



# THE LAY EXPRESS



**Second Episcopal District ~ African Methodist Episcopal Church  
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION**  
Website: <http://wncclay.org/>

VOLUME V

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ISSUE 9



From  
*the desk*  
of...  
Penny S. Oliver, President

From an early age we work to get approval, whether it is proving to our parents that we can ride a bike without training wheels, or taking our first step—caring what other people think seems evitable. In leadership that does not change.

Through the years it can become a problem for us as it can cripple us emotionally and spiritually. We need to get to the point where we don't care what the media says, how colleagues feel about us, or live in state of constant fear or agony of what others think. The other person is not going to worry about it, or stay awake at night upset that you're offended. You can't be responsible for other people's words, actions, or decisions as hurtful as they can be. We all want to be congratulated for a job well-done from even acquaintances, but what happens when they don't, or you are not acknowledged in some way.

Yes, it's painful, but now it's time to regroup, refocus, and rise above petty people, things, sin, and caring what others think of you. They don't know your back story, but Christ does. So, where do we begin and do we need to take ownership? In Philippians 4:6-7, we are told to relax, and go to God for relief and strength. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Our minds can dictate our feelings and vice-versa, so every time we are worried about what others think switch to a scripture, prayer or praise. You can say "I trust God's Word not my feelings." Add your name to a scripture. It can really personalize it and help you grow closer to the Lord. **1 Peter 5:7: "Give all Penny's worries and cares to God, for he cares about Penny."** Worrying about what others think is human, but when it's to a point where our joy is being choked, then we need to become proactive, not reactive. Take people out of your courtroom of justice, and offer them to God, and also humble yourself. It's simply not worth it for your health, or hindering your walk--period. Be patient, it's a journey that will end in a victory. "Peace I leave with Penny, my peace I give unto Penny: not as the world giveth, give I unto Penny. Let not Penny heart be troubled, neither let Penny be afraid, (John 14:27)."

*Spirit of God, We have heard your call to share in building up the Kingdom of God. Fill us with the desire to change ourselves and to change the world. Enflame our passion for justice into a commitment to address unjust situations and structures. Deepen our concern for our sisters and brothers in America and overseas who endure the burdens of poverty, war, exploitation and persecution. Let us enthusiastically play our part in the mission of the Church in the modern world. Banish any complacency in our hearts and minds. Teach us to recognize the lack of justice. May we always act in the Spirit of justice. May we envisage, pray about and create a different sort of world in which injustice is replaced with a renewed sense of solidarity and care. Enlivened by the Spirit, may we go forth in the peace of the Holy Spirit to love and serve the Lord. Amen*

*I am looking forward to the fellowship at the WNCCLC Annual Prayer Breakfast, September 14, 2019 at Macedonia AMEC, 4164 Yarborough Mill Road, Milton, NC at 10 am where we may live together, not as man over man, but as Lay and Clergy working with God.*

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

# 2020 Candidates on Gun Reform

In response to the most recent gun violence, the following actions can be taken:

1 - Call Gabby Giffords line at 1-877-960-2185; enter your zip code to find your Senate Rep.; you will be routed to their personal phone or voicemail. An operator will connect you. (North Carolina is Richard Burr)

2 - Press 1 to leave a message, state your name and city; then demand the senate return from August recess to hold a vote on HR8 following the recent gun violence and tragic loss of innocent lives. Note: The House passed HR8, a Bipartisan Background Checks Act, 5 months ago and the Senate has yet to vote on it.



Ongoing work:

--Check the records of political candidates and vote for those who are passionate about the issues closest to your heart and esp of preventing loss of innocent lives via gun violence.

--Write, tweet, email your senators and congresspersons demanding change for the issues that matter.

Thank you for your partnership in Social Action!

Reverend Tamara O. Kersey



## SOCIAL JUSTICE

By Tracie Fellers  
St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church

With its second #SocialJusticeSunday of the summer, on Aug. 25, St. Joseph welcomed an overflow crowd and U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris, a Democratic candidate for President of the United States, in a spirit-filled 11 a.m. worship service. Other dignitaries present at the service included N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Cheri Beasley, N.C. Sen. Erica Smith, a candidate for the U.S. Senate; Durham Mayor Steve Schewel and Durham Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Pascal Mubenga.



