



# THE LAY EXPRESS



**Second Episcopal District ~ African Methodist Episcopal Church  
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION**

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

VOLUME III

OCTOBER 2017

ISSUE 10

From  
*the desk*  
of...

*Penny S. Oliver, President*



October 1, 2017

*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

Thank you for your participation in the Eleventh Annual WNCCLO Prayer Breakfast and Memorial Service held at Macedonia A.M.E. Church in Milton, N.C., on September 9, 2017. Because of you the breakfast was a success! During the breakfast we paid homage to our oldest churches in each respective district of the Western North Carolina Conference. For the Eastern District, St. Paul-Raleigh was recognized, and in the Western District, we acknowledged Stoney Creek-Burlington.

In the book of Nehemiah chapter 4 and verse 6 it reads, "So we built the wall and all the wall was joined together to half its height for the people had a **mind to work.**" Also in the book of Luke chapter 6:49 it reads, "He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been **well built.**"

***Where the people have a mind to work the churches are well built.***

The respect we paid to the churches was not simply for the passing of years, but also as a means of honoring the ripening wisdom of living. This was not just an assessment taken, but a recognition of the well of receiving and giving in these churches. Our tributes were not just about the people who have come and gone, but recognizing the hearts of many faces and forms; not just the winds of change and chance, but the weathering of standstills and storms; not just the luck of survival, but the brave conquering of strife. Put simply, this show of appreciation honored the many gatherings of love and life. Countless numbers of children, parents, and friends have been a part of these congregations. Innumerable prayers of supplication, thanksgiving and praise have been offered. One can only imagine how many lives have been touched by these two great churches!

I shared with those in attendance that in order for the church to be around for another one hundred years, we must decide if we, the people, will lead our churches or *will we ALLOW the Holy Spirit to lead them.* In 2 Peter chapter 1 verses 20 and 21 it reads, "Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God."

***We MUST Trust God and let the Holy Spirit lead us!***

We encourage you to attend the WNCCLO meetings held every other month. Our next meeting is October 14 at 10 a.m., at Bethel AMEC, Greensboro.

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

Western North Carolina Lay Organization  
Penny S. Oliver, President



# FROM THE DESK OF THE BISHOP

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Second Episcopal District Clergy  
FROM: James Levert Davis, *Servant Bishop*  
DATE: September 18, 2017  
SUBJECT: ***Meeting of Black Methodist United: Call to Action for “Jobs and Justice”***

This Memorandum is being sent to inform you that the annual meeting of Black Methodist United will be held in Washington, DC, October 3-4, 2017. This organization is comprised of the three predominately Black Methodist bodies: The African Methodist Episcopal Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. The purpose is to present a united force to those who have been elected by us—the people – in our pursuit for A Call to Action, Jobs and Justice for all.

**On Tuesday, October 3, 2017, at 1:00 pm**, Bishops of the A.M.E., A.M.E. Zion and C.M.E. Churches will meet at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, 2799 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202 to review and prepare for the Wednesday press conference, as well as outline and discuss the ongoing strategy of the “Jobs and Justice” campaign.

**At 7:00 pm Tuesday, October 3, 2017**, Worship service will be held at Israel Metropolitan C.M.E. Church, 557 Randolph Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20011. Our esteemed **Senior Bishop McKinley Young** Presiding Prelate of the Third Episcopal District, A.M.E Church, will bring the message. We want to ensure that the A.M.E. Church is well represented, and specifically the Second Episcopal District. For those in the Metropolitan Washington area, we strongly urge each pastor to attend and encourage your congregation to attend as well. To the pastors and congregations outside the area, you are invited to attend as your locations and schedules allow. Let us turn out in the style that is so customary of the magnificent Second Episcopal District!

**On Wednesday, October 4, at 10:00am**, The Bishops and other church representatives will take part in a Press Conference and Unveiling of the Action Plan with Congresswoman Maxie Waters and Congressman G. K. Butterfield at the National Press Club, 529 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC.

We have attached a program flyer FYI. This will give you an overall picture of what will take place within the two-day period.

Should you need lodging, you can make reservations directly to the selected hotel which is the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, 2799 Jefferson Davis Highway Arlington, Virginia 22202. The rate is \$199.00 per night. Or you can make accommodations wherever you desire.

