



The Pensacola-Marianna District

President Joseph Johnson

The Quincy District

President Henry McGill

The Tallahassee District

President Eileen S. Warner

The Official Quarterly Publication of the Florida Conference Lay Organization

Volume 1 Issue 2



SAMUEL DEWITT PROCTOR CONFERENCE

*"There's a real suspicious guy. This guy looks like he's up to no good, on drugs or something. It's raining and he's just walking around looking about... These a**holes always get away."*

- George Zimmerman

Trayvon's Murder & Our Response

OUR RESPONSE

Brothers and Sisters, What shall we do at such a time as this?

Perhaps, legal scholar and author Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* summed up what the country should do next:

"We've got to get serious about consciousness-raising and organizing in our communities. We've got to move beyond these bursts of outrage in response to travesties of justice (think Troy Davis, Sean Bell, Oscar Grant, and Trayvon Martin) and awaken to the reality that Jim Crow justice is alive and well. These aren't isolated, disconnected events. Use this tragedy to start a broader conversation in your school, your place of worship, your workplace, or your community center, about what is necessary to end this new Jim Crow system -- a system that our nation keeps pretending doesn't really exist.

Honor Trayvon's memory by challenging yourself to do more -- to make a real commitment to join or begin a movement for justice right where you are, wherever you are. Outrage is not enough."

"Use this tragedy to start a broader conversation in your school, your place of worship, your workplace, or your community center, about what is necessary to end this new Jim Crow system -- a system that our nation keeps pretending doesn't really exist."

- Michelle Alexander

TRAYVON'S MURDER



THE FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE EEDLO

Mr. Johnnie Hill, Jr., President



From the President's Pen...

Greetings Lay Members,

This is the Centennial Year of the Lay Organization. I still encourage each lay organization within the Florida Conference to include a brief history of the progress, achievements and services provided by this organization when putting on their lay day programs. I have asked each District President to assist each lay organization with information on the history of the Lay Organization. Later this year at the General

Conference, we will celebrate this organization with a birthday party.

Secondly, the Florida Conference Lay Organization will be having two major events within the next two months. The first is the Annual Lay Day Program in the Tallahassee District, April 28, 2012 at 4:00 p.m, EST. The program will be held at Flipper Chapel AMEC/708 Osceola Street, Tallahassee, Florida. The Reverend Oliver Simmons is the host pastor and Sister Beulah B. Gregory is the host local president.

The second event will be the 1½ day Convention in the Pensacola/Marianna in Pensacola, Florida at Bethel AMEC. The Reverend Charles Morris is the host pastor and Sister Judith Hollinhead is the host local lay president. District Presidents should encourage the local and district lay members to attend these events. To keep the Lay Organization a viable beacon in the churches we must support lay functions/events wherever they are held.

Our Quarterly Meeting on March 30, 2012, will be the last meeting before the EEDLO Convention and the General Conference. Therefore, each District should elect delegates to attend the Convention in Sarasota, Florida. Please make sure that the registration fees are paid before the deadline day. Also, it is important that room reservations be made prior to deadline. The Florida Conference Lay Organization is pursuing transportation to the Convention.

As usual, I would like to sincerely thank you for your continued support of the initiatives outlined for the Florida Conference Lay Organization. I deem it a privilege to render service to the members and this organization.

Sincerely,
Johnnie Hill, FCLO President

The Training Corner



How well do you know the AMEC Church? The Training Corner provided by Brother John W. Love, Conference Director of Lay Activities.

*Mr. John W. Love
Director of Lay Activities*

QUESTIONS:

1. The Connectional Lay Organization stated at the General Conference in _____ (city) _____ in (date) _____.
2. This year, the Connectional Lay Organization will be _____ years old.
3. The Lay Organization met only once in _____ years at the seat of the _____.
4. _____ was the first Connectional Lay President.
5. What were the names before the Connectional Lay Organization _____?
6. Name the first and only female elected as President of the Connectional Lay Organization _____.
7. Florida has had _____ Connectional Lay Presidents. They are: _____.
8. _____ is currently the Connectional Lay President.
9. Thus far, there have been _____ Connectional Lay Presidents.
10. Bishop _____ is the Connectional Lay Commission Chair.

- Answers:
1. Kansas City, Missouri, in 1912
 2. 100 years old
 3. It met only once in four years at the seat of the General Conference and only delegates to that Conference were members
 4. Professor Charles H. Johnson of Wilberforce as the first president
 5. Laymen's Missionary Movement; Connectional Lay College
 6. Dr. Kathryn M. Brown
 7. Three (3) Dr. R. R. Williams of Tampa; Mr. James L. Williams of Jacksonville, and Mr. Jesse L. Burns, Jr., Gainesville
 8. Dr. Willie C. Glover of Columbus, Ohio
 9. Eleven (11) Presidents
 10. Bishop C. Garnett Henning, Sr.