The 11 a.m. service recognized the Durham branch of the NAACP, the Durham chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, the Durham and Chapel Hill graduate chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and the Durham Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., for their historic and ongoing contributions to furthering social justice in Durham and surrounding communities. But both the 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. services on Aug. 25 also took place against a backdrop of reminders that the fight for social justice in North Carolina and across the nation is far from over.

As referenced by St. Joseph's Senior Pastor, the Rev. Jonathan C. Augustine, in program notes, the week leading up to Aug. 25 marked the 400th anniversary of the arrival of enslaved Africans in North America, at Point Comfort, Virginia. Aug. 28, just a few days after the #SocialJustice Sunday services, was the 56th anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington—its full title being the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. And then, lest anyone forget, as alluded to by speakers including Sen. Harris, Rev. Augustine (also known as Pastor Jay), the Rev. James Lawson of the A. Philip Randolph Institute and Durham branch NAACP president the Rev. Rachel Green, there's today's fight for redemption and against injustice and inequality in high places.





By Tracie Fellers  
St. Joseph A.M.E. Church  
~Continued~

In the title of his #SocialJusticeSunday sermon at the 8 and 11 a.m. services—and in the message itself—Pastor Jay raised this question: “And When Does the Church Get Political?” In exploring that topic, he shared and reflected upon some compelling answers. “History tells us that the church gets political when government does not respect the rights of people. The church gets political when the least of these need somebody to stand up for them,” he said.

“Let me be clear. In response to the current bigotry, the current xenophobia and the current hatred that is emanating from 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, it is time for the

church to get political,” Pastor Jay said to applause from the congregation. As he continued his message, the pastor compared the situation of God’s people today to the situation the prophet Jeremiah faced, covered in the Scripture that the pastor read to preface his sermon: Jeremiah 8:18-22.



“Jeremiah is trying to fix a system that was once prosperous, but things have been broken. He’s trying to restore hope and build back up people’s dreams, but they feel like their dreams are being drowned right before their eyes.” In the scripture, “Jeremiah is calling on the people to get political by playing their part to fix their problems,” Pastor Jay said. Jeremiah basically asks when we will get political, “by metaphorically asking when will we act to help ourselves.”



Sen. Harris, who is from Oakland, California, and is the former Attorney General of her home state, sounded similar themes in remarks preceding Pastor Jay’s sermon. As a young girl growing up in Oakland’s 23rd Avenue Church of God, she learned that “one’s faith and that my faith should be addressed as a verb. I was taught that when you want to praise God, then praise God through your actions, as well as your words.”

In our fight for justice, “I believe Scripture sets the standard,” Harris said, quoting from Proverbs 31 and referencing the Parable of the Good Samaritan. “Especially these days when we have so many powerful forces in our country, including the fellow in the White House who is trying to sow hate and division among us, these days that really do challenge our faith . . . when we think about the reading this morning and what it means to love thy neighbor, Jesus tells us how we should define neighbor,” she said.

Your neighbor is not just the person next door or the person who drives the same kind of car that you do, she continued. “Jesus tells us your neighbor is that man by the side of the road who you walk by, who has faced hardship”—whether that is someone who has an opioid addiction, an immigrant who has sought refuge in the U.S., or a teacher who has to work three or four jobs to survive but “will not leave a profession that they are dedicated to . . .”

Scripture teaches us that when we fight for justice, “it is not only for our own justice, it is for justice for our neighbor,” Harris said. “. . . And so let us rely on scripture these days when our faith is being tested and do it in a way that it propels us to act,” she urged the congregation. “This election that we’re about to hit will matter in profound ways. . . .”

After asking all in the congregation for their prayers, Sen. Harris’ concluding words also resonated with the message that would follow from Pastor Jay: “There is so much good in the world and there is so much worth fighting for—and as we have often said and we know—the measure of our strength is not about who we beat down; it is about who we lift up. It is about who we lift up,” she said. “So Lord, order our steps but let us know that in these steps that we take . . . we have the power borne of our faith to lift up, and to lift up not only our neighbor, but to lift up our country.”



#### **Democratic presidential candidate Harris speaks at packed Durham church | CBS 17**

<https://www.cbs17.com/news/political-news/democratic-presidential-candidate-harris-speaks-at-packed-durham-church/amp/>



“We are [@stjosephame](#): we love ALL people because we are ALL God’s children.”

