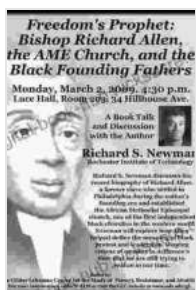


# Bishop Richard Allen: The AME Church and the Black Founding Fathers

Bishop Richard Allen was a prominent figure in the early American Methodist movement and the founder of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church. He played a significant role in the abolitionist movement and was a vocal advocate for the rights of African Americans.



## Freedom's Prophet: Bishop Richard Allen, the AME Church, and the Black Founding Fathers

by Richard S. Newman

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1671 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 376 pages



## Early Life

Richard Allen was born into slavery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1760. He was owned by a Quaker family named Benjamin and Abigail Chew, who treated him with kindness and compassion. Allen was allowed to attend school and learn to read and write. He became a devout Christian at a young age and joined the Methodist Church.

## The AME Church

In 1787, Allen and a group of other African American Methodists left the Methodist Church after being subjected to racial discrimination. They founded the Free African Society, which later became the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Allen was elected the first bishop of the AME Church in 1816.

The AME Church quickly grew and became one of the largest and most influential African American denominations in the United States. It played a vital role in the abolitionist movement and in the struggle for civil rights.

### **The Abolitionist Movement**

Allen was a strong advocate for the abolition of slavery. He spoke out against the institution and helped to organize the first African American anti-slavery society in the United States. He also worked to help fugitive slaves escape to freedom.

### **Later Life**

Allen continued to lead the AME Church until his death in 1831. He was a highly respected figure in the African American community and was known for his piety, his leadership, and his commitment to social justice.

### **Legacy**

Bishop Richard Allen was a pivotal figure in the history of the United States. He was a founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, a leading voice in the abolitionist movement, and a tireless advocate for the rights of African Americans. His legacy continues to inspire people today.

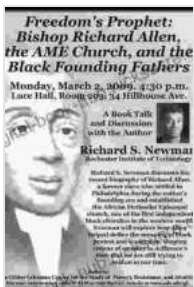


## Additional Resources

African Methodist Episcopal Church

American Experience: The Abolitionists

History.com: Bishop Richard Allen



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