“*In the Spirit to Empower the People,*” thank you in advance for your participation and support of this cause to improve the quality of life for humankind. If there are questions, or if additional information is needed, please call the Episcopal District at 202-842-3788.

**#4REAL**

“Then the king will reply to them, ‘I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.’

Matthew 25:40 (Common English Bible)

Once again our people have been impacted by the tremendous power of hurricanes. We cannot prevent such occurrences; however, we can come to the aid of those who have been ravaged and displaced by these recent natural disasters. Remember, we are a CONNECTIONAL Church. Therefore, if one is hurting, we all are HURTING.

**HOW TO HELP  
AFTER A DISASTER**

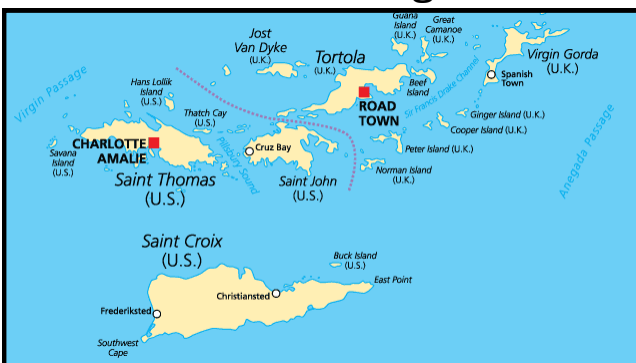
*The best way to help is with  
CASH DONATIONS to  
TRUSTED ORGANIZATIONS.*

- Cash is efficient, flexible to use, and requires no packaging or transport.
- Trusted organizations will ensure your money goes to help those in need.



FEMA

If you would like to help with relief efforts in the 16th District, which includes our churches in the Virgin Islands:



Make Checks payable to:  
16th Episcopal District AME Church  
Post Office Box 55106  
Indianapolis, IN 46205-0106  
Put "Relief Fund" on the memo line.

In addition, you can continue to send goods and commodities that are needed such as: Wal-Mart Gift Cards, money, food, bottle water, juices; rubber gloves, rubber boots, Clorox, disinfectants, sanitizers, deodorizers, and other types of baby supplies, directly to one of the Distribution Centers of the 10th District—Texas:

1. Bethel AME Church  
225 North Swiss Street  
San Antonio, TX 78202  
Rev. Dr. Raymond Bryant, Pastor/Relief Chair
2. Emanuel AME Church  
1600 Semlinger Road  
San Antonio, TX 78220  
Rev. Carl Garmon Sr., Pastor



# Connectional Lay Organization



## Connectional Lay Organization African Methodist Episcopal Church

**Bishop E. Earl McCloud Jr, Lay Commission Chair**

**Mrs. Valerie G. Bell, CLO President**

**Ms. Betty J. Tuggle, Chair Nominating Committee**

Election of Director of Public Relations

The Nominating Committee of the Connectional Lay Organization of the African Methodist Church is now accepting (Letter of Intent) for the office of Director of Public Relations for 2017-2021.

Please read and follow the instructions listed below:

Any person seeking the elected office of Director of Public Relations in the Connectional Lay Organization must be a member in, "good and regular standing" in their local Lay, District of the Annual Conference (If applicable), Conference and Episcopal District Lay Organizations, and must possess the qualifications required for the position being sought.

Any candidate for the elected office must have registered and attended (3) Biennials as a delegate, alternate delegate, or observer within a (10) year period immediately preceding the election year.

All persons seeking the office of Director of Publications must submit to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee a "Letter of Intent" with qualifications, and signed by the Episcopal District Lay Organization President.

The "Letter of Intent" is to be mailed/or electronically sent to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee with a postmark date of no later than October 09, 2017. This deadline date will constitute the close of all nominations submitted to the Nominating Committee. Letters of Intent received after that date will not be accepted.

Candidates will be notified by October 12, 2017 if they meet the qualifications for the office they are seeking.

At a special called Connectional Lay Organization Executive Board Meeting, the eligible candidates will be presented for their approval. After the Executive Board's decision, eligible candidates can begin campaigning.

Any candidate campaigning before notified of his/her eligibility will be disqualified. Campaigning is defined as (a) placing ads in souvenir journals or any AMEC publications, i.e., newsletters, etc., (b) distributing campaign literature/paraphernalia and (c) visiting formal functions of any lay organization or its subordinate bodies with the expressed purpose of campaign.

