

## **The Director's Statement to the Connectional Council The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**

To the President of the Board of Bishop, Bishop W. Darin Moore, Bishop George E. Battle Jr., the Senior Bishop, Bishop Seth O. Lartey, the host Bishop, Members of the Board of Bishops and Members of the Connectional Council: Greetings in the name of the Father of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! This is my report as Executive Director of the Department of Church Growth and Development which houses both Evangelism and Home Mission, with highlights, evangelistic endeavors and financial reviews.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT** - The Church Growth and Development department has maintained its obligations in aiding Ministers, Churches and responded to all emergency requests from mission conferences in Episcopal Districts. The administrative Board of Church Growth and Development has held regular conference calls receiving updates from the subcommittees of the following areas: Church Revitalization, Connectional Prayer Ministry, Discipleship Ministry, Evangelism, Audit Committee, Home Mission Budget Committee and Church Planting.

The Department of Church Growth Director was instructed to discontinue assistance for two church plants started by Rev. Charles Thurman Jr. and Rev. Derrick Lamar Smith. The Department of Church Growth and Development have participated in several calls to prayer led by our Prayer Coordinator, Rev. Dr. Eric Leake. The prayer ministry provides ongoing prayer support for the general meeting of the denomination. An overview of the day to day operations of Home Mission, the receipts and disbursements are included in this report.

**Decision Day** – The 2017 Theme is “Spiritual Directions for a New Generation.” The selected Scripture lessons are 2 Timothy 3:1-13; 4:1-5. Our purpose as New Testament born again believers is to do the work of an evangelist, faithfully sharing the word of Faith that brings salvation to all who believe in their hearts and confess with their mouth the Lord Jesus Christ. Decision Day is rooted and grounded in the quest to see our members, children, youth and adults move beyond religion and ritual to authentic relationships with God through Jesus Christ. While still targeting our youth and children, the Decision Day Observance must broaden its scope to reach people of all ages who needing to make a life-changing decision for Christ. The Decision Day Packets were sent out to the pastors during the month of September. So far 63 churches responded to the Department request, returning the forms and sending gifts in the amount of \$3,100.00.

**2018 Spiritual Emphasis Week** – Spiritual Emphasis Week offers an opportunity for each local church to begin the year on a high spiritual note. The entire denomination was encouraged to participate as the presiding elder districts gather Sunday through Friday for prayer, praise, and proclamation of the word. This annual event was culminated with the clergy and laity of the Presiding Elder District coming together for a special service. The suggested theme for Spiritual Emphasis Week 2018 was “Spiritual Directions for a New Generation.” The selected Scripture lessons are 2 Timothy 3:1-13; 4:1-5. I was privilege to share Spiritual Emphasis week at the New Home AME Zion Church, Rock Hill, South Carolina for the Rock Hill District Evangelism Committee and Presiding Elder Sharon Browning.

## Ecumenical Highlights

The Director represented The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church during the planning meeting and participating in the 2018 Bold Like Jesus Conference. This year's conference was held February 1-3, 2018, at the St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Salisbury, North Carolina. Special thanks to Bishop Kenneth Monroe for allowing Rev. E. Kenneth Wells to represent the Eastern North Carolina Episcopal District, Rev. Dr. Dwayne Walker and the Little Rock AME Zion Church and Bishop George E. Battle Jr. who participated in the event.

The Director participated in the Black Methodist General Officers Meeting held at The Mill House, Charleston, South Carolina, September 15, 16, 2017. During the meeting, Rev. Dr. George Mc Kain was elected President and Dr. David Aiken elected as Chaplain. The AME Zion General Officers are scheduled to host the next meeting at the AME Zion Headquarters, Charlotte, NC.

