir.

Other artists include Louellen Ramey, Keesha Dixon, Kenneth Simms and Tina Harris. George Middleton and William Engle will serve as music directors.

Sondra E. Hayes will perform stories that spread the message of giving featuring the Christmas favorite Santa Mouse. James Solomon Benn will present a delightful retelling of the Christmas story titled “Every Man Heart Lay Down” by Lorenz Graham told in the African idiom.

This is a free concert. All are welcome to attend. Part of the proceeds raised in a freewill offering that evening will go toward programs that provide services to at-risk children.

The newly installed pastor of Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church is Dr. Charlesfontaine Macon, most recently of Detroit, Michigan.

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