

**Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization
Virtual Meeting - October 08, 2022**

President Barbara R. Myers, Presiding

The WNCC Lay Organization Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Barbara R. Myers.

Devotion/Word of Encouragement **Sis. Carol Davenport, WNCCLC Chaplain**

Our scripture lesson today came from the book of *Proverbs 31: 8-9 (NIV)* **8. Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. 9. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.**

When we involve ourselves in elections we speak out for those who cannot speak and defend the rights of the poor and needy. Do not withhold good from those it is due, when it is your power to act, do not say to your neighbor “come back tomorrow and I will give it to you” when you already have it with you.

Today’s devotion is about taking care of people, and as children of God that is our commission, we are to help those who cannot help themselves. After the devotion moment Sis. Davenport led us in prayer.

Welcome **Sis. Charmayne Morrison, Greater Bethel AMEC, Lay President**

The lay body received a warm welcome from Sis. Charmayne Morrison by welcoming everyone to today’s meeting, she introduced herself as the new Corresponding Secretary of the WNCCLC. She stated she looks forward to serving in this capacity. Also, it is her hope that we all enter this meeting with the spirit of corporate dedication to the work that is before us, and we continue to run this race with faith as we do our part to the up building and support of the kingdom here on God’s beautiful earth that he has entrusted to us.

Roll Call **Bro. Brandon Owens, WNCCLC Recording Secretary**

Present

- Sis. Barbara R. Myers, President
- Bro. Brandon Owens, Recording Secretary
- Sis. Dorothy Jeffreys, Treasurer
- Sis. Bettie Duell, Financial Secretary
- Sis. Carol Davenport, Chaplain
- Sis. Azzie Conley, Director of Lay Activities
- Bro. Kenneth Wood, Eastern District Coordin.
- Sis. Penny Oliver, *Ex-Officio Officer*
- Sis. Gertude Upperman, *Ex-Officio Officer*

Absent

- Sis. Betty Parker, 1st Vice President
- Sis. Mary Harris, 2nd Vice President
- Sis. Bobbie Hague, Parliamentarian
- Sis. Portia Holman, Dir. of Public Relations
- Sis. Sonia Barbre, Western District Coordin
- Bro. Adam Johnston, SEDLO YAR
- Bro. Woodrow Winchester, *Ex-Officio Off.*
- Bro. Dwight Patterson, *Ex-Officio Off.*

Excused

- Sis. Joy Grandy, Asst. Recording Secretary

Approval Of Agenda - (in the packet)

President Myers called for the approval of the agenda that was sent in the packet prior to today's meeting. One addition to the agenda, Sis. Bettie Duell, Financial Secretary will give her report once she is back on the call. Bro. Kenneth Woods made a motion to accept and approve the agenda with the noted change, 2nd by Sis. Mary Roseboro, motion carried.

Minutes - (in the packet)

Bro. Brandon Owens, Recording Secretary read minutes from the August 13, 2022 meeting, with no corrections noted or mentioned, Bro. Brandon Owens made a motion to accept the minutes as read, 2nd by Sis. Mary Roseboro, motion carried.

Financial Report Sis. Dorothy Jeffreys, WNCCLO Treasurer

Report was received as information only, and can be found in the meeting packet.

Conference Officers (Updates)

Sis. Carolyn Davenport, Chaplain

Sis. Davenport mentioned she is still waiting to receive names and contact information of local lay chaplains. She will leave her contact information in the chat below.

Sis. Bettie Duell, Financial Secretary

Sis. Duell is asking that we please meet the deadlines when funds are due.

Teaching Moment and Updates Sis. Azzie Conley, Director of Lay Activities

Sis. Conley greeted the body by reading *Philippians 4:4 (NLT) Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again-rejoice!*

Sis. Conley acknowledged individuals who served on the *15th Annual Lay Prayer Breakfast* committee along with consultants, and component ministry leaders. She went on to thank the attendees that were part of the prayer breakfast, and most of all the prayer warriors who prayed that we would have a successful breakfast. Sis. Conley asked if anyone would like to volunteer on the *16th Annual Lay Prayer Breakfast* committee or suggest a venue please email her or leave information in the chat below.