**Saint Joseph’s AME Church ~ 2521 Fayetteville St. ~ Durham, NC 27707**

Reverend Dr. Jonathan “Jay” C. Augustine, Senior Pastor

First Lady Mrs. Michelle Burks Augustine





*From the Desk of Barbara R. Myers*  
**3<sup>rd</sup> VP Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization**  
email: [babsgurls@gmail.com](mailto:babsgurls@gmail.com)

*Social Action and Evangelism*

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As following up to our Meeting on Saturday, August 10, 2019, I wish to share the following information:

**I. Lay Biennium, report from Sister Star Battle, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP**

- A. New Evangelism curriculum, entitled "Becoming a Disciple- Making: Develop Spiritual Growth Skills and Help Others to Do the Same"
  - 1. The curriculum is [www.disciple-maker.org](http://www.disciple-maker.org). – **Click Step 3** - choose the packet you desire to order
  - 2. It's up to the individual organization to purchase the materials to utilize the resource.
  - 3. Recommended packets:
    - "Becoming A Disciple-Maker (Introduction Booklet – packet of 10)
    - "Becoming A Disciple-Maker Church Starter Pack - \$29.99
- B. Evangelism Sunday is the same day as Pentecost Sunday

**II. Lay Witness Sunday**

- A. Date is Sunday, October 13, 2019, which you may have to change based on your church schedule
- B. Theme: "And what does he Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God". As a suggestion you may want to read the first seven verses and gain a full picture of what is happening at that time.
- C. Please send information regarding your Lay Witness activities to include:
  - 1. Name of the church & location of the church, the Pastor and the Lay President
  - 2. Date and time of the program and contact information
  - 3. The speaker

(I would like to receive this information no later than **Sunday, September 8, 2019**, if at all possible as Sister Battle would like to post on Connectional Lay/Conference Lay websites)

**III. Voter Registration – "Remember all politics is local" – VOTE!**

- A. National Voter Registration Day – September 24
  - 1. Register for a webinar @ [aitlin@nationalvoterregistrationday.org](mailto:aitlin@nationalvoterregistrationday.org)
  - 2. Elections:
    - Congressional Districts 3 & 9 & **September** Municipal Elections
      - Deadline to Register – August 16 (prior to early voting)
      - One Stop Voting – August 21-September 6
      - General Election - September 10

***Check your local board of election to verify time and dates***

**October** Municipal Elections

- Deadline to Register - September 13 (prior to early voting)
- One Stop Early Voting Period - September 18-October 4
- General Election Day - October 8

***Check your local board of election to verify time and dates***

**November** Municipal Elections

- Deadline to Register – October 11 (prior to early voting)
- One Stop Early Voting Period – October 16 – November 1
- General Election Day – November 5

***Check your local board of election to verify time and dates!***

- 3. Contact your local Board of Election to obtain the date/time of monthly meeting and plan to attend
- 4. Register for a Voter ID workshop in your community or a neighboring community, most of the training seems to end in August, so hurry and sign up!! – be informed
- 5. Google the State Board of Election to obtain a list of those student identification cards, employee identification cards ad tribal enrollment cards that are approved for use as photo identification to vote under N.C.G.S § 163A-1145.1 for the primaries and general election to be held in 2020.
- 6. Organize an event at your church and/or a community center
- 7. Partner with another church and/or community organization
- 8. Canvas
  - Church membership – update their registration, have educational /information groups
  - Neighborhood around the church and/or identified communities
  - Your family and friends

Please, be attentive to information we receive from the Second District and the Church Social Action Commission – Let's get ahead of the game, Register and Vote Early!!!

It is hopeful you will find this information helpful. If at anytime you have a question, please do not hesitate to email me. Thanks, Barbara R. Myers

# THE MIRRORING PROJECT

## PHASE THREE

*Thank you Presiding Elders, Pastors and Laity for joining together in the Mirroring Project.*

The mirroring project allowed our local churches to evaluate what we are doing and how we can do it better. Mirroring reports and ratings provided a visual picture that identified areas of strengths and weakness. Based upon the mirroring reports, together, Pastor and Laity, identified the best ways to implement mirroring recommendations, focus on what is most important, and change those things that we have the power to transform. We will move forward. We encourage both, Pastor and Laity, to **CONTINUE** the implementation of this project in their local church **MINUS the written reports to the Conference President.** Together we will see Acts 16:5 become a reality in the Second District: “So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.”

