

~MINUTES~
WNCC LAY ORGANIZATION
GREATER BETHEL AME CHURCH, CHARLOTTE, NC
JANUARY 13, 2018 – 10:00 AM

The WNCCLO meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Penny Oliver. Sonia Barbre' was in charge of **Devotion**, in absentia of Jessie Cardwell, our Chaplain.

Song: *I'm on the Battlefield for My Lord*" – led by Melvin Hooker

Prayer by: Angeline Pugh

Scripture by: Leonard Flake

Lay Litany & Lay Hymn: Led by Sonia Barbre' & Lay Body.

A hearty **Welcome** received from the Local Lay President, Betty Parker.

President Oliver reminded the Lay Body members of their \$5.00 registration fee, which afforded them a hand-out packet for this meeting and half of the proceeds will be given to the host church, for their accommodations.

Roll Call of Officers

Diane Foy

Present:

Penny Oliver, President
Betty Parker, 2nd Vice President
Adam Johnston, 3rd Vice President
Diane Foy, Recording Secretary
Barbara Smith, Corresponding Secretary
Woodrow Winchester, Treasurer
Sonia Barbre, Historiographer
John Smith, Parliamentarian
Jacqueline Kanipe, Director of Lay Activities
Betty Duell, Eastern District Coordinator

Excused:

Joy Grandy, Asst. Recording Secretary
Mozell Weston, Financial Secretary
Jessie Cardwell, Chaplain
Mary Royster, Young Adult Representative
Renee White, Western District Coordinator
Niki Allen, Credentials/Membership Chair

Ex-Officio Officers – (Present):

Mary Dasher-McAdams
Starr Battle

Excused:

Gertrude Upperman
Dwight Patterson

Adoption of Agenda

President Penny Oliver

President Oliver called for the Adoption of the Agenda; it was properly moved by John Smith and seconded by Myrtle Mayo to accept the Agenda as printed; all were in favor, so moved.

After careful perusal of the minutes from the last meeting, there were no corrections and the report was accepted as information for our files.

Officer's Reports – None. President Oliver stated that in the future, we will return to written Officer's Reports.

Public Relations

Angela Elam & Shontae Smith, Volunteers

A typed report was distributed by the volunteers of the Public Relations Committee. (Note: President Oliver requested Volunteers for Marshall's. Betty Parker and Sonia Barbre volunteered their services.) Ms. Elam & Smith thanked everyone for their support in submitting articles for the publication of the *Newsletter*. So much information has been received and many accolades have been received, because of the input and information received.

The handout lists the churches that have already been featured and the month that they were featured; there are 86 churches in our conference which gives room for more to be recognized. Also, **In the Spotlight – Hidden Figures**, if you have members, (living or deceased), who have done exemplary things in the community or who are/were trail blazers in their profession(s), **The Lay Express** wants to know the details. The pertinent information needed is outlined in the attached report.

The May 1st issue will spotlight Elder Bernard Wilder. Please send your special pictures, well wishes, etc., in now or as soon as possible, so that they may compile this information for the special spotlight issue.

Corresponding Secretary

Barbara Smith

A "thank you" card was read from Ms. Barbara Hooker & the Hooker Family to the Lay Body, in acknowledgement of all acts of kindness shown during the passing and funeral of **Lay Minister Wilbert Hooker, Jr.** Additionally, Ms. Smith thanked everyone for the kindness shown to her and her family, due to the death of her brother.

Treasurer's Report

Woodrow Winchester

See the attached treasurer's report as of December 31, 2017. The balance forwarded was confirmed by President Oliver. There was one outstanding check, payable to the Second Episcopal District for Scarves.

The second page shows **Source of Funds** - we are still receiving funds for the *Prayer Breakfast* (\$300), also, an intake for *Scarves* (\$125).

Under **Use of Funds** -

Christmas Gifts: Both Presiding Elder's - \$ 50/ea. = \$100
Bishop - \$ 50
\$ 150

Starr Battle made an observation from the Treasurer's Report that a substantial amount of money is going out for the sole purpose of purchasing scarves that will be purchased from the various Conferences, in the 2nd Episcopal District. Ms. Battle stated, "*It would be better if each conference would purchase their scarves and we would not have that bulk expense in the Western District.*" Much discussion followed.

President Oliver thanked Ms. Battle for her observation and stated that she and the Financial Committee met and looked at this report and will be more mindful, this matter, in the future.

With no further discussion, the Financial Report was accepted as given.

OLD BUSINESS

2018 YAR Event

Adam Johnston, Co-Chair
Mary Royster - Harris, YAR

President Oliver alluded to the previous announcement that Mary Harris gave birth, earlier this week, to a healthy 9+ pound baby girl, both are doing fine!

