



**THE BISHOP'S
QUADRENNIAL REPORT To
THE 50th SESSION OF
THE GENERAL CONFERENCE**



**QUADRENNIAL REPORT OF
THE MID-ATLANTIC II EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
To the
50th SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE**



Holy Greetings:

Mr. Chairman, colleagues on the Board of Bishops, General Officers, Executive Board of the WH&OM Society, Judicial Council, Presiding Elders, Pastors, Delegates, Friends of Zion Methodism, and visiting clergy assembled here, I greet you in the mighty and matchless name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

The opening of the 50th session of the General Conference represents a historic milestone for our beloved church and for me. First, we must pause to reflect on the awesome legacy of James Varick and those who affirmed the principle that “black lives matter” long before it became a popular slogan or rallying cry of a part of today’s civil rights movement. By God’s grace and divine providence, their exodus from the John Street Church marked the beginning of a long and storied history which today we celebrate. This General Conference also marks two major milestones in my own life and ministry—my 24th year in the episcopacy in the A. M. E. Zion Church and, when this session closes, my retirement as an active bishop in our great Zion. My prayer remains that my ministry as a bishop has made a real difference in the life of our church and His kingdom.

The A. M. E. Zion Church is the church of my birth and my nurturing. I am who and what I am, in large part, because of this church. Over the years, we have witnessed God’s grace and mercy over and over again. In spite of changes, challenges, controversies and conundrums, we have emerged stronger and victorious because of His faithfulness. My love for this Church has grown beyond words to describe.

My thanks to my colleagues on the Board of Bishops who have given so much of themselves over the last four years to steer the Old Ship of Zion safe into harbor.

The Bishop’s Family – Proverbs 31:10 poses the question “*Who can find a virtuous woman?*” and, after 50 years of having “Georgia on my mind,” my answer without equivocation is “I CAN!” Mrs. Georgia, as my partner in marriage and ministry, you are aptly described in that same text, most notably in verse 29 “*Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.*” Thank you—for your love, faithfulness and commitment. The extraordinary support that you have given to me, our family, and every church, district and episcopal area that we have served including the Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District is nothing short of amazing. It has been my great joy watching you grow and excel in your own ministry as a missionary supervisor. As we conclude our work in active ministry, I thank God that we are doing so just as we started out—together! To my daughter Kerri, son, Richard II, son-in-law, the Rev. Keith Tillet, our grandchildren, Laci, Lawrence, Kyndal and Keith, II, Papa loves you all. You reflect God’s richest blessings towards me. I am so proud of who you are becoming by God’s grace.

The Presiding Elders – Many thanks to the Presiding Elders of the Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District for their commitment, creativity and competent management of the work. Their impact relative to our ability to fulfill the mission of the church and wisely manage the resources that God has entrusted to us is nearly inestimable. It also affirms the need for a management team that is strong, skilled and able to aptly interpret the vision and heart of the bishop, support pastors and encourage and strengthen local congregations. The Presiding Elders in Mid-Atlantic II are among Zion's most erudite and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve with them all. They have been an integral part of the team and helped to make our service throughout the quadrennial a source of joy.

The Pastors – The pastors, our key people on the ground, give so much to advance the Kingdom of God and move our churches forward. The pastors in the Mid-Atlantic II District are gifted, committed and progressive. Their willingness to sacrifice for the greater good and God's glory inspired me over and over again. While we have surely come through "many dangers, toils and snares" we can affirm that it was God's amazing grace that kept us in the midst of it all. Thank you, for your dedicated service. I pray that God will bless each of you today and always. I have every confidence that you will support the new bishop in the same spirit of excellence that you have afforded me, that the Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District will remain one of the preeminent districts in our Zion and that the people all across this great district both stateside, in St. Vincent and South Africa, will continue to sing the songs of Zion until that day when we will all gather in that city called Zion.

WH&OM Society – The Missionary Supervisor, Mrs. Georgia Thompson, and district officers continue to give exemplary leadership to the women of Mid-Atlantic II. As a result of their dedicated service, this area shines bright in every area of mission work as they work tirelessly to win the world for Christ. We are especially proud that one of the most prominent lay leaders in this district, Sis. Renee Felton Pullen was elected Second Vice President during this quadrennial. Thank you ladies, for your faithfulness to God's call to the ministry of missions.

Christian Education – Our ability to fulfill the Great Commission—that we "go and make disciples"—is predicated on our ability to evangelize and equip those we reach which means that Christian Education is the life blood of the church. While preaching draws us from the world, it is Christian Education that teaches us what it means to live as Christ taught and God commands. Our conference and district workers have provided excellent leadership and programming in Christian Education. Truthville—now a denomination-wide phenomenon—was birthed in the Philadelphia Baltimore Conference. Today, many of the young people who were teenagers during the early stages of Truthville are rising leaders in the conference and our Zion. We are so proud of the work that they do and the new generation of young people who love God, our Zion and Christian Education. I am especially glad that the Rev. Kathryn G. Brown, General Secretary, Christian Education, was elected to that office from and still calls Mid-Atlantic II her home. Her creativity, ready embrace of youth and young adults and willingness to grapple with the challenges of serving this present age remind us that God still calls us to serve for "such a time as this."

Sons of Varick – Many thanks to Rev. Dr. Timothy Freeman, Rev. Scot C. Moore and all of the District and Conference Leaders, for their leadership, creativity and sense of purpose in growing the Sons of Varick ministry in Mid-Atlantic II. Men’s Night Out is held on a Friday night preceding one of the check-up meetings in each of our conferences. This effort has proven an effective and meaningful program to corral the men for training and fellowship. Our emphasis on spiritual, physical and mental health continues to bless the brothers of the Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal district as the program takes root in local churches and throughout the presiding elder districts.

It is my sincere prayer that this ministry continues to grow and expand—the future of our church and communities is at stake. More specifically, I urge the continued focus on the early detection and treatment of prostate cancer. For African American men, this is an urgent health issue. Additionally, I believe the Sons of Varick ministry must develop and maintain a viable men’s mentoring initiative whereby mature Christian men will teach our boys and young men how to be successful as a Christian man. The truth is that some young man’s life is depending on it!

Laity – The Lay ministry is growing in the Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District. Our conference, district and local directors of the laity are the best found anywhere in and beyond Zion. They have worked diligently to fulfill the mandate of this department. They are loyal, faithful and committed to increasing both the number and level of engagement of lay people into their movement. Experience has taught me that the stronger the pew, the stronger the pulpit and vice versa. May God continue to bless the laity in all of their efforts.

Leadership Institute and Ordination Services – In the 2012-2016 quadrennial, this District has held its ordination service in conjunction with our annual Leadership Training Institute (LTI). This model proved to be a dynamic and effective learning tool and served to knit the Episcopal district more closely together. The Holy Orders Committee, comprised of Elders from across the Episcopal district, worked collaboratively to prepare all candidates for ordination. Those preachers received the benefit of getting to know one another, the conferences and the people were blessed.

The Matter Involving from the Heart Ministries – After years of financial strain and uncertainty, the matter involving From the Heart Ministries is concluded. All issues related to the dispensation of all of the real and personal property—the source of much contention—are fully settled. In spite of the very distressing circumstances that led to this matter, we have seen God’s grace and mercy on full display. The strength of our connectional church was tested and affirmed. We have also developed a better understanding of the need to properly steward and safeguard the resources entrusted to us. In the end, God has blessed us—through it all.

My sincere prayer is that we will remain mindful of these words found in II Corinthians 5:18-19 *“Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.”* In spite of our differences, we are yet brothers and sisters in Christ and maintaining the bond of love and mutual affection must be given place in our hearts.

Acknowledgements - I owe a debt of gratitude to so many people whose support and encouragement have meant so much to the work of the Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District, namely: Rev. Dr. Rita J. Colbert, our Administrative Elder; Ms. Shannon Bracey, our office secretary; Ms. Asia Johnston, our office clerk; Mrs. Gladys Felton (our “girl Friday”), Mrs. Barbara Johnson, Mrs. Delores Lancaster, Mrs. Barbara Murray and Mrs. June Slade Collins, our Office Volunteers; Ms. Renee Felton Pullen, Financial Secretary; the Rev. Dr. Timothy Freeman who assumed the position of Financial Secretary following Sis. Pullen’s election to the WH & OM Society Executive Board; the late Rev. Dr. John W. Kennedy, who was a capable and committed Treasurer; the Rev. Michael King who accepted the mantle as Treasurer; the Rev. Dr. Alvin T. Durant, Finance Chair and Dean of the Leadership Training Institute and countless others who went the extra mile for our Episcopal operations.

Conclusion – As I make my final report as an active bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, I want to thank the Episcopal Committee for their confidence in me through the assignment to the Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District. Their action allowed me to conclude my service to this great church in the area from which I was elected to the office of bishop. It is one of the noble and historic assignments in our church with the city of brotherly love, Maryland’s Eastern shore, the metro Washington DC region, St. Vincent and South Africa within her bounds. The people are progressive, proud and productive. Their love for and loyalty to our Zion is unequivocal and without equal. My life has been made richer through this opportunity for service.

I end my sixth and final report the same way that I concluded my last five, by using the same scripture that God gave me for my trial discourse, on Easter Sunday in 1964 at the Marable Memorial A. M. E. Zion Church in Kannapolis, NC, found in the gospel of John 9:4, ***“I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day, the night cometh when no man can work.”*** The work God gave me in this ministry as a bishop has been among the most challenging and the most rewarding in my entire ministry. As I reflect on the past quadrennial, I can clearly see the imprint of God’s hand on our Zion, the Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District and my own ministry. By His help, we have accomplished more than we may have thought possible at the outset of the last four years and we praise God for His grace, mercy and faithfulness towards us.

Still, the work of the Mid-Atlantic II District is by no means finished; rather, it is ripe with possibilities for transformation and greater impact. With dramatic and rapid changes in society, changes in the geographic boundaries and racial/ethnic composition of our neighborhoods and communities the opportunities for us to develop new strategies and plant new societies abound. Ultimately, we realize that this is God’s church and the work that we do is His. If we are to be effective, we must be sure that He is always guiding us in where we are stationed and in all that we attempt to do.

More than 50 years ago, I promised the Lord that I would work until my day is done, when I cease from all sorrow, and there will be no tomorrow, I will work until my day is done. Beloved Zion, I just want to hear Him say “*WELL DONE!*” I close with a verse and the refrain of “*No, Never Alone*” (Lyrics by Ludie D. Pickett – 1897)

*I've seen the lightning flashing; I've heard the thunder roll.
I've felt sin's breakers dashing, which almost conquered my soul.
I've heard the voice of my Savior, bidding me still to fight on.
He promised never to leave me, never to leave me alone!*

*No, never alone, no never alone,
He promised never to leave me,
He'll claim me for His own;
He promised never to leave me,
No, never to leave me alone,
He promised never to leave me,
Never to leave me alone.*

Submitted by
Richard K. Thompson, Bishop
86th in Line of Succession
Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District

NECROLOGY (Clergy)

Reverend Albert Kaiser, Presiding Elder
Reverend Dr. John W. Kennedy, Presiding Elder

Reverend Lorraine Brooks
Reverend Eddie Lee Carter
Reverend Manford Carter
Reverend A. C. Cook, Jr.
Reverend Dr. Vaughn Eason
Reverend Rosclyn Massey
Reverend Blanch McAllister
Reverend Kenneth Newman
Reverend Geraldine J. Russell
Reverend Withrow Stockton
Reverend Robert Thompson
Reverend Charlotte Wisher

(District Officers)

Ms. Roxie P. Connelly
Ms. Louise A. Covington
Mrs. Sylvia Dark
Mrs. Nellie Dudley
Mrs. Annie Pollard

**CONFERENCES, CHURCHES AND PASTORS
EAST TENNESSEE-VIRGINIA CONFERENCE**

(Bluefield District)

Rev. Adolphus Young, Presiding Elder

Clincho – Rev. Justin Preston, Pastor
First Church (Bluefield) – Rev. Justina Young, Pastor
First Church (Lovingston) – Rev. Reginald Jones, Pastor
Lebanon – Rev. Jimmy Ellis, Pastor
Longs Chapel – Rev. Jimmy Ellis, Pastor

Price Memorial – Rev. Alonzo Smith, Pastor
Tynes Chapel – Rev. Marvienne Johnson, Pastor

(Bristol District)

Rev. Charles A. Hawkins, Presiding Elder

Bethel – Rev. Charles A. Hawkins
Brown's Chapel – Rev. Jeanette Clark
Harris-Anderson – Rev. Todd French
Hood Memorial – Rev. James Reddick
Jones Memorial – Rev. James Snapp
Robinson Memorial – Rev. Irving Greene
Zion Hill – Rev. Robin Arnett

(Johnson City District)

Rev. James Riddick, Presiding Elder

Blackman Chapel – Rev. Justin Preston, Pastor
Goode Temple – Rev. Sandra Jones, Pastor
Jonesboro – Rev. Juanita Greene, Pastor
Lyons Chapel – Rev. Joseph Comage, Pastor
Petersburg – Rev. Ernest Easterly, Pastor
Russell Chapel – Rev. Pamela Hoard, Pastor
Saint Paul – Rev. Juanita Greene, Pastor
White Memorial – Rev. George Kukubor, Pastor

Williams Chapel – Rev. Sandra Jones, Pastor

PHILADELPHIA BALTIMORE CONFERENCE

(Baltimore District)

Rev. Lowell Williams, Presiding Elder

Abundant Life - Rev. Jonathon Counts, Pastor
Amazing Grace - Rev. Louis Baker, Jr., Pastor

Charity - Rev. Faith Savoy, Pastor
Clinton - Rev. T. K. Venable, Pastor
Damascus - Rev. Raymond Butler, Pastor
Emmanuel - Rev. Alfred Ainooson, Pastor
First Agape - Rev. Edgar S. Bankhead, Pastor
Freedom Temple - Rev. Dr. Frances M. Draper, Pastor
Judah Temple - Rev. Scot C. Moore, Pastor
Mount Sinai - Rev. Clyde Witherspoon, Pastor
Oak Grove - Rev. Dr. Kennard Stevenson, Pastor
Patterson-Asbury - Rev. Dr. Leslie Barnett Davis, Pastor
Pennsylvania Avenue - Rev. Dr. Lester A. McCorn, Pastor
Saint John (Odenton) - Rev. Dr. Wilmer T. Frazier, Pastor
Scotland - Rev. Adrian V. Nelson, II, Pastor
S. G. Spottswood - Rev. Dr. Paul S. Hoggard, Pastor

(Harrisburg District)

Rev. Leslie Wilson, Presiding Elder

Fawn - Rev. Samuel Means, Pastor
Genesis - Rev. Daisy Woodard, Pastor
Harris - Rev. Timothy Chambers, Pastor
John Wesley (Chambersburg) - Rev. Dr. Allie Harper, Jr., Pastor
Maple Street - Rev. Leslie E. Wilson, Pastor
Mount Tabor - Rev. Dr. James Simmons, Pastor
New Jerusalem - Rev. Darryl Taylor, Pastor
Saint James (Allentown) - Rev. Thomas E. Sweatt, Pastor
Saint John (Bethlehem) - Rev. Gracher Selby, Pastor
Saint Paul (Gettysburg) - Rev. Dr. Donald Thurston, Pastor
Small Memorial - Rev. Samuel Means, Pastor

Wesley Union - Rev. Willie Dixon, Pastor

West Street - Rev. Vearnol Hazel, Pastor

(Northern Virginia District)

Rev. Dr. Monica Hargrove, Presiding Elder

Alleyne – Rev. Quintin Borders, Pastor
Grace Memorial – Rev. Dr. Tresa Scott Turner, Pastor
Lomax – Rev. Samuel Whittaker, Pastor
New Covenant – Rev. Quincy Ponder, Pastor
New Revelation – Rev. Victor Harding

(Philadelphia-Eastern Shore District)

Rev. Dr. William E. Kelly, Presiding Elder

Alleyne Memorial - Rev. Jeffrey Ruffin, Pastor

Liberating Power - Rev. Dr. Reginald J. Chandler, Sr., Pastor
Mount Hope - Rev. Leon Copeland, Pastor
New Hope Mission - Rev. Anthony Easton, Pastor
Saint James (Salisbury) - Rev. Dr. David McLendon, Sr., Pastor
Saint James/Varick - Rev. Damon Carver, Pastor
Saint John (Ross Point) - Rev. Ida Ositelu, Pastor
Saint Mark - Rev. Sandra Reed, Pastor
Saint Paul (Media) - Rev. Patrick Barrett, III., Pastor
Saint Paul (Salisbury) - Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Tucker, Pastor
Scott - Rev. Dr. Gloria Morris Snipes, Pastor
Trinity (Delta) - Rev. Charles Smith, Pastor
Union - Rev. Leo McNeil, Pastor
Wallace Temple - Rev. Doradean Johnson, Pastor
Wesley - Rev. Michael King, Pastor

(Washington District)

Rev. Dr. Rita J. Colbert, Presiding Elder

Beth Shalom – Rev. Dr. Darrell J. Gaskin, Pastor
Contee – Rev. Dr. Myrtle Bowen, Pastor
Deliverance Temple – Rev. W. Ray W. Douglas, Jr., Pastor
Full Gospel – Rev. David R. DeVerteuil, Pastor
Galbraith – Rev. Fredrick B. Massey, Pastor
John Wesley – Rev. Dr. Vernon A. Shannon, Pastor
Metropolitan Wesley – Rev. Dr. Heath Cheek, Pastor
North Brentwood – Rev. Brandon Pennix, Sr., Pastor
R. L. Jones – Rev. William Dent, Pastor
St. Lucille – Rev. Dr. Lewis M. Anthony, Pastor
Sons and Daughters in Christ – Rev. Eddie Scarborough, Pastor
Trinity – Rev. Dr. Timothy L. Freeman, Pastor
Union Wesley – Rev. Dr. Alvin T. Durant, Pastor
Varick Memorial – Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, Pastor

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

(Newport News District)

Rev. Dr. Vincent Jones, Presiding Elder

Beulah Land – Rev. Joseph Whitney, Pastor
Cuffee Chapel – Rev. Coston Griffin, Pastor
David Temple – Rev. Vanessa Hicks, Pastor
Greater Walters – Rev. Dr. Kenneth W. Arrington, Pastor
Hickory Grove – Rev. Vanessa Hinton, Pastor

Mars Hill – Rev. Kenneth Zollicoffer, Pastor
New Life Mission – Rev. Andrea James, Pastor
O’Berry – Rev. Dale Seaborne, Pastor
Piney Grove – Rev. Bettie Bradley, Pastor
Saint Luke – Rev. Joseph Perry, Pastor
Saint Mark – Rev. Willmers Williams, Pastor
Saint Mary - Rev. Yolanda Buck, Pastor
Walters Temple – Rev. Linda Stevenson, Pastor
Zion Southampton – Rev. Christopher Eason, Pastor

(Norfolk District)

Rev. Kenneth Crowder, Presiding Elder

Brighton Rock – Rev. Brenda E. Jones, Pastor
Gabriel Chapel – Rev. Alphonso Griffin, Pastor
Gilmerton Star – Rev. Tonya Pass, Pastor
Greater Metropolitan – Rev. Adrian Wyrick, Pastor
Hood Chapel – Rev. Samuel Warren, Pastor
Metropolitan A.M. E. Zion Church – Rev. Dr. Kevin W. McGill, Pastor
New Foreman Temple – Rev. Alvania Eason, Pastor
New Saint Thomas – Rev. Sharon Hall, Pastor
Providence – Rev. Bristol Elliott, Pastor
Red Oak Grove – Rev. Brandon Praileau, Pastor
Saint John – Rev. Joseph Whitney, Pastor
Saint Joseph – Rev. Sandi Hutchinson, Pastor
Saint Thomas (Norfolk) – Rev. Dr. Joseph E. Lamb, Pastor
Sycamore Hill – Rev. Samuel Warren, Pastor
Walton Grove – Rev. Lawrence Chambers, Jr., Pastor
Wesley Union – Rev. Willmers Williams, Pastor

(Petersburg District)

Rev. Dr. Medis W. Cheek, Presiding Elder

Blackwell Temple – Rev. Robert Thompson, Pastor
Greater Faith – Rev. Audrey Jones, Pastor
Hood Temple – Rev. Tony Henderson, Pastor
Madison Temple – Rev. Sheryl Murdaugh, Pastor
Mount Zion – Rev. Geraldine Booth, Pastor
Oak Street – Rev. Rebecca Branch Griffin, Pastor
Paradise – Rev. Charles Turner, Pastor
Saint Peters – Rev. Sheryl Murdaugh, Pastor
Saint Paul – Rev. Alma C. Charles, Pastor
Taylor’s Chapel – Rev. Randy Kiah, Pastor
White Rock – Rev. John Conwell, Pastor
Zion Chester – Rev. Dr. Lorenza R. Meekins, Pastor

SAINT VINCENT CONFERENCE
(Layou District)
Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, Presiding Elder

Faith Pentecostal - Rev. Marsden Sam, Pastor
Full Spirit - Rev. Terron James, Pastor
Shiloh - Rev. Winston Gaymes, Pastor

SOUTH AFRICA CONFERENCE
Eastern/West Cape - East London
(Gauteng District)
Rev. Frans Kompate, Presiding Elder

Faith – Rev. A. Komape, Pastor
True Life in Jesus – Rev. G. Mboma, Pastor
Yeoville – Rev. S. Kendagor, Pastor

(Limpopo District)
Rev. Jerry Mankuru, Presiding Elder

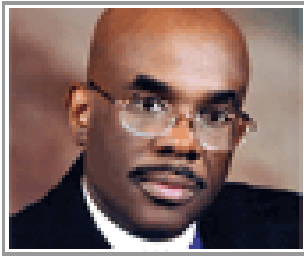
E. B. Rochester Memorial – Rev. M. J. Mobatja, Pastor
Ebenezer – Rev. M. J. Mankuru, Pastor
Fellowship – Rev. J. M. Mankuru, Pastor
Lerato – Rev. J. Chokwe, Pastor
Miracle – Rev. N. Maphoto, Pastor
Salvation – Rev. J. M. Mankuru, Pastor
Samuel Chapel – Rev. E. Dipela-Setati, Pastor
Shiloh – Rev. J. M. Mabatja, Pastor
Unity – Rev. F. Mabutla, Pastor

ZIMBABWE CONFERENCE
(Sarare District)
Rev. David Raphulo, Presiding Elder

Arise and Shine - Rev. Tinei Jimu, Pastor
Promise - Rev. Trust Magago, Pastor
Resurrection - Rev. Ephison Chihwehwete, Pastor

NEW CONGREGATIONS
New Covenant – Rev. Cheryl James
New Revelation – Rev. Victor Harding
The Northeastern Episcopal District
New York, Western New York and London-Midland
Bishop Roy Anderson Holmes (Deceased)
Bishop Dennis V. Proctor, Presiding

**THE NORTHEASTERN EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
NEW YORK, WESTERN NEW YORK AND LONDON-MIDLAND
BISHOP ROY ANDERSON HOLMES (DECEASED)
BISHOP DENNIS V. PROCTOR, PRESIDING**



Reverend Servants, Missionary Supervisors, General and Connectional officers, College and Seminary Presidents, distinguished guests, ministers of every rank, loyal laity, delegates, visitors, “Time is filled with swift transition, naught on earth unmoved can stand, build your hopes on things eternal, hold to God’s unchanging hand!” Bishop Hines and I, stand at the helm of this historic and prolific district in the stead of our friend, the late

Bishop Roy Anderson Holmes. Who stretched his hands to the Almighty, for there was no other help he knew, who could span the gap that existed between earth to glory!! His pride and promise. receiving the assignment to the mother, the earliest conferences of our Zion, is still applauded and appreciated by those of us who knew him. He came to the work with Scripture, a slogan, “AIR” Accountability, Integrity, Responsibility, and a song!

As my successor in the Western Episcopal District, we conferred regularly about the work assigned to my hands. And then as a son of the Empire State, and a student of the people, places and problems, resident in the Northeast, we continued our constructive and honest conversations! So much so we discussed the budgets, buildings, brothers and sisters of his new found area at 10 pm on the night before his transition! He left behind his “Nefertiti” Mrs. Lovetta Jean Holmes and his lovely ladies, Kim, Krista and Princess Niya. But we pray, that they have found that the tie that bound him to us, still binds them to us today! On every occasion whether official or unofficial, they have represented “Greenwood Mississippi’s gift to Zion.” And today we stand upon the foundation that he laid, without the need or desire to alter it at all.

My wife and Mrs. Holmes have exemplified the “sister girlfriend” camaraderie that extends beyond Alpha Kappa Alpha, allowing the work of Missionary Society and the work of the Episcopal Area, to proceed seamlessly!

To God be the Glory!

You will hear the synopsis of the Missionary work momentarily, but allow me to thank my wife and the Alabama-Florida Episcopal District for allowing me to make the necessary adjustments of time and travel to adequately superintend the additional work assigned to our hands. I thank my wife because she lovingly embraced a nomadic lifestyle, bouncing between residences, cultures, climates, churches and responsibilities without complaint and with her trademark smile! I recognize daily how dependent I am on all that she is! Special thanks to our children and family who understood the value of Skype, FaceTime, and Google Hangout to keep us connected! If you don’t know what I just said, ask a young person on your row to interpret it for you!

Our circle has been broken this Quadrennium, yet we find comfort in the declaration of hymnologist who writes, “How happy are the saints above, who once went sorrowing here. But now they taste unmingled love and joy without a tear!”

NECROLOGY

Bishop Roy Anderson Holmes
Bishop Cecil Bishop
Rev. Twila Rucker Caines
Rev. Dr. Cynthia Willis Stewart
Rev. Robert Holmes, Sr.
Rev. Vernon Owens
Rev. Frank E. Jones
Rev. Dr. Marvin E. Mayfield, Sr.
Rev. Dr. John E. Durham
Rev. Dr. Walter Brightman, Jr.
Rev. Robert Daggs
Rev. Eva Simpson

Bishop James E. McCoy
Rev. James J. Williams, Jr.
Rev. Prince Hamilton
Rev. Benjamin Smith
Rev. Paul Smith
Rev. Dr. Thomas M. Turner
Rev. Rena Dinkins
Rev. Malcolm Thomas
Rev. William J. Jiles
Rev. David A. Hunt
Rev. Roosevelt Simmons

WOMEN HOME & OVERSEAS MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Missionary Supervisor Holmes has judged her life between Chicago, Michigan, New York, New England, the United Kingdom and the Bahamas. Whew!! If she was tired, nobody knew it! Her quiet and gracious manner greeted each assignment as an adventure for service.

Our quadrennial theme, "Maximizing Our Purpose: Continuing Our Journey through Mission Education, Christian Living and Mission Ministry" has been the guiding inspiration for the missionaries of the Northeastern District over the past four years. Each district embraced the component enthusiastically and aggressively moved forward in setting goals, planning and implementing programs, projects and workshops. Zion is blessed to have spiritually empowered, faith-filled, committed women who have sought to provide service to humankind by their involvements in and participation with various organization and community outreach services.

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Our capable and affable Episcopal Director, Dr. Brenda Smith, has worked with her cast of competent and caring Conference Directors, at home and abroad. Her skills as a Superintendent, United Nations representative, First Lady and the plethora of other hats that she wears, adequately equips her for the work shaping lives.

The New York Conference adopted the **CITY HARVEST community outreach** food program. This program reaches out to farmers who donate vegetables and fruit to benefit New York's most vulnerable and disenfranchised children and adults so that they can have nutritious meals. During their quarterly meetings, the conference receive financial donations, which they send a check to the organization (**CITY HARVEST**) at the end of the conference year.

The conference adopted a program titled, "Beyond the Bounds." which was recommended to the department by the former Conference President of Youth, Katrina Brown. The President and her committee identified a shelter that houses women who are victims of domestic violence and who seek shelter for themselves and their children. Both the mothers and the children are in need of clothing. The members of the department make clothing available that is taken to the shelter, located in Harlem, New York.

Another phase of the "Beyond the Wall" college outreach program was implemented, whereby each of the young people who are attending schools of higher learning receive letters of encouragement as well as a toiletry kit from the Colgate Palmolive Company. Ms. Carolyn White, Director of Youth of the Westchester District, was assigned by the Co-Conference Directors to take on this responsibility, and she wrote one of the representatives from Colgate who agreed to partner with the Conference in this regard. Each gift bag includes deodorant, toothpaste, dental floss, 3 toothbrushes and mouthwash. The students also receive a care package, which includes tapes of a message of encouragement, school supplies and funds to be used for emergency needs.

Each year, the Conference sponsors the Annual Graduates' Banquet which recognizes individuals who have graduated from high school, college, junior college, who have completed their doctoral studies/graduate degrees. The NY Conference gives three book awards totaling \$250 each in memory of Dr. Betty V. Stith (the Dr. Betty V. Stith Book Award); one \$500 Bishop George W. Walker, Sr. Scholarship to a student who will attend Livingstone College and offer support and training to local directors. They also provide training for the district directors. Local directors and pastors have become members of The Assembly of Christian Education. Within the last two years, five or more pastors have been stoled. During the annual conference, 39 members were told. Over the past four years, the New York Conference stoled 128 individuals. They have improved in their efforts to involve more youth and young adults in the planning and implementation of programs. They also teach a class in Christian Education to the second-year conference studies students. Additionally, as a result of their attendance at National CED meetings, the Conference Directors encourage each church to observe Departmental Days, such as Christian Education Day, Vacation Bible/Church School, Promotion/Rally Day and uses the resources provided by the Secretary of Christian Education.

LAY COUNCIL

The Western New York Conference Lay Council is in the capable hands of Sis. Joyce Harrington. They have operated under the truism that "you cannot teach, what you do not know!" They focused on understanding the Bible and the Discipline to deepen the spiritual life and commitment of our members. They have given significant scholarships to Livingstone College bound students. They have also brought Connectional Lay Council officers to instruct their constituency. The willing, generous and cheerful spirit of the leader, has influenced a positive and productive body of believers! They exhibit the essence of Evangelism, niceness!

The New York Conference Lay Council is commandeered by Sis. Rhandi Stith. She follows the tradition of her mother, Dr. Betty V. Stith in her conference leadership role. This Council holds an annual A.W. Printz Scholarship luncheon at conference, and gives \$20,000.00 annually to students who are members of the New York Conference and attend Livingstone College. Conference, District Officers and members were well represented at the Lay Convention, Montgomery, Alabama and Lay Convocation, Rock Hill, South Carolina. And they have taken seriously the need to "equip the saints for the work of the ministry." Ephesians 5

The New York Conference Lay Council experienced several insightful lay academies that focused on the Quadrennium theme set forth in the Board of Bishops report to the General Conference. The Council meets four times a year by having the Lay Academies and in

December the three Presiding Elders District rotate the hosting Lay Council Love Feast and Fellowship. The consistent communication of both president's with the churches keep them well informed on growth over the past four years. The New York Conference is honored to have as our Treasurer, the financial Secretary for The Connectional Lay Council, Mr. Ira Golden.

A special thanks for their willingness to understand that "to serve this present age" we must be willing to adjust our methodologies, without losing our message!

THE NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE

New York City District

The Reverend A. Alfred Carson, Presiding Elder

Mother A.M.E. Zion Church -The Rev. Richard C. Chapple, Jr., Mother Zion continues to press toward methodically increasing its membership numbers, reducing debt, renovating facilities, enriching its congregational spirit and maturity, and revitalizing its presence in the connection, conference, and community.

First A.M.E. Zion Church -The Rev. Marvin D. Hooks Sr., First Church continues its community activism and activities aligned with their overall purpose and mission. The church has been maintaining and renovating their beautiful edifice, while being spiritually renewed.

Rush Temple A.M.E. Zion Church -The Rev. Isidora Branch Jr., Rush Temple has been receiving funds to make some necessary repairs on the edifice, including a gracious donation from the Rev. Eldridge Gittens Floral Club. Additional work has been done since January 31, 2015 as part of its renovation efforts.

Caldwell Temple A.M.E. Zion Church -The Rev. Dr. Monte D. Witherspoon-Brown. Caldwell Temple is on the verge of transformation. The Lord has given Rev. Dr. Monte D. Witherspoon-Brown a vision to see the larger opportunities for evangelism, outreach, growth, and sustainability. Ministerial staff and lay leaders have been collaborating to put systems and processes in place that will enable the church to seamlessly continue their present work rather than be delayed and derailed by transition.

Varick Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church -The Rev. Monica H. Marshall, Pastor Varick Memorial's conference year has been a challenging one. Varick Memorial has been more than conquers as this year has given place to more urgency in prayer, a desire to sacrifice and the need for closer fellowship and commitment. The membership has taken the challenge and continues to grow numerically and spiritually.

Greater Hood Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church -The Rev. Freeman Y. Perry, Greater Hood, under the leadership of Rev. Perry, has been working diligently to repair and add souls to the kingdom, brainstorming ideas for spiritual, emotional, and financial growth.

Calvary A.M.E. Zion Church -The Rev. Elizabeth Morris, The congregation continues to have monthly Communion Service, regularly scheduled Sunday school, and regularly schedules meetings with church officers. The pastor encourages the importance of prayer by having a prayer line that is open for prayer and visits and communes the sick and shut in.

A.M.E. Zion Church on the Hill -The Rev. DeForest L. Raphael, Church on the Hill has been in the process of renovations, replacing the sidewalk in front of the church and soon to be replacing the church's boiler and upgrading its lighting, which will improve energy expenditures. The church is also collaborating with a Brooklyn-based organization that will provide a much-needed Day Care program for the pre-school children in their community.

Shaw A.M.E. Zion Church -The Rev. Dr. Charles W. Young, Pastor Shaw has a strong Bible Study on Wednesday nights, which has been a blessing to the church. Its Sunday School is doing well and there are many Lay activities to uplift church ministries.

Smith-Thompson A.M.E. Zion Church- To be supplied By God's grace, Smith-Thompson has been a prospering congregation. The church is blessed with a budding and thriving youth population. Smith-Thompson have continued to have a strong, spirit-filled worship service. The congregation observes regular bible study and Sunday school.

John J. Moore A.M.E. Zion Church -The Rev. Wayne Joseph, John J. Moore's conference year began with evangelical outreach in August 2015. The church distributed food packages to the local community in association with the Yankee baseball team and scheduled a clothing drive on February 29, 2016. The church's tax- exempt status has been restored, its' building and personal injury insurance has been reinstated.

Sojourner Truth A.M.E. Zion Church -The Rev. Pamela Jones, Sojourner Truth has been experiencing a new season with God. The congregation has plans of building a library and an office in the upper part of the church building. The church has been experiencing spiritual as well as numerical growth.

Williamsburg A.M.E. Zion Church -Rev. Earl Wallace, Williamsburg continued its traditional Thanksgiving celebration with the community and for Christmas collected gifts for the children in the neighborhood. The church has growing. A group of members call a teleconference line for prayer and worship.

Brownsville A.M.E. Zion Church -Rev. Dr. Amanda Lyle Coke, Brownsville has continued endeavoring to trust in Jesus and to walk by faith. It continues to have weekly bible study and have organized a choir fit to sing God's praises. Brownsville has also completed renovations to its church building.

Westchester District

The Reverend Isidora Branch, Sr., Presiding Elder

Greater Love, Rev. Velda A. Lowery, The Church is stable. They are still holding service in the United Methodist Church. They have about ten members and no increase in membership. There were no major accomplishments.

St. James, Rev. Lieta Singleton, The property is in good condition with the exception of the parsonage. They are round in their assessment.

Dixon, Rev. Charlene Cooley, They are doing well. Members are working with Pastor and all financial obligations are up to date.

St. Paul, (Ellenville), Rev. Mary Bruce. This church has experienced many challenges. By the grace of God, they are hopeful and prayerful.

St. Thomas, Rev. Edward C. Holmes, This church is in good shape, spiritually and financially. They have about twelve members and all are faithful. Property is in good condition and they are round in their assessment. **A.M.E. Zion Church of Kingston**, Rev. Lorenzo McMillian, The pastor is trying to bring the church closer together. Please pray that this church will grow closer to God and each other.

St. Mark, Rev. Kellie Y. Wofford, Pastor. They received one new member this year. The Pastor and members are working together. The spirit appears to be good. The property is in fair condition and they are round in their assessment.

Mt. Tabor, Rev. Elizabeth Brantum, Pastor. The church is in good spirit. Things are moving along well and the members are faithful. They always take care of their financial obligations. The property is in good condition.