## MIRRORING PROJECT



# NEXT STEPS



TOGETHER WE CAN!

**BASED ON MIRRORING REPORT:**  
*Congregation meets to review mirroring document and determine what's next*

STEP 1

**CHOOSE VIABLE OPTIONS:**

*Does the church want to:  
Change?  
Grow?  
Merge?  
Close?*

STEP 2

**WRITE A SHARED "OUR VISION":**

*Where do we want our church to be in 5 years?  
2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023*

STEP 3

**OUR MISSION:**

*How will we become our vision? What is the best way to move forward?*

STEP 4



**IDENTIFY GOAL(S)** – areas needing improvement identified through the mirroring process (conversions, accessions, stewardship, spiritual growth, openness to change).

**SET YOUR GOALS THIS WAY**



Specific	Measurable	Attainable	Relevant	Time-Bound
...in terms of actions to be accomplished. Goals should be focused with a tangible outcome. Identify resources you plan to use to achieve your goals.	...in number of activities or results desired. This will help you evaluate your progress and keep you on track.	...given the resources at hand. This step can reveal any potential roadblocks that you need to overcome to meet your goals. Outline your steps to achieve your goal.	...to the objective.  Get real about It!  Make sure your goals are relevant.	Every goal needs a target date, something that motivates you to really apply the focus and discipline necessary to achieve it. Set a realistic timeframe to avoid discouragement. Final date to turn in Mirroring Project is Oct. 27, 2019.

# AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

### Western North Carolina Conference

2019-2020



*Mirroring Project ~ Phase Three*

**Church Name & Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Presiding Elder & District:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pastor's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VIABLE OPTION** (select one below): \_\_\_\_\_

(Does your church want to Change, Grow, Merge, or Close?)

**AREA OF FOCUS** (select one below to work on): \_\_\_\_\_

(Conversions, Accessions, Stewardship, Spiritual Growth, Openness to Change)

**Goal 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Goal 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Goal 3:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Goal 4:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please use additional sheets of paper, as needed**

ACTION	MEMBERS/MINISTRY RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE	COST

**Please use additional sheets of paper, as needed**

	# Members Participate	# People Receive Evangelism Material	# People Touched	Total Conversions	% Toward Goal
JULY '19					
AUG '19					
SEP '19					
OCT '19					
NOV '19					
DEC '19					
JAN '20					
FEB '20					
MAR '20					
APR '20					
MAY '20					
JUNE '20					
<b>Totals</b>					

**AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT**

**Western North Carolina Conference**

**2019-2020**

*Mirroring Project ~ Phase Three*



**\*\* TEMPLATE EXAMPLE ONLY \*\***

**AREA OF FOCUS** (*select one below to work on*): \_\_\_\_\_

*(Conversions, Accessions, Stewardship, Spiritual Growth, Openness to Change)*

Goal 1: To provide seven classes about evangelism

Goal 2: To have 50% of church members participate in evangelism efforts

Goal 3: To have 15 conversions every month/180 conversions a year

Goal 4: To distribute 1000 door hangers in the community

ACTION	MEMBERS/MINISTRY RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE	COST
Provide evangelism training			
Create evangelism budget			
Design evangelism material			
Choose Dates			

	# Members Participate	# People Receive Evangelism Material	# People Touched	Total Conversions	% Toward Goal
JULY '19	7	75	50	13	86%
AUG '19	13	200	39	18	106%
SEP '19	8	38	25	13	86%
OCT '19					
NOV '19					
DEC '19					
JAN '20					
FEB '20					
MAR '20					
APR '20					
MAY '20					
JUNE '20					
<b>Totals</b>					



WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE  
OF THE SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT  
OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## EASTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

September 19- 21, 2019



Presiding Elder  
Rev. Dr. Anita M. Thompson



Host Church  
Shiloh AME Church  
1323 N. Powerhouse Rd.  
Morganton, NC 28655  
828. 584. 3962



Hosts  
Rev. Dr. Wayne Johnson  
and  
First Lady Fredia Johnson

### GUEST PREACHER SCHEDULE

September 19th @ 6:30 pm  
REV. DR. GWENDOLYN WISE-BLACKMAN, PASTOR  
Union Bethel AME Church  
Cary, NC

