



THE LAY EXPRESS



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

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

"Laity walking humbly with God to do justice and to love kindness"

Micah 6:8 (ESV)

VOLUME VI

APRIL 2020

ISSUE 4

Our country is functionally in quarantine. Only grocery stores and pharmacies remain open and there are limits on how many can be inside. Other stores, restaurants and delivery services have shut down. Not everyone can afford to respond by stocking up on necessities. For many people living on the margins, the virus has already disrupted paychecks and livelihoods, and more disruptions are coming. But if you can afford to make some purchases now that will make the outbreak easier to weather, you will be helping to protect your fellow citizens who cannot. If you bought up all the toilet paper, hand sanitizer and Lysol be sure to share with the community members who could not afford to do so. Remember these things can't be purchased with EBT. Don't forget the homeless population. Just as they need food and shelter they also need these items. Regardless if you're on the left or right side, it's only the right thing to do. NOW is the time for the commUNITY to look out for ALL! We are the one to make it a better world for ALL!

From
the desk
of

Penny S. Oliver, President



If your neighbor has contracted coronavirus and needs your help to get medical attention, help him or her. We Christians show God has loved us by loving other people. The Good Samaritan went to great lengths to save the half-dead man on the side of the road. He is properly understood as a picture of Jesus, who gave his life to save you. Greater love has no man than this.

So where does concern end, you may ask? It ends at the point of worry. When Jesus instructed his disciples not to worry, he referred to them as having "little faith." It takes no faith to worry. As indicated above, we Christians often fail our Lord by looking too much like the rest of the world.

Touching is a dangerous act with the fear of Coronavirus -- but a touch from Jesus would heal any disease. And wherever He went--villages and towns and country sides--they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged Him to let them just touch the fringe of His cloak. And all who touched Him were healed. [Mark 6:56](#). How many of you remember Michael Jackson's song, *We are the World*? It speaks truth to today!

There comes a time when we heed a certain call, When the world must come together as one, There are people dying, And it's time to lend a hand to life, The greatest gift of all

We can't go on pretending day by day, That someone somewhere will soon make a change, We're all a part of God's great big family, And the truth, you know, Love is all we need

Send them your heart so they'll know that someone cares, And their lives will be stronger and free, As God has shown us by turning stone to bread, And so we all must lend a helping hand. When you're down. and out, There seems no hope at all. But if you just believe, There's no way we can fall Well, well, well, Let's realize that a change can only come, When we stand together as one

We are the world, We are the children, We are the ones who make a brighter day, So, let's start giving, There's a choice we're making, We're saving our own lives, It's true we'll make a better day, Just you and me

Thank you for your willingness to serve!



APPOINTMENT OF BRO. MA MAKITI AS PRESIDENT OF THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION (CLO)

Following the passing of the beloved Connectional Lay Organization President, Sis Valerie Gary – Bell in February 2020, Bishop E. Earl McCloud in his capacity as the Connectional Lay Organization Commission Chair, invoked Article VII, Section 6 of the CLO Constitution and By Laws, under the heading – Vacancy in the Office of the President and / or Vice President, which states: “

If a vacancy occurs in the office of President due to death, resignation, disability or temporary inability or other cause, the First Vice President shall immediately assume the office of President, for the unexpired term of office; the second vice-president shall ascend to the office of first vice-president, and the third vice-president becomes second vice president, leaving the vacancy to be filled in the office of the lowest ranking vice-president. The president shall, with the confirmation of the Executive Board appoint an active member, possessing qualifications for the office of the third vice president, to fill the vacancy if the remainder of the term is less than two (2) years. A majority vote by the Executive Board shall determine the result. If the remainder of the term of office is greater than two (2) years, a special election shall be held by the Executive Board within forty-five (45) days, of the vacancy date, to fill this position. The Letter of Intent shall be sent to the person who last served as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee by each person who wishes to be a candidate for the office of third vice president. All voting shall be by secret ballot (electronic or paper). Any person appointed &/or elected to fill an unexpired term of President shall subsequently be eligible to be elected to two (2) full four (4) year terms in accordance with this constitution and bylaws”.

To this end, Bro Matikane A (“Abe”) Makiti who was the CLO 1st Vice President assumed the office of President for the unexpired term of office. Bro Simon R. Letsoko - affectionately known as “City” who was the CLO 2nd Vice President now ascended to the office of 1st Vice President, while the dynamic Sis Starr Battle, became the 2nd Vice President, after having served as the CLO 3rd Vice President.

