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

Chartered January 16, 1815
2026-2027
212th Year of Fellowship

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 2026-2027

Worshipful Master
Stephen Walter, PM, PGSB
(302) 270-2697

Senior Warden
Chris Fitzgerald, PM
(302) 242-4916

Junior Warden
Curtis A. Perry, PM
(302) 293-8982

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

Deputy Secretary
Chad Robinson, PM, GC
(302) 270-4391

Treasurer
Jim Bennett, PM
(302) 228-1228

Jacob Mills – Senior Deacon
Mike Wessel – Junior Deacon
Jeffrey Shockley – Senior Steward
Kevin Corwin – Junior Steward
Marty Hogan, PM - Chaplain
David Dingess – Tiler
Mark Bertone - Marshal
Roland Cohee, Jr., PGC – Lodge Instructor

From the East – Stephen Walter, WM

We have been very busy thus far and our work will not slow down heading into the last couple months of this calendar year. On Monday November 9th, Temple Lodge No. 9 will be sorting and boxing food at the Food Bank of Delaware Milford Branch from 6pm to 8pm, all brothers are welcome to attend. Click here is the link to sign up.

At our Stated Communication of November 12th, we will be collecting non-perishable foods as your "payment" for dinner that evening. Those non-perishable foods will be delivered to the Food Bank of Delaware Milford Branch for the disbursement to those in need this Thanksgiving Season, so please be generous and bring as much as you can; try to select items that would be Thanksgiving appropriate. Dinner that evening will be Pizza and Wings, come hungry! The work for that evening will be a presentation by The National Sojourners, a group of Veteran Masons who will speak about their origins and membership.

We have not yet confirmed whether we will have a Special communication for the purpose of a Fellowcraft Degree on November 19th yet, so Stay tuned for that information.

Sunday November 22nd, 2026, is Masonic Divine Service Sunday and everyone is encouraged to attend their regular place of worship. If you find yourself searching for a place to worship that Sunday, everyone is welcome to join me and my family at Christ Episcopal Church, Milford DE for service at 9am. That Sunday is our "We Gather Together' Sunday and will be a potluck extended Coffee Hour with plenty of food to go around. Everyone is welcome at Christ Church, and you may receive communion if you'd like or abstain, there is no pressure either way; we have a relaxed environment. I would encourage Brothers attending to dress in casual Masonic attire (slacks and Lodge Shirt or Button up).

Lastly, if you are reading this, I encourage you to log into Grand View and check your dues status. Bro. Secretary and I recently had a conversation, and I saw that Temple Lodge No 9 has $7,602 in outstanding dues stemming from 49 brothers. That is an average of $155.14 per Brother which is almost 2 years of dues. When you do not pay your dues, the Lodge still pays your assessment to the Grand Lodge, which is $51. Please brothers, if you think you may have forgotten to pay your dues, check and get caught up before the 2027 Dues notices go out in December. If you think you have paid your dues, check anyway and take a few minutes to look over the Grand View site and maybe add some personal info on there, update your contact info and add a picture.

From the West – Chris Fitzgerald, PM

It is with great pride that I extend congratulations to Temple Lodge No. 9's own Most Worshipful Brother Mathew W. Thompson, on his installation as Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Delaware. This is a tremendous honor, not only for Brother Thompson, but for our Lodge. May his time in the Grand East be marked by wisdom, strength, and success as he leads the Craft throughout our jurisdiction. We look forward to supporting him and the work ahead.

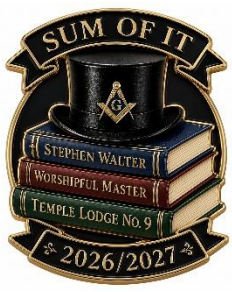
Congratulations are also in order for Brothers Kyle Koegle and Jason Fannin, who have recently been passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Brethren, this is an important step in your Masonic journey. May you approach the lessons of this degree with enthusiasm and curiosity, continuing to seek knowledge and understanding as you advance in Masonry. We look forward to witnessing your continued growth within the Craft.