The Director participated in the October 2017 Evangelism Connections Bi-Annual Meeting hosted by the Reformed Church of America meeting in Phoenix, Arizona and the 2018 meeting hosted by the Presbyterian Church of Canada. Our spring gathering was hosted by The Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart from the PCC on the beautiful campus of the University of British Columbia. This network of Evangelism and Discipleship Directors are committed to developing new approaches to evangelism in the 21st Century. The group release an interactive study entitled, "Reimagining Evangelism" which includes a downloadable study guide, you tube video clips and leader's guide published by the Discipleship Ministry of the United Methodist Church.

[https://gbod-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/legacy/kintera-files/evangelism/ReimaginingEvangelism\\_studyGuide.pdf](https://gbod-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/legacy/kintera-files/evangelism/ReimaginingEvangelism_studyGuide.pdf)

The Director participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Broadway Community Celebration hosted by the Cameron Grove AME Zion Church, Broadway, North Carolina. Dr. Lester A. Mc Corn was the keynote speaker for events. The Director served as the keynote speaker for the Lee County and Surrounding Communities Martin Luther King Jr. countywide celebration held January 2018 at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic Center, Sanford, North Carolina with a capacity crowd. The closing day event was sponsored by C.E.A.D of Lee County. (Council for Effective Actions and Decisions)

**Zion's Evangel** - *Zion's Evangel* appears in each issue of the Missionary Seer thanks to Dr. Dwight Bernard Cannon and his staff. I also continue to provide article in our web Newsletter; on the Evangelism Connection's website and on the Bureau's Website: [www.beamezion.org](http://www.beamezion.org).

**The Bureau of Evangelism Website** - The Bureau of Evangelism maintains a site which offers many valuable tools for our constituents around the country and across the world. The feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive. Thanks to Rev. William Dudley, Episcopal Director of the Washington-Oregon Conference, who worked tirelessly, using his skill, generosity and faithfulness in maintaining and updating the site.

Rev. William Dudley passed away this year, I was privileged to serve as eulogist for his service in Seattle, Washington. Special thanks to Bishop Staccato Powell, the presiding elder and the host pastor for the assistance with travel and accommodations. We also maintain three webpages on Facebook posting daily inspirational reflections.

## **Connectional Networking for Evangelism Opportunities**

The Christian Education Department partnered with the Department of Church Growth and Development to provide evangelistic training during their Winter Meeting. The Director taught (2) workshops and provided altar support for the CED winter meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. During the C.E.D. Winter meeting 93 persons responded to the Altar Ministry: 31 received salvation, 24 received assurance of salvation, 2 accepted their call to the ministry and others received special prayer. Each person received counseling, brochures and follow-up letters. Their pastors also received letters informing of what took place during the meeting.

The Director has been invited to present (3) evangelistic presentations during the 24<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Convention on Christian Education, here in Birmingham, Alabama. The Connectional Lay Council has provided an opportunity for the director to present workshop during their October 2018 Evangelism Conference. These partnerships have allowed me to raise awareness of evangelism across the AME Zion Connectional.

## **The World Methodist Evangelism Division of the World Methodist Church**

invited several AME Zion, evangelistic-minded pastors and their spouses to participate in their extensive evangelistic training during their 2018 Order of the Flame Conference. Thanks to the Board of Bishops who sent leaders from across the denomination to experience this enriching Wesleyan/Methodist training opportunity. The World Methodist Director of Evangelism, Rev. Dr. Kimberly Wiseman selected Bishop Darryl B. Starnes and the director to lead the Communion services and Rev. Kelcy Steele as a featured preacher. The conference was held March 12-16, 2018 at Saint Simon Island, GA at the Epworth by the Sea.

## **Acknowledgements**

Thanks to the Board of Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church for your support as I have tried to be faithful and give a good day's work to the ministry of Church Growth and Development of our Church. Your prayers and concern for me during the mission trip to Angola was greatly appreciated. The care provided by Bishop Crenshaw, Dr. Sandra Gadson, Rev. Dr. Bernard Cannon and the team was outstanding.

