

November 2022



Temple Lodge No. 9 A.F. & A.M.

Stated Communications

*Second and Fourth
Thursday of Each Month*

7:30 PM

Fellowship with Dinner

6:30 PM

*Meetings are not held in
July and August or on
Thanksgiving or Christmas
(when those holidays fall
on a Thursday)*

Lodge Officers 2022-2023

*Worshipful Master
Chris Fitzgerald
(302) 242-4916*

*Senior Warden
Stephen Walter, PM, PGSB
(302) 270-2697*

*Junior Warden
Keith Geise
(717) 994-6114*

*Secretary
Jeff Hague, PM, PGMar.
(302) 422-0233*

*Deputy Secretary and
Webmaster
Chad Robinson, PM, PGMar.
(302) 270-4391*

*Treasurer
Jim Bennett, PM, PJGS
(302) 228-1228*

*Curtis Perry – Senior Deacon
Rob Watts – Junior Deacon
Ronnie Joseph – Senior Steward
Jesse Weick – Junior Steward
Roland Cohee, Jr., PGC - Chaplain
Robert S. Young – Tiler
Pete “Ringo” Ringenary - Marshal
Tom McMurray – Lodge Instructor*

**Chartered January 16, 1815
2022-2023**

208th Year of Fellowship

From the East – Christopher W. Fitzgerald, WM

A hearty hello, Brethren and happy Thanksgiving to each of you.

October proved to be another fulfilling month for Temple Lodge No. 9. Our programs and assemblies have been entertaining, well attended and personally wonderfully exciting to be a part of.

As a measure to honor and recognize outstanding service to Freemasonry in the Grand Jurisdiction of Delaware by Master Masons of Delaware, our own WB Chad Robinson, PM, PGMar, has been awarded the Gunning Bedford Jr. Medal of Honor. Congratulations WB Robinson on such an amazing and well-deserved honor.

Congratulations to Brothers William Hacker, Wayne Irons & Jake Mills on being passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Thank you, WB Mike Nichols & Most Reverend Joseph Rogers, PM, PGC, for joining me as we awarded WB John Cannon with his Past Master's Apron. Thank you, WB Cannon for coming off the sideline and delivering the Seven Liberal Arts portion of the Middle Chamber Lecture.

Congratulations to JW Keith Geise, who performed two excellent conferrals of the Entered Apprentice Degree while SD Curtis Perry & SS Ronnie Joseph, each nailed their portion of ritual. Outstanding job by Marshal Peter Ringenary on his delivery of the Apron Charge. Welcome Entered Apprentices Mitch Denham & David Dingess to the fraternity and to Temple Lodge No. 9.

We celebrate our only Stated Communication in the Month of November, with the raising of Brother Sean Barnes to the sublime degree of Master Mason on the 10th.

I am happy to announce that M.W. William T. Wadkins, Jr., PGM, and his team will be presenting a reenactment ceremony of an ancient funeral ritual. This piece is something that M.W. Wadkins came across and we think will be an interesting portion of work and instruction to close out 6022 A.L..

Our Trowel Team has been, and will continue to be, active by spreading the cement of brotherly love & affection, traveling to our sister lodges and their assemblies, throughout this and neighboring districts and states.

We have something real going on in our lodge; the word is spreading, as evidence of the increase of interest, attendance and in the incoming tide of plural petitions for membership into our lodge.

Brethren, in closing, keep the spirit of the Thanksgiving holiday in your contemplative thoughts and dutifully whispered prayers. Come out to our next Stated Communication to welcome Brother Barnes to our midst as a Master Mason and see what all the excitement is about. Please take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.



Some Wise & Serious Truths – Masonic Education

George Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1789
General Thanksgiving

By the PRESIDENT of the United States Of America
A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favour; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me "to recommend to the people of the United States a DAY OF PUBLICK THANKSGIVING and PRAYER, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:"

NOW THEREFORE, I do recommend and assign THURSDAY, the TWENTY-SIXTH DAY of NOVEMBER next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed;-- for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been able to establish Constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted;-- for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge;-- and, in general, for all the great and various favours which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also, that we may then unite in moft humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions;-- to enable us all, whether in publick or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by confantly being a Government of wife, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shewn kindness unto us); and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

GIVEN under my hand, at the city of New-York, the third day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.
(signed) G. Washington



From the West – Stephen Walter, PGSB

My Brothers,

These days, we need not look far to find despair in our world. Conversely, we need not look far to find our blessings either. In November, we celebrate a day on which we count our blessings; Family, Health, Community, and Freemasonry. As a father of 3, I constantly remind my children of all they have to be thankful for, to look for ways to help others and to show compassion for those who are less fortunate. Though Freemasonry is not an organization based on charity, we do find ourselves doing charitable work. Sharing your blessings with the rest of the community and world is an easy way of showing our Thanks to God. I encourage you to focus your energy on spreading Thankfulness and Blessings during the month of November by giving to the organizations like the Blood Bank, the Food Bank or another charity that may be near and dear to you. Catch up with an old friend or brother you have not heard from in a while or pay for a stranger's drive through order behind you; you don't know how much better it may just make their day.