The position of 3rd Vice President became vacant and was filled at a meeting of the CLO Executive Board, which was held on Saturday, 7 March 2020. The CLO Executive Boards members were requested to make recommendations of suitably qualified persons to fill the position of the 3rd Vice President.

Over and above the qualifications as per the CLO Constitution and By – Laws, a special provision was made that the candidate should come from Episcopal Districts 1 – 13 and be female. This requirement was to ensure gender sensitivity and equitable representation of the Episcopal Districts.

From the recommended names of candidates; and after having confirmed with the Executive Board, President Matikane Makiti, appointed Sis Lovie Aaron from the 12th Episcopal District, as the 3rd Vice President, who was voted in by all members of the Executive Board.

We congratulate the new CLO Presidency and pray for God's guidance on these Brethren, “as they walk this Christian journey” to execute their respective responsibilities in pursuance of the overall mandate of the Connectional Lay Organization.



WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION
OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



March 29, 2020

Blessings my Sisters and Brothers in Christ!

As you are aware, we are amid a pandemic that has caused a season of caution and concern. We are in a national emergency as a result of the outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019. The COVID-19 has caused the rescheduling of all annual conferences in the 2nd Episcopal District.

The WNCC-LO 2020 April meeting is postponed because of the COVID-19. I am asking that we demonstrate what Scripture teaches us, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

My faith remains strong that God's steadfastness will bring us through. I believe that the same God who redeemed, delivered, and healed before will continue to do so for us today. Stay encouraged in the One who is still in control and has provided a way for us to be whole. Follow the necessary precautions to be safe and healthy.

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

Sincerely,

Penny S. Oliver

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE
LAY ORGANIZATION



Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, September 12, 2020 @ 10:00 a.m.

WNCC-LO is accepting bids for our annual Prayer Breakfast. All bids must be submitted before April 4, 2020. For consideration, event spaces must seat comfortably at least 250 people.

**CONTRACT PROPOSAL
 PRAYER BREAKFAST COMMITTEE
 WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA 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
 Email: jconlevk70@gmail.com (cell: 828-403-1762)

WNCCLO President: Penny Oliver Phone # (cell) 336-348-3259
 Email: penny.oliver52@yahoo.com

Date of function: September 12, 2020 **Location of Function:** _____
Starting time of Function: 10:00 a.m.
Approximate Number of Guests: 250
Total Cost:

Amount of Deposit: **Date Deposit Paid:**

- Menu:**
- Meats
 - Pastry/Bread
 - Drink(s)

Program Specifications:

The host president is responsible for the printing of the WNCCL 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 SIGNATURE _____ **Date:** _____

WNCCLO PRAYER BREAKFAST CHAIRPERSON/PRESIDENT

SIGNATURE _____ **Date** _____

**** GETTING PREPARED TO WORK ****



Connectional Lay Organization

Evangelism Sunday

Sunday, May 31, 2020

*We are in our **Evangelism Season**, this is a great time to evangelize. Simply tell others about Jesus! **Local Presidents** please let us know what your church is doing to bring others to Christ.*

Please send pictures to President Penny Oliver and/or 3rd Vice President Barbara Myers.

**The church
has left
the building.**



***Penny.oliver52@yahoo.com
babsgurls@gmail.com***

Theme: G.R.O.W.

Give Radical Outreach Work

Acts 2:38—Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

RESCHEDULING

DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED



The 128th Session of the Western North Carolina Conference

Tuesday – Saturday, May 5 – May 9, 2020

A purple banner with white and gold text. On the left, it says "2ND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT" and "AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH". In the center is a shield with "AME 2nd" and "2nd Episcopal District" on a ribbon. On the right is a circular portrait of James L. Davis and Arelis B. Davis, with text identifying them as "James L. Davis, Servant Bishop" and "Arelis B. Davis, WMS Supervisor". The word "LEGACY" is written in large, bold, white letters, and "Celebration" is written in a white cursive font below it. At the bottom left, it says "I WILL POUR OUT MY SPIRIT ON ALL PEOPLE..." Acts 2:17.

A gold shield-shaped logo. At the top, it says "FROM LEGACY TO MISSION: A CALL TO PROPHETIC, EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT". Below that, a purple banner reads "AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 51ST QUADRENNIAL SESSION". Underneath the banner, it says "JULY 8-15, 2020" and "ORLANDO, FL". The bottom of the shield features a white cross, a green laurel wreath, and a black anvil.