Special thanks the Chairman of the Church Growth and Development: Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman; Bishop Seth O. Lartey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman, Bishop Uduak Effiong, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chairman, Mr. Robert Benton and the International Administrative Board of Church Growth and Development for providing outstanding leadership, support, insight and encouragement to the Department;

Special thanks and sincere appreciation to Mrs. Edna Dumas Littlejohn, my dedicated Administrative Assistant; Reverend Doctor J. Wardell Henderson, Ms. Pat Sharpe, and other members of the area staff, who provide invaluable service in prayer, planning, strategizing and implementing programs and ideas for the Department of Church Growth and Development;

Finally, deepest thanks go to my darling wife, Barbara, my traveling partner and one of the hardest working people on my team who have support me tirelessly during these years of ministry in the AME Zion Church. By the grace of God the Father of our Lord Jesus the Christ, I am what I am!

**Respectfully submitted, Otis T. McMillan, Executive Director, the Department of Church Growth and Development of The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**



## THE DIRECTOR'S EVANGELISTIC ENDEAVORS

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<i><b>Date</b></i>	<i><b>Site/Church</b></i>	<i><b>Leader</b></i>	<i><b>Event</b></i>
July 30, 2017	Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Ch, Durham NC	Elder George Brown Men's Day Coordinator	Annual Men's Day Preacher
<b>August</b>			
August 2-4, 2017	Crown Plaza Airport Hotel Indianapolis, Indiana	Bishop Darryl B. Starnes	Preacher and workshop Presenter
August 9-12, 2017	Da Vinci Hotel Johannesburg, South Africa	Bishop George D. Crenshaw	Mission Trip
August 12-18, 2017	Conference Leadership Luanda, Angola	Bishop George D. Crenshaw	Angola Conference Leadership Institute
Aug 20, 2017	Mount Zion AMEZ Church Fayetteville, NC	Rev. John Morrison	Morning Worship
<b>September</b>			
September 9, 2017	Faith Outreach Ministry St. Paul, North Carolina	Rev. Patricia Willis	Men's Conference
September 10, 2017	Little Marsh Chapel AMEZ St. Paul, North Carolina	Rev. Paul Sewell	Christian Education Preacher
September 14-16, 2017	The Mill House Charleston, South Carolina	BMGOA Annual Meeting	General Officers Meeting
September 12, 2017	Bold Like Jesus Salisbury, NC	Planning Committee	BLJ Planning Meeting
September 23, 2017	New Beginnings Praise Raeford, North Carolina	Bishop William Mc Paul	Appreciation Service
September 27-29, 2017	Mt. Olive AME Zion Church, Elizabethtown, NC	Rev. Haywood Oliver	Revival Preacher
<b>October</b>			
October 1, 2017	Mount Olive AME Zion Elizabethtown, NC	Rev. Haywood Oliver	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
October 4, 2017	Franklin Chapel AME Zion Laurinburg, NC	Rev. Ray Owens	Annual Revival Preacher
October 5, 2017	AME Zion Headquarters Charlotte, NC	Mr. Herbert Watkins	Annual Fish Fry
October 7, 2017	Judah International Ministry, Maxton, NC	Apostle Gregory B. Thompson	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
October 8, 2017	Matthew Chapel AME Zion Laurinburg, NC	Rev. Nathaniel Cox	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
October 10-12, 2017	Greater Walters AME Zion Chicago, IL	Rev. Joel Miles	Finance Revival Preacher
October 13-14, 2017	One Accord Worldwide Church of God Fay., NC	Bishop John D. Wesley	Annual Conference Preacher
October 19-20, 2017	Thaddeus Chapel Disciples of Christ, Wade, NC	Mrs. Clara Lock, Coordinator	Annual Revival Preacher
October 22, 2017	Creeksville AME Zion Spring Lake, NC	Rev. Delilah Gaddy	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
October 24-26, 2017	St. Paul AME Zion Church, Sandford, NC	Rev. Patania Eiland	Annual Revival Preacher

