



LAY EXPRESS 2016



Western North Carolina Conference

Volume II, Issue 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

January 9, 2016

LAY INSTITUTE 2015 –BETHEL AME-GREENSBORO

The Western North Carolina Conference held its first Lay Institute on November 14, 2015, at Bethel AME Church, Greensboro, NC, Reverend Alphonso McGlen, pastor. Local Lay President Dale Wragg and layman’s welcome the layman from across the Conference. The presenters were; Presiding Elder Reverend J. Bernard Wilder, Presiding Elder Reverend Dr. Conrad K. Pridgen, Reverend Marion Robinson, Reverend Morris Reddon, President Penny Oliver, Reverend Kim Moss, Brother Dwight Patterson, Sister Renee White, and Brother Wilbur Hooker.

The topics were as followed: *Dialogue with the Presiding Elders, Church Administration, God Loves a Cheerful Giver, Christian Leadership in the Church, and From Membership to Discipleship.*

Presiding Elders Discussion: Responsibilities and Duties of a Presiding Elder; Have good writing and people skills; Interpret the law; Laity must be open minded and trust God to whoever is sent to a church and have a heart to receive them; Be involved with the NAACP; Protect civil and voting rights, Education for everyone; Transparency in our church and Promote evangelism and church growth; Work with Stewards on complaints and conciliation and Support service men and women; Making sure that buildings, real estate are ensured and loans are current to keep from foreclosure; Officers are confirm; We have to learn to be committed and dedicated to our Christian responsible in the house of the Lord; Delegates to the Annual Conference by the 1st Quarterly Conference; 3rd Quarterly one can report members (missing in action) that haven’t been attending but this will not change church budget; Ways and Means budgets make sure it is adequate; Help may be needed to help smaller churches; Presiding Elder Wilder past sermon *“Termites in the Church”*; In the book of 25 Articles of Religion, we defend our doctrine against an erroneous Doctrine.

Question and Answer for Presiding Elders

- Q.** Is it required that District conference delegates to hold any particular office? **A.** Must be a Steward, Delegate to Annual Conference does not have to be a Steward. **Q.** Some member may have individual Quarters or Cluster Quarters which is hard to discuss your church issues. **A.** Presiding Elders should hear all individuals. **Q.** Do you have to wait for General Conference to make a change to assessments? **A.** Pray about it and ask God to give you a church growth program. If we don’t make plans to grow, we won’t grow. Don’t just leave it on the preacher.
- Q.** Membership number vs Budget, can some churches be combined? **A.** Evaluate and make recommendation to the conference. Laity has to learn how to grow the church. **Q.** What if the Pastor is the issue? **A.** There is a process.
- Q.** What is the responsibility of the Conference and Local Finance Committee? **A.** Collectors and Depositors of the funds and distributed accordingly.



Presiding Elders
Rev. J. Bernard Wilder
Rev. Dr. Conrad K. Pridgen

LAY INSTITUTE 2015

Church Administration: Spirituality; Are they Christ like? How many of you love your church? All churches are losing people. Do we tell our young people to go to church?

God Loves a Cheerful Giver: Stewards are keepers. Some people put their money where their heart is; Be able to give God is portion

Funeral and Protocol: Pastor should know from members about their member, No one can occupy another pastor pulpit unless invited by the pastor Pastor receives an honorarium for funerals or weddings, when the family take it among themselves, Electoral College: 2 weeks prior to election and the person must be elected, Annual Conference Delegate is elected and not appointed, Conference committee: who obligation is it to contact for meetings- the chair, Church Administration: What's the value of transparency of Stewards and Trustee working together? **Steward-** Responsible for all funds and leaders. **Trustees-** Responsible for real estate and properties **Transparency-** transparent with finances

Christian Leadership in the Church: No finer example than Jesus Christ, Going above and beyond the actual service and sacrifice, Follow the Word, Follow the Pastor (his/her vision), Follow the Discipline of the AME Church; Some characteristics-salvation, leader, pray, praise, bible study, tither, vision, leadership, risk taker, positive people; Do everything to the glory of God; Characteristics of a Godly and Good Leader/Leadership: Bible references –Moses and Joshua; Leaders of the church call by God, A bully is a leader, Amit that you don't know Everybody that cry Lord, Lord, are not going to the Kingdom, What does a good leader look like? Persistent, Patient, Teachable, Faithful and Obedient

Membership to Discipleship: Leaders should attend Bible Study, Show commitment to the Word, Where the Pastor is you should be also New Members Class, Church roll, Tell the truth and young people will follow, Young people are very teachable, Good preaching draw people to church; Sunday School is a vehicle to help you grow; Your spiritual gift will help you mind your own business; find out your spiritual gift at spiritual gift assessment; Salvation is a process; Some members give God a tip and not tithes; Expectation: Prayer still works Know your gift ...everyone has one...work it!; Stay in your lane, Visit the sick, rest home and pray always.

Sister Renee White did a presentation of a drunker coming to church and how she was received. Handouts were available. **If you didn't know, you KNOW NOW!** Stay tuned for future workshops.



