



THE LAY EXPRESS

*"Laity walking humbly with God to do justice
and to love kindness"
Micah 6:8 (ESV)*



Second Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION

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



From
the desk
of

Penny S. Oliver, President

Clergy and Laity, thank you for your participation in Lay Witness Sunday. Lay Witness Sunday was an opportunity for us to Evangelize – working together to spread the gospel! The Great Commission, Matthew 28:19-20 states the purpose of the church. It takes us outside the four walls of the physical building to make disciples, whom we are to baptize and teach. The Great Commission is not a stay-at-home project. We do not catch fish unless we go to the water, and it is not beneficial to catch them only to throw them back in. The Bible tells us to GO and make disciples.

It is deeply satisfying to be used by God to help someone else. Evangelism is significant to the laity because we are taking an active part in eternal work, by sharing in the work of God himself, His work of redeeming from sin and saving from death.

Each of us needs other people. None of us are self-sufficient, though we may think we are. God spreads his gifts around so we have to work together for the common good. God wants his people to gather for regular fellowship, worship, discipleship and ministry. Evangelism is only the first step in the Great Commission. We need a family to teach, encourage, protect and help.

The Clergy and Lay Institute will move us a step further in Evangelism. Church During Unprecedented Times: Doing a New Thing in Christ Part 2 – “It’s time for a Check-Up”. “And you must put on the new self, which is created in God’s likeness and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy”. Ephesians 4:24.

From The Desk of The President, Continued

The committee has pulled together a platform for clergy and laity to collaborate together during these unprecedented times. We are all different and therefore we have different gifts. Some think that evangelism is the main thing; others think that discipleship is the priority; and still others think that fellowship is all that is needed for a healthy church. Some focus on music, some on youth, some on grace, and some on guidance. Some are physically unable to leave their homes, and prayer is their labor of love.

All such people (clergy and laity) must learn to work together. Being together is a learning experience in itself—we learn to love not by being surrounded by people easy to love, but by sometimes being with people who are hard to love—people who are different from us. God puts us together for our own good, and we do his work better when we work together. The church grows “as each part does its work.” Online registration is open <https://form.jotform.com/212777723020047>.

Thank you for your willingness to serve! We are in this TOGETHER!

Share The Good News!!





November, 2021

Greetings Laity!

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

As we begin a new calendar year, it is time for us to collect 2022 conference lay dues.

Per the Discipline all AME churches are to have an Organized Lay Organization. Membership dues are \$6.00 a person, for each conference year. Lay membership runs from January to January. Make the check payable to WNCC-LO, and mail the check and membership names to Treasurer, Woodrow Winchester, 912 Fairgreen Rd., Greensboro, NC 27410. Also, please add your membership on-line utilizing this link— <https://form.jotform.com/210155653545049>.

NOTE: You cannot pay on-line! We highly encourage you to add membership names on-line and send the names, along with the check to Woodrow Winchester.

This is an election year for WNCC-LO Offices and for Delegates/Alternates to the SED-LO Lay Convention. We are requesting local lay presidents to complete lay membership on-line, for election of Delegates on or before February 27, 2022 and for the election of Offices on or before March 9, 2022

Laity, as I have stated many, many times, before, we need you. We need your vision, your courage, your good common sense, your creativity, your humor and your honesty. We need you, because without you we will not be complete. We will not be able to finish the great work that we have been given to do - the work of peace, of healing, of reconciliation, renewal, study, worship, fellowship and service at the local, conference, district and connectional levels. Our aim is to be Christ-centered and to strengthen the church. Our concern is for the total church and to maintain a happy working relationship between the pastor and lay.

Let's get in "good trouble". There are not as many of us as you might imagine, and the task is monumental. So, we need you to join the Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization. So together, stand with the WNCC-LO and lift your voice with us and let us proclaim that we need one another, without exception. And as we do, let's bring many more people with us into the kingdom of Christ! Be safe! Remember to follow the three W's. Wear (a mask). Wait (6 feet apart). Wash (hands frequently) and get the Vaccine!