## THE DIRECTOR'S EVANGELISTIC ENDEAVORS

October 28, 2017	Faith Deliverance Church Lillington, NC	Bishop Veorah Davis	Founder's Appreciation Speaker
October 29, 2017	Locks Creek AME Zion Fayetteville, North Carolina	Rev. E. Kenneth Wells	Appreciation Celebration Speaker
October 29, 2017	Faith Community Church Lumberton, NC	Rev. Dr. Leo Barnwell	Recovery Celebration Preacher
<b>November</b>			
November 8-12, 2017	Central N C Conference Durham, NC	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	Annual Conference
November 10, 2017	Southwest OFWB Conference Erwin, NC	Bishop Reginald Hinton	Re-Think Church Conference Presenter
November 18, 2017	Hughlett Temple AMEZ Louisville, KY	Presiding Elder Erick Shumake	District Home Mission Workers Speaker
November 19, 2017	Taylortown AME Zion Louisville, KY	Rev. Erick Shumake	Morning Worship Preacher
November 19-22, 2017	Hughlett Temple AMEZ Louisville, KY	Rev. Dr. Valerie Washington	Annual Revival Service Preacher
<b>December</b>			
December 2, 2017	Kenneth Monroe Transformation Center, SC	Mrs. Linda Jones	Conference CED Workshop Presenter
December 2, 2017	Kenneth Monroe Transformation Center, SC	Bishop M. Bonnie Hines	Presiding Elders Retirement Celebration
December 8, 2017	Anderson Creek Family life Center, Bunn Level, NC	Bishop Purdie Elliott	Appreciation Celebration
December 16, 2017	Laurinburg Arts Council Laurinburg, NC	W.E.W.O. Radio Station	Christmas Banquet Speaker
December 17, 2017	Simon Temple AME Zion Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Brian R. Thompson	Morning Worship Preacher
December 23, 2017	Avery Grove AME Zion Smithfield, NC	Mrs. Francis Williams	Christmas Bruch Speaker
December 27-30, 2016	Christian Education Winter Meeting, Atlanta, GA	Rev. Kathryn G. Brown	Workshop Presenter
December 31, 2017	Mt. Zion AME Zion Church, Eastover, NC	Rev. John Morrison	Community Watch Night Service
<b>January</b>			
January 6, 2018	New Home AME Zion Rock Hill, SC	Presiding Elder Sharon Browning	Spiritual Emphasis Workshop
January 12, 2018	Rock Hill Missionary Baptist, Lumberton, NC	Bishop George N. Matthews	Annual Revival Service
January 14, 2018	New Beginnings Praise Raeford, NC	Bishop William McPhaul	Founder's Day Keynote Speaker
January 14, 2018	Cameron Grove AME Zion Broadway, NC	Rev. Kenneth Swann	Broadway MLK Jr. Celebration
January 15, 2018	Dennis Wicker Civic Center Sanford, North Carolina	C.E.A.D. of Lee County	MLK Jr. Celebration Keynote Speaker
January 25-26, 2018	North Raleigh Convention Center - Raleigh, NC	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	ENCED Convocation Raleigh, NC
January 28, 2018	Strait Gate Holiness Church	Elder Rillis Prewitt	Morning Worship