-

### NOTE

To obtain a "Letter of Intent", contact the Episcopal District President of your District, or contact the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Betty J. Tuggle Email: [bjoetuggle@yahoo.com](mailto:bjoetuggle@yahoo.com), or by phone: (269-274-9292).  
Address: 5091 Glenn Valley Drive, Apt #1B, Battle Creek, Michigan 49015

-

Connectional Lay Organization  
2017 Nominating Committee Members

Sister Betty J. Tuggle, Chairperson (4<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District)  
Brother Michael Brown, Co-Chairperson (6<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District)  
Sister Ebony Newby Brown, Secretary (3<sup>rd</sup> Episcopal District)  
Sister Jeronia McClish, Assistant Secretary, (1<sup>st</sup> Episcopal District)  
Brother James Bonner, Chaplain (9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District)  
Brother Martin Lombe (17<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District)  
Brother Cory Williams (12<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District)

**Connectional Lay Organization African Methodist Episcopal Church**

Bishop E. Earl McCloud Jr, Lay Commission Chair  
Mrs. Valerie Gary Bell, CLO President

Betty J. Tuggle, Chair Nominating Committee

**LETTER OF INTENT (Corrected Copy)**

(To seek an office of Director of Public Relations in the Connectional Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.) **The Election will be held in Birmingham, Alabama, on Friday, November 10, 2017.**

Instructions: Please complete the following letter of Intent (LOI), secure the necessary signatures and return by certified US Mail or its international equivalent to Nominating Committee Chair Betty J. Tuggle, 5091 Glenn Valley Dr., Apt. #1B, Battle Creek, Michigan 49015. Or electronically, Email: bjoetuggle@yahoo.com. This letter of Intent must be postmarked by midnight October 09, 2017. Please include photo

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (type/print your name) am a member of the

\_\_\_\_\_ Episcopal District

\_\_\_\_\_ Annual Conference

Local Church Information (Give name & location of Church, Pastor & Local Lay President)

I am seeking the office of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Connectional Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

I have read and understand the criteria for the office I desire in the Connectional Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church Constitution and By-Laws, Article 5, section 1 (A-O), Officers, Duties and Responsibilities.

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 I wish to withdraw, I must notify the Nominating Committee as follows: Betty J. Tuggle, Chairperson, 5091 Glenn Valley Dr., Apt. #1B, Battle Creek, Michigan, 49015 or Email: bjoetuggle@yahoo.com.

My experience at the Connectional, Episcopal District, Annual Conference, Presiding Elder District, and Local levels

Since 2007 is a follows:

**Connectional Level** \_\_\_\_\_

**Episcopal District** \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Conference** \_\_\_\_\_

**Presiding Elder District (if applicable)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Local Church** \_\_\_\_\_

**Involvement in AME Church: work at all levels not mentioned above** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional information (Education & Experience outside of the AME Church)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Biennial Lay Convention I registered for and attended including in the last (10) years.**

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

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt/Suite \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Country/Zip or Mail Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

As President of the \_\_\_\_\_ Episcopal District Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church,

I hereby affix my (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## **“Lay Witness Sunday”**

Lay Witness Sunday provides laypersons with the opportunity to witness about their faith in Jesus Christ and their commitment to fulfilling *HIS* mission in the world. Lay Witness Sunday is a time we traditionally recognize the work and mission of all laity – not only that which takes place within the walls of our churches, but also in our everyday lives.

Officially, the Connectional Lay Day was designated for observation by all AME Churches for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday during the month of October in 1969 at the Eleventh Biennial Session. However, in the Second Episcopal District, the late Bishop Vinton Anderson, while President of the World Council of Churches from 1991-1998, formally named the day as “Lay Witness Sunday”. The purpose for “Lay Witness Sunday”, under Bishop Anderson, was to create an opportunity for the pastors to worship together during an annual Ministers’ Retreat in Virginia. As such, rather than the church’s ordained clergy leading worship and expounding on the scriptures on this Sunday, “Lay Witness Sunday” was established for lay persons to carry out morning worship services at their respective churches. Although, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in October was chosen as the official date for this service, if this day does not work for your church, any Sunday could be used to mark your church’s Lay Witness Sunday should the church’s pastor permit.