DR. JEFFERY COOPER
AME GENERAL SECRETARY

Dear Members:

*Please find below a statement from Bishop Harry L. Seawright, President,
Council of Bishops, African Methodist Episcopal Church:*



Council of Bishops
African Methodist Episcopal Church

March 31, 2020

To The Connectional Church:

In light of the uncertainty around the spread and management of the novel coronavirus pandemic, Covid-19, the leadership of the African Methodist Episcopal Church has rightly placed the health and well-being of our members as the fundamental priority. Thus, it has been determined that it is wise and prudent to reschedule the 51st General Conference. The results of a series of conversations with officials in Orange County and the Convention Center, and several meetings with the Bishops, and the most recent meeting of the General Conference Commission, a decision has been made to postpone the General Conference. We are currently considering alternative dates in collaboration with the Convention Center and Officials in Orange County/Orlando that will also include dates in 2021. A date certain will be announced within the next few weeks — when all hotel and Convention Center negotiations are complete.

Worldwide, COVID-19 has infected more than 800,000 confirmed cases and finding new victims to assault every day. As of this writing, more than 39,000 people have died. The necrology is growing exponentially daily. Florida is now listed as a “hotspot” with more than 5,000 confirmed cases. By Executive Order, Orange County Mayor, Jerry Demings, has issued a “stay-at-home” order.

Our utmost concern is for the safety and health of the AMEC family as we would potentially gather for our quadrennial meeting, as well as an overarching concern for public health around the globe, especially as it pertains to the novel coronavirus. We are committed to following the policies mandated by official government agencies, and the protocols of best practices to flatten the curve of new cases determined by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Concerning our General Conference, all manner of possibilities are being considered.. Also being considered is the economic impact that a shortened General Conference Program might have as a long-term benefit to the denomination, for the local church, and for delegates, alternates and observers attending the Conference. All considerations, however, must include the full participation of Districts 14 — 20.

Please pray for the health of the world, the nations, and the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Right Reverend Harry L. Seawright
President
Council of Bishops

Peace,

Jeffery Cooper

General Secretary/CIO

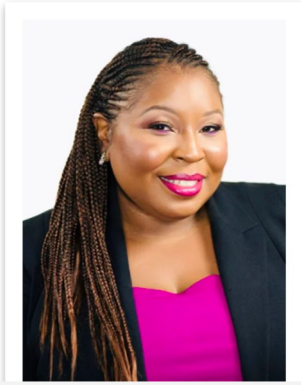
African Methodist Episcopal Church



P.O. Box 331028 - 1720 Scovel Street - Nashville, TN 37208

Office: 615-254-0911 - Fax: 615-254-0912 - cio@ame-church.com

March 12, 2020 (email)



The Rev. Leslye Dwight
Courtesy photo

Good Morning Everyone:

Census 2020 went live at midnight! The 2nd District Commission on Social Action has been working really hard to raise awareness about Census 2020. We now need the help of pastors and laity to engage around completing the Census. We want to prevent the undercount of the est. 800,000 Black people that occurred in the last census count.

To Complete Census 2020 online:

- 1) Log on to my2020census.gov
- 2) Select "Start Questionnaire"
- 3) Enter their Census ID (found on their mailer) or click "I do not have a Census ID" to move forward with the questionnaire
- 4) Answer all the questions until you get to the Confirmation page!

It takes less than 5 minutes to complete it. Thank you in advance for your assistance on helping us advance this initiative to get our people counted.

Blessings,
Rev. Leslye Dwight
Minister of Social Justice
Community of Hope AME Church
Maryland



DR. JEFFERY COOPER
AME GENERAL SECRETARY

March 28, 2020 (email)

"Our Response is Required By Law", according to the US Census Bureau

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau conducts census to count every resident in the United States. The 2020 Census determines for the NEXT 10 years...

- Our Representation
- Our Resources
- AND, Our Rights! Such as, the \$2.2 TRILLION COVID Stimulus package



Laitiy Teaching Moment



This year, 2020 is the year that the Second Episcopal District holds the Lay Convention. As it is with other activities of our Church, it is uncertain as of now the date for the convention.

The Constitution and By-Laws of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization states who is eligible to attend and serve as delegate to the Lay Convention. Constitution and By-Laws, revised, September 23, 2018 and adopted September 28, 2018.