## THE DIRECTOR'S EVANGELISTIC ENDEAVORS

	Eastover, North Carolina		
January 28, 2018	Little Marsh Chapel AMEZ, St. Paul, NC	Rev. Paul Sewell	Family & Friend Day Preacher
<b>February</b>			
February 2-4, 2017	St. John Lutheran Church Salisbury NC	ELCA Event	Bold Like Jesus Conference
February 4, 2017	The Highlands Laurinburg, NC	Apostle Gregory B. Thompson	Couple's Banquet Speaker
February 8, 2018	Leigh Temple AME Zion Church Hertford, NC	Presiding Elder Fondella Leigh	Rev. Walter Leigh Celebration of Life
February 9, 2018	Mt. Lebanon AMEZ Elizabeth City, NC	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	Rev. Walter Leigh Funeral
February 12-16, 2018	Norfolk Waterside Marriott Norfolk, Virginia	Board of Bishops	General Officers Report
February 17, 2018	Dennis Wicker Civic Center Sanford, North Carolina	Bishop Reginald S. Hinton	Appreciation Speaker
February 23-24, 2018	Ebenezer AME Zion Church Seattle, Washington	Bishop Staccato Powell	Rev. William Dudley Funeral Eulogist
<b>March</b>			
March 5, 2018	Good Hope Baptist Church Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Richard E. Hooker	Edna Strother Funeral Participate
March 10, 2018	Mitchell Chapel AME Z Pittsboro, NC	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	Central NC Check Up
March 10, 2018	Eleventh Hour Ministries Dunn, North Carolina	Apostle Leroy Smith	Appreciation Banquet Speaker
March 11, 2018	Friendship Baptist Church Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Dr. S. Lee Downing	Appreciation Preacher
March 12-16, 2018	Order of the Flame St. Simon Island, GA	Rev. Dr. Kimberly Reisman	Conference Participate
March 19-21, 2018	Salisbury District Salisbury, NC	Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. Grant Harrison	District Revival Preacher
March 22-24, 2018	Lomax Hanon College Greenville, Alabama	Bishop Seth O. Lartey	Evangelism Congress Workshop Presenter
March 26-29, 2018	St. Mark AME Zion Church Dallas, Texas	Rev. Carolyn McCollough	Holy Week Revival Preacher
March 20, 2018	Outland Memorial AMEZ Fort Worth, Texas	Rev. Rodney McCollough	Seven Last Sayings Preacher
<b>April</b>			
April 3-5, 2018	Presbyterian Church of Canada Vancouver, Canada	Evangelism Connections	Bi-Annual Meeting
April 7, 2018	New Prospect AMEZ Church, Spartanburg, SC	Presiding Elder Victor Wilson	District Evangelism Workshop
April 9, 2018	Judah AME Zion Church Mitchellville, MD	Rev. Scot Moore	Celebration of Life for Rev. Dr. Kathryn Brown
April 10, 2018	Union Wesley AME Zion Washington, DC	Rev. Dr. Alvin Durant	Rev. Dr. Kathryn Brown's Homegoing
April 13-14, 2018	Walk By Faith Christian Ctr Spring Lake, NC	Rev. Robin Malloy	Church Anniversary Preacher
April 17, 2018	St. Mark AME Zion Durham, NC	Rev. Dr. G. Ray Coleman	Homegoing Service For Rev. Dr. L.A. Miller