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, I extend my warmest wishes to each of you and your families. May this season provide an opportunity to reflect upon our many blessings, enjoy the company of those we hold dear, and remember those who may be in need of a helping hand. I hope each of you enjoys a safe, happy, and fulfilling Thanksgiving.

There is much work ahead of us, and I look forward to it with genuine enthusiasm. Worshipful Master Stephen Walter, PM, has laid out a course of work and activity for Temple Lodge, and I encourage every Brother to take an active part. Whether through our stated communications, degree work, visitations, charitable endeavors, or simply lending a hand when called upon, each of us has an opportunity to contribute. A Lodge is only as strong as the commitment of its members, and I am excited about what we can accomplish together. Let us continue to support our Worshipful Master, one another, and the traditions that make Temple Lodge No. 9 what it is.

Finally, as I reflect upon my station in the West, I am reminded of the jewel of the Senior Warden: the Level. It teaches us that we are all traveling upon the same level, regardless of our station, title, or circumstance. In our Lodge, we may hold different offices and carry different responsibilities, but no Brother stands above another in the bonds of brotherhood. The Level reminds us to treat one another with fairness, respect, and humility, and to recognize the equal dignity of every man who meets us upon the square.

May we carry that lesson beyond the Lodge room and into our daily lives, remembering that the true measure of a Mason is not the title he holds, but the character he demonstrates and the way he treats his fellow man.



Dates to Remember:

November 9, 2026
Lodge Volunteering
Food Bank of Delaware
in Milford
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

November 10, 2026
Grand Visitation
Delaware Lodge No. 37

November 12, 2026
Stated Communication
Dinner 6:30 PM/Lodge 7:30 PM

November 17, 2026
Grand Visitation
Hope Lodge No. 4

November 22, 2026
Masonic Divine Service Sunday

November 26, 2026
Stated Communication
Dinner 6:30 PM/Lodge 7:30 PM

November 28, 2026
Ritual & Education Workshop
Union Lodge No. 7
8:00 AM

We're on the Web!
Visit us at:
www.temple9.org

A Freemason's Prayer
by Dan Goldstein

Thou most Glorious and Holy Lord, God of the Universe,
We are humbly here assembled to extol your grace, with verse.
Oh, Great Architect, Creator of this Earth with all its good,
It is in Thy Name, we pledge our lives to Peace and Brotherhood..

By upholding all the principles Freemasonry describes,
We Freemasons try to live the way our Ancient Craft prescribes.
For the virtues we aspire to are good, benign and just,
Such as Truth and Love and Justice, with Morality and Trust

Supreme Lord of all the Universe, hear our impassioned plea,
May we all live by the tenets which thou gave Freemasonry.
And may all of Man's endeavors with his fellow man compare
With the noble and sublime ways of the Compass and the Square.

Living Past Masters of Temple Lodge No. 9

Louis S. O'Day – 1978
Gilbert H. Emory – 1983
Steven L. Rogers – 1984
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
George Andreae, PSGD – 2002
George G. Jester, Jr. – 2005
Michael B. Saba – 2008/2009
Martin F. Hogan, III, PJGD – 2010
Chad Robinson, GC – 2011
A. Daniel Doran, PGMar. - 2012
Will Currey, PGSB – 2013
Stephen Walter, PGSB – 2015
Jim Bennett, PJGS – 2016
Brandon Smith – 2017
Steve Kerr – 2018
Matt Thompson, GM – 2019
John Cannon – 2020
Michael Nichols – 2021
Christopher Fitzgerald – 2022/23
Keith Geise – 2024
Curtis A. Perry, PATGM - 2025

Affiliated Past Masters

James Cooke – 2008

John W. Marinucci, PGM – 2011

Matthew D. Hovatter – 2007/08

James G. Sutton – 1994

Jeffrey D. Haass, Sr., PGM, ATGM –2015

William C. Thompson, DGM – 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.