



THE LAY EXPRESS

Second Episcopal District ~ African Methodist Episcopal Church
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION

Website: <http://wncclay.org/>



VOLUME V

APRIL 2019

ISSUE 4

From
the desk
of...

Penny S. Oliver, President



As hard as it is to admit, sometimes I'm easily offended. Ok, I can hear many of you saying, "Oh no she didn't!" It's easy to blame others when we get hurt. But the truth is, we have control over our emotions. God gave us the ability to choose whether we want to feel offended. Much like forgiveness is a choice, not being easily offended is also a choice.

There was a time when I had to make this choice at work. At this time, I looked forward to the company's new hire coming on board. But unfortunately from day one, she made comments toward me that left me feeling ... well, offended.

As a result of both her actions and the way I chose to respond, we frequently butted heads. This caused our team to be less cohesive than it could have been. One day, I learned that the new hire recently had been injured. In the moment, I had to make a decision. Was I willing to extend grace to her despite how I felt I had been treated? The choice was clear. Therefore, a colleague and I scrambled to take care of some of her business matters. We picked up the slack while she recovered. A short while later, my boss asked me why I had helped the new hire, despite the way she treated me and others. I replied to my boss that I behaved the way I had, "because love covers a multitude of sins (*1 Peter 4:8*)."

My response to the perceived offense, comes from *The New Message Bible's* interpretation of the *1 Peter* texts which explains that love forgives and disregards the offenses of others. Although, I thought that I had every reason to be offended, the Lord pressed upon my heart that I had an opportunity to be kind. As a result, the relationship improved so that things became more professional. I extended grace to her, by treating her how I would want to be treated. I worked hard to let go of the offenses and integrate the words of *1 Peter 4:8* into my life. And it worked!

Jesus's love is reflected through His experience upon the cross. Jesus's love covers a multitude of our sins. We must allow the outpouring of His grace to overflow from us and extend that same measure of grace to those who we encounter in life who offend us. We must choose to turn our, "Oh no she didn't!" into, "Oh yes He did!"

Recently, I had to say, "I am sorry, please forgive me that was not my intentions," again. This was my prayer:

Dear Lord, I'm sorry for how I've offended others. I ask that you reveal to me if there's anyone I need to make peace with. At the same time, show me when and how to let go of offenses against me. Help me learn to be a better parent, sibling, leader, neighbor and friend. When someone offends me, enable me to give that person grace in the same way that you've shown me grace. May I respond in a way that helps my relationships, rather than harm them. In Jesus Name I pray!

Please join us for our last lay meeting of this Annual Conference year at Turner's Chapel AMEC, High Point, NC, at 10 am, April 13, 2019. Immediately following the meeting, all young adults and the youth of our churches are invited to a SPRING FLING at Florence Elementary School (located beside Turner's Chapel AMEC). We will have icebreakers, games, food, ice cream bar, and fun, while we get to know one another!

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

#ISSALAYORGANIZATION YOUNG ADULT

SPRING POWER GATHERING

CONVO | GAMES | LUNCH | DESSERT BAR



Are You Age 18-45?

Saturday
4/13/19
1:00pm

Florence Elementary School
(Located behind Turner's Chapel)
7605 Florence School Dr.
High Point, NC 27265

**Is Your Generation
Missing From Your Church?**

**HELP YOUR FELLOW YOUNG ADULTS WRITE
A VISION TO CLIMB TO GREATER HEIGHTS
AND STOP AGE GAPS IN OUR CHURCH**



How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

Psalm 133:1

Special Commendation Brother Dwight Patterson

For your Presentation on,

**“Best Practices for Empowering Lay Leaders —
Models of Member-to-Member Care”,
at Hood Theological Seminary’s,
4th Annual All Hood Alumni
& Friends Symposium.**

Much Gratitude for Your Service
and Work towards
Advancing the Kingdom of God.



AN ADDITIONAL NOTE FROM PRESIDENT PENNY OLIVER

I greet you in the Mighty and Matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ!

The Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization 2019 membership drive continues! Membership dues are \$6.00 for adults. We encourage each church to **report their Lay President's name and membership dues to the Credential/ Membership Chair, Sister Shontea Smith, 309 Cherry Grove Street, Durham, NC 27703.**

This year our Annual Lay Service is scheduled for 7:30 pm, Thursday, May 2, 2019, at Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons (3121 W. Gate City Blvd). The 7:30 pm Worship Experience will feature our very own, 3rd Vice President of the Connectional Lay, Sister Starr Battle, along with the The Peay Sisters, (ministry in **dance team**) and the **Turner's Chapel AMEC Choir of High Point. Also, the report of churches with and without an active Lay Organization will be included in our program booklet and the recognition of the local lay presidents and previous past presidents of the conference.**

We ask our Pastors and Local Lay Organization presidents to sit together and we are, also, asking for a donation of \$50.00 for our Worship Experience. Local presidents and delegates from each church are asked to wear navy blue and white or royal blue and white with your lay scarf and lay pin to the service.

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

The Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization

Sister Penny Oliver, President

The 127th Session of the
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Lay Witness Night Service

*"Laity Walking
Humbly with God
to Do Justice
and to Love Kindness"*

Micah 6:8

THURSDAY
5|2|19
@ 7:30pm



Lay Speaker
Sister Starr Battle, MA, JD
Third Vice President
AMEC Connectional Lay Org.



Sis. Penny Oliver, President
Sis. Jackie Kanipe, DOLA
Sis. Mary Royster Harris, YAR

Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons
3121 High Point Road, Greensboro, North Carolina 27407



2019

Western North Carolina Conference

LAY ORGANIZATION

Prayer Breakfast



.....