## THE DIRECTOR'S EVANGELISTIC ENDEAVORS

April 18, 2018	McNeill Funeral Home Rockingham, NC	Edna Dumas Littlejohn Administrative Asst.	Celebration of Life for Mrs. Francis Dumas
April 19-23, 2018	Virgin Island Annual Conference, St. Croix, VI	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	Missionary Preacher
April 25-27, 2018	Avery Grove AME Zion Smithfield, NC	Rev. Dr. Rosa Smith- Williams	Spring Revival Preacher
April 29, 2018	Creeksville AMEZ Church Spring Lake, NC	Rev. Delilah Gaddy	Morning Preacher
<b>May</b>			
May 10-12, 2018	Westbury AME Zion Ch. Westbury, New York	Rev. Gregor Miles Long Island District	Evangelism Workshop
May 13, 2018	Shaw AME Zion Church Corona, New York	Rev. Dr. Charles Young Conference Director	Morning Preacher
May 19, 2018	Household of Faith Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Dr. Larry Carter	50 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Celebration
May 21-23, 2018	St. Paul AME Zion Church Mayville, Tennessee	Rev. Dr. Willa Estell	Spring Revival Preacher
May 26, 2018	Pineville AME Zion Church Rock Hill, SC	Rev. Ryan Godfrey	Evangelism Workshop
May 30- June 1, 2018	Good News Outreach Mission, Dunn, NC	Elder Jerry Bell	Annual Revival Preacher
<b>June</b>			
June 3, 2018	Freedom Chapel AME Zion Raeford, North Carolina	Rev. Boyd Johnson	154 <sup>th</sup> Homecoming Celebration
June 9, 2018	Gabriel AME Zion Church Greenville, South Carolina	Rev. Benson Watt	Evangelism Workshop
June 15-16, 2018	Hood Memorial AME Zion Fayetteville, NC	Presiding Elder Joseph Brown	CED Workshop Presenter
June 17, 2018	New Beginningz Praise Raeford, North Carolina	Bishop William McPhaul	Father's Day Preacher
June 17, 2018	Mount Zion AME Zion Eastover, NC	Rev. John T. Morrison	Father's Day Preacher
June 20-22, 2018	Greenville Convention Ctr Greenville, North Carolina	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	ENCED Institute Presenter
June 24, 2018	Kingdom Impact Global Fayetteville, NC	Apostle William T. Ford	Vacation Bible School Celebration Preacher
<b>July</b>			
July 11-13, 2018	Lomax Hannon Jr. College Greenville, Alabama	Bishop Seth O. Lartey	Alabama Florida Institute Preacher
July 15, 2018	Prevailing Life Ministries Sanford, North Carolina	Rev. Barbara Taylor	Preacher
July 18-20, 2018	Connectional Council Birmingham, Alabama	Board of Bishops	General Officers Report
July 21-23, 2018	24 <sup>th</sup> Quadrennial CED Birmingham, Alabama	Christian Department	Workshop Presenter













## THE DIRECTOR'S EVANGELISTIC ENDEAVORS

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<b>July</b>			
July 19-25, 2016	Joseph Koury Convention Greensboro, NC	Board of Bishops	50 <sup>th</sup> General Conference of the AMEZ Church

**The Department of Church Growth and Development  
Evangelism - Home Mission**

**The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
P. O. Box 217258  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28221-7258**



**DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE 2018**



**Theme:  
"The Freedom Church:  
Reviewing Our Practices"**



**Decision Day  
Observance 2018**

October 28, 2018

*The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church*

Please note the Spiritual Emphasis Week 2019 Information  
on the last page!



## **DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE**

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church



October 28, 2018

### **Theme: The Freedom Church: Reviewing Our Practices**

The Book of Discipline of our Church directs that every Sunday Church School shall emphasize "Decision Day" annually in the month of October. It further directs that each Sunday Church School should undertake an evangelistic quota for active membership. In the recent past, the Decision Day Observance has also been an opportunity for the local churches to share financial gifts in support of the Department of Church Growth and Development: *Evangelism & Home Mission*. While financial gifts are welcomed during this observance, the Department of Church Growth and Development is placing its greatest emphasis upon decisions for Christ and faithfulness in ministry.

This year our theme as the Freedom Church is **Reviewing Our Practices**. Our purpose as born again believers is to do the work of an evangelist, faithfully sharing the word of Faith that brings salvation to all who believe in their hearts and confess with their mouth the Lord Jesus Christ. Our definition of evangelism: "Evangelism is the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ by words, deeds and signs empowered by the Holy Spirit for the purpose of making disciples for Christ."

Evangelism is not something we do to people; it is what do with the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Doing the work of an evangelist includes warning believers about the challenges they will face in perilous times due to an increase in moral decay, godless formalism, religious persecution, and religious imposters.

More than that, doing the work of an evangelist includes clearly teaching believers the word of God as a firm foundation for building lasting faith and living productive lives. (2 Tim. 3:14, 15) We should be our children's first Christian Educators, teaching them God's word. (2 Tim. 1:5) We should bring them to the church, where they can attend all facets of its teaching ministry. Then we should model life-long study of God's word, helping others discover the benefits of God's word that makes us wise unto salvation. (2 Tim. 3:14, 15)

God gave His only begotten Son, Jesus the Christ to redeem his people and establish His Church at the price of His Son's blood. For more than 2000 years, He has guarded and protected the Church from corruption, heresy and persecution. Then God gave His Holy Spirit to direct and empower His church. God's agenda has not changed. The Freedom Church must review our practices, examine our conduct and demonstrate our faith as Christian disciples. Then review our practices as we fulfill our purpose to making Christian disciples and helping Christian disciples become Christian disciple makers.

