

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE



LAY EXPRESS



VOLUME II, ISSUE III MAY 2016

JACK N JILL EXTRAVAGANZA HOSTED BY ST. JAMES

The Western North Carolina Conference Lay held its Annual Jack n Jill Extravaganza under the theme, “Lifting Our Voices for the Black Lives Matter Movement,” on April 9, 2016 at St. James AME Church, -Winston-Salem, Rev. Steven L. Lyons, pastor.

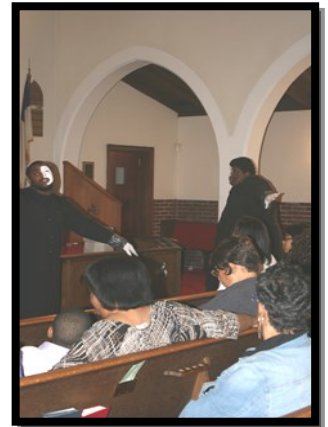
The services open with the mimes from Poplar Grove AMEC, Rev. Anthony Radcliff, pastor, followed by prayer and scripture. Greetings and welcome were given by St. James Lay President, Brother Byron Barbre.

Sister Mary Royster Harris, Young Adult Representative, chaired the event along with Brother Adam Johnston, presiding. Participants in the event were; Anointed Vessels-Poplar Grove AMEC, Kinnadi Dennis-Emmanuel AMEC, Christian Rick-St. Joseph AMEC, Aj'veon Banner - St. Paul AMEC, Tachiana Nichols-Bethel AMEC, Ashanti Lovett-St. James AMEC, Jasmine Paschal-Springdale AMEC, Tierryn Lewis-Dickerson Chapel AMEC, Tiffany V. Murphy Dance Ministries-Turners Chapel AMEC and Reverend Joseph Pridgen.

Winners for the occasion were Aj'veon Banner –1st place, Tachiana Nichols-2nd place, and Kinnadi Dennis –3rd place. Each winner was crowned by President Penny Oliver.



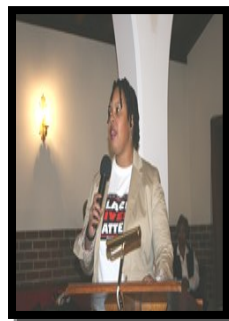
Jasmine, Ashanti, Zanaya



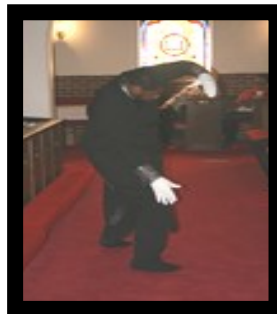
“Anointed Vessels”



Aj'veon Banner, Tachiana Nichols, Kinnadi Dennis YAR– Mary Harris Adam Johnston



Tiffany V. Murphy Dance Ministries



“Anointed Vessels”



Rev. Joseph Pridgen

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE



What is The General Conference?

The General Conference is the supreme body of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. It is composed of the Bishops, as ex-officio presidents, according to the rank of election, and an equal number of ministerial and lay delegates, elected by each of the Annual Conferences and the Lay Electoral Colleges of the Annual Conferences. Other ex-officio members are: the General Officers, College Presidents, Deans/ Presidents of Theological Seminaries; Chaplains in the Regular Armed Forces of the U.S.A. The General Conference meets quadrennially (every four years), but may have extra sessions in certain emergencies.

Who is hosting the 2016 General Conference?

The First Episcopal District of the AME Church will host the conference. Bishop Gregory Ingram and Rev Jessica Ingram are the Presiding Bishop and Episcopal Supervisor of the First District.

Where will the 2016 General Conference meetings be held?

Most of the activities will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in downtown Philadelphia. The surrounding hotels will house the bishops, general officers, delegates, ministers, spouses, family members and guests who will attend the event.

When was the last General Conference held in the First District?

It was held 46 years ago in May 1968...also in Philadelphia.

So....WIFM?? (What's in it for me?) I love Jesus. I support my local church. Why should I attend the 2016 General Conference?

Attending the 2016 General Conference will give you a first-hand understanding of how the AME Church works. As a registered Observer, you will have complete access to 90% of the meetings, elections and special programs for this multiple day experience. You will see how bishops and general officers are elected. You will hear about all of the policy changes and programmatic issues of the entire AME Church. And you will sit side by side with all 20 Districts of the AME Church! That's all of the districts in the 39 countries of our denomination.

In addition, presidential candidates and international dignitaries will most likely visit

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE CONTINUED



the 2016 General Conference. In 2008, the then Senator Barack Obama was a featured speaker. In 2012 First Lady Michelle Obama was a featured speaker. Dr. Martin Luther King spoke at one of the General Conferences in the 1960s.

An estimated 20,000 people will attend part or all of the 2016 General

BICENTENNIAL TORCH RUN

From Dover, Delaware to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania -July 3, 2016

Four runners from each of the 20 Episcopal Districts of the AME Church will each run one mile of an 80-mile course from Dover, Delaware (*where Richard Allen spent much of his childhood*) to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where he was born and established Mother Bethel (*the first AME Church*) in a converted blacksmith shop.