*WNCC-LO is accepting bids for our annual Prayer Breakfast, **Saturday, September 14, 2019, at 10 am.***

All bids must be submitted before April 6, 2019. For consideration event spaces must seat comfortably at least 250 people.

See the WNCC-LO website or page 22 to submit your bid.



James L. Davis, Servant Bishop



Arelis B. Davis, WMS Supervisor

UPDATE FROM THE ECONOMIC READINESS TEAM

Historically the African Methodist Episcopal Church engaged in economic development. Throughout the years, this wealth building, began over two centuries ago by our Founder, Bishop Richard Allen served as stepping stones to revenue streams that allowed the AME Church to establish colleges, seminaries, K-12 schools, affordable housing, outreach centers, houses of worship, shopping centers. Revenues from these institutions advanced social justice, supported ministries to the least of these, built hospitals, and created a better future for congregants and the communities we serve.

This same belief is the driving force behind the vision to create innovative funding streams. An Economic Readiness Team (ERT) led by Rev. Dr. Lee P. Washington, explores several creative options to increase cash flow into the District above and beyond assessments paid by our churches. After deliberation the ERT determined the best way to increase our wealth was through purchasing property because property value appreciate and produce income.

Based upon their review and recommendation, we intend to purchase two properties. Monies generated from these purchases will immediately reduce the assessments for 50 churches and another 50 when the second purchase is completed. Our long-term vision is that all churches in the Second District will have their assessments substantially reduced or paid completely. We are in the process of finalizing the contract for the first property and intend to complete purchase of the second within 8 months.

To achieve this goal, we need to raise \$1.5 million.



2019 UPCOMING SEC- OND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT MEETINGS



April 9 - 13, 2019

Virginia Annual Conference

Renaissance Waterfront Hotel



April 23 -27, 2019

NC Annual Conference

Sea Trail Golf Resort & Convention Center



April 30 - May 4, 2019

WNC Annual Conference

*SHERATON GREENSBORO AT
FOUR SEASONS*

3121 W. Gate City Boulevard
Greensboro, NC 27407
(800) 325 -3535 / (336) 292-9161

RATE: \$129 plus tax per night
Reservation Code: WESTERN NC AME



**WNCC Lay Night is Thurs, May 2nd at 7:30pm. Please wear navy blue & white.
Theme: "Laity Walking Humbly with God to do Justice and to Love Kindness"**



July 7-11, 2019

The Summer Summit

NORFOLK SHERATON WATERFRONT

777 Waterside Dr
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-622-6664

RATE: \$139 plus tax per night
Reservation Code: AME CHURCH 2nd DISTRICT

Complete Schedules Available at: ame2.com



THE 127TH SESSION

Western North Carolina Annual Conference

Tuesday, April 30 – Saturday, May 4, 2019

Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons, Greensboro, NC – Host Venue

Rev. Dr. Ronald Owens and the Host Committee

Reverend Anita M. Thompson, Co-Host Presiding Elder
Reverend Dr. Conrad K. Pridgen, Co-Host Presiding Elder

SERMONS AND SERVICES

NOON DAY WORSHIP (Tuesday).....	TBA (Led by WIM)
WMS (Tuesday Night in White).....	TBA
WEDNESDAY NOON DAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE	TBA (Led by Sons of Allen)
ANNUAL OPENING WORSHIP SERVICE	THE REVEREND DR. MICHAEL A. COUSIN, SR. <small>Pastor, St. Paul AME Church, Chapel Hill</small>
EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE (Thursday).....	Led by Conference Lay Organization
ORDINATION SERVICE (Friday).....	THE REVEREND DR. LOUIS CHARLES HARVEY <small>Presiding Elder of the Capital District - Washington Conference</small>
COMMISSIONING CLOSING	BISHOP PHILIP R. COUSIN, SR. <small>Retired, Senior Bishop of the AME Church</small>

BOARD OF EXAMINERS

All Conference Presiding Elders serve as Advisors to the Board

CO-CHAIRS	The Rev. Dr. Ronald Owens The Rev. Dr. Michael Cousin, Sr.
DEAN	The Rev. Dr. Clay Barrow
SECRETARY	The Rev. Dr. Patrice Fields

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD: The Reverends Sandra Hunter-Bullock, Marion Robinson, Mattie Smith, Shelton Miles, Barbareta McGill, Patrice Fields, Clay Barrow, Byron Grayson, Sr., Gwendolyn Benjamin, Jonathan Richardson, Larry McDonald, Sr., Steven Lyons

ADMISSIONS INSTRUCTORS: The Reverends Shelton Miles, Larry McDonald, Barbareta McGill

FIRST YEAR STUDIES INSTRUCTORS: The Reverends Clay Barrow, Marion Robinson, Sandra Hunter-Bullock

SECOND YEAR STUDIES INSTRUCTORS: The Reverends Patrice Fields, Mattie Smith, Shelton Miles

THIRD YEAR STUDIES INSTRUCTORS: The Reverends Mattie Smith, Marion Robinson

FOURTH YEAR STUDIES INSTRUCTORS: The Reverends Sandra Bullock-Hunter, Ronald Owens, Patrice Fields

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

MEMOIRS AND NECROLOGY: Barrington Ross, Willie Sellers, Daisy Long, Theodora Moss, Marcia Isley, Kim Moss, Phyllis Caldwell **Delegates:** Melinda Pennix, Aloysius Frazier, Marlene Montague, Gwen Poteant, Ron Robinson, Andrea Caudle

MINISTERIAL EFFICIENCY: The Reverends Ronald Owens, Shelton Miles, Gwendolyn Benjamin, (PE) Anita Thompson, Byron Grayson, Sr.