State Street, Rev. Darwin G. Abraham, Pastor. This church is doing fine and everything is in order. They have about fourteen members and they are faithful. They met all of their obligations and the property is in good condition.

St. Charles, Rev. Dr. Louis E. Sanders, Pastor. St. Charles is doing fine. They will be celebrating their 151st Church Anniversary in May. They received some new members this conference year. The Pastor is doing well health wise and the members are really standing by their pastor.

Park Street, Rev. Lee A. Thompson, Pastor. This church is doing fine. They received three new members. They were able to pay off the balance of the loan, \$280,000.00 for the property they purchased.

Barry Avenue, Rev. Dr. Annie Kersey, Pastor. The pastor and members are working together with a better spirit. The membership increased by two new members. It is stated at Quarterly Conference that they have a good Bible Study taught by the Pastor. The property needs some work.

St. John - Middletown, Rev. Robert Kilpatrick, II, Pastor. St. John is moving along in a positive direction at this time. A few months ago there was some tension there, but it seems to have passed over and they appear to be working with a new spirit. The Pastor is eager to learn about the church. The parsonage has been condemned by the town.

St. John - Highland Falls, Rev. Moses Carter, Pastor. Things are good at St. John. Pastor and members are keeping things in order. The property is in good condition. This church stands out in the Community.

St. Francis - Mt. Kisco, Rev. Earl Lewis, Pastor. St. Francis is holding on at this time. This was not a good year for them. The Pastor has given it his best, but some of the members just would not corporate. The Pastor has been faithful.

Metropolitan, Rev. Julius Walls, Jr., Pastor. Things are going well with Pastor and members. One person preached her trial sermon and was admitted to the District Conference. She received her Local Preacher's License. The church is in good condition and they are round in their assessment.

Institutional, Rev. Simon O. Ajose, Pastor. Institutional has done well this year. The spirit of the church seems to be good. We attended the worship service there a couple of Sunday mornings. They had to rewire the electric system in the church that cost them over \$10,000 and it was paid in full.

Foster Memorial, Rev. Thomas B. Gortman, Pastor. Foster is coming along well at this time and the spirit is good. The Pastor and members are doing their best to take the church to higher heights.

St. Philip's, Rev. Paul Smith, Pastor (deceased) Supplied by Sis. Jairite Anderson-Cole. St. Philip's is doing well at this time and the members are faithful and working together with the Supply Pastor. No new members thus far. The Quarterly Conference support is still good. All financial obligations are met.

St. Paul-Spring Valley, Rev. Melvin Mungin, Pastor. St. Paul is growing under the leadership of Rev. Mungin. They took in some new members this year. The spirit of the church is good. They have started a one hour of Power Service at 8:00 AM on Sunday mornings. They are in the midst of selling the parsonage with the intention of purchasing another one.

St. Frances - Port Chester, Rev. Natalie R. Wimberly, Pastor. St. Frances is holding on and I would say the pastor is trying to do her best. There seems to be some discrepancies when it comes to meeting their obligations to the conference. On the lower level, they are working on a problem with water coming in from the outside.

A.M.E. Zion Church of Newburgh, Rev. Milton Stubbs, Pastor. Newburgh Church is moving along well. They have about two new members thus far and two transferred to another A.M.E. Zion Church. They celebrated the 189th Church Anniversary on the second Sunday this month. The property is in fair condition with improvements still being made.

Smith Metropolitan, Rev. Dr. H. Dwight Bolton, Pastor Smith is holding on, the spirit is fair. In the past two years, they have lost about thirty-two members by death. They were strong supporters of the church financially. There seems to be problems meeting their financial obligations for the upkeep of the church and the Annual Conference.

Mt. Hope, Rev. Dr. Gregory R. Smith, Pastor Things are coming along, but could be better. There were no new members to my knowledge. The church is involved in Community affairs. The property is in fair condition. There is still some work to be done in the lower level of the building.

St. Catherine, Rev. Dr. Michael J. Rouse, Sr., pastor The church is doing well. They had a few new members to join this year. They installed an elevator and purchased a van for the church. The property is in good condition.

Greater Centennial, Rev. Dr. Stephen W. Pogue, Pastor The church is doing well and the spirit is good. They are still having three services every Sunday. The services are well attended and new members are still joining. Their building project is still in progress, but I do not know where they are at this time. All properties are in good condition

Long Island District

The Reverend Keith I. Harris Presiding Elder

Walker Temple - Hempstead (Rev. Shirley Brockman)

This is a mission work. They are a very small congregation and renting a building at a rate of \$400 per month. Please pray in regards to this mission.

St Paul - Quogue (Rev. Andrew Teagle)

Small yet stable congregation. They have had to make some major repairs this year. A handicapped ramp that was donated by the Village Fire Department was installed and they have had to replace their cesspool.

Lakeville - Manhasset (Rev. Norma Joseph)

The oldest church on the District and the oldest black church on Long Island. They are spiritually and financially stable. Most of its members are in the senior citizen's range. They have a good worship service and Bible Study and a strong Sunday School Group.

Hood - Oyster Bay (Rev. Linda Vanager)

They are a tight knit and well bonded congregation. They have put the project of upgrading their cemetery as their priority. As a result, they have received some grants totaling over \$30,000

Ruth - Bellport (Rev. Madge Houghton Thompson)

A dedicated group of members. They met with a challenge last year due to the winter Storm, the pipes burst and caused major damage throughout the whole building. They have repaired and refurbished the entire church. They had a rededication service of the church last month

St Matthews - West Hempstead (Rev. John W. Greene)

I have cause for serious concern about this church. They are struggling financially and the membership is down. They have tried to retrieve funds from unclaimed accounts, but to no avail.

Grace - Patchogue (Rev. Jesse Fields)

A strong cohesive group of people who are loving and supportive of one another. They make sure all financial obligations are met. They have a spirit of hospitality second to none.

Goodwill - Riverhead (Rev. William E. Fields)

The membership is down. The church has been given historic landmark status. A new cesspool is being installed at writing of this report. They have caught up on the pastor's back salary and are now current on the pastor's salary. They are to be commended for their efforts.

Clinton Memorial - Greenport (Rev. Nathaniel Heyward)

This Church has a vibrant worship service. They have just leased the old day care center to the Village for a Village sponsored youth program. They are making some strides.

St Mary - Medford (To Be Supplied)

The congregation is coming together. The worship experience is good. The music/dance ministry is extraordinary. The Lay Leadership has taken on the responsibility by stepping up to the plate to see that the spiritual and fiscal life of the church is stable.

Bell - Center Moriches (Rev. Denise Davenport)

Pastor and people are happy they have received some innovative methods of doing ministry and raising funds. There is always a good spirit in the house. They are trying to repair some structural damages that have been neglected over the years.

Naomi Temple - Roosevelt (Rev. Andrew Branch, Sr.)

An eager and energetic congregation that always want to place first on the District. They just sold the Great Neck property and they are moving forward with plans to erect a new edifice. They livestream their services and offer their members the opportunity to tithe electronically.

Shaw Temple-Amityville (Rev. David I. Robinson)

A strong congregation with a large portion of their members active on the District and Conference level and some even travel connectional. They hosted the District Conference in grand fashion. The Pastor and people seem to work together.

Westbury - (Rev. Gregor Miles)

A spiritually strong and cohesive congregation that readily responds to the needs of the community and the AME Zion Church. They like their pastor have an evangelistic thrust.

St Paul - Great Neck (Rev. Kathleen Edwards)

A small seasoned group, they have a small membership most of whom are senior citizens. They work hard through their major fund raisers to meet their financial obligations. Their property needs some attention.

Durham- Bay Shore (Rev. Leonard Edwards)

They have a good worship and fellowship experience. They also own a good bit of property. However, they are behind a great deal on the pastor's salary. They also have a variety of active ministries.

Jackson Memorial- Hempstead (Rev. Malcolm Byrd)

Our flagship church on the District with a strong solid membership. They have refurbished the kitchen and social hall after experiencing last year's fire. They are preparing to livestream their worship service. The church is lively and well.

THE WESTERN NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Albany District

The Reverend Ruby J. Smith, Presiding Elder

The Fifth Avenue A. M. E. Zion Church The Reverend Dr. Oscar L. McLaughlin The Fifth Avenue A. M. E. Zion Church has completed several repairs and renovations, and purchased furniture and equipment over the past few years. One of the remarkable achievements of the year is the success of an outreach Community Food Pantry.

The Hope Chapel A. M. E. Zion Church The Reverend Robert E. Williams, The Hope Chapel A. M. E. Zion Church has completed renovations and many repairs, and purchased lawn equipment and new windows in the fellowship hall.

The Walls Temple A. M. E. Zion Church The Reverend Barry K. Hill, The Walls Temple A. M. E. Zion Church property maintenance is very good; however, the parsonage registered as a historical building requires several major repairs and renovations. One of the outstanding achievements in this church was a successful and productive Community Street Fair.

The Duryee Memorial A. M. E. Zion Church The Reverend Ruby J. Smith, The Duryee Memorial A. M. E. Zion Church has maintained the property with major renovations and repairs. This church has united to become debt-free, excluding necessary current expenses.

The People's A. M. E. Zion Church The Reverend Robert E. Linder, The parsonage of the People's A. M. E. Zion Church requires major renovations and repairs. However, the edifice of the church is well maintained. One of the significant achievements this conference year was to host the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ecumenical Service on January 18, 2016.

The Sojourner Truth A. M. E. Zion Church The Reverend Melvin E. Brown, The Sojourner Truth A. M. E. Zion Church has made several repairs and improvements on the property. This church has completed all preliminaries to proceed to install a ramp to the church for the security and safety of the disabled and elderly.

The Dyer Phelps A. M. E. Zion Church The Reverend Vivian A. Franklin, The church continues to be a light in the community of Saratoga Springs, New York. One of the achievements in the church is a conference call Bible Study. The vision has been to recruit the Skidmore College students to the worship services at the Dyer Phelps A. M. E. Zion Church. The rapport of the pastor and congregation is very good.

Rochester- Syracuse District

The Reverend Douglas Craig, Presiding Elder

MEMORIAL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH, Rev. Dr. Kenneth Q. James ~ Although the pastor had some health challenges, the church is strong. They have added to their numbers and are adding to the ministries of the church. They have district officers who are stepping up and stepping in for the first time.

PEOPLE'S A.M.E. ZION CHURCH, Rev. Daren C. Jaime ~ Like many other churches in our district and denomination, this church heeded the call to assist with the water crises in Flint, Michigan by making several trips with truckloads of water. The renovations of the sanctuary are evident that this church is on the move and is an agent for change. The pulpit staff continues to grow and be an asset to the district.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS MEMORIAL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH, Rev. Michael D. Bell ~ This church eulogized the beloved former pastor and first lady, Rev. & Mrs. Roosevelt Simmons which was the close of one chapter. Although the church is not as strong as it once was and some member insist on what was, the pastor endeavors to bring new ideas. They are faithful and hopeful.

TRINITY A.M.E. ZION CHURCH, Rev. Paul G. Carter ~ With the first year under their belt this congregation is making progress. Although the pastor has to manage the Harriet Tubman home in Auburn while pastoring in Binghamton, you will rarely hear him complain. The pastor and congregation are working together and the church is on the move.

THOMPSON MEMORIAL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH, Rev. Daren C. Jaime ~ This church continues to see steady growth and improvement. Members are returning and new members are joining. With the church solely in the hands of Thompson and the A.M.E. Zion Church, they have taken on the role as Landlord and the tenants are cooperative.

ST. JAMES A.M.E. ZION CHURCH, Rev. Xavier E. Hunter ~ This is the first charge for this young pastor and he is doing very well. With the help of a dedicated core congregation he has turned things around. They have prepared the parsonage and although the pastor has a demanding job God granted favor for him to spend a few days at a time in his new home.

Buffalo District

The Reverend Michael Tydus, Presiding Elder

St. Luke Church ~ the Reverend Cary Beckwith ~ There is an ongoing effort to connect pulpit, pew and community. The work is maintaining itself. This was a big transition from the Midwest to the industrial northeast, but Pastor and people are learning each other's style. This First Church wants to set the stage for new ministries.

Henry Durham Memorial Church ~ the Reverend George Woodruff ~ The link of pastor and congregation continues to be strong. This team forges ahead meeting its challenges as opportunities for GOD to use them. Their use of technology demonstrates how effective technology is in impacting the community and connecting with persons outside of its walls. Their **Baby Café**, the first for our church, has gained reconnection throughout the state. They are current with their indebtedness.

William Jacob Walls Memorial Church ~ the Reverend Loretta Lewis-Brooks ~ This ministry is forging forward with new and exciting visions. The union of pastor and congregation is firm. The church remains strong spiritually and temporally.

St. Paul's Church ~ **the Reverend G. Michael Tydus** ~ Assuming this charge for a second time, the pastor and congregation have forged a union and salvaged a work that was sinking. There has been growth and renewed commitment for the work of this church. They have demonstrated what faith in GOD will do.

Centennial Church ~ the Reverend Robert L. Graham, Sr. ~ This society is facing a challenging time. However, with the decline of members, and devastated neighborhood, the remaining community of believers work hard to keep this Work alive.

Blackwell Chapel Church ~ the Reverend Reginald D. Smith ~ What a great ministry! The pastor and congregation work in concert with each other and the growth of their Bible Study is evidence of it. Also, the introduction of the Baby Cafe under the church's banner provides more exposure to the Jamestown community and is the second in New York state under the banner of the AME Zion Church.

St. Mark Church ~ the Reverend Sharon Baugh ~ This work shows some life and a desire to live as living witnesses of the kingdom of GOD. However, the programming of the church is still challenging and the need for funding remains a concern. There is a need for this church to connect with the community if it is to remain open.

THE LONDON-MIDLAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

London District

The Reverend A. Alfred Carson, Presiding Elder

Ransom AME Zion Church -The Reverend George Smith,

We thank God for the spirit that exists within this congregation, for the Ransom church is solid and strong. The class leader system has been reorganized, a new class leader has been appointed, and classes are doing well. The music ministry serves as an inspiration to the listening ear.

Trinity AME Zion Church -The Reverend Ionie Anguin,

The Trinity AME Zion church under the leadership of their pastor is a hard working congregation with outreach ministries that serve the church and communities. Trinity has a community center and has implemented a new tutorial program.

Beulah AME Zion Church -The Reverend Levi Brown,

The Beulah congregation shows promise as they seek to do the will of God. Its members love each other and are devoted to worship on Sunday mornings. Thanks be to God for the pastor and this congregation as they strive to do the work of the Lord.

New Shiloh AME Zion Church -The Reverend Vincent Bates,

This small intimate congregation is dedicated and consistent in their faithfulness to the Lord. The members press their way to church on Sundays and their pastor is prepared to preach and teach God's word. The Reverend and Mrs. Bates are truly a team who love God and His people. Both are very supportive in doing what they are asked to do for the building of God's kingdom.

New Birth AME Zion Church -The Reverend Valerie Dacres,

New Birth Church continues to be a growing, spirit filled group of people who are motivated to do the work of the Lord. The Reverend Dacres gives her all with an outpouring of love and kindness to serve as a motherly shepherd to all who come between the four consecrated walls of the church.

New Hope AME Zion Church -Sister Sharon Simpson-Senior,

This church is very energetic and stands ready to always praise the Lord. Now we thank God for The Reverend Ephraim Francis and The Reverend Ezeron Petrie for the leadership they have given during this conference year. Congratulations to the new pastor, who brings to this congregation a multiplicity of gifts and who is anointed in her own right.

Midlands District

The Reverend Michael Tydus, Presiding Elder

Mount Bethel (Wolverhampton) ~ the Reverend Horace Roberts ~ What a refreshing experience. The union of pastor and congregation has proven beneficial to both. The church is doing well spiritually, temporally, and physically. A blessed situation.

Shekinah Temple (Coventry) ~ the Reverend Keifa Allen ~ This is a great congregation. The challenges of not having the pastor in the community has not hampered them from doing the work of the kingdom and promoting Zion's call.

Shaw Mount Zion (Birmingham) ~ the Reverend Andrew Rowe ~ This is the smallest, but a mighty group of servants of the LORD. They work hard. Are innovative in their ministry, and take great pride in belong to the AME Zion Church. They truly believe that nothing is too hard for God.

NEW ENGLAND AND THE BAHAMAS ISLANDS CONFERENCES

Bishop Mildred B. Hines

New England Conference

In May of 2013, after the untimely death of Bishop Roy A. Holmes I was assigned to preside over the New England and Bahamas Islands Annual Conferences. The New England Annual Conference came very shortly after the celebration of Bishop Holmes life. Even though still in mourning, the conference welcomed me and pledged to follow my leadership. Annual conference was a celebration from beginning to end. Because New England was attached to the Southwestern Delta, the same theme was introduced that was being used in the Delta. Reverend Terry Jones was appointed to serve as my administrative assistant. I am grateful and thankful for his service during that critical time.

The New England Conference is comprised of two Presiding Elder Districts: the Hartford District and the Boston District and thirty two Churches. When I arrived in 2013, the Presiding Elders serving were, Reverend Margaret Lawson over the Boston District and Reverend Timothy Howard over the Hartford District. In 2014, Reverend Lawson was assigned back to the pulpit and Reverend Lloyd W. McKenzie was appointed Presiding Elder over the Boston District. Under his leadership, the district sprung into new life. Presiding Elder Timothy Howard, though faced with severe health challenges, functioned without missing a beat.

The stress of being disconnected from their brothers and sisters in New York, Western New York and London was lightened by their newly found brothers and sisters in the Delta. Friendships were developed that will last a lifetime. Even though The Northeastern Episcopal District will be reunited at this General Conference, the connection with the Delta will continue to grow.

The New England Conference faced its challenges and issues and met all financial obligations, celebrated all anniversary days, attended and participated in all Connectional meetings and gatherings. They partnered with the Delta to lend support to the Bahamas Islands and rather than being a burden, the Bahamas Islands proved to be a blessing.

The Bahamas Islands Conference

The Bahamas Islands Conference is made up of one district, the Nassau District and consist of five churches.

There was a concern about New England being able to bear the burden of support for the Bahamas Islands Conference but the Delta, labeled a "mission" area, jumped in and took on the Bahamas Islands as a mission project. The Delta's partnership with New England proved that working together works. Stateside attendance and participation skyrocketed. One of the highlights of the Bahamas Islands Conference was New England and the Delta working together to purchase altar wares and altar coverings for all five churches. The wares and coverings were dedicated and distributed on the closing service at annual conference.

Another highlight was the Bishop's quadrennial celebration. It was big! An audience was arranged with Her Excellency, the Governor General at her house. The audience included an exquisite reception in my honor and a royal parade. It was big!

Presiding Elder Terry Jones is to be commended for his committed work in the Bahamas. And certainly, the Reverend Dr. Floyd Chambers is also to be commended for the very fine way he pulled the Delta together for the Bahamas Islands support. The Bahamas Islands experience was rewarding and the precious memories will be long lasting.

Quadrennial Report
Mid-Atlantic I Episcopal District
Bishop Louis Hunter, Sr., Presiding Bishop



Mr. Chairman, esteemed colleagues, General Officers, members of the Executive Board of the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society, Judicial Council, Connectional Lay Council, delegates, members, visitors and friends who have gathered here in Greensboro, North Carolina for this historic 50th quadrennial General Conference:

Holy greetings in the pre-eminent name of our Lord and Savior,
Jesus, the Christ!

As I stand before my church to give my final report of my stewardship as an active bishop, I do so with deep humility and profound gratitude to my God and my Savior. I shall be eternally grateful to the church for electing me the 93rd bishop in line of succession. Words are truly inadequate to express my sincere appreciation to the Presiding Elders, Pastors, ministers and the laity of the Mid-Atlantic I Episcopal District for their wonderful support and cooperation given to me and Mrs. Hunter this past quadrennium.

Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society

The missionaries of Mid-Atlantic I have had a blessed and fruitful quadrennium. Their convocations and outreach efforts were well planned and well attended. They have met each challenge with faith and determination. We salute the faithful members of the WH & OM Society who so valiantly press through the storms that sometimes came their way.

Christian Education

The Christian Education Department under the capable and innovative leadership of Mrs. Margaree Coleman Carter and the conference and district officers was blessed to experience the impartation of the spirit of God for their committed leadership and stewardship in this work. This has been evidenced by the department's growth, both spiritually and numerically, and a deepened commitment to the work of the Christian Education ministry.

Lay Council

The Lay Council is active in all of our conferences. They have had effective Lay Academies where they continue to carry out the mandate of the Connectional Lay Council. There has been a significant increase in the number of card carrying members. They are visible and supportive at every occasion on a local, district, conference and episcopal level.

Leadership Training Institute

The Institute for Mid-Atlantic I continued throughout this quadrennium. There is still a great need for teaching. The institutes were well attended and the instruction and teaching for doing ministry that is relevant was well received.

Ohio Conference

This conference is made up of three presiding elder districts: the Cleveland District, Dr. Audie V. Simon, I; the Akron District, Dr. Charles Tyler; the Columbus-Cincinnati District, Dr. Michael Posey. Ohio comes to this General Conference thankful for the financial relief that the Church gave at the last General Conference. However, the continuing decline in membership, economic hardship and severe winter weather, have impacted them adversely when it comes to their financial stewardship to the connection. Despite this, the pastors and members remain strong in faith and loyal in carrying out their commitment to kingdom building and the denomination and their efforts are to be applauded. We salute these faithful pastors, lay persons, conference and district officers for their work. Despite financial disappointments, souls were saved, lives were impacted and the spirit of the people remains hopeful and steadfast.

Rev. Dr. Audie Simon, I, has been a faithful and committed servant. For more than 25 years, he has pastored and served the people of his church and district. He inspires the people of his church and on the district. He is offering himself at this General Conference for the office of Bishop and the conference endorses him wholeheartedly.

Akron District: Dr. Charles Tyler, Presiding Elder, 9 churches, (Annual Connectional assessment: \$117,239)

Pastors and churches are Wesley Temple, Dr. Charles Tyler; Price Memorial, Dr. William King; St. James, Rev. Rosalyn M. Martin; First Good Samaritan, Rev. Amos Goodwine; Ruth, Rev. Francilla Allen; St. Matthew, Rev. Geraldine Williams (supply); Greater Emmanuel, Rev. Fletcher Hudson; St. Luke, Rev. Phyllis Bush; St. Mark, (supplied).

In recognition of changing local demographics and declining membership, St. Paul merged with St. Matthew. Simmons Chapel was closed for these same reasons. For 3 years of this quadrennium, the Akron District was lead by Rev. Robert Hickey as Presiding Elder. He and his wife, Rev. Rita Hickey, served tirelessly under the most difficult of circumstances and their dedication to the work was an inspiration to many. He also served as the pastor of St. Matthew and successfully supervised the merger with St. Paul. His health caused him to request retirement from the pastorate as of April of this year. We appreciate his supportive efforts and years of hard work.

Cleveland District: Dr. Audie V. Simon, I, Presiding Elder, 5 churches, (Annual Connectional assessment: \$79,926)

Pastors and churches are St. Paul, Dr. Audie V. Simon, I; Beth-El, Dr. Curtis Walker; St. Peter, Rev. Anthony Flowers; Emmanu-el, Dr. Rebecca Stitt; Old Ship, Rev. Marion Wheeler, Jr.

Columbus-Cincinnati: Dr. Michael Posey, Presiding Elder, 4 churches, (Annual Connectional assessment: \$72,692)

Pastors and churches are First, Rev. Arthur L. Holloway, II; Greater St. John, Rev. Andra Ward (supply), St. Mark, Dr. Michael J. Posey; St. James (closed)

Allegheny Conference

This conference is made up of two presiding elder districts: the Braddock District, Rev. Stanley Dennison and the Pittsburgh District, Dr. Lamar Lee. Allegheny comes to General Conference "round". They are to be commended for their determination to meet the challenges of urban ministry with innovative and creative approaches.

For two years of this quadrennium, the Pittsburgh District was led by Rev. Glenn Grayson. His energetic leadership motivated other pastors and laity on the district. We grieved with him at the untimely death of his youngest son, Jeron. Out of that tragedy, God has birthed a ministry through which many are being blessed. The Jeron X. Grayson Community Center is nationally recognized for its positive impact on the city of Pittsburgh. Rev. Grayson was singled out by President Barack Obama for his winning efforts against gun violence.

Braddock District: Rev. Stanley Dennison, Presiding Elder, 7 churches (Annual Connectional assessment \$45,000)

Pastors and churches are Homewood, Rev. Stanley Dennison; Holliday Memorial; Rev. Vincent W. Martin; Community of Grace, Rev. Gerald Akrie; First Cambria, Rev. James E. Johnson; John Wesley, Rev. Rebecca Cherry; St. James, Rev. Janice Johnson; Mt. Pisgah, Rev. Marsha Copeland

Pittsburgh District: Dr. Lamar Lee, Presiding Elder, 7 churches (Annual Connection assessment \$44,000)

Pastors and churches are Wesley Centre, Rev. Glenn G. Grayson; Trinity, Rev. Joseph D. Lewis; St. Mark, Dr. Lamar D. Lee, Jr.; Wright Memorial, Rev. Louis Ridgley; John Wesley, Rev. Linda Arthur; Avery Memorial, Rev. Dina Martin; New Jerusalem, Rev. Emmanuel Obodai

New Jersey Conference

This conference is made up of two presiding elder districts: the Jersey City District, Dr. Douglas Maven and the Camden District, Dr. Lawton Nelson, Jr. New Jersey comes to General Conference "round". Both of these presiding elders, who give so much to the work on their districts, work long hours and as a result, the work is blessed. This Conference is always strong when it comes to supporting financial obligations. It is not without sacrifice. They sometimes make up the shortfall for other conferences wherever they can. Their willingness to help with those who are not as strong is to be commended.

For eight years, Dr. George Maize, III, served as Presiding Elder of the Jersey City District in addition to pastoring and serving as the Special Deputy for Overseas work. He gave stellar support, exceptional leadership in all of his assignments. He still serves the church by agreeing to assume pastoral duties on the district. No more willing soldier of the cross can be found in all of Zion.

Dr. Dwight Cannon came to the Camden District by way of the Cape Fear Conference. Since arriving, he has enriched the ministry that was left by Dr. William Cowherd at Wesley (Burlington). He continues to build upon his predecessors great work and comes to this General Conference desirous of attaining the office of Secretary of the Department of Global Missions and The Missionary Seer. The Conference endorses him wholeheartedly

Camden District: Dr. Lawton Nelson, Jr., Presiding Elder, 22 churches (Annual Connectional assessment \$216,717)

Pastors and churches are St. Paul, Dr. Keith D. Tillett; St. Stephens, Rev. Derinzer Johnson; Shrewsbury Avenue, Rev. Zaniel T. M. Young; New Wesley, Rev. Benjamin Carson; Price Memorial, Rev. Grady Littles; St. James (Perth Amboy), Rev. Amos Dickerson, Jr.; Wesley (Burlington), Dr. Dwight B. Cannon; Harris Temple, Rev. Robert Venable; St. Mark, Rev. Maurice Daniel; Greater St. Augustine, Rev. Akpan Inyang; St. John (Mizpah), Rev. Claude Rozier; St. John (Lakewood), Rev. Percy Smith; St. James (Matawan), Rev. Martha Tomlin; Peoples, Rev. Charles Washington; St. Thomas, Rev. Lester Baylor; Reeveytown, Rev. Cynthia Bennett; Wesley Memorial, Rev. W. Wayne DeShields; Faith Chapel, Rev. Norman Solomon; New Jerusalem, (supplied); Clinton Chapel, Rev. Mary Giles; Victory, Rev. Jacqueline Hills; Emmanuel Deliverance, Rev. Stephen C. M. Kaite; Deliverance Temple (closed)

Jersey City District: Dr. Douglas Maven, Presiding Elder, 18 churches (Annual Connectional assessment \$287,249)

Pastors and churches are Metropolitan (Jersey City), Rev. Nathaniel Legay; Clinton Memorial, Rev. Robert Taylor, Sr.; Shiloh (Staten Island), Rev. Eli D. Smith; Varick Memorial (Hackensack), Dr. Melanie Miller; First (Paterson), Dr. Douglas L. Maven; Shiloh (Englewood), Rev. John D. Givens; New, Dr. Odinga Maddox, II; Wallace Chapel, Dr. Denison D. Harrield, Jr.; Wallace Temple, Rev. Dorothy A. Patterson; Metropolitan (Ridgewood), Rev. Herbert Mack Brandon; St. Luke (Westfield), Rev. William Lawson; St. Thomas (Somerville), Rev. Jimmie Miller; Williams Chapel, Rev. Wendell Lancaster; Rossville, Rev. Janet Jones; Centennial, Rev. Richard Collins; Antioch, Rev. Mozelle Clyburn; Mt. Zion, Rev. Kenneth Heyman, Sr.; New St. Mark (Westwood), Rev. Dr. George Maize, III.

Barbados Conference

This conference has one district, one church. Hoggard A.M.E. Zion Church is pastored by Rev. Solomon Odoom who also serves as Presiding Elder and is full time in ministry. Although they own their building, they do not own the land on which it sits. During this quadrennium, they have increased their evangelistic thrust which has resulted in added members and deeper spiritual life. This church still needs more financial assistance from the denomination if it is to survive and continue to grow.

Guyana-Suriname Conference

This conference has two districts: Central Demerara and Suriname District, Presiding Elder Dexter Sansculotte; East-West Demerara and Linden District, Presiding Elder Orette Darrell.

This is one of the most productive overseas conferences in the Caribbean. The growth and aggressive, soul saving ministries have resulted in increased membership and deepened spiritual life for all. Mrs. Lavern Sansculotte, District President for Central Demerara and Suriname District, gives exemplary leadership to the missionaries as well as being in the forefront of Christian Education and wherever needed. She has established a ministry to the Women's Prison.

Having been led by the Holy Spirit, she asked Mid-Atlantic I to donate money to provide breast cancer screenings for inmates at a cost of \$30 per screening. The response from Mid-Atlantic I, Cape Fear and others around Zion was phenomenal. Over \$16,000 was raised in a period of two months. With this support all the inmates AND guards AND women in two shelters were screened for breast cancer and cervical cancer, the men prisoners were given prostate exams, post examination medical treatment was paid for those who needed it, the men prisoners were given choir uniforms, toiletries were given to the women prisoners and books were purchased and donated to the prison library. Upon discharge from prison, many of the women have sought out and joined A.M.E. Zion churches. Mrs. Sansculotte has been so effective that the Warden allows some of the prisoners to attend Annual Conference, and the Deputy of Prisons for Guyana has asked Mrs. Sansculotte to consider serving on the governmental board of supervision. On Christian Education Day and at the close of Annual Conference, the church is packed.

During this quadrennium, Mid-Atlantic I mounted a water wells project for Guyana. Clean drinking water was not available in many communities. Through the grass roots leadership of Dr. Jermaine Armour, Rev. Dorothy Patterson and Rev. John Givens, with the collaboration of the leadership in Guyana, we built 8 water tanks that supply the water for three communities. We also re-opened a well that had been abandoned. Mid-Atlantic I also raised and sent money to Guyana with which they purchased a van.

Rev. and Mrs. Derinzer Johnson and the St. Stephens church purchased a new motorized cycle with a side car and donated it to Rev. Dolly Barron who had to walk several miles to pastor the churches assigned to her.

Central Demerara and Suriname District: Rev. Dexter Sansculotte, Presiding Elder, 7 churches.

The churches on this district are Alleyne, Rev. Dexter Sansculotte; Holders, Rev. Orette Darrell; Martin, Rev. Dexter Sansculotte; Hilliard Temple, Rev. Andrea Reman; Varick, Rev. Ashton McKenzie; Jones, Rev. Mayleen Parkinson; Strickland Tabernacle, Rev. Basil Perriera.

East West Demerara and Linden District: Rev. Orette Darrell, Presiding Elder, 6 churches

The churches on this district are Walters, Rev. Orette Darrell; Jacobs, Rev. Andrea Reman; Hoggard, Rev. Patricia Williams; Resurrection, Rev. Dolly Barron; Faith Chapel, Rev. Dolly Barron; Cecil Bishop, Rev. Orette Darrell.

Necrology Report

Crossing the bar

by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,

When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.
Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;
For though from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

We pause to give thanks and revere the memories of those who have "crossed the bar":

Ohio Conference

Rev. Virgil Alexander
Rev. Robert Lewis, Sr.

Allegheny Conference

Rev. Calvin Cash
Rev. Luther Johnson
Rev. Phyllis Price
Rev. Theodore Thornhill

New Jersey Conference

Rev. Dr. William B. Cowherd, Sr.
Rev. Guilford K. Davis
Rev. Herbert Jones
Rev. Charles E. Marshall
Rev. Lawyer Montgomery

Guyana-Suriname Conference

Rev. June Williams

India Conference

Immediately after assuming the work from Bishop Holmes, I made the trip to Vizakhapatnam. I have made three trips to India and am happy to report that the work is being supervised by Rev. and Mrs. Krupanand Mare. Mrs. Mare also serves as the Field Worker. I thank them for their commitment to God and Zion. Christian Education, WH & OM Society and the Lay Council all have officers appointed and conduct their activities such as seminars for enrichment, retreats and workshops. At Annual Conference the language barrier is a tremendous challenge in that there are very few pastors or laity who speak English. A translator is utilized for some worship and some business sessions at Annual Conference. The work is vast, as it is stated that there are over 120 pastors, and the need to evangelize India is evident however, I have many concerns regarding our ability to serve them well. This work consumes a large share of ENCED overseas mission financial resources. Further, the Discipline and hymn book are in English, and very few have any command of the language. I think we need to give prayerful consideration as to how these Methodist brothers and sisters could be better served. Dr. Michael Bell was able to accompany me twice and shares similar concerns. It takes two days to travel from the U.S. to Vizakhapatnam and I thank him for his assistance on those trips.

Necrology:

India Conference

Rev. David Golla

Rev. John Mandupalli

Rev. Vijay Kumar Valluri

Appreciation and Acknowledgements

As I have been throughout my ministry and episcopacy, my wife, Ingrid, has played a significant role and I am truly thankful for her being used by God to help me with me and with the work He has given me. This quadrennium she continued to have physical challenges but it did not diminish her commitment to the Lord, to me or to the work. In August, we will celebrate 31 years of marriage and are looking forward to sharing many more years together. Ing, "If I had to do it all over again, I would do it with you".

I would also like to thank all of the committed lay people in their various capacities who do God's work, God's way. Without them, we could accomplish little. Many hold no title, no special office, but are faithful and sacrificial in their giving and service.

As the parting of ways has come for you and for me, thank you for your words of encouragement and support. I encourage you to remain faithful, focused, keeping your eyes on the One who called you out of darkness into the marvelous light. In due season, you will reap if you faint not. I now pass along to you the flag that was handed to me . . . try not to let it touch the ground. Seek His face daily. Trust God.

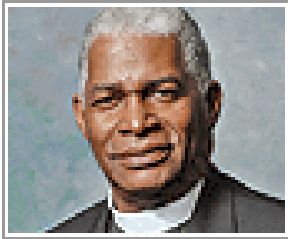
Respectfully submitted,

Bishop Louis Hunter, Sr., Presiding Bishop
Mid-Atlantic I Episcopal District
93rd Bishop in Line of Succession

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA EPISCOPAL DISTRICT THE ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Bishop James E. McCoy, Presiding Prelate (deceased)
Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr., Presiding Prelate
Mrs. Shirley McCoy, Missionary Supervisor
Sis. Camille Cullom Starnes, Associate Missionary Supervisor

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



In just four months, the late **Bishop James E. McCoy** was able to set the Albemarle Conference on a trajectory toward excellence in ministry. **Mrs. Shirley McCoy** continued to give stellar leadership to the missionaries and encouraging support to the ministers' spouses. She championed several causes and led us in responding in tangible ways to the needs of those less fortunate. **Ms. Katherine Chapman (Necie)** is deserving of countless Kudos as the Administrative

Assistant. **Sis. Camille Cullom Starnes** graciously supported Mrs. McCoy in her work and unselfishly supported me as I stood in the gap for Bishop McCoy.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

Our four points of emphasis were *Prayer Ministries*, *Small-Group Discipleship*, *Economic & Political Empowerment*, and *Leadership Development*. **The Rev. Fondella Leigh** led the charge as Conference Prayer Coordinator, leading us in fasting and Conference Call Prayer during the forty days before each Annual Conference and throughout the year. **Presiding Elders Walter Leigh and Theodore Headen** led the way in Small-Group Discipleship, being discipled by the bishop and then discipling their pastors, Many pastors discipled their class leaders and several class leaders are discipling their members. **Rev. Willie Littlejohn**, the Conference Coordinator of Economic and Political Empowerment, has worked with **Mr. Hezekiah Brown**, the Elizabeth City District Coordinator in the areas of Voter Registration, NAACP memberships, and several social justice issues. Leadership development takes place at every Check-up Meeting as training sessions are held for the missionaries led by the Missionary Supervisor; for the laity of all ages led by the Christian Education Department; and for the ministers led by the bishop. Also, on Saturday of Annual Conferences, there are training sessions for clergy and laity of all ages.