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

Penny Oliver, WNCC-LO President

Jackie Kanipe, WNCC-LO Director of Lay Activities

Mary Royster-Harris, WNCC-LO Young Adult Representative

**Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization
 Bro. Matthew Douglas, SEDLO President
 Penny Oliver, WNCCLO President**

2021 Lay Witness Sunday Church Schedules

CHURCH	PASTOR	LAY PRESIDENT	DATE/TIME PROGRAM	SPEAKER
Allen Chapel AMEC Laurinburg, NC	Rev. Torrey DeKine	Sis. Jacole Woods	10/10 @ 10:00 AM	Sis. Brenda Taylor, Beulah AMEC, Farmville, VA
Bethel AMEC Greensboro, NC	Rev. Dr. Clay Barrow	Bro. Dale Wragg	10/10 @ 9:30 AM	Dr. Margaret Kanipes Spinks
Gaines Chapel AMEC Efland, NC	Rev. Sherri L. Gibbs	Ms. Joyce Cobb	10/10 @ 11:00 AM	Sis. Maggie Loftin
Gaston Chapel AMEC Morganton, NC	Rev. Shelton Miles	Sis. Barbara Myers	10/10 @ 11:00 AM (Zoom -783-849-0239, code 024123 & Facebook)	Bro. Woodrow Winchester, WNCCLO Treasurer
Greater Bethel AMEC Charlotte, NC	Rev. Dr. Abdue L. Knox	Ms. Charmayne Morrison	10/10 @ 10:00 AM	Congresswoman Alma Adams
Johnson Chapel AMEC Mebane, NC	Rev. Dr. Conrad K. Pridgen, PE, Interim Pastor	Sis. Margie Holt Alston	10/10 @ 10:30 AM (on-site & Zoom)	Sis. Mary Royster-Harris, WNCCLO Young Adult Representative

CHURCH	PASTOR	LAY PRESIDENT	DATE/TIME PROGRAM	SPEAKER
Macedonia AMEC Milton, NC	Rev. Kelvin Royster	Sis. Joan Brandon	10/10 @ 11:00 AM	Bro. James Totten
McElrath AMEC Morganton, NC	Rev. Milton O. Battle	Bro. Preston Thomas	10/10 @ 11:00 AM	Sis. Jamesha Williams, Connectional Lay Organization Young Adult Representative
Mt. Bethel Mitchel Chapel AMEC	Rev. Keith Battle	Ms. Olivia Banner	10/10 @ 10:00 AM	Ms. Penny Oliver, WNCCLLO President
Mt. Zion AMEC Hillsborough, NC	Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons	Sis. Danita Thompson	10/10 @ 10:00 AM	Sis. Sonia Barbre, WNCCLLO Western District Coordinator
Payne's Chapel AMEC Hillsborough, NC	Rev. Allen Terrell	Sis. Hazeline Brooks	10/10 @ 10:30 AM	Sis. Virginia Townsend & Sis. Carolyn Wade
Pearson Memorial AMEC High Point, NC	Rev. Dwayne Alston	Sis. Anna Marie Mackey	10/10 @ 11:00 AM (1-425-436-6200) code 778979#	Sis. Katrina Cheeks
Persimmon Grove AMEC Greensboro, NC	Rev. Debora Lawson-Smith	Sis. Stephanie Wilson	10/10 @ 11:00 AM	Exhorter Spencer Wilson, Jr.
Popular Springs AMEC Sanford, NC	Rev. Sandra B. Hunter	Sis. Lydia Baldwin	10/10 @ 11:00 AM	Sis. Mary Davis
Rock Creek AMEC Snow Camp, NC	Rev. Archie T. Evans	Bro. Andy Patterson	10/10 @ 11:00 AM	Sis. Betty Garner
Saint James AMEC - Raleigh, NC	Rev. Phyllis T. Royal	Sis. Gloria Pierce	10/10 @ 10:00 AM (Church parking lot)	Bro. Howard Manning, Steward