The last three pages of the packet is the report for the Young Adult Representative. This information outlines the details of the -

YAR Event: "Gospel Explosion - For Your Glory"
Turners Chapel AME Church - Rev. Michael Bowden, Pastor
Saturday, April 21, 2018

Starr Battle, *Connectional Level, 3rd Vice President*, noted that since there has been a date change for our Annual Young Adult Event, she suggests that President Oliver submit an Amendment for the date change to the *Conference and Constitution Committee*. Further instructions were made available to President Oliver on how this matter should be addressed.

President Oliver asked all local Lay Presidents to raise their hands and expressed their help is needed in order for this event to be successful.

She further impressed upon the Presidents to go back to their church and encourage the choirs to take an active part...*“every church has a choir that could take an active part in the Gospel Explosion, (age 35 years and below). If you do not have a choir, come out anyway and lend your support! We need your help! This could be a great success!”*

Coordinators Budget

President Penny Oliver

Woodrow Winchester, Mozell Weston and President Oliver met together to review the Coordinators Budget. Each coordinator is allotted \$ 1,000.00 – Eastern District, Betty Duell and Western District, Renee White. President Oliver asked Betty Duell, Eastern District Coordinator to work in the Western District, also, because help was needed there and she agreed to do so. Monies were taken out of the Western District Budget to reimburse Betty Duell, Eastern District Coordinator, which explains how she was \$500.00 over her budget.

The budget year runs from January – December and a Budget Committee will be appointed by President Oliver with Woodrow Winchester as chairperson.

Update on 2018 WNCCLO Prayer Breakfast

Jackie Kanipe, DOLA

Several weeks ago, proposals were sent out to all Presidents to determine who was interested in hosting our Prayer Breakfast for 2018, (Handouts were distributed). Proposals were received from the following by the January 2nd deadline:

- St Matthew, Burlington – (\$ 8.00 Plate)
- Saint Matthew, Raleigh – (\$ 8.00 Plate)
- Macedonia, Milton – (\$10.00 Plate)

All three churches stated that they could adequately accommodate 225 persons in their Fellowship Hall and were willing to offer the menu, as discussed, for the above mentioned prices; two were tied in their bid. On the conference call the committee decided with St Matthew, Burlington, as the next site for the Prayer Breakfast, 2018. It was suggested to use the two alternates; one for 2019 and the other for 2020, provided the food amount and cost does not change and the number attending. The Body agreed we should also consider any new bids that we might receive in 2019. This event will take place: **September 8, 2018, (second Saturday at 10:00 AM)**. There were no questions and the report was accepted as presented. A motion was made by Kenneth Woods and seconded by Connie Pearson to have our 2018 Prayer Breakfast at St Matthew, Burlington. A majority showing, by the raising of hands, the motion carried. The ticket cost will remain at \$15.00 for this year and President Oliver emphasized that, *“this venue is **not** a fundraiser; we come together to fellowship and pray!”*

Per President Oliver, it is very important if you receive an email, phone call or any type of communication from her or Jackie Kanipe, please respond ASAP or within 2 to 4 days. Most information is “time sensitive” decisions are waiting/need to be made.

Lay Workshop – January

Jackie Kanipe, DOLA

The next Lay Workshop will be held: **Saturday, January 27th (10 -12)**
Shiloh AME Church
1323 N. Powerhouse Road
Morganton, NC

- NO COST OR REGISTRATION -

Topic of discussion: **“Duties of Stewards and Trustees”**

Annual Conference Lay Witness Night

Jackie Kanipe, DOLA

Lay Witness at the Conference will be held **Thursday, May 17th at 7:30 pm.** **St Matthew, Raleigh, NC** has volunteered to present a play and provide the music by their choir. Pastors are asked to process with the Lay Presidents. There will be recognitions of officers; outgoing officers of who have served eight years/New Officers for 2018-2020 and Presiding Elder Bernard Wilder. No questions, report accepted.

2018-2020 Nomination Committee

Kenneth Woods, Chair

A typed report was distributed to members of the Lay Body – please see attachment. This committee met by conference call. All offices of the Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization are open. The deadline for Letters of Intent is **Wednesday, March 14, 2018.** The election will be held: **(Second Saturday) – April 14, 2018 at Springdale AME Church, Burlington, NC.** Your submission is necessary for the Nomination Committee and the Credentials Committee enough time to do their work.

Remember: You are unable to send out literature until you are certified and qualified by the Committees.

NEW BUSINESS:

Update on 2018 District Legacy Breakfast

Jackie Kanipe

This breakfast will be held at the Mid-Winter Meeting, *February 17, 2018 at 7:00 am, at the Sheraton Hotel in Greensboro, NC.*

The Rev. Tony Lee, Pastor of Community of Hope AMEC, Hillcrest Heights, MD, is the speaker.