QUADRENNIAL FOCUS

My teaching sessions with the ministers focused on "Preaching in the Wesleyan Heritage" and "The Characteristics of a Christ-Centered Church." The Albemarle Conference fully embraced the Quadrennial Theme, "Fortifying Our Faith While Focusing on Our Future through Worship, Leadership, Discipleship, and Stewardship. We added an adjective to each sub-theme for clearer focus: *Inspiring Worship*, *Transformative Leadership*, *Small-Group Discipleship*, and *Faithful Stewardship*. My sermons at Check-up Meetings and Annual Conferences, as well as my Episcopal Addresses focused on each year's sub-theme. The dynamic **Rev. Dr. Staccato Powell** was the evangelist for 2013 Albemarle Conference Revival. I had the privilege of serving as the evangelist in the remaining three years of the quadrennium.

THE ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Office

Prayer Coordinator
Conference Secretary
Conference Treasurer
Conference Statistician
Director of Christian Education
Director of Evangelism
Lay Council President
WH&OM, Edenton District President
WH&OM, Elizabeth City District President

Officers Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Fondella Leigh
Ms. Audrey O. Shields; Rev. Ingrid Hackett
Rev. Tony D. Henderson; Rev. Fondella Leigh
Rev. Frederick Hunter
Mrs. Gloria J. Spence
Rev. Ernest Cole, Jr.
Ms. Jessie M. Riddick
Mrs. Geraldine M. Peel
Mrs. Brenda M. Overton

THE ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE PASTORS

The Edenton District

Rev. Walter L. Leigh, Presiding Elder

Church

Kadesh, Edenton, NC
Williams Chapel, Williamston, NC
Canaan Temple, Edenton, NC
Poplar Run, Winfall, NC
Porters Chapel, Chapanoke, NC
Mount Hebron, Plymouth, NC
Pleasant Grove, Edenton, NC
Saint Paul, Hertford, NC
Macedonia, Plymouth, NC
Morning Star, Roper, NC
Hood Temple, Jamesville, NC

Bethlehem, Williamston, NC

Oak Hill, Hertford, NC
Saint Mark, Creswell, NC
Piney Grove, Tyner, NC

Hawkins Chapel, Edenton, NC

Mount Moriah, Columbia, NC

Marion Chapel, Columbia, NC

Ebenezer, Hamilton, NC
Wactor Temple, Ahoskie, NC
Union Grove, Edenton, NC
(Supply)

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Walter P. V. Walker; Rev. Michael Gaddy
Rev. Haywood Dillahunt; Rev. Ingrid Hackett
Rev. Edmond Hoskins
Rev. Delton Smith, Jr.; Rev. Addie Overton
Rev. Jasper Gaskins
Rev. Ellis Hinton, Jr.
Rev. Michael Gaddy; Rev. Kathy F. Grace
Rev. Margaret C. Dance
Rev. John Cornelius; Rev. Lynn Bolden
Rev. Kathy F. Grace
Rev. Kathy F. Grace; Rev. Michael Gaddy;
Rev. Mae Rodgers
Revs. Adrian Wyrick, II; Walter L. Leigh;
Haywood Dillahunt
Rev. Glan Robinson (deceased); Rev. Thelma Oneal
Rev. Jay McNair
Revs. Glan Robinson (deceased); Moses Bond;
Norris Welch
Revs. George T. White; G. Curtis Newby (Supply);
Norris Welch
Revs. Ingrid Hackett; Haywood Dillahunt;
Walter L. Leigh
Revs. Ingrid Hackett; Sandra Boone (deceased);
Delton Smith, Jr.
Rev. Moses Bond
Rev. Mae Rodgers
Revs. Gladys Griffin; Lynn Bolden; G. Curtis Newby

The Elizabeth City District
Rev. Theadore Headen, Presiding Elder

Church

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Mount Lebanon, Elizabeth City, NC
Good Hope, Currituck, NC
Bay Branch, Belvidere, NC
Leigh Temple, Hertford, NC
Saint James, Elizabeth City, NC
Whiteville Grove, Elizabeth City, NC
Mary Holly Grove, Elizabeth City, NC
Bethel, Elizabeth City, NC
Center Grove, Coinjock, NC
Wilson Grove, Shawboro, NC
Rebecca, Elizabeth City, NC
New McBride, South Mills, NC
Pilgrim Journey, Moyock, NC
Pitts Chapel, Elizabeth City, NC
Parksville, Camden, NC
Moses Temple, Elizabeth City, NC

Winslow Grove, Belvidere, NC

Rev. Tony Henderson; Rev. Dr. Lenton Rhodes
Rev. Fondella Leigh
Rev. Jerry Jones
Rev. Charlie Bowe
Rev. Ernest Cole, Jr.
Rev. William Bonner
Rev. Frederick Hunter
Rev. Willie Littlejohn
Rev. William Bonner
Rev. Linda Jordan
Rev. Doris Gramby
Rev. Tavonda Jordan-Fields
Rev. Thelma Oneal; Rev. Kevin B. Fisher
Rev. Jimmie Sutton; Rev. Fondella Leigh
Rev. George Liverman; Rev. Iris Dance
Revs. Virgie Whitehurst; G. Curtis Newby (Supply)
Kevin B. Fisher
Rev. Elsie L. Cole

PASTORS WHO RETIRED THIS QUADRENNIUM (year in parentheses)

Rev. G. Curtis Newby (2012); Rev. Virgie Whitehurst (2012); Rev. David Peel (2013);
Rev. George T. White (2014); Rev. Gladys Griffin (2016)

PASTORS WHO DIED THIS QUADRENNIUM (year in parentheses)

Bishop James E. McCoy (2012); Rev. Keith Lane (2012); Rev. Sandra Boone (2014);
Rev. Albert Spence (2014); Rev. Glan Robinson (2015)

Cape Fear Conference
Bishop Louis Hunter, Sr., Presiding Bishop

At the 49th Quadrennial session of the General Conference Bishop James E. McCoy was assigned as the presiding prelate of the Eastern North Carolina Episcopal District, of which Cape Fear and India are a part. Four months into the quadrennium God called Bishop McCoy from earthly labor to reward. Mrs. Shirley McCoy graciously agreed to continue serving as Missionary Supervisor. As a result of the passing of Bishop McCoy, the Board of Bishops convened and assigned Bishops Roy A. Holmes, Kenneth Monroe, Darryl B. Starnes and W. Darin Moore to supervise the work of the Eastern North Carolina Episcopal District. Six months after Bishop Holmes was assigned as the presiding bishop of the Cape Fear Conference, God called him from earthly labor to eternity. The Board of Bishops then assigned yours truly to supervise the work in the Cape Fear and India Conferences. Thus, as a result of these sad events, the people of Cape Fear had four different bishops within a 12 month span. They were heartbroken. It was their faith in God that enabled them to work even though their hearts were heavy. It should be noted that they did not just work, "going through the motions", but they rose to every occasion, every asking, every challenge with courage and love. I wish to thank them for

their depth of faith, their stalwart determination and their love and support which they have so graciously shown to me and my wife, Ingrid.

The Presiding Elders of this conference gave excellent leadership and made sure that the pastors on their districts took care of their responsibilities. They offered me cogent advice, encouragement and unwavering support. Much thanks is given to them for their stellar leadership. The Cape Fear Conference is comprised of four districts: Wilmington, Clarkton, Goldsboro and Wilson, led by Reverends Alexander L. Jones, Sr., Dr. Florence S. Brown, Dr. Andrew D. Brown and Dr. Michael S. Bell, respectively.

Wilmington District – Rev. Alexander L. Jones, Sr., Presiding Elder

The following twenty-three churches encompass the Wilmington District: St. Luke, Rev. Dr. Jermaine B. Armour; Warner Temple, Rev. Dr. Clifford D. Barnett, Sr.; Price Cathedral, Rev. Maria B. Lacewell; St. Mark, Rev. Charlean B. Mapson; St. Andrew, Rev. Henry A. Gregory III; Mt. Hebron, Rev. Alonzo Braggs; Summerville, Rev. Nathaniel A. Johnson; Evergreen, Rev. Dr. William H. Ballard; Walter's Chapel, Rev. Dr. Gonzalez L. Harris; St. James, Southport, Rev. Patricia S. Smith; Lee's Chapel, Rev. Thomasina Brailford; St. James, Leland, Rev. Christopher A. Jones; Johnson Chapel, Rev. Dr. Henry J. Young; St. Phillip, Rev. Dr. Mary C. Nixon; Brown Chapel, Rev. Avery McAllister; Christian Chapel, Rev. Jesse Davis; St. Paul, Rev. Thomas E. Williams; Blackwell Chapel, Rev. Felecia Jones; Bowen Chapel, Rev. Carolyn N. Lewis; Zion Chapel, Rev. Barbara T. Lee; Speaks Temple, Rev. Karen G. McCracken; Mt. Zion, Rev. Corine R. Brown; and Moore's Chapel, Rev. Valerie Robinson. The Wilmington District has a total of 2,003 members, with Warner Temple reporting the highest membership total of 384. St. Luke, Warner Temple and St. Mark churches completed church renovations, and several others made improvements to their edifices, with other renovations currently in progress. The Blackwell Chapel church was completely destroyed by fire in 2010. They rebuilt their facility and it was dedicated this year. St. Luke and St. Mark each celebrated their 150th anniversary during this quadrennial period.

The Wilmington District WH&OM Society, led by district president, Mrs. Delma S. Jones, in addition to programs like Meals on Wheels, held their first Children & Youth Talent Extravaganza, honoring 115 trailblazers age 80 years and older.

The Christian Education Department, led by Mrs. Pamela Evans, in addition to various activities geared toward adults, and young adults, initiated "Our Lives Matter" weekend events. Several churches are involved in community activities, including Warner Temple's school suspension program; Price Cathedral's After School Academy; and St. Mark's Friends of Exceptional Children's support group for parents of children with special needs.

Clarkton District – Rev. Dr. Florence S. Brown, Presiding Elder

The following twenty-three churches encompass the Clarkton District: Mt. Zion, Rev. Edwin Ferguson; Mt. Olive, Rev. Haywood Oliver; Mt. Pleasant, Rev. Donald R. Mapson; Graham Chapel, Rev. William Peterson; Rehobeth, Rev. Harrison Branch; St. Luke, Rev. Hardy Ballard; Piney Grove, Rev. Larry Campbell; Greater Chrysolite, Rev. Kittie Jacobs; Pierce Chapel, Rev. Johnas Freeman (supply); Baker's Creek, Rev. James Jones; Carver's Creek, Rev. Dr. Valentine Sutton; Brown's Creek, Rev. Emily Bronson; Christian Plain, Rev. Joyce McLaughlin; Shady Grove, Rev. Wendy McKoy; Trinity, Rev. Dr. Valentine Sutton; St. James, Rev. Viola Freeman; Rose Hill, Rev. George Patrick (supply); Savannah Temple, Rev. Gene McNeil; Providence,

Rev. Bernice Cromartie; Cromartie Hill, Rev. Grenda McMillan; New Zion, Rev. Rona Watson; Mt. Pleasant, Lumberton, Rev. Hardy Ballard, Jr.; and Mt. Hebron, Rev. Earl Waddell. The Clarkton District has a total of 2,010 members, with Mt. Pleasant in Armor reporting the highest membership total of 370. Shady Grove church held a mortgage burning. St. James celebrated their 100th anniversary.

The Clarkton District WH&OM Society, led by district president, Mrs. Morristine Atkinson, focused on the “home” portion of their department with assistance to local hospice and inmates in the correctional institution.

The Lay Council, under the leadership of Mr. Norris Ebron, hosted both, the General President, Ms. Mary Mathews and Ms. Effie Woodard, Regional Vice President at a district workshop. Renovations were completed at the Mt. Zion, Graham Chapel, Pierce Chapel and Rose Hill churches with other churches slated to begin church improvements soon. The Mt. Olive, Baker’s Creek and Mt. Pleasant (Lumberton) churches all have plans new edifices and/or fellowship halls.

Several churches are involved in community activities, including Graham Chapel’s Meals on Wheels, sponsored by the missionary department and Greater Chrysolite, who has a member recently elected to the City Council of Lumberton.

Goldsboro District – Rev. Dr. Andrew D. Brown, Presiding Elder

The following twenty-four churches encompass the Goldsboro District: St. James, Rev. Ronald Miller; St. Thomas, Rev. Harry D. Hines; St. Stephen, Rev. Dr. Hugh G. Miller, Sr.; Big Zion, Rev. Dr. Larry E. Smith; Mt. Zion, Rev. Dr. Andrew D. Brown; Sam Springs, Rev. John M. Melvin; Payne Temple, Rev. Sylvester Smith, Sr.; St. Stephen, Rev. Dr. Jerry Parker; Dove Chapel, Rev. Claude D. Willie; St. John, Rev. Jimmy Melvin; Union Chapel, Rev. William Bennett; St. Thomas, Rev. William Bennett; Ashley Chapel, Rev. Marilyn Brewington; Trinity, Rev. Charles Whitted; Clinton Chapel, Rev. Linda B. Mozee; Miller’s Chapel, Rev. Pia Jessup; Harrison Creek, Rev. Michael Ballard; St. James, Rev. Johnny B. Murphy; Martin Chapel, Rev. Cassandra Fisher; St. Rest, Rev. Cassandra Fisher; New Light, Sis. Andrea Bell (supply); St. Peter, Rev. Arno Peterson; and Shaw Temple, Rev. Diane Best. The Goldsboro District has a total of 1,320 members, with St. James in Goldsboro reporting the highest membership total of 188. The members of New Light church liquidated their mortgage. St. James celebrated their 150th anniversary during this quadrennial period.

The Goldsboro District, under the leadership of their presiding elder, established a district endowment fund.

The Lay Council, under the leadership of Mr. Monte Forte, hosted Dr. Yvonne Tracey and Ms. Mary Matthew for district lay academies and workshops.

The Board of Evangelism, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Larry E. Smith, hosted Rev. Dr. Otis T. McMillan, Director of Church Growth & Development as guest teacher/preacher. Big Zion church erected a new edifice, renovated the old sanctuary, which now serves as a multipurpose center. The Sam Springs, St. Stephen and Trinity churches each made improvements and renovations.

Wilson District – Rev. Dr. Michael S. Bell, Presiding Elder

The following nineteen churches encompass the Wilson District: St. John, Rev. Dr. Vincent Meares; Bethel, Rev. Dr. Lester Fisher; Invitation, Rev. Shawin E. DuBois; Paul's Chapel, Rev. Janice Wilson; St. James, Rev. Jerome Frasier; Moore's Chapel, Rev. E. Evonne Mitchell; Trinity, Rev. Carla Atkins; Millers Chapel, Rev. Patsy C. Faison; New Elder's Chapel, Rev. William Hagans; St. Matthew, Rev. Dr. Robert Wilson; St. John, Rev. Theodore Woolridge; Lovick's Chapel, Rev. Linda Speight; St. Matthew, Rev. Dr. Michael S. Bell (supply); Salisbury, Rev. Carol Robbins; Union Wesley, Rev. William McDow; Pyatt's Chapel, Rev. Jimmy Payton; Jackson Chapel, Rev. Katrina Whitted; Giddensville, Rev. Dr. Lisa T. McDow; Greater Harvest, Rev. Katrina Whitted. The Wilson District has a total of 1,218 members, with St. John in Wilson reporting the highest membership total of 389.

The Wilson District has implemented various innovative programs for all departments, including efforts by the WH&OM Society to cluster churches for church support.

Several churches on this district have made a variety of improvements and modifications to their property. The Salisbury church was destroyed by fire and has purchased a building in the city of Wilson. All of the churches have a presence in the community including St. John, whose congregation has purchased through their non-profit, a historical building, and leases spaces to several independent operators of a restaurant, pharmacy, flower shop and community outreach center.

Necrology for Cape Fear Conference

Rev. Gary Burns	Rev. Louis McIntyre	Rev. Doris Mae Parks	Rev. Ernest Webb
Rev. Alonza Butler	Rev. John L. McKoy	Rev. Shirley Regan	
Rev. David Foy	Rev. Isabella McLeod	Rev. John Herbert Shaw	

CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The opportunity to serve the Central North Carolina Annual Conference has been beyond my dreams. Unfortunately, the late Bishop James E. McCoy was assigned the Eastern North Carolina Episcopal District during the 49th Session of the General Conference, but he was only able to serve four (4) months. The supervision of the Central North Carolina Annual Conference was assigned to me (Bishop Kenneth Monroe) by the Board of Bishops. Without question, I was surprised to be given the privilege to serve my home conference and to follow the leadership of my Episcopal classmate as well as one of the preachers who was a part of the same presiding elder district for which I grew up and was nurtured.

The annual conference has experienced some success during the quadrennial. The financial system has been revived, the conference studies program has been enhanced, the conference board of trustees has been reorganized, the Hood to Hilliard Fund (Home Mission's Development Fund) has been reactivated, new property has been acquired, and a new level of confidence in leadership has been embraced. The annual conference is ready for the next level of ministry. The presiding elders, pastors, annual and district officers have been engaging and supportive. Without question, the people of the conference anticipate with much excitement, a new start.

The Laurinburg District

The success of the Laurinburg District can be attributed to great leadership. During the past quadrennial, the Laurinburg District has exhibited outstanding efforts in ministry. Even though the district does not boast of large congregations, the encouragement, motivation, and inspirational skills of Dr. Milton H. Williams have caused the constituency of the district to achieve tremendous feats.

Currently, the district has twenty (20) congregations. The efforts of the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society, the Christian Education Department, the Lay Council as well as the other departments and conference evangelists have embraced the mission and ministry of the presiding elder district. The Laurinburg District has great potential because they have learned the art of working together.

The Fayetteville District

The Fayetteville District has experienced more growth than any other presiding elder district in Eastern North Carolina. The Simon Temple congregation has more than 4,000 members and is still growing. Several congregations of the Fayetteville District have experienced growth and has tremendous potential for more exciting ministries. The veteran presiding elder, the Reverend Henry A. Gregory, Jr., is a very capable, thorough and accomplished leader for the district. The district is composed of nineteen (19) congregations. Moreover, each congregation as well as the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society, the Christian Education Department, the Lay Council and the Department of Evangelism continues to equip and enhance the ministry of the district.

The Sanford District

The Sanford District is composed of twenty-two (22) congregations situated in Moore, Lee, Harnett and Chatham counties. Dr. Ricky Frazier serves as the presiding elder and has brought extraordinary leadership to the district. This basically rural district has been motivated and inspired to move to the next level of ministry. Because of the leadership skills, love and compassion demonstrated by Dr. Frazier, the Sanford District's efforts in ministry has taken on new life. The Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society, the Lay Council and the Christian Education Department have developed more meaningful ministries. The future of this district is bright thanks to the very capable leadership of the presiding elder, pastors and district officers.

The Dunn-Lillington District

The sixteen (16) congregations of the Dunn-Lillington District are led by the very capable presiding elder, the Reverend Joseph C. Brown, Sr. Even though this district is the youngest of the six presiding elder districts, its potential for growth and ministry is unlimited. The presiding elder, pastors and district officers are commended for the efforts made to develop and equip the membership of the district for ministry. The district is ripe for continued growth and transformation. The departments, Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society, Lay Council, Christian Education Department and Evangelism continue to find ways to connect to the congregations as they seek to enhance fellowship, worship and the edification of the district's ministry.

The Durham District

This district is led by one of Zion's most veteran preachers, the Rev. Dr. Lawrence A. Miller. The Durham District is composed of twenty-four (24) congregations. Without question, the district is strong, alive and active in the various communities where the congregations are located. Even though the Durham is known for the ministry of the St. Mark congregation, much of the district's strength is found in the suburbia or rural congregations in Durham, Wake, and Chatham counties. Several congregations in these areas can boast of growing and developing memberships as they seek to meet the needs of people who travel from the surrounding cities. This district prides itself in leading the annual conference in the various efforts of ministry.

The Raleigh District

This district is led by the Reverend Lawrence R. Turner, a very dedicated and loyal preacher of the conference. Reverend Turner has done an outstanding job motivating, encouraging and directing the affairs of the district. The district is composed of nineteen (19) congregations inclusive of Harnett, Wake, Henderson, Franklin and Granville counties. Most of these congregations are small, but are very active in the communities as well as on the district. Without question, the district is led by Rush Metropolitan (Raleigh) and Grace (Raleigh). These congregations have led the district as they have birth new congregations, produced preachers and serves as a strong witness in the community. Many of the pastors and other officers of the district are inspired and supported by these leading congregations.

Necrology

Bishop James E. McCoy

Rev. Gennell Wilkerson

Rev. Helena Council

Rev. Ocie M. Brown

Rev. Margaret Walters Watson

Rev. Frances J. Milliken

Rev. Carolyn S. Ratcliff

Rev. Alexander Alford

Rev. Calvin T. Farrar

Rev. Dexter M. Bledsoe

Rev. Ervin C. Dowdy

Rev. Irene M. Bell

Rev. Johnnie Allen

Rev. Virginia P. Wyatt

Rev. Winston Blackwell

Rev. Ernest K. Maynor

Rev. Naomi Douglas

Rev. Dr. Richard T. Hadley, Sr

***“And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll.
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
-“Even so” – it is well with my soul.”***

THE NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

The North Carolina Conference is the “*Mother Conference of the South.*” Bishop James Walker Hood established Zion’s presence in both New Bern and Beaufort in 1864. The Sesquicentennial Celebration was a grand event held in November 2014, culminating with a Morning Glory Service with Bishop Richard Thompson preaching, a magnificent parade through downtown New Bern, and an inspirational worship service where our Senior Bishop, George Battle was the preacher. Rev. Dr. Joseph Walton, Presiding Elder on Special Assignment served as the Anniversary Chairman and deserves commendation for a job well done. This Conference is one of the strongest in Zion Methodism with clergy and laity who serve the Lord and their beloved Zion faithfully. The following is a brief synopsis of the work:

Beaufort District

The Reverend Avery C. Brown, Presiding Elder

The Beaufort District is an upward moving district that seeks to minister to the total person. Led by pastors who are aware of God’s anointing on their lives, they are learning to trust the call of God in their preaching, teaching, counseling and administration. Christian Education leads in Sunday School training quarterly; they lead the second combined meeting. The Missionaries do their outreach work in meeting the needs of local congregations and assisting with the District Institute. The Lay Council is hard at work training local congregations how to fulfill the mission of the Lay Council. The Ministers Spouses and Widowers are working to support the work of ministry. The Sons of Varick are working to lift the profile of black men in schools and communities. The District Ushers are faithfully serving in any capacity they are needed.

The Beaufort District is especially proud of their ecumenical partnership with the United Methodist Church in the Sound District. They have created what they call; “P4P” or Points for Partnership. This includes three on-site tutorial programs as well as fellowship events among pastors and congregations.

Piney Grove AME Zion Church, Havelock, N.C. Reverend Doctor Robert Little, Jr.
Purvis Chapel AME Zion Church, Beaufort, N.C. Reverend Theodore Calhoun, Sr.
Jones Chapel AME Zion Church, New Bern, N.C. Reverend Annette Hoskins-Satterfield
Saint Stephen AME Zion Church, Morehead City, N.C. Reverend Doctor William Snow
Wesley Chapel AME Zion Church, New Bern, N.C. Reverend Arthur Monroe
Saint Mark AME Zion Church, Bayboro, N.C. Reverend Irvin Hickman
Pierce Chapel AME Zion Church, Oriental, N.C. Reverend Gethsemane Hill, Jr.
Trinity Chapel AME Zion Church, New Bern, N.C. Reverend Dorian Daniels
Hyman Chapel AME Zion Church, Havelock, N.C. Reverend Doctor Latisha Godette
Holt’s Chapel AME Zion Church, Oriental, N.C. Reverend Thomas Fryar
Saint Mark AME Zion Church, Morehead City, N.C. Reverend Don Roberts
Walter’s Chapel AME Zion Church, Newport, N.C. Reverend Leddia Chapman
Mount Olive AME Zion Church, Havelock, N.C. Reverend Timothy Jackson
Queen Chapel AME Zion Church, Dover, N.C. Reverend Curtis Oden
Union Chapel AME Zion Church, Grantsboro, N.C. Reverend Joyce Bell
Saint John AME Zion Church, Cove City, N.C. Reverend Doctor Cynthia Woolford
Cedar Grove AME Zion Church, Aurora, N.C. Reverend Lynn Godette

Saint Paul AME Zion Church, Aurora, N.C. Reverend Lynn Godette
Bryant Chapel AME Zion Church, New Bern, N.C. Reverend Godfrey Nelson
Zion Temple AME Zion Church, Havelock, N.C. Reverend Gwendolyn Parmley
Reels Chapel AME Zion Church, Beaufort, N.C. Reverend Christina Grady
Alliance Chapel AME Zion Church, Alliance, N.C. Reverend Vicky Reels
Saint James AME Zion Church, Vandemere, N.C. Reverend Vera Price
Saint Thomas AME Zion Church, Swansboro, N.C. Reverend Carolyn Brookshire

New Bern District

The Rev. Erlinda C. Dobson, Presiding Elder

This has been a stellar four years for this dynamic District as they have grown in a multitude of ways. There are many churches on the District that have been intentional about paying off their mortgages and becoming debt free and thereby teaching the same concept to their members. Ministers and laity are open to new concepts and opportunities to evangelize the lost, the destitute, and the hurting. All District organizations are active and strong. As a team, they use their gifts, talents, and resources to do Kingdom building. The New Bern District churches partner with non-profits, law enforcement, schools, community colleges, city and county government, and other agencies. Many members are active with the NAACP, Black Caucus, Council of Churches, and are AME Zion Lay Council card-carrying members. These partnerships help the District to foster relationships that strengthen the communities they serve and provide great visibility for the AME Zion Church.

Bryant Chapel AME Zion Church, Cove City, NC. Rev. Brian T. Cornelius, Pastor.
Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church, New Bern, NC. Rev. Dr. M. Luther Hill, Pastor.
St. Augustus AME Zion Church, Kinston, NC. Rev. Julian Pridgen, Pastor.
St. Julia AME Zion Church, Jacksonville, NC. Rev. Dr. Amy Ciceron, Pastor.
St. Peter AME Zion Church, New Bern, NC. Rev. Robert Kelly, Jr. Pastor.
St. Luke AME Zion Church, Maysville, NC. Rev. David Elliott, Pastor.
Clinton Chapel Memorial AME Zion Church, Pollocksville, NC. Rev. Michael Burden, Pastor.
St. Paul AME Zion Church, Silverdale, NC. Rev. Cynthia Smith, Pastor.
St. James RR AME Zion Church, Rocky Run Community, Rev. Philip C. Jones, Pastor.
St. Stephan AME Zion Church, Belgrade, NC. Rev. Katie B. Chapman, Pastor.
Morris Chapel AME Zion Church, Trenton, NC, Rev. Gwen Haddock, Pastor.
St. Matthew AME Zion Church, Trenton, NC, Rev. Willie D. Jones, Pastor
Little Zion AME Zion Church, Sneads Ferry AME Zion Church, Rev. Aubrey Godette, Pastor.
St. James AME Zion Church, Long Point, NC, Rev. Andrew Collins, Pastor.
St. John AME Zion Church, Fort Barnwell, NC Rev. Francis Boomer, Pastor
Union Chapel AME Zion Church, Midway Park, NC Rev. Letishia Chapman, Pastor
Jericho AME Zion Church, Kinston, NC, Rev. Garry Slade, Pastor
Shabach AME Zion Church, Vanceboro, NC, Rev. Blenda Hargett, Pastor
Moses Temple New Generation AME Zion Church, Richland, NC, Rev. Doris Petteway, Pastor

The Washington District

The Rev. Lester A. Jacobs, Jr., Presiding Elder

This District strives to make a difference by reaching up to God and reaching out to others. The churches meet each 5th Sunday for worship and fellowship, and they are intentional about visitation to nursing homes and prisons. The Washington District Officers work hard to provide ministry and missions in the various departments. The Missionaries have conducted health fairs, and HIV/AIDS testing and counseling, the Christian Education team provides training and nurturing, and the Department of Evangelism conducted workshops and training sessions to reach beyond the walls of the church. The ushers are faithful and serve at both district and conference programs. The Minister Spouses conduct programs to encourage widows and spouses. The Washington District is blessed to have a team of gifted and dedicated pastors who make a difference in Kingdom building. The following have answered the call and dedicated themselves to the will of Almighty God, and the church:

York Memorial AME Zion Church, Greenville, NC - Rev. D'Andre W.J. Daniels/Rev. Lester Jacobs

Metropolitan AME Zion Church, Washington NC - Rev. David Moore

St. John AME Zion Church, Rocky Mount, NC - Rev. Reginald Bradshaw

Zion Temple AME Zion Church, Grifton, NC - Rev. Andre Greene

Mt. Zion AME Zion Church of Maury, NC - Rev. Dwain Murphy

Star of Zion AME Zion Church, Hookerton, NC - Rev. Dwain Murphy

St. Stephens AME Zion Church, Farmville, NC - Rev. Dr. Margaret Blackmon

Pleasant Hill A.M.E. Zion Church, New Bern, NC - Rev. Roosevelt Johnson

St. Mark AME Zion Church, New Bern, NC - Rev. Triva Mason

St. Luke AME Zion Church, Kinston, NC - Rev. Reginald Rountree

Wayne Chapel AME Zion Church, Kinston, NC - Rev. Angela Washington

Cherry Run A.M.E. Zion Church, Washington, NC - Rev. Glenda Lodge

Mt. Olive AME Zion Church, Washington, NC - Rev. Josie Faye Clark

Reedy Branch AME Zion Church, Blunts Creek, NC - Rev. Lester A. Jacobs, Jr.

St. Paul AME Zion Church, Tarboro, NC - Rev. Roger Raynor

Zachariah A.M.E. Zion Church, Walstonburg, NC - Rev. Paula J. McCullough

Keyesville AME Zion Church, Washington, NC - Rev. Sylvia Teele

Morning Star AME Zion Church, Ayden, NC - Rev. Carolyn McCall

Rev. Joseph L. Walton, Presiding Elder on Special Assignment

Necrology

Bishop James E. McCoy~Rev. Emaline Brown Loftin~Rev. George N. Wigfall~Rev. George Foy, Jr.~Rev. Acolia Moore Simon-Thomas~Rev. Margaret Louise Raynor~Rev. Joseph C. George. Beloved Saints of GOD, "It is well, it is well, with your soul!"

In conclusion, we offer tribute to the memory of the late Bishop James E. McCoy, whose episcopal leadership provided a strong example for us. Missionary Supervisor Shirley McCoy deserves the respect and admiration she has earned from all of us who witnessed her strength and dignity in fulfilling her responsibilities after the death of her beloved husband. My wife and I are grateful for the opportunity to work so closely with her. Ms. Katherine "Necie" Chapman has been an invaluable asset and I'm sincerely appreciative of her outstanding administrative skills. It has been an unparalleled privilege to serve as the Presiding Bishop of the North Carolina Conference. They are a blessed people and have been a blessing to us.

With Jesus Joy, I am your Servant in Christ and Zion!
The Right Reverend W. Darin Moore, 99th Bishop in Line of Succession

The Virgin Island Annual Conference

The Virgin Island Annual Conference composes the St. Croix District which only has two (2) congregations. Each of these congregations has approximately fifty (50) members. The spirit of these congregations are winsome and inspiring. Without question, the financial resources of these congregations are not great. Nevertheless, the work of ministry is not impeded. The Rev. Brian Thompson, serves as presiding elder, and has lifted the spirit and the efforts of the annual conference. During this quadrennial, several of the members have traveled and have involved themselves with the work of the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society, the Lay Council and the Christian Education Department. Much of the quarterly conferences have been a source of instruction, inspiration and motivation.

The St. Croix District

Rev. Brian Thompson, Presiding Elder

Beulah
Medford

Rev. Richard Austin, Esq, Pastor
Rev. Matthew Gaddy, Pastor
Rev. Shelby Gaddy, Esq. (2016)

Conference Evangelists

Rev. Vernita Thomas
Rev. Albert Hewitt

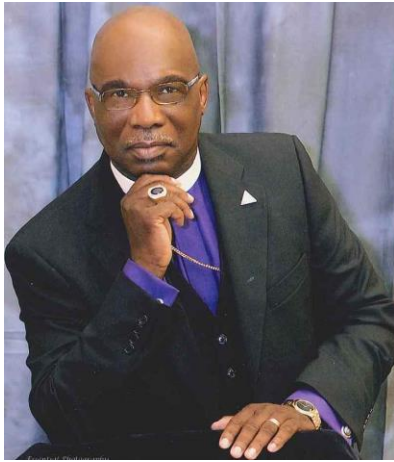
Rev. Bertram Charles
Rev. Kevin A. Hewitt, Sr.

Necrology

Rev. Evadney Newton Elwin

SOUTH ATLANTIC EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

Introduction



During the past quadrennial, the South Atlantic Episcopal District has experienced a great deal of struggle as well as success. Perhaps, Frederick Douglas was correct in saying, “Without struggle there is no progress.” Without question, our faith has been tested and many of the leaders of the district have discovered the importance of faith in God as well as having faith in each other. The leadership has learned to keep moving regardless of the conditions and or circumstances. We have discovered that we can go further and accomplish more than we could ever dream if we just keep moving in the direction of our God. When we keep moving, we are able to see ourselves leaving our troubles, leaving our trials and tribulations, leaving our tragedies, our tears, our temptations, leaving our tempers, our thoughtlessness, our timidity, our trash as well as our turmoil’s behind us. I am amazed at what we have left behind us. Even though there are those who continue to look back and reach for those things that have impeded us and have kept us passive. Moreover, there are those who were able to capture the vision of God and move forward.

I praise God for the opportunity to serve the South Atlantic Episcopal District as the Presiding Bishop. Over the past (4) four years, the district has changed. We have lost some congregations but we have also added to the district. I take responsibility for the status of the district. Without question, several of our congregations are at a standstill. There is little or no movement because the leadership is unsure of where to go or even how to get started. No doubt, in some instances, the congregations are afraid to move because they are comfortable living in the same spot. They do not understand life is more meaningful and helpful when we continue our journey of faith.

As Presiding Bishop, I have attempted to visit as many congregations as possible in the district as a means of building a better relationship with the people. Currently, out of (157) one hundred and fifty seven congregations in the district, I have attended Sunday school and or morning worship at (147) congregations in the past (8) eight years. I have learned to listen and to love the people as well as to respond to the needs of pastors and congregations. It was important for me to assist pastors with their personal and educational responsibilities. There was never a congregation who requested assistance and was rejected or turned down. I am grateful to God for keeping us focused, faithful and fruitful as we sought to meet the needs of the people.

During the past two quadrennials, the district underwent the realignment of presiding elder districts in two (2) of the four (4) annual conferences of the district. The Georgia Annual Conference is presently composed of (3) presiding elder districts (Atlanta, Conyers/Winder and Augusta). The South Carolina Annual Conference has three presiding elder districts (Chester, Rock Hill and York). Because of these new alignments of the presiding elder districts, each of these annual conferences have been able to serve the people more effectively and productively. I am grateful to the pastors, the congregations and the presiding elders for supporting this type of change for the good of the work.