May God bless us with the true spirit of Christianity, that we may live together,  
not as man over man, but as lay persons working with God.  
*Amen.*

# OLDEST CHURCHES IN THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

## Saint Paul A.M.E. Church



ST. PAUL A. M. E. CHURCH  
WAKE COUNTY, N.C.



Established in 1848, St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church was originally the slave membership of Edenton Street United Methodist Episcopal Church in Raleigh, NC. Due to the rapid growth of the black and white memberships, different housing arrangements became necessary. In 1853 white Methodists bought the old Christ Episcopal Church where blacks had been worshipping since 1846. The congregation worshipped under other names, but it was in 1848 that St. Paul Church was established formally. In 1865 blacks severed its ties with Edenton Street Methodist Church and joined the A.M.E. Church Conference, a black denomination founded in 1787 and organized in 1816 by Richard Allen.

The birth of the current structure, which is a reflection of the American Gothic Style Revival, was built by black masons during the last quarter of the 19th century. The oldest black church in Wake County, North Carolina, St. Paul was organized by the first independent black congregation in Raleigh and served as the central meeting place for the area's blacks for over 100 years.

As part of its rich history, St. Paul opened its doors as a meeting place for the slaves; the 1865 and 1866 "Freedman's Convention", the first such convention of blacks to be held in the South; the Johnson Public School for blacks in Raleigh was held on the site of St. Paul; and a forum for the Civil Rights Movement and the Sanitation Worker's Strike. It was at this church that politicians, civic and religious leaders and the people gathered to formally request that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday be made a national holiday. And it was from St. Paul's pulpit that the Rev. Jesse Jackson made his famous "Rainbow Coalition" speech for the presidency of the United States.

St. Paul A. M. E. Church rejoices in the glorious tradition of those "unsung heroes of the faith" - that first congregation and those who followed in their footsteps - their hearts filled with commitment, laboring as washwomen, maids, nurses and cooks while giving their salaries and clothes from their backs, mortgaging their homes and in many cases losing their homes, yet vowing to live on bread and molasses so that this "Ebenezer", St. Paul A.M.E. Church, would be raised to the glory of God! Currently, St. Paul is under the pastorate of Elder G. L. Edmonds.

2017  
Western North Carolina  
Conference Lay Organization  
Prayer Breakfast & Memorial Service



## Stoney Creek A.M.E. Church

In 1803, Rock Fence A.M.E. Church was built in the Milesville community of Caswell County. After a period of time, the members decided to

build another church about a mile from the old one and changed the name of the church to Stoney Creek A.M.E. Church. Mr. John Walker donated land for this church in 1899. This permitted Masters Robert Graves, Jim Pinnix, Sam Williamson, Todd Tapscott, G. D. Pinnix, John B. Shaw, Jim Miles and Nelch Pinnix to build the church under the leadership of the Rev. C. S. Stroud.

The land where the church is located currently was purchased due to Brother James Junior Sellars vision for future church growth. Brother Sellars was informed that the elementary school adjacent to the property owned by the church was for sale. He trusted this was a good opportunity to acquire additional land and Brother Sellars told Brothers George D. Pinnix and Ary Graves about the land. Subsequently, they went to Yanceyville, NC to purchase the land for the church. In later years, under the leadership of Rev. H. J. Jeter, Bro. Walter Hurdle, Sr., along with his sons, conducted a major remodel of the church.

In 1972, Reverend J. H. Toran was appointed the 20<sup>th</sup> pastor of Stoney Creek. During his tenure, the members decided it was time to build a new edifice. The construction of this structure began in May 1983 and was completed in April 1984. Additionally, the communion rail and kneeling bench were re-designed and the church was dedicated November 18, 1984.

Reverend Joe L. White was appointed the 21<sup>st</sup> pastor on June 11, 1984. Although, he was with Stoney Creek for only a short time, a great deal was accomplished under his leadership. Rev. White concentrated on re-organizing the church and due to his leadership, a focus on youth activities continues to this day.

In May 1986, the Rev. James Swain, Jr. was assigned as the 22<sup>nd</sup> pastor. Rev. Swain organized the first Male Chorus and Acolytes at Stoney Creek. God also led him to organize a Prayer Band so that people of the same mind and spirit could minister to the sick and unsaved. Under his leadership, the church was able to pay off the church mortgage, build and furnish the fellowship hall with partitions, purchase land for cemetery plots, enlarge the kitchen and bathrooms, pave the parking lot, purchase furniture for the Pastor's Study and choir room, redesign the marquee in front of the church, update the mic system, purchase a new van, keyboard, and new lights for the sanctuary. In 2002, Stoney Creek purchased and furnished the church parsonage and November 3, 2003, Bishop Vinton R. Anderson conducted a dedication and mortgage burning services. The Lord blessed us with many material blessings; however, Rev. Swain's focus was the saving of souls.