CHURCH	PASTOR	LAY PRESIDENT	DATE/TIME PROGRAM	SPEAKER
St. James AMEC Winston-Salem, NC	Rev. R. Phillip Lynch	Bro. Byron L. Barbre	10/10 @ 10:00 AM	Sis. Marilyn Collins Smith
St. John AME Church Gibsonville, NC	Rev. Dr. Byron J. Grayson, Sr.	Sis. Teresa M. Parker	10/13 @ 11:00 AM	Sis. Teresa M. Parker
St. Paul AMEC Lenoir, NC	Rev. Kim Moss	Sis. Barbara R. Smith	10/10 @ 11:00 AM	Sis. Beverly Hester-Stephens
St. Paul AMEC Raleigh, NC	Rev. Robert L. Hodges, Sr.	Sis. Carol Davenport	10/10 @ 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM	Ms. Penny Oliver, WNCCLO President
Union Bethel AMEC Cary, NC	Rev. Gwendolyn M. Wise- Blackman		10/10 @ 10:30 AM	Bro. Reginald Blackman
Willow Tree AMEC Morganton, NC	Rev. Anthony Radcliff	Sis. Mary Mathies	10/24 @ 11:00 AM (church parking lot)	Presiding Elder Rev. Anita Thompson, Eastern District
Zion Campbell AMEC Laurinburg, NC	Rev. David Montgomery	Bro. Andra McNeill	10/10 @ 11:00 AM	Bro. Andra McNeill



13
NOV
10 AM

**“Church During Unprecedented Times:
Doing a New Thing in Christ Part 2.
It’s Time for a Check-Up!”**



Ephesians 4:24 - "And you must put on the new self, which is created in God's likeness & reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy"

2021 Virtual Clergy & Lay Institute

Discussion Topics

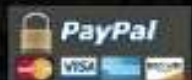
- *Who are we as Christians? and Who are we as A.M.E's?*
(Facilitators: Sister Starr Battle and Rev. Dr. Michael Cousin, Pastor of St. Paul A.M.E. Church-Chapel Hill)
- *The Bible and the Doctrine and Discipline of the A.M.E. Church *Questions and Answers Session**
(Facilitators: Presiding Elders-Rev. Dr. Conrad K. Pridgen, Western District; and Rev. Anita Thompson, Eastern District)
- *"Let's Work Together – Building Ministries"*
(Facilitator: Dr. Gwendolyn Wise-Blackman, Clergy and Brother Reggie Blackman, Layman)

Please email questions for the Presiding Elders to wncclayorganization@gmail.com on or before October 30th.

Online Registration \$10 *OPEN NOW*

Registration Link: <https://form.jotform.com/212777723020047>

For Additional Information, Contact Jackie Kanipe / jconleyk70@gmail.com / (828) 433-8424



Penny Oliver, WNCC Lay President, Jackie Kanipe, WNCC Director of Lay Activities
Mary Royster Harris, WNCC Lay Young Adult Representative

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION

It is Election Year for the WNCCLO!

The Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization election will take place Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. **for the offices of the Lay Organization**

**Host Church: Bethel AMEC 200
North Regan St.
Greensboro, North Carolina**

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

Mail the *Letter of Intent* with the signature of the Local Church President to the nominating committee chair. The certified letter must be postmarked or received by the chair of the Nominating Committee no later than March 9, 2022 (1 month) prior to the convening of the Conference Meeting, April 10, 2022.

2021 Nominating Committee:

Sis. Jackie Kanipe

Sis. Shontea Smith

Bro. John Smith

Bro. Dale Wragg

**Sis. Gertrude Upperman: Chairperson Email- gjupper@aol.com
4509 Harvard Ave, Greensboro, N. C. 27407 Cell 336-337-5495**

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

Sister Penny Oliver,
President WNCC-LO

Sis. Gertrude Upperman
Chairperson of 2021 Nominating Committee

Penny S. Oliver, President

Betty Parker., 1st Vice President

Diane Foy, Recording Secretary

Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization

2022 Election Year

LETTER OF INTENT

NAME: _____ I
am a paid member in good and regular standing at: (see Article IV – Membership)

Name of Church: _____

I have attended at least (4) four Conference meetings of WNCC Lay Organization in the past
(2) years: **Yes** ___ **NO** ___

1. ___ I am presently serving as the _____
of the WNCC-LO.
2. ___ I plan to seek the same office in the upcoming election in 2022. I have served in this
position for ___ years beginning in _____. According to the Constitution and By-Laws, I
cannot serve more than (8) eight Years.
3. ___ I do not plan to seek re-election to the position I have held.
4. ___ I wish to have my name placed in nomination for the position of:

Please complete the following information if you plan to seek an elective office.