This year, God is calling His Church back to the basics: being a disciple of Christ and helping others to do the same. Decision Day 2018 is rooted and grounded in the quest to see all our members, children, youth and adults move beyond religion and ritual to authentic relationships with God through Jesus Christ. While still targeting our youth and children, the Decision Day Observance must broaden its scope in order to reach people of all ages who are in need of making a life-changing decision for Christ.



**THE DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

*Evangelism –Home Mission*

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church



**DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE 2018**

Report Form

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor in charge \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Presiding Elder \_\_\_\_\_ P. E. District \_\_\_\_\_

Presiding Bishop \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Conference \_\_\_\_\_

Episcopal District \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**REPORT OF DECISIONS**

Type of Decisions Made	During Decision Day Observance(s)	During the Year (Nov. 2017 - Oct. 2018)
Number of Conversions		
Number of Re-dedications		
New Members Added		
Number called to Preach		
Number of Special Events		

Financial gift for the Bureau of Evangelism \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Check Payable to: **Bureau of Evangelism**  
The Department of Church Growth and Development:  
*Evangelism –Home Mission*  
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
P.O. Box 217258  
Charlotte, N.C. 28221-7258  
Telephone: (704) 599-4630 Ext. 2174 Fax: (704) 688-2547

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Organ Prelude

The Processional Hymn: #225/#648 *Marching To Zion*

The Call to Worship

Leader: But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true  
worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth.

People: For the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

Leader: God is Spirit.

All: And those who worship Him must worship in spirit and  
in truth.

The Invocation

The Hymn of Praise: #29/#29 *Come Thou Fount*

The Responsive Reading: [AMEZ Hymnal] p. 96, 43<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
Morning or [Bicentennial] p. 76, 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday Morn. - Kingdomtide

The Apostles' Creed: #657/#705

The Gloria Patri: #641/#703

The Lesson from the Holy Scriptures

The Call to Prayer: #404/#256 *More Love to Thee*

The Pastoral Prayer

The Choral Selection

The Ministry of Kindness Offering

The Announcements

The Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

The Hymn of Preparation: #205/#433 *I Am Thine O Lord*

The Preaching of the Gospel

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Hymn of Invitation: #185/#415 *Just As I Am*

The Recessional Hymn: #252/#287 *Take the Name of Jesus With You*

The Benediction

**(Hymn numbers are from the AME Zion Church Hymnal, followed  
by the AME Zion Church Bicentennial Hymnal)**

### The Sinner's Prayer

Lord Jesus, I confess that I am a sinner. I turn from my sins and my  
unrighteousness, and I turn to you. I believe that you died for my sins and  
rose from the dead for my justification. I place my trust in You as my  
personal Savior, and I receive You into my heart as Lord and Master of  
my life. Help me to follow you as I accept your free gift of eternal life.  
Amen.

(Please use the appropriate forms to report the number and the nature of  
the decision made for Christ. These should include any conversions, re-  
dedications, new members, and those answering the call to the gospel  
ministry or Christian service.) Send all correspondence to:

### ***The Department of Church Growth and Development***

*Evangelism – Home Mission*

*The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church*

*P. O. Box 217258*

*Charlotte, N.C. 28221-7258*

*Telephone: (704) 599-4630 Ext. 2174*

*Fax: (704) 688-2547*

**THE DEPARTMENT OF  
Church Growth and Development**  
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

**The Official Staff**

**The Rev. Dr. Otis T. McMillan, Executive Director**

The Rev. Dr. J. Wardell Henderson, Director Support  
Mrs. Edna M. Dumas Littlejohn, Administrative Assistant  
Ms. Pat Sharpe, Area Staff Volunteer