September 20th @ 12 Noon  
REV. ANTHONY RADCLIFF, PASTOR  
Willow Tree AME Church  
Morganton, NC

September 21st @ 11:30 am  
REV. PHYLLIS T. ROYAL, PASTOR  
St. James AME Church  
Raleigh, NC



WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE  
OF THE SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT  
OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

September 26 - 28, 2019



**Presiding Elder**  
Rev. Dr. Conrad K. Pridgen



**Host Church**  
St. James AME Church  
1501 N. Patterson Ave.  
Winston Salem, NC 27105  
336. 724. 3865



**Hosts**  
Rev. Shelton T. Miles and  
First Lady Rosazyn Miles

## GUEST PREACHER SCHEDULE

September 26th @ 7:00 pm

BISHOP JAMES L. DAVIS, PRESIDING PRELATE  
2nd Episcopal District  
African Methodist Episcopal Church

September 27th @ 12 Noon

REV. DAISY LONG, PASTOR  
Oak Level AME Church • Milton, NC  
7:00 pm  
REV. KIM MOSS, PASTOR  
St. Paul AME Church • Lenoir, NC

September 28th @ 10:30 am

REV. ALPHONSO E. MCGLEN, PASTOR  
Gaston Chapel AME Church • Morganton, NC

# ***SAVE THE DATES!***

**September 14, 2019**

*Macedonia, Milton, NC*

*WNCC-LO Annual Prayer Breakfast*

*\*\* ticket required \*\**

**October 12, 2019**

*Clapps Chapel, Whitsett, NC*

*WNCC-LO Meeting*

**November 9, 2019**

*St. Matthew, Burlington, NC*

*WNCC-LO Lay and Clergy Institute*

**January 11, 2020**

*Persimmon Grove, Greensboro, NC*

*WNCC-LO Meeting*

**March 14, 2020**

*Bethel, Greensboro, NC*

*WNCC-LO Meeting*

**April 11, 2020**

*St. James, Winston-Salem, NC*

*WNCC-LO Meeting*

# A TEACHABLE MOMENT!

*As we prepare for Lay Witness Sunday, many of our churches will be observing the second Sunday in October. As you prepare the program, please remember to use the correct logo. The standard logo may be used at all times.*



Connectional Lay Organization Logo (standard)

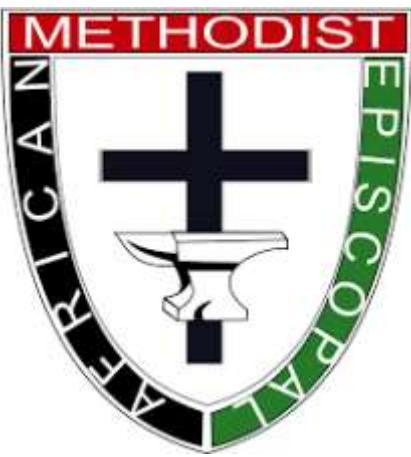
Connectional Lay Organization Logo (adapted 2019-2021)



Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Logo

*Sister Jacqueline C. Kanipe, Director of Lay Activities (DOLA)*

*Western North Carolina Conference*



# History of Poplar Springs

## African Methodist Episcopal Church

Poplar Springs A.M.E. Church purchased and organized its church circa 1880; the exact date is unknown. The land where the old church now stands was purchased in 1880 from Mr. & Mrs. Robert McSwain. On November 9, 1880, the Deed was executed before Justice of the Peace, Mr. William McLeod in Moore County. This Deed with the certificate was registered in the courthouse November 9, 1880. In February 1883, land for a cemetery was purchased from David and Nancy Oliver. The amount tendered by the Trustees for this purchase was ten (\$10.00) dollars. On November 24, 1885, the church was given the Certificate of Deed and was registered the same day in the County Courthouse by A. H. McNeill, Clerk of the Superior Court.