Stoney Creek celebrated its 200<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary on March 16, 2003. In May of 2012, we were blessed to purchase a house and lot across the street from the church.

In May of 2012, Rev. Johnathan C. Richardson was appointed as the 23<sup>rd</sup> pastor, along with his wife, Cherique, and sons, Solomon, Silas, and Julian. Under the leadership of Rev. Richardson, Stoney Creek has begun to think and do things differently. His vision includes a strategic plan that is now under way. It is yet revealed what Stoney Creek will do next for the Kingdom of God as they continue the legacy that is Stoney Creek. Praise God!

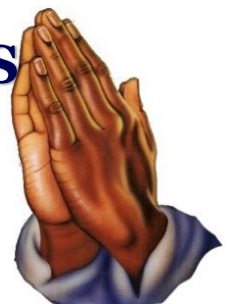
2017  
Western North Carolina  
Conference Lay Organization  
Prayer Breakfast & Memorial Service



# THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS YEAR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST & MEMORIAL A SUCCESS!



**“PRAYER BUILDS A SOLID FOUNDATION”**





# 2017 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



## Davis-McKinney Scholarship Awardees 2017

### **Janelle Izzard**

Attending: East Carolina University  
Major: Biology –Pre-Med  
Church: St. Joseph AME  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Ronald L. Owens

### **Justin Wilson**

Attending: North Carolina Agricultural and  
Technical State University  
Major: Broadcast Journalism  
Church: Greater Bethel AME  
Pastor: Rev. Morris Reddon, Jr.

### **Imani Stephen**

Attending: Bennett College  
Church: Mount Zion AME  
Major: Journalism and Media Studies  
Pastor: Rev. Shelton T. Miles

### **Rita Furbert**

Attending: Louisburg College  
Major: Pre Occupational Therapy  
Church: St. Joseph AME  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Ronald L. Owens

## Dr. James C. Johnson Scholarships Awardees 2017

### **Adriene De Lilly**

Attending: Radford University  
Major: Psychology and Criminal Justice  
Church: St. James AME  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons

### **Imani Stephen**

Attending: Bennett College  
Major: Journalism and Media Studies  
Church: Mt. Zion AME  
Pastor: Rev. Shelton T. Miles

### **Jada McCoy**

Attending: Winston Salem State University  
Major: Psychology  
Church: St. John AME  
Pastor: Rev. George Pass, Sr.

## Kittrell-Allen-Adams Awardees 2017

### **Rodney Boykin**

Attending: North Carolina Agricultural and  
Technical State University  
Major: Applied Engineering Technology  
Church: Poplar Springs AME  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Sandra Bullock-Hunter

### **Kiah Carrothers**

Attending: New York University  
Major: Applied Psychology/ Global Public Health  
Church: Greater Bethel AME  
Pastor: Rev. Morris Reddon, Jr.

### **Sable Smith**

Attending: North Carolina State University  
Major: Environmental Science  
Church: Allen Chapel AME  
Pastor: Rev. Larry McDonald

### **Robert Wilson, Jr.**

Attending: North Carolina Agricultural and  
Technical State University  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Church: Lincolntonville AME  
Pastor: Rev. Wayne E. Beatty



JOIN US AS WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING PASTORS TO THE  
**Western North Carolina Annual Conference**

***Rev. Robert L. Hodges, Sr.***

*St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh – Eastern District – Presiding Elder J. Bernard Wilder*

***Rev. Michael Cousin***

*St. Paul AME Church, Chapel Hill – Western District – Presiding Elder Conrad K. Pridgen*



HELP US ALSO CONGRATULATE THE FOLLOWING  
ITINERATE ELDERS TO THEIR NEW APPOINTMENTS IN THE  
**North Carolina Annual Conference**

***Presiding Elder Gregory. L. Edmond***

*Northern District*

***Rev. Thomas O. Nixon***

*St. Stephen AME Church, Wilmington – Northern District – Presiding Elder G. L. Edmond*

KEEP THEM UPLIFTED WITH YOUR  
PRAYERS AS THEY SERVE





# In the Spotlight

## Hidden Figures

### *Saint James—Winston-Salem*



**First African American County Sheriff's Deputy  
Mr. Eldridge D. Alston**

Mr. Eldridge D. Alston began his career with the sheriff's department in 1961. The Winston-Salem Police department had already been integrated, but the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office had not.