Listed below are my qualifications for this position that responds to the requirements in the
WNCCLO Constitutions and By-Laws. (see the Constitution and By-Laws @ www.wncclay.org that
list the requirements and qualifications for your elected office). Feel free to attach another sheet of
paper, if needed, for more space.

Nominee Signature

Date

Print Nominee Name

Local Church President Signature

Date

Mail Letter of Intent to:
Gertrude Upperman Or Email to gjupper@aol.com

The attached is a “Letter of Intent” form for Lay persons desiring to represent the Western North Conference Lay Organization as delegates/alternate to the **Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention. SEDLO Convention is scheduled for September 2022.** The AME Church and the SEDLO are trying to decide the best avenue to handle the Convention, in person, virtual, or hybrid. Please read the “Letter of Intent” form and follow all of the instructions, and adhering to the deadline date.

Please feel free to duplicate the form.

Our election will be held at the **March 12, 2022 meeting at 10:00 am.**

GUIDELINES FOR ELECTING DELEGATES TO THE SEDLO CONVENTION

Election of delegates to SEDLO Lay Convention for WNCC Lay Organization per Constitution and By-laws

To be elected as a Delegate or Alternate or District Delegate from the WNCC Lay Organization to the SEDLO Lay Convention are as follows:

- All elected delegates must be a member in good and regular standing in their local church lay (attends ½ of their local lay organization’s meetings and pays required dues as set by the local lay organization).
 - Must have attended at least ½ of the official established meetings for the WNCC Lay and membership dues must be received by February 28, 2022 (Monday) to the Treasurer, Woodward Winchester.
 - Nominations for delegates/alternate will come from Letter of Intent of Delegates/Alternate to SEDLO Lay Convention received by February 27, (Sunday) 2022.

- There will be three (3) separate elections
 - Election for delegates for the SEDLO Lay Convention
 - Elect 6 adults, at least one (1) young adult (age 18-35)

Note: The WNCC-LO will therefore elect a total of eleven (11 (including one alternate and one district delegate)) to the SEDLO Convention.

- President, DOLA and YAR attend the Lay Convention by virtue of their office.

- Alternate Delegate: Election of one (1) alternate delegate for the SEDLO convention. (your President, DOLA and YAR are excluded as an alternate).
- District Delegate: Election of one (1) district delegate for the SEDLO convention. (your President, DOLA and YAR are excluded as an alternate).

Ballot:

- Secretary will prepare an electronic ballot based on Letter of Intent received names.
- B. Credential Representative-Shontea Smith
Sis. Shontea Smith will have reviewed the records on the said nominees from 3/2020 – 1/2022 to make sure all nominees have attended at least ½ of the **WNCC** lay meetings.

Note: If you do not have a local Church Lay organization but paid your membership dues to the Conference Membership Chair and have attended at least ½ of the conference lay meetings, you are eligible to vote and or run for delegate to the Lay Convention.

Mail Form To: Chairperson, Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee:
Shontea Smith
Florence Avery
Bobbi Hague, Chairperson

Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization

2022 SEDLO Convention

LETTER OF INTENT

NAME: _____

I am a paid member in good and regular standing at: (see Article IV – Membership)

Name of Church: _____

I have attended at least (4) four Conference meetings of WNCC Lay Organization in the past (2) years: **Yes** ___ **NO** ___

1. ___ I plan to run as a **DELEGATE** to SEDLO Convention
2. ___ I plan to run as a **YOUNG ADULT DELEGATE** (18-35) to SEDLO Convention.
3. ___ I plan to run as an **ALTERNATE** to SEDLO Convention
4. ___ I plan to run as a **DISTRICT DELEGATE** to CLO Biennial Lay Convention.

Nominee Signature **Date**

Print Nominee Name

Local Church President Signature **Date**

NOTE: Letter of Intent Form Must be Received or Postmarked No Later Than February 26, 2022

Mail Form To: Bobbi Hague - Chairperson, Nominating Committee
PO Box 1013 – Kannapolis, NC 28082
EMAIL: so-b-it1@hotmail.com

Nominating Committee:
Shontea Smith
Flo Avery
Bobbi Hague, Chairperson



DR. JEFFERY COOPER
AME GENERAL SECRETARY

Dear Members:

Please find below a statement from the African Methodist Episcopal Church Council of Bishops:



**Council of Bishops
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

October 7, 2021

Dear Members of AME Church:

The Department of Retirement Services has reported a material loss in the value of one or more of its departmental investments. A comprehensive audit and review of the Department, the subject investments and the fiduciaries overseeing the retirement funds and other accounts is underway. The review is being conducted by an independent law firm and accounting firm. A report with detailed findings has been requested and will be made available publicly upon its receipt.