On February 21, 1906, C.H. Black and Dora Black of Moore County sold the property to the Lodge Knights of King David, Rosa Lodge No. 60 and Royal Knights of King David Pilgrim of Moore County, North Carolina, for the sum of Five (\$5.00) Dollars. The Deed was drawn up on December 26, 1906, and registered in Lee County Courthouse on February 11, 1918, by T.N. Campbell, Clerk of the Superior Court, and Ralph Monger, Register of Deeds. The Trustees of Poplar Springs A.M.E. Church also purchased land from the Board of Education of Lee County. The Deed was drawn up June 6, 1950, between the Trustees of the church and the Board of Education. The Trustees included Alton Tuck, W.D. McIver, C.C. Monroe, F.S. McLean, Charlie Taylor, Cleveland Taylor, and Thomas McDonald.

The first part cost Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars. This lot was known as the Poplar Springs Colored School Lot, adjoining Poplar Springs A.M.E. Church. Poplar Springs progressed from a brush arbor to a wood frame church with a potbelly stove and a dirt floor to a wood frame and wood floor. Today, we are blessed to have a beautiful edifice and “it doth not yet appear what we shall be” (1 John 3:2). There have been many ministers, each of whom with the help of Almighty God helped to build Poplar Springs into the powerhouse it is today. We commend each of them for the contributions they made: Reverend Proctor, Reverend Worth, Reverend Stroud, Reverend Perry, Reverend H.D. Thomas, Reverend Thompkins, Reverend Watson, Reverend Gantt, Reverend Williamson, Reverend J. C. Wright, Reverend Decker, Reverend Dillworth, Reverend A. M. Jones, Reverend Raines, Reverend S. L. Beard, Reverend T. M. Brown, Reverend J. R. Crutchfield and Reverend A.L. White, Reverend R. Goode, Reverend Christopher, Reverend Weaver, Reverend Irving, and Reverend Royal.



## ***Poplar Springs History Continued...***

Because the people had a mind to work, under the leadership of Reverend Goode a new building was completed and dedicated on August 10, 1975. Those participating in the service were Reverend J.N. Sheares, Presiding Elder of the Western North Carolina Conference; Reverend A.O. Carmichael; Reverend Bernard Wilder; Reverend James Ingram; Reverend J.R. Crutchfield; and Reverend W.E. Diggs. It was a great day in the life of our Church. The event can be summed up in the words, "*We come this far by faith leaning on the Lord.*"

The first funeral held in the new building was Sister Mary Bell Smith (Aunt Maybell) who was a beautiful person and worked very hard, in both the church and the community. The first persons to become members in the new building were John Allen Newby and Michael Chesney. In June 1976, the church hosted the Sunday School Convention, and the District Sunday School Banner was awarded to Poplar Springs, while our representative, Miss Rosa Newby, was honored as the District Sunday School Queen.

The church continued to move forward during the pastorates of Reverend Weaver and Reverend Christopher. The community continued to support the ministries of the church and our presence was enhanced by their leadership. In May 1984, Reverend I.J. Irving was assigned to the church and under his leadership, the Lay Church was organized. Not one to rest on past accomplishments, in 1993, Reverend Irving along with the church membership decided to expand yet again. They started construction of a new church building which was completed in 1995. The building completed, in 1975, was converted into classrooms for Church School and a Fellowship Hall where the congregation could meet and greet, and even enjoy an occasional play. Reverend Irving presided over the first wedding in the new sanctuary on April 3, 1999, where he joined Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Boykin in holy matrimony. Under his guidance, the church continued to progress, installing signage, and paving the parking lot.

In May 2009, the membership welcomed Reverend Phyllis T. Royal. The church membership continued to increase and continued to be a vital part of the community. During her pastorate, the membership was able to completely pay off the mortgage on its property.

Our present Pastor, Reverend Dr. Saundra Bullock-Hunter, was assigned to our church in May 2011 and we continue to make progress. The membership embraced her vision and special services such as Advent, New Year's Eve, Holy Week-Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunrise were re-introduced and experienced. The Sons of Allen were organized with the older and younger men of the church; the Christian Education Department has been outstanding; the Young People's Department have been visible and active in the community with activities in local Group Homes; many ministries have been added; internal and external improvements have been made aesthetically and structurally; a Senior Ministry was started; the Music Ministry has expanded; and most importantly, souls have been saved and members have re-united to the body of Christ! *We praise God for the Great Things He has done!*

# Mark Your Calendars For These Upcoming Events Around the Connection



**September 8, 2019 .....****Deadline to send info to Sis. Barbara Myers—[babsgurls@gmail.com](mailto:babsgurls@gmail.com)**