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: The Reverends (PE) Conrad Pridgen, Alphonso E. McGlen, Natasha Miller, Esq., Marcia Isley, Phyllis Royal

BUDGET COMMITTEE: The Reverends Bryson Grayson, Natasha Miller, Esq. **Lay:** Shirley Sheares

CONFERENCE TRUSTEES: The Reverends Gwendolyn Benjamin, Jessie Cardwell, William Marsh, III, S. T. Miles, Kevin Odom, Ronald Owens

LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE: The Reverends Clay Barrow, Kim Moss, David Lowe, Barrington Ross, Byron Grayson, **Delegates:** Penny Oliver, Matthew Holland, Randy Harrington, Mary Ann Alston

FINANCE COMMITTEE: (To Be Elected)

EMPLOYEE SECURITY COMMITTEE: The Reverends Marion Robinson, Larry McDonald, Allen Terrell, Shelton Miles, Casimir Brown, Gwendolyn Benjamin **Delegates:** Rose Palmer, Richard Largent, Tim Slade

PROPERTY, DEEDS AND ABSTRACTS: The Reverends John Burton, Shelton Miles, Deborah Brown, Barbareta McGill, Leroy Mitchell, Diane Conley, Wanda Howell, Phyllis Royal, Sandra Hunter-Bullock, Jonathan Richardson **Delegates:** Elva Gee, Linda Jones-Springs, Johnnie Ponder, Joy Grandy, Andrea Caudle, Ann Jefferies

ABANDONED PROPERTY: The Reverends Shelton Miles, Willard Rogers, John Capers, Renee Shade, Larry McDonald, George Pass, Willie Sellers, Kevin Odom, Mildred Conley, Anthony Radcliff, Christopher Robinson **Delegates:** Pelina Jordan, Mary Hackney, Catina Scales-Johnson, Jesse Cardwell, Eric Thomas, Beverly Hester-Stephens, Ida Pope

CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES: The Reverends Alphonso McGlen, Ronald Owens, Donald Holman, Morris Reddon, Jr., Shelton Miles **Delegates:** Damon Smith, Angela Elam, Tony Gant, Olivia Banner, Richard Evans, Janie Wilson, Bobbie Cross

PRESIDING ELDERS' ASSESSMENT: The Reverends Byron Grayson, Steven Lyons, Phyllis Royal, John Burton, Michael Cousin, Archie Evans, Shirley W. Hines, Robert McNeill, **Delegates:** Tara Vannoy, Alden Jackson, Rufus Shade, Carlotta Young, Charles Avery

MISSIONS, CIRCUITS AND STATIONS: The Reverends Steven Lyons, Kerry Rigsbee, Sarah Springs, Maye Riddick, Barbareta McGill, Marion Robinson, James Acolatse, Brenda Prince, Camelia Eaves, Angela Walker, Patti Frazier, Dorinda Cummings **Delegates:** Clarence Davis, Frances Page, Sarah Collins, Anna Mackey, George Tate

CHURCH GROWTH: The Reverends Allen Warren, Morris Reddon, Jr., Kathy Merritt, Theodora Moss, Morris Reddon, Jr., Diane Conley, Ronald Owens, Kerry Rigsbee, William Alston, Archie Evans, Henry Davis, David Lowe, Samuel Patterson **Delegates:** Margie Alston, H. Janice Johnson, Patricia W. Jeffers, Maxine Jones, Patricia Bumpass, Harold Russell, Tonya Shoffner, Janie Russell

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: The Reverends Brenda Prince, Casimir Brown, Larry McDonald, **Delegates:** Ernest Dark, Barbara Avery, Annette Marley, Linda Mason Lloyd, Phyllis Daye-Drew, Louise Bowens, Bessie Walker

CHURCH SCHOOL: The Reverends Allonia Holmes, Willie Sellers, Angela Walker, Deborah Brown, Steven Lyons, Phyllis Royal **Delegates:** Tanya King, Mary McCain, Deborah O'Neil, Sabra Meachum, Lisa Boyce, Debra Graham, Stephanie Davis, Kathleen Lightfoot, Nikki Cross

RESOLUTIONS: The Reverends Gwendolyn Benjamin, Christopher Robinson, Allen Terrell, Archie Evans, Michael Bowden, Lander Corpening, Sara Springs, Sandra Hunter-Bullock, Myrella Pearson, Samuel Patterson **Delegates:** Ralph Conley, Rovina Westbrook, Robert Hooker, Lisa Woods, Laura Echols, Margie Watkins, Tanisha McKensie

MISSIONARY SOCIETY: Mother Arelis B. Davis, Nikki W. Lyons, Frances Hope, Gertrude Foust, Everlena Diggs, Shirley Sheares, Willa George, Alice Hillman, Pauline Irving, Katrina Cheek, Linda Given, Linda Glover, Wayne Beatty, Jr., Linda Sloan

LITERARY COMMITTEES

STATE OF THE CHURCH: The Reverends Diane Conley, Vernon Burns, Barbareta McGill, Myraetta Pearson, Phyllis Caldwell, Wayne Beatty, Tom Shaw, Roland Whiteley, Bridgette Gloster **Delegates:** Marie McClary, Michael White, Gwen Manning, Aleah Whitson, Joseph Harris, Jr., Margaret Russell, Johnathan Drumwright, Margaret Carson, Ed Mathis, Jessica Stukes, Teresa Parker, Lenira Woods, Audrey McCain