The Pensacola-Marianna District



President Joe Johnson

*Inspiration thought from the president
"Together we stand, divided we fall."*

PMD Meets With a Vision in 2012

The first meeting of the Pensacola-Marianna District in 2012 was held January 21, 2012 at the District Complex/ 4199 Hickory Lane Marianna, FL. President Joseph Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:AM Devotion and our bible study was presented by the Rev. Sinclair Forbes, pastor of Springfield AMEC (Marianna, FL) Presiding Elder James H. Davis was presented and he provided words of encouragement. EEDLO President Charlie Nichols was in attendance and was presented.

Dinner was provided by Presiding Elder Davis

Total attendance was eighty five and ten pastors. We thank everyone for coming. The meeting closed with the Lay Benediction.

St John AMEC /Campbellton, FL

The Reverend Bernard E. Hudson, Pastor

"Take Off Your Shoes"

Congregation Marches Into New Church!

Submitted by Sister Rebecca Pittman

The pastor, officers and members of St. John AMEC/Campbellton, FL marched into a new sanctuary on Sunday, March 25, 2012 at 10:50 a.m. Reverend Bernard E. Hudson led the march of the electrifying celebration. Reverend Hudson preached the spoken word from Exodus 3:5-8 with a chosen text of "Take Off Your Shoes." The congregation celebrated a spirit filled occasion in a new sanctuary.



