African Methodist Episcopal Church
Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization
President’s Reporting Form

Name of Conference: __West Coast

President of Conference; _Hugh Yancy, Jr._

Number of Districts of the Annual Conference: __3____
Number of members attending the meetings: __35____
Number of Training Sessions/Workshops held this year: __6____
Number of members under the age of 30 attending your meetings: __5____
Number of churches with organized lay organizations; __55____
Number of churches without organized lay organizations: __3____
Number of Lay members in the conference: __6400____
Total Number of Lay Members in the organized Lay: __1030____

List the names of churches that have not been organized as per discipline.

1. _Moore’s Chapel – St. Petersburg_
2. _St. Paul – Lake Alfred_
3. _St. Mark - Davenport_
PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this organization shall be to organize and train the laity of the African Methodist Episcopal Church so that each lay person may utilize to the maximum the abilities and skills granted by God, in assisting with the improvement and extension of God’s kingdom, and creating happiness, peace, and harmony among its members.

Objectives – To accomplish this purpose, the following objectives are adopted:

a. To instill in the membership of the church a love for, and an appreciation of, the history, traditions, principles and development of African Methodism by encouraging, motivating, and educating all lay persons.

b. To keep forever alive the sacred memory of Richard Allen, our illustrious founder.

c. To advocate respect and loyalty at all times to constituted authority and leadership.

d. To encourage the laity to support the total program of the church in the local congregation, in the community, and throughout the Connection.

e. To foster a systematic and regular study of The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and of parliamentary procedure, to the end that greater knowledge and information may be disseminated among the laity, and with the further purpose of encouraging lay members to participate more largely in the general functioning and supervision of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

f. To foster, influence, and support all constructive and progressive legislation for the church that promotes the teachings of Jesus Christ.

g. To encourage development, recognition, and utilization of the most appropriate operational practices and modern technology in conducting the activities of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

h. To promote the spread of personal evangelism through activities designed to prepare lay members for appropriately conveying God’s Word.

i. To provide training in Christian stewardship, which causes lay members to recognize that the connotation of stewardship addresses more than giving money.

j. To increase the circulation of church papers.

k. To provide for the orderly and systematic training of lay persons, especially officers, in order that they might more effectively perform their service assignments.

l. To promote activities which will result in harmonious fellowship for lay persons throughout the Connection.

m. To help in the support of the AME educational institutions.
President’s Questionnaire

1. **What is your conference’s purpose and objectives?**
(Select from above which purpose and objectives you have chosen for the year)

- a. To instill in the membership of the church a love for, and an appreciation of, the history, traditions, principles and development of African Methodism by encouraging, motivating, and educating all lay persons.
- b. To keep forever alive the sacred memory of Richard Allen, our illustrious founder
- c. To advocate respect and loyalty at all times to constituted authority and leadership.
- e. To foster a systematic and regular study of *The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church* and of parliamentary procedure, to the end that greater knowledge and information may be disseminated among the laity, and with the further purpose of encouraging lay members to participate more largely in the general functioning and supervision of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- j. To increase the circulation of church papers.
- k. To provide for the orderly and systematic training of lay persons, especially officers, in order that they might more effectively perform their service assignments.
- m. To help in the support of the AME educational institutions.

2. **Which objectives as shown above were you able to achieve this Episcopal Year?**

- a. To instill in the membership of the church a love for, and an appreciation of, the history, traditions, principles and development of African Methodism by encouraging, motivating, and educating all lay persons.
- b. To keep forever alive the sacred memory of Richard Allen, our illustrious founder.
- k. To provide for the orderly and systematic training of lay persons, especially officers, in order that they might more effectively perform their service assignments.
- m. To help in the support of the AME educational institutions.

3. **What in your conference is working well?**
The West Coast Conference has received excellent training from our DOLA through workshops, seminars, interactive activities and evaluative techniques.

4. **What do you need to become more effective in training your membership?**
We must focus more on “train the trainer types of activities to reach more members at the local and district levels.

5. **Who do we need to celebrate for their commitment of excellence whether in the church, community, home or job?**
The West Coast Conference proudly recognizes the following persons for their service and commitment to the Lay organization over the years and for their continued dedication and involvement. We applaud their positive examples in our communities.

***Mrs. Mary Clifton– St. Petersburg District
***Mrs. Curtis Wilson – Tampa District
***Derek Feacher – Lakeland District
6. **What can the Episcopal District do now to help?**
   
   a. By November 15, 2013 (11th Episcopal District Planning Meeting) the West Coast Conference recommends a forum be held for District Presidents to share ideas. It would be helpful for the presidents to have an opportunity, in a 1-2 hour session, to discuss and strategize some of the pitfalls to avoid and learn what successes others have had.
   
   b. By January 18-19, 2014 (Episcopal Lay Executive Board Meeting), the West Coast Conference would like for the Episcopal District to provide resources, ideas, and suggestions to help us grow the membership of the Lay Organization at the local level.