At some point, I have been able to hold town hall meetings with each of the (10) ten presiding elder districts to share the vision of the Episcopal District. Perhaps one of the most encouraging efforts of the quadrennial was the construction of the Kenneth Monroe Transformation Center. The Transformation Center was completed and dedicated on Saturday, October 18, 2014 in Rock Hill, SC. After (4) four years of planning, designing, motivating, encouraging, casting vision, and promoting a capitol campaign, a 35,000 square foot facility evolved with a complex of (8) eight offices, (2) two conference rooms, (6) six break out rooms, a private dining room, a small chapel, a banquet hall which seats (500) five hundred, and a worship center that seats (900) nine hundred. The center is valued at more than (5) five million dollars.

It is important to note how the Center has inspired and transformed the people of the district as well as the neighborhood. Several civic and community gatherings are held at the Center and three of the four annual conferences as well as other Episcopal District functions convene at the Center.

George Annual Conference

The Georgia Annual Conference has experienced a tremendous amount of transition since its inception. It has seen growth and has endured a period of instability throughout the history of the annual conference. Presently, the annual conference is composed of three (3) presiding elder districts and twenty-five (25) congregations.

History will record the courageous efforts of the pastors and lay people who were able to bring a pioneering spirit, and an energized ministry which gave new life and motivation to the annual conference. The efforts of Rev. Don C. Phillips, Dr. Roe Nall, Jr., the late Mayfred Nall, the late Walt Bellamy, Dr. M. C. Broughton, Sr., Bishop Clarence Carr and other veteran pastors helped to sustain and grow the annual conference.

Shaw Temple is the strongest congregation with some 3,000 members, other congregations within the annual conference have experienced significant growth, such as Solid Rock, Faith, and New Life. The efforts of the Conference Evangelist has been able to expand the ministry of the annual conference. Some twenty-five or more preachers have been charged to do ministry in nursing homes, prisons, professional counseling, hospitals, homeless shelters, and other ministries throughout the conference touching people from all walks of life and expanding the arms of the Georgia Annual Conference.

Atlanta District

Shaw Temple, Smyrna
Faith, Atlanta
New Life, College Park
Pond Springs, Lylerly
St. James, Rome
Hemphill, Summerville
Wood Station- Napier, Ringgold
Thomas Chapel, Lylerly
Hope, Decatur

Dr. Jeffery L. Tribble, Sr., PE

Dr. George D. Crenshaw, Pastor
Rev. Reginald Morton, Pastor
Rev. Richard Williams, Pastor
Rev. Anthony Brown, Pastor
Rev. Orlando Tucker, Pastor
Rev. Solomon Missouri, Pastor
Dr. Jeffery L. Tribble, Supply
Rev. Anthony Brown, Pastor
Rev. Arit Umoh James, Pastor

Conyers-Winder

Solid Rock, Lithonia
Bush Chapel, Winder
Spring Hill, Monroe
Emmanuel, Stone Mountain
Smith Memorial, Monroe
Prospect, Monroe
Mount Zion, Loganville
Bethlehem, Winder
Pleasant Hill, Covington
Carter's Temple, Monroe
Simmons Chapel, Lawrenceville

Augusta District

Mount Zion, Augusta
Smith Chapel, Girard
Green Grove, Gough
Pleasant Grove, Sardis
Jones Chapel, Blythe

Dr. John P. Ruth, PE

Rev. Kareem Curry, Pastor
Rev. John P. Ruth, Supply
Rev. D. Louis Patterson
Rev. Frederick A. Williamson
Rev. Lynn E. Hill, Pastor
Rev. Roseanna T. Brannon, Pastor
Rev. Arthela T. Ramey, Pastor
Rev. David Character, Pastor
Rev. Rickey R Williams, Pastor
Rev. Connie Gross, Pastor
Rev. Sabrina Scott, Pastor

Rev. Albert Young, PE

Rev. Albert Young, Pastor
Dr. Ernest A. Mensah, Pastor
Rev. Samuel Grant, Supply
Rev. Joyce Surry, Pastor
Rev. James Coffman, Pastor

Palmetto Annual Conference

The Palmetto Annual Conference is composed of two (2) presiding elder districts and forty-two (42) congregations ranging from Greenville to North Charleston, SC. Over the past quadrennial the annual conference has not experienced the growth it did in former years. New leadership has been put in place in some of the key positions of the annual conference, yet there is much more to be achieved. The presiding elders have worked untiringly, along with some key pastors and lay leaders to motivate and sustain the various ministries and congregations of the annual conference.

Moreover, in the past few years, the annual conference has captured the vision of transformation. New and promising pastors and lay leaders have surfaced to move the annual conference to a more fruitful ministry. I am proud of the ministry of the W. H. & O. M. Society, the efforts of the Lay Council, the continuous teaching of the Christian Education Department and the energy of the Home Missions and Conference Workers. These departments have created the kind of motivation and inspiration to bring new life to the annual conference.

Columbia/Camden District

Jones Memorial, Columbia
Antioch, Eastover
Baum Temple, Summerville
Ebenezer, Camden
Good Hope, Camden
Edwards Chapel, Camden
Rossville, Richburg
Mt. Nebo, Great Falls
Paradise, Great Falls

Dr. Marion Wilson, PE

Rev. J. R. Williams, Pastor
Rev. Robert T. Benton, Pastor
Rev. Mary S. Tucker, Pastor
Rev. George Rhodes, Pastor
Rev. Gary Smith, Pastor
Rev. Joseph N. Rowson, Pastor
Rev. Timothy Mayers, Pastor
Rev. Richard D. Woods, Pastor
Rev. Michael Peay, Pastor

Temple of God, Cayce
Pleasant Grove #1, Great Falls
Old Mt. Zion, Kingstree
Zion Hill, Camden
Fairview, Great Falls
New Vision, North Charleston
Beaver Creek, Liberty Hill
Good News, Orangeburg
Clinton Chapel, Sumter
Pleasant Grove #2, Heath Springs
Camp Welfare, Winnsboro

Spartanburg District

New Hope, Union
Stephen Grove, Una
New Prospect, Spartanburg
Metropolitan, Spartanburg
Trinity-Woodruff
Greater St. John, Winnsboro
Beatty's Chapel, Union
St. Matthew, Whitmire
St. Luke, Carlisle
Smalls Chapel, Winnsboro
Bethesda, Winnsboro
Pleasant View, Chester
Cedar Grove, Whitmire
Trinity, Whitmire
Mt. Visit, Blackstock
Chestnut Ridge, Pauline
Shekinah Glory, Una
Williams Chapel
Gabriel, Greenville
Spring Hill, Whitmire
Rice Chapel, Buffalo
Bethel, Blackstock

Rev. Barry Thompson, Pastor
Rev. Sandra Fleming, Pastor
Dr. Robbie C. McKesson, Pastor
Rev. James Hayes, Pastor
Rev. Heyward Boyd, Pastor
Rev. Monica Davis, Pastor
Rev. James Gordon, Pastor
Rev. Vanessa Wilson, Pastor
Rev. Brenda B. Weathers, Pastor
Rev. Donald Boulter, Pastor
Rev. Vincent Long, Pastor

Dr. Reid R. White, Jr. PE

Rev. Ronnie McCorory, Pastor
Rev. Albert Sorter, Jr., Pastor
Rev. James Hawkins, Pastor
Rev. Eugene Goodwin, Pastor
Rev. Vincent Meekins, Pastor
Rev. Jesse Peay, Pastor
Rev. James Curenton, Pastor
Rev. Edward Wilson, Pastor
Rev. Patricia Booker, Pastor
Rev. Derrick Scurry, Pastor
Rev. Andre' Miller, Pastor
Rev. Martin Boulter, Pastor
Rev. Mamie J. Howell, Pastor
Rev. Eric Rice, Pastor
Rev. Bruce Dawkins, Pastor
Rev. Edward Bell, Pastor
Rev. Rena' Hunter, Pastor
Dr. Ernest White, Pastor
Rev. Benson Watt, III, Pastor
Rev. Michael Patterson, Pastor
Rev. Recorda Holmes, Pastor
Rev. Jesse Peay, Pastor

Pee Dee Annual Conference

The Pee Dee Annual Conference is composed of (2) two presiding elder districts and (44) congregations bordering the state of North Carolina and the Pee Dee River. The annual conference continues to maintain a strong voice and presence throughout the region. Several ministries designed to inspire and motivate the youth, children and young adults have experienced some success. Yet, the need for more young and energetic pastors and leaders is evolving but not fast enough to address all of the needs of the various congregations and communities.

I am grateful for the leadership of the presiding elders, pastors, preachers and key lay people who have been supportive and dedicated to the mission of the annual conference. The Pee Dee Annual Conference is alive, the people have been focused, faithful and fruitful. The ministry of reconciliation has been embraced and new life is manifesting itself throughout the conference.

Lancaster District

Mt. Zion, Lancaster
David Stand, Lancaster
White Oak, Van Wyck
Mt. Tabor, Lancaster
Steele Hill, Lancaster
Mt. Carmel, Lancaster
Cedar Creek, Lancaster
El Bethel, Fort Mills
North Corner, Lancaster
Salem, Heath Springs
Mt. Moriah, Lancaster
Gold Hill, Lancaster
Mt. Calvary, Lancaster
Camp Creek, Lancaster
New Hope, Lancaster
Pleasant Hill, Heath Springs
Centennial, Lancaster
Greater Frazier, Lancaster
New Unity, Waxhaw
Bingham Chapel, Westville
St. Paul, Lancaster
Victory Tabernacle, Lancaster
Mt. Nebo, Lancaster
Clinton Chapel, Kershaw
Warner Temple, Lancaster

Cheraw/Bennettsville District

Pleasant Grove, Cheraw
New Zion, Little Rock
Robinson, Cheraw
Mt. Hebron, Cheraw
Evans Metropolitan, Bennettsville
Smithville, Cheraw
St. James, Chesterfield
Rock Hill, Pageland
Millers Chapel, Dillion
Drucilla, Chesterfield
Dyers Hill, Bennettsville
St. Peters, Clio
Greater Fair Plains, McColl

Rev. Dr. Robert E. Christian, Sr.

Dr. Victor C Wilson, Pastor
Rev. Albert Tucker, Pastor
Rev. Dennis McCleave, Pastor
Rev. Roosevelt Alexander, Pastor
Rev. Sandra C. Sistare, Pastor
Rev. Harold Jones, Pastor
Rev. William Cox, Pastor
Rev. Paulette Leak, Pastor
Rev. M .Diana Charles, Pastor
Rev. Claudette Felder, Pastor
Rev. Charles Crockett, Pastor
Rev. Linda Hill, Pastor
Rev. Rolly D. Dawkins, Pastor
Rev. Richard R. Smith, Pastor
Rev. James Scott, Jr., Pastor
Rev. Kenneth Cureton, Pastor
Rev. Princess Mickle, Pastor
Rev. Barbara Benjamin, Pastor

Rev. Bessie Simmons, Pastor
Rev. Sheresa Ingram, Pastor
Rev. Sheresa Ingram, Pastor

Rev. William Cox, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Sandra K. Benton

Dr. Sandra K. Benton, Supply
Rev. James R. McLean, Pastor
Dr. Alton Pegues, Pastor
Rev. Darlene E. Stuckey, Pastor
Rev. Samuel Latta, III, Pastor
Rev. Dorothy Wallace, Pastor
Rev. Vera Witherspoon, Pastor
Rev. John York, Pastor
Rev. Donna C. Butler, Pastor
Rev. Randy Billie, Pastor
Rev. James L. Williams, Pastor
Rev. John W. Lee, Pastor
Rev. Christopher White, Pastor

Shiloh, Maxton, NC
Angelus Chapel, Jefferson
Poplar Hill, Pageland
Piney Grove, Mt. Croghan
Mt. Airy, Chesterfield
Rhode Branch, Jefferson

Rev. Virginia Covington, Pastor
Rev. William A. Ellis, Pastor
Rev. Donald McIntyre, Pastor
Rev. Sandra A. Ellis, Pastor
Rev. Alan Stewart, Pastor
Rev. Linda Clark, Pastor

South Carolina Annual Conference

The South Carolina Annual Conference is composed of (3) three presiding elder districts and (45) forty five congregations. Shortly after the 49th Session of the General Conference in 2012, the annual conference realigned the presiding elder districts, creating a new presiding elder district. Since that time, the annual conference has experienced tremendous growth. Each presiding elder has demonstrated transforming leadership, encouraging and motivating ministries for pastors, preachers and district officers. All of the departments are viable and strong. The people are respectful and are attentive and responsive to leadership. They are ready for the next level of ministry.

Chester District

Union Ezell, Fort Lawn
Rehoboth, Chester
Browns Chapel, Lowery
Mt. Zion, Hickory Grove
Mt. Zion, Lansford
Mt. Moriah, Richburg
Mt. Ararat, Richburg
Metropolitan, Chester
Chestnut Grove, Chester
Cedar Grove, Chester
Wilson Chapel, Sharon
Mt. Vernon, Fort Lawn
Brooklyn/Williamsville, Chester
St. James, Hickory Grove
Greater Unity, Sharon
Ebenezer, Smyrna
Mt. Hebron, Chester

Rev. Dr. Otha L. Smith, PE

Rev. William N. Long, Pastor
Rev. Raymond Massey, Pastor
Dr. Otha L. Smith, Pastor
Rev. Frankie Smith, Pastor
Rev. Michael Mackins, Pastor
Rev. Otis Stroud, Sr., Pastor
Rev. Ronnie Meeks, Pastor
Rev. Angela Boyd, Pastor
Rev. Ina C. Harris, Pastor
Rev. John E. Long, Pastor
Rev. Forrest Woodard, Pastor

Rev. Andre Showers, Pastor
Rev. Carl Smith
Rev. George McKain, II, Pastor
Rev. Thomas Moore, Pastor
Rev. Michael Smith, Pastor

Rock Hill District

New Mt. Olivet, Rock Hill
Rock Grove, Rock Hill
Pineville, Rock Hill
United, Fort Mills
St. Matthew, Rock Hill
Foundation, Rock Hill
Red Oak, Edgemoor
Mt. Zion, Fort Mills
Tabernacle, Rock Hill

Rev. Sharon B. Jenkins, PE

Dr. Maurice A. Harden, Pastor
Rev. Titus Thorn, Pastor
Rev. Jawwad J. Love, Pastor
Rev. Eric Franks, Pastor
Rev. Trishaun M. Kendall, Pastor
Rev. Sharon B. Jenkins, Pastor
Rev. Raphael J. Gadson, Pastor
Rev. Barbara Adams, Pastor
Rev. Kimmie Nichols, Pastor

Catawba Chapel, Catawba
 Indian Hill, Fort Mills
 China Grove, Rock Hill
 Mt. Calvary, Rock Hill
 Center Emmanuel, Rock Hill

York District

New Home, York
 Clinton Chapel, York
 O'Zion, Charlotte, NC
 White Hill, York
 Liberty Hill, Clover
 Mt. Pleasant, Gastonia, NC
 Shiloh, Grover, NC
 Fairview, Earl, NC
 Zoah, Clover
 Trinity, Blacksburg
 Metropolitan, Gaffney
 Clover, Clover
 Ramoth, Charlotte, NC
 New Loves Chapel, Clover

Rev. Hanna R. Broome, Pastor
 Rev. Mary L. English, Pastor
 Rev. JaQuavious Tucker, Pastor
 Rev. Jacqueline Caldwell, Pastor
 Rev. Marion Jones, Pastor

Dr. Alvin W. McLamb, PE

Dr. Carlton Brown, Pastor
 Rev. Tracy Ellis, Pastor
 Rev. Grady Sharps, Pastor
 Dr. Alvin W. McLamb, Pastor
 Rev. Thelma Gordon, Pastor
 Rev. Sonya Burns, Pastor
 Rev. Jonty Leak, Pastor
 Rev. S. Franklin Kelly, Pastor
 Rev. Iris Kennedy, Pastor
 Rev. Wanalyn Barnett, Pastor
 Rev. Laveria Wynn, Pastor
 Rev. Kenya Powell, Pastor
 Rev. Doris Holmes, Pastor
 Rev. Elmer Robinson, Pastor

Necrology

Dr. M. C. Broughton, Sr.	Georgia	Rev. William Bailey	South Carolina
Rev. Robert Haynesworth	Georgia	Rev. W. E. Goode	South Carolina
Rev. Don C. Phillips	Georgia	Rev. Chinetta Oates	South Carolina
Dr. Roy Brice	Palmetto	Rev. Kenneth Smith	South Carolina
Rev. Osborne Burnside	Palmetto	Rev. Lloyd Surratt	South Carolina
Rev. Martha Owens	Palmetto	Dr. Ralph Washington	South Carolina
Rev. William H. Perry	Palmetto	Rev. Ira Williams	South Carolina
Dr. George C. Sanders	Palmetto	Rev. Diane Belk	Pee Dee
Rev. Ira Benson, Sr.	Pee Dee	Rev. E. L. Glasgow	Pee Dee
Rev. Charles Malloy	Pee Dee	Dr. Otis C. Robinson	Pee Dee
Rev. Samuel Wright	Pee Dee	Rev. Alton David	Pee Dee

*"My times are in Thy hand My God, I wish them there;
 My life, my friends, my soul, I leave entirely to Thy care.*

*My times are in Thy hand, I'll always trust in Thee,
 And, after death, at Thy right hand I shall forever be."*

In Conclusion

If the South Atlantic Episcopal District continues to grow, the methods and experience of planting and harvesting congregations are very necessary. For example, I have set out tomato plants, peppers, and other vegetation, however regardless to my efforts to get them to grow - they soon died. My wife has followed me and watered the plants I set out, and they still died. Plants will not live and grow without the sun. Neither will congregations live with the Son.

Please understand that in many instances, there is nothing wrong with our efforts. However, our efforts alone will not bring about a harvest. It does not matter if we are the best farmers, or the best preachers, or the best teachers, or the best evangelists, or the best witnesses in the country, if God does not enhance or anoint our efforts, all of what we do will be for nothing. Our efforts are not always about the gifts, but our efforts are about the grace of God. There are preachers and good lay people in our congregations, wondering why their ministry is struggling or why their congregation is not more successful than it is. Listen! Listen! Listen! *“God gives the increase!”* Unfortunately, many of us have not understood the formula. We are engaging our plans, our programs, and our ideas without totally understanding the will of God. Please understand; our plans and programs may be fine. Perhaps the plan is working in Atlanta or in Rock Hill or even in Lancaster, but have we been in touch with God about the plans we are attempting to employ. There is much reason for us to consult God because, *“God gives the increase.”* We are constantly programming, having contest, rallies, bake sales, friends and family days, anniversaries, revivals, homecomings, camp meetings and the like and are still losing, still struggling, still perplexed and still frustrated with the end results. Listen! Listen! Listen! *God gives the increase!* And yet, it is important for us to understand how God increases. It may not be time for an increase in people or finances, but an increase in patience and prayer.

Our efforts have been to work with God rather than seek to do ministry without Him. Of course, there have been moments and situations that seem to infer that we can do the work of ministry without God. There were times when we felt that we had better ideas than God. Yet, sooner or later we would find our efforts without influence and our ministries collapsing. There is a great need for us to embrace Him and employ Him as we seek to understand Him as we serve and worship Him.

Unfortunately there are all kind of personalities working in this arena of kingdom building. Some workers are like *canal boats*, and have to be dragged along because they are influenced by other people and other resources. When those persons leading them fail or leave, the work ceases. Then there are other workers who may be compared to *sailing ships*. Dependent on the wind and tides, these workers do well so long as the wind of approval is favorable and the tide of public opinion is high. However do not let contrary winds assail them; they will not know how to continue the straight journey. They will find themselves traveling in every direction. But then, there are workers who may be likened to an *ocean liner*. These ships go on, no matter what the wind or the tide maybe. Why? Because they are not dependent upon their surroundings, for their power is found within them.

We can do anything, go anywhere, and master any situation, when we know that God is with us. Without question, God has been with us to enhance our efforts, to cause us to do the impossible, and to transform the world into His likeness. There was no need to become faint in well doing,

God was with us. There was no need to cry, to complain, to pout, and to lose heart while we are engaged in this ministry, God was with us. Please know that God is not concerned about developing large congregations of people, but he desires for us to develop dedicated, devoted and diligent disciples; people who are willing to follow Him and not someone who has developed their own ideologies. Whether there are 20 or 2,000 people in a congregation, it was important for us to be sure that they have embraced the mission of God. Without question, we must wrestle, but not against each other, *“but against rulers, against authorities, against the power of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”* Yet is it important for us to know that God is with us and in us to empower us to carry out His mission in the world. 1 John 4:4 states, *“Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.”*

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of the South Atlantic District and the A. M. E Zion Church. The ministry of the W. H. & O. M. Society, Home Missions, the Lay Council, the Christian Education Department, as well as the Department of Evangelism have all continued to equip and edify the annual conference. They are a great people. Our efforts to build relationships and connect with the people of the district were fruitful. God allowed us to connect to one another and cause great things to happen. Particularly, I salute the Presiding Elders, pastors and wonderful lay people for the support given me as we sought to *‘Make the Impossible Possible with God.’* Thank you Sheila for loving, caring, supporting, motivating, encouraging, and standing by me for (41) forty-one years and especially during the past (12) twelve years of my Episcopal Ministry. You are God sent! You are a blessing to the people and a great and glorious blessing to me and our family. The Lord has kept you in our lives to keep us moving toward Him.

Raymond Raspberry said:

*You may build great cathedrals large and small,
You can build skyscraper grand and tall,
You may conquer all the failures of the past,
But only what you do for Christ will last.*

*You may seek earthly power and fame,
The world might be impressed by your great name,
Soon the glories of this life will all be past,
But only what you do for Christ will last.*

*Though’ your songs and prayers are heard and praised by man,
They’re no meaning unless you’ve been born again,
Sinner, heed these words, don’t let this harvest past,
For only what you do for Christ will last.*

*Remember only what you do for Christ will last;
Remember only what you do for Christ will last;
Only what you do for Him will be counted in the end,
Only what you do for Christ will last!*

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Monroe, Presiding Bishop

**The Mid-West Episcopal District Quadrennial Report
To the 2016 General Conference
The Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Tennessee, and Trinidad & Tobago
Conferences**

Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr., Presiding Prelate
Sis. Camille Culom Starnes, Missionary Supervisor

GREETINGS



To our President, Bishop Louis Hunter, our Senior Bishop, Bishop George E. Battle, Jr., Board of Bishops, Missionary Supervisors, General and Connectional Officers, delegates, clergy, laity, and friends of the 50th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

OPENING STATEMENT

I thank the 2012 General Conference for sending us to the Mid-West Episcopal District. The Southwestern Delta Episcopal District will always have a special place in our hearts, but few things are more precious than being able to serve as the Presiding Bishop and Missionary Supervisor of our home conference, the Tennessee Conference, and of our home episcopal district, the Mid-West Episcopal District. In August of 2012, less than a month from the close of the General Conference, the constituents of the Mid-West Episcopal District welcomed us with a program and a reception in Louisville, Kentucky fit for a king. Serving the people of the Mid-West Episcopal District has been a joy, because they have exemplified Bishop Robert Schnazee's five practices of a fruitful church: radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, extravagant generosity, and risk-taking mission and service.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

Leadership is the ability to cast a vision for the future that is faithful to ones mission and the commitment to translate that vision into reality. The movers and shakers of the Mid-West Episcopal District have demonstrated this kind of leadership. In November of 2012, about 120 clergy, laity, young adults, and youth from across the Mid-West Area gathered in Indianapolis, Indiana to cast a vision for the quadrennium. As a result, five points of emphasis have been our foci during this quadrennium, namely: *Prayer Ministries, Small-Group Discipleship, Economic and Political Empowerment, Leadership Development, and Church Planting.* Below is a summary of each of these five points of emphasis.

Prayer Ministries

My first action as the bishop of the Mid-West Area was to appoint **the Rev. Dr. Eric L. Leake** as the Episcopal District Prayer Coordinator. At the first Check-up Meetings, I appointed Prayer Coordinators for each Conference and District. Under Dr. Leake's stellar leadership, the prayer coordinators led us into a 21-day period of consecration, fasting, and Conference Call Prayer before the Vision Casting Retreat, so that we could discern accurately the direction God was

leading us as an Episcopal District. Each spring, Dr. Leake and the prayer coordinators led us in 40 days of fasting and Week-day Conference Call Prayer, making the Lenten Season a time of spiritual growth and faith development for the Episcopal District. Every Check-up Meeting and each day of the Annual Conference begins with a time of intercessory prayer led by the Conference and District Prayer Coordinators. Dr. Leake wrote a book entitled, *Praying on Purpose*, which is an excellent resource for those who want to make progress in their prayer life and in their prayer ministries. He and **Rev. Jacqueline King** are members of our Board of Church Growth and Development, which has, with the help of the Board of Bishops, established Prayer Coordinators in every Episcopal District. Dr. Leake played a significant role in Church Growth and Development's Pre-General Conference Prayer Initiative.

Small-Group Discipleship

Our Presiding Elders played a major role in establishing small-group discipleship in our Episcopal District. From September 10th to December 17th of 2012, they met with me each week via Conference Call to be discipled in a class meeting. From January to June of 2013, they trained the pastors in their districts each week in small-group discipleship. In the latter part of 2013 and in much of 2014, our pastors engaged in the tedious process of first discerning who should be class leaders and then training those class leaders in small-group discipleship through a weekly class meeting. For the last two years, the dedicated class leaders who were trained by their pastors have been nurturing and discipling their class members in a weekly class meeting. I must mention that the Board of Bishops, under the leadership of then President and Senior Bishop, **Bishop George Battle**, met every week via Conference Call for small-group discipleship from May 11th to September 28th of 2015. Many bishops have already begun to train their Presiding Elders in small-group discipleship, while others are allowing our Board of Church Growth and Development to assist in the training. Special thanks are due to the **Rev. Dr. Eleazar Merriweather** for his help in this training. The Board of Bishops is committed to seeing small-group discipleship taking root in every Episcopal District.

Economic and Political Empowerment

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church has always been on the cutting edge of economic, social, and political empowerment. In the Mid-West Episcopal District, we seek to remain true to our branding as the Freedom Church. **The Rev. Frank Westley Jackson, IV** has served with great distinction as the Coordinator of Economic and Political Empowerment for the Mid-West Episcopal District. Also, Conference and District Coordinators have been appointed for each Annual Conference and Presiding Elder District. These coordinators have led us in voter registration drives, in fostering entrepreneurship, in championing social justices issues, and in encouraging membership in the NAACP.

Leadership Development

Every Check-up Meeting has training sessions for the Missionaries led by the Missionary Supervisor; for the laity of all ages led by the Christian Education Department; and for the ministers led by the bishop. On Saturday of Annual Conferences, there are training sessions for clergy and laity of all ages led by the Christian Education Department. **The Rev. Dr. Anthony Witherspoon** and his team have been innovative in coordinating our annual Bishop Enoch Rochester Leadership Training Institute. It begins with a Men's Conference and a Women's Conference held simultaneously. Then, four simultaneous training institutes are held; one for

adults, one for young adults, one for youth, and one for children. This allows the unique needs of each age group to be met and continues our commitment to the leadership development for young adults, youth and children. All ages are together for the bishop's keynote address, for the opening Communion Service, and for the closing session, led by the youth and children. Dr. Witherspoon has also done an excellent job as the Dean for the annual Shaw-Starnes School of Ministry Leadership Training Institute of the Trinidad and Tobago Conference. I am grateful to him and Presiding Elder Eleazar Merriweather for their leadership in facilitating this training opportunity for the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

Church Planting

The Rev. Charles Wesley Thurman, Sr. was appointed as the Church Planting Coordinator for the Mid-West Episcopal District. Conference and District Church Planting Coordinators were appointed in each Annual Conference. We are happy to report that under the leadership of the Rev. Charles Thurman, Sr., the Indiana Conference was able to plant a new church in Fishers, Indiana. A group of five persons were trained and coached; and then led by **the Rev. Charles Wesley Thurman, Jr.** the Alive AME Zion Church was launched on August 17, 2014. At the 2016 Indiana Annual Conference, plans are for that society to be brought into the Conference. The bishop is hopeful and prayerful that this will be the first of many new church starts in the Mid-West Episcopal District.

QUADRENNIAL FOCUS

In my teaching sessions with the ministers at our Check-up Meetings and on Saturday of our Annual Conferences, I focused primarily on two subject areas: "Preaching in the Wesleyan Heritage" and "The Characteristics of a Christ-Centered Church." During this quadrennium, the Mid-West Episcopal District fully embraced the Quadrennial Theme, "Fortifying Our Faith While Focusing on Our Future through Worship, Leadership, Discipleship, and Stewardship. We added an adjective to each of the yearly sub-themes to bring each of them into clearer focus. In year one, our focus was *Inspiring Worship*. In year two, it was *Transformative Leadership*. In year three, it was *Small-Group Discipleship*; and in year four, it was *Faithful Stewardship*. My sermons at the Check-up Meetings and at the Annual Conferences focused on each year's sub-theme. My Episcopal Addresses at the Annual Conferences and my Keynote Addresses at the Leadership Training Institutes also focused on each year's sub-theme.

OUR RETIRED BISHOPS AND MISSIONARY SUPERVISORS

We are blessed to have **Bishop George Walker** and **Mrs. Geraldine Walker**, **Bishop Nathaniel Jarrett** and **Mrs. Estelle Jarrett** as members of the Michigan Conference. We are also blessed to have **Mrs. Joan Fisher** as a member of the Washington Metropolitan AME Zion Church in Saint Louis, Missouri.

OUR CONNECTIONAL OFFICERS

We are blessed to have exceptional Connectional Officers, including **Dr. Sandra Gadson, Mrs. Cynthia Revels-Young, Mrs. Dawn Walker, and Ms. Monica Reed** to name a few. Below is the full list of Connectional Officer from the Mid-West Area who have served faithfully during this quadrennium.

<u>Office</u>	<u>Officer Serving During the Quadrennium</u>
<i>WH&OM, International President</i>	Dr. Sandra Gadson
<i>WH&OM, YAMS General Coordinator</i>	Mrs. Dawn Walker
<i>WH&OM, Buds General Superintendent</i>	Mrs. Cynthia Revels-Young
<i>Judicial Council Member</i>	Ms. Monica S. Reed
<i>Presiding Elders Council, 1st Vice-President</i>	Rev. Dr. John A. Butler
<i>Presiding Elders Council, Executive Secretary</i>	Rev. Dr. Anthony K. R. Gibson
<i>CLC, Regional Director</i>	Ms. Lynda Byrd
<i>IM&LA, Financial Secretary</i>	Mrs. Lula K. Howard
<i>IM&LA, Treasurer</i>	Rev. Dr. Anthony N. Witherspoon
<i>IM&LA, Assistant Recording Secretary</i>	Rev. Dr. Eleazar Merriweather
<i>IM&LA, Regional Vice-President</i>	Rev. Dr. Joel D. Miles
<i>ACE, 1st Vice-President</i>	Sis. Johngerlyn Young
<i>ACE, Corresponding Secretary</i>	Miss LaTreasha Fitzpatrick
<i>ACE, Central Region Vice-President</i>	Ms. Susan Fitzpatrick
<i>ACE, Mid-Western Region Vice-President</i>	Ms. Leshia Sams
<i>YACM, Executive Secretary</i>	Ms. Erin Brazley
<i>YACM, Central Region Vice-Chairperson</i>	Sis. LaKendra Hightower
<i>YACM, Central Region Vice-Chairperson</i>	Rev. Frank Westley Jackson, IV
<i>ViCYC, Treasurer</i>	Bro. Justin Bonner
<i>ViCYC, Chaplain</i>	Miss Renae Moses
<i>ViCYC, Central Region Vice-President</i>	Miss LaTreasha Fitzpatrick;
	Sis. LaKeasha Fitzpatrick
<i>ViCYC, Mid-Western Region Vice-President</i>	Miss April Young
<i>ViCYC, Member-at-Large</i>	Mr. Daniel Walker
<i>ViCYC, Member-at-Large</i>	Miss Eryicka Wesley

OUR EPISCOPAL DISTRICT OFFICERS

Below are the Episcopal District Officers who have provided stellar leadership in their respective ministries.

<u>Office</u>	<u>Officers Serving During the Quadrennium</u>
<i>Prayer Coordinator</i>	Rev. Dr. Eric L. Leake
<i>Finance Chairperson</i>	Rev. Dr. Eleazar Merriweather
<i>Budget Chairperson</i>	Rev. Dr. John A. Butler
<i>Treasurer</i>	Rev. Dr. Harry Spigner

Leadership Training Institute Coordinator
Director of Small-Group Discipleship
Presiding Elders' Council President
Regional Director, Lay Council
Director of Christian Education
Director of Church Planting
Director of Evangelism
Director of Economic/Political Empowerment
Director of Men's Ministry
Director of Women's Ministry
Director of Prison Ministry
Director of Ushers
Director of Health Coordinators
Director of Technology and Communications

Rev. Dr. Anthony N. Witherspoon
 Rev. Dr. Eleazar Merriweather
 Rev. O. Lacy Evans
 Ms. Lynda Byrd
 Dr. Charles Sharp
 Rev. Charles Wesley Thurman, Sr.
 Rev. Dr. Erick Leake
 Rev. Frank Wesley Jackson, IV
 Mr. Ben Howard
 Rev. Dr. Willa Estell
 Rev. Teresa Oglesby
 Mrs. Yunorma Moore
 Rev. Dr. Esther Rose
 Ms. Crystal Bailey

OUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE OFFICERS, PRESIDING ELDERS, AND PASTORS

The Mid-West Episcopal District consists of six Annual Conferences: **Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Tennessee, and Trinidad & Tobago.** Below are each of these Annual Conferences' officers, presiding elders, and pastors.

THE INDIANA CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Office

Prayer Coordinator
Conference Secretary
Conference Treasurer
Conference Statistician
Director of Christian Education
Director of Evangelism
Lay Council President
WH&OM, Indianapolis District President
WH&OM, Southern Illinois District President

Officers Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Carolyn Hampton
 Rev. June Robinson
 Rev. Dr. Anthony K. R. Gibson
 Ms. Rhonda Buchanan
 Rev. Margaret Tillman
 Rev. Val Powe
 Dr. Janet Evelyn
 Mrs. Annette Braden; Ms. Kellie Terry
 Mrs. Coleen Powe

THE INDIANA CONFERENCE PASTORS

The Indianapolis District: Rev. Dr. Anthony K. R. Gibson, Presiding Elder

Church

Jones Tabernacle, Indianapolis, IN
Wallace Temple, Anderson, IN
Johnson
Liberation, Indianapolis, IN
Caldwell Chapel, Indianapolis, IN
Saint Mark Temple, Indianapolis, IN
Penick-Messiah, Indianapolis

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Dr. Harry Spigner
 Rev. Dr. Anthony K. R. Gibson; Rev. Antwaun
 Rev. Charles Wesley Thurman, Sr.
 Rev. Antwaun Johnson; Rev. Kimberly Barlow
 Rev. Arthur Houser; Rev. Dr. Anthony K. R. Gibson
 Rev. John Hederington; Rev. June Robinson

The Southern Illinois District: Rev. Dr. Donald Jones, Presiding Elder

Church

Ricks Chapel, Centralia, IL
Blackwell Temple, Mount Vernon, IL
Smith Memorial, Du Quoin, IL

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Dr. Donald Jones
Rev. Val Powe
Rev. Theresa Flagg

THE KENTUCKY CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Office

Prayer Coordinator
Conference Secretary
Conference Treasurer
Conference Statistician
Director of Christian Education
Director of Evangelism
Lay Council President
WH&OM, Bardstown District President
WH&OM, Louisville District President
WH&OM, Madisonville District President

Officers Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Jacqueline King
Rev. Harriet McElvaney
Rev. O. Lacy Evans
Rev. Y. Michelle Washington
Rev. Harriet McElvaney; Rev. Marcia J. Cole Morton
Rev. Jacqueline King
Mr. Steve Dobbin; Mrs. Lula K. Howard
Rev. Penny Mucker-Williams
Rev. Brenda Evans
Mrs. Margo Reed

THE KENTUCKY CONFERENCE PASTORS

The Bardstown District: Rev. James C. Tutt, Presiding Elder

Church

Saint John, Bardstown, KY

Johnson Chapel, Springfield, KY
Caldwell-Tutt Memorial, New Albany, IN
Campbell Chapel, Bloomfield, KY
Sherman Chapel, Lebanon, KY

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Samuel Harris (deceased);
Rev. Roscoe Linton
Rev. Y. Michelle Washington
Rev. James C. Tutt
Rev. M. Allen Keene
Rev. Roland Puryear, Sr.