Mr. Alston worked at the sheriff's office for 30 years. He worked his way through the ranks, was promoted to captain in 1976 and promoted to major in 1985. He held that rank until his retirement.

Mr. Alston passed away on December 27, 2016.

St. James AME Church  
Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons, *Pastor*





# In the Spotlight

## Hidden Figures

### *Saint James—Winston-Salem*



#### **First African American Mayor Pro-Tempore Mr. Carl H. Russell, Sr.**

In 1961-1977, Mr. Carl H. Russell was an elected Alderman for the Old South Third Ward. In 1970 he was the First Black Mayor Pro-Tempore of the city of Winston-Salem, NC. Mr. Russell started the city's first black newspaper in 1945. The Russell's Funeral Home began in a modest building on East Seventh Street with used equipment purchased from a funeral home in Virginia that had gone under. In 1962, it moved to the Christian Building, which is at the corner of Martin Luther King Drive and Carl Russell Avenue.

Mr. Russell passed away in 1987 and his wife of 49 years, Florrie assumed the responsibility for the business until her death in 1997. The Russell family continues to serve the community of Winston-Salem.

St. James AME Church  
Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons, *Pastor*

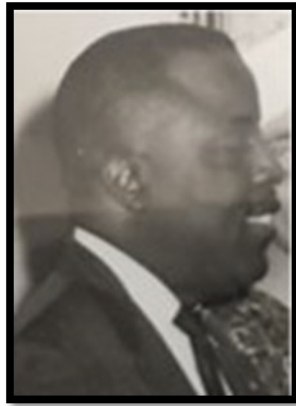




In the  
**Spotlight**

## **Hidden Figures**

***Saint James—Winston-Salem***



**First African American Probation Officer  
Mr. Harold Ferguson, Jr.**

Mr. Harold Ferguson Jr., first black Probation Officer in the history of North Carolina Court System in June 1958.

St. James AME Church  
Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons, *Pastor*





# In the Spotlight

## Hidden Figures

*Saint James—Winston-Salem*



**Trailblazer**  
**Rev. Dr. J. T. Millan**

The Rev. Dr. J. T. Millan was president of the NAACP for 12 years. Rev. Millan served as a statewide chairman of the North Carolina State Church and Ministries for 10 years. During this time he led the community through the victorious “Catherine Scott suit, which legally accomplished total school-teacher desegregation. Catherine Scott remains a member of St. James AME Church.

St. James AME Church  
Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons, *Pastor*





# In the Spotlight

## Hidden Figures

*Saint James—Winston-Salem*



**First African America Veterinarian in Winston-Salem  
Dr. Calvert B. Jeffers, Jr.**

Dr. Calvert B. Jeffers, Jr., received Bachelor of Science, Biology, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture Science, and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, from Tuskegee Institute. Mr. Jeffers has been the owner of Boulevard Animal Hospital, Winston-Salem, NC from 1980-Present.

St. James AME Church  
Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons, *Pastor*





# In the Spotlight

## Hidden Figures

*Saint James—Winston-Salem*



**First African American Director  
Dr. John Brown**

Mr. John Brown was the first African American Director of the newly formed Narcotics Detected Dog Program in New York and New Jersey in 1971. The program was so successful it was adopted throughout the nation.

St. James AME Church  
Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons, *Pastor*