While it is sure to be fun, this relay will be ran for a reason. For the first time in its history, the American Cancer Society (ACS) has agreed to partner with a faith-based organization to help bring attention to the work of the ACS.

The AME church is delighted that the world's largest voluntary health organization fighting cancer is a co-sponsor of this event.

UNVEILING AND DEDICATION OF THE RICHARD ALLEN MEMORIAL COURTYARD

Mother Bethel AME Church 419 S. 6th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The Bicentennial Torch Run will end at Mother Bethel, where the covers will be taken off of a 6-foot, 6-inch bronze statue of Richard Allen that will grace an intimate 20-foot-by-30-foot courtyard. The unveiling and dedication of this cherished space will bring to closure a journey that began in 1946 to erect a fitting monument to Bishop Allen.

The statue and courtyard were designed by David Allen Perrin III of Zen Design Group, Berkley, Michigan. The courtyard architect is Samuel E. Olshin, AIA, a principal in Atkin Olshin Schade Architects of Philadelphia. The statue sculptor is Fern Cunningham-Terry, a distinguished African-American artist who teaches history through her work. Mrs. Cunningham-Terry is a member of Grant AME Church in Boston, Massachusetts.

UNVEILING AND DEDICATION OF THE RICHARD AND SARAH ALLEN MURAL

First District Headquarters 3801 Market Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania –July 3, 2016

In conjunction with the Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, a colorful painting of Bishop Richard Allen and Missionary Sarah Allen will wrap around the First Episcopal District Headquarters at 38th and Market Streets, transforming the exterior of the building into a masterful work of contemporary art. Members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church will collaborate with the artist to determine the full content of the mural, which is intended to stimulate dialogue about and expand understanding of Richard and Sarah Allen's importance in American history.

It is most appropriate that this permanent installation will be dedicated on the day we commemorate the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, whose promised freedoms Bishop Allen fought to make sure Black Americans enjoyed along with all other Americans. First District leaders, city officials and representatives from the arts community will participate in the unveiling and dedication ceremony.



WNCC LAY OFFICERS 2016-2018

The Conference Lay election was held on April 16, 2016 at 10:00am at Clapps Chapel AME Church in Whitsett, NC, Reverend Clay Barrow, pastor.

Brother Kenneth Woods, Nominating Chairperson presented the 2016-2018 ballot of officers, with Sister Gertrude Upperman conducting the election.

President - Penny Oliver
1st VP— Wilbert Hooker Jr
2nd VP—Betty Parker
3rd VP—Adam Johnston
Treasurer—Woodrow Winchester
Financial Secretary—Mozell Weston
Recording Secretary—Diane Foy
Assistant Recording Secretary –open
Corresponding Secretary—Barbara Smith
Chaplain—Jessie Caldwell
Parliamentarian—John Smith
Historiographer—Sonia Barbre
Director Public Relations—Bobbie Hague

Western District Coordinator—Renee White
Eastern District Coordinator—Bettie Duell
Credentials/Membership Chair—Niki Allen
Young Adult Representative—Mary Harris
Director Lay Activities—Jacqueline Kanipe



WNCC Annual Lay Night
Thursday, May 26, 2016-TIME: 7:00PM
Sheraton Imperial -Durham, North Carolina

Jack & Jill Participants – “Black Lives Matter”.....

“What’s Going On?” – a glimpse of the Civil Rights Movement
presented by Youth Exploration Services, Inc.
in partnership with the St. Paul AMEC Education Commission

Western North Carolina Conference Choir
Rev. Anthony Radcliff –Director

Lay Commissioner
Bishop William P. DeVeaux, Sr.
&
Supervisor Patricia M. DeVeaux
Retirement Celebration



(attire: navy blue and white or royal blue and white with your lay scarf)



PLEASE JOIN THE
CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION
FOR THEIR QUADRENNIAL BREAKFAST BENEFIT

SUNDAY JULY 10, 2016 – 7:00 A.M.

PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION CENTER – PHILADELPHIA, PA

GUEST MISTRESS OF CEREMONY



The Honorable Dr. Karen Weaver
Mayor of Flint, Michigan

DONATION - \$85

IN SUPPORT OF THE ORGANIZATION'S
SCHOLARSHIP &
DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS



TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE **NOW** FROM YOUR
DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION PRESIDENT

CUT OFF DATE JUNE 12, 2016

**DURING THE 50TH QUADRENNIAL SESSION
OF THE
AME CHURCH GENERAL CONFERENCE**



**"LET'S SHOW OUR SUPPORT FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS AND DISASTER RELIEF
RECIPIENTS AS WE DID IN 2012 AND EXCEED OUR FINANCIAL GOAL OF \$60,000
- WITH YOUR ATTENDANCE, WE WILL."**

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LAYORGANIZATION

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM: LAYORGANIZATION

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER: @AMECLAY

PLEASE VISIT [HTTP://CLOBREAKFAST.BPT.ME](http://CLOBREAKFAST.BPT.ME) TO PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE

THE RIGHT REVEREND WILLIAM PHILLIPS DEVEAUX, SR., LAY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN
DR. WILLIE CLAYTON GLOVER, PRESIDENT, CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION
MR. WILLIAM "BILL" AYERS & MRS. CHERYL HAMMOND HOPEWELL, CO-CHAIRS