



The Lay Communiqué

Magazine of The 11th Episcopal District Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church
Digital / Web Edition



The 16th Edition of the Digital AMEC Lay Magazine † 2nd Quarter Issue † February 2025 ~ May 2025

Online Content updates are continuous ~ Please send your events & other AME flyers for publication!



"AN AUTUMN / WINTER FLOWER AMONG THE FALLEN LEAVES" (AJSG) ~ JACKSONVILLE, FL

Content in this Digital Magazine will update as new information is submitted / added within the Issue's time frame
Please send your event dates &/or flyers, photos & features for the Digital Lay Communiqué

Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization President: Mr. John Love † Florida Conference
EED Lay Organization Director of Public Relations: Ms. Shrin Bryant † South Conference
Digital Communiqué Magazine design/maintenance by AJSG ~ EEDLO Web Servant † East Conference

CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION
OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EVANGELISM Sunday

JUNE 8, 2025

THEME:

**"GOD'S PRESENCE IS A CONTINUAL REMINDER
OF HIS GRACE AND MERCY FOR US."**

PHILIPPIANS 4: 6-7



Living a Global Witness Ministry that
TRANSFORMS, TRANSCENDS AND LIBERATES

**BISHOP RONNIE E. BRAILSFORD,
CLO COMMISSION CHAIR**

**MR. MATIKANE A. MAKITI,
CLO PRESIDENT**

**MS. LOVIE AARON,
3RD VICE PRESIDENT**

SAVE
THE
DATE

"Living A Global Witness Ministry That Transforms, Transcends and Liberates" LUKE 4: 18-19



**The 11th District Lay Organization
Invites you to Join Us at
The Hilton Palm Beach Hotel
in West Palm Beach, Florida**

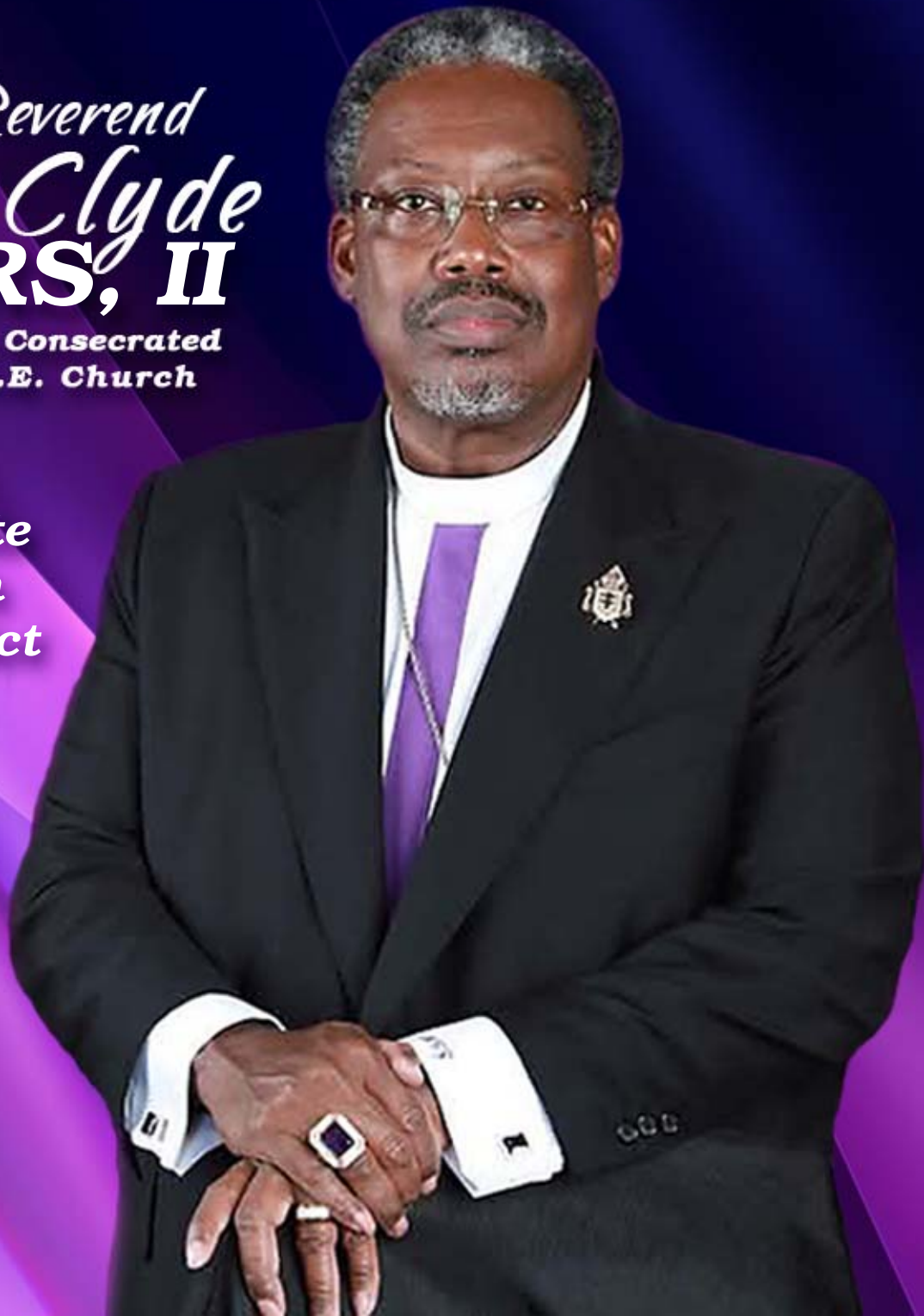
JUNE 24, 2025 ~ 7PM

Our Bishop is the Opening Worship Preacher

The Right Reverend
**Marvin Clyde
ZANDERS, II**

**The 140th Elected & Consecrated
Bishop of The A.M.E. Church**

***Presiding Prelate
of the Eleventh
Episcopal District***



81ST ANNUAL LAY CONVENTION

FOR THE CULTURE



CELEBRATING OUR VICTORIES THROUGH OUR VALUES, VISIONS & VOICES

*DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND.
THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TEST AND APPROVE WHAT GOD'S WILL IS—HIS GOOD, PLEASING AND PERFECT WILL.*

ROMANS 12:2 NIV

REGISTRATION FEE
\$125.00

HILTON PALM BEACH PBI

150 AUSTRALIAN AVENUE
WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, 33406-1473

ROOM RATE

\$139.00 PER NIGHT



TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2025

- EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
- OPENING WORSHIP SERVICE
BISHOP MARVIN C. ZANDERS, II - PREACHER
- *SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE EMANUEL 9

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025

- MORNING BUSINESS SESSION
- A CONVERSATION WITH THE BISHOP
- AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION WITH
- LAY BENEVOLENCE EVENT