**International Board**

**The Department of Church Growth and Development**

*Evangelism –Home Mission*

Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Chairman  
Bishop Seth O. Lartey 1st Vice-Chairman  
Bishop Uduak U. Effiong, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman  
Mr. Robert Benton, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chairman  
Rev. Dr. Otis T. McMillan, Executive Director

Rev. Dr. J. Wardell Henderson - Mrs. Carolyn Quick - Piedmont  
Rev. Brian Thompson -Mr. Joe Cromartie - Eastern North Carolina  
Rev. Dr. Eric Leake - Mr. David Jenkins - Midwest Episcopal  
Rev. Dr. Douglas Maven - Mrs. Dorothy Steven - North Eastern  
Rev. Frankie Smith - Mr. Robert L. Benton - South Atlantic  
Rev. Scot Moore - Ms. Loretta Sutton - Mid-Atlantic Episcopal  
Rev. Dr. Douglas Maven - Mrs. Dorothy Steven - North Eastern  
Rev. Dr. O' Neil Wiley - Ms. Denise Pedro - Alabama-Florida  
Rev. Michael O. Carter - Mrs. Vickie Breaux - Southwestern Delta  
Rev. Jawad Love - Ms. Sandra Black - Western Episcopal District  
Rev. Dr. Haven Anderson - Mrs. Veronica Williams - C.S. Africa  
Rev. Dr. Richard Gadzekpo - Dr. Yvonne Tracey - W. W. Africa  
Rev. Dr. Godson Elijah - Mr. Iniobong Udoeyo - E. West Africa



**DECISION DAY  
OBSERVANCE 2018**

Sponsored by the Department

**Church Growth and Development**

**Evangelism - Home Mission**

*of the*

**African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**

**Theme:**

**The Freedom Church:  
Reviewing Our Practices**



**“THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW JESUS”**

Sunday, October 28, 2018



# Spiritual Emphasis Week

## January 6-12, 2019



**“A Celebration of Prayer, Praise, and Proclamation”**

*Sponsored by*

**THE DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

Evangelism – Home Mission

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
Charlotte, North Carolina

**Dr. Otis T. McMillan, General Secretary Director**

Spiritual Emphasis Week offers an opportunity for each local church to begin the year on a high spiritual note. The entire membership should be encouraged to participate as the church gathers Sunday through Friday for prayer, praise, and proclamation of the word. This annual event should climax with the clergy and laity of the Presiding Elder District coming together for a special service on Saturday. The suggested theme and daily sub-themes for Spiritual Emphasis Week 2019 are as follows:

**THEME: Christ’s Ambassadors in Pursuit of Excellence**

*God’s people in pursuit of excellence: Sharing, Serving and Striving*

**KEY SCRIPTURES: Ephesians 4:17-24; 5:15 -33, 6:1-20**

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>
<b>Sunday</b>	Jan. 6, 2019	In pursuit of Excellence requires that we not live as unbelievers.	Ephesians 4:17-19
<b>Monday</b>	Jan. 7, 2019	In pursuit of Excellence requires that we live as Christ teaches.	Ephesians 4:20-24
<b>Tuesday</b>	Jan. 8, 2019	In pursuit of Excellence requires that we walk in God’s wisdom.	Ephesians 5:15-17
<b>Wednesday</b>	Jan. 9, 2019	In pursuit of Excellence requires us to lead Spirit-filled lives.	Ephesians 5:18-20
<b>Thursday</b>	Jan. 10, 2019	In pursuit of Excellence requires surrender and Submission.	Ephesians 5:21-6:9
<b>Friday</b>	Jan. 11, 2019	In pursuit of Excellence requires that we put on God’s Armor.	Ephesians 6:10-17
<b>Saturday</b>	Jan. 12, 2019	In pursuit of Excellence involves a powerful prayer life.	Ephesians 6:18-20