Please send information regarding your Lay Witness activities to include:

1. Name of the church & location of the church, the Pastor and the Lay President
2. Date and time of the program and contact information
3. The speaker

**September 8, 2019 .....****10:30AM.....St. James Men's Day**  
520 Method Road, Raleigh, NC  
Rev. Phyllis Royal, Pastor  
Speaker: Bro. Dwyane Elam, Emmanuel – Durham

**September 8, 2019 .....****10:30AM & 3PM ..... Shiloh Homecoming**  
1323 N. Powerhouse Rd., Morganton, NC  
Rev. Dr. Wayne Author Johnson, Sr., Pastor

**September 9-11, 2019 .....****Shiloh Revival**  
Rev. Dr. Wayne Author Johnson, Sr., Pastor

**September 8, 2019 .....****2:30PM..... Macedonia Women's Day**  
4164 Yarborough Mill Road, Milton, NC  
Rev. Kelvin Royster, Pastor

**September 14, 2019 .....****10AM..... WNCC-LO Annual Prayer Breakfast**  
Macedonia— Milton, NC — Rev. Kelvin Royster, Pastor  
Sis. Joan Brandon, Local Lay President

**September 15, 2019 .....****10AM.....St. James Women's Day**  
1501 N. Patterson Avenue, Winston-Salem, NC  
Rev. Shelton Miles, Pastor  
Speaker: Rev. Tamara Kersey-Moore

**September 22, 2019 .....****Mars Hills Revival**  
2695 Playmore Beach Road, Lenoir, NC  
Rev. Samuel Patterson, Pastor

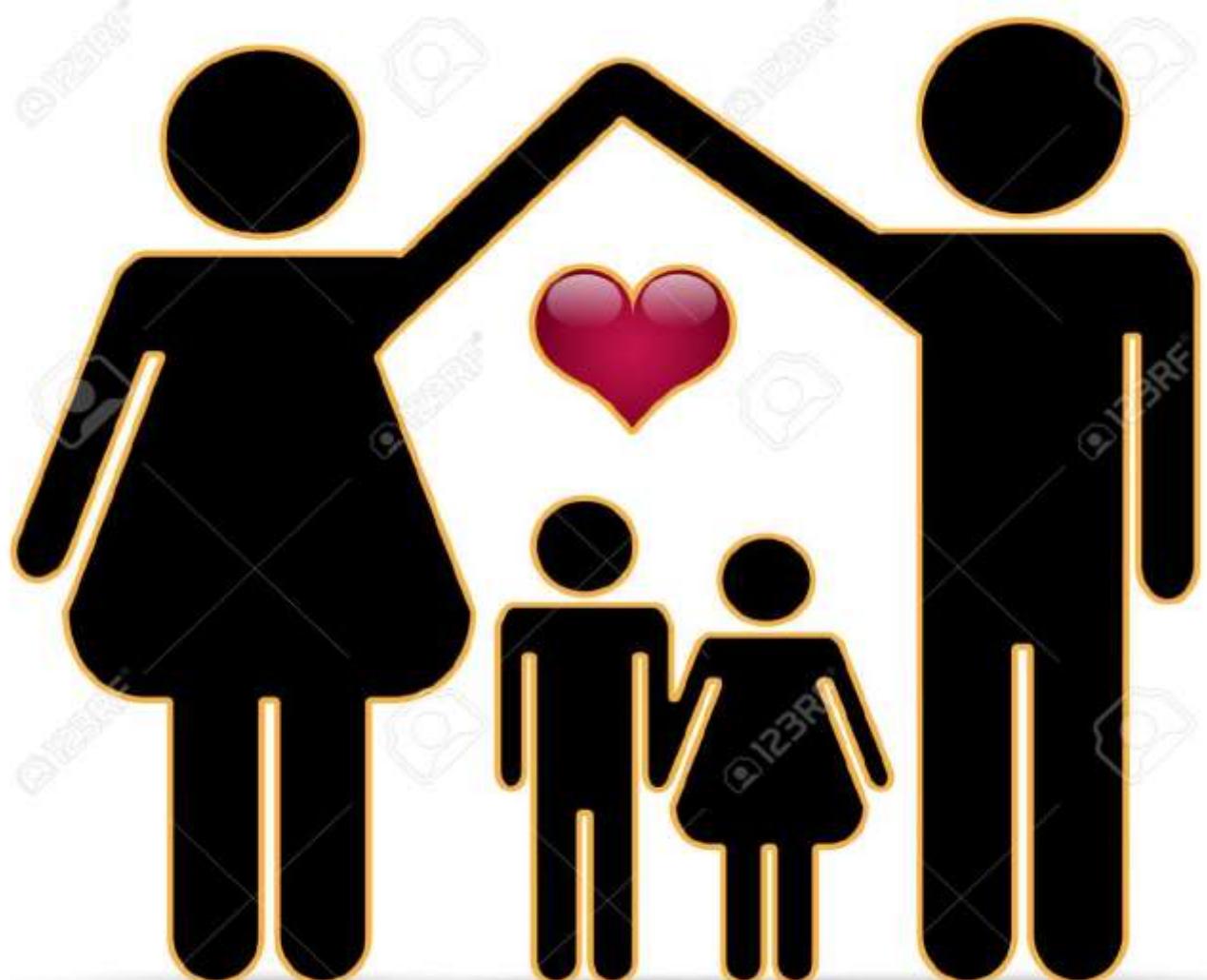
**September 22, 2019 .....****2:30PM.....White Cross Senior Choir Anniversary**  
Rev. Myraette McGibboney, Pastor