Jerusalem A.M.E. Church

Marianna, Florida

2055 Highway 73 South

Sister Norma Merritt, Local President

Annual Lay Day Celebration

3:00 p.m./CST

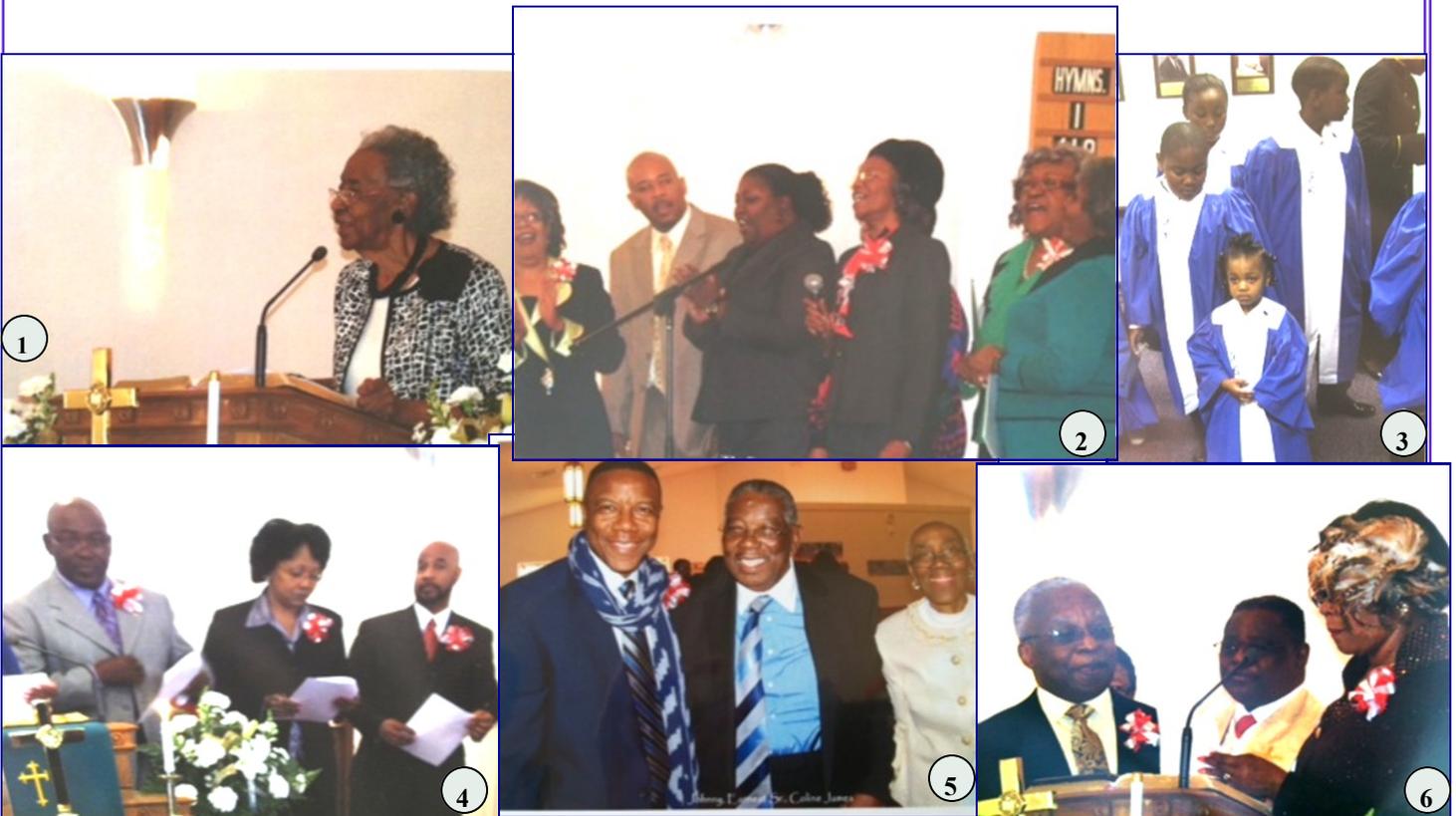
Featured Speaker: Brother John W. Love

Flipper Chapel AMEC Founders' Day Celebration 1927-2012 Annual Lay Day Celebration

"Reflecting on our History and Building our Future"
The Reverend Oliver Simmons, Senior Pastor

The pastor, officers, and members of Flipper Chapel AMEC graciously opened their doors and extended a heartfelt welcome as they celebrated their legacy and built on the future at Flipper Chapel. The worship was a service of Christian fellowship that was Holy Spirit filled, inspirational, and connected us as a people of God. One focus of the worship experience was to welcome the returning members whose lives Flipper has had an opportunity to touch while residing in the community. The preached Word was proclaimed by Dr. Kimberly Corbin/Staff Minister at Bethel AMEC/Tallahassee. With a scriptural reference from Nehemiah 2:17-18, her subject was "Your Work is on the Wall." She adamantly stated that we must go forth and do the work that God has for us.

Sister Beulah B. Gregory served as the Founders' Day Steering Committee Chairperson. After the worship experience, a scrumptious meal was served in the Fellowship Hall.



1- Sister Beulah B. Gregory, Founders' Day Steering Committee Chairperson, 2- Members of the Bradley family provide a musical selection, 3-The Youth Choir, 4-(L-R) The Reverend Fredrick James, Grant Chapel AME/West Palm Beach, FL, Sister Winifred Parker, and Brother Spencer Bruce, 5- The James Family, 6- Pastor Simmons and Sister Pride present a plaque of recognition to the founder of the young adult church program at Flipper.

The Tallahassee District

African Methodist Episcopal Church
The Reverend Dr. Carlton Taylor, Presiding Elder

“The Biggest EVENT of the Summer - 2012 Church School Convention”

To: Pastors, Superintendents, and Delegates
From: Jesse Hughes, Tallahassee District Superintendent
Subject: 2012 Church School Convention

The **2012 Church School Convention**, hosted by Flipper Chapel AMEC, 708 West Osceola Street, Tallahassee, Florida, will begin Thursday, June 14th at 6:30 p.m. with an opening welcome program followed by an opening worship service.

The opening worship service will include **Holy Communion** and **all ordained clergy are to wear white robes**.

The registration fee for delegates (participants age 3-26) is \$4.00. The registration for all others (age 27 and over) is \$12.00. **Registration is due no later than June 7, 2012.**

Pastors and Church School Superintendents are registered as part of the pastor's District Convention report and are not to be included on the 2012 Church School Convention Registration Form.

Delegates are encouraged to bring **instruments** for use during our **mid-day Praise and Testimony** experience.

Please make checks payable to **The Tallahassee District** and indicate in the memo section, **2012 Church School Convention**. The Tallahassee District Church School Convention is always looking for **gifted, innovative and energetic presenters**. If interested please contact: Jesse Hughes, at 850.997-3251 or bhughes10@aol.com.

The Tallahassee District Christian Continuing Education Day is Saturday, April 28, 2012, 9am, at New Saint John AMEC, 2505 Holton Street, Tallahassee, Florida. The Reverend LeRoy Colston is the host pastor.

