

LAY COMMUNIQUE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Executive Board</i>	1,3
<i>First Timer's</i>	2
<i>Welcome Hospitality</i>	3
<i>Worship Service</i>	1,3
<i>Health Tips</i>	4
<i>AME Mission</i>	4
<i>Wednesday, 01 July 09</i>	1

Special points of interest:

- Wednesday, July 01, 2009
- LEDC Annual Meeting
- Lay Development Training Session
- Hospitality Hour
- Lay Benevolent Activities Service
- Commission Work Session
- Session Reporters NEEDED

OPENING WORSHIP SESSION

The 65th Annual Convention Worship service was convened at the Greater Allen Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church on Lipscomb Street in the metropolis of Melbourne, Florida.

The service was superbly planned and all worship participants were enthused, energetic and excited as they performed their various responsibilities in God's church.

The choir sang as if they were already in God's angelic chorus as all songs were infused with soul-stirring music from several instruments, and included the melodious voices of all choir members. The congregants were also reactive to the music and the words of the songs and hymns as was readily seen by their standing and swaying to the music and actively participating in singing.

The worship experience was enhanced as Bishop McKinley



Young, blessed our minds and souls with the powerful sermon "It's Our Season." His scriptural references were Ecclesiastes 3:1-8; particularly verse 1; and Galatians 6:7-9, particularly verse 9. Bishop Young provided historical insight into the significance of August 28. He reminded some of the more

mature Christians and told the younger generation that Emmet Till was killed in MS in 1958; August 28 was the date that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., gave his now famous "I Have A Dream" speech in 1963; and it was also the date that President Obama made his acceptance speech (cont'd pg 3)

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

President Nichols convened the Executive Board at Greater Allen Chapel AME Church on Tuesday, June 30, 2009, 10am.

The Order of the Day was outlined and presented in

short fashion. President Nichols highlighted the major topics to be handled during this 65th Annual Session.

Highlights were also provided as to the Biennial Session and the number of delegates,

clergy and observers that were registered for attendance at Little Rock, Arkansas.

Other issues addressed were: (cont'd pg 2)

FIRST TIMER'S ORIENTATION

Reported by MaryAnn Adams, Central Conference, a member of St. Mark AME Church, Clermont & Ethel Wooten, Florida Conference, a member of Flipper Chapel AME Church, Tallahassee.

The First Timer's Orientation was attended by more than twenty new members according to our reporters.

The presenter for First Timers' was former Episcopal District DOLA, Evelyn Welch Graham, who presented information specific to the Lay Organization in particular and the AME

Church as a whole. A hand-out was provided that contained all of the topics discussed.

Highlights of the session included:

- ◆ Invoking the presence of the Holy Spirit for guidance in all areas of worship, business sessions and other settings;
- ◆ Knowledge of all levels of the church from the local to the connection;
- ◆ Duties and responsibilities of Stewards, Trustees, Stewardesses, and most importantly the role of Class Leaders and their importance to the overall spiritual health of the membership;
- ◆ The Official Board, members and functional capacity within the church;
- ◆ Knowledge gained in the Lay Organization assists in your support of the District, Conference, Episcopal and Connectional levels of the Lay Organization; and
- ◆ Your understanding of the local church, component bodies within the local church and your role within the church.

***"First Timer's
numbered more
than twenty (20) at
Tuesday's
Session."***

COMMISSION WORK SESSION(S)

The Commission on Program and Activities:

James Robbins, Director, Peggy Rice Johnson, Assistant Director, reported by Loretta S. Coppock, East Conference.

The work session of the Commission on Program and Activities was called to order by Assistant Commission Direc-

tor, Peggy Rice Johnson. Devotion followed; prayer by Nancy Johnson. The 23rd Psalm was recited in unison.

The Commission was organized: Phillis Filer, secretary, roll call of commission members.

A brief discussion was held regarding the Selmo Bradley

Scholarship guidelines. Commissioner James Robbins shared with commission members information given by President Charlie Nichols during the June 30th, Executive Board Meeting, and he also explained the commission concept.

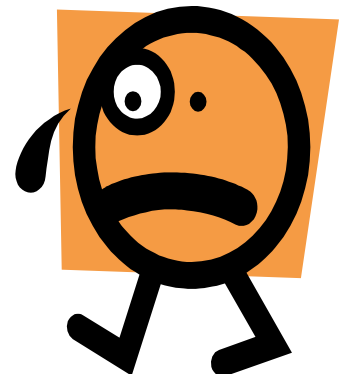
Commission members present were organized into two

COMMISSION WORK SESSION(S)

(2) committees: Legislation and Benevolence and convened into work sessions.