# In the Spotlight

## Hidden Figures

### *Saint James—Winston-Salem*



**First African American Female Administrative at Virginia Tech University  
Dr. Joyce Williams-Green**

Dr. Joyce Williams-Green knows from direct experience that using computers in the classroom can be daunting for both students and faculty. When she first taught “Introduction to Black Studies” at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (also known as Virginia Tech) in 1994, most of her students were – like her – African American. But the next time she taught the class, she required students to use the Internet and electronic mail to complete class assignments. Thirteen of fifteen Black students left the course, and although six of them eventually returned, Williams-Green found the experience troubling. Nevertheless, “Introduction to Black Studies” has retained its computer elements – including a requirement that students design and publish pages on the World Wide Web. “Black student enrollment in intro Black studies is increasing, but it hasn’t gotten back to where it was,” Williams-Green says. That experience helped spur her and like-minded colleagues to spearhead an initiative to help twelve historically Black colleges and universities learn how to use computers and the Internet in teaching. The initiative, entitled VITAE (Virtual Institute for Technology Advancement in Education), is inspired partly by Virginia Tech’s intensive adoption of computers in the classroom, and partly by Williams-Green’s teaching experiences with African American students at that institution. Williams-Green, who is director of Black Studies at Virginia Tech, says the regional consortium is necessary because it helps to bring more information technology resources and expertise into the African American community. She attributes diminished Black student enrollment in her Black Studies class to a discomfort with computers that she has found among a number of African American students who have not had prior exposure to the technology.

St. James AME Church  
Rev. Dr. Steven L. Lyons, *Pastor*





# In the Spotlight

## Hidden Figures

Does your 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 highlight a church in the Western North Carolina Conference and feature the church's "Hidden Figures"

Just send the individual's name (layperson or clergy), a picture (if available), and a very brief description of your church's "Hidden Figures".

You never know when your church will enter the spotlight, so ***the SOONER*** you submit your "Hidden Figure(s)"

***the BETTER!***





# 2017- 2018 WNCCLCLO

## Meeting Dates and Location 10:00 a.m.

October 14, 2017 ★★

Bethel AME Church  
Greensboro, NC

January 13, 2018

Greater Bethel AME Church  
Charlotte, NC

March 10, 2018

St James AME Church  
Asheville, NC

April 14, 2018

Jack and Jill  
Venue TBD

April 21, 2018

Springdale AME Church  
(*election*)  
Burlington, NC

# church happenings & events

## OCTOBER 2017

**“National Domestic Violence Awareness”  
“National Breast Cancer Awareness”**

1 <sup>st</sup>	120 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary- 10am	Greater Bethel AMEC, 5232 The Plaza, Charlotte, NC
1 <sup>st</sup>	Church Anniversary and Homecoming – 11am & 3pm	St. Matthew AMEC, 1136 Apple Street, Burlington, NC
1 <sup>st</sup>	Homecoming – 3pm	Turners Chapel AMEC, 7615 Florence School Drive, High Point, NC
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup>	3-day Revival	St. Matthew AMEC, 1136 Apple Street, Burlington, NC
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup>	3-day Revival – 7pm	Macedonia AMEC, 2172 Yarborough Mill Road, Milton, NC
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup>	3-day Revival	Turners Chapel AMEC, 7615 Florence School Drive, High Point, NC
7 <sup>th</sup>	Lay Organization Prayer Breakfast – 9am \$10 donation	White Cross AMEC, 4604 Lebanon Church Road, Efland, NC
8 <sup>th</sup>	Lay Day – 11am	Poplar Grove AMEC, 5504 Summit Avenue, Greensboro, NC
8 <sup>th</sup>	Lay Prayer Breakfast – 8am Lay Day	Mt. Zion AMEC, 5124 Highway 86 North, Hillsborough, NC
8 <sup>th</sup>	Lay Day – 11am Men’s Day – 2:30pm	Macedonia AMEC, 2172 Yarborough Mill Road, Milton, NC
15 <sup>th</sup>	Christian Education Workshops (Tithing & Know Your Church) - 12:30pm	St. James AMEC, 520 Method Road, Raleigh, NC
15 <sup>th</sup>	Family & Friends’ Day	Hunter’s Chapel AMEC, 201 Buckhorn Road, Mebane, NC
15 <sup>th</sup>	Women’s Day	Willow Tree AMEC, 2500 Willow Tree Church Road, Morganton, NC
15 <sup>th</sup>	Homecoming— 11am & 3pm	Gaston Chapel AMEC, 100 Bouchelle Street, Morganton, NC
15 <sup>th</sup>	HJE Choir Anniversary Program—2-4:30pm	176 Chatham St, PO BOX 817 Pittsboro, NC 27312
16 <sup>th</sup> –18 <sup>th</sup>	3-day Revival – 7pm	Gaston Chapel AMEC, 100 Bouchelle Street, Morganton, NC
21 <sup>st</sup>	WMS Rainbow Tea – 3pm	Gaines Chapel AMEC, 402 US Highway70, Efland, NC
21 <sup>st</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> Golf Tournament Entry Fee: \$65.00/person & \$100 Hole Sponsors For more information, contact: Sherman Summers: (336) 269-1435 springdaleamechurch@gmail.com	Springdale A.M.E. Church (sponsor) Country Hills Golf Course, 5610 Hicone Road, Gibsonville, N.C.
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Family and Friends Day – 11am; Lunch 1pm	White Cross AMEC, 4604 Lebanon Church Road, Efland, NC
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Christian Education Workshops (Tithing & Know Your Church) – 12:30pm	St. James AMEC, 520 Method Road, Raleigh, NC
22 <sup>nd</sup>	135 <sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary/Homecoming - 11am & 3pm	Bethel AMEC, 112 Holderby Street, Reidsville, NC
28 <sup>th</sup>	Women’s Day Breakfast	Hunter’s Chapel AMEC, 201 Buckhorn Road, Mebane, NC
28 <sup>th</sup>	Gospel Choir Anniversary – 4pm	Macedonia AMEC, 2172 Yarborough Mill Road, Milton, NC
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sons of Allen Emphasis Day	St. Matthew AMEC, 1136 Apple Street, Burlington, NC
29 <sup>th</sup>	Homecoming/Family & Friends Day – 3pm	Poplar Grove AMEC, 5504 Summit Avenue, Greensboro, NC
29 <sup>th</sup>	Lay Witness Service—11am	St. Stephen AMEC, Liberty with Bro. Wilbert Hooker, Jr.—Speaker, WNCC Lay Minister & 1st Vice President, WNCC Lay Organization of Lincolntonville AMEC