June 12th - 15th, 2012

Hyatt Regency Hotel
1000 Boulevard of the Arts
Sarasota, Florida 34236

Conference Registration

Registration Fee:

-\$100.00 for Adult Laity and Clergy

-\$75.00 for Youth Lay (ages 13-17)

Registration Fee Includes:

-Lay Development Training Seminars and Materials

-Awards Banquet Invitation (for one)

-Registration Kit

Additional Awards Gala Banquet Tickets:

-\$50.00 each

Registration Deadline:

Late registration from June 2nd - June 15th will be \$125.00 for adult laity. There is no late registration for ministers and youth. However, late registrants are not guaranteed kits and/or materials. All registrations must be post-marked by June 1st and mailed for:

Mrs. Ann McCelvy, Registrar
610 Manor Ct. NW
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

Souvenir Journal:

Annual Convention Souvenir Journal Ads should be sent "camera ready" (preferred) to:

EEDLO Souvenir Journal Committee

c/o Frankie Craddock

2507 8th Avenue East

Palmetto, FL 34221

Phone (941) 729-2967: Cell (941) 504-8084

E-mail: craddock.frankie@yahoo.com

All funds must accompany ads. Make check payable to: West Coast Conference Lay Organization

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ADS AND PAYMENT IS MAY 10, 2012

Inside Front.....	\$200.00	Full Page.....	\$ 100.00
Inside Back.....	\$200.00	Half Page.....	\$60.00
Outside Back	\$200.00	Quarter Page	\$30.00
Black and White photo scans add.....			\$15.00

Hotel Rates

\$99.00 Standard Room Type *12% Applicable Room Tax

Reservation Deadline: To guarantee room availability for the above rate, Registration must be completed by May 18, 2012.

Hotel Reservation Process: By phone to Hyatt Worldwide Reservation Center at 888-421-1442. Reserve your room under "Episcopal AME Convention"

Meet the FCLO Candidates

The Florida Conference Lay Organization Candidates

The following individuals from the Florida Conference Lay Organization are offering themselves for service to the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization. On Friday, June 15th during the 68th Annual Convention, these individuals will vie for election to their chosen offices. Please register and attend the 68th Annual Convention and support our candidates. Tentatively, the election and installation of officers is scheduled for the morning session beginning after Bible Study.



President

Brother John W. Love
Brother Charlie Nichols, Incumbent



2nd Vice President

Brother Donald Russell

Treasurer

Sister Priscilla Salter



Recording Secretary

Sister Ethel Wooten



Director of Public Relations

Sister Sharon Russell



"Educate Yourself About the Candidates and their Platforms!"



CLO 100 Anniversary Celebration



CELEBRATION!

Thursday
June 28, 2012

Centennial
Celebration

49th Quadrennial
Session

Happy Birthday Connectional Lay Organization!

The Annual Lay Day Committee working with the Program and Activities Commission is asked to put together a program to get more attendance from the churches. It is suggested that the program be held on a Sunday afternoon. This may get more pastors to attend. This program should highlight the 100 years of the CLO.

This is the Centennial (100) year of the Lay Organization. Each district and local lay organization should recognize the 100 year observance in their Annual Lay Day Program. Each district president is asked to provide the information on the Centennial to the local organization. Please use the icons from the CLO as a part of your program layout.

Necrology

Remembering the Life's Journey of...

Sister Allie Mae Hill



Sister Allie Mae Hill, the sister of President Johnnie Hill, Jr. had a gifting and ministry for “remembering” family and friends birthdates and she tried to make their day special by calling them “every year” just to say “Happy Birthday.” It was a ministry that God placed in her and she performed it well. Her call helped to make someone’s day brighter, even if it was just for that moment. She made a difference in that way and will be dearly missed by many.

Her prayer would be for each person who was a recipient of such a call, pass the legacy on and make it a point to do like wise for someone else.

The Officers and Members of the Florida Conference Lay Organization would like to extend heartfelt condolences to President Johnnie Hill, Jr. and the Hill family during their period of bereavement.

Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me” -
John 14:1

In Our Prayers..

Sister Brenda Banks
Sister Queen B. Brown
Brother Ellis Bryant
Sister Vivian Cromartie
Sister Dorise Griffin
Sister Dorothy Harley
Sister Norma Merritt
(son)
Sister Florence Murphy
Sister Estelle Hogan
(son)
Sister Lula Wilson

OUR PRAYER FOR YOU!

FATHER GOD; we your humble servants THANK YOU for your omnipotence and omnipresence . We are calling upon you this day in prayer for our beloved members. Our Heavenly Father, YOU are our Alpha and Omega, the Creator and Guardian of our lives; we praise YOU, we glorify YOU as we ask you to heal and restore these members; that they may be living testimonies of how great YOU are and that ALL power is in your hands. We share this prayer for each brother and sister that is faced with the acid test of life throughout our Zion. Father GOD we are leaning on YOU and trusting YOU for healing that only YOU can give. We pray that YOU will strengthen family and friends and that your Holy anointing will fall upon every doctor, nurse, technician, medication and equipment used in the healing and restoration of your servants. We THANK YOU GOD and we are forever grateful for your divine grace and mercy; and we will continue to give YOU all the Praise, In the Mighty and Matchless Name of JESUS The CHRIST, AMEN, AMEN, AMEN.