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025

- LEARNING LABS AND THINK TANKS
- BIENNIAL ATTIRE DISTRIBUTION
- AWARDS BANQUET

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025

- CLOSING BUSINESS SESSION
- CONVENTION WRAP UP
- MEMORIAL SERVICE
- EVALUATIONS
- OPENING OF 2025 YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP RETREAT

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2025

- CLOSING OF 2025 YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP RETREAT

BISHOP MARVIN C. ZANDERS II, PRESIDING PRELATE
MRS. WINIFRED H. ZANDERS, EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR
MR. JOHN W. LOVE, EEDLO PRESIDENT
MS. RHOSHONDA HERRING, EEDLO DIR. OF LAY ACTIVITIES
MR. DANTE' BUCKSON, EEDLO YAR



EKKLESIA YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Inspiring The Extraordinary

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

1 Peter 2:9

Hilton Palm Beach PBI
West Palm Beach, Florida
\$139.00 per/night

SUMMIT
REGISTRATION
\$35.00

TO BEGIN
MARCH 3rd



2025 EKKLESIA YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

MR. JOHN LOVE | MS. RHOSHONDA HERRING | MR. DANTE BUCKSON
EEDLO PRESIDENT EEDLO DIR. OF LAY ACTIVITIES EEDLO YOUNG ADULT REPRESENTATIVE

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2025 EKKLESIA YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT. OUR PRAYER IS THAT BY THE TIME YOU LEAVE THIS SUMMIT, YOU ARE DRIVEN BY PURPOSE, POWERED BY CREATIVITY, AND ANCHORED IN FAITH. WE ARE BELIEVING GOD THAT OUR TIME TOGETHER WILL SERVE AS A LOVE LETTER, A CALL TO ACTION, AND A HOLY HYMN ALL IN ONE. AS YOU PREPARE FOR THE SUMMIT, WE WANTED TO SHARE A FEW PERTINENT DETAILS. LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN WEST PALM BEACH!

THE LOCATION

The 2025 Young Adult Leadership Summit will take place in West Palm Beach, Florida at the Hilton Palm Beach PBI on June 27-28, 2025.

PARKING IS FREE.



THE CHECK-IN

On June 27th Summit registration and check-in will take place from 6:10pm - 8:10pm. On June 28th registration and check-in will take place from 7:30am - 8:10am. Those who have registered will receive the official "Leadership Guide" for the Summit, access to all summit events, dinner during the welcome celebration, lunch on Saturday, as well as a limited-edition water bottle and other Leadership Summit gifts.

THE SCHEDULE

This year's Young Adult Leadership Summit will feature a Culture Connect networking event, the welcome celebration, two amazing learning labs, interactive icebreakers and wellness moments, and the inaugural Soul Sesh Panel Discussion. We strongly encourage you to be on time, because you won't want to miss a second of it!



THE MEALS

The welcome event on Friday, June 27th will feature three eclectic dining stations for guests to enjoy. For those staying at the Hilton Palm Beach PBI you will receive a ticket to enjoy breakfast at the Veranda. This restaurant features a variety of breakfast options, including specialty coffees, teas and baked goods. Lunch will also be provided to all prior to your departure on Saturday, June 28th.

THE WELCOME CELEBRATION

The Leadership Summit welcome celebration is scheduled for June 27th at 8:00pm and will include food, fun, and fellowship. The attire is classy **RESORT WEAR** (examples shown below).





2025 EKKLESIA YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

MEETING SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025

6:10PM - 8:10PM	REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN
4:00PM - 5:00PM	MEETING W/ EEDLO YAR CABINET
5:00PM - 7:15PM	BREAK
7:15PM - 8:00PM	CULTURE CONNECT
8:00PM - 10:00PM	WELCOME CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2025

7:30AM - 8:15AM	REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN
8:00AM - 8:15AM	MOMENTS WITH GOD
8:15AM - 8:20AM	WELCOME & OVERVIEW
8:20AM - 8:50AM	ICEBREAKER
9:00AM - 9:50AM	GENERAL SESSION
9:50AM - 10:50AM	LEARNING LAB 1
10:50AM - 10:55AM	WELLNESS BREAK
10:55AM - 11:55AM	LEARNING LAB 2
11:55AM - 12:00PM	WELLNESS BREAK
12:00AM - 1:10PM	SOUL SESH PANEL DISCUSSION
1:10PM - 1:20PM	MOMENTS WITH GOD

EPIPHANY

THE REVEALING OF CHRIST

Epiphany / Year C	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Epiphany of the Lord January 6, 2025	Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
Baptism of the Lord January 12, 2025 <i>1st Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	Isaiah 43:1-7	Psalm 29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Second Sunday after the Epiphany January 19, 2025	Isaiah 62:1-5	Psalm 36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 26, 2025	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany February 2, 2025	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30
Presentation of the Lord February 2, 2025	Malachi 3:1-4	Psalm 84 or <i>Psalm 24:7-10</i>	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany February 9, 2025	Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)	Psalm 138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany February 16, 2025	Jeremiah 17:5-10	Psalm 1	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26
Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany February 23, 2025	Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40	1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	Luke 6:27-38
Transfiguration Sunday March 2, 2025 <i>(Last Sunday before Lent)</i>	Exodus 34:29-35	Psalm 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

Lenten Season

A time for Prayer, Penance, & Alms Giving



Reconciliation Revival Renewal



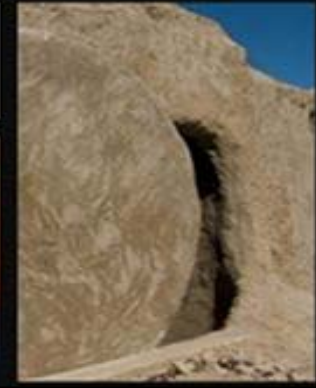
A F R I C A N M E T H O D I S T E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H

Lent Year A	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Ash Wednesday March 5, 2025	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or <i>Isaiah 58:1-12</i>	Psalm 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
First Sunday in Lent March 9, 2025	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
Second Sunday in Lent March 16, 2025	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Psalm 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)
Third Sunday in Lent March 23, 2025	Isaiah 55:1-9	Psalm 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
Annunciation of the Lord March 25, 2025	Isaiah 7:10-14	Psalm 45 or Psalm 40:5-10	Hebrews 10:4-10	Luke 1:26-38
Fourth Sunday in Lent March 30, 2025	Joshua 5:9-12	Psalm 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
Fifth Sunday in Lent April 06, 2025	Isaiah 43:16-21	Psalm 126	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8
Liturgy of the Palms April 13, 2025 <i>Sixth Sunday in Lent</i>		Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29		Luke 19:28-40
Liturgy of the Passion April 13, 2025 <i>Sixth Sunday in Lent</i>	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 22:14-23:56 or <i>Luke 23:1-49</i>

Italicized readings, complementary to the standard reading, may be used with, or in place of it.