Sis. Conley informed the body, at the seat of the 2023 Western North Carolina Annual Conference, we will hold the electoral college to elect delegates and alternate delegates to the general conference that will be held in 2024. As a source of reference concerning the electoral college process, information can be found on *pages 247-252* of the *2016 Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church*.

Old Business

President Myers noted the following vacancies within the *WNCCLO*:

1. YAR
2. Historiographer

Information concerning these positions can be found within the meeting packet.

New Business

CLO Legislation Committee, Sis. Penny Oliver, CLO Legislation Committee, Member

Sis. Penny Oliver gave information concerning a question that was asked during last week's SEDLO Convention about how many bills were passed during the 2021 General Conference?

1. **Connectional By-Laws and Constitution**
2. **Uniform AME Pulpit & Altar Color Calendar**
3. **Love Fest Ticket Language**
4. **Child & Youth Protection & Background Check**
5. **Change in Frequency of the Publication of the Christian Recorder**
6. **Call to Preacher Question**
7. **Annual Conference/Transfers**
8. **Resolution on LGBTQ Disserment Committee**

Sis. Oliver stated she was asked to find the wording on the LGBTQ Disserment Committee, in her response to the question, she stated she has reached out to the persons and haven't received any information as of today. Once she has the information she will inform the body of said information.

Sis. Oliver also informed the body that inside the packet we will find the slides that were discussed at the convention, for more information you can visit the connectional website. She went on to mention if we have any ideas that will help make us a better church starting at the local level please share the information.

SED NAACP Membership Challenge Sis. Barbara R. Myers

President Myers informed the body the NAACP Membership Challenge is alive and well; she is hoping that every member of the organization has taken part in the campaign. The goal is to have 10,000 members join the NAACP across the Second Episcopal District.

Director of Lay Activities (DOLA) Sis. Azzie Conley

WNCCLO Lay Institute & SED WNCCLO Calendar

President Myers included in our meeting packet a list of save the dates that include a rough listing of various activities as well as district activities through July 2023.

Sis. Conley highlighted the following dates:

1. November 12, 2022, Clergy Lay Institute, Virtually
2. November 19, 2022, SEDLO Convention Business Session, Virtually
3. November 15-17, Kingdom Fellowship, Summit

Lay Witness Sunday

President Myers included in our packets the list of churches who will be observing Lay Witness Sunday. Please review at your leisure. Sis. Oliver will post the information on our website.

SEDLO Update Sis. Barbara R. Myers

President Myers stated the second part of the SEDLO Convention will be held November 19 as stated prior, this will be the SEDLO Convention business session and election more information to follow in the coming days.

WNCCLC Committees

President Myers stated if anyone is interested in serving on the committees listed please send your information to her.

Connectional Lay Biennial

Election for delegates to the connectional lay biennial will be held at our next conference meeting Saturday, January 14, 2023.

Sis. Penny Oliver made a motion to use a letter of intent to elect delegates to the biennial, 2nd by Sis. Charmayne Morrison, and Sis. Pauline Irvin motion carried.

Information concerning deadlines on submitting a letter of intent will be sent out in the coming days once the nominating committee has been established.

Round Robin

Praise Reports & Announcements

Sis. Charmayne Morrison, mentioned Greater Bethel's Lay Organization will be sponsoring an information session on October 29, 2022 about medicare. Sis. Morrison will forward the information to our president for distribution.

President Myers asked that we keep each one lifted in prayer, please remember Sis. Emma Devine as she goes through bereavement.

Sis. Penny Oliver stated her dad is doing well and she thanked the body for their continued prayers.

Bro. Woods led us in closing prayer, along with Sis. Davenport reading the Lay Benediction aloud with others muted.

Respectfully Submitted

Brandon Owens

Brandon Owens, Recording Secretary