



Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, President

Commission Reports

Ministry and Recruitment

Department of Retirement Services

Global Development

Health

Publications

Global Witness and Ministry

Women in Ministry (WIM)

Christian Education

Seminaries, Universities, Colleges & Schools

Church Growth and Development

Lay Organization

Social Action

Economic Development

Statistics and Finance

Commission on:	Ministry & Recruitment
Presiding Officer	Bishop Ronnie Elijah Brailsford, Sr.
Chairperson:	Bishop Ronnie Elijah Brailsford, Sr.
General and/or Connectional Officers:	Reverend Garland Pierce
Vice Chairperson:	Reverend Joycelyn Hart-Lovelace
Secretary:	Ms. Darlene Gordon

Actions Taken:

- * The Commission meeting was called to order by Bishop Ronnie Elijah Brailsford. Bishop Brailsford establish Reverend Joycelyn Hart-Lovelace to serve as Vice Chair of the Commission.
 - *Ms. Darlene Gordon to serve as Recording Secretary. Reverend Marcellus Fields to serve as Chaplain, and Ms. Veronica Wiley to serve as Parliamentarian.
 - * Bishop Brailsford gave a history and update as to the purpose of the commission according to the 2012 Discipline, pages 182-183.
- The commission is charged with working with others to help develop a denominational strategy and plan for the systematic recruitment, training, placement and compensation of young people for the pastoral ministry and other church vocations.
- The commission broke out into four (4) subcommittee's to form recommendations on emerging issues. The subcommittee's are:
1. Systematic Retention; 2. Systematic Recruitment; 3. Systematic Training; 4. Systematic Placement

Recommendations

The subcommittees brought forth recommendations:

Systematic Retention: 1.No safe haven to engage in self care. 2. Need for professional development, and continuing education.

Systematic Recruitment: How to approach young men and women for ministries: 1. To expose potential recruits to the different ministries that the church has to offer, and the benefits they have.

2. To provide a ministry fair at all of the Episcopal meetings which materials and resources will be provided.

3. Systematic Training: 1.Each of the local churches develop a call to ministry training program that helps people to discern their gifts. 2. Develop a ministry training program for young adults to reach out beyond the walls of the sanctuary.

4. Systematic Placement: Develop a board of training for alternative ministry. 2. Have a conversation for persons coming into ministry.

Roll: (indicate if they are absent or present)

First - Rev. Jocelyn Hart-Lovelace (P); Second - Rev. John L. Swann, Jr (P); Third - Rev. Alphonse Allen(P); Fourth - Rev. Tyson Parks (P); Fifth - Rev. Fran Carey (A); Sixth - Rev. Conitras Houston (A); Seventh - Ms. Joi Artis (P); Eighth - Ms. Darlene Gordon (P); Ninth - Ms. Veronica Wiley - (P) Tenth - Rev. Tyronda Burgess (P); Eleventh - Rev. Julius McAllister, Jr. (A);Twelfth - Rev. Marcellus Fields (P); Thirteenth - Rev. Walter Reid (P); Fourteenth - Rev. Dr. Katurah Cooper(P); Fifteenth - Rev. Innocent Monare (A); Sixteenth - Ms. DaRosa Bigford (A); Seventeenth - Rev. Moses Achola(P) Eighteenth - Beatrice Mutokoa(A); Nineteenth - Rev. T.A.M. Mbabo(P); Twentieth - Rev. Rosetta Swinton(P). Subcommittee Chairs: Retention: Rev. Alphonse Allen; Recruitment: Rev. Marcellus Fields; Training: Rev. T.A.M. Mbambo; Placement: Rev. Newton Dixon

Commission on:		
Presiding Officer		
Chairperson:		
General and/or Connectional Officers:		
Vice Chairperson:		
Secretary:		

Actions Taken:

Recommendations

Roll: *(indicate if they are absent or present)*

Report
from
Global Development Commission

The Right Reverend Paul J.M. Kawimbe, Chair

December 6, 2016

Commission: Global Development

Chairperson: Bishop Paul J.M. Kawimbe

Chairperson of the Global Development Council Bishop David R. Daniels Jr.

Bishop E. Ann Henning Byfield 16th Episcopal District

Commission Organization: The Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg., Vice Chair

The Reverend Demetrese D. Phillips, Secretary

Mr. Carl Davis, Assistant Secretary

Summary of Actions:

The 1st General Assembly of the Global Development Council will convene February 21-24, 2017 in Johannesburg, South Africa for districts 14-20

Summary of Recommendations:

The appointment of an adhoc committee to develop a strategic plan to form an alliance with other agencies for the purpose of aligning our church to be position for disaster response. ie; Red Cross, OSHA, USAID, United Nations and Corporations.

District 19 – R. R. Wright Seminary – improve accreditations, faculty, staff & student body housing.

Recommendation to grant approval to the 19th Episcopal District to raise R 20 million needed to fund the conference center & hotel for all meetings to be held at that site. This would be no extra cost to the AMEC General Budget.

Operation Analysis

1. Death Insurance/Funeral Scheme
2. Guest house/Rooms and Conference Facilities
3. Food Court

This end our report.

Present Commission members;

Chair: Bishop Paul Kawimbe

Vice Chair: Dr. Caesar Richburg 7th District

Secretary: Rev. Demetrese Phillips 8th District

Assistant Secretary: Carl Davis 10th District

Michael Cousin Jr. 4th District

Vergie J. Tennison 7th District

Keith Britton 7th District

Jeffrey L. Smith 4th District

Ainsley V. Smith 4th District

Wanda L. Duckett 1st District

Eddie J. Lovelace 1st District

Supervisor Kawimbe 19th District

Andrew Moema 19th District

Sharon Smith Banks 3rd District

Willie Glover 3rd Dist CLO President

Maike Mayo Sr. 3rd District

Charlie Nichols 11th District

Janice Stewart 6th District

Rev. John Swann Jr 2nd District

Ka'Dijah Brown 5th District

Rev. Eustice Ginya

Commission on Publications

Chairperson: Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie

General and/or Connectional Officers:

Dr. Teresa L. Fry Brown- Historiographer/Executive Director, Department of Research and Scholarship

Reverend Roderick D. Belin – President/ Publisher AME Sunday School Union

Mr. John Thomas III – Editor, The Christian Recorder

ACTIONS TAKEN:

- The Committee approved the nomination of the following officers:
 - o Vice – Chairperson – Rev. Henry A. Belin III (1st)
 - o Recording Secretary - Ms. Stephanie Burks (8th)
 - o Assistant Recording Secretary – Mr. Michael Cousin (4th)
 - o Chaplain- Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount (4th)
 - o Sergeant at Arms – Mr. James Bonner (9th)
 - o Strategic Planning – Rev. Henry Belin, Ms. Stephanie Burks
- Per the Doctrine and Discipline of the AME Church, The Committee approved the nomination of Reverend Lisa Hammonds as the Assistant Editor of The Christian Recorder

RECOMMENDATIONS

Department of Research and Scholarship

- The Department request that each Annual Conference submit one check accompanied with a list of individual and church subscriptions to the *AME Review*
- That any changes in physical addresses or subscription inquiries be submitted through the Department website at www.amehistoryinthemaking.com/home

AME Sunday School Union

- - The Committee encourages Payne Seminary and other AME institutions with publications to consider competitive bids by the AME Publishing House.

The Christian Recorder

- That the General Board approves the nomination of Reverend Lisa Hammonds as the Assistant Editor of Christian Recorder

Roll

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Rev. David Cousin- Present | 11. Rev. Dr. Julius McAllister, Jr- Present |
| 2. Rev. Gregory Edmond - Present | 12. Rev. Marcellus Fields - Present |
| 3. Kimberly Gordon Brooks - Present | 13. Rev. Walter Reid, Jr. - Present |
| 4. Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount - Present | 14. Rev. Katurah York Cooper |
| 5. Rev. J. Edgar Boyd- Present | 15. Rev. William Hanse- Excused |
| 6. Rev. Conitras M. Houston - Present | 16. Sis. Krystel Compton- Excused |
| 7. Mr. Keith Britton - Present | 17. Bro. Clifford Mugala - Absent |
| 8. Ms. Stephanie Burks - Present | 18. Rev. Albert Thwala - Absent |

9. Mr. James C. Bonner, Jr. - Present
10. Mr. Carl Davis - Present

19. Rev. Mpumeleo Dlamini - Absent
20. Ms. Kwandokuhe Kumai - Present

Commission on:		
Presiding Officer		
Chairperson:		
General and/or Connectional Officers:		
Vice Chairperson:		
Secretary:		

Actions Taken:

Recommendations

Roll: *(indicate if they are absent or present)*

Chairperson: Bishop Harry L. Seawright
Rev. Natalie Mitchem, Executive Director, Health Commission
Dr. Miriam Burnett, M.D., Medical Director, Health Commission
Exhorter Gwendolyn Williams (5th), Consultant, Health Commission
Recorder: Darlene Gordon

Actions taken:

Due to the absence of Bishop Harry L. Seawright, Bishop Wilfred J. Messiah conducted the meeting.

The organization of the Commission is:

Vice Chairperson	Mr. Jeremy Joseph (9th)
Secretary	Ms. Joi Artis (7th)
Assistant Secretary	Ms. Tamika Jones (5th)
Treasurer	Ms. Nikita Benton (12th)

Valuable information concerning the Health Commission was shared.

Recommendations:

Churches support the Solar Energy Program which is designed to provide solar panels for global churches. This project helps save on electricity and is an environmentally source of energy. Participation in the Solar Energy Program will help provide free solar panels for Haiti and Districts 14 to 20.

A disaster can happen at any time therefore we recommend all churches visit our website www.amechealth.org to order disaster preparedness supplies and conduct periodic safety drills. We encourage each district to participate in GIRLTREK, which inspires thousands of Black women and girls to walk for healing, health and wellness. For more information, visit the website www.girltrek.org.

We also need churches to identify spaces to create our own health clinics within our local churches and our episcopal districts. The space needs to be a dedicated space to comply with the HIPAA privacy laws.

We also encourage everyone to sign up for the Affordable Healthcare Act before the March 31, 2017 deadline. Today, December 7, 2016 is the deadline for Medicare Open Enrollment.

Roll

Districts	Representatives	Present/Absent
First	Mrs. Edna Sharp	Present
Second	Rev. John L. Swann, Jr. (YA)	Absent
Third	Ms. Giselle Lindsey (YA)	Present
Fourth	Rev. Tyson J. Parks	Absent
Fifth	Ms. Tamika Jones	Present
Sixth	Ms. Janice Stewart	Absent
Seventh	Ms. Joi Artis (YA)	Present

Eighth	Ms. Darlene Gordon	Present
Ninth	Mr. Jeremy Joseph (YA)	Present
Tenth	Kendra Hill-Daughton (YA)	Present
Eleventh	Jamarien P. Moore (YA)	Present
Twelfth	Ms. Nikita Bennett (YA)	Present
Thirteenth	Ms. Angelica Jones (YA)	Present
Fourteenth	Bro. Eric Coleman (YA)	Present
Fifteenth	Bro. Theodore Messiah	Present
Sixteenth	Rev. Carlene Sobers	Absent
Seventeenth	Bro. David Kafusu	Excused
Eighteenth	Sis. Dudu Motjotji	Absent
Nineteenth	Rev. M.D. T. Makhene	Absent
Twentieth	Passion Musa	Present

Others present:

Dr. Dorothy Henderson (12th)
Elaine Johnson (4th)
Keisha Nicholson (4th)
Kwandokuhe Khumal (20th)

To:

Bishop Vashti M. McKenzie, *President*

Bishop Gregory G. M. Ingram, *1st Vice President*

Bishop Wilfred J. Messiah, *2nd Vice President* Bishop Paul J. M. Kawimbe, *3rd Vice President*

Bishop John Franklin White, *Council of Bishops President*

Bishop McKinley Young, *Senior Bishop*

Dr. Richard Allen Lewis, *Treasurer/CFO*

Rev. Dr. Jeffery B. Cooper, *General Secretary/CIO*

Actions Taken after the report was given by Rev. Dr. Erika Crawford, Connectional President Women in Ministry:

After a moment of reflection by Commission Chair Bishop Anne Henning Byfield as once an officer in WIM and now not only a Bishop but Commission Chair, roll call/introduction were completed, the agenda was approved and the report of Women in Ministry was received.

Additionally, Miss Kendra Hill-Daughton was nominated and elected to serve as the Secretary for the Women in Ministry Commission.

Finally, the following persons were designated to serve as the WIM Commission representatives on the Self Study of the Strategic Planning Commission: Miss Kendra Hill-Daughton and Bro. Charlie Nichols.

The following recommendations were received and approved:

1. The month of March is designated as Herstory, OurStory. Lay and Clergy women are asked to submit their stories for a digital celebration of all women. Formal launching will begin during the month of January 2017.
2. Women In Ministry will develop liturgical aids for use for WIM and the general church including a partnership with the 16th Episcopal District for liturgical aids.
3. Resolution: *"The African Methodist Episcopal Church: A Social Justice and Liberating Faith."* with the following action steps for approval as read herewith:

The following resolution was presented to and adopted by The Commission on Women In Ministry:

WHEREAS, it is asked in Micah 6:8 *"...what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God?"* We stand in solidarity with the Church, fully committed to the Quadrennial Theme ***"The African Methodist Episcopal Church: A Social Justice and Liberating Faith"*** and;

WHEREAS, justice is a human right that must encompass the indispensable right for persons to live and work in our churches, communities and countries with dignity and pride free from oppression; and

WHEREAS, our pursuit of justice should include an intentional commitment to gender justice, so that we might live in a world where everybody, women and men, boys and girls are equally valued and able to share equitably in the distribution of power, knowledge, resources and access; and

WHEREAS, AME/WIM challenges the African Methodist Episcopal church to recognize that in addition to addressing Political Justice, Criminal Justice, Environmental Justice, and Economic Justice, A Social Justice and Liberating Faith must also address Gender Justice, both in the world and in the church; and

WHEREAS, it is our desire to see the sons and daughters of God, free from cultural, religious, institutional and interpersonal systems of privilege which have long oppressed persons through violence, imperceptions, oppression and repression based on gender; and

WHEREAS, as the adverse impact of gender injustice is primarily and most severely experienced by women and girls, who are discriminated against in the home, work place, community and church; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that we consciously and intentionally work for equitable and impartial treatment of all in accordance with the word of God which says to us God created them male and female, and God blessed them and called them "human" Genesis 5:2; and

WHEREAS, our Sister Communion, the United Methodist Church, having apologized to the AME Church for its injustice to people of color and desiring not to repeat a similar injustice to women has begun to address gender justice issues stating that:

"reliability as an agency of God's love assumes that we are paying attention to one another and we are seeking to empower, to unshackle, to raise up those who are still oppressed, repressed, derided and treated as "less than"; and

WHEREAS, the African Methodist Episcopal Church is, still on the journey towards fully respecting and valuing the gifts and call of all persons; and

WHEREAS, we trust that the AME Church will:

- Affirm the right of women to live free from violence and abuse,

- Affirm the importance of women by placing them in key leadership decision-making positions at all levels of the Church, our institutions and society,
- Urge our elected officials and government agencies to retain and enact legislation and policies that protect women against all forms of violence, economic injustice and discrimination,
- Eliminate gender-role stereotypes in all aspects of voluntary and compensatory participation in the Church and society,
- Affirm the right of women to equal treatment through employment, promotions, economic parity and justice.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that AME/WIM comes before you, ***“Standing United, Moving Forward, Stronger Together;”*** in support of human rights and asks The Commission on Women In Ministry to request of the General Board the following:

1. The adoption of this policy/statement regarding the equality and the value of women:

We, The African Methodist Episcopal Church, affirm that all men and women are created equal by God and therefore, entitled to value of personhood, parity in employment, equal distribution of responsibility and promotion in ministry.

We the African Methodist Episcopal Church-will work to eliminate gender-role stereotypes and discrimination in all aspects of voluntary and compensatory participation in the Church and society.

We will champion economic parity and justice by affirming the right of women to equal treatment and placement in key leadership decision-making positions at all levels of our Church, our Institutions and our communities.

2. That the General Board urge our elected officials and government agencies to retain and enact legislation and policies that protect women against all forms of misogyny, violence and discrimination.
3. That the General Board recognize March as International Women’s History Month and strongly encourage local churches to recognize and celebrate the work of women in our Zion.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Dr. Erika D. Crawford,

Connectional President

Executive Board Members:

- Rev. Ammie Davis
- Rev. Joelynn Stokes, Esq.
- Rev. Dr. Monica Spencer
- Rev. Louise Jackson
- Rev. Garland Higgins
- Rev. Angelique Mason
- Rev. Tyronda Howse Burgess
- Rev. Dr. Janie Dowdy Dandridge
- Rev. Pamela Rivera
- Rev. Nomalungelo Vena

The Commission requests that these recommendations be adopted by the General Board.

Commendations were given to President Crawford and the Executive Board, and the Commission Chair, Bishop Henning Byfield.

Roll Call:

Chairperson: Bishop Anne Henning Byfield (Present)

Commission Members:

- 1st District: Rev. Jocelyn Hart (Present)
- 2nd District: Presiding Elder Ernest Montague (Present)
- 3rd District: Ms. Kimberly Brooks (Present)
- 4th District: Ms. Betty Tuggle (Present)
- 5th District: Rev. Fran Cary (Present)
- 6th District: Rev. Jonetta Prater (Present)
- 7th District: Ms. Vergie Tennison (Absent)
- 8th District: Ms. Darlene Gordon (Present)
- 9th District: Rev. Albert Hyche (Present)
- 10th District: Miss Kendra Hill-Daughton (Present)
- 11th District: Bro. Charlie Nichols (Present)
- 12th District: Rev. Marcelle Fields (Excused)
- 13th District: Rev. Troy Thomas (Present)
- 14th District: Rev. Margaret Fadehan (Absent)
- 15th District: Bro. Theodore Messiah (Present)
- 16th District: Rev. Carlene Sobers (Absent)
- 17th District: Rev. Moses Achola (Present)
- 18th District: Ms. Beatrice Mutokoa (Absent)
- 19th District: Sis. Thumekile Mthanti (Absent)
- 20th District: Presiding Elder Rosetta Swinton (Present)

Special Guests: Rev. Dr. Jessica Kendall Ingram (1st District Supervisor)

Humbly Submitted,
Miss Kendra Hill-Daughton
Secretary, Women in Ministry Commission

Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield
Chair, Women in Ministry



Report for the
Commission on Christian Education

*2:15 pm- 3:15 pm | Tuesday, December 6, 2016
Chicago Naperville Marriott*

Chairperson

Bishop David R. Daniels

General Officer

Christian Education Department Executive Director: Rev. Dr. Garland F. Pierce

Connnectional Officers

Richard Allen Young Adult Council President: Martinique Mix
Christian Debutante-Master Administrator: Lydia Jones Watson
Music and Christian Arts Ministry Director: Rev. Anthony B. Vinson Sr.
Fellowship of Church Educators Director: Rev. Joy Gallmon

Organization of the Commission

Vice Chair: Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount (4th)
Secretary: Giselle M. Lindsay (3rd)
Asst. Secretary: DaRosa Bigford (16th)

Actions Taken

Nominated & Voted on Commission Officers
Report from Christian Education Director Pierce

Highlights included:

- *People of the Anvil* is now available in Spanish. It can be found on the Christian Education website for free.
- The 2017 Lenten Daily Devotional can be pre-ordered today. It costs \$3.00 for one or \$2.40 if 50 copies or more are purchased.
- Annual Ministries in Christian Education Training and Planning Meeting is quickly approaching. It will be held April 20-22, 2017 in Nashville, Tennessee.

We also had special guest in attendance:

- Bishop Frank Cummings
- Bishop Reginald Jackson
- 3rd District Supervisor Dorothy Jackson Young
- 7th District Supervisor Phyllis Green

Recommendations

The commission did not make any recommendations.



Commission Members in Attendance

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 st : Wanda Duckett | 11 th : Jamarien P. Moore (YA) |
| 2 nd : William Boykin | 12 th : Rev. Larry Banks |
| 3 rd : Giselle Lindsay (YA) | 13 th : Rev. Troy Thomas |
| 4 th : Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount | 14 th : Garfield Mason |
| 5 th : Tamika Jones | 15 th : Ntomethemba Rachel September* |
| 6 th : Charles Murphy | 16 th : DaRosa Bigford* |
| 7 th : Vergie Tennison | 17 th : Rev. Martin C. Chama |
| 8 th : Rev. Keith Sanders (YA) | 18 th : Dudu Motjotji |
| 9 th : Jeremy Joseph (YA) | 19 th : Mpumi Dlamini |
| 10 th : Kendra Hill-Daughton (YA) | 20 th : Kwandokuhe Khumal (YA) |

*: Indicates this person was absent

The General Board
The African Methodist Episcopal Church
Report of

The Commission on Seminaries, Universities, Colleges and Schools

The Right Reverend Reginald Thomas Jackson, Chair

Organization:

The Reverend Larry Bell, Vice Chair

The Reverend Dr. Caesar R. Richburg, Secretary

Mrs. Sharon Smith Banks, Assistant Secretary

Commission Members:

Bishop McKinley Young, Senior Bishop

Bishop David R. Daniels Jr.

Actions Taken:

Reporting of all Colleges and schools were made by their respective representative.

The possibility of on-line training from Turner and Payne Seminaries being made available to districts 14-20.

Recommendations:

Morris Brown goal for accreditation be accomplished by the end of 2018.

The consideration of sponsorship of 2 students from the 20th Episcopal District to attend R.R. Wright Seminary.

The commission stay/remains alert as it relates to the change of the Presidential Administration in Washington D.C. and its impact on our institutions of Higher Education.

Commission Members Present:

Bishop Reginald T. Jackson

The Reverend Larry Bell 4th

Reverend Dr. Caesar R. Richburg 7th

Randolph R. Scott 5th

Reverend Dr. Norvel Goff, Sr. 7th

Reverend Tyrone Broomfield 12th

Reverend Michele R. Goodloe 8th

Mr. Jeremy B. Joseph 9th

Dr. Michale Joseph Brown 3rd Payne Seminary

Rev. Mittie Muse, Sr. 10th

Mr. Charlie Nichols 11th

Reverend Dr. Jonetta Prater 6th

Mr. Keith W. Caston, Sr. 1st

Mr. Jeffery W. Norfleet II 13th

Mrs. Nikita Benton 12th

Mrs. Sharon Smith Banks 3rd

Mrs. Ladonna Liggins 3rd

Reverend Themba Mbambo 19th

Reverend Debra Manoba 20th

Commission on:	Church Growth & Development
Presiding Officer	Dr. James C. Wade
Chairperson:	Bishop A. J. Richardson
General and/or Connectional Officers:	
Vice Chairperson:	Rev. David Green (11)
Secretary:	Rev. Roderick D. Dawson

Actions Taken:

The Commission meeting was called to order by Bishop A. J. Richardson
 Current Church Growth organization 1st Vice Rev. David Green (11); 2nd Vice Rev. Alphonse Allen (3); Secretary Rev. Roderick Dawson (10); Chaplain Rev. Erneat Montague (2)

Business discussed:

- * 2017 Annual Seminar January 4-6, 2017 Memphis, TN. Hilton Hotel
- * International District Update Online Evangelism Training- Dr. Betty Holly, Payne Theological Sem.
- * Bahamas Restoration March 2017

Meeting Adjourned with prayer by Rev. Tyson Parks (4)

Recommendations

None

Roll: (indicate if they are absent or present)



**Lay Commission Report
December 7, 2016
General Board Meeting
Marriot Hotel
Naperville, Illinois**

Chairperson: Bishop E. Earl McCloud, Jr.

Presiding Officers: Dr. Willie C. Glover, Global President
Connectional Lay Organization
Mrs. Valerie G. Bell, Vice Chair

Recorder: Keith E. Britton

Actions Taken: The Lay Commission had an open discussion concerning the direction of the church and strengthening the partnership between laity and clergy to bring others to Christ. The ultimate goal is to solidify the spiritual foundation of our members, and equip laity and clergy with the discipleship tools necessary to save souls and grow the Denomination. The Commission carefully deliberated the discussion points provided by Dr. Willie C. Glover, Global President of the Connectional Lay Organization and offers the following recommendations.

Recommendations: 1) Initiate a special call for a Connectional Church revival to remind us of our relationship with and increase our dependence on God.
2) Reevaluate our structure and governance to make both more relevant for current times.
3) Evaluate and revise Connectional, Episcopal and Presiding Elder budgets to make them more accurate and transparent in reflecting real membership of the church.
4) Begin the process of equalizing Episcopal Districts. Analyze District assessments to see if conferences can be consolidated or downsized. Consider having Bishops of smaller districts preside over two districts.
5) Review the roles and responsibilities of General Church Officers and decide if consolidation of duties is possible and if positions can be phased out.
6) Create a Code of Ethics for all clergy with consequences and take the necessary steps to have it included in the Book of Discipline.
7) Create the elected position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to oversee the administration of the Church with all the rights associated with a CEO including the power to enforce the code of ethics.
8) