



THE LAY EXPRESS

*"Living A Global Witness Ministry That
Transforms, Transcends and Liberates"*
Luke 4:18-19



Second Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION

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



From
the desk
of

Penny S. Oliver, President

As I sit to write my final remarks as President of the Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization, it seems like only yesterday that I was writing my first message for WNCCLO. For the past eight years I had the privilege of serving as President of WNCCLO. I am grateful for the many relationships and connections I've made not only as President, but also as a lay member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

A special "thank you" to the officers that have served eight (8) along beside me. As Sister Jackie Kanipe, Director of Lay Activities, reminds me "10 years for many of us" – "through it all we have learned to trust in Jesus, learned to trust in God, learn to depend upon His Word".

Recording Secretary, Diane Foy
Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Smith
Treasurer, Woodrow Winchester
Financial Secretary, Mozell Weston
Chaplain, Jessie Cardwell,
Director of Lay Activities, Jackie Kanipe
Western District Coordinator, Bettie Duell
Young Adult Representative, Mary Royster-Harris

During the month of April we will have our election of offices and all offices are open. I encourage each of you, first, pursue only the office that you are passionate about. Our world needs people who are happy doing many different jobs, and I promise you that pursuing a job, or title just because it is the "next rung on the ladder" will not bring you joy. Listen to your heart and spirit, and let it tell you what to pursue.

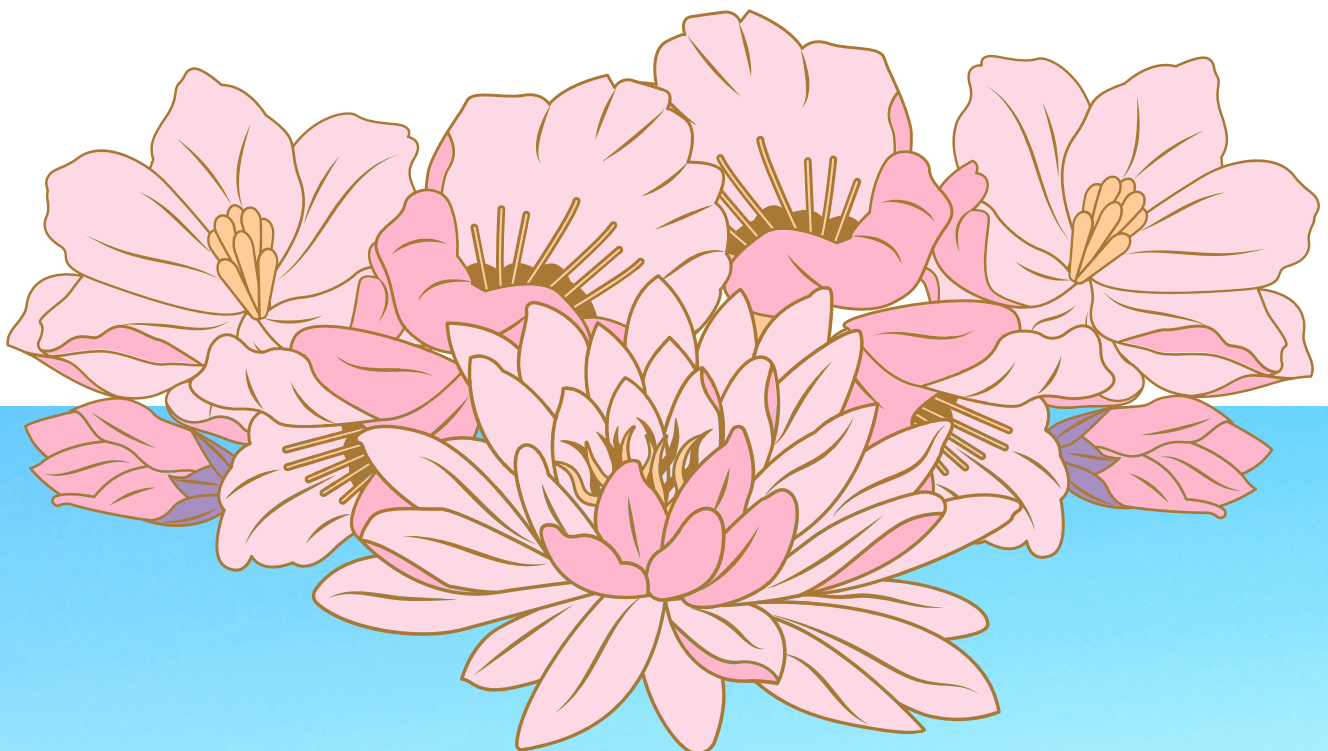
From The Desk of The President, Continued

Second, bring your genuine self to that role. Always remember that people have believed in you and helped you reach that destination because of what you can bring to that place; not what those who came before you brought and not because of what those after you will bring. Be faithful to yourself and those who have supported you by always being your authentic self.

In closing, thank you for entrusting me to serve as your President; these past eight years. I am honored to have served as your President and hope that I brought my genuine self to this role. Remember, the Laity, Pastors and Presiding Elders are always there to help guide you along your journey; it is the people that make the Lay Organization work for all of us.

As always, I wish you all the best in your pursuit of excellence, and remember, *Do What Makes Your Soul Shine and thank you for your willingness to serve.*

With Much Hope, Joy, Peace and Love,
Your Beloved WNCCLO 12th President
Penny S Oliver





January 1, 2022

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**. **W**ear (a mask). **W**ait (6 feet apart). **W**ash (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

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 9, 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

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



Living a Global Witness Ministry that
TRANSFORMS, TRANSCENDS AND LIBERATES

The African Methodist Episcopal Church
Second Episcopal District
Lay Organization

Mr. Matthew Douglas, President
Ms. D. Faye Conley, Chair, Nominating Committee
February 2022



The Second Episcopal District Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church is calling for nominations for officers for the 2022-2026 term. Letters of intent with a recent photo are due no later than **March 15, 2022** electronically to dfconley@aol.com (SUBJECT: LETTER OF INTENT – (last name) – Office) or via certified U. S. mail to **D. Faye Conley, SEDLO Nominating Committee, 17901 Cottonwood Terrace, Gaithersburg, MD 20877** (must be postmarked on or before **March 15, 2022**).

The SEDLO election will be held at the seat of the 2022 SEDLO Convention (mm/dd):TBD 2022.

Please find a "[Letter of Intent](#)" and a copy of the [2018 SEDLO Constitution & Bylaws](#) attached. Prospective nominees should read and understand the criteria as outlined in **Article IV, Section 1 (Membership), Article V (Officers, Duties & Responsibilities), Article VI (Nomination & Election Procedures), and Article VIII (Qualifications).**

Incomplete "Letters of Intent" will be disqualified.

All prospective nominees will receive notification regarding their nomination status prior to the SEDLO Convention.

Questions: Please contact Sister D. Faye Conley at dfconley@aol.com.

Second Episcopal District Lay Organization (SEDLO) African Methodist Episcopal Church

Bishop James L. Davis, Second Episcopal District Presiding Prelate

Mr. Matthew Douglas, SEDLO President

Ms. D. Faye Conley, SEDLO Nominating Committee Chair

LETTER OF INTENT

To Seek an Office for the 2022-2026 term in the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization in the election (mm/dd): TBD (2022).

Instructions: Please complete the following Letter of Intent, secure the necessary signatures and return by Certified US Mail or electronically to: Nominating Committee Chair Ms. D. Faye Conley, 17901 Cottonwood Terrace, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 Email: dfconley@aol.com. [SUBJECT: Letter of Intent - (Last Name) - (Office)] This Letter of Intent must be postmarked on or before March 15, 2022. Please include a photo..

I, _____ am a member of the: _____ Annual Conference. (Please type or print your name)

Local Church: _____ Location: _____

Name of Pastor: _____ Name of Local Lay President _____

I am seeking the office of _____ in the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

I have read and understand the criteria and qualifications for the office I seek, as outlined in Article IV, Section 1, Article V, Article VI and Article VIII of the Constitution & Bylaws of the Second Episcopal District Lay.

Please find below my experience and qualifications for the office I seek. I give permission to the Nominating Committee to speak with any and all persons necessary to verify my qualifications for office.

If for any reason, I wish to withdraw, I must notify the Nominating Committee Chair: Ms. D. Faye Conley, 17901 Cottonwood Terrace, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, Phone: (252) 916-7800, Email: dfconley@aol.com.

My experience at the Episcopal District, Annual Conference, Presiding Elder District (if applicable) and Local levels since 2019 is as follows:

Episcopal District: _____

Annual Conference: _____

Local Church: _____

Involvement in AME Church work at all levels not mentioned above: _____

Additional Information (Education & Experience outside of the AME Church): _____

Second District Lay Business Sessions I registered for and attended since 2019: _____

As a candidate for election, I certify that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____ Print Name _____ Date _____

Street Address: _____ Apt/Suite _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

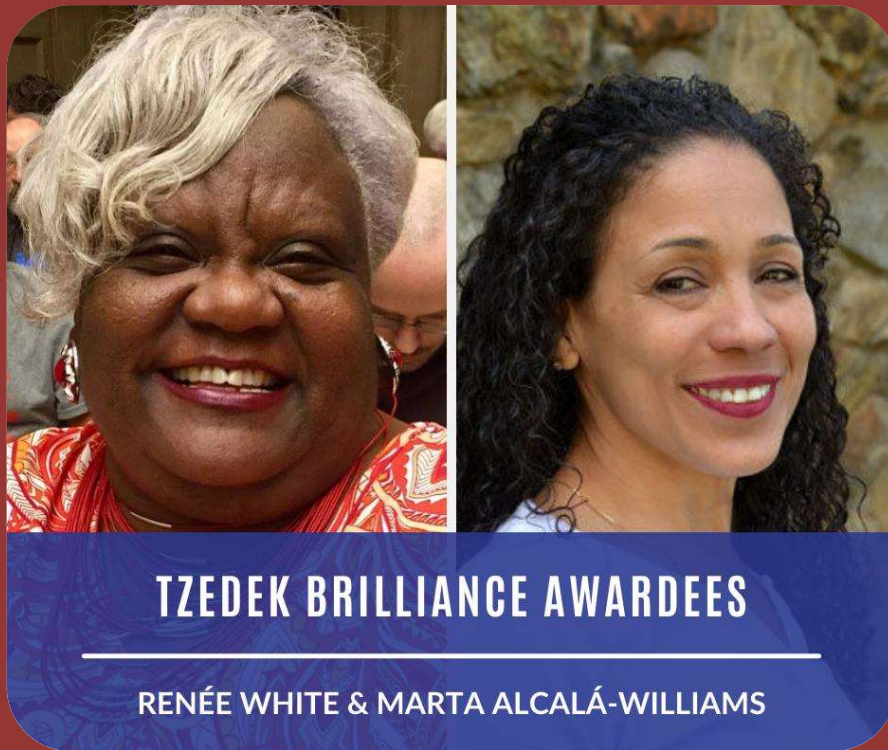
Telephone: Cell: _____ Email: _____

As President of the _____ AME Church Local Lay Organization, I hereby affix my

Signature _____ Print Name _____ Date _____

As President of the _____ Conference Lay Organization, and with the approval of the Executive Board, I hereby affix my

Signature _____ Print Name _____ Date _____



Renee White is a member of St. James AME Church, Asheville. The Pastor is Rev. Brent Edwards

Brilliance Awards Celebrate the Impact of Asheville Changemakers

POSTED ON JANUARY 20, 2022

Available in [Español](#)

The Tzedek Social Justice Fund (Tzedek) is excited to announce that Renée White and Marta Alcalá-Williams are the winners of the Tzedek Brilliance Awards.

Tzedek Brilliance Awards honor Asheville's leaders who have engaged in impactful, intersectional efforts to further racial justice and LGBTQ equality or to combat antisemitism. As opposed to the majority of Tzedek's grantmaking that funds organizational work, Brilliance Awards are designed to cultivate the well-being of individual brilliant community leaders by recognizing and rewarding their past work to make Asheville a place where everyone can thrive.

The Tzedek Brilliance Awards are a one-time no-strings-attached grant of \$50,000.

Renée White received the Ella Baker Brilliance Award in honor of a Black community leader in Asheville who has empowered and organized others to address systemic oppression.

Marta Alcalá-Williams received the Pauli Murray Brilliance Award in honor of a community leader who, like Pauli Murray, has been involved in a wide variety of social justice efforts and who leads with the knowing that all struggles for liberation are connected.

Tzedek (previously the Amy Mandel and Katina Rodis Fund) was founded in 1991. Currently, Tzedek's organizational grantmaking funds Asheville nonprofits, grassroots and movement organizations, funder collaboratives, cooperatives, and community groups with fiscal sponsors that engage in systems change, community healing, and the redistribution of money, resources, and power.

"The struggle against systemic oppression requires many strategies and approaches. Conventional philanthropy often supports organizations, while ignoring the many strides made by individual leaders who have dedicated their lives to growing communities and who often work behind the scenes to keep the more visible collective work moving. The Brilliance Awards are a move to acknowledge and resource these efforts, in addition to collective work." says Tzedek Executive Director Marsha Davis.

About the Awardees

Asheville native, Renée White has served as the East End/Valley Street Neighborhood Association President for ten years. White has led neighborhood advocacy for community investments and public policy changes for the historically African American neighborhood deeply impacted by the community destruction caused by urban renewal. White is one of the key organizers of the annual East End/Valley Street Community Heritage Festival. She has spearheaded neighborhood clean-ups and beautification, neighborhood food distribution, and even community COVID testing. White serves as the Vice President of Asheville Buncombe Community Land Trust and on the Board Member of the Rosa Walker Advancement Initiative. She was an active participant in the Isaac Coleman Economic Community Grants process, the development of Buncombe County's Racial Equity Action Plan, and the E. W. Pearson Project Collaborative, which has led to the creation of Buncombe County's Legacy Neighborhood program.

"I am honored to receive the Brilliance award and to be recognized for the work I do to make impactful positive change and to help people of all walks of life," White says. "Equality is for all and everyone should be included. There is no room for exclusion. Each day I work toward making the world better for generations to come. I am grateful for letting my little light to shine and planting seeds that will grow for years. This award means that my work has not been in vain but recognized in a mighty way by so many people."

Marta Alcalá-Williams has worked for over thirty years in Asheville to create a culture of equity, racial justice, and collective liberation. As Executive Director of Equity and Community Engagement for Asheville City Schools, Alcalá-Williams engages principals, teachers, and parents to adopt asset- and justice-based thinking and practices. She partnered with Black mothers in Hillcrest to start *Motheread*, which brings diverse books to life through rich discussions about racial equity and collective liberation, and she co-founded [Marvelous Math Club](#), in partnership with UNCA's Dr. Sam Kaplan, which centers the gifts of each student leader, parents, and guardians in the Pisgah View community. As a leader of the Racial Equity Institute (REI) Asheville Core Team, Marta has a deep commitment to bringing life-changing racial equity workshops to hundreds throughout Western North Carolina. She also volunteers with the Keep It Moving Coalition, leading conversations about racial equity for residents who have participated in REI or Building Bridges.

"I'm honored and humbled by receiving this award," says Alcalá-Williams. "I can look back at a time when I allowed assumptions and a saving mentality to influence how I related to people in our community. Through truly listening and growing alongside community members I've learned to partner with community leaders and connect to resources. It hasn't always been easy but being in genuine relationships connects us as lifelong learners."

About the Grantmaking Process

The Brilliance Award winners were selected by three Tzedek staff and three Tzedek Community-led Grantmaking Fellows, community leaders who design and implement Tzedek's participatory grantmaking process.

"What we know is that there is amazing work that happens in this community that is not recognized. The two winners captured the essence of what we were trying to highlight in terms of the two different awards." says Libby Kyles, Tzedek's Director of Community-led Grantmaking.

Learn more about the Tzedek's approach to social justice philanthropy here: [Social Justice Philanthropy - Tzedek Social Justice Fund](#)

Hot Off

the Press...



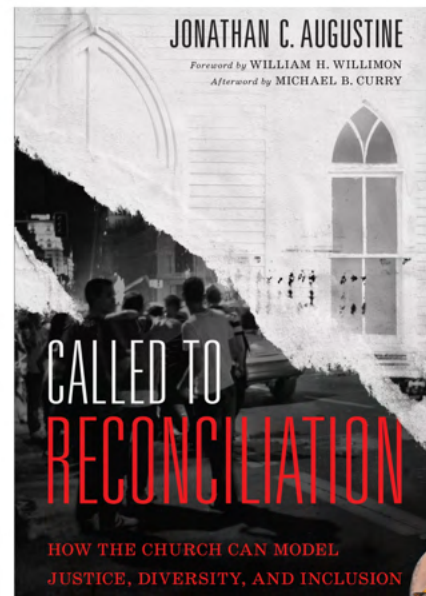
By:

Shontea L. Smith
MA-RELS, MTS

Saint Paul AMEC Chapel Hill
Duke Div. Student Intern
Saint Joseph AMEC Durham

Can there be demonstrations of love in the public square without justice? Moreover, can we continue to confess, as followers of Jesus, that we are called to love the Lord our God with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our mind, and that we love our neighbors as ourselves (Matt. 22:37-40) without also accepting our call to reconciliation? *In Called to Reconciliation: How the Church Can Model Justice, Diversity, and Inclusion*, Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine (a/k/a “Jay Augustine”), the senior pastor of St. Joseph African Methodist Episcopal Church (Durham, NC) and member of the denomination’s Judicial Council, addresses these questions with the definitive answer, “no.” Augustine writes for such a time this as he encourages the church universal to accept that it is through the unmerited grace of God that humankind’s relationship with the Triune God receives restoration through Jesus’ finished work on the cross. *Called to Reconciliation* makes it plain that the mission of the church must address social inequities in the “kingdom-at-hand.”

Augustine’s work leads us ultimately towards an ethical posture that disrupts boundaries seeking to maintain ethnic, social, and class divisions along with common hierarchal social practices of dominance in the world. We all have a role to play as social ambassadors of Christ’s love, if society is to move toward the model of reconciliation progressed by Augustine. However, this is a call we must accept because this is how we reflect our witness as Christians in this world. We must examine ourselves humbly and ask, what does this mean for the church, in general, and the Church of Allen, in particular. I say it means we ALL have a lot more work to do. That is, if we are serious about embodying and demonstrating the love that Christ Jesus shows us in a manner which leads us to achieve God’s goal of transformation, justice, reconciliation, and the flourishing of God’s Kingdom here on Earth.



CALLED TO RECONCILIATION
*How the Church Can Model Justice,
Diversity, and Inclusion*

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BOOKS-AMILLION



DOWN HOME'S
DEMOCRACY SERIES



February Democracy Series

School Boards 101

There's a lot of noise right now around school boards, but do you know exactly what kind of power your local school board has? For this month's Democracy Series, we're diving into what the role of a school board is, what kind of power the board holds, and who can run!

In 2022, one political battleground we're keeping our eyes on is the school board. In North Carolina, there are 115 school boards— 100 county boards and 15 city boards. The vast majority (112) are elected, while 3 are appointed. School boards in NC are composed of a various number of members; some have as few as 5 to as many as 12— it all depends on the county! The board is also granted corporate status from the General Assembly. As such, an individual board member has no authority to act on behalf of the board unless such authority is specifically delegated by the county.

So, what exactly can a school board do? What powers do they have?

North Carolina's constitution explicitly states that "[t]he people have a right to the privilege of education, and it is the duty of the State to guard and maintain that right."

The General Assembly is mandated to use tax money to provide “equal opportunities...for all students.” If you’ve heard about the Leandro case, you might already know that the courts have said that the NCGA is not living up to this constitutional mandate.

The General Assembly also has the power to assign local school boards “such responsibility for the financial support of the free public schools as it may deem appropriate,” or, in plain English, the ability to use their budget and tax revenue as they see fit. With responsibilities for the well-being of local schools being kicked down to the local level by deliberate inaction from the General Assembly, that actually makes our school boards a surprisingly powerful force. In 2015, the NCGA passed legislation that explicitly states:

*“It shall be the duty of local boards of education to provide students with the opportunity to receive a sound basic education and to make all policy decisions with that objective in mind, including **employment decisions, budget development, and other administrative actions...**”*

Simply put, your local school board is pretty powerful! They can make decisions about educational policy, administrative hiring, where the money goes, and what programs get funded or unfunded. Your county superintendent isn’t an executive position like folks may think– they report to the board and are legally bound to carry out the rules and regulations of the board. When school buildings need to be repaired, sports and arts need to be funded, it’s the board that has authority over those requests. Got a favorite teacher that deserves a raise? It’s the school board that can approve pay increases when our state legislature won’t. School boards are the de facto school supervisor and school law enforcement agency, if you will. Therefore, who sits on that board matters... a lot.

With any local government agency, it’s important that we as citizens don’t leave them completely to their own devices– we’ve got to stay involved in all levels of our local government to ensure it’s working for everyone. So how can you as a resident impact your school board and the decisions that are made?

- *Firstly, you can attend your local school board meetings.* [Use our school board meeting finder to find your county school board’s meeting times.](#) Decisions about our local government are always made by the people that *show up*. If you have time, go in person to see exactly what’s going on. Try to attend a live stream and leave a public comment if you can. Wondering how to do that? [Watch one of our previous school board training sessions to learn how!](#)
- *You can find out who is running for school board in your community.* Did you know that you can go to the [Board of Elections website](#) to see who has already filed in your community? (Also, remember that the voter registration deadline for the primaries this year is **April 22nd!** Make sure you’re registered!)
- *You can run for school board!* Anyone who wants to run for a local government position must be registered to vote in NC, qualified to vote in an election for the office sought, and 21 years of age by the date of the election. To officially run, candidates must file a [Notice of Candidacy Form](#) with either your county’s Board of Elections, or with the NC State Board of Elections during the Candidate Filing Period. Once you pay the filing fee in your county, you’re a candidate! [Look up your local BOE here.](#)



Leadership is not
about you; it's
about investing
in the growth
of others.

Ken Blanchard



THE LONGLEAF COMMITMENT GRANT (LCG) WAS ESTABLISHED AS PART OF THE GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY EDUCATION RELIEF FUND (GEER) FOR 2021 NC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES (ONE COHORT) WITH EFCS BETWEEN 0 AND 15,000 ATTENDING AN NC COMMUNITY COLLEGE DURING THE 2021-2022 AND 2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEARS.



THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROVIDED STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDING IN THE 2021 BUDGET TO EXTEND THE LONGLEAF COMMITMENT TO A NEW COHORT OF STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL IN 2022. EACH GRADUATE WILL RECEIVE AT LEAST \$700 UP TO \$2,800 TO ATTEND A NC COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE 2022-2023 AND 2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEARS (TOTAL OF 4 SEMESTERS; FALL 2022, SPRING 2023, FALL 2023, AND SPRING 2024).

The Importance of Reporting Financial Crime Within the Church

January 8, 2022 admin Columnists, Frontpage 0



By Cynthia Gordon-Floyd, C.P.A.,
Contributing Writer

The Importance of Reporting Financial
Crime Within the Church

By Cynthia Gordon-Floyd, C.P.A.,
Contributing Writer

In a recent article, “Reporting Financial
Crime as a Matter of Stewardship,”

attorney and C.P.A. Richard Hammar discusses why we should report a financial crime.

A study of 706 church leaders’ financial misconduct found that one-third of them had experienced fraud and 70% of those chose not to report the incident to the authorities. The following reasons were provided for not reporting the incident:

They recovered the money without needing legal action.

They pursued restoration and forgave the perpetrator.

They wanted to protect the perpetrator and the reputation of the church.

Legal action was contradictory to their beliefs.

The Bible teaches us that we should not deal with our legal matters in a secular court of law. However, without disputing the clear direction of the Word of God, it is still important for us to apply the value of the laws and God-given rights that protect citizens and support proper restoration.

When we choose not to report criminal matters within the church, several ramifications prohibit proper restoration. First, the actual amount of the loss is usually far greater than the perpetrator admits. Professionals can investigate properly and determine the actual loss. Second, if there is no public record of the occurrence, it may subject another church to the same offender as there would be no record to show on a background check. Additionally, most embezzlers are also guilty of tax evasion, as they do not report the amount misappropriated as income. This indiscretion provides another level of crime not dealt with properly. Finally, even if the church chooses to forgive the matter, the church should provide a 1099 to the individual for the loss, so they are forced to pay income taxes on the amount taken.

Forgiveness and grace always have their place. However, negating the law and not allowing proper discipline to occur interferes with proper restoration for all involved. There is no Biblical reason for the church to cover up a crime; in fact, it can be a wonderful opportunity to show the importance of proper stewardship over their funding, as well as a chance for the public to witness the biblical restoration for the offender.

If we tolerate a lax internal control environment, we should not continue to be shocked and dismayed when our lack of oversight results in major loss and devastating life disruptions for the innocent. Accountability is our responsibility and our reasonable service.

Cynthia Gordon-Floyd is a certified public accountant and founder of Willing Steward Ministries, L.L.C. Willing Steward Ministries (www.willingsteward.com) is a financial consulting and accounting firm for churches and other faith-based non-profits, specializing in Bible-focused financial practices, pastoral compensation issues, I.R.S. compliance, and other financial needs specific to churches. Cynthia is a graduate of Lake Forest College and holds her M.B.A. in Accounting from DePaul University, and is an A.I.C.P.A. certified non-profit accountant. She is a Steward and the Financial Secretary at the First A.M.E. Church of Manassas in Manassas, Virginia





CALLING ALL

Graduates

**We want to honor the 2022 High School
and College Graduates in the May
Edition of The Lay Express**

**We will need: Picture, Student's Name,
Parent's Name, Church, Lay President,
Pastor's Name and Next step in
education (Job, College, Work, etc.)**



Please send this information to WNCC-LO YAR Mary R Harris (maryrharris11@gmail.com) on or before April 20, 2022 to be included in the May Lay Express.



CLOSING
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MEETING
REGISTRATION
APRIL 7-9
2022



New Orleans, LA

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DIANNE H. BATTLE CLO-DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS CLODOPR16@GMAIL.COM

"Living A Global Witness Ministry That Transforms, Transcends and Liberates" LUKE 4: 18-19

EARLY REGISTRATION
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LATE REGISTRATION
MARCH 29 - APRIL 4
\$250.00

(NON - REFUNDABLE)

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WEBSITE: AMECLAY.ORG



Sis. Jeanine D. Latta
Conference Hostess

Mt. Zion Presents: **BEYOUTIFUL**

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2022

PSALM 139:14 "I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE BY GOD"



GUEST SPEAKER
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EMMANUEL FULL GOSPEL



GUEST SPEAKER
REV. DALE C. NOBLE
SPRINGDALE A.M.E. CHURCH



GUEST SPEAKER
REV. ORINOLYN BENJAMIN, PASTOR
WAYMAN CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH



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SIS. SHELBY J. MILES
GASTON CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons
Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church, Hillsborough, NC
Host Pastor

SATURDAY
MARCH 19TH @ 9AM
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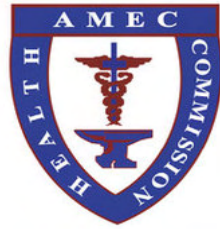
MORE INFO: JEANINE LATTA (919) 475-1507



DR. JEFFERY COOPER
AME GENERAL SECRETARY

Dear Members:

Please find below a flyer announcement from Rev. Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MPH, Medical Director, AMEC International Health Commission:



alzheimer's
association®

Save the Date

2ND ANNUAL CONNECTIONAL PURPLE SUNDAY
Stewardship of the Mind Through Alzheimer's Awareness

Sunday, March 20, 2022

1 p.m. PDT | 3 p.m. CDT | 4 p.m. EDT

The African Methodist Episcopal Church (A.M.E.) and the Alzheimer's Association® invite you to attend the second annual Connectional Purple Sunday, a free virtual program that will raise awareness of Alzheimer's and other dementia. Join us to learn about:

- » The impact of Alzheimer's in our community
- » Tips to recognize warning signs of the disease
- » The benefits of early detection
- » The importance of participating in clinical trials
- » The Association's care and support resources

Register today at www.amecps2.eventbrite.com.

Learn more about our partnership at www.amehealth.org/alz.



Click button below to register for the event:

[Register Here](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/ame-church-international-health-commission-39857280533>

AMEC Health Commisison website link:

<http://www.amehealth.org/alz>

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Jeffery B. Cooper
General Secretary/CIO
Senior General Officer
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

THE GORDON, HILL, TREADWELL, AND BELL LAY
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE PRESENTS:

The Church & The Environment

3-week course

Starts March 8, 2022

6:00pm est.

There is a severe need for the African American community to have its ecological conscience raised and sustained to be able to have a distinct voice in the environmental justice movement in the twenty-first century. Lay persons in congregations must be able to bolster practices related to environmental justice from generation to generation. The fight for environmental justice in the African American community must be a continuous mission and can never cease.

Subject matter includes:

- *Identify, interpret, and apply biblical themes to enable Christians to develop a strong ecological ethic*
- *Provide an overview of the environmental crisis*
- *Enlighten participants on the link between ecological health and economic justice*

Instructor:

Rev. Betty Holley, Ph.D.

**Academic Dean of Payne Theological Seminary and
Associate Professor of Ecological Theology**



Cost: \$35

Zoom Registration:

Webinar ID: 827 0083 0503

[Register Now](#)

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_psxlh7xZSJ6hAzFriS6P5g?bbeml=tp-f24Q-Vnf3UaEXRM4RKN9zg.jz1v8pmmRYkmnNNuM8s1trg.rem6sk4OfQ06PYZCh9DMY5Q.lcpiGB3Q6Xk-hcyPneWBRtg



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1230 Wilberforce-Clifton Road, PO Box 474 Wilberforce, OH 45384



The Gordon, Hill, Treadwell, and Bell Lay Leadership Institute

2022 SERIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES

Wednesday, **April 20, 2022** – WMS Annual Convention
156TH SESSION OF THE VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Thursday, April 21 - Friday, April 22, 2022
Virtual Business, Committee Reports, & Annual Worship Services

Wednesday, **April 27, 2022** – WMS Annual Convention
206TH SESSION OF THE BALTIMORE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Thursday, April 28 - Friday, April 29, 2022
Virtual Business, Committee Reports, & Annual Worship Services

Wednesday, **May 4, 2022** – WMS Annual Convention
72ND SESSION OF THE WASHINGTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Thursday, May 5 - Friday, May 6, 2022
Virtual Business, Committee Reports, & Annual Worship Services

Wednesday, **May 11, 2022** – WMS Annual Convention
153RD SESSION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Thursday, May 12 - Friday, May 13, 2022
Virtual Business, Committee Reports, & Annual Worship Services

Wednesday, **May 18, 2022** – WMS Annual Convention
**130TH SESSION OF THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
Thursday, May 19 - Friday, May 20, 2022
Virtual Business, Committee Reports, & Annual Worship Services

2ND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - VIRTUAL PLANNING MEETING
To Be Determined
(TBA)

SAVE THE DATE

EVENTS

2022

Lay Meeting Link - <https://form.jotform.com/213356299297166>

WNCC-LO Lay Meeting (Virtual)

March 12

Lay Meeting Link - <https://form.jotform.com/213356299297166>

April 9

WNCC-LO Meeting Election (Virtual)



UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

» — *May* — «



The Lay Newsletter will be published every other month. *****

Please submit information for MAY and JUNE by: APRIL 20th

» — *June* — «



DON'T FORGET

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