I would like to thank each and every one of you who has improved my life through simply being my brother and for passing on some part of the knowledge we seek. It would be unfair to the readers of this trestle board to list the brothers who have helped me, but you know who you are. There are a few moments in my adult life that have made me a better man, one of which was March 25, 2010 when I first beheld the light of Freemasonry.

In addition, I would like to extend an Invitation to all of you to attend my church, Christ Episcopal Church, Milford, for Masonic Divine Service Sunday on November 20th, or the church or synagogue of your choosing. Our service starts at 9 AM.

From the South – Keith Geise

Greetings Brothers,

Fall is truly here, and winter is fast approaching. Here are some things to look forward to as we close out the year.

For those who want a better understanding of Ritual, a workshop will be held at Union 7 on Nov 5 from 9am-12pm which includes a free pancake breakfast and a lunch provided by Jobs Daughters for a donation.

Hope Lodge will be hosting their Grand Visit on Nov 15 at 7:30 details to be given out at our next lodge meeting. Union 7 will have their Grand Visitation on Dec 6 @ 7:30. For any of these Grand Lodge Visits please reach out to SD Curtis Perry with any questions.

December 10 will be our yearly Christmas party. Discussion will be held in lodge at to the time and any help as needed.

Now the seasons are changing with a variety of scenes which each season displays to the discerning eye. In today's busy life sometimes, we don't take a moment to enjoy the simple things that are right in front of us. Life is not a task to be worked on but a journey to be enjoyed. Take a moment enjoy the leaves and the frosty fall mornings while they are here. Make your week and day a good one.

From the Senior Deacon – Curtis Perry

Dates to Remember:

November 2, 2022

Grand Visitation
Jefferson Lodge No. 15
7:30 PM

November 5, 2022

Grand Lodge Ritual Workshop
Union Lodge No. 7
9:00 AM

November 10, 2022

Stated Communication
MM Degree
Dinner 6:30 PM/Lodge 7:30 PM

November 15, 2022

Grand Visitation
Hope Lodge No. 4
7:30 PM

November 20, 2022

Masonic Divine Service Sunday

November 24, 2022

Happy Thanksgiving!!

December 6, 2022

Grand Visitation
Union Lodge No. 7
7:30 PM

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.temple9.org

Greetings Brethren,

At the beginning of this masonic year the Worshipful Master asked me to head up the "Trowel Team". And the idea behind it was for us to use our "Trowel" to spread that cement of brotherly love and affection that unites us together. In doing so I am encouraging all of our brothers to travel to other lodges as well as lodge functions together. And so far it has been working out well, we've shown our support at a few different events so far this year. Another benefit of traveling for our junior members is to be able to see the degree work from the outside looking in and that was always a big help for me on my catechism work. I will try my best to keep the brethren well informed of upcoming events at our regular stated communications as well as putting upcoming events on the calendar outside the lodge room. Another great tool that I have the privilege of being a part of is "The Delmarva Traveling Man" group on Facebook it is a place where brothers can post their upcoming events as well as share pictures and comment on the events. One of the biggest things I enjoy about this fraternity is the friendship and brotherly love and the bonds we build with each other through visiting and traveling to see other lodges work as well as meeting new people along the way. I hope in this upcoming year we can travel around and support our brothers in their endeavors. In closing if anyone has any questions or concerns about traveling and what the "Trowel Team" does please feel free to reach out to me or the Worshipful Master.

Living Past Masters of Temple Lodge No. 9

John L. Watkins – 1973
Franklin S. Wilkins – 1974
Louis S. O'Day – 1978
Frank H. Beebe – 1981
Ronald Jester - 1982
Gilbert H. Emory – 1983
Steven L. Rogers – 1984
J.D. Dennis, Jr. – 1988
Jeff Hague, PGMar. – 1989/2007
William A. Dudley, Jr. – 1990
William T. Wadkins, PGM – 1992
Bruce K. Ney – 1993
Marlin A. Gillespie, PSGD – 1994
David F. Coady – 1997
Clarence R. Jackson – 1998
Joshua J. Willey – 2000
George Andraee, PSGD – 2002
George G. Jester, Jr. – 2005
Michael B. Saba – 2008/2009
Martin F. Hogan, III, PJGD – 2010
Chad Robinson, PGMar. – 2011
A. Daniel Doran, PGMar. - 2012
Will Currey, PGSB – 2013
Roland Cohee, Sr. PGT – 2014
Stephen Walter, PGSB – 2015
Jim Bennett, PJGS – 2016
Brandon Smith – 2017
Steve Kerr – 2018
Matt Thompson, PSGD – 2019
John Cannon – 2020
Michael Nichols - 2021

Affiliated Past Masters

Thomas McMurray – 1977
James Cooke – 2008
John Marinucci, PGM – 2011
Matthew D. Hovatter – 2007/08
James G. Sutton – 1994
Jeffrey D. Haass, Sr., PGM – 2015
William C. Thompson, JGD – 2018
Charles Randy Wood - 2000

TEMPLE LODGE NO. 9 A.F. & A.M

127 Causey Avenue
Unit 301
Milford, DE 19963

Address Correction Requested



TO THE FAMILY OF THE BROTHER NAMED ON THIS DOCUMENT: Should he become ill or in need of assistance, please notify the Secretary or Worshipful Master. Their names and contact information are contained within.