The independent report will indicate whether the subject investment had any impact to retirement funds. The Department has advised that all life insurance coverage provided to participants has not been affected by the value of the departmental investments, which are outside the life insurance program. As a result, life insurance beneficiaries will receive the full value of any valid policy claim. Pending the receipt of the report and findings the Department will hold all new deposits in a standard checking "sweep account" only.

Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield
President Council of Bishops of the AME Church
Bishop Adam J. Richardson, *Senior Bishop*
Bishop Ronnie E. Brailsford, *Secretary*

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Jeffery B. Cooper

General Secretary/CIO

African Methodist Episcopal Church

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

Office: 615-254-0811 - Fax: 615-254-0812 - cio@ame-church.com

We, the people of the AME Church...

(Courtesy of: The Christian Recorder) <https://www.thechristianrecorder.com/we-the-people-of-the-ame-church/>



We, the people of the AME Church...

By John Thomas III, Editor

Over the last nineteen months, I have attended multiple annual conference and planning meetings across the connectional church in addition to the 2021 General Conference. Seeing and hearing the reports of ministry at the different levels of the denomination is enlightening. Even during the pandemic, mortgages have been retired, buildings have been constructed, ministries have been expanded, and souls have been saved. Yet, as I've listened to the statistics and watched videos, I ask the question, "Where are the people?"

Behind the glowing statistics and slick video presentations are the faithful people of God who have chosen to serve in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. It is the tithes and offerings of the congregation that retire mortgages and fund new construction. It is the paid and volunteer labor of members that undergird and expand the local church's ministries. Yet, the voice and views of the people are sometimes absent when we

speak about the church. One of the side-effects of virtual annual conferences is that the local church's elected delegate is seldom seen and heard. The elected representative of the local church is rendered invisible.

Every grand design of a church leader from the largest episcopal district to the smallest congregation rests upon the loyalty and participation of the local church. For example, as we navigate the current challenges facing the Department of Retirement Services, I have heard clergy bluntly comment, "That's a preacher issue." Yet, laypersons (such as myself and other church employees) are active participants. Furthermore, the contributions to the plan as well as any restitution that may need to be paid will ultimately come from the people in our pews. In our episcopal form of government, we believe in the leadership of Bishops. In our Methodist polity, however, the laypeople of a church have a say in the governance of the denomination at all levels. The people in our pews made the AME Church what it is today—and we cannot assume that the people will always be there.

As the character of Christianity changes in the United States, the AME Church leadership must confront the fact that the people in our pews are there by choice—and can leave by choice. In its 2021 survey, "[Faith among Black Americans](#)," Pew Research found that the most important factor in church affiliation is the quality of the sermon across all age groups. The research also notes that denominational affiliation was more important to older members than younger age members. We see these empirical findings replicated in fact across our local churches where older "die-hards" have stayed while younger members who might have grown up in the Young Peoples Division (YPD) migrate to other churches upon adulthood as their spiritual needs change. A bishop cannot send whomever to a church and expect that the people will stay simply because of loyalty to the brand. More than one "major house" has been emptied because of an ill-suited pastoral appointment. Once the damage is done, it is difficult to repair.

The people from Districts 14-20 have special grievances that need to be heard. One sees younger generations questioning the relevancy of the AME Church in their local context. The impact of the 2021 General Conference on areas outside the United States continues to be felt. The feeling of being willfully disenfranchised and muted has left a bitter taste in the mouths of many—even with the election of an African woman to the church's Judicial Council. Older generations viewed an attachment to the "mother" AME Church in the United States as a symbol of pride and a beacon of hope. The younger clergy and lay leaders taking their places are more willing to voice their discontent with neocolonialism, poor episcopal oversight, and the lack of relevant training resources. We ignore these voices at our peril if we want the Connectional Church to survive.