Article IV- Membership (pages 4 – 5) is the place we need to reference to determine who is eligible to go to the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention to serve as a member of the delegation for the Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization.

Section 4. The membership of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization, for the purposes of conducting its business including the SED Lay Convention, shall be composed of:

All elected officers of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization.

All persons holding the designation and/or office of President Emeritus.

All persons holding an office in the Connectional Lay Organization.

All Presidents, Directors of Lay Activities, Young Adult Representatives of Annual Conference Organization.

Six (6) elected delegates from each Annual Conference Lay Organization, at least (1) one of whom shall be a young adult, ages 18-35.

Each president or a duly elected representative of each duly organized District Lay Organization of an Annual Conference

Each President and six (6) elected delegates, at least (1) one of whom shall be a young adult, age 18-35, of each organized Station Church, Mission or Circuit Lay Organization where there is a duly organized Lay Organization.

All members of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization must meet the requirements of members found in Article IV, section 1.

A special thank you to current Second Vice-President of the Connectional Lay Organization, Sister Starr Battle for sharing the current edition of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Constitution and By-Laws. Sister Starr served as the chair for the Constitution and By-Laws Revision Committee. Representatives from all conferences and the Young Adult Representative served on the committee with her to get the job done. Thank you one and all and our special thanks to our Sister Emma Devine, of the Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization. Brother Dwight Patterson served as our Second Episcopal District Lay Organization President during the time of the revised edition.

Jacqueline C. Kanipe

Director of Lay Activities

Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization



History of White Cross A.M.E. Church 4604 Lebanon Road Efland, NC 27243

White Cross African Methodist Episcopal Church, purchased 1 acre of land May 15, 1882 from James Edwards in Consideration of eight dollars. The Rev. Jobe Waddell was the pastor. The Trustees that signed the deed were Isaac Armstrong, George McAdoo, Louis Vincent, Lynch Tinnin, and Joseph Evans. Some of the first families to attend White Cross were, the George McAdoo Family, the Currie Family, the Alexander Faucette Family, the Shanklin Family, the Pettiford Family, the Joseph Evans Family, the Harper Allison Family, the Tinnin Family, the Tate Family, the McCulley Family, the Page Family, the Woods-Evans Family, the Fuller Family, the Terrell Family, the Crisp-Day-Holman-Warren Family. During the Eighteen Hundreds White Cross was part of the Mt. Zion AME and Payne Chapel AME Circuit both located in Hillsborough, NC. Worship Services was held every third Sunday and Board meetings were held the third Saturday. People would come to church by horseback, wagon, and foot to support White Cross.

Later on White Cross Purchased land from the Shanklin Family. The Church was rebuilt in April 1921, the Rev. G. S. Gant was the Pastor. According to the Records of the 1939 minutes of the Western North Carolina Conference there were four Districts in the Conference, they were the Raleigh District, the Morganton District, the Greensboro District, and the Durham District. White Cross was assigned to the Durham District on the Efland Circuit and Rev. David Williamson was the pastor. Other Churches on the Efland Circuit were Hunter's Chapel, Gaines Chapel and Harvey's Chapel. Services were held at Hunter's Chapel on the first Sunday, White Cross the second Sunday, Harvey's Chapel the third Sunday and Gaines Chapel the fourth Sunday.

This 138th Anniversary is dedicated to the founders and the faithful members who attended the 1939 Western North Carolina Annual Conference held in Raleigh, NC and paid their dollar money. They were William R. McAdoo, James Ellison, Esther Bradsher, Robert Fuller, Henry Fuller, Roberta Terrell, Helen Pettiford, Rodney Strayhorn, Hattie Day, Ethel Fuller, Sudie Thompson, Claudie Fuller, Frank Faucette, Agnes Green, Minnie Miles, John Arch Terrell, Allie Mae Terrell, Maggie Murdock, Wallace Evans, William Crisp, and Lizzie Woods.

The following Bishops presided the Western North Carolina Conference which White Cross became a member in the 1800's. The Right Reverends: Daniel A. Payne, 1882-1883, W.F. Dickerson 1884, H.M. Turner 1885-1886, J.P. Campbell 1887-1888, W. J. Gaines 1889, A.W. Wayman 1890, W.J. Gaines 1891-1895, J.A. Handy 1896-1899, B.F. Lee 1900-1903, W.J. Gaines 1904-1907, L.J. Coppin 1908-1915, J.A. Johnson 1916-1927, A.J. Gaines 1928-1930, W.H. Heard 1931, and M.H. Davis 1932-1939.