STATE OF THE COUNTRY: The Reverends Christopher Robinson, Jacqueline Robertson, Michael Bowden, Archie Evans, Kathy Merritt, Lakesha Caldwell, Henry Davis **Delegates:** Helen McElrath, Jackie Moore, Andrea Eubanks, Cathy Jones Johnson, Tonya Dula, Debra O'Neil, Cheryl Leary, Dorothy Jeffreys, Robert Trotter

ECOLOGY, TEMPERANCE AND HEALTH: The Reverends Larry McDonald, Mae Riddick, Allonia Holmes, Milton Battle, Barbareta McGill, Mattie Smith, Myraetta Pearson, Deborah Odom **Delegates:** JoAnne McKnight, Bobby Shoffner, Phyllis Burt, Gwin Poteat, Stella Carver, Diane Brown, Azzie Conley, Jackie Williams

SOCIAL, CIVIL AND POLITICAL ACTION: The Reverends Patrice Fields, George Pass, Wayne Beatty, Kim Moss, Michael Bowden, Donald Holman, Kevin Royster, Henry Davis, Willard Rogers, Leroy Mitchell **Delegates:** Roberta Stone, Robert Newby, Theresa Parker, Claudette Alston, Sheila Pankey, Phillip Royal, Joan McCullum

First name of each committee represents the Committee Chair who is responsible for organizing.

Color Codes

- Red: 2019 Lay Delegates
- Black: 2018 Lay Delegates (Committee member from 2018)

The Retirement Celebration Service

THE STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We come now in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to give God the praise for the life and labors of **this/these** preacher(s) who **is/are** retiring from the itinerancy and to acknowledge **his/her/their** service in the ministry of the church.

THE INVOCATION

Let us pray. Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your Holy Name, and finally by your mercy obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PRESENTATION OF PREACHER(S)

Reverend Father in God, the ___ Annual Conference desires formally to recognize at this session the completion of the active service of ___ of its ministers. As Secretary of the Annual Conference, I present unto you these faithful ministers for this service of recognition and honor, in appreciation of their untiring labors in the Christian ministry.

THE RESPONSE

"He that sows faith and weeps, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psalm 126:6

THE TESTIMONIES TO THE LIFE OF MINISTRY

THE RESPONSE AND EXPRESSIONS FROM THE RETIREES

THE MESSAGE OF TRIBUTE

Beloved, the record of your active ministry is written. It is written in the records of God. Your Church is deeply grateful for your ministry and for the care which you have exercised in faithfully fulfilling your vows of ordination. May the precious memories of your years of sacrificial service and fruitful labor be blessed and hallowed.

And now, as you yield your official responsibilities in the active ministry of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, be assured that the years that are yet to be, may be filled with good works and become the crown of all your ministry, bringing glory and honor to you and to the Church. The congregation of which you will be a member will look to you for spiritual guidance and godly example. Your brethren in the ministry will continue to seek and respect your counsel. They will annually listen for your answer to the Roll Call of the Conference.

THE SOLO: IT IS WELL

THE FINAL WORD OF APPRECIATION & THE BISHOP'S BLESSING

Elders Expressed Intent to Supersannate

- Rev. Linda Jones, Baltimore Annual Conference
- Rev. Isaac Wilson, III, Baltimore Annual Conference
- Rev. Barbara Y. Glenn, Washington Annual Conference
- Presiding Elder Louis-Charles Harvey, Washington Annual Conference
- Rev. Brenda L. McClain, Washington Annual Conference
- Rev. Dr. Lee P. Washington, Washington Annual Conference
- Rev. Joseph U. Batts, North Carolina Annual Conference
- Rev. Edward Hansley, North Carolina Annual Conference
- Rev. George Pass, Western North Carolina Annual Conference

LAY TEACHING MOMENT

Jackie Kanipe
WNC-CLO, Director of Lay Activities



At the site of the Annual Conference this year, ministerial and lay will be elected to serve as delegates for the General Conference 2020. This General Conference is the 51st Quadrennial Session that will be held in Orlando, Florida, July 8-15, 2020. The main function of the General Conference will be to pass legislation that affects the Church and will become law and included in the Doctrine and Discipline of the A.M.E. Church; review and passing of the budget; retire, elect and assign Bishops to the twenty Episcopal Districts. Please refer to the current Doctrine and Discipline of the A.M.E. Church, 2016 edition, page 247 for additional information.

As we, the Western North Carolina Conference go to our Annual Conference session from April 30, 2019, to May 4, 2019, the election for the delegation will be held on the designated day and time.

Ministerial delegates shall be elected by the itinerant ministers of the Annual Conference, provided they are in good and regular standing at the time of the election. The ministerial election and the Lay Electoral College shall be held on the same date, in the same city, at a different place, at the same time.

The Lay Electoral College (see Page 251 of the A.M.E. Church Discipline)

The Electoral College shall be composed of one (1) adult and one (1) young adult between the ages of 18 and 35, in good and regular standing, from each station, circuit and mission in the Annual Conference, whose expenses to the College are paid by the station, circuit or mission represented.

The adult lay delegate from the local church hosting the meeting of the Electoral College shall take the chair for the purpose of presiding and processing the voting to elect a temporary chairperson and temporary secretary. After the devotional service, the College shall elect a permanent organization, electing a chairperson, secretary, two tellers and two clerks and then proceed to elect from the members by ballot delegates; at least one must be young adult between 18 and 35 years of age and alternates, as provided by law **under the caption "Composition of the General Conference" (see Part XIV, Section I-A.** Once the election is completed, the secretary will provide the names and contact information of those elected to the Presiding Bishop and the Secretary of the Annual Conference.

Delegates

Delegates are expected to attend all business sessions, vote when needed to do so and serve on committees as assigned and attend the meetings that the Second Episcopal District will be having (usually after the general sessions have ended). Delegates are expected to be team players.

Funds will be provided by the District and the Conference to help with the cost to cover your room, meals, travel and other incidentals but may not cover all expenses.

Please do not forget to take your medications with you and take them as prescribed. A medical station served by nurses is usually available.

Remember to take the Bible and the Book of Discipline.

Alternates

Alternate delegates will be elected to serve in the absence of the delegates. There is a first alternate who will be treated as the delegates as it may relate to expenses. Other alternates usually receive some funds once they have attended and served for a designated number of days.

Observers

Observers planning to attend the General Conference must register. They will receive kits and there will be reserved seating for them. You may attend the District meetings and other events. Observers are not required to attend all business sessions.



“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” Psalm 33:1 NKJV

Greetings, in the Name of the Most High God:

Every year we anticipate scholarship time! The Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization provided 9 students with scholarships last year and we could not be more proud of them and their accomplishments.

We are asking every church in the conference for a \$300 scholarship donation. We are elated about the scholarship awards given last year, but we would love to do more; and to do that, we need the support of every local church in the conference. The young adults who have received scholarships from us are change agents on their various campuses, and we are honored to be a part of each of their stories.

Please have a representative from your church Lay Organization in attendance at **the WNCC Lay Organization Meeting at Turner’s Chapel A.M.E. Church, Saturday April 13, 2019 at 10 am**. If you are unable to attend the Lay meeting, monies can be mailed to *Bro. Woodrow Winchester at 912 Fairgreen Road, Greensboro, NC 27410*.

Also, we ended last year by imploring everyone to **S.L.A.P.** themselves as it relates to the youth and young adult presence or lack thereof in your local church. It is a new year and it is time once again to Stop, Look around, Assess, and Proceed with a plan for your local young adults. The WNCC young adults will have a **SPRING FLING** on April 13, 2019 at 1:00 pm at Florence Elementary School (located beside **Turner’s Chapel A.M.E. Church**) **to assess and plan! This would be a great time for all young adults to come to the Lay meeting and attend our “SPRING FLING”. We will have icebreakers, games, FOOD and fun while we get to know one another and assess our current state. Our prayer is at the conclusion of our Spring Fling we will have a plan to not only grow the Lay Organization, but our local churches as well. So, if you would like to engage in this epic adventure and have your opinions heard we urge you to come and join us!**

We look forward to seeing you there!

Yours In Christ and Christian Love,

Mary Royster Harris, WNCC- LO Young Adult Representative

Adam Johnston, SED-LO Young Adult Representative

Whitney Johnson Brown, Committee Member

Brandon Owens, Committee Member

Shontea Smith, Committee Member

Jacqueline Kanipe, WNCC-LO Director of Lay Activities

Penny S. Oliver, President of Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization

APPLICATIONS
ARE NOW
AVAILABLE
FOR THE FOLLOWING
SCHOLARSHIPS AT:



www.wncclay.org

DR. JAMYE C. WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP

THE J.D. WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP

JAMES C. MCKINNEY SCHOLARSHIP

DAVIS-MCKINNEY SCHOLARSHIP

DR. JAMES C. JOHNSON LAY SCHOLARSHIP

KITTRELL-ALLEN-ADAMS SCHOLARSHIP



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The Jamye C. Williams Scholarship was established by the Connectional Lay Organization for the purpose of assisting young men and women of the Christian Faith in the African Methodist Episcopal Church in obtaining a college education. The funds for this scholarship will be administered by the Connectional Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- The scholarship will be given to an individual who desires to serve the A.M.E. Church in a leadership capacity.
- Pursue course of study leading to a Bachelor's Degree.
- Must be a 2019 high school graduate.
- Must attend college or university in the Fall of 2019.

The J.D. Williams Scholarship was established by the Connectional Lay Organization for the purpose of assisting young men and women in obtaining a college education. The funds for the scholarship will be administered by the Connectional Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. This scholarship is designated for a student planning to attend a four year A.M.E. college, university, or seminary.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- Must attend an A.M.E. college, university, or seminary in the Fall of 2019.
- Pursue course of study leading to a Bachelor's Degree, M. Div, or D. Min.

The Joseph C. McKinney Scholarship was established by the Connectional Lay Organization for the purpose of assisting young men and women of the Christian Faith in the African Methodist Episcopal Church in obtaining a college education. The funds for this scholarship will be administered by the Connectional Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- The scholarship will be given to an individual who desires to serve the A.M.E. Church in a leadership capacity.
- Must be a 2019 high school graduate
- Pursue course of study leading to a Bachelor's Degree.
- Must attend college or university in the Fall of 2019.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Recipients will be selected by a judging committee comprised of members of the Connectional Lay Organization. The judges will evaluate eligible students based on academic record, financial need, reference letters, qualities of leadership and extracurricular activities and accomplishments. Winners will be announced by the Scholarship Committee at the site of the 2019 Biennial. All decisions by the judges are final. No material will be returned. Applications not submitted in their entirety will not be processed.

THE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The winning applicant will be awarded a **one-time** scholarship of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00). All scholarships will be distributed directly to the students after verification of registration for the Fall, 2019 semester or quarter. In the event the student is unable to attend in the Fall of 2019, the award will be returned to the scholarship fund.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit the following materials in one package:

Completed application (must be typed).