The AME Church is composed of faithful disciples who have chosen to worship God in this space. As a denomination, we have accomplished much to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and preach liberation for all of God's people throughout the world. While it is right to honor those who have been elected and assigned to positions of leadership within our denomination, the voices of the people are paramount. We, the people of the AME Church, demand that we be respected and be heard!

AME FACTS EVERY CHURCH MEMBER SHOULD KNOW

CONNECTIONAL DEPARTMENTS AND COMMISSIONS

The African Methodist Episcopal Church has seven Connectional Departments, nine Connectional Commissions and fourteen General Board Commissions to address the needs of the life of the Church as we answer the call to make a difference. They are:

CONNECTIONAL DEPARTMENTS - Publications, Global Witness and Ministry, Church Growth and Development, Retirement Services, Research and Scholarship, Christian Education, and Finance and Statistics.

CONNECTIONAL COMMISSIONS - Health, Women in Ministry, Social Action, Christian Debutante-Master (CDMC), Chaplains, Ministry and Recruitment, Financial Management Program, Global Development, and Seminaries, Universities, Colleges and Schools (Higher Learning).

GENERAL BOARD COMMISSIONS - Statistics and Finance, Retirement Services, Publications, Social Action, Church Growth and Development, Global Witness and Ministry, Lay Organization, Seminaries, Universities, Colleges and Schools, Christian Education, Women in Ministry, Health, Ministry and Recruitment, Global Development and Economic Development.

THE AME CHURCH MOTTO

At the 2008 General Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, an inclusive motto was adopted and now declares: *"GOD OUR FATHER, CHRIST OUR REDEEMER, THE HOLY SPIRIT OUR COMFORTER, HUMANKIND OUR FAMILY"*. The evolution of our motto demonstrates that African Methodists engage in ongoing assessments of our theology and how God speaks to us in changing circumstances. This updated motto was derived from Bishop Daniel Alexander Payne's original motto *"God our Father, Christ our Redeemer, Man our Brother"* which served as the AME Church motto until the 2008 General Conference. Payne, who was consecrated in 1852, served the AME Church as its 6th bishop.

THE AME HYMNAL

The African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church led the way in the publication of the first hymnal specifically designed for use by African American congregations. In 1801, Richard Allen, founder and first consecrated bishop of the AME Church, compiled a hymnal entitled *A Collection of Spiritual Songs and Hymns*, selected from various authors that contained 54 hymns. Typical of hymnals of the era, Allen's collection was pocket sized and it printed only the text of the hymns.

Allen featured hymns that were widely sung by African American Christians of the day, about a third of which were written by well-known white hymn writers such as Charles Wesley and Isaac Watts. This was in contrast to the tradition of improvised Negro spiritual music that had mostly been passed down orally and anonymously. The AME Hymnal underwent revisions. Notably in 1816, the hymnal was expanded to include 314 hymns and was organized according to the various stages of the Christian experience. The 1898 hymnal included scored notes/music as well as text. The current edition has evolved and includes a liturgy.

Researched and Compiled by Brother William E. "Bill" Ayers, CLO Historiographer.

Source - 2016 edition of the Doctrine and Discipline of the AME Church and a publications overview presentation by William Ayers Jr in 2009.

October 28, 2021

Dear District Presidents, CLO Executive Board Members and Historiographers

Our immediate past Connectional Lay Organization Historiographer, Dr. Dorothy L. Henderson, made available to this Organization a treasure in the form of **The CLO Historical Journal**. It is a book that marks the early and continued growth as an organization in the AME denomination. It is also an outstanding document with information furnished by episcopal district historiographers and other sources Dr. Henderson outlined in the Journal.

This written history of the Connectional Lay Organization of the AME Church is a must read for every church member. Not only for its historical content but also for the story it tells about the Lay Organization's many significant contributions to the AME Church.

We have a *fulfillment team* to ensure that books ordered are delivered in a timely fashion. Team members can be reached by email at cynthia@willingsteward.com. Likewise, we ask that you distribute the attached updated flyer and ensure church members in your district at the local level, have the opportunity to purchase Journals as well. If 25 or more Journals are purchased using one address, please email that request to the *fulfillment team* for discounted shipping costs.