The Louisville District: Rev. O. Lacy Evans, Presiding Elder

Church

Stoner Memorial, Louisville, KY
Broadway Temple, Louisville, KY
Hughlett Temple, Louisville, KY
Taylortown, Louisville, KY
Spradling Memorial, Louisville, KY
Jones Memorial, New Albany, IN
Walters-Clement, Louisville, KY
Brown Chapel, Louisville, KY

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Jacqueline King
Rev. Barbara A. Haigler
Rev. Dr. Linton Rhodes; Rev. Dr. Valerie J. Washington
Rev. Erich V. Shumake
Rev. Marcia J. Cole Morton
Rev. O. Lacy Evans
Rev. Rivers C. Sumpter
Rev. Gregory L. Ogburn

The Madisonville District
Presiding Elders: Rev. James C. Tutt (2012-2015); Rev. Batavi Combs

Church

Wesley Chapel, Greenville, KY
Zion Temple, Madisonville, KY
Selectman Chapel, Adairville, KY
Gough Tabernacle, Earlington, KY
Bank Street, Russellville, KY
Saint James, Central City, KY

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Batavi Combs
Rev. Dr. Gwendol Fay McCaskill
Rev. Glenda Sheral McCoy
Rev. Effie Tutt-Stone
Rev. Findy Samuels; Rev. Steven Walker
Rev. George Phillips

THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Office

Prayer Coordinator
Conference Secretary
Conference Treasurer
Conference Statistician
Director of Christian Education
Director of Evangelism
Lay Council President
WH&OM, Chicago District President
WH&OM, Detroit District President
WH&OM, Western Michigan District President

Officers Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Shirley Sparks
Rev. Dr. Eleazar Merriweather
Rev. Dr. Joel D. Miles
Rev. Shirley Sparks
Ms. Deborah Rivers
Rev. Dr. David Neville, Jr.
Mrs. Mary Ann Edmond; Ms. Cheryl Brewster
Mrs. Cynthia Revels-Young
Rev. Wanda Merriweather
Mrs. Evelyn Whitfield

THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE PASTORS

The Chicago District
Presiding Elders: Rev. Claude Christopher (2012-2013); Rev. Dr. Joel D. Miles

Church

Greater Walters, Chicago, IL
Saint Mark, East Chicago, IN
Martin Temple, Chicago, IL
Daniel's Chapel, Phoenix, IL
Blackwell-Israel Samuel
Bethlehem, Gary, IN
Caldwell, Kankakee, IL
Saint Luke, Gary, IN
First, South Bend, IN

Saint Matthew-Gordon

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Dr. Joel D. Miles
Rev. George W. C. Walker, Jr.
Rev. Dr. Eric L. Leake
Rev. Dr. Derrick T. Simmons
Rev. Ambus Morris; Rev. Todd Jarrett
Rev. Hensley AL Gooden
Rev. Lori Holmes
Rev. Dr. Betty Crockett; Rev. Donald James
Rev. Timothy Rouse (deceased);
Rev. Johnny Johnson, Jr.
Rev. Bobby Campbell;
Rev. Lornce Applewhite

Saint Mark, Chicago
Grace, South Bend, IN
Saint Andrew, Gary, IN

Fisher Memorial, Evanston, IL
Saint John, Hammond, IN
Greater Clement, Milwaukee, WI
Unity, Merrillville, IN

Rev. Alesia Hillsman-Terrell
Rev. Lornce Applewhite; Rev. Dr. Jean Hope
Revs. Todd Jarrett; LaTonya Pettigrew;
Steve Floyd
Rev. Warren G. Smith
Rev. Calva Sanders
Rev. David Franklin; Rev. Dr. John Green
Rev. Dr. David Neville, Jr.

The Detroit District: Rev. Ronald Bailey, Presiding Elder

Church

Saint Paul, Detroit, MI
John Wesley, Southfield, MI
Lomax Temple, Detroit
Saint Paul, Toledo, OH
Greater Saint Peter
Blackwell, Flint, MI
Metropolitan, Detroit, MI

Clinton Chapel, Detroit, MI
Saint Peter, Hamtramck, MI
Walls Memorial Chapel, Toledo, OH
Leggett Chapel, Albion, MI
Calvary, Detroit
Amazing Grace, Toledo, OH
Martin Chapel, Clinton Township, MI
Full Gospel, Detroit, MI

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Dr. Eleazar Merriweather
Rev. Al C. Hamilton
Rev. Brian Relford, Sr.
Rev. Dwight Gutridge
Rev. Dr. Anthony D. Johnson
Rev. Anthony G. Morris
Rev. Johnny Johnson, Jr.;
Rev. Frank Westley Jackson, IV
Rev. Ronald Bailey
Rev. Michael Nelson
Rev. Shirley Sparks
Rev. Darren Overton
Rev. Vernon L. Shaw, Jr.; Rev. David Stevenson
Rev. Arlene H. Huckaby
Rev. Dr. Grace Kirby Traylor
Rev. Dr. Esther M. Rose

The Western Michigan District: Rev. Gaylyn S. Wilson, Presiding Elder

Church

Saint Luke, Grand Rapids, MI
John Wesley, Muskegon, MI
Hilliard Chapel, Grand Rapids, MI

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Gaylyn S. Wilson
Rev. George Stewart; Rev. Orea Peterson
Rev. Bobbie Overton

THE MISSOURI CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Office

Prayer Coordinator
Conference Secretary
Conference Treasurer
Conference Statistician

Director of Christian Education
Director of Evangelism

Officers Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Carrol A. Johnson
Rev. Shannon Hancock
Rev. Michael L. Murray
Rev. Dr. Freddie A. Banks, Jr.;
Rev. Dianne Patterson
Ms. Leshia Sams
Rev. Shannon Hancock

Lay Council President
WH&OM, Kansas City District President
WH&OM, Saint Louis District President

Mrs. Lucy White
Ms. Regina Barksdale
Mrs. Jeri Young

THE MISSOURI CONFERENCE PASTORS

The Kansas City District: Rev. Seth Martin Moulton, Presiding Elder

Church

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Metropolitan, Kansas City, MO
Saint Matthews, Kansas City, MO
Kyles, Des Moines, IA
Saint Paul, Kansas City, KS
Mount Zion, Kansas City, KS
Saint Peter, Kansas City, MO
Speaks Temple, Omaha, NE

Rev. Michael L. Murray
Rev. Kelsey Hopson
Rev. Seth Martin Moulton
Rev. Shannon Hancock; Rev. Flaxine Smith
Rev. Ivan L. Harvey, Sr.
Rev. Kenneth Pegue
Rev. Flaxine Smith; Rev. Frances Spearman

The Saint Louis District: Rev. Carrol A. Johnson, Presiding Elder

Church

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Washington Metropolitan, Saint Louis, MO
Samuel Brown Temple, Saint Louis, MO

Blackwell Temple, Webster Grove, MO
Brown Community, East Saint Louis, IL

Progressive, Saint Louis, MO
New Hope, Jefferson City, MO

Rev. Dr. Anthony N. Witherspoon
Rev. Dr. Freddie A. Banks, Jr.:
Rev. Dianne Patterson
Rev. Carrol A. Johnson
Revs. Cary Beckwith; George William Whitfield;
Henry Tutt, Jr.
Rev. Kenneth McKoy
Rev. James L. Mahaney

THE TENNESSEE CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Office

Officers Serving During the Quadrennium

Prayer Coordinator
Conference Secretary
Conference Treasurer
Conference Statistician
Director of Christian Education
Director of Evangelism

Rev. Dr. Willa Estell
Rev. Roxianne Sherles
Rev. James R. Bridgeman
Rev. Dr. Richard Gadzekpo; Rev. Erica Haigler
Sis. Sharon Hannum
Rev. Dr. Richard Gadzekpo;
Rev. Dr. Charles Darden
Mr. Eugene Wallace (deceased);
Ms. Roslyn Eskridge
Mrs. Patricia Matthew
Mrs. Kathleen Thompson
Mrs. Willie Jean Robertson

Lay Council President

WH&OM, Chattanooga District President
WH&OM, Knoxville District President
WH&OM, Maryville District President

THE TENNESSEE CONFERENCE PASTORS
The Chattanooga District: Rev. James R. Bridgeman, Presiding Elder

Church

Thompkin Metropolitan, Chattanooga, TN
Saint Mark, Athens, TN

Mount Olive, Etowah, TN
Price Memorial, Cleveland, TN
Cleages Chapel, Chattanooga, TN
New Beginnings, Chattanooga, TN
Brakebill Chapel, South Pittsburg, TN
Pleasant Hill, Soddy Daisy, TN
Watson Chapel, Charleston, TN

Fields Chapel, Ooltewah, TN
Harwell Chapel, Etowah, TN
Lane Chapel, Niota, TN
Pikeville Chapel, Pikeville, TN
Cox Chapel, Athens, TN
Uchee Chapel, Spring City, TN

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. James R. Bridgeman
Revs. Herman Poindexter (deceased); Carl Glenn;
Roxianne Sherles
Rev. Joe W. Moore
Rev. Teresa Oglesby
Rev. Ocie Fullilove; Rev. Hobert W. Brabson, II
Rev. McDaniel Bowman; Rev. Hobert W. Brabson, II
Rev. Joseph T. Holmes; Rev. Paul Robinson
Rev. James Willis
Rev. James Whyte (deceased);
Rev. Joseph T. Holmes
Rev. Aderon Billingsley; Rev. McDaniel Bowman
Rev. Gale Hendrick
Rev. Dr. John D. Howell, Sr.; Rev. Hugh Dixon
Rev. Kenneth Jones; Rev. James R. Bridgeman
Revs. Hugh Dixon; L. Samuel Brown; Larry Woods
Revs. Hugh Dixon; L. Samuel Brown; Larry Woods

The Knoxville District: Rev. Dr. John A. Butler, Presiding Elder

Church

Greater Warner Tabernacle, Knoxville, TN
Clinton Chapel, Knoxville, TN
First, Knoxville, TN
Logan Temple, Knoxville, TN
Oak Grove, Knoxville, TN
Wallace Chapel, Knoxville, TN

Edgewood Chapel, Knoxville, TN
Lomax Temple, Knoxville, TN
Concord, Knoxville, TN

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Dr. Charles Darden
Rev. Dr. John A. Butler
Rev. Michael McNair
Rev. Kamau Kenyatta
Rev. Tiki Dixon
Revs. Shirley Kincaid; James Whyte (deceased);
John D. Howell, Sr.
Rev. Victor E. King, Sr.
Rev. Roxianne Sherles; Rev. Ivan Marc Green
Rev. Michael Steele; Rev. Sam Fulton

The Maryville District: Rev. Dr. Willa Estell, Presiding Elder

Church

Saint Paul, Maryville, TN
Mount Pleasant, Rockford, TN
Spurgeon Chapel, Oak Ridge, TN
Speights Chapel, Rockwood, TN
Braxton Chapel, Kingston, TN
Williams Chapel, Harriman, TN
Mount Zion, Louisville, TN
Rice Chapel, Madisonville, TN
Craigs Chapel, Greenback, TN

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Dr. Willa Estell
Rev. Dr. Richard Gadzekpo; Rev. L. Samuel Brown
Rev. Churchill Moore
Rev. M. Beatrice Thomas
Rev. Ivan Marc Green; Rev. Aderon Billingsley
Rev. Robert T. Smith
Revs. Larry Brinson; Larry Woods; Kenneth Jones
Rev. Sidney Coffin; Rev. Erica Haigler
Rev. Dr. Willa Estell; Rev. Erica Haigler

THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Church

Prayer Coordinator

Conference Secretary

Conference Treasurer

Conference Statistician

Director of Christian Education

Director of Evangelism

Lay Council President

WH&OM, Trinidad District President

WH&OM, Trinidad & Tobago Field Worker

Officers Serving During the Quadrennium

Mrs. Lystra Roberts-Glaud

Mrs. Jomila Archer-Alleyne

Mrs. Lystra Roberts-Glaud

Rev. Jaime Sambrano-Sathram

Rev. Jaime Sambrano-Sathram

Rev. Mariam Williams-Thomas

Mr. Arnim Hughes; Mrs. Jennifer Archer

Mrs. Glynis Brewster-Nathan

Mrs. Lystra Roberts-Glaud

THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO CONFERENCE PASTORS

The Trinidad District: Rev. Dr. Eleazar Merriweather, Presiding Elder

Church

Shaw Temple, D'Abadie, Arima, Trinidad

Redeeming Grace, Sangre Grande, Trinidad

Strickland Temple, Chaguanas, Trinidad

Pastors Serving During the Quadrennium

Rev. Ronald Nathan

Rev. Jaime Sambrano-Sathram;

Rev. Mariam William-Thomas

Rev. Mariam William-Thomas; Rev. Winston Lezama

PASTORS WHO RETIRED DURING THIS QUADRENNIUM

Michigan: Revs. Claude Christopher as Presiding Elder Emeritus (2013); Robert Harwell, Jr. (2013) Kirkland Hall (2013); Higi Gill (2013); William Turner (2013); Mattie Jones (2014); Robert L. Sutton (2014); George Stewart (2014); Christine Gutridge (2015); Bobby Campbell (2015); John H. Paul (2015)

Missouri: Revs. Ruby F. Watson (2013); Gilbert Cox, Sr. (2015); Thomas Cage (2015)

Tennessee: Revs. Angela Billingsley (2012); Jerry Lewis (2012); Martha Lewis (2012); Lee B. Tate (2012); Shirley Kincaid (2013); Sidney Coffin (2014); Ocie Fullilove (2015)

PASTORS AND KEY LEADERS WHO DIED DURING THIS QUADRENNIUM

Among them is Bishop Roy Anderson Holmes, who served 16 years as a pastor in the Michigan Conference and served with great distinction as the Presiding Bishop of the Mid-West Episcopal District.

Indiana: Mrs. Terry Curtis (2014)

Kentucky: Rev. Walter Shawler (2013);
Mrs. Dorothy O. Martin (2014);
Mrs. Mary H. Lewis (2015);
Mrs. Beatrice Rodgers (2015);
Rev. Samuel L. Harris (2015); Mrs. Sadie Lawler (2015)
Mrs. Laverne Tutt (2016)

Michigan: Rev. Mary Washington (2012);
 Bishop Roy Anderson Holmes (2013);
 Rev. Mattie R. Anderson (2013);
 Rev. Timothy Rouse (2014); Rev. Glen Dunson (2014);
 Rev. Ralph Strickland (2014);
 Mrs. Olivia Christopher (2014);
 Mrs. Emma Brewster (2014);
 Rev. Dr. Willie Honicutt (2015); Rev. John Paul (2015);
 Dr. Leslie Henry Stokes (2016)

Missouri: Rev. Ollieway Byers (2015); Rev. John Marshall Herron. (2016)

Tennessee: Rev. Herman Poindexter (2012); Mr. Nelson Stevens (2012);
 Rev. Florence White (2013); Mr. Eugene Wallace (2013);
 Rev. James Whyte (2014); Rev. James Moore (2015);
 Mrs. Carolyn Groves (2016); Rev. E. H. Looney (2016)

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

During this quadrennium, I served as chairman of the following Administrative Boards: Public Relations & Historical Society, Worship & Ritual, and Church Growth & Development. I served on Livingstone College's Board of Trustees, the Pan Methodist Commission, the National Council of Churches, and the World Council of Churches. I served on the World Methodist Council Steering Committee as the North American Officer, thanks to the recommendation of our Senior Bishop, Bishop George E. Battle, Jr. I served as Secretary of Evangelism for North America and as chairman of the North American Commission on Evangelism. I published my third book, which is entitled, *For the Perfecting of the Saints: A Handbook on Holistic Small-Group Discipleship* and I was inducted into the Livingstone College Hall of Fame.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank the **Mid-West Episcopal District**. They have made our episcopal ministry a joy and a pleasure. I thank **Mrs. Shirley McCoy**, **Ms. Katherine Chapman**, and the good people of the **Albemarle Conference** for embracing our leadership after the untimely death of their visionary leader, **Bishop James E. McCoy**. I thank the **Board of Bishops**. During this quadrennium, we have grown closer to God and closer to one another. I thank **Ms. Pat Sharpe**, our Executive Assistant. No one works harder and no one works more efficiently. I thank **Sis. Camille Cullom Starnes**, my Honeybun and the love of my life. She is indeed the best I've seen: the best wife, the best mother, the best grandmother, and the best Missionary Supervisor! I salute her for how she has led our missionaries, for how she has supported our ministers' spouses, and for how she and our two daughters, Alicia and Millicent, have founded Naomi House of Hope for victims of domestic violence. Above all, I thank **the Lord Jesus**, who saved my soul and changed my life; who called me to preach His gospel and to pastor His people; who gave me the passion to do evangelism and the privilege to be a bishop in this great church. I thank the Lord for the people that He used to shape my life and my ministry: my mother, **Mrs. Annie L. Woodard**, my grandfather, **the late Rev. Dr. James A. Babington-Johnson**, my grandmother, **the late Mrs. Eleanor Babington-Johnson**, my father in the ministry, **the late Rev. Marcus L. Walker, Sr.**, my father-in-law, **the late Rev. John R. Cullom** and my mother-in-law, **Mrs. Dora W. Cullom**, and many others.

I close this address with a prayer, the words of which come from a hymn written by Harry Emerson Fosdick.

*God of grace and God of glory,
On Thy people pour Thy power.
Crown Thine ancient church's story,
Bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.*

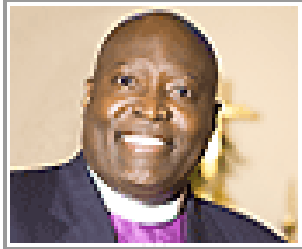
Humbly submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Darryl B. Starnes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr.
96th Bishop in the Line of Succession
Mid-West Episcopal District
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

**The Quadrennial Report of the Alabama-Florida Episcopal District
Of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
2012 - 2016**

**Mrs. Deborah Diane Wilson Proctor, Missionary Supervisor
The Right Reverend Dennis V. Proctor, Presiding Bishop
“Living Up to Our Name” Joshua 17:14-15**



Reverend Servants, Missionary Supervisors, General and Connectional officers, distinguished guests, preachers of diverse gifts and station, loyal laity, visitors, saints and friends. How humbled, honored and grateful I am to stand here at this time, in this place, in this position before the Lord's Church and the Lord's people! I am sobered by the words of the Winnans, “Millions Didn't Make it, But I was One of the Ones Who

Did!” The song reinforces the reality that every one of us, under the sound of my voice is a beneficiary of the grace of God! I am fully aware that it is my undeserved privilege not a right, to be in God's employ!

I pause to thank my parents, The Late Rev. and Mrs. Emory C. Proctor for introducing me to Jesus! Their lifestyle, love and language walk with me in every nuance of life. They did not live to see me in this place, but when I get to Glory, I'll have ten thousand years to praise God for entrusting me to their care! Were that not enough, God gave me a superlative spouse, who packed our tent and joined with my faith as we went out “looking for a city” - from Ohio, North Carolina, to Maryland, then the Episcopacy” who's builder and maker was God!” She is in no small part the secret to my success, the errors have been my own! Were that not enough, God gave me children to codify love, simplify life, and magnify laughter!

Were that not enough, God gave me a chance to follow my friend, Bishop James E. McCoy, to meet some of the finest folk that Zion has produced called the Alabama-Florida Episcopal District! And were that not enough, God encouraged this people under the leadership of Bishop Richard K. Thompson to purchase a residence in the cradle of the Greatest Social Movement the world has ever known. We call it the Civil Rights Movement, but it could be known as the “Right Movement” to shape the South, the Nation and the World!! Our church, our preachers, our people were not spectators in the stands, not cynics on the sidelines, but soldiers on the field, fighting for Freedom, Justice and Equality, in the face of recalcitrant evil! Their heads were “bloodied but unbowed!”

It is from this vantage point we focused our labors. With a strong infrastructure in place, my assignment was to sustain the brick and mortar, but to also to regime an “Esprit de Corp” among the people, so that we, like our ancestors, could serve as a headlight and not the taillight of social and civic engagement. Under the banner of “Reclaim Our Place”, we watched an energy and involvement from the dedication and opening of the Hornet Stadium at Alabama State University, the 60th Anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery March, the 60th Anniversary of the Bus Boycott and the establishment of the Montgomery Improvement Association (the organization that catapulted Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. to the international spotlight and had a majority of the organization's officer core comprised of fearless Zionites!) Who can forget Pentacost at the Stadium? Zion's flag has been unfurled and we are the better, prouder, and stronger because of it!

And although there are still a few pockets and people who engage in Denominational Domestic Violence, (that's when it's easier to fight each other than to advance the Kingdom, the overwhelming majority have not only embraced the montra that "working together works," but that "Working together Wins!!"

As our thoughts for a moment focus on the victories on this terrestrial battlefield, we are mindful of those who traded in the standard issue of earth for the glorified garb of that innumerable army! Their orders have been remanded to the celestial city in a "land that is fairer than day!"

Bishop James E. McCoy
Bishop Roy A. Holmes
Bishop Cecil Bishop
Presiding Elder James Hendrix
Presiding Elder Dr. A.L. Wilson
Presiding Elder James E. Powell
Reverend George T. Britt, Jr.
Reverend Bettie Bones
Reverend George P. Kornegay
Reverend Verna Johnson
Reverend W.R. Robinson
Bro. Edward Johnson
Reverend John Fluellen
Reverend Garrett Hubbard
Reverend John Stinson
Reverend Jacques West
Reverend Patrick Burke
Reverend Lawrence Coward
Reverend David Tatum
Reverend Levi Hamerter
Reverend Louise C. Hall
Reverend James Tolliver
Reverend Lester Core
Reverend William Rice

WOMEN HOME & OVERSEAS MISSIONARY SOCIETY

What a joy it has been to have served with the dynamic, capable, creative, spirit-filled Missionaries of the Alabama-Florida Episcopal Area. The adoption of such phrases as, "Working Together Works," "They Do It Better---When They Do It Together" and "Mission, No More—Missionary, Forevermore" promoted a spirit of harmony, unity and oneness. They increased our gift card collection, our scholarship giving, our My Buddy subscriptions and our Life Members stolings. Outreach efforts blessed church communities, local families, Nursing Homes, Domestic Violence Shelters, Food Banks, March of Dimes, HIV/AIDS and World Hunger. They journeyed to Black Mountain, NC, eighty-five strong, to learn and grow together at the Leadership Training Institute. At that time, they were "Happy" to invite the cadre of Missionaries to "Go with us to Orlando!" Indeed, it was our pleasure to host the twenty eighth WHOMS Quadrennial Convention, just as when we hosted four Zion gatherings in the capital city of Montgomery, namely, the Connectional Council, the tenth Quadrennial Lay Convention, the WHOMS Leadership Training Seminar and the YAMS 30th Anniversary celebration – an historic occasion! This Quadrennium, I am "Happy" to report that Missionaries have Maximized their Purpose: Continued their Journey Through Mission Education, Christian Living and Mission Ministry.

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Christian Education Department under the ageless Dr. Bobbie Floyd, and her Conference directors, continue to make a priority the training and fellowshiping with our children, youth and young adults. With a supportive and participatory ACE constituency, Alabama-Florida has been fully present at every national, connectional, regional and conference gathering. The culmination of their yearly calendar when several hundred young people converge on the Campus of Lomax-Hannon Junior College.

THE SONS OF VARICK

These committed men, working with the indefatigable Rev. Joseph Ellington, use the talents of the men to repair and paint churches, bring structures up to code and provide security and support at our conference and connectional meetings.

Their real claim to fame occurs with the yearly “Wild Game Cookout”, when hundreds of young men spend the weekend on the campus of Lomax-Hannon and receive Male Mentoring, Bible Quiz Bowl, a taste of rural delicacies, and dialog with the Bishop.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Mrs. Mary Crenshaw has been tireless in providing preventative health instructions at each of our four Episcopal gatherings. We have been present at the Healthy Church initiatives, Balm in Gilead and the N.A.A.C.P., HIV Aids forum and resolution.

LAY COUNCIL

The LAITY OF THE Episcopal area have proven to be equal to the task of “deepening the spiritual life of our members “while simultaneously engaging in the connectional legislative, convocation, Minister’s and Lay legislative summit and various training institutes sponsored by the District and Region. The loyal laity continue to hold Zion’s flag high!

ALABAMA CONFERENCE

TUSKEGEE DISTRICT

Rev. Dr. Larry D. Robinson, P. E.

Butler Chapel Rev. James Taylor has made a difference at Butler Chapel with his strong pastoral leadership. The birth place of Tuskegee University, has been re-floored, repainted and repaired.

Solomon Chapel Rev. E. O. Major has prayerfully led this congregation to overcome many obstacles. They have met all of their stated goals for the year, and have a strong nucleus of civic leaders as members of the church.

Wall Street Rev. Edwrin Sutton has led this congregation to a exciting spike in church attendance. They have made numerous additions to the church edifice.

Chehaw Rev. Gwendolyn Tellis- Smith leads a disciplined 35 member congregation. This faithful and loving congregation offers their edifice and uses their outreach ministries to serve Macon County, regardless of religious affiliation.

St. John Rev. Thomas Betts, Sr is leading this congregation towards spiritual growth. As a highlight, they have birthed the, “St. John Leadership Institute” wherein they will be examining their church as well as their performance in hopes of bettering themselves to expand the ministry.

St. Paul Rev. Beverly Lewis is doing a good work with only 24 active members. They have purchased a new roof, new tile for the restrooms and a church marquee sign, as a way to minister to those who pass by.

Liberty Hill Rev. Willie Wright, Jr. leads a congregation in whom are on one accord. They continue on with high worship and thought provoking bible studies.

Mt. Zion- Rev. Dr. Larry Robinson is leading his cozy congregation to greater heights. They have installed a state of the art PA system in the sanctuary and are using various media and outreach ministries to reach the residents of their community.

Sweet Gum Rev. Evins Faulk, Jr is leading this congregation to better “serve this present age”. They have bought new appliances for the kitchen to aid in making the fellowship hall more accommodating.

Mt. Zion- (Chesson) Rev. Ollie Flynn has led this congregation to chancel area renovations and carpet replacement. The congregation also toured the monumental Rosa Parks museum.

Hicks Chapel Rev. Decetti Taylor has led this church to inside renovation and membership rejuvenation. Members seem to be coming back.

New Zion Rev. Gwendolyn Tellis- Smith is leading this congregation in renovation of its’ building and renovation of its’ people. This church truly believes in Outreach Ministry.

Williams Chapel Rev. Elisha Cloud has skillfully and prayerfully led an eight member congregation. They have provided some church repairs and have faithfully met all of their financial goals, although located on plantation property.

OPELIKA DISTRICT

Rev. Dr. A.L. Wilson, Presiding Elder (2012-2015)

Rev. Dr. Stephen Faulk, Presiding Elder (2015-Present)

Thompson Chapel Rev. Dr. Erskine Faush, Jr is dynamic in leading this church to new heights and enthusiasm. Former Pastor, The late Rev. Dr. AL Wilson retired in 2014 after pastoring this church for 50 years.

Auburn Rev. Dr. Stephen Faulk has been a leader of social change in the Auburn community and on the global map. This congregation has led the community in nonviolent campaigns to stop violence.

Smith Metropolitan For much of the quadrennial, the church was pastored by the late Dr. A.L. Wilson. Rev. Charles Rutledge has assumed the role of pastor and the church is continuing to provide a feeding program for the community.

Murray Chapel Within the quadrennial, this church has experienced major renovations and additions. The new pastor, Rev. Tandra Jones has led them to numerical growth.

Smith Grove Rev. Dr. Linda Wright’s preaching, teaching, and administrative abilities has helped to form a cohesive bond in this congregation, as well as, add bodies to fill the sanctuary.

Wesley Chapel Wesley Chapel lost its pastor, Rev. George T. Britt, due to death in 2015. Through the leadership of the new pastor, Rev. Keithon Terry, the congregation has become more involved in the Opelika District, Alabama Conference and in the community that it serves.

Shiloh #2 Rev. Benjamin Cannon has led this congregation fearlessly. They have paid off the church's mortgage and have completed minor renovations.

Baskin Chapel Rev. Leon Henderson has prayerfully and intentionally led this church to numeric growth and church edifies renovations. There is a spiritual shift in the church.

James Varick- Rev. Mary Robinson has led a small fellowship of hardworking people. The members upholstered the pews and began a Clothes Closet for the community.

Pine Grove Rev. Michael Hugley has been a leader of faith. The congregation has begun a major renovation project of adding a foyer and bathroom in the entrance of church and are building a fellowship hall.

Mt. Esther Under the administration of Rev. Jennifer Jelks, the church has replaced its roof. The church is moving forward in the community to become a beacon of hope.

Fitten Chapel Rev. Willie Wright, Jr. and Rev. Dr. Stephen Faulk have led this very humble congregation for the past four years. The church has three members who are extremely faithful to the church.

Grace During this quadrennial, Grace paid off its mortgage under the leadership of Rev. Bryant-Perry. The church has closed due to the decease of members.

UNION SPRINGS DISTRICT
Rev. Dr. James Cobb, Presiding Elder

Little Zion Rev. Alonza Crenshaw has led this congregation to be very active in the community. They have made many improvements to the church edifies.

Zion At The Hill Rev. Mae Pearl Hall-Clark and the congregation have succeeded in getting the children and youth back and participating in church. They have partnered with an outreach ministry collecting and donating items for the homeless.

Ross Chapel With Rev. Dr. James Cobb leading the way, the congregation continues to make improvements with the facility as well as improvements in regards to the fairing of their souls.

Shiloh #1 With Rev. Charles M. Adams seasoned leadership, this congregation is strongly involved in political and social affairs. They continue to meet the needs of the community.

Creekstand Led by Rev. Katrina Love, this church is passionately involved with the upkeep of their community and cemetery which is listed in the Alabama National Historic registry and graves of slaves who participated in the Tuskegee Syphilis projects are on site.

County Line Rev. Annie R. Cannon is not only building the body, but is also building the building. They have added restrooms to the front entrance of the church as well other improvements to building.

Andrew Chapel The youth and children are continually becoming more involved in church activities, district and episcopal levels. Rev. Renee Adams is passionate about the spiritual success of the church.

Shady Grove This church is indeed, “A Community Church”. Rev. Annie R. Cannon has also led them in make many improvements with the edifice.

Cornerstone Under the leadership of Rev. Bruce Surrat, the congregation is involved with the Red Cross, United Way and other organizations for the benefit of the community.

Boromville With Rev. Walter M. Smith at the forefront, this church is highly engaged in social justice. They are a major median for fostering social meetings of grave importance to this community.

Tyson Chapel Rev. Julius May keeps this church active in the community.

Mallard Chapel Rev. Thomas Pritchett and the congregation have made and are making major improvements with the church edifice.

WEST ALABAMA CONFERENCE

JACKSON DISTRICT

Rev. John P. Gant

State Street Pastored by the Rev. Joyce F. Grant, the congregation purchased two dilapidated houses and torn them down along with two other lots in anticipation of constructing low income housing units. They also have a prominent presence online.

Pilgrim Rest Led by Rev. Clarence Vincent Parker, attendance, membership, and ministries continue to grow. Young Adults are being attracted in great numbers.

Mt. Olive Social media, live streaming, and 21st century technology has been employed under the leadership of Rev. John P. Grant. A stronger youth ministry has been developed complete with a youth minister.

Ebenezer Under the leadership of Rev. Jamal Finkley, there is a strong affinity toward care and concern for youth and the disenfranchised. As a result this church is attracting new members.

Lang's Chapel A 21st century ministry with a 21 century approach; Rev. Harrold J. Griffin and congregation have set in place youth and children ministries, updated equipment, added Facebook page and Wi-Fi internet connection for the church.

Good Stone Rev. Juanita John has led this church to spiritual, numerical and financial growth. They have replaced the ceiling and lights in the sanctuary and three new rooms are under construction.

Nazarene Once a struggling church. However, under the leadership of Rev. Larry Jacobs there has been a rebirth of ministry all across the board.

Crockett Memorial While being under the leadership of Rev. Andra Wright, in spite of their struggling financial condition they were able to liquidate their mortgage and set up an outreach ministry to distribute clothes and food to the needy.

Mt. Zion Rev. Anthony Griffin has led this church to a new level of spiritual and financial maturity. They have added a number of new ministries to the church.

Star of Zion This is a church that has struggled over the past decade. However, in the past few months, under the leadership of the new pastor, Rev. Carrie Ervin, the church is experiencing new life in every aspect.

Mt. Shady With Rev. Douglas James leading the way, the dining room carpet has been replaced, heating unit and water lines have been repaired and they started painting the church.

Little Zion Under the leadership of Rev. Carlos Gant, Little Zion has taken on new life. 21st century technology and equipment is now being utilized and new members have been added.

JEFFERSON DISTRICT

Rev. Dr. E. Eugene Parker, Presiding Elder

Butler Chapel Butler Chapel is the Strength of the Jefferson District. Under the leadership of Rev. Kenneth Jefferson the Church continues to bless the lives of the members as well as the Community.

Berry's Chapel Berry's Chapel has a new level of enthusiasm for the work of the ministry. Rev. Dr. E. Eugene Park knows how important it is to wait on God.

Pine Grove Under the leadership of Rev. Willie Vines, the church is growing numerically and they are happy.

Small Memorial Small Memorial is progressing under the leadership of the energetic, Rev. Edward Seabron.

Springfield Rev. Mary Petway is a steady pastor. The church continues to prosper spiritually.

St. Thomas In spite of having some health problems, Rev. Linda Sims-Lilly and this congregation keep moving forward and trusting God.

Little Zion Rev. Raymond Sanders is a solid as a rock. He is very active on the District, on the Conference Level and he is truly a dependable Pastor.

Miller's Chapel This Congregation is small in number, but Rev. Edward Seabron and congregation are very active. Major repairs have been made at this church and they are continuing to do more.

Lewis Chapel Under the leadership of Rev. Jeanette Washington, the church has purchased property next to the church, this congregation does not believe in letting the grass grow under their feet.

Chalk Level Rev. Charles Cottrell is a humble Gospel Preacher and good Shepherd. This pastor and members have been together for a number of years and his leadership has remained constant.

James Chapel The members are supportive of Rev. Milton Parson. He does not allow distance to interfere with the work of the church.

Ward Chapel This congregation is struggling, but they believe with prayer and hard work they can succeed.

Sandhill This congregation always answers the call of the District and Conference. They can be counted on.

Thompkinville Their asking's have been taken care of. There are few members still holding on. Please pray for this congregation.

Beautiful Star This congregation is small, but they believe that if you can pray long enough, and combine faith with works, you will succeed.

Walters Mission This congregation remains faithful, and supports all District and Conference activities.

Bethlehem This is a small congregation, but through prayer and faith they are still holding on. Pray for this church.

MOBILE DISTRICT

Rev. Ronald Butler, Presiding Elder

Big Zion The Rev. James Christian. The loyal and dedicated lay members of this historical church continues to move forward in their witness of Christ. New technology in the form of a church app for smart devices keep the membership informed.

Hope Chapel The Rev. Sanders Mason, III. Hope Chapel is a strong church with solid lay leadership. The mortgage was paid off and the gym was renovated with improvements to the church building.

Asbury Chapel The Rev. O'Neil Wiley. There has been an increase in the attendance at worship service and at Bible Study. Many improvements such as, two new lots across the street for parking, a new organ, and new TV monitors.

Solomon Temple Rev. Michael Davis. Solomon Temple has a great membership with many young adults in leadership positions. The fellowship hall has been renovated.

Twin Beech Rev. Richard Dockery. This Church has a rich history, great potential and good people however she struggles with the development of strong lay leadership.

Little Rock Rev. Nathaniel Wilder. Little Rock has a good congregation and good choir. This is Rev. Wilder first year there. The membership is excited and moving forward.

Pilgrim Rest Rev. Terossa Frazier. They are building a church building that will hold over five hundred persons. Much progress has been made.

New Ship Rev. Isaac Acquah. The people are faithful, the church building beautiful and well kept. New hymnals and other church essentials were added. They have just paid off a \$90,000 mortgage, due to a gift from one of their NFL members.

Williams Chapel Rev. Edna B. Allen. This congregation is in a community that needs help and they do what they can but the needs of the community are greater than the available resources of the church. Their outreach efforts have been limited by budget restraints.