Theme: “Social Justice Empowering the People”
Ticket cost: \$40.00/ea.

Each conference, as well as, the WNCC has been given sixty (60) tickets and they are now on sale for pastors & laity to be purchased prior to this occasion, a total of 350 tickets total for this event – none will be sold at the door. We have fliers advertising this event. We will need two (2) hostesses from each conference; volunteers were Gerald Logan, Theresa Watson and Azzie Conley. Ms. Kanipe asked that checks be made payable to: **WNCCLO and mail to Jackie Kanipe**. Any tickets purchased today, monies/checks may be submitted to Woodrow Winchester, our *Treasurer*.

Laity Teaching Moment

Jackie Kanipe

The **reference Scripture** for our new theme is *Micah 6:8* -

“And what does the Lord require of you but, to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

New Laity Theme:

“Laity walking humbly with God, to do justice and to love kindness.”

Ms. Kanipe asked for the definition of a “*Servant Leader*.” Several responded and gave illustrations.

2018 Lay Institute (Date)

Jackie Kanipe

The Lay Institute has not been confirmed as of today’s date, however, Bethel, Greensboro and Bethel, Charlotte both have expressed interest in hosting this year’s Institute. The tentative date is November, 2018 and an update will be given later, after consulting with the Coordinators, President, etc. President Oliver added that, “the Lay Organization is responsible for *training and teaching* and that is the purpose of having the Lay Institutes. When she gives her report to the Bishop, she is required to account for the planned teaching sessions. Because of that, it has to start here with the Lay Organization and planning Lay Institutes.”

President Oliver added an addendum to the YAR report, in the packet that each person received, if you do not have a Youth Choir in your church your financial contribution is still appreciated. The report details the expected amounts depending if you are an **A-B-C Church** and the amount you may donate to this event. **Always, your support in attending the YAR event shows you care!**

Mirroring Ministry

President Penny Oliver

The Mirroring Project was put together by our Bishop for us to look at ourselves as a whole. The first part of it was the Presiding Elders template to look at how many churches in each county and the demographics. The Lay Members that took part in the Presiding Elders template were asked to stand. She thanked everyone for what they did; the Western NC Conference was the first conference to turn their information in.

The next step of this project will look at each church spiritually, as well as, physically. There will be questions that are being developed now by the 2nd District Lay Presidents, Bishop Davis and Dr. Mouzan. She was unable to give out the questions, because they have not been approved yet. The Lay Organization was assigned this project, because there are more of us than it is of the pastors. You have someone you can come to in the 2nd District - Dr. Mouzan and President Oliver. The Laity's implementation is crucial this process so - - Be Honest!

Membership Report

Bobbi Hague

There were **58 in attendance** today and **\$300.00 was collected**.

Praise Reports -

Lay Body Members

Many were grateful for the many blessings that God had bestowed upon them. The following shared their Testimonies:

Penny Oliver - God blessed her Father and Family

Woodrow Winchester - God blessed him with better health.

Adolphus Kelley - God blessed him to undergo Hip Surgery.

Theresa Watson - God blessed her No More Headaches.

Closing Prayer by Jessie Hinton; **followed by Singing of the Lay Benediction** led by Diane Foy.

The Lay Meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane T. Foy

Diane T. Foy, Recording Secretary

Attachments

Public Relations Report:

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ~ SECOND EPISCOPAL
DISTRICT
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE
LAY ORGANIZATION

Sister Penny Oliver, President

Public Relations Report - Saturday, January 13, 2018

Sister Angela Elam - allendur@aol.com

Sister Shontae Smith - shontaesmith@gmail.com

Public Relations Volunteers

Calling all Churches!  ***Figures!***

Calling all Hidden

For the Newsletter!

Check out the WNCC Lay website for the history of a few WNCC A.M.E. Churches:

<http://wncclay.org>

	MONTH FEATURED
Springdale	January 2015
Persimmon Grove	October 2015
St. James – Winton-Salem	January 2016
McElrath Chapel	March 2016
Elizabeth	July 2016
St. John – Nebo	September 2016
Greater Bethel	October 2016
Hunter’s Chapel	November 2016
Emmanuel	December 2016
Macedonia	January 2017
St. Paul – Lenoir	February 2017
Clover Garden	March 2017
Living Waters	September 2017
St. Paul-Raleigh & Stoney Creek	October 2017
Mt. Pisgah	November 2017
Shiloh	December 2017

(Attachment – 1)



u
r church have members (living or deceased) who have done exemplary things in the community or who are/were trailblazers in their profession(s)?