A current official High School transcript of grades in a sealed school's envelope.

A five hundred (500) word essay entitled *The Importance of a College Education in the 21st Century*. The essay must be double-spaced and typed or word processed.

The applicant may, if he or she chooses, submit in writing any information which would enhance the judges' decision, provided it has not already been covered by the items previously covered.

A minimum of three (3) letters of recommendation (one letter must be from someone familiar with the student's academic performance and potential). A maximum of four (4) letters will be accepted, and may include pastors, local lay presidents, church school teachers, high school teachers, etc.

Two (2) professional school photographs (3" x 5" preferred, wallet sizes accepted).

A Letter of Acceptance from the school attending.

All materials must be **received in the same packet** by the deadline to be considered. **(May 15, 2019)**

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION GUIDELINES

(continued)

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2ND DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION DAVIS/McKINNEY SCHOLARSHIP 2019- 2020

The Maude Davis/Joseph C. McKinney Scholarship was established by the Lay Organization of the 2nd Episcopal District for the purpose of assisting worthy young women and men, of the Christian faith, in the African Methodist Episcopal Church in obtaining a college education. The 2nd Episcopal District Lay Organization will administer the funds for this scholarship, with contributions from all five Conferences in the District: **Baltimore, Washington, Virginia, North Carolina and Western North Carolina, as well as the Davis/McKinney Scholarship Foundation.** The mission of the **Davis/McKinney Foundation** is to generate and award financial resources in support of the Davis/McKinney Scholarship Program.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- Evidence of financial need.
- Must be entering college/university/training institution from high school in the Fall of 2019 and/or first year college and submit official notification.
- Must pursue courses leading to an undergraduate degree or certification.
- Should meet the definition of young adult (ages 17-30).

THE SELECTION PROCESS:

Recipients will be selected by a selection committee, composed of members from each of **the five conferences. The committee will evaluate eligible students' profiles, academic record, financial need, letters of recommendation, biographical statement and career goals, leadership qualities, extracurricular activities and accomplishments, employment status, family history, participation in the local church, and the professional quality of the application. All applications should be thoroughly prepared and neat in appearance. The application should be typed. Applicants may fill out the initial application in draft form and finalize the application using word processing software or type written. No hand written application will be processed.** Application is available on-line from vsfo@verizon.net

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS:

All conference committees have the prerogative to disseminate their allocation based upon appropriate distribution, and to select one or more students to receive the scholarship. The 2nd District Lay Organization determines the budget for this scholarship annually. **Scholarships should be distributed during the first semester of each academic year.** In the event the student recipient(s) is/are unable to attend the college, university, or training institution in the Fall of 2019, the award will be returned to the scholarship fund.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Qualified applicants must submit the following documents:
 - The completed application form, using word processed or typed text.
 - A current official High School transcript of grades and SAT scores.**
 - A minimum of (3) letters of recommendation (Pastor or Youth Pastor, responsible adult from his/her local church, and a responsible adult, non-relative outside of church.
 - A one page biographical statement** including career goals, and
- Evidence of financial need must be submitted.

Completed applications **MUST BE** received by stated deadline. Applications with missing components will not be considered in the final evaluation.

** Pastors should not submit letters of recommendation for applicants who are their children.

DEADLINE:

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION GUIDELINES

(continued)

DR. JAMES C. JOHNSON LAY SCHOLARSHIP Second Episcopal District Western North Carolina Conference

1. A signed application
2. **Applicant's Bio**
3. Copy of letter of acceptance from intended college
4. **A current official High School transcript of grades**
College applicants applying must submit college transcript and college status
1st___ 2nd___ 3rd___ 4th___
5. Letters of recommendation from the pastor or church official and an individual unrelated to the applicant

DEADLINE DATE: June 30, 2019

Completed application must be received by deadline.
Application with missing components will not be considered.
Faxed or by e-mail will not be accepted.

Return to:
Mrs. Sonia P. Barbre, Chairperson
2526 Griffith Meadows Drive
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27103
Phone: 336.768.4822

Applications are processed during the month of August. Checks will be distributed during the month of September at the Annual Prayer Breakfast. Awardees will be listed on the Lay Website (www.wncclay.org).

Scholarship Categories
1st Place - \$1,000.00
2nd Place - \$750.00
3rd Place - \$500.00
4th Place - \$250.00

2019 KITTRELL-ALLEN-ADAMS SCHOLARSHIP Second Episcopal District A.M.E. Church

1. This scholarship is limited to students who are current members of an African Methodist Episcopal Church in the 2nd Episcopal District.
2. **Signed Application with all of Part 1 completed (including income information)**
3. Biographical Essay as required in Part 2
4. **Official Copy of high school or college transcript in sealed envelopes**
5. Two current letters of recommendations from nonrelatives
One of your recommendations must be your pastor or a church official. Your second reference can be any nonrelative who can speak to your character and your involvement in church, community, or school.

The Scholarship Committee must receive a completed application packet by:
July 22, 2019.

Return all materials to:
Gail P. Radcliff
9285 Berry Road
Waldorf, MD 20603
301.870.8492



United States[™]
Census
Bureau

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting thousands of people across the country to assist with the 2020 Census count. Earn extra income while helping your community.

How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond





Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Nearly every household will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census from either a postal worker or a census worker.

 **95%** of households will receive their census invitation in the mail.



 **Almost 5%** of households will receive their census invitation when a census taker drops it off. In these areas, the majority of households may not receive mail at their home's physical location (like households that use PO boxes or areas recently affected by natural disasters).