Three **urgent** action items are requested from you to move the sale of the books along:

1. Distribute the updated flyer using your email list, district websites, newsletters or other means necessary to ensure the laity has the opportunity to know that the book exists and is a valuable tool in telling our story and is available for purchase. The URL on the flyer will take the reader directly to our shopping cart for their convenience.
2. Pass the information along regarding the *fulfillment team*, and;
3. Provide the CLO website address www.ameclay.org to the same group. This URL will allow them to purchase the book as well. They can also view (In the News) the PowerPoint/face book presentation showcasing the leadership and contributions of the CLO past presidents. As an added feature, starting in November, the episcopal district historiographers will begin sharing snap shots of AME's that contributed to this great Lay Organization and the AME Church.

More good news: President Makiti has approved the request from Dr. Teresa Fry Brown, AME Church Historiographer/Executive Director Department of Research and Scholarship, for the CLO to host one of her Webinars in May 2022. - A FIRST for this Organization. Details to follow.

I thank you in advance for your support and commitment to help push the sale of this outstanding Journal. Again, this book is a must read for AME members in every district - especially since it covers districts 1-20. Contact me if you have concerns/questions.

Sincerely,

Bill Ayers

William "Bill" Ayers, Historiographer
Connectional Lay Organization
billayers25@gmail.com

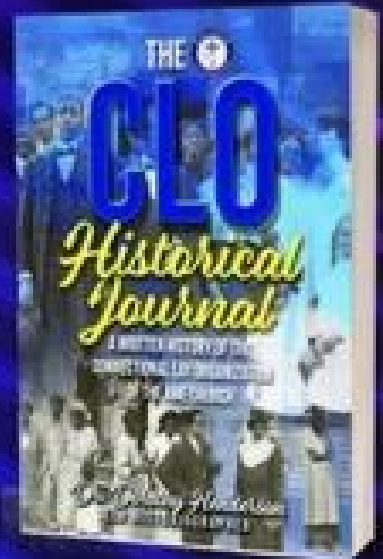
Attachment



The Connectional Lay Organization of the A.M.E. Church presents:

THE CLO

Historical Journal



This invaluable historical Lay Journal highlights some of our major struggles and outstanding achievements. This book will also serve as an inspirational resource tool of our shared history and values to the AME Church denomination now and for generations to come.

Our Former CLO Historiographer, Dr. Dorothy Henderson of the 12th Episcopal District, lovingly compiled this Journal with the help, input and support of the Episcopal District Historiographers from all AME Church Districts.

ON SALE NOW - HURRY TO GET YOUR COPY!

Paperback \$30 plus \$6 shipping

GO TO WWW.AMECLAY.ORG/SHOP/

The Connectional Lay Organization of the A.M.E. Church
1134 11th Street, NW, Washington, DC | www.ameclay.org

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION



Bishop Stafford Wicker

Connectional Lay Organization
Commision Chair



Matikane Makiti

Connectional Lay Organization
President



Patricia H. Wright

Connectional Lay Organization
Dir. of Lay Activities



Jamesha Williams

Connectional Lay Organization
Young Adult Representative

COME ALIVE

Anointed Leaders Intentionally Validating Excellence

VIRTUAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

REGISTER ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 16

Districts 1-13	Districts 14-20
\$35.00	\$20.00

LATE REGISTRATION - NOVEMBER 17-23

Districts 1-13	Districts 14-20
\$50.00	\$35.00

No registration after November 23, 2021
11:59 P.M. EST

3rd - 4th
DECEMBER
2021

NO REFUNDS



SCAN ME

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

<https://connectional-lay-organization.brushfire.com/online-event/517257>

WWW.AMECLAY.ORG

CLERGY AND LAY LEADERS **FINANCIAL** *Workshop*



WE WILL HAVE TWO 60-MINUTE SESSIONS!

- *During the 1st 60 minutes, I will discuss with you financial issues, tax law concerns, recent court cases and other issues currently facing the church in this post-COVID-19 environment.*
- *The 2nd 60 minutes will be open for questions and answers to your pressing issues!*
Please submit your questions to willingsteward@comcast.net no later than December 2, 2021.