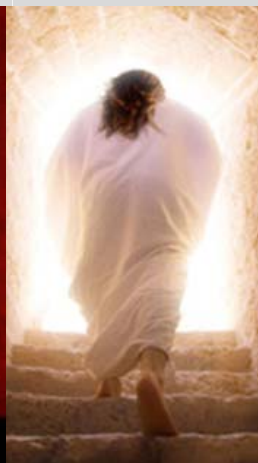
HOLY WEEK



Holy Week Year C	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Monday of Holy Week April 14, 2025	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalm 36:5-11	Hebrews 9:11-15	John 12:1-11
Tuesday of Holy Week April 15, 2025	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalm 71:1-14	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 12:20-36
Wednesday of Holy Week April 16, 2025	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 70	Hebrews 12:1-3	John 13:21-32
Maundy Thursday April 17, 2025 <i>Holy Thursday</i>	Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Good Friday April 18, 2025	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Psalm 22	Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9	John 18:1-19:42
Holy Saturday April 19, 2025	Job 14:1-14 or Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24	Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16	1 Peter 4:1-8	Matthew 27:57-66 or <i>John 19:38-42</i>

As evening approached,
there came a rich man from
Arimathea named Joseph,
who had himself become
a Disciple of Jesus.

Matthew 27:57



God Loves You This Much

50 DAYS TO *Pentecost*

Easter

CELEBRATE THE RISEN SAVIOR!

The Lord has risen indeed. Luke 24:34



Easter Year C	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Easter Vigil April 20, 2025	Old Testament Readings and Psalms † Genesis 1:1-2:4a and Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26 † Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13 and Psalm 46 † Genesis 22:1-18 and Psalm 16 † Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21 and Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18 † Isaiah 55:1-11 and Isaiah 12:2-6 † Baruch 3:9-15, 3:32-4:4 or Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6 and Psalm 19 † Ezekiel 36:24-28 and Psalm 42 and 43 † Ezekiel 37:1-14 and Psalm 143 † Zephaniah 3:14-20 and Psalm 98 New Testament Reading and Psalm † Romans 6:3-11 and Psalm 114			
Resurrection of the Lord April 20, 2025 <i>Easter Day</i>	* Acts 10:34-43 or <i>Isaiah 65:17-25</i>	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or <i>Acts 10:34-43</i>	John 20:1-18 or <i>Luke 24:1-12</i>
Easter Evening April 20, 2025	* Isaiah 25:6-9	Psalm 114	1 Corinthians 5:6b-8	Luke 24:13-49
Second Sunday of Easter April 27, 2025	* Acts 5:27-32	Psalm 118:14-29 or <i>Psalm 150</i>	Revelation 1:4-8	John 20:19-31
Third Sunday of Easter May 4, 2025	* Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)	Psalm 30	Revelation 5:11-14	John 21:1-19
Fourth Sunday of Easter May 11, 2025	* Acts 9:36-43	Psalm 23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
Fifth Sunday of Easter May 18, 2025	* Acts 11:1-18	Psalm 148	Revelation 21:1-6	John 13:31-35
Sixth Sunday of Easter May 25, 2025	* Acts 16:9-15	Psalm 67	Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5	John 14:23-29 or <i>John 5:1-9</i>
Ascension of the Lord May 29, 2025	* Acts 1:1-11	Psalm 47 or <i>Psalm 93</i>	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53
Seventh Sunday of Easter June 1, 2025 <i>(If Ascension not observed here)</i>	* Acts 16:16-34	Psalm 97	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	John 17:20-26

pentecost sunday

June 8, 2025
Readings will post soon

THE 2025 LITURGICAL COLOR CALENDAR for The African Methodist Episcopal Church

2025 LITURGICAL CALENDAR

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY

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23 ³⁰	24 ³¹	25	26	27	28	29

APRIL

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MAY

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JUNE

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29	30					

JULY

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 ³¹	25	26	27	28	29	30

SEPTEMBER

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER

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23 ³⁰	24	25	26	27	28	29

DECEMBER

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

COLORS FOR THE AME CHRISTIAN YEAR

In the Christian year of our church, we recognize two cycles: the Christmas Cycle (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany) and the Easter Cycle (Lent-Easter-Pentecost). Within each cycle are a preparatory season symbolized by the color purple and a festival season symbolized by the color white. Between each cycle follows an ordinary time of growth symbolized by the color green in the Seasons After the Epiphany and After Pentecost. Therefore, there is a sequence of seasons using purple, white, and green in that order twice each year.

PURPLE is a color of both penitence and royalty used during the preparatory seasons of Advent and Lent. Alternative colors of royal blue or violet may also be used during Advent.

WHITE and **GOLD** are joyous and festive colors used during the Christmas and Easter seasons (except on the Day of Pentecost) and in other seasons on festive days such as Baptism of the Lord, Transfiguration, Trinity, All Saints, and Christ the King. White may also be used at weddings. At services of Holy Communion white linens on top of the Lord's Table are the tradition of the AME Church, and are used on the first Sunday, regardless of the Holy Season that is celebrated. Therefore, even if the first Sunday of the month is the first Sunday of Advent, the color used in the pulpit remains white.

GREEN is a color of growth used in the Seasons After the Epiphany and After Pentecost, except when special days call for white or red.

RED is a color of fire, symbolizing the Holy Spirit. It is used on the Day of Pentecost and at other times when the work of the Holy Spirit is emphasized. Red is also the color of blood - the blood of Christ and the blood of martyrs. Because of its intensity, red is most effective when used occasionally rather than continuously for a whole season. It is appropriate for evangelistic services, for ordinations and consecration, for church anniversaries and homecomings, Founder's Day, and for civil observances such as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving. It may be used during Holy Week, beginning with Passion/Palm Sunday, to symbolize the blood of Christ.

BLACK is a color of death used on Good Friday and Holy Saturday and for funerals. Gray is its alternative.

Although the use of these colors is based on broad ecumenical tradition, other colors have been and are being used in Christian churches. Creativity and use of alternates with colors bring new meaning to the worship experience. Examples include African prints or variations, pink during the third week of Advent and black on Good Friday.

It is always a good policy when in doubt, to seek guidance from a presiding elder, senior pastor, Christian education director, or other person designated by the pastor. These persons will be helpful in providing information on appropriate colors for preparing the sanctuary.

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THE BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH LAY ORGANIZATION DEVOTIONAL | JANUARY 2025

501 West Orange Avenue | Tallahassee, Florida

The Reverend Michael Brian Price, M.Div., Senior Minister

Wednesday, *Justice* January 1, 2025

“Imani!”