# more church happenings & events

## NOVEMBER 2017

“Men’s Health Awareness”  
“Pancreatic Cancer Awareness”  
“American Diabetes Awareness”

19 <sup>th</sup>	148 <sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary—10am	St. Joseph AMEC, Durham, NC
23 <sup>rd</sup>	THANKSGIVING DAY 	

Don't Miss the

**DEADLINE!**

Submit your church events!

**October 26<sup>th</sup>**



THE SURVEY FOR THE SUMMER  
SUMMIT IS AVAILABLE AT:

<http://www.ame2.com/summer-summit-survey>

# HAVE YOU JOINED? IF NOT, ARE YOU READY?

*The Body of Christ*

*(GIVE GOD YOUR HEART)*

*“My child , give your mind to me and let  
your eyes keep to my path.”*

Proverbs 23:26 (Common English Bible)

*My God*



*I give my heart to you.*

**Membership Card**



[ame-church.com](http://ame-church.com)

*The African Methodist Episcopal Church*

*(GIVE THE CHURCH YOUR HAND)*

<https://www.ame-churchmembership.com/>

*The Western North Carolina Conference  
Lay Organization*

*(GIVE THE LAY YOUR TIME)*

<http://wncclay.org>

**Western North Carolina Conference  
LAY ORGANIZATION  
2017 Membership Card**



Website: [www.wncclay.org](http://www.wncclay.org)

**69 out of 84 churches in the WNCC are active.**

***That's 82%!***

**1403 Adults/26 youth  
(as of September 2017)**

**We need your support to have **100%** representation  
in our local churches.**

**A STRONG CHURCH, DEPENDS ON STRONG LAITY.  
WE NEED YOU TO MAKE OUR CHURCH STRONG!**

**WNCC LAY ORGANIZATION  
African Methodist Episcopal Church  
SPECIAL REQUEST**

**2017-2018 CONFERENCE YEAR**

CHURCH NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PASTOR: \_\_\_\_\_

LAY PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ CONTACT #: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR OF LAY ACTIVITIES: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ CONTACT #: \_\_\_\_\_

***DON'T MISS THE BOAT!  
REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED BEFORE!***



**Happy Sailing!**

Please provide your information so you do not miss out on important dates, events, and news from the WNCC Lay Organization. Please feel free to email, call, or mail this form to Sis. Jackie Kanipe, 207 Branch Street, Morganton, NC 28655 / [jconleyk@bellsouth.net](mailto:jconleyk@bellsouth.net) / (828) 433-8424 or (828) 403-1762.

***Sure would like to have this information by: October 26<sup>th</sup>***