 **Less than 1%** of households will be counted in person by a census taker, instead of being invited to respond on their own. We do this in very remote areas like parts of northern Maine, remote Alaska, and in select American Indian areas that ask to be counted in person.

Note: We have special procedures to count people who don't live in households, such as students living in university housing or people experiencing homelessness.

APPLICATION AVAILABLE AT:

<https://recruitment.2020census.gov/ats/careersite/census.aspx?site=1&c=census>



History of Turner's Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church

The first church on the site where Turner's Chapel AME church graveyard is today was built by a Methodist minister named Thomas Barnum and named Barnum's Chapel. Barnum's Chapel was established sometime prior to the start of the Civil War as a place of worship for all denominations.

Sometime later the Barnum Chapel property was purchased by a black congregation, and the first AME church on this site was established. The name was changed from Barnum's Chapel to Turner's Chapel A.M.E This name was chosen in honor of our 12th Bishop Henry Turner.

The first pastor of Turner's Chapel was Reverend J.P. Chalmers. The first trustees were Samuel Pearson, Thomas M. Cole, W.R. Raper, J.W. Joyner and Thomas Fuller. The choir was organized by J.R. Reeder with Henry Jeffers, Fannie Palmer and Lucille Raper as early members.

In 1921, the second Turner's Chapel was constructed, and the pastor was P.H. Holt. The funds necessary for the financing were obtained primarily by W.P. Raper and Carl Charles. These determined and dedicated members had mortgages placed in their own property to finance the new church. This building served the community until 1955.

In 1955, the cornerstone was laid for third and present church under the leadership of Reverend M.L. Johnson. Reverend Johnson served Turner's Chapel for 23 years until 1973.

In 1974, Reverend C.C. Scott, Jr., was named Pastor he served approximately one year. In 1975, Reverend J.L. White pastored Turner's for 5 faithful years. Under his leadership, the church sanctuary was remodeled and the first public address was given. The church got its first central air conditioning system installed. The plans were made to add an educational building and a fellowship hall. Under the leadership of Reverend J.L. White a very dynamic gospel was organized which helped promote and increased in church attendance and membership.

In 1980, Reverend A.M Hall became pastor. He continued working on the plans for the fellowship hall. Under his leadership the first male chorus was formed. Rev. Hall served Turner's Chapel for 5 years. In 1985, under the leadership of Reverend W.H. Morrison's ministry, the first fellowship hall was built. In addition to the fellowship hall, his love of young people helped foster the beginning of a strong youth ministry. Reverend Morrison served faithfully until 1991.



Turner's Chapel History (cont'd)

In May 1991, Reverend William E. Diggs was appointed pastor of Turner's Chapel. He was successful in promoting, spiritual, physical, and financial growth. His rapport with the youth exemplified qualities of a true servant of God. Under his leadership, community and fellowship for churches of all denominations thrived together in Jamestown, High Point, and especially in the Florence community was possible.

Under Reverend W.E. Diggs's leadership the old sanctuary was remodeled with updated seating, lighting, and walls. He even redesigned the pulpit. Several ministries flourished under Reverend Diggs's leadership and the following new ministries were started: Children's church, Singles Ministry, Young Adult Ministry (YAMS), Wednesday night bible study classes for children and youth, and the adult bible study class grew tremendously.

During Reverend William E. Diggs's pastoral service and guidance from the Lord, Turner's Chapel was able to build a new place of worship on the same property in 2008. Reverend Diggs served Turner's Chapel faithfully for 21 years.

In June of 2012, Reverend Michael R. Bowden received his appointment to Turner's Chapel AME Church. Under pastor Bowden's leadership, we expanded our outreach ministry, to just completing the 4th year of feeding 100 families. This outreach ministry was successful with and supplying families with enough food to feed a family of four for 4 days or more at a time. We remodeled the old sanctuary to a fellowship hall, and remodeled the kitchen facilities to accommodate the flourishing growth. Pastor Bowden envisioned the church having a conference room which was constructed in 2016. All this was completely done debt free.

Revered Bowden led Turner's with a powerful spirit filled worship service each Sunday until his passing on February 19, 2019. Today, Presiding Elder Conrad Pridgen, under the direction of our Servant Bishop James L. Davis, is currently the acting pastor of Turner's Chapel A.M.E. Church.

Does your church have members (living or deceased) who have done exemplary things in the community, or who are/were trailblazers in their profession(s)?

Well... the *Lay Express* wants to know
who they are, and what they did.

Each month the *Lay Express* highlights a church in the Western North Carolina Conference that gets featured as the WNC "Hidden Figure"

Just send the individual's name (layperson or clergy), a picture (if available), and a very brief description of your church's "Hidden Figures".

You never know when we will spotlight your Church,
so **the SOONER you submit your "Hidden Figure(s)" the BETTER!**



Easter Versus Resurrection Sunday: The History

For many people of the Christian faith Easter is the most important holiday of the year. It signifies the end of Lent, new beginnings, and the resurrection of Christ. But what do we really know about Easter? Where did the name Easter come from? Why not call it Resurrection Sunday? Why is it on a Sunday?

Easter used to follow the end of Passover by two days regardless of which day of the week it fell on. That means one year it might be Easter Monday, and the **next, Easter Thursday. However, everyone wasn't pleased with this. It was determined at *The Council of Nicea* that Easter would always fall on a Sunday, the day Christ rose, and always after the first full moon following the spring equinox.**

It is believed that the name Easter was drawn from the pagan god Eostre (pronounced ee-ster). Every spring the pagans would celebrate this deity with a festival. Eostre was the pagan goddess of spring and fertility and such did the festival and season follow.