“Coming up to them at that very moment, [Anna] gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.” – Luke 2:38 NIV

On Today, *Justice* January 1, 2025, persons across the African Diaspora are celebrating the last day of Kwanzaa. Established by Professor Maulana Karenga in 1966, Kwanzaa is a 7-day period set aside to reiterate and celebrate the continued work of building Black solidarity around the world. Today’s theme is “Imani,” which means faith. Within the Kwanzaa holiday context, Imani is faith in Black people and faith in the continued Black struggle for justice and equity. Despite Roman colonization, first century Afro-Asiatic Jews possessed “Imani” in their people and their freedom struggle as well. In their interpretations of Isaiah 9, Micah 5, Zechariah 9 and other Hebrew texts, they envisioned a divinely placed Jewish King who would overthrow the oppressive Roman Empire.

The first Sunday in *Justice* January is also the Second Sunday After Christmas on the Christian Liturgical Calendar. The concurrent Gospel reading is Luke 2:36-40, in Year C of the “Lectionary” found on page 795 of the *African Methodist Episcopal Church Hymnal*. In this prophetic passage, Joseph and Mary brought the baby Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem for consecration. There, they met, among other persons, Anna, a prophesying widow, who spent over half of her life in the temple courts praying and fasting. When Anna saw the baby Jesus, she told everyone assembled that he, Jesus, would bring redemption (deliverance) to Jerusalem. In Hebrew history, there had been a 400-year biblical gap between Malachi’s ministry and Matthew’s gospel, a time when some Jews believed that God was silent, because no significant revelations were written. However, Anna, a dutiful temple servant and visionary, possessed Imani, knowing that God was still working on behalf of her people.

In 2015, Harvard University Visiting Professor of Theology and African American Episcopal Priest, The Reverend Kelly Brown Douglas, Ph.D., successfully published *Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God*. In Dr. Douglas’ text, she examined the history of the “Stand Your Ground” western judicial premise, which she argued is central to the myth of Anglo-Saxon exceptionalism in America. Racist philosophers fused this myth into Christianity and American culture which brought about the genocide of millions of Black people, who dared to challenge the tenets of Stand Your Ground, from the 15th century to present. To honor the lives of the Gabriel Prossers, Denmark Vesseys, Trayvon Martins, and Sandra Blands of the past, Dr. Douglas asserted that, “This is a Kairos time. It is the time for each of us to be embodied realities of a black prophetic tradition and with moral memory, moral identity, moral participation and moral imagination begin to create the world we crave for our daughters and sons.” It is a world free of racist Stand Your Ground policies; a world where Black people can live in full freedom.

Over 2000 years ago at the height of the oppressive Roman Empire, Anna prophesied about the future work of the baby Jesus. In this ever-evolving, oppressive American Empire that we live in today, Dr. Douglas picks up this prophesy and show readers how Christ is, indeed, at work in the world today. In *Luke’s Gospel* and *Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God*, the quest for liberation is not unilateral – it is a collective movement. This revolutionary Jesus, of Anna’s prophesy, is alive in us through the Holy Spirit. To reimagine a redemptive world where a victorious, divinely inspired, anti-racist, anti-capitalist and anti-imperialistic movement, establishes free, safe and sustainable communities for historically marginalized people, we must possess *Imani*. Christians Activate! Selah.

The Bethel AME Church Lay Organization remains fully committed to the teaching, training and equipping of Methodists for liberating service in the church, community, country and world. Please join us at our next local Lay Meeting in The Efferson-Morgan Fellowship Hall of The Bethel AME Church on Tuesday, *Justice* January 21, 2025, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served. - Brother Kyle Harris, Ph.D., Contributor and Local Lay President

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[View this email in your browser](#)



TCR BREAKING NEWS



Breaking News: Episcopal Assignments for 2024-2028

Editor's Note: Due to a computer connection issue, an draft of the email was sent out sent out. When we were notified of the error, we attempted to correct it, but the connection cut out in the middle of our edits. Please accept our sincerest apologies.

Bishop Assignment Retirement Year

Bishop Wilfred J. Messiah 19th Episcopal District 2028

Bishop Paul J. M. Kawimbe 14th Episcopal District 2036

Bishop James L. Davis 7th Episcopal District 2028

Bishop David R. Daniels, Jr. Ecumenical Officer and Endorsing Agent 2032

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr. 1st Episcopal District 2036

Bishop Jeffery N. Leath, Sr. 16th Episcopal District 2032

Bishop Reginald T. Jackson 2nd Episcopal District 2028

Bishop Harry L. Seawright 13th Episcopal District 2032

Bishop Michael L. Mitchell 6th Episcopal District 2036

Bishop Ronnie E. Brailsford 10th Episcopal District 2032

Bishop Stafford J. N. Wicker 3rd Episcopal District 2036

Bishop Silvester S. Beaman 12th Episcopal District 2036

Bishop Marvin C. Zanders II 11th Episcopal District 2040

Bishop Francine A. Brookins 5th Episcopal District 2048

Bishop Frederick A. Wright 4th Episcopal District 2032

Bishop Erika D. Crawford 8th Episcopal District 2048

Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Jr. 9th Episcopal District 2044

Bishop Vernon R. Byrd, Jr. 17th Episcopal District 2032

Bishop Henry A. Belin III 15th Episcopal District 2040

Bishop Jeffrey B. Cooper II 18th Episcopal District 2032

Bishop Gregory V. Eason 20th Episcopal District 2036

Bishop E. Earl McCloud, Jr. Located 2028

Not on our list?

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The Lay Communiqué

The Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention Newsletter



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Opening Worship
Executive Board Meeting
First Timers Workshop

EEDLO OFFICERS

Bishop Frank Madison Reid III, Presiding Prelate
Mrs. Marlaa Hall Reid, Episcopal Supervisor
Patricia H. Wright, President
Teresa White, Director of Lay Activities
Ashley Blakely, Young Adult Representative
Robbyn Hopewell, Director of Public Relations
Reginald Hardee, Central Conference President

‘Floor-shaking’ worship opens EEDLO convention

An air of celebration filled the room. The choir sang. The floor shook. All this ushered in the 80th Annual Convention of the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization. On Tuesday night, delegates and guests gathered at the Opening Worship Service under the theme “8 Years of Grace: Navigating the Course Ahead.”

This marks Eleventh Episcopal District President and Connectional Lay Organization Director of Lay Activities Patricia Wright’s swan song as Episcopal President. She drew praise for her innovative leadership from Eleventh Episcopal District Presiding Prelate Bishop Frank Madison Reid, III.

Worship continues on reverse

Worship Continued

Setting the tone was a choir made up of members of the Central Annual Conference. "I Made it Out," "Jesus Is Mine, and "There Is No Other Way" inspired handclapping and singing along.

This paved the way for Bishop Reid to present the preached word. He charted his course from Mark 4:35-41. It tells the story of Jesus calming a storm on the Sea of Galilee. Bishop Reid talked about how navigation is necessary to "close out and cross over to the other side."