After 1939 these Bishops served the Western North Carolina Conference The Right Reverends: Henry W. Murph, J. Haskell Mayo, John Hurst Adams, Hamil H. Brookins, Frederick Calhoun James, Vinton R. Anderson, Adam J. Richardson, William P. DeVeaux, and James L. Davis Presently Serving.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF PASTORS WHO SERVED WHITE CROSS, THEY ARE NOT IN THE ORDER THEY SERVED HOWEVER RECORDS SHOW THEY PASTORED PRIOR TO 1950

The Reverends: Best; A.J. Corde; George Purnell; A.C. Crowell; J.N. Reeves; J.S. Chalmers; David Williamson; Richard Charlie Crutchfield; Roberson; H.L. Thomas; John Tate; Reddick; L.C. Steele; (served only one month became ill and died) T.M. Chrismond; P.O. Jones; G.S. Gant; Dixon; Walter Yates; Frank Morgan; Hunter; White; and Sherman Morgan.

THE FOLLOWING PASTORS SERVED WHITE CROSS AME FROM 1950 TO PRESENT

- Rev. Jessie C. Wright November 1950-November 1952
- Rev. Sidney Thompkins November 1952-November 1967
- Rev. Clyde Long November 1967-May 1981
- Rev. J.R. Bridges May 1981-May 1984
- Rev. John Burton May 1984-May 1987
- Rev. Ronald Knight June 1987-June 1992
- Rev. Milton Battle June 1992-June 2007
- Rev. Barbara J. Barbour June 2007- June 2013
- Rev. Lee Williamson June 2013-June 2015
- Rev. Myraette McGibboney June 2015-Present

IN THE 138 YEARS OF OUR HISTORY THE FOLLOWING SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF WHITE CROSS WERE CALLED INTO THE MINISTRY BY GOD

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rev. C.D. Faucette | Rev. Floyd Faucette | Rev. Ernest Day | Rev. John Terrell |
| Rev. Randolph Lynch | Rev. James Freeman | Rev. Ricky Villines | Rev. Tyrone Oldham |
| Rev. Cephus Bigelow | Rev. Corine Wilkins | Rev. Allen Warren | Rev. Kerry P. Rigsbee |
| Rev. Archie Evans | Rev. Argrow Warren | Rev. Donald Holman | Rev. Daisy Long |
| Rev. Bennie Crisp | Rev. Mable Rigsbee | Rev. Terry Holman | Rev. Dorothy Allison |
| Rev. Lewis Harrelson | Rev. Michael Warren | Rev. Lola Bigelow | |
| Rev. Walter Watlington | Rev. Frankie Watlington | Evangelist Loretta Clark | |

During th 1940's Rev. Sherman Morgan facilitated the purchase of the church first piano and Mrs. Mary Gor-dan was the first pianist at White Cross. Between the years of 1950 - 1952 Rev. Jesse Wright served as pastor, the Senior Choir was organized and Mr. Roy McAdoo is the only surviving member of the original Senior Choir. During this time Mrs. Daisy Gunn and Mrs. Elizabeth Bradsher served as ushers there was no organized usher board.

White Cross AME Church History ~ Continued

Rev. Sidney Thompkins was assigned pastor of White Cross in 1953 and he organized the usher board, Mrs. Agnes Green served as first president. Rev. Thompkins and the 73 members remodeled the church which was brick-veneered in November 1958, the floors were refinished, carpet was installed,, a choir loft, a choir room and pastors study was built.

August 2, 1966 the White Cross Community Cemetery was organized at the home of Mr. John E. Fuller. The Following persons served as officers: Mr. William T. McAdoo Chairman, Mr. John E. Fuller Co-Chairman, Mr. Henry Fuller Treasurer, Ms. Carrie McAdoo Secretary, and Mr. Walter McDade Assistant Secretary. In 1967 the Efland Circuit was split and the Cheeks Circuit was Created and Rev. Clyde Long Sr. was assigned to pastor White Cross and Hunter's Chapel. White Cross held services the second and fourth Sundays, Hunter's Chapel held services the first and third Sundays. The two churches rotated the filth Sundays.