President Penny Oliver
Rev. Marion Robinson



Rev. Morris Reddon



Dwight Patterson
Rev. Kim Moss



Wilbert Hooker
Renee White



Layman's



St. James AME Church—Rev. Steven L. Lyons-Pastor



St. James A.M.E. Church grew out of door-to-door class meetings which started in 1877 by laymen who sought an expression of the burning zeal within. The church was formally organized under the leadership of the Reverend D. Caldwell. The church was located on Chestnut Street between First and Second Streets, where it remained for a short period of time. It was moved to Patterson Avenue and Fourth Street where it remained until 1886.

In 1888, under the leadership of the Reverend John Tate, a building was erected on Third Street between Maple Avenue and Ridge Avenue.

In 1892, the congregation purchased the property on Seventh and Ogburn Streets, and in 1904, under the leadership of the Reverend K. C. Holt, a weatherboard building was constructed. Records reveal that the first parsonage was constructed on the Seventh Street property under the leadership of the Reverend F. W. Sowell.

In 1904, under the leadership of the Reverend J. W. Walker, plans were made to move the old building and construct the magnificent Gothic edifice on Seventh and Ogburn Streets. The cornerstone was laid in 1904. Some of the devoted and dedicated pioneers during this construction were: Giles Bason, Luther Walls, William Mendenhall, Louise Yarborough, Andrew Forsyth, Amos Yancy, Mrs. Melisha Bohannon, Mrs. Edith Miller and Mrs. Hannah Harrell. Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Harrell remained devoted members for more than 60 years.

Services were held in this location until 1963. The spirit of devotion, love for one another and appreciation for a beautiful center of worship was dominant and the Founding Fathers infused this into the next generation of faithful sons and daughters of St. James. Some of the noble sons and daughters bearing the torch were: Ed Penn, William Jarrett, C. G. Russell, J. C. McKnight, C. W. Revels, Nelson Lyons, G. Hamilton Willis, Crawford Jones, W. H. Brown, W. I. Banner, Edward Smith, John Vestal, W. S. Scales, Walter Payne, Ambrose Wheeler, John Hodges, Louis Cobb, Shad Walker, Frank Robinson and J. F. Thompson. Early in this period, the Reverend D. Ormonde Walker was appointed pastor. Under his administration, the parsonage site on Woodland Avenue was purchased.

In 1962, the Reverend J. T. McMillan was appointed pastor. The congregation was faced with the task of finding a new church home due to Urban Renewal and the North-South Expressway (requested by the Winston-Salem Redevelopment). The opportunity arose to purchase the Lee Memorial Presbyterian Church property in North Patterson Avenue and 15th Street. The purchase included an acre of land, Edifice, Education Building, Fellowship Hall and a five bedroom Parsonage.

On August 16, 1964, Dr. Sherman L. Green Jr. delivered the first sermon at the new location. On September 12, 1964, the Right Reverend George W. Baber formally dedicated the new church home. The Cornerstone Ritual was led by the 15th District of Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina, James H. Young Memorial Lodge #3670 in charge.

Notes

The Reverend D. Ormonde, after serving as Pastor of St. James, became the President of Wilberforce University and a Bishop of the AME Church. The Reverend L. L. Berry became Secretary of Missions of the AME Church. Six ministers who served as Pastor of St. James became Presiding Elders of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference. They were the Reverends K. C. Holt, A. D. Avery, H. B. Barkley, J. T. McMillan (all deceased), Tyson L. Coble (retired), and J. Bernard Wilder, currently serving in the Eastern District. A total of 29 Bishops have served this congregation, with the Right Reverend William Phillips DeVeaux Sr. now serving. A total of 22 Presiding Elders have served St. James, with the Reverend Dr. Conrad K. Pridgen now serving. A total of 48 Pastors have served St. James, with the Reverend Steven L. Lyons now serving.

Byron L. Barbre—Lay President

Western North Carolina Conference

It is Election Year for the WNCCLO!

The Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization election will take place Saturday April 16, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. **All offices are open.**

Host Church: Clapps Chapel
1301 Piney Grove Church Road
Whitsett, NC 27377

If you are seeking an office in the WNCCLO complete the *Letter of Intent*. The *Letter of Intent* a copy of *Article VI NOMINATION and ELECTION PROCEDURES, sections 1- 8 and Article IV Membership* are on the website <http://www.wncclay.org/>.

Mail the *Letter of Intent* with the signature of the WNCCLO president to the nominating committee chair. The certified letter must be postmarked or received by the chair of the Nominating Committee no later than March 16, 2016 (1 month) prior to the convening of the Conference Annual Meeting, April 16, 2016.

2016 Nominating Committee:

Sis. Gertrude Upperman

Sis. Mary Dasher-McAdams

Sis. Marjorie Ervin

Bro. Adam Johnston

Bro. Kenneth Woods, Chairperson - Chairperson of 2016 Nominating Committee
1017 Frazier Road Mebane, NC 27302 –Email: kwoods6@centurytel.net

JOIN THE LAY TODAY

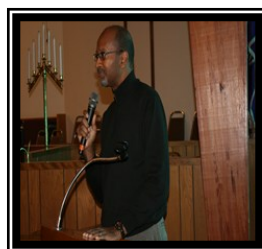
Mozell Weston
Woodrow Winchester



To God Be the Glory



Bethel-Pastor
Alphonso McGlen



Bethel Lay President
Dale Wragg