Each committee was requested to develop three (3) committee goals, that meet the "SMART" goals criteria. Upon completion of committee meetings, groups reassembled to present recommended goals. Committee work will continue.

Other Commissions held work sessions, however, reports had not been received prior to the printing of Issue 1 of the Convention Communiqué Newsletter.



OPENING WORSHIP SERVICE

at the Democratic Convention.

Prior to his acceptance speech at the Convention he visited the General Conference of the AME Church in St. Louis, Missouri where all AME Bishops laid hands on and prayed for the then candidate Obama.

The rest as we know it is history as the then candidate Obama is now President Barack Obama, and is now in his season.

Bishop Young reminded the delegation that all God's promises are yes and amen; that the Christian journey as well as life operates in seasons; that we should not become weary in well doing and that a man reaps what is sown, and it is incumbent in our life to operate in a manner that is pleasing to God. whether in the positive workings of this world.

In conclusion, Bishop reminded the delegation and congregants that "It Is Our Season!"



EXECUTIVE BOARD CONT'D

1. Changes to LEDC, Inc.
2. Selmo Bradley Scholarship;
3. Annual donation to Edward Waters College of \$5,000.00;
4. Quarterly budget payments, beginning in September;
5. Changing, increasing

budget by \$1,000.00;

The Executive Board luncheon was light, luscious and filling as we dined on roast beef, ham and turkey on buttery croissants with condiments of all varieties and



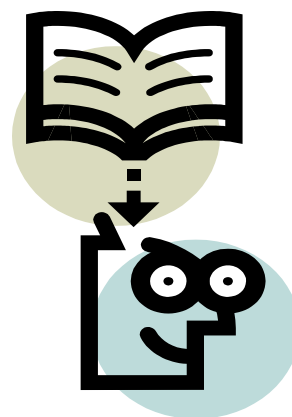
WELCOME—HOSPITALITY

The Central Conference provided scrumptious and enticing food, drink and conversation to all members who graced the hospitality area.

President Ella Wilson and members of the Conference left no stone unturned in providing for the needs of persons attending the 65th Session.

The Central Conference Hospitality Room is open today on the 8th floor in room 810 from 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

Members of the 65th Annual Session are encouraged to stop by to chat, chew and meet new Convention attendees or catch up with friends made during other Conventions.



Episcopal District Lay
Organization

Charlie Nichols, Episcopal President
6390 Manassas Court
Pensacola, Florida 32503

E-mail: bryceell51@att.net

\$1.00 per copy

Eleventh Episcopal District



Health Wise Tidbits—Weight Control Made Easy

1. *Cut the number of calories you eat by choosing low-calorie foods. Low-fat foods are usually lower in calories. Limit sugar and alcohol;*
2. *Eat fewer breaded and fried foods, remove the skin from poultry and trim any extra fat from meat;*
3. *Eat more fruits and vegetables, which will fill you up without adding a lot of calories;*
4. *Have a glass of water a few minutes before each meal. Then help yourself to smaller portions of food, and eat slowly;*
5. *Increase your physical activity. For weight loss strive for at least 45-60 minutes of moderate physical activities most days of the week. This can include brisk walking, dancing, or a sport such as tennis or racquetball. To avoid regaining weight, aim for 60-90 minutes of moderate physical activity on most days. The more active you are, the better;*
6. *Don't be hard on yourself. If you "slip up," just get with it again.*

A.M.E. MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the African Methodist Episcopal Church is to; minister to the spiritual, intellectual, physical and emotional, and environmental needs of all people by spreading Christ's liberating gospel through word and deed. At every level of the Connection and in every local church, the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall engage in carrying out the spirit of the original Free African Society, out of which the A.M.E. Church evolved; that is, to seek out and save the lost, and serve the needy through a continuing program of:

1. Preaching the gospel;
2. Feeding the hungry;
3. Clothing the naked;



Fulfilling our obligations to our fellow-man

4. Housing the homeless;
5. Cheering the fallen;
6. Providing jobs for the jobless;
7. Administering to the needs of those in prisons, hospitals, nursing homes, asylums and mental institutions, senior citizens' homes, car-

ing for sick, the shut-in, the mentally and socially disturbed;

8. Encouraging thrift and economic advancement.

How many areas do you and your church fulfill on this continuum?

If none, do make yourself a committee of one to begin the work of the church and carry-on the Mission of this great church of Allen.

Blessings to each of you as you begin your Mission Journey.