Mt. Hebron Rev. Nathaniel Robinson. This congregation needs rebuilding. This is Rev. Robertson first year. New members have been added. The peoples are encouraged.

Bethlehem Rev. Albert Johnson. The members are supportive of Rev. Milton Parson. He does not allow distance to interfere with the work of the church. A paved parking lot has been added. Renovations has been done to the church and fellowship hall. New members added.

CENTRAL ALABAMA CONFERENCE

EAST MONTGOMERY DISTRICT

Rev. Dr. J. E. FIELDS, P. E.

Old Ship Rev. Dr. Kathy McFadden. Despite being a mainline traditional and historic church, Old Ship continues to find new, creative and relevant ways to serve the people and the community in this present age. The pastor is engaged at every level of ministry.

Jericho Rev. George Garrison. The congregation has payed off the church mortgage. They are working together in love.

Union Chapel Rev. Dr. Fred Rogers. The church's physical structure/shape is good with the spiritual shape of the church steadily growing.

Clinton Chapel Rev. Marcus Plump. Clinton Chapel is in the process of rebuilding and restructuring the ministries of the church. In 2014, Clinton Chapel was able to renegotiate the mortgage and decrease it from \$340,000. To \$250,000

Hilliard Chapel Rev. Catrina R. Waters. This pastor has revitalized the Christian Education Department, institution of leadership development/training, social media outlets website, and feeding program.

Mt. Zion Chapel Rev. Yolanda P. Kelly. Recently, they have developed a Children's Church on every 3rd Sunday; The Christian Education department has become a very vital part in teaching their children, and they serve families through their Food Bank Ministry.

Troy Chapel Rev. Gloria Taylor. The church is solid and with God's grace it will continue to move higher and higher.

St. Mark- Rev. Boyd Fuller. This church is very active with their youth and outreach ministries.

Pleasant Grove Rev. Joseph Ellington. The shape of the church is excellent, financially and spiritually. They have a greater love for the AME Zion Church.

Little Zion Rev. Katrina Roper-Smith. The pastor has led the people to establish a food ministry, organized three additional choirs, praise dance and mime ministry and organize a quarterly community Sunday Forum.

Carnegie Chapel Rev. Freddie Bettis. The church has grown spiritually and they have replaced a worn out heating and A/C unit.

Roger's Chapel Rev. Loretta Payne. Under the new leadership of this Pastor, the church has experienced a fresh wind a numeric growth and new ministries.

Weeping Mary Rev. Damon Andrews. Weeping Mary is moving forward in all aspects of church growth; spiritually, numerically, and financially.

Matthews Chapel Rev. Robert McCloud. Matthews Chapel Church is doing well and the spiritual condition is exceptionally well. Under the leadership of this pastor they completed the fellowship hall, added new flooring and paid off the mortgage.

Mt. Zion (Ramer) Rev. Andrew Payne. This congregation are proud of their church restoration and mind renewal.

Seek and Follow Rev. Fagale S. Grant. Accomplishments made at the church include repairs to the roof, installed new doors, painted the exterior, installed new exterior steps, built new altar, painted and tiled the vestibule.

WEST MONTGOMERY DISTRICT

Rev. Dr. Wallace Noble, P. E.

Mt. Zion Rev. Dr. Claude A. Shuford. Rev. Shuford has served the Mt. Zion Church and the community for 29 years and has done a fantastic job. This church continues to answer the call of God by providing a holistic ministry to its membership and the community at large.

Mt. Pleasant Rev. Dr. Claude A. Shuford. The pastor and congregation work well together and are very active in the community. This church continues to experience spiritual, numerical, financial growth.

Oak Street Rev. William Patterson. Their Vacation Bible School, Back to School Outreach Program, and other youth activities, as well as adult activities such as 2 Midweek Bible Studies, and the Outreach Food Bank program are very productive ministries.

New Pleasant Valley Rev. Dr. Mark Bass. Every organization is making great contributions at "The Valley/" spiritually, physically and financially.

Shiloh Rev. Ron Burroughs. The different outreach services and activities that Shiloh provides continue to draw visitors from the community. I applaud this pastor's commitment to train and teach the present membership and the new members who are joining.

Refuge Temple Rev. Dr. Wallace Noble. The church has increased numerically, financially and spiritually under Reverend Noble and for just a season under Rev. Edwrin Sutton. In December 2014, they put a down payment on a 6000 square feet metal building.

Pleasant Hill #2 Brother Fredrick Tyson. This church is experiencing some growth and visitors on a regular bases do to this young, gifted preacher.

Big Zion- Rev. Shaundalyn Elliot. This pastor is working to ensure that the church through the preaching and teachings of Jesus Christ become the church. There is fire in the pulpit and it has spilled over into the pews.

Stone Chapel Rev. Jessie James Fountain. This year the church has already taken in four new members and made a number of improvements around the church under the leadership of their new pastor.

Greater Pleasant Hill Rev. Albert J. Lewis, Sr. It is uplifting to witness the youth of this congregation playing a major role in the life of the church. Since the arrival of this pastor repairs and improvements have been made throughout the church.

Moore's Chapel Rev. Lily Moore. This small band of struggling soldiers is no longer struggling. Everything that Moore's Chapel desire to see happen in Pastor Miller's first year came to pass except for one thing and that is build a new church.

Bezzel Springs Rev. William Scott. The congregation is very supportive of their pastor and makes every effort to support all District, Conference and Episcopal activities.

Mount Moriah Rev. Rayford Mack. Rev. Rayford Mack continues to do a great job in pastoring and in leading this small band of dedicated Christian soldiers. Praise the Lord for the children and a few adults that attend.

Wrights Chapel Rev. Dr. Glenda Smith. They moved into their new church two years ago and the church has already begun to attract new members. It is a blessing to see children, youth and young adults in the congregation.

Athens Chapel Rev. Edward Norfleet. Under this pastor's leadership the church has made significant improvements to the building and has vibrant departments that encourage the congregation to participate more on every level of the Conference.

Williams Chapel Rev. Bobbie Douglas Mckenzie. Under the leadership of Rev. Douglas McKenzie, the church continues to soar to new heights. The preaching and teaching of this pastor continues to transform lives.

Ebenezer Rev. Linda Livingston. This church remains faithful and encouraged through many challenges. This pastor is truly a prayer warrior.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE

TUSCALOOSA-BESSEMER DISTRICT

Rev. Dr. Donnell S. D. Williams, P. E.

Petty's Chapel Rev. Morris Reese, Sr. This church has made major repairs on parsonage, rental properties and church building. They also began children, youth, and young adult choirs.

Greater Beard's Chapel Presiding Elder Williams (Supply). This church has created a church video ministry and expanded to YouTube. They are ready to serve this present age.

Hunter Chapel Rev. Dr. Thaddeus Steele. The church's physical structure/shape is good with the spiritual shape of the church steadily growing. Critical church repairs and the ground maintenance were done and paid for in full at the completion of each task.

St. Peter Rev. Dr. Jeffrey L. Cammon. Numerous attempts were made to "re-launch ministries*" at Saint Peter. Examples of this includes a "Community Outreach Block Party", Project Y.E.S. (Youth Employment Service) sponsored summer employment for five youths for eight weeks.

Tabernacle Rev. Eddie Coats. This church has a strong health ministry. This health ministry provides informative material and speakers to increase breast cancer awareness in the church and to the community.

Beautiful Zion Rev. Terry Cole. This church has new and engaging social media presence. They are now on Facebook, Instagram and are on Gmail.

McCalla Chapel Rev. Nathaniel Green. This congregation has bought property next to the church (\$57,500.00 value of land and house). The Church paid only \$19,200.00 for house and land. They are on the move.

Berry Chapel Rev. Charlotte Archibal. Berry is a good church and the future is bright. The faithful few are determined to keep Berry alive.

Mt. Herman Rev. Fredrick Abernathy. The shape of the church is excellent, financially and spiritually. They have a greater love for the AME Zion Church. The membership continues to operate with hope by God's grace

Zion Hill Rev. Reginald Murray. The church is very involved in community political activities. The pastor is also a county commissioner. The pastor is faithful to his members and community.

Mt. Olive Rev. Lloyd Young. The morale of the members of Mt. Olive has grown tremendously and they are working for the good of the church, under the leadership of Rev. Lloyd Young.

Little Center Rev. Charlotte Archibal. The church is in the process of acquiring insurance and are encouraged to continue to do the Lord's work through this ministry.

new doors, painted the exterior, installed new exterior steps, built new altar, painted and tiled the vestibule.

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
Rev. Dr. Sondra Coleman, P. E.

Metropolitan Rev. Joshua Johnson. This quadrennial, Metropolitan 'stepped out on faith' and liquidated a mortgage in excess of 200,000, while at the same time maintaining its vibrant ministries in the community.

St. Luke Rev. Mishael Miller. This church has created a church video ministry and expanded to YouTube. They are ready to serve this present age. The church is experiencing a season of "New Beginnings" in the following areas (1) Spiritual Growth (2) Leadership (3) Mission and Ministry (4) Stewardship and (5) Administration.

Trinity Rev. Dr. Christopher Perry. The outreach ministry of this church actively visits rehabilitation centers and evangelizes in residential communities in the area to invite them to worship at Trinity.

Bethel Rev. David Knight. As a result of spiritual awareness, giving through tithing has increased. Bethel owns several rental properties which provide ministry resources for outreach within the church and surrounding community.

One Zion United Rev. Szymanski Fields. One Zion United has a faithful and fervent congregation. Though adjusting to new leadership, their commitment to outreach and growth remains steadfast.

Carter's Temple Rev. James Rutledge, Jr. Carter's Temple is a friendly church who works to provide a safe place for the community where everyone will experience the love of God, salvation in Christ, and power through the Holy Spirit.

Duncan Chapel Brother Cedric Bell. Duncan Chapel, a small congregation, experienced a re-launch which has reinvigorated the church and community. A new heating/ AC unit and screen monitor was installed. Membership has doubled. The future is bright.

Antioch Rev. Emily Aker. The church supports the Madison Chapel mission with preachers, funds, food and clothing. Visitors are welcomed with open arms and learn immediately that we love the Lord and Zion.

First Decatur Rev. Larry Powell. First Decatur is a small congregation with a big heart. The "Bread of Heaven" feeding ministry serves the local community twice a week.

Madison Chapel Rev. Emily Aker. Spiritual and natural food is provided on Sundays to nourish the body and soul. Clothes and agency contact assistance is also provided.

SOUTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE

BREWTON DISTRICT

Rev. H.K. Matthews, P. E.

Zion Fountain (Stockton) Rev. Sanford L. Davis. The Church is moving forward under the Leadership of this energetic pastor. He has served this charge faithfully and the changes that have been made under his leadership in area of the Church are monumental.

Zion Fountain (Brewton) Rev. H. K. Matthews. The church continues to grow in all areas. New members have been added and we have added on to our church edifies.

Mt. Zion Rev. Elizabeth McCaskill. The pastor continues to keep Mt. Zion on the move. Many physical improvements have been made to the Church Building during this Conference Year.

New Hope Rev. Elizabeth McCaskill. Leads a disciplined 35 member congregation. This faithful and loving congregation offers their edifice and uses their outreach ministries to serve Macon County, regardless of religious affiliation. The positive impact that the Pastor has had on this Church and the surrounding community cannot be overstated. They have made significant improvement to the interior and Exterior of the Church.

Green Street. Rev. Frank Grace. This pastor is truly a team player. Please pray for him and the members of Green Street. In spite of his work schedule, Rev. Grace continues to be on the case for Zion.

Zion Star Rev. H. L. Shuford. There has been a complete turnaround at this church. They are hopeful.

St. Thomas Rev. H. L. Shuford, Another complete turnaround for this church. It has seen growth in all areas.

Pleasant Grove Rev. Dorothy Davis. This pastor exemplifies the kind of dedication and determination that is needed in order to move the church in a positive direction.

Limestone Faulk Rev. Denbray Archie. Under the leadership of this Pastor the Church is constantly doing things to improve the physical structure and all other aspects of this Charge.

Milledgeville Rev. Jeffery L. Davis. Much work has been done and continues to be done at this Charge. There is not a more dedicated Pastor in Zion than Rev. Davis.

Sampey Rev. Mary L. Dees. This Pastor is on the case for Zion. Her commitment; zeal and dedication are unsurpassed. She continues to move Sampey forward.

Belleville Faulk Sis. Rhonda Merrill. This is her first year at this Charge, but you would not be able to know that because of the Spirit of leadership that she has displayed since appointed to that Work. Ten new members have been added to Belleville Faulk this Conference Year.

Pilgrim Rest Rev. W. G. Brown. Each year since Rev. Brown has been at this Charge, they have paid out their Connectional Assessments a year in advance.

GREENVILLE DISTRICT
Rev. Ezekiel Washington, P. E.

Butler Chapel Rev. Robert L. Shuford. The parking lot has been paved; the floors have been refurbished in both the sanctuary, and fellowship. The food ministry is in full operation they have given out over 10,000 lbs of food and served over 500 families.

St. Luke Rev. Willie Willis, Jr. This congregation sponsors a scholarship fund, a community candlelight and Cantata Christmas Service, which has caught the communities' eyes. They encouraged new and inactive members to come to church, and have seen the results, because some have become regular worshippers.

Greater Mt. Olive Rev. Ezekiel Washington. The pastor and members have grown spiritual, grown in their attendance, grown in support to the conference, grown in giving financially; as well as, learning and growing in the community.

Mt. Zion Rev. Harold Simpson. God is blessing the finances, which gives way to the blessing of being able to share in new ministries. The church has a partnership with the Department of Human resources, and the middle School in the area, and they helped other initiative within the area.

Bragg Hill. Rev. Ellis Bandy. This church is striving to grow and to be a blessing to their community.

Simpson Chapel Rev. Peggie Cook. The members are motivated by the pastor to serve. This congregation has learn the secret to working well together, loving and supporting each other, and being eager to learn more so they can serve better.

Sweet Home Rev. Jerred McDaniel. This energetic and charismatic first time pastor Rev. Jerred McDaniel has been on fire since his appointment to this charge. They have continued the work of building a new fellowship hall, which was started by the former pastor Rev. Mark Hawkins.

Hopewell Rev. James Jackson. The church has received new members. For the first time they have 100% card carrying lay Council Members. This pastor is helping them to see Zion in a new light as they become a station church.

Poplar Springs The congregation is very supportive of their Pastor and her efforts. They have gained two new members, started a new youth Sunday school class.

Antioch Rev. Mary Coleman. The members have shown that they are eager to grow to higher heights. This pastor and members have been faithful to the call.

Mt. Olive Rev. Gloria Mooror Johnson. The flock thirsts after righteousness. It is plain to see by the attendance in Bible study. It is reported that the Bible study is larger than the Sunday morning worship service.

Little Zion Rev. John M. Taylor. The congregation are always ready to do whatever it takes to move the church forward. The service is always enhanced by the singing of the choir.

Indian Hill Rev. Robert L. Shuford. With the help of the Department of Home Mission they were able to install a handicap ramp for their members.

Oak Grove Rev. Gloria M. Johnson. Please pray that this Church will continue to be positive and productive.

Friendship Rev. Abbie Jackson. They find a way to take care of all obligations. This congregation is growing in spirituality and faith.

Zion Chapel Rev. Ellis Bandy. They love and serve the Lord. They can be counted on to do what is expected of them.

CAHABA CONFERENCE
GREENSBORO-DEMOPOLIS DISTRICT
Rev. Reverend Greg Harris P. E.

Jackson Chapel Rev. Greg Harris. The church continues to connect with the community; it continues to provide an active food bank that serves several hundred families. Thanks be to God this congregation has liquidated the Church's Mortgage.

Bay Spring Rev. Jimmie Haywood. During his time at this charge he has done an awesome job in taking the worship service to another level. Keeping the debt of the church current,

Walls Chapel Rev. Muriel Brown. There have been several successes, completed task, and persons added to the church.

Hickory Stand Rev. Charles Phillips. This church ministry is forging forward with new and exciting visions.

Birdine Rev. Alexion Ray Chaney. What a great ministry. The pastor and congregation work in concert with each other. Not only adults but children are joining the Church and seeking to be baptized.

Sidney Chapel Rev. Joseph Finch. Reverend Finch takes care of the church day in and day out. He is a faithful, committed, spirit filled servant. What an awesome job he does.

Mt. Zion Rev. Linda Bender. I see some restoration with the church. This church paid its entire Budget to General Church at the first Check-up Meeting.

Petty's Memorial Rev. Greg Harris. Their use of technology demonstrates how effective technology is impacting the community and connecting with persons outside of its walls.

Lillys Chapel Rev. Shirley Martin. The programming of this church has shown signs of success. This church paid its entire Budget to General Church at the first Check-up Meeting.

SELMA DISTRICT
Rev. Vernell G. Lewis, P. E.

Jones Chapel Rev. Cassandra McCloud. The few faithful remaining members have displayed a determination that only God can give.

Marietta Rev. Anita Wright. Due to the great administrative skills of the pastor, all financial obligations are paid. The congregations still remains hopeful that one day they will relocate to a better place.

Hopewell Rev. Linda Rives. This small Spirit filled congregation, is the best kept secret on the District. Sunday

School and Worship is well attended.

Pine Grove Rev. Essiue M. May. The members continue to unite with College Hill for internet bible studies. This pastor has a very unique set of administrative skills, which is a blessing to the church,

Springhill. Rev. Freddie Fox. Largest congregation on the Selma District. They have so many relevant ministries. This a very healthy and strong church.

Clinton Chapel Rev. Lawrence Wofford. This congregation takes pride in keeping the interior and exterior of church in excellent condition.

Mt Tabot Rev. Ivey Bryant. This is a growing church congregation with mostly young adults and children. They also have a weekly radio broadcast.

Autauga Hill Rev Aaron Fields Jr. This is a growing contemporary church. They have done a lot of work to the church edifice.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE
WEST PENSACOLA DISTRICT
Rev. John L. Philpot, Sr, P. E.

Talbot Chapel Rev. John L. Philpot, Sr. God has blessed this church to complete some much needed projects. Among them are: new office furniture, pew cushions for the sanctuary, a new sound system and wiring.

Mt. Moriah Rev. Floyd A. Walker. Over the last four years, this church had had major repairs done. They have also contributed \$11,000.00 to the Florida Conference Annual M.S. Chapman Banquet.

St. Mark Rev. Elisha R. Knight. This Church is continually moving forward for the glory of God.

Escambia Chapel Rev. D. Machel Easle. This church had added some things which have enhanced their worship experience; such as a pianist, praise and worship time, and 5th Sunday "out of the box" worship service.

Greater Little Zion Rev. Winfred C. Pettway. The congregation has painted the church building, replaced the bad rotten wood around the eve of the church. They are looking upward and moving onward.

Community of Hope Rev. Dr. Malone D. Smith. Community of Hope AME Zion Church has secured a location for services after several moves. A leadership team has been established along with several ministries.

EAST PENSACOLA DISTRICT
Rev. Anthony R. Scott P. E.

Houser Memorial Rev. Michael J. Evans. Houser Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church is the Flagship Church of the District. Houser continues to be deeply involved in the community, with several community events.

St. Paul Rev. Ray S. White. St. Paul has renovated the Sanctuary with new paint, Carpet revamped the Pulpit area While increasing the overall square footage.

Isaiah Chapel Rev. Anthony Scott. Isaiah Chapel has always been community involved, leading several prayer vigils for victims of social injustice and violent crimes. Isaiah Chapel continues to make improvements with the campus to include a nursery for families and update the sound system.

Springhill Rev. Montressa Boulware. Springhill A.M.E. Zion Church has made immediate impact on the community. They are now the home site of an Antique Car show.

Edwards Chapel Rev. Theyuka T. Thomas. Edwards Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church is the living example of the scripture "For the people had a mind to Work". Under the leadership of "Thomas and Thomas" Edwards Chapel had totally transformed the building.

SOUTH FLORIDA CONFERENCE
TAMPA/CENTRAL DISTRICT
Rev. Lillian V. Matthew-Zakay P. E.

Hood Temple Rev. Bessie L. Mohea. Membership has increased and have produced new ministries for the youth.

Mt. Sinai Rev. Jimmy R. Caldwell Sr. They have established a prayer line every first Tuesday in the month. Financial giving has increased.

Love of Christ Rev. Dr. Mozella Mitchell. Church has implanted a new website and new ministries.

Greater Light Rev. D. Machel Easle. This church had added some things which have enhanced their worship experience; such as a pianist, praise and worship time, and 5th Sunday "out of the box" worship service.

Greater Little Zion The church has added new siding to the front of the sanctuary.

Greater Faith Rev. Randolph Haynes. This church is walking by faith to find a new location.

St. James Rev. Harry Jones. The members are excited. New individuals are joining the church.

MIAMI DISTRICT

Rev. W. Calvin Haralson P. E.

Cornish Memorial This church is moving forward in its service unto the Lord. The congregation is supportive and has made new renovations to the fellowship hall.

Wactor Temple The members are upbeat and enthusiastic about the great accomplishments of installing a new air conditioner and new doors in the church this conference year.

Shaw Temple Church has made several upgrades such as new doors, new carpet for the lobby, painted restrooms, put up new shelves, new plants on the outside of the church and a new sound system.

JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT

Rev. Charles Tabb P. E.

Mt. Zion Rev. Vernell Long. Mt. Zion has been awakened with the sound of children. Mount Zion has formed a Children's Choir.

Zion Temple Zion Temple has become Mission Minded they have given many Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets to the needy.

Varick Memorial Rev. Charles Tabb. Varick continues to find new ways of how to better the relationship with the surrounding community. This church is doing incredible ministry.

BISHOP MILDRED B. HINES
SOUTHWESTERN DELTA EPISCOPAL DISTRICT



Grace and peace be unto all of you who make up this fiftieth quadrennial conference of this great African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church from God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! I am thankful to have been assigned to what could very well be identified as one of the best kept secrets in Zion! I am honored, humbled and just tickled pink to give an accounting of my labor and the people who make up the Southwestern Delta Episcopal District. Included in this report is the inclusion of The New England and Bahamas Islands Annual Conferences.

I want to extend my very special heart felt appreciation to Dr. Gwendolyn Brumfield who has served not only as my Missionary Supervisor, but also many other capacities including administrative assistant, driver, nurse, sister and friend. Also, gratitude must be expressed to Mrs. Lovetta Jean Holmes. Her quiet calming nature coupled with her tenacious will to get the job done and done right balanced and helped keep me focused. With Dr. Brumfield on one side and Mrs. Holmes on my other side, I had no choice other but to succeed. I praise God for both of them and am proud to have had them serve with me.

Dr. Brumfield and I were received in the Delta in grand southern fashion. The entire episcopal area descended on Jackson, Mississippi. City and state official, civic and church representatives from Jackson and the surrounding areas were summons to welcome us. Individuals were designated to represent each Annual Conference in welcoming us and pledging their support to the work that would be before us.

Shortly after the welcome program, Dr. Brumfield and I assumed habitation at the recently acquired residence in the super quiet neighborhood of Sagefield Square in the town of Gluckstatd, Mississippi.

Once settled, the episcopal area was called together again for the purpose of sharing the vision for the District and to give the map for our journey. The episcopal leadership team was appointed:

Dr. Gwendolyn Brumfield - Missionary Supervisor and Episcopal Secretary

Dr. Floyd Chambers - Episcopal Administrative Assistant

Dr. Moses Thompson - Episcopal Chief of Protocol

Mrs. Ava Swinton - Episcopal Director of Christian Education

The Episcopal quadrennial theme which was expanded from the denomination's theme was introduced and expounded upon:

Exhibiting God's worth through our:

Year one: Worship

Year two: Leadership

Year three: Stewardship

Year four: Fellowship

From the beginning, emphasis was placed on working together and building a strong, winning team. Honesty, trustworthiness, integrity, responsibility and accountability was stressed. The expectation for wholistic growth was communicated. We all agreed to work together to win together, communed and began the journey.

The Southwestern Delta is comprised of six Annual Conferences:

- South Mississippi - 24 Churches
2 Presiding Elder Districts: Canton-Jackson and Canton-Panola
- West Tennessee – Mississippi - 14 Churches
2 Presiding Elder Districts: Memphis-Pope and Batesville
- Louisiana - 12 Churches
2 Presiding Elder Districts: New Orleans and Roseland
- Arkansas - 9 Churches
2 Presiding Elder Districts: Little Rock-Hot Springs and Pine Bluff-Wilmot
- Texas - 7 Churches
2 Presiding Elder Districts: Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston-San Antonio
- Oklahoma - 3 Churches
1 Presiding Elder District: Tulsa

Upon my arrival to the Delta, the Presiding Elders and Districts were as follows:

South Mississippi

Canton-Panola - Dr. Jimmy C. Hicks
Canton-Jackson - Reverend Gary D. Adams

West Tennessee - Mississippi:

Memphis-Pope - Reverend Nehemiah Martin
Batesville - Reverend Tammy Herring

Louisiana:

New Orleans - Dr. Willie G. Johnson
Roseland - Reverend Kenneth D. York

Arkansas:

Little Rock-Hot Springs - Reverend Michael O. Carter
Pine Bluff-Wilmot - Reverend Clarence Hobbs

Texas

Dallas-Fort Worth - Reverend John Morris Jr.
Houston-San Antonio – Rev. Dr. Barbara LaToison

Oklahoma

Tulsa - Dr. John W. Forbes III.

Upon the retirement of long time pastor of the Sharon Chapel AME Zion Church and Presiding Elder of the Canton-Panola District, Dr. Jimmy C. Hicks, the leadership of the conference approached me about moving from two to three Presiding Elder Districts. After some discussion, the conferences voted for the restructure. The Reverends Floyd E. Chambers and John C. Evans joined Reverend Gary Adams as the South Mississippi Presiding Elder trio. As time passed, it became clearer and clearer three districts was not serving the conference well so the conference voted to go back to two districts. The dissolving of the third district also necessitated a shift in some pastoral appointments and resulted in the appointment of South Mississippi's first female

Presiding Elder, Reverend Lelar Brooks to the Canton Jackson District and Dr. Floyd Chambers to the Canton Panola District. This proved to be a good fit for both Presiding Elders and both districts.

Near the end of the quadrennium, change became necessary in the West Tennessee-Mississippi Conference. Presiding Elder Tammy Herring, who in addition to pastoring was the principle caregiver for her ailing mother who eventually was called to her eternal rest, requested to be given a Conference Evangelist appointment. Reverend Moses E. Thompson was transferred from the South Mississippi Conference and appointed Presiding Elder of the Batesville District. Because Mrs. Ethel Jenkins the longtime District President of the WH&OM Society retired, it just made good sense to replace her with Reverend Thompson's wife Tesha who had done an exceptional job as one of the District Presidents in South Mississippi. Reverend Thompson went in and immediately connected with Presiding Elder Martin. He and Tesha were warmly welcomed and the district is exploding with growth and excitement.

Midway through the quadrennium, veteran Presiding Elder, Dr. Willie G. Johnson of the Louisiana Conference was replaced with Dr. Earnest Peters who moved effortlessly into the position. Mrs. Florena Johnson who had served as District President of the WH&OM Society for several years was replaced with Mrs. Beverly Littlejohn. Both Dr. Peters and Mrs. Littlejohn were accepted and embraced by the district.

The tragic and unexpected death of Presiding Elder Clarence Hobbs during a checkup meeting stunned the Arkansas Conference while experiencing a height of success. Grief and sorrow overshadowed the entire conference and just when they thought the sun would not shine again, the sun rose revealing that the Son had risen and was alive! The hearts of the people were comforted and they were motivated to live in anticipation of the general resurrection. Reverend Steve Fuller was promoted to Presiding Elder of the Pine Bluff-Wilmot District and pastor of Moore's Chapel. Because he was home grown, he transitioned into his new position with no problems. He did a fine job and the district flourished and then the word came that his secular job was transferring him to Atlanta, Georgia. Once again there was a void to be filled. Reverend Arthur L. Gilliam was transferred from the Western NC Conference. He came in singing and preaching and won the hearts of the people. He and Presiding Elder Michael Carter, the mainstay of the Arkansas Conference clicked and once again Arkansas was off and running. Reverend Gilliam ignited a blazing fire inspiring the people to have a mind to work. Presiding Elder Carter navigated the merger of Coleman Chapel and St. Paul Temple to produce the now Grace Temple. Coleman Chapel was sold and the Grace Temple (formerly St. Paul Temple) was completely renovated and is now the conference center for the Arkansas Conference.

The Texas Conference suffered the loss of Presiding Elder John Morris to the New England Conference leaving Presiding Elder Barbara LaToison to preside over both the Houston-San Antonio and Dallas-Fort Worth Districts. Reverend Dr. Darius M. Benton was transferred from the Western NC Conference and appointed to Walls Chapel and Presiding Elder of the Houston-San Antonio District. Reverend Benton's arrival was like a shot in the arm for the district and church. Under Presiding Elder LaToison's leadership, site visits were made to Austin, Texas and plans were put in motion for planting a church there.

The Oklahoma Conference sustained a hard blow when the always present, Dr. John W. Forbes, III transferred to the Louisiana Conference and Reverend Derrill Blue transferred to the New England Conference. Dr. Forbes had been in Tulsa for years and for the Oklahoma Conference family, his leaving was like losing a family member. Reverend Blue had only been in Oklahoma for a few years. He had asked to leave the West Tennessee-Mississippi Conference to go to Oklahoma City and help grow the work there. He was successful and his departure was just as impactful as Dr. Forbes. Reverend Cecelia Thomas was promoted to the position of Presiding Elder and assigned to the Varick Chapel Church in Tulsa. Reverend Terry Howard was assigned to the New Beginnings Church in Oklahoma City. Reverend Victor Patterson was assigned to Greater Jones Chapel, Okmulgee, replacing Reverend Thomas. Because of declining health, Reverend Dorothy Redd, who was pastoring Witnessing, a church she had started in her living room, decided to retire. Reverend Adrian Brown was sent to replace her. The people began to scatter in Oklahoma City leading to the need to dissolve New Beginnings. Reverend Patterson developed some severe health challenges that necessitated him moving back to Kansas. Reverend Brown found it difficult to balance school, work, pastoring and a social life, so he opted to come out of the pulpit. Reverend Howard was sent to fill the Greater Jones pulpit and the faithful few from Witnessing were asked to join the Varick Chapel family.

Southwestern Delta Highlights

- Every church in every conference is organized with all departments functioning
- Every church in every conference celebrated all the denominational anniversary days
- Every church in every conference paid in full and on time all financial obligations
- The Christian Education Department of every conference stepped up and provided quality teaching tools and resources for empowerment on the local level
- The Missionaries in every conference excelled and exhausted every effort to win the world for Christ
- The Lay Council membership was encouraged in every conference
- Special projects were executed in every conference

Necrology

The quadrennium was not without loss. Called from labor to reward were the following ministers who served in the pastoral ministry:

- South Mississippi Conference – The Reverend Benny Luckett
- Louisiana Conference – The Reverend JoAnn Brooks
- Arkansas Conference – The Reverend Troy Roscoe
The Reverend Dr. Clarence Hobbs

They all put in a good days work so may their souls rest in peace.

Conclusion

I began my journey with the Delta and then New England and the Bahamas were added. Along the way challenges and issues popped up and tough decisions had to be made. Through it all, I learned to trust in Jesus and I learned to trust in God. I learned to depend upon His Word. I am stronger and wiser after having served Zion's finest. I am thankful for the opportunity to have served as a Bishop in this great A.M.E. Zion Church and am looking forward to whatever is to come.

Humbly submitted,
Bishop Mildred B. Hines

Quadrennial Report to the 50th Session of the General Conference

WESTERN EPISCOPAL DISTRICT



To our beloved Episcopal Family of Zion, the Members of the Board of Bishops and Missionary Supervisors; to the team of General Officers, the Judicial Council, members of the Executive Boards of both the W.H.& O.M. Society and the Connectional Lay Council, along with others who comprise our Connectional Leadership, to the Delegates to this historic General Conference, to the Presiding Elders, Pastors, Ministers, the devoted Laity of the Church, College and Seminary Presidents, and the ecumenical guests, observers, and all of our partners in the faith; I greet you in the only Name that eternally matters - JESUS CHRIST, our Liberator and Lord!

Greensboro, NC is known as “The Gate City” to denote its connectivity to the rest of the state, the nation, and the world. It’s an appropriate metaphor for this assembly of Christians from around the world as we enter the 50th Session of The AME Zion Church General Conference to commemorate our legacy and chart our future together.

I’m still in awe that four years ago, this great Church elected and consecrated me as the 99th Bishop in line of succession of The Freedom Church. The enormity of the office with its concomitant responsibilities continue to humble me. However, one of the great blessings emerging from the 2012 General Conference was my assignment to the Western Episcopal District.

Spanning a vast territory of more than 3,500 miles from Phoenix, Arizona to Fairbanks, Alaska, the Western Episcopal District, has warmly embraced my wife and me as their Episcopal Leaders. It has been their prayers and commitment to the Church they love that has made our first quadrennium a truly joyful and impactful one. GOD has gifted me with an amazing life partner and soulmate for whom I am sincerely grateful. Devieta Moore has been my most trusted advisor and valued confidante. Our children, Daron, Dana, and Dion, along with our new Daughter-in-Law, Elaina, and soon to be Son-in-Law, Kevin, have served as our inspiration and we love them dearly. Thank you Ms. Georgia Woodruff for serving as our Administrative Assistant, but more importantly, our friend. Bishop and Mrs. George E. Battle have been a tremendous source of wisdom and support. We are grateful for your stellar example. Thank you to my Episcopal Colleagues for all you do for the Church we all love and to Bishop and Mrs. George W.C. Walker and Bishop and Mrs. Nathaniel Jarrett for your mentorship and counsel.

The Apostle Paul writes; *“The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work.”* (1 Cor. 3:8) I am grateful for those who have planted and watered through their episcopal ministry in the Western Episcopal District prior to our assignment, including our immediate predecessors, Bishop and Mrs. Dennis Proctor. Thank you for the orientation to the area, the information passed along, and the consultation during difficult decisions when your counsel was a welcomed assist. We have attempted to be good stewards of the work and have built upon the solid foundation we inherited. It is therefore, with a heart overflowing with joy and gratitude that I offer this report of my Episcopal Stewardship during the 2012-2016 Quadrennium.

Christian Education

Dr. Sandra Davis serves as the Episcopal Director of Christian Education. She is a highly capable and committed leader who ensures that every Conference within the boundaries of the Western Episcopal District has a strong, effective Christian Education ministry.

Our Connectional Officers for CED are:

ACE - Mrs. Sandra Black and Mrs. Kathy Parrish

YACM - Rev. George William Whitfield and Rev. Philmont Bostic

VICYC - Miss Kymbriana Elliott

The Conference Directors are:

Alaska - Mrs. Sandra Black

California - Dr. Sandra Davis

Colorado - Rev. Kay Blount

Oregon-Washington - Mrs. Kathy Parrish

Southwest Rocky Mountain - Rev. Nailah Hubbard

Women's Home and Missionary Society

The Western Episcopal District is blessed to have a deeply dedicated and uniquely gifted team of women who serve in the W.H.&O.M Society. They have impacted their local communities for Christ, garnered resources to support Zion's global missions efforts, and diligently sought to fulfill the Great Commission. We offer words of tribute to Mrs. Ida Francis and Mrs. Bettie Chaney who both retired last year as District Presidents after many years of faithful service.

The District Presidents are as follows:

Anchorage-Fairbanks - Mrs. Alice Owens

Bay Cities - Mrs. Geneva Watts

Central Valley - Mrs. Carolyn Rittenhouse

Denver - Mrs. Asaline Hughley

Cascade - Mrs. Sylvia Taylor

Los Angeles - Mrs. Sharon Kent

Phoenix-San Diego - Mrs. Sevena Brooks

Lay Council

Mrs. Rynette Nixon serves as the Western Regional Director for the Connectional Lay Council. She has worked effectively with the Lay Councils in each Conference to organize and strengthen their ministries and membership.

The Lay Council Presidents serving our Conferences are:

Alaska - Mrs. Rose Stokes

California - Ms. Angela DeShields

Colorado - Ms. Willene Collins

Oregon-Washington - Ms. Gail Thomas

Southwest Rocky Mountain - Mrs. Clara Satterfield

Men of Zion

I've heard that there are those who are looking for a "few good men". Well, they can find them in the Western Episcopal District. Our Men of Zion are a fine group of Christian gentlemen who love the Lord, love their families, and love their Church. They make Zion proud!