FCLO Conference 1st Annual Geographical Workshop

May 25th ~ May 26th

Bethel AMEC/Pensacola, Florida

The Reverend Charles Morris, Host Pastor

Sister Judith Hollinhead, Local President



May 25, 2012/7:00 CST
Workshop Banquet

Banquet Theme:
“Spotlighting the AME Male”

Journal Guidelines:

Each local church is asked to choose ONE male from the local congregation and submit a biography with a photograph of the honoree to Mrs. Beulah B. Gregory on or before May 1st, 2012. The information will be placed in a Spotlight Booklet and the individuals will be honored during the banquet. Additionally, each local church is asked to place congratulatory ads in the journal in recognition of their honoree. The ads are \$25.00 per FULL page! All ads and monies are due on or before **May 1st, 2012.**

Mrs. Beulah B. Gregory ▪ 712 Bragg Drive ▪ Tallahassee, Florida 32310
or email to Mrs. Eileen S. Warner
instruct926@aol.com



Attention Presiding Elder District Presidents...

President Hill has asked that Brother John Love , FCLO Director of Lay Activities compile a FCLO Directory. Brother Love needs all of your directory information on or before April 15 2012!

Please forward the information for the Conference Directory to :

*Mr. John Love
Post Office Box 1554
Quincy, Florida 32342
jnlove@tds.net*

The Florida Conference Lay Organization

Officers

President: Mr. Johnnie Hill, Jr.
1st Vice President: Mr. Shepherd Myrick
2nd Vice President: Mr. Joseph Johnson
3rd Vice President: Mrs. Eileen S. Warner
Recording Secretary: Mrs. Ethel Wooten
Assistant Recording Secretary: Mrs. Dorothy Harley
Corresponding Secretary: Ms. Sandra O. Gregg
Treasurer: Mrs. Estelle Hogan
Financial Secretary: Mrs. Catherine Johnson
Chaplin: Mrs. Norma Merritt
Historiographer: Mrs. Willie M. Long-Cobb
Parliamentarian: Mr. James Sawyer
Director of Lay Activities: Mr. John W. Love
Director of Public Relations: Ms. Vivian E. Cromartie
Young Adult Representative: Ms. Auja Bush

Commissions

Director of Statistics and Finance: Mr. Robert Lane
Assistant Director: Ms. Cassandra Jenkins
Director of Program and Activities: Mrs. Eileen S. Warner
Assistant Director: Mr. Raymond Jackson
Director of Personnel and Procedure: Ms. Judith Hollinhead
Assistant Director: Mr. Donald Russell
Director of Organization and Structure: Mrs. Connie Jenkins-Pye
Assistant Director: Mr. Orenthious "OJ" Hill

District Presidents

Pensacola/Marianna District: Mr. Joseph Johnson
Quincy District: Mr. Henry W. McGill
Tallahassee District: Mrs. Eileen S. Warner

Advisors

Mr. Harry K. Holt, Mr. George Stakley, Mrs. Queen Brown,
Mr. Donald Russell

Dates to Remember

CLO Spring Executive Board
March 29th - 31st
In conjunction with the
Retirement Celebration Banquet
honoring Bishop C. Garnett and
Supervisor Ernestine Lee
Henning
Columbus, Ohio

Episcopal District Lay Convention
June 11th - 15th
Registration: \$100.00
Deadline: June 1st
Hyatt Regency Sarasota
1000 Boulevard of the Arts
Sarasota, FL 34236
Telephone: 941.363.2610

Florida Conference Annual Lay
Day
Hosted by: Tallahassee District
April 29, 2012
Location: Flipper Chapel AMEC

Florida Conference 1 ½ Day
Convention
Hosted by: Pensacola-District
May 25th - 26th
Location: Bethel Pensacola

ALL Delegates and Alternates
Organizational Planning
June 1st / 11:00 a.m.
St. Paul AMEC/Jacksonville

49th Quadrennial Session of the
General Conference
June 27th - July 4th, 2012
Gaylord Opryland Resort and
Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee

Send us your NEWS!!

“The Laymen’s Voice”

Forward ALL information for publication to: Mrs. Eileen S. Warner •
Post Office Box 5701 Tallahassee, Florida 32310 •
Instruct926@aol.com