**October 5, 2019.....\$12....White Cross Carrie McAdoo Lay Organization Prayer Breakfast**  
4604 Lebanon Church Road, Efland, NC  
Rev. Myraette McGibboney, Pastor

# Mark Your Calendars For These Upcoming Events Around the Connection



- October 6, 2019 .....** Mt. Herman Revival  
3737 Mt. Herman Church Road, Glen Alpine, NC  
Rev. Mildred Conley, Pastor
- October 13, 2019 .....** **Little Rock** Revival  
5389 Daisy Place, Lenoir, NC  
Rev. Dr. Angela Walker, Pastor
- October 13, 2019 .....** **White Cross Lay Witness Day**  
Rev. Myraette McGibboney, Pastor  
Speaker: Bro. Kenneth Woods, Sr., SEDLO Chaplain
- October 13, 2019 .....8AM.....Mt. Zion Dr. James C. Johnson Lay Prayer Breakfast**  
5124 Hwy 86 North, Hillsborough, NC  
Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons, Pastor
- October 13, 2019 .....10AM.....Mt. Zion Lay Day**  
Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons, Pastor
- October 13, 2019 .....10AM.....Emmanuel Lay Witness Day**  
2018 Riddle Road, Durham, NC  
Rev. John Burton, Pastor  
Speaker: Sis. Mary Royster Harris, Macedonia~Milton, NC
- November 9, 2019 .....** **WNCCLO Lay and Clergy Institute**  
St. Matthew, 1136 Apple Street, Burlington, NC  
Rev. Dr. Patrice Fields, Pastor
- November 16, 2019 .....** **Starting at 5PM.....150th Anniversary Gala**  
St. Joseph's, Durham, NC ~ Rev. Dr. Jonathan Augustine, Pastor  
Sheraton Imperial Hotel ~ 4700 Emperor Blvd, I-40, Exit 282, Durham, NC  
Meet/Greet 5pm, Banquet 6pm, Gala 8pm ~ Admission \$50 ~ Attire "Semi -Formal"  
Special Guests include Grammy Winning Artist Shirley Caesar and many more!
- May 5-9, 2020 .....** **128th Session of the WNC Annual Conference**  
Embassy Suites. Greensboro, NC
- May 28-30, 2020 .....** **2nd District Legacy Fest & Planning Meeting**  
Ebenezer— Fort Washington, MD
- May 31, 2020 .....** **Lay Organization Evangelism Sunday**
- July 8-20, 2020 .....** **AMEC 51<sup>st</sup> Quadrennial Session**  
Orlando, FL



# 1 Corinthians 13:13

WE NEED YOUR “CHURCH HISTORY”,  
AND “CHURCH EVENTS”

**BY SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>**

FOR PUBLICATION IN THE UPCOMING NEWSLETTER.

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Check out the website for previous issues of *The Lay Express*  
<http://wncclay.org/>