 **9:00AM - 11:00AM**
(Eastern Standard Time)



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NTHIA GORDON-FLOYD, CPA
Presenter

**LOOKING FORWARD TO SPENDING TIME WITH YOU TO BUILD
A STRONGER FINANCIAL FOUNDATION FOR OUR CHURCHES!**

THE GENERAL BOARD

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



PROPOSED AGENDA

Bishop Paul J. M. Kawimbe, President
Gaylord Opryland Hotel
Nashville, TN

PRE-GENERAL BOARD ACTIVITIES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2021

10:00 a.m.	Council of Bishops Meeting
12 (Noon)	Lunch
1:30 p. m. - 5:00 p.m.	Council of Bishops Meeting
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	General Conference Commission Executive Committee
7:00 p.m.	General Officers Council Dinner

GENERAL BOARD AGENDA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021

6:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon	COVID Testing /Screening
9:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	General Board Opening Plenary Session
Call to Order	Bishop Paul J. M. Kawimbe <i>President</i>
Devotion	
Roll Call	Rev. Dr. Jeffery B. Cooper <i>General Secretary/CIO</i>

GENERAL BOARD MEETING (continued)

	Felicitations	Bishop Adam J. Richardson Jr. <i>Senior Bishop</i>
	Acknowledgments	Bishop E. Ann Henning Byfield <i>President, Council of Bishops and Host Bishop</i> Bishop James L. Davis <i>1st Vice President, General Board</i>
	Approval of Agenda Minutes	July 2021, Orlando Florida
	Finance Dept. Transition Audit Report	Dr. Richard A. Lewis, Sr. <i>Retired General Officer</i>
	Report of the Nominating Committee	Dr. J. Edgar Boyd <i>Chairperson</i>
	Logistics	Ms. Sharon Blaylock <i>Meeting Planner</i>
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Commission Meetings - Session I	Ministry and Recruitment Department of Retirement Services Global Development Health Commission on Chaplains
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.	General Board Luncheon	
2:15 – 3:15 p.m.	Commission Meetings - Session II	Publications Global Witness & Ministry Women in Ministry Christian Education Economic Development
3:25 – 4:25 p.m.	Commission Meetings - Session III	Seminaries, Universities, Colleges and Schools Church Growth and Development Lay Organization Strategic Planning Committee Social Action
4:35 – 5:35 p.m.	Commission Meetings - Session IV	Statistics and Finance
7:00 p.m.	Council of Bishops Investiture	Bishop E. Ann Henning Byfield <i>President, Council of Bishops</i>

GENERAL BOARD MEETING (continued)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021

6:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon COVID Testing/Screening

7:00 – 9:00 a.m. AME Board of Trustees Breakfast

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. General Board Plenary

Call to Order Bishop Paul J. M. Kawimbe
President

Devotion

Commission Reports

Ministry and Recruitment
Department of Retirement Services
Global Development
Health
Publications
Global Witness and Ministry
Women in Ministry (WIM)
Christian Education
Seminaries, Universities, Colleges & Schools
Church Growth and Development
Lay Organization
Social Action
Economic Development
Statistics and Finance

Other Business

Report of Haiti Relief – Bishop Marvin Zanders II
Louisiana Flood Report – Bishop Stafford Wicker
Report from General Conference Commission – Bishop James L. Davis
Report from Department of Retirement Services – Dr. James Miller

Adjournment

2:00 p.m. Council of Bishops Public Statement

SAVE THE DATE

EVENTS

2021-22

WNCC-LO Clergy and Lay Institute (Virtual), 10:00 AM **November 13**

November 20

SEDLO District Meeting (Virtual)

SEDLO ADVENT Service (Virtual)

December 10

December 11

Christmas with the Bishop (Virtual) 12:00 PM

Lay Meeting Link - <https://form.jotform.com/211798537833165>

WNCC-LO Lay Meeting (Mt. Zion, Hillsborough, NC)

January 9

January 27

SEDLO Lay Master Class (Virtual)

SEDLO Officers' Training Session (Virtual)

January 29

March 13

WNCC-LO Lay Meeting (Gaston Chapel, Morganton, NC)

WNCC-LO Meeting Election (Bethel, Greensboro NC)

April 10

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

» *January* «



» *February* «



The Lay Newsletter will be published every other month.

Please submit information for **JANUARY** and **FEBRUARY** by: **DECEMBER 20th**

DON'T FORGET

Email All Information to Penny Oliver ~ penny.oliver52@yahoo.com
Any Questions, email to Portia C. Holman ~ pcamille1@yahoo.com