Bishop Reid took the navigation theme a bit further in talking about the voting strength of the Eleventh Episcopal District, especially when it comes to the upcoming General Conference in Columbus, Ohio. "Navigation demands that we be connected." He said, "If we are one in the spirit when we go to Columbus, we will elect two Bishops."

Bishop asked: "Do you care about your true self? When you care about God and care about others, then God makes you an unstoppable team." He then encouraged the congregation to read the book "Unstoppable Teams" by Alden Mills. It tells how to put together teams that can accomplish any objective.



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ORGANIZATION

THE LAY COMMUNIQUE STAFF

Robbyn Hopewell, EEDLO Director of Public Relations

Shrin Bryant, South Conference Central District Recording Secretary

LaTanya Cherry-Ginetta, Central Conference Director of Lay Activities

Joyce C. Pink, West Coast Conference Historiographer

Henry Love, Quincy/Monticello District Lay Organization President

Six first time attendees join the 'FamiLay' at opening workshop

Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization Director of Public Relations Robbyn Hopewell gathered with six first time attendees representing the Central, West Coast and Florida conferences in Salons 13 and 14 for the annual First-Timers Workshop. Attendees asked questions about the upcoming officers elections and got tips about lunches out, important reports and the voting process as well as a detailed explanation of the agenda of activities from June 18-21 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando, Florida. The new cohort was excited about the week of fellowship to come.



Executive Board meets to discuss election, anvil award and general conference information

Connection Lay Organization Director of Lay Activities and Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization President Patricia H. Wright called the EEDLO executive board to order at 2:16 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18 to illuminate the upcoming election process and other important information the would come before the full organization body during the 80th Annual EEDLO convention. Following robust discussion, the board voted to proceed with the recommended election process. The group also voted to allow the scholarship and awards committee to review and update the anvil award criteria.

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Lay Benevolence Service

EEDLO OFFICERS

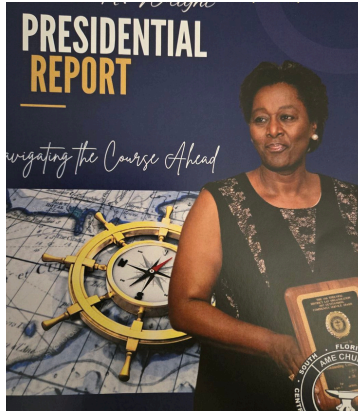
Bishop Frank Madison Reid III, Presiding Prelate
Mrs. Marlaa Hall Reid, Episcopal Supervisor
Patricia H. Wright, President
Teresa White, Director of Lay Activities
Ashley Blakely, Young Adult Representative
Robbyn Hopewell, Director of Public Relations
Reginald Hardee, Central Conference President

Three candidates vie for first vice president role

Wednesday's forum for the First Vice President position of the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization was charged with energy and anticipation. Three dynamic candidates—EEDLO Young Adult Representative Ashley Blakely, East Conference Lay Organization President Nicholas Causey, and EEDLO Second Vice President Lothar Cherry—each delivered compelling presentations and outlined their vibrant visions for the future.

Blakely kicked off the session with enthusiasm, emphasizing action and readiness. She passionately detailed her plans to boost membership and engage new groups, drawing from her 20-plus years of experience in teaching, mentorship, and fellowship.

Candidates continues on next page



EEDLO President Patricia H. Wright celebrates 8 years of grace in final report

When the slick blue booklets came out for distribution, convention attendees snapped them up like gold. It was another highly-produced, beautifully-appointed reminder of the eight years of excellence we've come to expect from Connectional Lay Organization Director of Lay Activities and outgoing Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization President Patricia H. Wright.

Wearing a boat captain's hat, President Wright detailed her term as the organization's eighth leader with a retrospective view of triumph for her final President's Message at the 80th Annual EEDLO Convention. A pandemic, which could have halted so many ministries, only served to catalyze and strengthen the EEDLO to stronger attendance and adoption of technology.

In addition to continuing the ministry virtually, President Wright also led a return to in-person meetings when the EEDLO hosted the Connectional Lay Organization Biennial in Orlando on the heels of the 2021 General Conference. Much of her work introduced the talent and training of the 11th Episcopal District to the world.

"For eight years, we have been charged, challenged and championed. We have been inspired, inspected and ignited. It has been my privilege, my honor, to be your president for eight years," President Wright said. "You have grown me. And certainly we hope that because our lives have intersected, you too have grown and been impacted in a meaningful way."

Candidates continued

Causey followed with a powerful recount of his lifelong dedication to service. From his days as a Marine to his extensive roles within the church, Causey's story is one of relentless commitment. His vision fosters collaboration and ethical leadership and combines with his rich experience.

Cherry concluded with highlighting her deep understanding of the organization as she spoke passionately about the importance of preparation and training. Her 36 years of educational experience added weight to her vision of moving forward together.

President Wright reminded everyone that the candidates strive to serve, not run against each other. "Because two people won't get the amount of votes to make them first vice president does not diminish their skills," she emphasized, highlighting the importance of unity. The EEDLO's future looks bright, driven by a collective commitment to growth and excellence.

Finance team presents budget for 2024-2028 term

Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization Treasurer Sharon Causey presented an operational budget for the 2024-2028 administrative years that anticipated significant growth. During Wednesday morning's business session of the 80th Annual EEDLO Convention, Presiding Officer EEDLO First Vice President John Love opened the floor for questions following Causey's thorough reading of the document formulated by the Committee on Stewardship and Finance.

EEDLO Second Vice President Lothar Cherry inquired about the \$2,000 allocated toward benevolence annually and if the organization had historically exceeded that amount. Causey explained that it depended on the year, but the record recently suggests no need to increase the allocated amount.

Causey's motion for the approval of the budget passed unanimously when the Chair Love called for the question.

Moving forward, the next administration is expected to increase revenues at the annual convention and retreat by \$5,000 and \$2,500, respectively. In turn, an additional \$10,000 a year will be allotted to the fees associated with the annual convention, specifically the event's planning.

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Rev. Dr. Julius McAllister Jr. greets the EEDLO ahead of General Conference

In a riveting address, Rev. Dr. Julius H. McAllister Jr. electrified the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization with his vision for leadership within the African Methodist Episcopal Church as a candidate for Bishop at the upcoming General Conference.

Speaking to an energized audience, the pastor of Bethel A.M.E. Church in Tallahassee outlined the essence of true leadership. "Leadership is about having a prophetic vision for the future and turning theory into action," he declared. His words met with applause. Rejecting self-centered leadership, he emphasized that genuine leaders are driven by a burning passion to make a difference.

Rev. McAllister championed investing in people over buildings, spotlighting his efforts in outreach, affordable housing, and addiction recovery in the Tallahassee area. "Leadership means making a prophetic investment in people," he asserted, drawing cheers of agreement.

"Together, we can climb any hill and coast down to a brighter future," he concluded.