This deed dated March 22, 1972 in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars, White Cross Purchased .55 acre of land from Ellis and Elizabeth Bradsher. Trustees who signed this Deed were John E. Fuller, Lindsay Fuller, Theodoro Terrell, Roy McAdoo, Levi Villines, Mamie Woods, Beulah McAdoo, William T. McAdoo, and Mildred Walker. During the 1970's we were able to build a fellowship building with rest rooms. The kitchen was furnished with appliances, china and silverware. Stained glass windows were installed in the Sanctuary, cushion pews were purchased. We were blessed and able to install heating and air conditioning units and a PA system all under the leadership of Rev. Clyde Long Sr. The improvements were made without financing. The White Cross usher board raised money for the pulpit set and offering plates under the leader the leadership of Rev. Thompkins. They were installed during the pastorate of Rev. Long. The Mother of the church, Mrs. Minnie Miles donated the Baptismal Font. White Cross Trustee Levi Villines Build the kitchen cabinets and the altar in the Sanctuary. They were dedicated by Rev. Phillip Cousin Sr. now retired Senior Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Rev. John R. Bridges was assigned to pastor White Cross in 1981 and served until 1984, under the leadership of Rev. Bridges the church purchased new carpet.

Rev. John Burton was appointed pastor of White Cross A.M.E. Church in !984. Under the leadership of Rev. Burton the church built and furnished the Educational Building consisting of four class rooms. The rooms were named in honor of Rev. John Burton, Rev. Donald Holman (former Sunday School Superintendent) and in memory of Mr. Allen Marrow and Mrs. Minnie Miles. The members of White Cross paid cash for this construction.

In May 1987 White Cross became a station church. Rev. Ronald Knight was assigned as our Pastor in June 1987. The first church van was purchased and a marquee was built. The male chorus was organized in 1991. The Crisp family donated to White Cross the first copier machine in memory of Mr. Burie Carl Crisp.

During the Second Episcopal District planning meeting, June 1992 in Richmond, Virginia, Rev. Milton Battle was appointed pastor of White Cross A.M.E. Church. In 2001 the J. W. Richmond family donated .50 acres of land to White Cross. Today White Cross occupies 3.32 acres of land including the cemetery. In 2002 plans were made to build the Pastor's office, rest rooms, conference room, and physically challenge ramp. This project was completed in 2003 under the leadership of Rev. Milton Battle. The new addition was dedicated January 25, 2003 by Bishop Vinton R. Anderson.

White Cross AME Church History ~ Continued

In June 2007 Rev. Barbara J. Barbour was assigned as our pastor, she is the first female to pastor our Zion. She was the first pastor to retire as pastor of White Cross. Under her leadership a van was purchased, new heating system installed, the sanctuary was painted, the roof and front steps repaired. We installed a new PA system (consisting 3 new speakers, 4 new mikes and controller).

Rev. Lee Williamson pastored White Cross from June 2013 until June 2015. Rev. Williamson retired in 2015 after pastoring distinguishly for over 30 years in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Rev. Myraette McGibboney was appointed pastor of White Cross in 2015. During her pastorate we have replaced the roof, and the outside doors. We have installed ceiling mikes in the choir loft and Rev. Walter Watlington donated a big screen TV to the church in memory of his wife Rev. Frankie Watlington.

THE MINITRIES OF WHITE CROSS AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Music Ministry (Senior Choir, Gospel Choir, Male Chorus and The Mass Choir) The Steward Board, Trustee Board, Betty Fuller Missionary Society, Usher Board, Carrie McAdoo Lay Organization, Sons of Allen, Sunday School Department, Christian Education Department, Health Department and Class Leaders

Our history reflects the descendance of our early founders and the Lord added the following families: Watlington, Yarbor, Harrelson, Moore.

"Building on our past, striving toward our future"

Jeremiah 31: 17



Mark Your CALENDAR

*Due to the uncertainty of the impact and spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, schools and businesses have closed their doors, reduced staff and hours, and/or allowed staff to work remotely. Churches are no different. Our churches are doing their part by working collectively and collaboratively on the social distancing initiative to keep members safe and as healthy as possible. To do so, churches are finding ways to continue Jesus' ministry along with the worship experience by using different methods. Unfortunately, how each church in the WNCC plans to move forward was not readily available to include in this edition of **The Lay Express**. Although we have been informed of a few local church event cancellations for April and May 2020, it was prudent to omit all local church event listings from the newsletter until further notice. Never fret! This section will return!*

"PUSH – Pray Until Something Happens"
"We are in this together"

Sister Angela E. Elam
Public Relations Director
WNCC Lay Organization

 Save These
DATES