Well...The Lay Express wants to know who they are and what they did.

Each month, The Lay Express will feature a “Hidden Figure(s)” from a church (es) within the Western North Carolina Conference.

Please send the individual’s name (layperson or clergy), a picture (if available), and a very brief description of the Hidden Figure.

Always keep your eyes open for the next Lay Express. You never know when your church or hidden Figure will be in the SPOTLIGHT.

Save The Date

The Lay Express May 2018 Edition

This edition of the newsletter will be dedicated to the Presiding Elder J. Bernard Wilder in celebration of his retirement from 53 years of ministry.

If you have any pictures or would like to provide a BRIEF message to Presiding Elder Wilder, please contact the WNCC Lay Organization Public Relations Volunteers anytime before April 26, 2018.

Thank you

(Attachment -2)

YAR Report:

“But the time is coming- indeed it’s here now-when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.” John 4: 23-34 NLT

January 8, 2018

Greetings, in the Name of the Most High God:

It’s that time of the year, again, when we can showcase the Youth and Young Adults of the Western North Carolina Conference!

We invite you to join us for the YAR Event **“Gospel Explosion- For Your Glory”** on April 21, 2018 at Turner’s Chapel A.M.E. Church in High Point, NC. Registration begins at 9:00 am and promptly at 9:30 am an hour long workshop entitled “My Praise Is For Real” by Rev. Anthony Radcliffe . This workshop will explore worship from the Young Adult’s perspective and how to be more effective with Young Adult’s through worship at your local church.

At 10:30 am we will transition into our Gospel Explosion. We are excited to have a **“Battle of Choirs”** between the Eastern and Western Districts of the Western North Carolina Conference. We will have two categories of choirs: **Youth Choirs** and **Youth and Young Adult Choirs**. Please refer to the enclosure for criteria regarding the Gospel Explosion. We will have judges for the choirs; however, the judges will not be affiliated with the WNCC Lay Organization to ensure fairness.

We will crown both a Mr. and Miss Gospel Explosion 2018. Our prayer is to have a boy and girl from each district participate so the conference is well represented. Church registration and submittal of monies for Mr. and Miss Gospel Explosion will need to take place prior to 10:30 am. We encourage all churches to participate in this event to support scholarships for our youth and young adults. Church registration can be mailed prior to the event date and it is as follows:

• **“A” Churches - \$300 • “B” Churches - \$200 • “C” Churches - \$100**

Please complete the enclosed form for participation in the Battle of the Choirs and Mr. and Miss Gospel Explosion and return to Mary Royster Harris by March 18, 2018. The form is also available on www.wncclay.org.

We look forward to seeing you there! Where we will have an awesome time praising God through song and worship!

Yours In Christ and Christian Love,

Mary Royster Harris, Young Adult Representative
Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization
Adam Johnston, 3rd Vice President
Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization

(Attachment -3)

YAR Event: "Gospel Explosion- For Your Glory"

Turner's Chapel A.M.E. Church

7615 Florence School Drive High Point, NC 27265

Rev. Michael Bowden, Pastor

April 21, 2018

Battle of the Choirs Criteria

Judging Criteria: **Choirs will be judged in 3 categories and ranking 1-10 in each category.**

- **The three categories are: Overall Creativity (including attire), Performance, and Song Choice/Arrangement**
- There will be a minimum of 3 judges, but no more than 5 who are not affiliated with the WNCC Lay Organization
- Musicians can be any age, but to lead a song they must be **under** 35 years of age
- To be considered a **Youth Choir** **ALL choir members MUST BE under the age of 18.**
- For **Youth and Young Adult Choirs** there can be a variety of ages within the choir (aged 0-35), but **no more than 4 members over the age of 35.**
- 2 songs for each choir and/or a medley of songs, **MUST NOT** be longer than 15 mins

We look forward to seeing you there! Where we will have an awesome time praising God through song and worship!

Yours In Christ and Christian Love,

Mary Royster Harris, Young Adult Representative
Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization

Adam Johnston, 3rd Vice President
Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization

(Attachment - 4)

WNCC Lay Organization
YAR Event: "Gospel Explosion- For Your Glory"

Please fill out this form and return to via mail or email: Mary Royster Harris

3508 Panarama Drive

Greensboro, NC 27405

Email: maryrharris11@gmail.com

Mr. and Miss Gospel Explosion:

First Name _____ Last _____

Age _____ Church Name _____

Pastor's Name _____

Are you showcasing a talent? YES or NO What Form _____

Battle of Choirs:

Church Name: _____ District: _____

Choir Name: _____

Pastor's Name: _____

Is your choir Youth or Youth and Young Adult? _____