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Henry Love, Quincy/Monticello District Lay Organization President

Health walk kicks off ministry of movement

While the early bird gets the worm, the early riser gets the exercise. At 5:45 a.m. walkers met in the lobby to stretch and prepare to hit the road. The sessions, which meet each morning of the convention, often turn into laps and laughter. So it has been with convention-goers since the leadership of Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization President Marian Bacon White.

"We came to one of the conferences, I think it was in Jacksonville, and I said, 'Madam President, we need to make sure we come to convention fit. Our bodies, our minds, everything.' " says Connie E. Jenkins-Pye of the Florida Conference. The women talked about health topics and "decided that they needed to get delegates up and moving," said Jenkins-Pye, the chair of the Health Committee who walks 5 miles a day. She says that everyone needs an exercise routine. "Just 30 minutes a day of some type of movement helps."



Lisa Thomas of the West Coast Conference made her first trek with the group on Wednesday. "They did it in the Bahamas, but I never got up early enough, so I made every effort to do this because I'm in a regular routine at home to walk three days a week. Since I'm at the convention this week, I wanted to do my three days." Thomas says she walks 3-and-a-half to 5 miles a day. "Walking with the group this morning, I was appreciative of the fellowship. That was a plus."

Lay Benevolence Service brings praise



In a night brimming with spiritual energy, Rev. Helen Johnson-Ford, the Pastor of New Bethel A.M.E. Church in Altamonte Springs, delivered an inspiring sermon at the Lay Benevolence Service centered on the theme "Ministry of Love." Rev. Johnson-Ford's message, anchored in Isaiah 61, radiated hope and assurance.

She spoke passionately about God's promise of "double for your trouble," reminding the congregation that despite life's trials, God's grace is abundantly rewarding.

Her recounting of the Lay Organization's history, marked by unwavering resilience and determination, served as a powerful reminder of the strength found in faith.

The service featured a moving Scripture reading from Colossians 1:3-14, emphasizing themes of steadfast faith, deep love, and continuous spiritual growth. The praise team's electrifying worship further ignited the congregation's spirit, turning the gathering into a joyous celebration of divine goodness.

Rev. Johnson-Ford's sermon was deeply moving, touching the hearts of all present. Her powerful words of encouragement and faith resonated with the congregation, inspiring them to reflect on their own spiritual journeys and the significance of love and service in their lives.

The night concluded on a high note, leaving the congregation with a renewed sense of community and spiritual rejuvenation. The service underscored the transformative power of love and service, reminding everyone of the profound impact of unwavering faith and the enduring promise of God's blessings.

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Banquet honors stalwart laity and stellar students

It was a night of surprises and honors as the the 80th Annual Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention held its Awards Banquet.

With the theme “Navigating Excellence,” master of ceremonies Connectional Lay Organization Chaplain Charlie Nichols guided the evening with inventive stories about the program participants and jokes for all to enjoy.

The heart of the evening was the awards presentations, which included six new recipients of the Selmo Bradley Scholarship, valued at \$2,000 per student.

Banquet continues on next page

Banquet continued

This year's deserving honorees were: Brooke Stakley, a member of the Florida Conference's Gregg Chapel A.M.E. Church in Fort Walton Beach; Shakari Bell, a member of the South Conference's Payne Chapel A.M.E. Church in West Palm Beach; Jade White, a member of the Central Conference's St. Mark A.M.E. Church in Orlando; Shanaya Brown, a member of the East Conference's Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church in Gainesville; Morgan Pratt, a member of the East Conference's St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Jacksonville; and Tamea Saunders, a member of the Bahamas Conference's Robinson-Morris A.M.E. Church in Nassau, Bahamas.

Following the scholarship presentations, two new members were inducted into the EEDLO Hall of Fame—Shirley Harris of Greater New Hope A.M.E. Church in Jacksonville and Florida Conference Lay Organization President Donald Russell.

EEDLO Second Vice President Lothar Cherry received the Community Service Award and Outstanding Clergy of the Year was awarded to Orlando District Presiding Elder Milton Broomfield.

Connectional Lay Organization Director of Lay Activities and outgoing EEDLO President Patricia H. Wright surprised West Coast Conference Lay Organization President Lolita D. Brown with the Excellence in Service Award. She also awarded the Soldier of the Cross Award to East Conference Lay Organization President Nicholas Causey and Donald Russell.

In between official awards, special presentations honoring the tenures of President Wright, EEDLO Director of Lay Activities Teresa White and Young Adult Representative Ashley Blakely were bestowed by officers from across the district. Current and past officers from the last eight years also received recognition.

THE LAY COMMUNIQUE STAFF

Robbyn Hopewell, EEDLO Director of Public Relations
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LaTonya Cherry-Ginetta, Central Conference Director of Lay Activities
Joyce C. Pink, West Coast Conference Historiographer
Henry Love, Quincy/Monticello District Lay Organization President



Incoming EEDLO officers share their visions for the future

Power Session 1 on Thursday was charged with energy and anticipation as incoming leaders—Young Adult Representative Dante Buckson, Director of Lay Activities Rhosonda Herring, and President John Love—delivered compelling presentations during the session titled "Navigating the Course Ahead: Beyond the Horizon." Attendees were left buzzing with enthusiasm for the future.

Buckson kicked off the session with heartfelt gratitude and infectious enthusiasm. He detailed his ambitious plans for the next four years, focusing on leadership development, intergenerational collaboration, professional growth, and robust membership retention. "We've got work to do, and together, we can make an impact!" Buckson declared. He also unveiled the theme for the young adult ministry: "Impact in Action."

Herring followed with vibrant energy. Her excitement was palpable as she outlined bold plans to foster leadership, creativity, faith, and faithfulness within the organization. Herring emphasized the importance of being advocates and leaders, creating an atmosphere of trust and collaboration. She promised dynamic activities designed to retain, recruit, and reclaim members, ensuring every voice is heard and valued.

Love concluded the session with a rousing speech that set the tone for his administration. With a blend of humor and earnest resolve, Love praised the outgoing leaders and committed to immediate and impactful action.



His charismatic delivery and bold plans invigorated the audience, making it clear that under his leadership, the organization is poised for greatness.

Power Session 1 concluded with unity and excitement, promising a dynamic, inclusive, and collaborative journey ahead. The energy in the room was electric, with members leaving inspired and ready to contribute to the organization's vibrant future.

Rev. Dr. Ronnie Clark addresses convention

Rev. Dr. Ronnie L. Clark, pastor of Hurst Chapel A.M.E. Church in Winter Haven, told the 80th EEDLO Convention that he has dedicated his life to transformational work—healing families and growing churches. That's why he is seeking Episcopal office. Rev. Clark touted his resume of establishing healthcare clinics in Polk County, providing care to 40,000 people, and helping pass laws to protect children and decriminalize poverty. His vision is to elevate his ministry, bringing transformational leadership to the A.M.E. Church at a higher level.



‘Hot Topics’ session sparks spirited debate among laity

On Thursday morning, the room was on metaphorical fire. Power Session II took on the subject “Hot Topics.” The hourlong discussion on sensitive subjects was facilitated by Connectional Lay Organization Director of Lay Activities and Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization President Patricia H. Wright, EEDLO DOLA Teresa White and EEDLO Young Adult Representative Ashley Blakley.

Topic 1: “Should General Conference delegates represent the interests of themselves, those who elected them or their Bishop?”

“We also are to respect constituted authority.” Someone added, “The Bishop and delegation have thought things through, we still have to think for ourselves.”

Topic 2: “When lay people have the knowledge, training and understanding, why do we quiet our voices when it’s time to speak up?”

Topic 3: What should the church’s stance be on same-sex commitment service?

Reference was made to legislation addressing those unions. “We can’t let what’s going on in society creep into church legislation. “God’s word still stands” Others invoked inclusion. “Jesus said to love everyone.” There was talk of sin by others and selected judgement.

Topic 4: How are friendships killing our church? What is causing us to ignore wrongdoing, create positions, show bias and grant privileges? Is being a minister a family business or a calling?

“Putting people in the wrong position is killing the church. Too often we don’t hold friends accountable.” The session ended with someone saying, “Blood is thicker than water. But we need to talk about the blood of Christ and the living water.”



Convention-goers vote electronically in new election procedure

Voting Day at the 80th Annual Convention of the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization began on Thursday morning with a primer on the voting process coming from Election Committee Chair Garian Cason of the East Conference.

Cason presented recommendations from the committee on how votes should be cast: electronically or by paper ballot. A motion was carried to use an electronic method involving iPads and laptops.

Bahamas Conference Lay Organization President Valderine Evans waited in the hall to point voters toward the hospitality suite that served as the secured polling place. Only additional members of the Election Committee (Wanda Berry Glover, West Coast Conference; Lonnie Ford, Central Conference; Stephanie Gilliam-Brown, South Conference; and Allen Owens, Florida Conference) and those in line to vote could enter the room. “It was very easy,” said Tangela Wilson of the Central Conference.

The polls closed at 1 p.m. Results will be announced on Friday.

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The Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention E-Newsletter



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Election Results
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EEDLO OFFICERS

Bishop Frank Madison Reid III, Presiding Prelate
Mrs. Marlaa Hall Reid, Episcopal Supervisor
John Love, President
Rhoshonda Herring, Director of Lay Activities
Dante Buckson, Young Adult Representative
Shrin Bryant, Director of Public Relations
Reginald Hardee, Central Conference President

New EEDLO executive board elected and installed at convention's end

After four rounds of voting, Lother Cherry was elected First Vice President of the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization at the 80th Annual Convention. The subsequent three rounds were needed because no candidate received a majority of the vote in the previous rounds.

Before voting began, Connectional Lay Organization First Vice President Dr. Henderson praised CLO Director of Lay Activities and outgoing EEDLO President Patricia Wright and members of the 11th District. In the first round on Thursday, 136 votes were cast."

Election continues on next page

Election continued

The results were: 55 votes (40.4%) for Ashley Blakely, 26 votes (19.1%) Nicholas Causey, and 55 votes (40.4%) for Lothar Cherry.

Dr. Henderson presided over the process that began on Friday morning and went into the early afternoon. Dr. Henderson declared all offices vacated, allowing for the final stage to begin.

In the second round, 109 votes were cast. The results were: 43 votes (39.8%) for Ashley Blakely, 17 votes (15.7%) Nicholas Causey, and 49 votes (45.4%) for Lothar Cherry.

In the third round, 105 votes were cast. The results were: 41 votes (39.05%) for Ashley Blakely, 13 votes (12.38%) Nicholas Causey, and 52 votes (49.52%) for Lothar Cherry.

After that round, a motion was made to follow Standing Rule #6, Section D, which allows reducing the number of candidates in a contested election by going to a simple majority vote after the first ballot.

In the fourth round, 100 votes were cast. The results were: 37 votes (37%) for Ashley Blakely, 6 votes (6%) Nicholas Causey, and 56 votes (56%) for Lothar Cherry. The results brought applause for the top vote-getter. Then ended with a motion that carried to award President Wright the title of President Emeritus.



2024-2028 EEDLO Executive Board

President: John Love, Florida Conference
1st Vice President: Lothar Cherry, Central Conference
2nd Vice President: Robbyn Hopewell, West Coast Conference
3rd Vice President: Esther Ferguson, Bahamas Conference
Recording Secretary: Phillis Filer, East Conference
Assistant Recording Secretary: Evelyn Odom, South Conference
Corresponding Secretary: Robyne L. Edwards, East Conference
Treasurer: Sharon Causey, East Conference
Financial Secretary: Annie G. McCelvy, Florida Conference
Parliamentarian: Rebecca D. Williams, West Coast Conference
Director of Lay Activities: Rhoshonda Herring, East Conference
Chaplain: LuCretia McBride, East Conference
Historiographer: Joyce Pink, West Coast Conference
Director of Public Relations: Shrin Bryant, South Conference
Young Adult Representative: Dante' Buckson, East Conference

THE LAY COMMUNIQUE STAFF

Shrin Bryant, EEDLO Director of Public Relations
Robbyn Hopewell, EEDLO Second Vice President
LaTonya Cherry-Ginetta, Central Conference Director of Lay Activities
Joyce C. Pink, EEDLO Historiographer
Henry Love, Quincy/Monticello District Lay Organization President

ELEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION
80TH ANNUAL CONVENTION, ORLANDO, 2024

SCAN ME!
TO TAKE THE SURVEY



HELP US IMPROVE THE CONVENTION EXPERIENCE BY TAKING A BRIEF SURVEY.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SURVEY WILL BE ENTERED IN A DRAWING TO WIN A GIVEAWAY FROM THE EEDLO CONVENTION.

EEDLO.ORG



Lay soldiers receive final memorials in annual ceremony

The EEDLO 80th Convention paused for a memorial service, led by Sister LuCretia A. McBride. The service, filled with hymns, prayers, and readings, honored the lives of the departed.

The program opened with "Down at the Cross," followed by Scripture readings from Psalm 90:1-6, 12; Romans 8:35-39; and John 14:27. Sharon Causey performed a solo, and Sister Peggy Rice Johnson delivered a poignant reading. A "Celebration of Life" PowerPoint presentation and candle lighting by Sister Lother Cherry added warmth.

Honored were:

Robert J. Wright Sr. - West Coast Conference
Denise Thompson Holmes - South Conference
Elzora White - West Coast Conference
David Turner - East Conference
Patricia Johnson - Central Conference
Winston McGill - Central Conference
Johnell Linton - Central Conference
Thomas Mitchell, Jr. - Central Conference
Murray Adams - Central Conference,
Lindsey Glenn - West Coast Conference
Janet Lee - West Coast Conference
Dr. Alma Hires - West Coast Conference
Dorothy Thomas - South Conference
Emma Oretha Brizilla Kelly - Bahamas Conference
Katherine Inez Petty - Bahamas Conference

The service concluded with a bell ringing for each, Sister Barbara Patterson's closing prayer, and the hymn "When We All Get to Heaven."



South Conference Lay reminds us 'How Sweet It Is' in host presentation

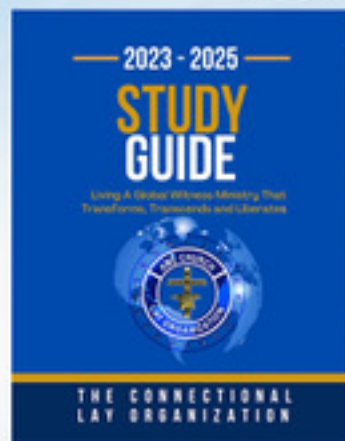
During the final session of the EEDLO 80th Convention, the South Conference Lay Organization made a memorable presentation with a heartfelt serenade to the tune of "How Sweet It Is." South Conference Lay President Evelyn Odom delivered the spoken part, welcoming everyone on behalf of the organization and inviting them home to the South Conference in 2025. The tailored lyrics emphasized the South's welcoming spirit and readiness to host next year's event. The chorus, "We just want to stop and thank you, Laity," resonated deeply, setting a sweet tone for the convention and highlighting the organization's dedication and unity.





THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION
OF THE AME CHURCH

Announces



THE 2023-2025 STUDY GUIDE

A COLLECTIVE EFFORT FROM LAITY
AND CLERGY, THE 2023-2025 STUDY
GUIDE IS A MUST-HAVE EDITION!

The guide intentionally focuses on the connectional theme of transforming, transcending and liberating and contains perspectives from diverse voices of the church. Additionally, the guide contains recommended tips or strategies to assist with growing your local lay organization. It also contains "Stalwart Lay Soldiers" which lifts and pays homage to lay soldiers both living and transitioned.

Cost \$25.00 + \$6.00 shipping/handling

**Avoid Shipping and Handling costs and
Pick your copy up at the 2023 Biennial Convention!**

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www.ameclay.org/shop (Limited Copies Available)**

Connectional Lay Organization Theme

“Living a Global Witness Ministry That Transforms, Transcends and Liberates”

The Scriptural Reference: Luke 4: 18-19

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Living a Global Witness Ministry means that we intentionally, on purpose, in an unabashed way, in a public way, in a relational way, desire to bring witness that is different, daring, innovative, engaging and liberating.

We serve a church that spans 39 countries, 5 continents, speaks countless languages, is governed by democracy, aristocracy, monarchy amid a plethora of cultures and yet believes in **THE SAME GOD**. We are separated by miles, resources, agendas, political interests and for the past 18 months we can add pandemic to the mix of reasons that we are apart. We have been kept together through the innovation of technology, the willingness to transform to a different way of thinking and worshipping and witnessing. We have had to transcend the usual way of doing things so that all could be privileged to a liberating gospel. We as the Organized Lay Organization have had to step up and be demonstrative of the outcomes we are desirous of seeing. In other words, Living A Global Witness Ministry That Transforms, Transcends and Liberates is where our mission rests.

Living A Global Witness Ministry that Transforms is real life ministry. Everybody seems to be using the word “transformation” to describe the impact of what they are doing. There is transformational leadership, transformational management, transformational development, transformational business, transformational care, transformational learning, transformational marketing!

Living A Global Witness Ministry that Transcends goes beyond borders and boundaries. It is the charge and chance for us to extend ourselves beyond our comfort zones to communicate and create avenues that will reach generations, open minds and activate people to engage in a unifying work.

Living A Global Witness Ministry that Liberates frees one to be liberal in praise, in service and witness. The gospel is a message of freedom and liberation — the ministry of Jesus was that of liberating captives. The gospel tells us that it is through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that we can courageously leave our comfort zones to reach, teach, preach and serve others just like Christ did in the synagogues.

AS YOU PLAN YOUR LAY PROGRAM...

Use the Connectional Theme in your programs. The artistic rendering that supports the theme is included here. It is NOT the lay Logo, but a rendering. Feel free to use it, coupled with the theme, as you plan your lay programs.

In planning your lay programs and activities try to incorporate the theme or components thereof as a way to continuously keep persons aware of it.



This is the Lay Logo.
It is the **ONLY** Lay Logo. It does not change.

Artistic rendering for the Current Connectional theme.
It is **NOT** the Lay Logo!



The Bishop is on the MOVE...



The itinerancy is a traveling ministry. It is the portal through which the clergy moves. In the AME Church one thing that is certain is that movement will occur within the leadership of our Zion. Nothing makes that point more clearly than a review of what will and may occur in 2024 with mandated movement for over 55% of the Bishops in AME Church.

Indicated with **GREEN shaded box** below are moves that must occur in 2024. A **RED shaded box** indicates no move is mandated but one can still occur. The Ecumenical and Located Bishop may also impact the assignment rotation. 2024 will be a time of Episcopal Moves. Stay Tuned!!!

Mandated Movement				
YES	NO	DISTRICT	Bishop	NOTE
		1	Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Sr.	Retirement Date 2024
		2	Bishop James Levert Davis	8 Year Law
		3	Bishop E. Earl McCloud Jr.	Assigned - GC 2021
		4	Bishop John Franklin White	Retirement Date 2024
		5	Bishop Clement W. Fugh	Retirement Date 2024
		6	Bishop Reginald T. Jackson	8 Year Law
		7	Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green Sr.	8 Year Law
		8	Bishop Stafford J. N. Wicker	Assigned - GC 2021
		9	Bishop Harry Lee Seawright	8 Year Law
		10	Bishop Adam J. Richardson Jr.	Retirement Date 2024
		11	Bishop Frank Madison Reid III	Retirement Date 2024
		12	Bishop Michael Leon Mitchell	8 Year Law
		13	Bishop E. Anne Henning-Byfield	Retirement Date 2024
		14	Bishop Paul J.M. Kawimbe	Assigned - GC 2021
		15	Bishop Silvester S. Beaman	Assigned - GC 2021
		16	Bishop Marvin Clyde Zanders II	Assigned - GC 2021
		17	Bishop David Rwhynica Daniels	Assigned - GC 2021
		18	Bishop Francine A. Brookins	Assigned - GC 2021
		19	Bishop Ronnie E. Brailsford Sr.	Assigned - GC 2021
		20	Bishop Frederick Allen Wright	Assigned - GC 2021
		Ecumenical	Bishop Jeffrey Nathaniel Leath	Assigned - GC 2021
		Located	Bishop Wilfred Jacobus Messiah	Assigned - GC 2021