Rabbits came about through symbolism. While Peter Rabbit had not yet become a thought, during that time period rabbits were the symbol of fertility and new life, hence the derivation of the Easter Bunny.

In early Christianity the Eostre festival occurred around the same time as the Jewish Passover. In efforts to draw more pagans into Christianity church officials decided to embrace some of pagan customs. Neither the rabbit symbolism, not the name were shunned.

The eggs came about around the thirteenth century. In early Christianity the **eggs symbolized fertility and renewal. The yolk was said to represent Christ's** emergence from the tomb. Eggs were painted red to represent the blood Christ shed on the cross and thus we have the beginning of the painting eggs tradition. It is likely too that the popularity of eggs was due to their absence during lent. For centuries the church put out a banned foods list during lent, on which, one of the banned items was the egg.

Whether it's being called Resurrection Sunday or Easter Sunday, this is undoubtedly a favorite time of the year. The blending of traditions over thousands of years has created an atmosphere both Christians and non-believers alike can enjoy. **The early church's goal was to increase the number of believers, and whether you paint your eggs red, rainbow, or don't paint them at all; whether you attend sunrise service on Easter Sunday, or Easter Sunday is the only service you attend all year, you are undeniably being touched by the kingdom of God.**

Article Accessed at:
praisedc.com/1782151/easter-vs-resurrection-sunday-the-history/

Mark Your Calendars For These Upcoming Events Around the Connection



- April 13, 2019** **WNCC Lay Organization Meeting @ 10AM**
Turner’s Chapel – High Point, NC
- April 13, 2019** **Annual Lay Day Program @ 4PM**
Macedonia – Roxboro, NC – Rev. Kelvin Royster, Pastor
Speaker: Bro. Kenneth Woods, SED Lay Chaplain
- April 14, 2019** **Annual Lay Day Program @ 2:30PM**
Hunter’s Chapel – Mebane, NC – Rev. Vernon P. Burns, Pastor
Speaker: Sis. Penny Oliver, WNCC Lay Organization President
- April 21, 2019** **Annual Women’s Day Program @ 11AM**
Hunter’s Chapel – Mebane, NC – Rev. Vernon P. Burns, Pastor
Speaker: Sis. Angela Elam
- April 30-May 4, 2019** **127th Session of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference**
Koury Convention Center/Four Seasons Sheraton –Greensboro, NC
- June 8, 2019** **CDMC Dedication Ceremony**
Bethel— Greensboro, NC— Rev. Alphonso McGlen, Pastor
Sis. Terri McLeod, Commissioner
- June 9, 2019** **2019 Pentecost**
Baltimore, MD
- June 14-15, 2019** **Springdale Bus Trip visiting Washington, D.C.’s**
National Museum of African American History & Culture
Rev. Dr. Bridgette Gloster, *Pastor*
For more information contact: Penny Oliver – (336) 565-0367
- June 30, 2019 - July 4, 2019** **CLO Biennial 2019**
Seattle, WA
- July 23, 2019 - July 27, 2019** **YPD Quadrennial Convention 2019**
Columbus, OH
- July 27, 2019 - August 1, 2019** **WMS Quadrennial Convention 2019**
Columbus, OH
- July 8-20, 2020** **AMEC 51st Quadrennial Session**
Orlando, FL

REMINDERS



Artist Unknown

- **WNCC Lay Org. Meeting, April 13, 2019, at Turner's Chapel, 10AM.**
- S.L.A.P. Yourself & Encourage Young Adults to Attend Spring Fling 2019
- Book Your Rooms for the Annual Conference & the Summer Summit
- Open an account at a Black Bank
- Support ERT
- **Take the 90 Day "I Dare You To Trust God" Challenge**

For additional information on conference events,
Please visit the Second Episcopal District website,
www.ame2.com,
and/or the website of the WNCC Lay Organization,
www.wncclay.org.

**WE NEED YOUR "CHURCH HISTORY",
"HIDDEN FIGURES",
& "CHURCH EVENTS"**

BY APRIL 26TH

FOR PUBLICATION IN THE UPCOMING NEWSLETTER.

Angela Elam ~ allendur@aol.com



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TO HOST
PRAYER BREAKFAST 2019
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION

Date of Agreement: _____

(between host Lay President and WNCCLO Prayer Breakfast chairperson)

WNCCLO Prayer Breakfast chairperson: Jackie C. Kanipe Phone: # (Home) 828-433-8424 or (Cell) 828-403-1762

Email: jconleyk@bellsouth.net

WNCCLO President: Penny Oliver

Phone # (Cell) 336-348-3259

Email: penny.oliver52@yahoo.com

Date of function: September 14, 2019

Location of Function: _____

Starting time of Function: 10:00 a.m.

Approximate Number of Guests: 250 comfortably

Total Cost:

Amount of Deposit:

Date Deposit Paid:

Menu:

Meats

Eggs

Other

Pastry/Bread

Grits

Drink(s)

Fruit

Program Specifications:

The host president is responsible for the printing of the WNCC Prayer Breakfast programs Y/N

Number of programs to be printed: 250

Printed Program Review: 2 weeks before printing (date)

Room Set-Up Specifications:

Head Table for how many:

Entry Table (collection of funds/tickets) Y/N

Other Decorations: Tables (covering for the tables, etc).

Audio/Visual Equipment: Microphone

Host President or Authorized Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Print Name and Position in Church: _____