The Conference Presidents are:

Alaska - Mr. William Stokes

California - Mr. Jerry Quintana

Oregon-Washington - Mr. Jackie E. Smith

Southwest Rocky Mountain - Mr. Anthony Ary

Western Episcopal District Ministry Team

The work of the ministry throughout the Western Episcopal District was enhanced by the gifts of many individuals who offered their time, talent, and resources to educate, equip, and empower both clergy and lay. I am sincerely grateful for their partnership.

Rev. William Dudley - WED Director of Evangelism and Communication

Mr. Othello Jefferson - WED Minister of Music

Rev. John A. Harrison - WED Director of Pastoral Care

ALASKA CONFERENCE

ANCHORAGE DISTRICT

Rev. Alphonso H. Meadows, Jr.

Leake Temple - Anchorage, AK Rev. Alphonso Meadows, Pastor

The church has launched an addiction recovery ministry. Leake Temple's Missionary Department has also received recognition in the press for annually coordinating contributions of green vegetables to the citywide Thanksgiving feeding program.

St. James Temple - Fairbanks, AK Rev. Carolyn Cooper, Pastor

Under the leadership of their new pastor, this church has launched a very impactful prayer ministry. There is renewed enthusiasm among the membership. The social media ministry is effectively drawing people back to St James Temple.

Empowerment Temple - Anchorage, AK Rev. Alsey Williams, Pastor

In 2013, Rev. Alsey Williams requested permission to establish a church plant. With the support of his family, including his sister, Rev. Dr. Frances Williams Reid, Empowerment Temple was born. This congregation has enormous potential. The church has a weekly TV ministry which has gained them greater visibility. They have been active in planning and participating in the citywide Juneteenth celebration. Both Pastor and people are making an impact for Christ and Zion in the Anchorage Community.

Ministry in Hawaii - Honolulu, HI Rev. Martha Blanchett, Minister on Special Assignment

The Rev. Martha Blanchett is a Traveling Minister in the Alaska Conference who relocated to Honolulu. She provided a ministry presence for the AME Zion Church that offered monthly prayer gatherings, hospitality to members of the AME Zion Church visiting the Island, and clergy support as requested for weddings, counseling, or other ministry needs. Due to some health challenges that required Rev. Blanchett to temporarily return to Alaska, this ministry will need to be reassessed.

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

BAY CITIES DISTRICT

Rev. Dr. Frederick D. Hubbard - Presiding Elder

First AME Zion - San Francisco, CA Rev. Dr. Christopher Zacharias, Pastor

First AME Zion has multiple bible studies throughout the week in person and online to continue to teach the word in creative ways. Pastor and members are serving coffee outside the church as a part of their evangelism of the area and have begun exploring options for allowing an African congregation use of the church and then assimilating that congregation into Zion.

Greater Cooper - Oakland, CA Rev. Mark A. Thomas, Pastor

Greater Cooper has incorporated a series on the Wesleyan quadrilateral in their weekly Bible Study. In order to enhance stewardship, the church provides the option of giving by using a smartphone through an App called Givelify. The weekly feeding ministry is a staple in the community as the homeless population has increased, and with a constant influx of visitors, the church is an open door to all.

Kyles Temple – Vallejo, CA Rev. David T. Miller, Pastor

The ministry at Kyles Temple AME Zion Church has included enhanced efforts towards voter awareness, voter registration, and voter turnout. There has been continued growth in the CED department by creating a college prep office to help youth prepare for college. Their outreach and feeding ministries have served over four thousand meals. The church's Senior Ministry sponsors outings and fellowship with other seniors and churches in the area.

University - Palo Alto, CA Rev. Kaloma Smith, Pastor

This church has been the host location for several impactful opportunities for voices to be heard and make strides towards healing in the wake of the racial violence displayed across the US and in our local communities. The church has also partnered with several ecumenical, interfaith groups, and social agencies in its area resulting in work with Habitat for Humanity, and a young adult ministry being run by students from Stanford University.

St. James - San Mateo, CA Rev. Marlyn Bussey, Pastor

Situated in what has now become a majority Latino community, St. James started a foundation in 2013 to offer after school tutoring in Math. Three years later, this simple project has developed into a full service tutoring program three days a week during the school year and four days a week for a month during the summer, with the primary focus on improving Math performance. This program now serves 50+ students during the school year and 75+ students each summer along with a dinner meal at every session and monthly parent empowerment sessions. The program is free, funded through grants and individual donations.

First A.M.E. Zion - San Jose, CA Rev. Michael Henderson, Pastor

First AME Zion in San Jose is truly making an impact in their community. In addition to their van and feeding ministries they have started a Boys to Men mentoring program and have already had 18 young men to graduate, and the church has a monthly musical program that attracts enthusiastic participation.

Stewart Chapel - Redwood City, CA Rev. Graylin Young, Pastor

Stewart Chapel is on the move. They now hold services in English and Spanish, which has created a welcoming space for the majority Latino community. This is a happy and healing congregation where there is hope for a stronger future. They also sponsor a Head Start program providing important services to their community.

St. Mark - East Palo Alto, CA Rev. John A. Harrison, Jr., Pastor

St. Mark has completed construction of a new edifice. And done so without acquiring a mortgage - Praise GOD! The building was dedicated during a beautiful worship service. The members and Pastor are to be commended for their perseverance.

Victory Center - Union City, CA Rev. Deborah Lewis-Virges, Pastor

We salute the Rev. & Mrs. Joseph Sharper, who were the visionary founders of Victory Center and during their ministry, the church became a congregation of faithful believers. In June 2015, Rev. Virges was appointed pastor. Both Pastor and people are excited about the spiritual growth and development of the members as expressed through the active sharing of the Gospel which has brought others to a saving knowledge of Christ and has increased the church body.

CENTRAL VALLEY DISTRICT

Rev. Darrell Williams - Presiding Elder

Kyles Temple - Sacramento, CA Rev. Gloria Clemons-White, Pastor

This congregation held a grand celebration for their Centennial Church Anniversary in May of this year. The 100 year old church maintains its focus and strength as a viable ministry with a very effective class leaders ministry. The class system at this church is focused and progressive. One key is a strong leader of leaders.

Howard Chapel - Hanford, CA Rev. Fred Wills, Pastor

This church is 127 years old and had some ups and downs, however is seeing a new wave of growth through the women's focus ministry. They are conducting a Women's Bible Study and it has helped increase and strengthen the membership.

Hilliard Chapel - Stockton, CA Rev. Darrell Williams, Pastor

Hilliard Chapel has witnessed a wonderful response through its community outreach with the Stockton Police Department. They host an annual Police Officers appreciation on the 3rd Saturday of December, the same weekend as the "Black Lives Matter" Sunday to demonstrate that these concepts need not be contradictory. The events have drawn National attention.

Mt. Pisgah - Merced, CA Rev. Edward Prothro-Harris, Pastor

The growth of this ministry can be attributed to a variety of factors. One creative method the Pastor and his wife are using to reach the community is a monthly radio talk show blog. It has given the church added visibility and viability.

Stewart Tabernacle - Fresno, CA Rev. Reginald Thomas, Pastor

This unique ministry is located in one of the most challenging neighborhoods in Fresno. They have decided to reach the community by holding a monthly Christian Music Jam Session. It has brought the people out and is increasing the congregation.

St. Stephen - Sacramento, CA Rev. Gail Jack, Pastor

This church takes the Great Commission literally and goes out into the local community each week to invite people to church. Keep it simple is the model and it's working. They have grown by over 30% this past year. For this we praise GOD!

Clinton Chapel - Modesto, CA Rev. Wayne Taylor, Pastor

This is another of our churches that is over 100 years old. While they have been small in number they operate as the little church that could. As a result of the change of attitude, they have seen an increase in membership by deciding to have the doors open at least 2 to 3 days per week. Added access to the church has increased their community visibility.

COLORADO

DENVER DISTRICT

Rev. Alexander Person - Presiding Elder

Spottswood - Denver, CO Rev. Darwin D. Little, Pastor

The Church has become engaged in mission ministry. They have made great strides towards reaching the homeless and the gang communities. Exceptional church growth has taken place spiritually and numerically. It is a growing Church in Denver and lives are being impacted for the Kingdom.

Miracle Mountain - Denver, CO Rev. Kay D. Blount, Pastor

The Church has endured transitions to several different locations; however, the congregation has matured spiritually and their faith has increased. The various ministry organizations are performing well.

OREGON –WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

CASCADE DISTRICT

Rev. Robert F. Kemp - Presiding Elder (He will be awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree by Livingstone College in May, 2017. Congratulations!)

First AME Zion - Portland, OR Rev. George William Whitfield, Pastor

The First A. M. E. Zion Church of Portland, Oregon is the first expression of Zion in the Pacific Northwest. For one hundred and fifty-four years, this unique congregation of believers has been telling and re-telling the good news of Jesus Christ. The Church is pastored by the Rev. George William Whitfield, who is dedicated to doing the right thing in the right way. The membership reflects a diversity of age- groups and backgrounds and is committed to furthering the cause of Christ.

Ebenezer - Seattle, WA Rev. John Stean, Pastor

For more than eighty-six years, Ebenezer A. M. E. Zion Church has faithfully carried the torch for Zion in Seattle, Washington. This church has overcome several setbacks but the membership is beginning the healing process with the appointment of a new pastor on May 1, 2016. Ebenezer Church has maintained an effective outreach program that provides food to the hungry on a weekly basis. We pray and believe that the Ebenezer congregation will regain its spirit, revamp its ministries and retool its resources as God moves on the hearts of the Pastor, officers and members. ***At the time this report is being drafted, we offer our prayers for the complete recovery of Rev. Daniel Webb who underwent surgery in April. The Presiding Elder, Rev. Kemp, is to be applauded for his steady leadership serving as interim pastor.

Community - Vancouver, WA Rev. Joyce M. Smith, Pastor

The Community A. M. E. Zion Church is a Christ-centered, Spirit-filled congregation under the outstanding leadership of The Rev. Joyce M. Smith. This dynamic pastor is both energetic and visionary. She pastors with a heart for people and ministry. Under her leadership and that of her companion of 51 years, Bro. Jackie E. Smith, Sr., the Community Church continues to provide ministries that positively impacts the greater Vancouver area.

Pauline Memorial - Salem, OR Rev. Levi Harris, Pastor

Pauline Memorial A. M. E. Zion was organized in 1971 and is currently under the enthusiastic leadership of The Rev. Levi Harris and his wife, The Rev. Rosemary Morgan-Harris. They have consistently provided stellar leadership to the Church. They have reenergized the ministries and the membership is growing.

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

Reverend Dr. George E. Kent - Presiding Elder

First A.M.E. Zion - Los Angeles, CA Rev. Kelcy Steele, Pastor

The congregation of First AME Zion Church is a loving Church with a global reach. It has been renewed with spirit-filled worship and passionate preaching, and revived through community involvement and social justice. They serve as a leader in fighting poverty with their homeless feeding ministries and addressing health disparities as they partner with the NAACP Black Church & HIV Social justice Initiative. They have completed over \$100,000 in renovations including a state of the art Sound system. Lives are being changed and transformed for the advancement of the Kingdom at First Church which resulted in a significant increase in membership.

Second A.M.E. Zion - Los Angeles, CA Rev. Dr. George Kent, Pastor

The devoted and hardworking pastor equips this congregation to utilize their gifts to do the work of ministry beyond the church walls. Second Church continues to be a beacon light in the community through the Willing Workers who feed the homeless and also take food, personal essentials, and blankets downtown to the Skid Row community. The Parent Body of the Missionary Society is providing a women's shelter purses and shoes to assist the less fortunate to go out and find jobs. Second Church continues to grow both spiritually and numerically.

First A.M.E. Zion - Pasadena, CA Rev. Dr. Brandon Fisher, Pastor

This is a church on the move. With its dynamic, young pastor, they are experiencing a powerful transformational ministry. Worship services are energetic and well attended, the membership is excited and that excitement is contagious in the community. The Missionary Department provides Blessing Bags for those who are homeless in the Greater Pasadena area. The Save our Sons Symposium of AKA for the city of Pasadena is hosted by First Church and the Children and Youth Ministry visit convalescent centers and provide socks to the residents.

Shiloh - Monrovia, CA Rev. Dexter Feely, Pastor

The Shiloh Church is making great strides forward and has truly become a House of Prayer. As a result, the church has experienced a complete turn around. This pastor has a heart for GOD and the people. Shiloh is reaching out to its community and therefore is witnessing increased numbers of members who are growing spiritually. Eyes have not seen nor have ears heard the great things that the Lord has planned for Shiloh.

Martin Temple - Compton, CA Rev. Celesta Ary

This church is in partnership with Girls Hood Summer and After School Program providing lunch and After School snacks to Elementary School Students and to some adults. The goal of this ministry effort is to ensure that children in the community of Compton are not going for long intervals without a healthy meal. Pastor and people are striving to work in harmony to have impactful ministry in Compton where there are enormous challenges; however, wherever there are great challenges there are also great opportunities.

Peoples - Palmdale, CA Rev. Dr. Hubert Brown, Pastor

Since the arrival of this pastor, the Peoples Church has been on the move, literally! They have acquired a beautiful new church edifice in the city of Palmdale. Initial efforts to reach out to the neighborhood have begun. A clothing outreach ministry called "Mary's Closet" has been launched to address the immediate needs of women in the community by providing free clothing to those experiencing financial difficulties or crisis. This ministry was birthed when a young lady appeared at the church one Sunday morning wanting to share in the worship experience but she did not feel her attire was appropriate. She was welcomed warmly, ministered to, and invited into service just as she was. It was during that service she gave her life to Christ and joined the Peoples Church family.

PHOENIX-SAN DIEGO DISTRICT

Rev. Marcia Meredith - Presiding Elder

Logan Temple - San Diego, CA Rev. Nailah Hubbard, Pastor

Logan Temple worked with local agencies to clean up and beautify the community including providing graffiti removal, repairs on local resident's homes, and keeping vacant lots free from debris. They also provide on-going support to the San Diego City and County HIV/AIDS commission, donate food, clothing and support to families affected by HIV/AIDS, and provide business attire for women transitioning from homelessness to workplace. There has been extensive remodeling of the church facilities including Fellowship Hall improvements and remodeling of church-owned rental properties.

Fisher Chapel – Phoenix, AZ Rev. William Hogans, Pastor

The Fisher Chapel has maximized the use of technology by providing an engaging Bible Study through Google Chat. Fisher Chapel has also continued the excellent work of the John Parron Visitation Ministry, who have for over 20 years visited several rest homes at least once per month providing worship services and prayer. Fisher Chapel has a heart for ministry to special needs children and they work with Mesa Rehabilitation Center where members visit and read to disabled children who are confined mostly to their beds. They have recently begun to work with Robinson Ranch, a black owned Ranch that works with the disabled, teaching horsemanship and animal care. They also partner with the city of Phoenix, sponsoring career/job fairs for the community.

Winston Chapel – San Diego, CA Rev. Michael Moses, Pastor

An innovative ministry is being conducted by Winston Chapel who offer “Mobile Church Services” to homeless residents in the downtown San Diego area. Each week, Pastor Moses delivers bag lunches, Personal Care Kits, and preached sermons outdoors. Over the course of the year the Winston Chapel Family served an average of 40-60 people each weekend, rain or shine.

Lawrence Memorial AME Zion (A New Society) - Gilbert, AZ Rev. Albert Bolden, Pastor

Named in memory of Rev. Douglas E. Lawrence, this new church plant is the vision of Rev. & Mrs. Al Bolden. The first service was held on March 6, 2016 and the membership has grown steadily. This ministry goes into the highways and hedges seeking all who would come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior. Lawrence Memorial is a place that welcomes strangers and meets needs.

Necrology Report

“Those we love remain with us for love itself lives on, and cherished memories never fade because a loved one's gone. Those we love can never be more than a thought apart, for as long as there is memory, they'll live on in the heart.” (Quoted from the poem; “Love Lives On”)

Alaska

Rev. Dr. Theodore Moore

California

Rev. Richard Anderson

Bro. Lloyd Chaney

Rev. Carrie Watkins

Rev. Levi Harper

Bro. R.C. Rochon

Sis. Ella Brown

Willie Robinson

Virginia Magee

Buelah Mckinley

Bro. Lawrence Smith, Jr.

Oregon-Washington

Rev. Dr. L.J. Thompson, Presiding Elder

Rev. Robert N. Probasco, Sr.

Rev. Z. James Purifoy

Rev. Nellie B. Thompson

Rev. Odell H. Thompson

Rev. Phyllis Carter

Sis. Lorine Myles

Sis. Ellen Thompson

Southwest Rocky Mountain

Sis. Freddie Brown

Sis. Geraldine Crooms

Conclusion

Early in life we learn that the sun rises in the East and sets in the West; however, my wife and I have greatly appreciated the rising of our Episcopal Ministry in the West. The beloved members of Zion in the Western Episcopal District have blessed us beyond our expectations. We have loved, laughed, and learned with these marvelous Christians and as a result, have come to cherish them as family.

Throughout my ministry it has been my earnest desire to do my very best for the Master and leave the assignment stronger than how I found it. We give all praises to GOD for the great things happening in the Western Episcopal District. There are two new church plants, a new online Conference Studies Program, we hosted Cyberspace Joint Checkup Meetings to reduce travel costs, a new church was built in East Palo Alto, CA, a new church building was purchased in Palmdale, CA, there is an increase in membership across the area and greater vitality in many of our congregations, and there's now a sense of anticipation of even greater things in the future. As I submit this, my first report as a Bishop in the life of our Church, I'm cognizant that this august body I stand before is only a segment of the audience I report to. There is a great cloud of heavenly witnesses that includes so many saints, clergy and lay, family and ministers, who have poured into my life, including the grandmothers who prayed for me and my father-in-ministry, Dr. Belvie H. Jackson, who mentored me. I'm not only humbled by that reality, I'm compelled to respond to the challenge issued by the hymn writer:

*Give of your best to the Master;
Give Him first place in your heart.
Give Him first place in your service;
Consecrate every part.
Give, and to you will be given;
God His beloved Son gave.
Gratefully seeking to serve Him,
Give Him the best that you have.*

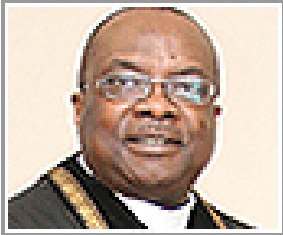
Our GOD is AWESOME!
Yours With Jesus Joy,

W. Darin Moore, Presiding Bishop of the Western Episcopal District
99th Bishop in the Line of Succession of The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church



WESTERN WEST AFRICA EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
Bishop Seth O. Lartey, Presiding Prelate
Mrs. Jacqueline Inez Williams-Lartey, Missionary Supervisor
Liberia, East Ghana, West Ghana, Mid-Ghana, North Ghana, Togo, Côté
D'Ivoire

GREETINGS AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Mr. President, Bishop Louis Hunter, Sr.; the Senior Bishop, Bishop George Edward Battle, Jr.; Officers and Members of the Board of Bishops; General Officers; Connectional Officers; the International President, Executive Board and Members of the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society; Presiding Elders; Pastors; Delegates; and my fellow AME ZIONITES.

On this the occasion of the 50th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference of THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH, I am honored as the 100th Bishop in the line of succession to bring to this body warm greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, on behalf of the Western West Africa Episcopal District (WWAED) family.

On July 24th, 2012, the WWAED VESSEL left the port of Charlotte, North Carolina headed for the port of Greensboro with 50,000 passengers, 406 churches, an A.M.E. ZION SCHOOL SYSTEM with 80,000 students, the A.M.E. ZION UNIVERSITY, the JANIE SPEAKS HOSPITAL, the joint ownership in the TRINITY SEMINARY, and four high schools.

During the voyage, we experienced some tumultuous storms. Some of these included the Ebola crisis in Liberia, the demolition of three of our well-built churches in Côté D'Ivoire, the fire and flood in the city of Accra, the establishment of the Capital and Development Funds, the destruction of nine of our church structures in the north of Ghana due to very strong wind and rain, and the partial collapse of the episcopal residence in Accra.

While these were some very dark nights, we can truly triumphantly testify in the bright sunlight that the morning brought. Long-term goals were adopted; 32 church growth programs were developed to ensure prolonged sustainability; economic projects were identified in each of the seven conferences; six major infrastructural developmental projects were undertaken; 11 publications were approved and published under our leadership; and four economic and business initiatives were established. New societies were accepted into full connection; five new districts were established; and dedications were conducted. These included sanctuaries, parsonages, school buildings, school van, and an information technology center at the Aggrey Senior High School.

We experienced some God inspired events: the ultra-modern church which was built and donated to The A.M.E. ZION CHURCH, the 47-passenger bus donated to the A.M.E. ZION UNIVERSITY in Liberia; the 12 newly built classrooms/school building in Harrisburg, Liberia; and supplies of medical equipment (valued at \$450,000) to the JANIE SPEAKS HOSPITAL by the WH&OMS through PROJECT C.U.R.E. We performed a wedding ceremony, eulogized faithful workers, and baptized persons (wherein, in one service, we baptized 27 persons in North Ghana).

Our moments of sunshine were not without the eclipse of sad moments. We had some hard working and dedicated servants to leave us during this quadrennium. May their souls rest in perpetual peace. They are listed with their respective annual conferences.

In closing, I wish to express my deepest thanks and appreciations to members of the Board of Bishops, friends and supporters of WESTERN WEST AFRICA (with honorable mention to Bishop and Mrs. Battle, Bishop and Mrs. Hunter, Bishop and Mrs. Monroe, and Bishop and Mrs. Starnes for their extraordinary gesture of embracing Mrs. Lartey and I as associates at their respective annual conferences). I also extend gratitude to the hard working Bishop Administrative Officers, the 44 Presiding Elders, Chief of Staff, Episcopal Liaison, Pastors' Conference Officers, and the wonderful lay people.

Special thanks to Drs. Bell, Crenshaw, Chappell, Shuford, Anderson, Powell, Tillett, Walker, Shuford, Pyant, Thompson, and Wilson for their extraordinary support as well as opportunities to minister the word of God. Our thanks go out to the Presiding Elders (Drs. Fields, Noble, and Wilson) who extended to us kindness while we labored on the field. We say thanks to organizations, dedicated lay persons who stood with us in this journey, especially during the EBOLA crisis. Thank you Zion for your support, prayers and donations. Time will not allow us to name each of you, but may the favor of God rest upon each of you.

Many thanks to our children who remained focused as their parents traveled for the sake of the kingdom. Thanks to my mother-in-law who kept things together in our absence. Thanks to Sis. Carolyn Massey who has and continues to be a dependable sister. Thanks to Sis. Jacqueline Anthony for her administrative support. Thanks to Sis. Leondras Davis. Thanks to Mrs. Freda Moss for her dependable support. Thanks to Mrs. Ruth Gough and Ms. Wiley. Thanks to Dr. Richard Gadzekpo for your loyal support. Thanks to Dr. Hilliard Dogbe for your support as Chief of Staff. Thanks to all of the General Officers for their support. Thanks to sisters: D. Wilson Jones, Shirley

Moon-Childs, and Charlotte Umoja. Thanks to brothers: Seth M. Moulton, Michael Murray, Witherspoon and Richardson for your support and prayers. Thanks to Dr. George Woodruff and the entire Commission for Global Ministries Team and, Lafayette Jones, a prayer partner for 25 years. Thanks to Drs. Cooper and Benjamin Lartey for their leadership in the Liberia Annual Conference.

A million thanks to Mrs. Jacqueline Williams Lartey who promised to go, to dwell, to embrace, and to accept the people, the places and tasks assigned to us. I am happy to report that she has been faithful beyond the call of duty. Thank you and I love you.

I will close this my First Quadrennial Report by dedicating it to Bishop and Mrs. Solomon D. Lartey and Bishop and Mrs. Reuben L. Speaks.

Humbly submitted by His grace,



Rt. Rev. Seth O. Lartey
Presiding Prelate
Western West Africa Episcopal District

THE QUADRENNIAL REPORT: 2012-2016

LIBERIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

GENERAL OVERVIEW/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church was first organized in 1796 in New York City, USA, after a dramatic walkout by a group of committed souls for the cause of liberation of Black People, from the John Street Methodist Episcopal Church, led by Reverend James Varick and others, including William Miller, Christopher Rush, and Abraham Thompson. Reverend James Varick became the first Bishop.

In the 80th year of its existence, the Reverend Andrew Cartwright, with support from the Missionary Department of the Church, headed by at that time, the late Annie Blackwell sailed for and reached the West Coast of Africa in 1875, and planted the first A.M.E. Zion Church in Brewerville, Liberia. He was succeeded as Pastor of the Church, by the Reverend Henry Chesson. During his day, the Reverend Cartwright operated three stations in Liberia-Brewerville, Clay-Ashland, and Cape Palmas. Other missionaries included Reverend J.J. Pierce, T. Elwood Davis, H.T. Wright, A.J. Smith, and Walter K. Dorley. The year AD 2015 marks the 140th Anniversary of The AME Zion Church in Africa.

The Cartwright Memorial AME Zion Church in Brewerville, Liberia is the Mother Church of Zion in Africa. From this modest beginning, it has spread into Ghana, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Togo, Benin, South Africa, Malawi, and Botswana. The Liberia Annual Conference was organized in 1910, during the tenure of the late Bishop Alexander Walters.

After 164 years from the founding date in 1796 of The A.M.E. Zion Church in America, and 84 years after its establishment in Africa, the Right Reverend Solomon Dorme Lartey was the first native African to be elected Bishop. He was assigned in 1960 over the 12th Episcopal District comprising Liberia and East Ghana. Bishop Lartey was assigned over all Conferences in Africa in 1968. In 1988, a second native African was elected as Bishop in the person of the Right Reverend S. Chuka Ekemam, Sr. of Nigeria. 24 years later, history was made again when the Church at its 49th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference, held in July 2012, elected its third native Africa Bishop in the person of the Right Reverend Dr. Seth O. Lartey, the 100th Bishop elected in the line of succession, and grandson of the late Bishop Solomon Dorme Lartey.

THE STATE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The state of affairs in the Liberia Annual Conference is excellent and poised for greatness in the areas of human liberation, Christian evangelism, infrastructural development, and the development of human capacity. The Liberia Annual Conference is organized according to the Book of Discipline. During the period of 2012-2016, the conference engaged in leadership training, check-up meetings, and the required annual conferences. Despite the numerous challenges faced by the Conference, we are happy to report that there was growth in all dimensions of the work.

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Creation of a new conference known as the South Eastern Liberia Annual Conference
2. Creation of 2 new districts, namely Bassa District and Bomi District
3. Establishment of the Advancement and Development Funds
4. Establishment of the weekly and first Sunday tithes
5. Formation of the Liberia Annual Conference Dialect Choir
6. Admission of 8 new societies
7. Episcopal support to renovate the Cartwright Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church
8. Hosted a three-day county wide crusade in Gbapolu Douny in 2013
9. Acquisition of 10 acres of land in Gbapolu County
10. Provision of funds to purchase two plots of land in the Bassa District
11. Provision of funds to purchase 10 plots of land in the Kanweaken District
12. Organization of the Bishop's leadership clinics for pastors, ministers, and lay people
13. Provision of support to the reconstruction of the Brown Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church
14. Assistance to the construction of the Elijah A.M.E. Zion Church, Monrovia District
15. Assistance to the construction of Revival A.M.E. Zion Church, Suehn District
16. Assistance to the Nimba District agriculture project
17. Support to re-construct Immenuel A.M.E. Zion Church, Todee District
18. Financial support to the Liberia Annual Conference to purchase food and others during the Ebola outbreak
19. Support to the renovation of Edwin M. Flowers School and construction of latrines
20. Support to the re-roofing of the St. Matthias A.M.E. Zion Church
21. Support to all schools within the Liberia Annual Conference

THE SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTRY

The nation continues to rebuild following the many long years of civil wars. The nation has enjoyed over a decade of peace. The Bishop's Clergy Training Hour was organized for the equipping of clergy in the conference. To sustain long-term viability of the work, the Development Fund concept was introduced, and two economic grants were made to Presiding Elders and the Women's Missionary Society.

Within the bounds of the conference, we have one university with an Extension Program, one High School, and five functional elementary schools.

THE CHALLENGES FACING THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Ebola Crisis was our greatest challenge but, with the support of the denomination and the Western West Africa Methodist Collaborative, we were able to overcome the challenge and return to the work of Christian ministry. It is the hope that Zion can be planted in each of the fifteen (15) counties. In this direction, it was voted upon to establish the North East Liberia Annual Conference. By God's grace, this Annual Conference can be admitted during the 51st General Conference.

THE STATISTICS FOR BAPTISM AND CHURCH GROWTH

There are twelve (12) Presiding Elder Districts. The total number of persons baptized was 3,492 with the largest increases in Brewerville (983), Monrovia (667) and Todee (398) Districts.

Memberships totaled 10,073 and Brewerville (2,010), Monrovia (2,001) and Todee (1,993) had the largest increases. From 2012 to 2015, there were a total of nine new societies admitted into the Liberia Annual Conference; and two new Presiding Elder Districts were created in 2013 (the Bassa and Bomi Districts).

The ministerial necrology included four presiding elders, six elders, two pastors, and four conference officers. There were two ministerial retirements.

May God continue to bless the works of the Liberia Annual Conference.

THE QUADRENNIAL REPORT: 2012-2016

EAST GHANA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

GENERAL OVERVIEW/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The first Church in Ghana was opened by Bishop Small in 1898 at Keta after many attempts to start a church at Cape Coast had failed, due to the ill-health of Reverend Egyir Asaam and inadequate mission support. With authorization from Bishop Small, Reverend Thomas Birch Freeman, Jr., son of the Ghana Wesleyan Methodist pioneer, was appointed a missionary to Keta. This appointment led to the opening of a church and school, in the midst of inadequate financing, lack of accommodation and stiff opposition from the fetish priests in a merchant liquor magazine belonging to Chief Nyaho Tamakloe. This two-story magazine was popularly called "kokovena" (literally meaning to be laughed at is painful). Later on, after several moves, Chief Joachim Acolatse donated land for a church building. This church is thus the mother church of Zion Methodism in Ghana, the St. John A. M. E. Zion Church in Keta. Currently, the East Ghana Conference, which is now celebrating its 117th Session has grown significantly and out of its mission endeavors, the Côté D'Ivoire and Togo Annual Conferences were born. Currently, East Ghana covers the Greater Accra and Volta Regions of Ghana. This conference can boast of having 119 schools; 8 Presiding Elder Districts, 69 churches, and 78 pastors.

THE STATE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The state of the East Ghana Conference is healthy, vibrant and progressive. The conference, under the dynamic leadership of the Bishop Administrative Officers, Presiding Elders, pastors and dedicated lay members, has arisen to the occasion in all dimensions of Christian ministry. The conference is poised for an explosive expansion in evangelism, Christian education, stewardship, leadership development, and economic empowerment.

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Living Waters Society in Penyi District was finally roofed during this period, a testimony to the Episcopal Fund instituted by Bishop Lartey. Again, during this period, preachers of the Annual Conference were duly signed into a group insurance program: ELAC Insurance. The Credit Union was revitalized in the Tema District, while the Accra Central District ventured into piggery in a quest to strengthen the financial base of the district and individuals. Both endeavors are doing well.

THE SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTRY

The country of Ghana is engaged in a progressive path to continued development. There is a civil relationship between church and state, which have allowed for a mutual respect for each other.

THE INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

During the period under review, many churches and districts undertook infrastructural developmental work. Others churches saw the efforts of completing their edifice come to a successful end. Overall, there is a healthy amount of work taking place by most of the churches in the East Ghana Conference. Church growth is a serious focus for most of the churches. Discipleship and the significance of the Class system has also been embraced by the leadership. Aggrey Memorial broke ground for a new worship edifice; and Alleyne Memorial completed and dedicated its worship center. The Ebenezer A.M.E. Zion Church had a complete face lift and dedication of its mission campus.

THE CHALLENGES FACING THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Two key challenges confront our societies during the quadrennium. One, most of the societies were without title deeds for their properties. Two, other societies which worshipped in very small classrooms and rented premises urgently, required land to build new chapels for worship. It is recommended that special and urgent attention be given to these land related issues.

The economic hardship of the nation has had some direct impact upon some of our members and institutions, which has led to some of the hardship faced by a number of congregations in the conference. Despite the challenge, the East Ghana Conference rose up to the occasion each time they were called upon to deliver on any project or program.

THE STATISTICS FOR BAPTISM AND CHURCH GROWTH

Statistics for baptism and church growth included the following: 63 new societies (Keta 10); 7,753 memberships (Agbozume 2,230); 2,448 were added to the church (Agbozume 1,132); 2,423 baptisms (Agbozume 1,132); and 9 new societies were added (Agbozume 5).

The necrology for ministerial staff included five ministers and two conference officers.

THE FUTURE GROWTH PLANS FOR THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Most of the districts in the conference have plans for numerical and infrastructural growth over the years to come.

The East Ghana conference is home to the Episcopal Residence and the education unit for the A.M.E. ZION Schools. These are two important pieces of properties that are in need of immediate and urgent attention. Plans are in the works to renovate and upgrade these facilities. It is our prayer that future administration will provide the leadership necessary to preserve these properties.

May God bless the works of the East Ghana Conference and, many thanks and appreciations go to the officers and members of this great Conference.

THE QUADRENNIAL REPORT: 2012-2016

WEST GHANA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

GENERAL OVERVIEW/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

On his return to Africa as a missionary, Bishop Small made contact with some of his old friends including Reverends Egyir Asaam and Thomas B. Freeman, who helped with the work at Keta and Cape Coast. Whilst efforts to start a church at Cape Coast presented some challenges, Bishop Small selected some young men from Cape Coast to be trained at Livingstone College in the United States as part of his training policy, including Kobina Osam Pinanko and James Kwegyir Aggrey. Aggrey chose to stay and further his studies in America, but Osam Pinanko returned to help develop the work.

On October 25, 1903, the first worship service of The A.M.E. Zion Church was held at Cape Coast at DeGraft's Hall on Chatman Street and, on same day, had its Sunday school. It is recorded that a choir was formed on the same day. Earlier, Mr. Albert Barnes and the sister, Mrs. Christine Selby, friends of Bishop Small, had donated a piece of land on which stands today, Varick Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church, the mother church of the West Ghana Conference. Osam Pinanko's great missionary zeal and preaching, coupled with his desire to educate the young by way of establishing schools saw the work in the West grow tremendously. With the rapid expansion and tremendous growth of the West, the Mid-Ghana Conference was carved out of it by Bishop Milton Alexander Williams in August 1990. The West Ghana Conference, which covers the Central and Western Regions of Ghana, currently boasts of 184 schools; 89 churches; 69 ordained Pastors, and 8 Presiding Elder Districts.

THE STATE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The West Ghana Conference is a dynamic conference. Under the administrative leadership of Reverend Helena Swanzy Essene, this conference is poised for growth, expansion and impactful ministry. The conference has a working team with a vision to meaningfully expand the work of The A.M.E. Zion Church.

The conference is organized in accordance with the Book of Discipline and all of the requirements necessary for smooth operation and accountability were adhered thereto. During the period under review, leadership training was instituted, financial sustainability program (the Development Fund) was introduced, and a plan to provide insurance for ministers and their spouse was also put into place.

The West Ghana Conference is home to two of the most prestigious institutions in Ghana (The WINABA Girls School and the Aggrey Senior High School).

THE INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Most of the churches are either completing their structures, beginning new structures, or planning to build. Through upgrading our facilities, we can provide an adequate setting for worship.

THE CHALLENGES FACING THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The nation's economy and the institution of a comprehensive stewardship program continue to be an on-going challenge, but by God's grace we shall overcome.

THE STATISTICS FOR BAPTISM AND CHURCH GROWTH

We were a blessed with 1,287 baptisms (Winneba 336) and had an increase in memberships totaling 1,647 (Winneba 401). There were 5 new societies during 2012-2015 and one new district was created (Agona Swedru District) in 2014.

The necrology included 10 ministerial and 4 conference officers. There were 5 ministerial retirements.

May God continue to shower His blessings upon the West Ghana Conference and many thanks to the officers and members of this marvelous conference.

THE QUADRENNIAL REPORT: 2012-2016 **MID-GHANA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

GENERAL OVERVIEW/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The Mid-Ghana Conference is not a new conference in the real sense of the word. Due to the significant growth of the West Ghana Conference and the vast areas it had covered making travel and supervision burdensome, Mid-Ghana was carved out of the West Ghana Conference by a resolution on August 12, 1990, with 5 Presiding Elder Districts. The resolution was presented by Reverend Dr. Godfred Ngorli Zormelo, the then Bishop's Administrative Assistant, which was accepted upon a motion moved by Reverend Dr. Joseph Aggrey Smith and seconded by Reverend Kofi Simmons. The first session of this conference was held at Kofi Simons A.M.E. Zion Church, Koforidua on July 2-7, 1991 with Bishop Milton Alexander William presiding. Currently, the Mid-Ghana Conference covers 3 geographical regions of Ghana: Eastern, Ashanti, and Brong Ahafo. It has 7 Presiding Elder Districts, 69 churches, and 43 ordained pastors. This conference can also boast of having 192 schools. The Janie Speaks A.M.E. Zion Mission Hospital at Afrancho is also situated in this conference.

THE STATE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Mid-Ghana Conference is fully organized in accordance with the Book of Discipline. Check-up meetings, annual conferences, leadership training institutes were held. Episcopal visits were made to most of the districts.

Under the administrative leadership of Reverend Dr. Seth F. Coleman, the conference continues to experience growth, and the development of constructive ministries.

The Mid-Ghana Conference is home to the Janie Speaks Hospital and two other clinics. The Janie Speaks Hospital is one of the most vibrant health facilities in the Afrancho region (this hospital ranks third out of 153 Christian Health facilities).

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

There were major achievements, in terms of projects, during the quadrennium.

1. Construction of a hospital complex at the Janie Speaks Hospital (roofing level)
2. Janie Speaks Health Center upgraded to a full hospital
3. Dedication of a 14-bedroom parsonage at Bishop Small-Kumasi (and, a 35 seater bus was purchased).
4. An Endowment Fund solely sponsored by Mr. Ricky Boakye Yiadom was launched at Bishop Small's residence in May 2014 to serve as educational grants for needy children in the church, age-related ministries, disaster relief, and outreach missions.
5. Full Gospel at Offinso purchased a mini-bus
6. New chapel buildings completed and in use for worship
 - a. Emmanuel – Nkoransah (Kumasi District)
 - b. St. Paul – Kwabeng (Tafo District)
 - c. Stephen Ampomah - (Tafo District) Begoro
 - d. Jonah-Adankrono (Osenase)
 - e. A.M.E. Zion - Abaam (Osenase)

THE STATISTICS FOR BAPTISM AND CHURCH GROWTH

The Mid-Ghana Annual Conference is composed of 7 Presiding Elder Districts with about 69 churches. The evidence of growth physically and spiritually is visible in all the districts.

With gratitude and thanks to the officers and members of this conference, we pray God's blessings upon the labors of the Mid-Ghana Conference.

THE QUADRENNIAL REPORT: 2012-2016 NORTH GHANA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

GENERAL OVERVIEW/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The North Ghana Conference, as it is now, was created by Bishop Warren Matthew Brown, when he set it apart from the Mid-Ghana Conference in 1997. Several attempts had been done in the past which saw the establishment of many schools and churches in the northern regions of Ghana. Bishop Williams is noted to have been the first prelate to visit the work in Tamale, going along with all 16 presiding elders of the Ghana conferences to hold an evangelistic crusade. Reverend Winfred Abormegah, then a pastor in the East Ghana Conference, was sent by Bishop Cecil Bishop to the north as a missionary in 1984. This was a move which contributed tremendously to the growth of the work as he partnered with Reverend Walker, who had lived and worked in the area for years, to expand the work of Zion in the north. At its inception, there were 3 presiding elder districts. The North Ghana Conference, with its headquarters at Grace Holmes A.M.E. Zion Church in Tamale, can now boast of having 48 churches, 5 Presiding Elder Districts, and 45 preachers. There are 78 schools in the northern, upper east, and upper west regions of Ghana which make up the North Ghana Conference.

THE STATE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The North Ghana Annual Conference is located in the nation's most economically challenged areas, but it presents an excellent opportunity for the Gospel Message and the development of a viable Christian ministry. 2012-2016 provided us the context for laying a foundation as well as building upon previously laid foundations for long-term viability and sustainability of the Conference.

The annual conference was organized according to the Book of Discipline. Annual conferences, check-up meetings, leadership training institutes, and post annual conference leadership summits were all held during this period. At each of these sessions, both the clergy and the laity were involved, supportive and engaged in all of the programs.

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Renovated chapel
2. Built a parsonage to a lintel level
3. Built a toilet
4. Built a fence wall around the chapel
5. Purchased musical instruments
6. Built 8 classrooms for the church school (3 were fully completed, and 5 are at knee level).
7. The Grace L. Holmes Church was relocated from a classroom space to an edifice which seats up to 400 people.

THE SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTRY

North Ghana is an economic paradox. On one hand, it appears to be a low wealth area, but the reality is that the north stands as an economic diamond in need of polishing. Giving the need for educational expansion, the development of human capital and massive improvement in the natural resources, the A.M.E. Zion Church with a wholistic ministry has an opportunity to make history for God and Zion.

The area is predominantly populated by Muslims but, with the passion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the desire to truly represent Jesus Christ, the ministry of the A.M.E. Zion Church is making a difference in the lives of the people.

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Through the episcopal leadership of Bishop Kenneth Monroe, a Shea Butter processing equipment was purchased for the area. Between 2012-2016, several strategic economic feasibility studies were conducted. It is our hope that future administration will resource this facility and, thereby, bring online an economic engine for the area.

THE CHALLENGES FACING THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1. The training of clergy and church workers
2. The need for transportation.
3. The need for financial resources to fully fund the Shea Butter factory which could become a source of funding for future ministry endeavors.
1. Several newly built structures for worship were destroyed by the strong wind.

THE STATISTICS FOR BAPTISM AND CHURCH GROWTH

There were 2,576 baptisms (Nakpanduri 1,008). The increase in memberships totaled 388 (Bawku 104).

THE FUTURE GROWTH PLANS FOR THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Because of the vast opportunities for educational and evangelistic opportunities, the future growth plans will be to expand the footprints of the conference educationally.

May Almighty God bless the vision, labors and enthusiasm of the North Ghana conference.

THE QUADRENNIAL REPORT: 2012-2016

TOGO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

GENERAL OVERVIEW/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The Togo Annual Conference was formally birthed in 1999 through the missionary and evangelistic efforts of the East Ghana Conference led by Reverend Paulina Kumadey. There were previous attempts earlier by Bishop William Alexander Hillard who had ordained Reverend Malm, a Togolese, and charged him to go home for the purpose of establishing the presence of Zion in Togo, but this failed to yield any results. Rev. Paulina Kumadey of the East Ghana Conference, with the support of some missionary ladies from East Ghana and evangelists of the Methodist Church of Togo, braved the storm and established The A.M.E. Zion presence in Togo with an inaugural meeting held in 1999. The first Session of the Togo Annual Conference was held in 2000 at Dzrekpor-Hagou. This work which grew tremendously up to 4 Presiding Elder Districts, and about 18 churches faced some challenges, which were many inadequate funding and leadership.

Currently, the Togo Conference has 1 school, 3 Presiding Elder Districts, 11 churches and 15 preachers (13 ordained).

THE STATE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Togo Annual Conference is a group of determined ministers and lay persons who will have nothing to halt them from engaging in meaningful ministry for their congregations and their communities.

With a zeal for God, this French speaking conference was fully organized according to the Book of Discipline. All of the annual conferences and check-up meetings were held and leadership training institutes were conducted.

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Roofing of Rapha A.M.E. Zion Church, Kpoteme, Afagnan District
2. Completion of Good News A.M.E. Zion Church, Lome, Lome District
3. Purchased a Peugeot Car for commercial use

THE SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTRY

The socioeconomic condition is very difficult. It spans between extreme poverty on one hand and affluence on the other. In the middle is the struggling masses. Without the ministry of the church, some of the masses of people will not be exposed to education, the Gospel or daily services. In this setting, an opened door of opportunity to make a long-term impact on the people and community has been made possible.

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The economy is harsh, especially for the poor. With the introduction of the philosophy of self-reliance and self-sufficiency, the conference officials embraced the idea and purchased a taxi to begin a transportation business. Interestingly, the secretary of the conference became ill. It was profit from the transportation program that was used to pay his hospital bill. Praise God.

THE CHALLENGES FACING THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

There are three areas affecting the annual conference as follows:

- A. Resources that are written in the French language. The area of the Togo Annual Conference is French-speaking people. In order to effectively develop this conference, there would be a need to invest in materials that are native to the culture.
- B. Leadership Development: The Conference has tremendous promise but, if we are to take full advantage of the possibilities, we must invest in the educational development of the leadership.
- C. Funding: A strategic infusion of economic funds can be very profitable for the conference. These funds will be used to start small businesses for the members of the faith community.

THE STATISTICS FOR BAPTISM AND CHURCH GROWTH

The increase in memberships totaled 97 (Afagnan 53). The Vogan District was created. There were no deaths for pastors and conference officials.

THE FUTURE GROWTH PLANS FOR THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The future growth plans are to expand to areas that are not in the immediate path of future development which would negatively affect the stability of the church's ministries.

With much gratitude to the leadership and the wonderful lay people, I Pray God's blessings upon the Togo Annual Conference.

THE QUADRENNIAL REPORT: 2012-2016 COTÉ D'IVOIRE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

GENERAL OVERVIEW/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Several efforts were made in the past to establish The A.M.E. Zion Church in the Ivory Coast, but all failed. Reverend Christian F. K. Togoh, a Presbyterian preacher and a Ghanaian migrant worker in the Ivory Coast, had established a united church at Jean-Folly where most of the Christian brethren from Ghana worshipped. As a result of his relation and conversation with some of the brethren in Ghana, including his uncle, Reverend E. D. Dogbe-Gakpetor, Reverend A. K. Zormelo, Reverend Paulina Kumadey, and Mrs. Theresa Acolatsse - all from the East Ghana Conference. A decision was taken for the United Church to join with The A.M.E. Zion Church. On November 24, 1991, Bishop Milton Williams led a very powerful team of missionaries and evangelists to Côté D'Ivoire for an evangelistic crusade spearheaded by the East Ghana Conference, with Reverend Dr. Zormelo playing a lead role, as also Reverend George Maize III, a visiting evangelist from the USA. It was noted by Bishop Williams: "As the A.M.E.

Zion Church set foot in a French speaking country, the Holy Spirit took absolute control and we felt the heavens open on us ...”. The first session of its Annual Conference was held at Jean-Folly, Abidjan on June 11-13, 1992, which saw the creation of 2 Presiding Elder Districts and 6 pastoral appointments. There were 18 persons baptized on the official Sunday.

Recently, this conference which had grown and gained solid grounding in the Ivory Coast took a deep hit when 3 churches, including our first two large churches were demolished by the government to pave way for road construction. The people, however, remain resolute in faith and determined in worship, and have resorted to house meetings and worship. Currently, the Côté D'Ivoire Conference has 2 schools, 14 churches, and 11 preachers.

THE STATE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Côté D'Ivoire Annual Conference is well organized, administered by a strong compassionate Bishop Administrative Officer, committed pastors, and a willing group of loyal lay people. The conference was organized in accordance with the Book of Discipline. Annual conferences, check-up meetings were held, and leadership training institutes along with post annual conference leadership summit were conducted.

Through the leadership, the stewardship program (the Development Fund) was highly embraced. The continuation on this path will significantly position the conference for self-sufficiency.

THE SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTRY

The nation experienced a degree of civil war, which economically impacted the employment of individuals. The youths were greatly affected by this economic downturn. As a result, the youths have put together a plan to begin a business enterprise to provide employment for the youth.

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The conference has plans to begin a poultry farm. This farm will provide both employment and financial resources for the conference. Due to the road construction, the plans for the poultry farm was delayed. It is the hope that once the road construction period is completed, the economic plans of the conference can return to normal.

THE CHALLENGES FACING THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The challenges facing the conference follow:

1. The need for materials written in the native language.
2. The need to purchase land to relocate the work of Zion in Côté D'Ivoire.
3. The need to do a more effective job of evangelizing the natives of Côté D'Ivoire.
4. The continuation of the Development Fund.

THE STATISTICS FOR BAPTISM AND CHURCH GROWTH

Baptisms totaled 431 (Jean-Folly 120) and an increase in memberships totaled 575 (Anani 210).

The ministerial necrology totaled 14.

We are most thankful to God for the serious commitment on the part of the members of this conference. To God be the Glory. May the blessing of God rest upon them.

**Eastern West Africa Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**

Bishop Michael Angelo Frencher, Sr. Presiding Prelate
Reporting to the 50th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference
Meeting at the Koury Convention Center, Sheraton Hotel, Four Season, Greensboro, North
Carolina, July 20-26, 2016



Mr. Chairman, my colleagues on the Board of Bishops, the Executive Board of the W.H.&O.M. Society, General officers, Connectional Officers, College Presidents and to all the delegates and friends of the 50th session of the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The Eastern West Africa Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church is composed of eleven Annual Conferences, eighteen primary and secondary schools, Hood-Speaks Theological Seminary, a Mission House and a Headquarters building in Owerri Nigeria. The Federal Republic of Nigeria is a Country that has gone through many challenges and changes during this last quadrennial. The social and economic atmosphere in many of the communities is unfavorable to many Nigerians. Amid the struggles going on in the political arena where there is a dangerous quest for power, the AME Zion Church in Nigeria is treading cautiously to push forward the plan and mission of God. The incumbent president Goodluck Johnathan who holds membership in the Christian church was defeated in the last election by a Muslim, Muhammadu Buhari. But thanks to the calm demeanor of the Mr. Johnathan, a peaceful transition took place in this exchange of government. There is still quite a bit of unrest in many of the States due to some corruption and illegal political shenanigans. But many of the citizens of Nigeria are working very hard to right the wrongs and cure the ills of their society. While most of the world especially in the United States were overjoyed to see the plunging gas prices in the last few years, in Nigeria gas has gone up to an all-time high and many are disturbed and devastated by the long lines at the gas fueling stations. The value of the Naira is fast deteriorating and losing its value in the world market such that the dollar is almost 280-350 per Naira. The present value of the Naira and the down turn of the price of crude oil which has worsened in the last two decades sends a message of hopelessness and hard times ahead for many of the people in Nigeria. Many Nigerians are calling for change in government polity and are seeking for help to deal with the Nation's corruption that has eaten deep into the fabric of the country and left many people wondering "What's Next?" The Boko Haram terrorist who in 2014 abducted 219 school girls is still on the rampage in Northern Nigeria. The Churches in Nigeria and all over the world including the United States are calling for their release and for the dismantling of this terrorist organization. World leaders must find ways to block the sources of funding of the insurgents and those supplying them with arms and ammunition which they use to attack legitimate governments and innocent people. The Ebola virus also posed a threat to many Nigerians during the quadrennial. But thanks to the medical expertise and the quick acting of those in the field of medicine the spread of the virus was quickly stopped and handled in Nigeria much to the relief of the citizens and those traveling to the Country. Port Health Services conducted early contact tracing at the airports and worked with airlines and partners to ensure notification of the outbreak through International Health Regulations mechanism. The terrible, deplorable conditions of many of the roads in Nigeria make it most difficult for travel. It is sad to see the government sit

idly by while people struggle to get from place to place traveling on the roughness of the roads, while those high up in government take airplanes and helicopters to reach their destinations refreshed and relaxed. There were many times during the quadrennial that I watched the Church sit helplessly on the sidelines wondering how she can continue to exist if things don't get any better. But in spite of all that was going on in the Federal Republic of Nigeria during this quadrennial, the AME Zion is still pressing on the upward way and gaining new heights every day. The people of the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District warmly received me and my wife and willingly followed our leadership throughout the quadrennial. Being the first American Bishop in twenty four years to set foot upon these shores as the episcopal leader did present many challenges to me, but with the help of God and the constant, consistent prayers of the saints, as well as the care and cooperation of the people, we were able to overcome any and all obstacles. To help facilitate the work in the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District my predecessor appointed a Deputy and 11 Bishop's Administrative Assistants. These men and one woman handled much of the administrative duties of the Annual Conferences and made sure that all things were in place for the proper, smooth operation of these Conferences. These persons also represented myself and the church in many of the ecumenical organizations throughout Nigeria to ensure that the AME Zion Church had a presence in these organizations. During my second year I commissioned all of the conference historians to compile a history of the AME Zion Church in Nigeria. At present this is still ongoing and hopefully in the near future will be completed. Presently an effort, which was a vision of the Missionary Supervisor and the Missionaries of Eastern West Africa to build a new Mission House/Empowerment Center is underway. This effort has been wholeheartedly embraced by all eleven Annual Conferences. Funds are still being raised to bring this vision to fruition. The new Mission House/Empowerment Center is proposed to be a multi-functioning building which will have residence housing as well as rooms for health care and medical teams visiting the area on medical missions. During the quadrennial we lifted up the quadrennial theme "Fortifying our Faith while focusing on our Future through Worship, Leadership, Discipleship and Stewardship". At each of the Annual Conferences I shared my visions and goals through my Episcopal Addresses. I will now share with you the Annual Conferences and Departments of the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District and some of the highlights of the quadrennial.

Nigeria Conference

The Nigeria Conference was organized by Bishop William Walters Matthews in 1930. The Conference was received into the Connection via the East Ghana Conference in 1932. This is the Mother Conference of the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District. Situated within the bounds of this conference is the Hood-Speaks Theological Seminary and the Mission House. During the quadrennial I experienced some high and low moments in this conference. The highlights during the quadrennial included:

1. The complete renovation of the new Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church in Uyo, Nigeria. This church is a showpiece to the area and was constructed with the support and cooperation of the members of the church assisted by others in the conference and surrounding community. In this church are offices for the Pastor, Presiding Elder and quarters for the Bishop.
2. The first community parade/choir festival. This was sponsored by many of the youth and young adults who canvassed the community and invited many of the people living there to attend the event. This went a long way in promoting the AME Zion Church in this area.

3. The successful hosting of the W.H. & O.M. Society Regional Convention where the wife of the governor of the state was in attendance. She brought greetings and left a generous financial donation.
4. The Holy Trinity AME Zion Church, the host church for the Regional Convention has future plans to construct a new edifice.

Central Nigeria Conference

This Conference was organized by Bishop Ruben Lee Speaks in January, 1973.

Situated within the bounds of this conference is the A.M.E. Zion Headquarters. This Conference presented many challenges for me. Oftentimes the language barriers and some of the native customs made communication difficult. Nevertheless the dedicated and committed members of this Conference continued to persevere and make significant progress. There are several churches in this conference that have plans to renovate their buildings. The highlights during the quadrennial included:

1. The enrollment/induction of the boy's brigade and the girl's brigade at the St. Clement A.M.E. Zion Church in Owerri. These brigades performed during the Annual Conferences and at other times throughout the quadrennial.
2. Several visits were made to tribal and village chiefs. I was able to meet many community leaders who have given generously to support the work and efforts of the AME Zion Church.
3. The 40th Anniversary Celebration of the Conference. During this time we honored those who were still living and we honored the memory of those ministers and lay persons who paved the way for the AME Zion Church in this area. It was a great time of celebration.

Rivers Nigeria Conference

The Rivers Nigeria Conference was organized by Bishop Samuel Chuka Ekemam, Sr. on January 24, 1980. This conference is blessed with strong leadership and people who work very well together. Many of the churches in this conference have excellent relationships with the people in the villages and surrounding communities who have assisted them financially and otherwise. Some of the largest and most commodious church structures can be found in this conference. The major challenge in this conference had to do with the terrorist activities which has prevented many of the churches from meeting on a regular basis because of fear. During the quadrennial many exciting things took place in this conference, including:

1. The CCN (Christian Council of Nigeria), Rivers State branch had a special service to induct the A.M.E. Zion Church into this ecumenical organization. My wife and I and Bishop Ekemam were present during this service.
2. Five new societies were brought into the conference. One of the churches was named the "Bishop Frencher A.M.E. Zion Church". To date these churches are doing well.
3. Two new presiding elder districts were added to the conference. To help reach people in some of the forsaken and forgotten areas of this conference we established these two new districts.
4. The plans that are underway to build a school, chapel, and a district headquarter. The Missionary Supervisor and I were taken to the site where the construction will soon take place.

Lagos-West Nigeria Conference

The Lagos-West Nigeria Conference was organized by Bishop Samuel Chuka Ekemam, Sr. in 1990. This Conference is very well organized with excellent leadership and the total cooperation of the people who all work well together. This was always the last Conference that I held during the Conference year. The highlights of the quadrennial included:

1. The celebration of its 25th Anniversary. The election of president of the Republic of Nigeria happened in the middle of this celebration. But nevertheless we still lifted up the importance of this silver anniversary. The majority of the people present, including the Bishop and Missionary Supervisor dressed in native wear to show the unity of the celebration.
2. The complete renovation of the Alfred G. Dunston A.M.E. Zion Church. This church is now well equipped to carry forth the ministry in this area.
3. I was able to visit many of the churches in this Conference which are at various stages of construction and met with many of the hard working members.

Mainland Nigeria Conference

This Conference was organized by Bishop Samuel Chuka Ekemam, Sr. on January 12, 1992. This is another conference where communication was difficult because of the language barriers. Nevertheless they have made great progress because pastors and people all have a “Mind to work”. The highlights of the quadrennial included:

1. Received a new society complete with the acquisition of property with a church building. The conference rose to the occasion and raised the necessary funds to purchase this land to extend the territory of the AME Zion Church in the Mainland Conference.
2. The groundbreaking/foundation laying and dedication of the new St. Peter A.M.E. Zion Church. This was a time of great celebration. I was able to participate in the Groundbreaking/foundation laying service in 2014. One year later we were present to dedicate the new church edifice.

Northern Nigeria Conference

This Conference was organized by Bishop Samuel Chuka Ekemam, Sr. on February 12, 1995. This is a Mission Conference located in and around the capital city of Abuja. This Conference is still struggling to find its identity in the Northern Area of the Country. Close by is the Boko Haram terrorist group which still instills fear in the nearby areas. A new church, the Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church was built with the financial assistance of the Eastern West African Episcopal District as part of the Abuja Project which was started under my predecessor. There is still a lot of work to be done to help move this conference forward. The vision is to find some land located within the City of Abuja to help the A.M.E. Zion Church make a major presence in the Capital City. To date some property has been found. Prior to the end of the quadrennial Bishop Ekemam turned over two deeds to property in Abuja. Highlights included

1. The property acquisitions in Abuja
2. The location of property to rent to push forward the evangelistic thrust of the Northern Nigeria Conference.

Cross River Nigeria Conference

This Conference was organized by Bishop Samuel Chuka Ekemam, Sr. on October 29, 1998. This Conference is well organized with excellent leadership. A large part of this conference is located in and near the City of Calabar in the State of Cross River. This is where my wife and I reside during our stay in Nigeria. The highlights of the quadrennial included:

1. The complete renovation of the Bishop Lartey Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church. This project is still ongoing. I commend the pastor and people for undertaking such an endeavor which will certainly bless this community. I also thank the Deputy, BAA, Presiding Elders and the entire conference for the valuable assistance that they give toward this effort. There are also many other churches in this Conference that are undergoing renovations and improvements to their churches as well as constructing new buildings to plant congregations.
2. The visit to one of the orphanage where we had prayer and left supplies and a financial donation. The missionaries along with the BAA and some of the pastors of the conference took time to bless this orphanage. This was one of several outreach ministries sponsored by this Conference.
3. Television station CRBC World news interviewed myself, the Missionary Supervisor and other Conference personnel. These interviews were broadcasts all over Nigeria and went a long way in promoting the work and ministry of the AME Zion Church in Nigeria. This Conference has a very excellent Public Relations ministry that does much to promote the AME Zion Church.

South Eastern Nigeria Conference

This Conference was organized by Bishop Samuel Chuka Ekemam, Sr., on January 16, 2000. This was another conference that presented many challenges to me. There is also a serious problem with communication due to the language barriers. Many of the churches in this conference are without church buildings which caused them to have to rent space in other buildings. Major work needs to be done to help this conference move forward. The highlights of the quadrennial included.

1. The well-organized reception by the school children and the school officials. When the Bishop and Missionary Supervisor arrive at this site to hold the South Eastern Nigeria Annual Conference we are met with a reception of children dressed in school uniforms accompanied by the school officials who participate in a grand reception to receive the Bishop, Missionary Supervisor and others attending the conference.
2. The purchase of land to expand the conference. The conference pulled together to make this purchase and hopefully will later erect a church edifice.

Southern Nigeria Conference

This Conference was organized by Bishop Samuel Chuka Ekemam, Sr. on January 30, 2000. I was able to visit many of the churches in this conference. There were many challenges facing this conference. This Conference needs a lot of teaching and training. The major highlight of this conference included:

1. The Village Crusade sponsored by many of the youth and young-adults of the conference. During the Conference the youth and young adults canvased the community with flyers and tracks to promote the AME Zion Church. This is a much needed Evangelistic effort.
2. New church under construction. Having to move their church due to government renovations to some of the roads in that area, this church and people along with government financial assistance is in the process of building a new edifice. We hope that this project will be completed in the near future.

Akwa Nigeria Conference

This Conference was organized by Bishop Samuel Chuka Ekemam, Sr. on January 24, 2007 and admitted into the connection at the 49th Session of the General Conference meeting in 2012. This was another conference where the language barriers made it difficult to communicate; nevertheless this Conference is blessed with strong leadership that keep the people on track toward their goals. The highlights of this quadrennial included:

1. The Varick Men's Fellowship Banquet. This is always a high moment in the conference. The men of the conference go all out to foster fellowship, friendship and comradeship among the people of the conference.
2. Renovations and improvement of churches. Many of the churches in this conference are in the process of renovations. We continue to encourage them in these efforts.

Port Harcourt Nigeria Conference

This Conference was organized by Bishop Samuel Chuka Ekemam, Sr. on February 6, 2010. It was also received into the Connection at the 49th Session of the General Conference. It was in this Conference that I appointed the first female Bishops Administrative Assistant. The people in this conference work very well together. There are also many churches in this conference that are undergoing renovations. The highlights of their quadrennial included:

1. Visiting five of the churches in the outlining villages. We were able to take time during this conference to see the progress of work that was being initiated by many of the churches struggling to improve their church buildings. I marvel at the commitment, dedication and sacrifices that these people make.
2. The establishment of two new presiding elder district. To help expand the work of this conference and to reach out to people in some of the nearby areas we added two new presiding elder districts at the last Annual Conference.

Departments

Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society, Mrs. Margaret M. Caiafas, Dean of Field Workers.

One of the major strengths of the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District is the W.H. &O.M. Society. The Missionaries of the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District are a very well organized group of women who undergirds and supports all of the efforts in the Conferences.

These women led on by the Missionary Supervisor Mrs. Gelenia A. Frencher and the Field Workers are a hard working group of dedicated ladies who help push the work forward. Truly without them the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District would be hard pressed to get anything done. In July, 2015 during the Missionary Quadrennial Convention twenty two of them came to the United States representing Nigeria throughout the convention. In July 2014 they held their Regional Convention which was a huge success blessing all who were in attendance. The Theme of the convention was: “Continuing our journey through Christian living and Mission Ministry”. During this convention a special memorial service was held honoring past missionaries from the eleven conferences. Among those who were memorialized was the late Mrs. (Lady) Faustina Ekemam, former Missionary Supervisor of the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District and the founder of this regional convention.

The Lay Council

Each of the Annual Conferences has an organized Lay Council. The same cannot be said of many of the local churches. It appears throughout the annual conferences that many believe that this is just an organization for men and not for women. I tried my best to stress the need for more women to become more actively involved in the Lay Council. To help bring this about I appointed several women presidents of the Conference lay councils and ask that the district do the same. I provided Lay Council materials that will help to push forward the Lay agenda for each of the Annual Conferences and the District and Local Lay Councils.

Christian Education Department

The Department of Christian Education in the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District is centered primarily on the youth and children. Many of the conferences have strong youth and children’s departments but are very weak when it comes to the young adults. I have been very intentional in appointing directors to these departments who will push forward the connectional program of Christian Education. Many of the youth of Eastern West Africa have pages on Facebook and some of the other social media that help to keep them in touch with each other and also with youth and others around the world. It is our prayer that the Christian Education Departments of Eastern West Africa will allow some of the youth and young adults to help them with the new technology that will help enhance the structure and progress of the Annual Conferences and the local churches. One of the major highlights of each of the Annual Conferences is the blessing of the hundreds of babies and children who flood the altar after the Sunday Morning offering is collected. Another highlight of each of the Annual Conferences is the Bible Study hour which is taught by excellent teachers/Instructors.

Varick Men’s Fellowship

The Varick Men’s Fellowship of the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District is an organization of men who serve to promote the Christian cause in their conferences, districts and local churches. In many of the conferences this group works in conjunction with the Lay Council and the Christian Education Department. We pray that these men will continue to support and undergird the other departments and programs of the conferences, districts and local churches.

Ministers Spouses and widows(ers) Fellowship

Each of the Conferences has a very active Ministers Spouses and widows Fellowship. Composed primarily of the women, these ladies do much to support the ministry of their spouses. They report at each of the Annual Conferences.

Evangelism/ZEM

Each Conference has an active Department of Evangelism which works closely with the District and local church directors to emphasize the importance of Evangelism. The ZEM (Zion's Evangelical Movement) helps to keep the importance of prayer and worship before the people.

Hood-Speaks Theological Seminary, Ndon Ebom-Uruan, Nigeria, Reverend Dr. Donald J. Ekpo, President.

Hood-Speaks Theological Seminary where I served as chairman of the Board of Trustees continues to help train men and women in Theological studies. The school is actively seeking to firm up their affiliation with the University of Uyo and the University of Calabar to bring about more educational programs. As of today the school offers a Bachelors in Theology, Mission and Christian Education, Diploma in Theology/Religious studies, and has a Certificate program and grants post graduate diplomas. All of the ministers who report to the Admissions committee and the committee on Conference Studies in our conferences are encouraged and even mandated to attend the Seminary to receive training that will help them become competent ministers in the AME Zion Church. Most of the Professors and Instructors are AME Zion Pastors. I received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from this school in one of the commencement services where I was the Commencement speaker.

The AME Zion Primary and secondary schools

These schools are under the supervision of the government of Nigeria but the church is responsible for supplies and other resources needed to operate the schools. Each of the Conferences where these schools are located receives a report at each of the Annual Conferences from the one appointed as Superintendent of schools. This person reports on the condition of the schools and the students and staffs of the schools. I pray that more can be done to support these schools which nurture, educate and train these young minds.

The Choirs of the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District

I cannot say enough about the beautiful, melodious voices of the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District. I can say without any fear of contradiction that some of the best choirs in the AME Zion Church can be found in the AME Zion Churches in Nigeria. The highpoint of most of the Annual Conferences was the Choir Festival and the Choir musical competition. These choirs led by excellent directors and accompanied by musical instruments (Keyboard, drums, trumpets, saxophone and other instruments) add to the worship experience of each of the Annual Conferences. Their musical repertoire include excellent hymn singing, anthems and the Hallelujah Chorus. The majority of these choirs are made up of youth and young adults who love singing for the Lord.

Necrology

“And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, Yea, saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.” Revelation 14:13 KJV.

Nigeria Conference

1. Reverend Edem Abraham Akpan
2. Reverend Akpan Samuel Ekanem

Central Nigeria Conference

1. Reverend Stephen J. Eze
2. Reverend Benjamin N. Ndukwu
3. Reverend Morrison O.T. Emetuo
4. Reverend Boniface U. Opara
5. Reverend Emmanuel O. Aguocha

Mainland Nigeria Conference

1. Reverend George Sampson Akpan

South Eastern Nigeria Conference

1. Reverend Beatrice Obaji
2. Reverend Favour C. Ajere

Southern Nigeria Conference

1. Reverend Michael L. Udo
2. Reverend Monday U.A. Inyang
3. Reverend Jimmie A. Atat
4. Reverend Nse J. Odudu
5. Brother Sunday J. Akpan

Akwa Nigeria Conference

1. Reverend Jeremiah Amos Akpan
2. Reverend Friday Joseph Udofot
3. Reverend Uwemedimo A. Udo

Port Harcourt Nigeria Conference

1. Reverend Ben Uturu
2. Reverend Uzundu Okidika

Conclusion

Overall I am very pleased and proud of the progress that was made in the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District. Among many of the challenges that we faced and challenges that continue to exist are the lack of funds available to assist and support the superannuated ministers and the widows of the Conferences. Each Conference does give them some stipends during the Annual Conferences and I have added to this with other funds, but the fact remains that more should be done to support these persons who have literally given their lives for the work of the AME Zion Church. I hope and pray that they will be included in some way in Zion's Benefit Services.

I would like to give thanks to all of those who supported my wife and I and the people of the

Eastern West Africa Episcopal District during this quadrennial. I want to give special thanks to my colleagues on the Board of Bishops who consistently supported me and the work of the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District. I want to thank Dr. Shirley Welch, CFO for making sure that we received our allotments on time. I want to give thanks to the Reverend Dr. Kermit DeGraffenreidt, and the entire department of Global Missions, including Bishop Kenneth Monroe the Board Chairman,, Mrs. Sara S. Cherrington and Mrs. Christa (Muffin) Jean-Jacques who saw to it that funds were made available to assist us on the mission field. I want to also thank Dr. Sandra Gadson, Mrs. Rosetta Dunham and the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society for their valuable financial assistance to our work and to the support of the Hood-Speaks Theological Seminary. I want to also thank The Reverend Dr. Eric Leake, the Reverend Dr. Eleazar Merriweather, the Reverend Dr. Daren H, Mitchell, the Reverend Dr. John Evans, the Reverend Dr. George Crenshaw, the late Mrs. Marie Tann, The Reverend Dr. Gregory R. Smith and all the other Friends of Eastern West Africa, (especially my home churches, St. Paul AME Zion, Detroit, Michigan and Trinity AME Zion Church, Greensboro, North Carolina), for their prayers and financial support throughout the quadrennial. I want to also thank Bishop Samuel Chuka Ekemam, Sr. for his support, advice and assistance. I want to also thank the Reverend Dr. Takis and Deaconess Margaret Caiafas for their warm hospitality and for making available to us a place to stay every time we arrived in Nigeria, complete with cooks, drivers and maid service. I want to also thank the Reverend David Isong who made himself available to pick us up from the airport upon our arrivals and took us to the airport for our times of departure. I want to also thank the staff at Meg's Place in Lagos Nigeria, the hotel that we spent many nights before leaving and going to other places in Nigeria. I want to also thank the Reverend Dr. U.U. Effiong my deputy and personal chauffeur for all of his valuable assistance and for making sure that we got to each and every Annual Conference. I want to also thank all the hard working Administrative Assistants who helped to coordinate the programs of the Annual Conferences. I want to also thank Mrs. Monica Anozie, the Episcopal District secretary who coordinates the activities at the AME Zion Headquarters and who makes sure that all the report forms and other conference items are made available for each of the Annual Conferences. I want to also thank Mr. Fred (Sarge) Lowery for making picture ID cards available for the ministers and the field workers of Eastern West Africa. I want to also thank Mrs. Regina Womble-Miller for her secretarial skills and for services as our administrative assistant. I want to also thank Mrs. Patricia Walton who represented the Eastern West Africa Episcopal District as the Episcopal District liaison for the Connectional Lay Council. She and her husband John Walton kept Eastern West Africa in the loop with all Lay activities during the quadrennial. I want to also thank my children Michelle and Michael Jr. for their love and support. I want to also thank my wife and partner in ministry Mrs. Gelenia Victoria Aaron Frencher who also serves as my missionary supervisor, episcopal secretary and a vital part of my office staff. Without her I would have been hard-pressed to succeed at anything. Finally I thank God for calling me to this ministry and for looking out for us every step of the journey.

“I must go with Jesus every day no matter the roughness of the road, I must go, I must go.”

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world”. St. Matthew 28:19, 20.

Humbly Submitted,

Michael Angelo Frencher, Sr.
Presiding Prelate
Eastern West Africa Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church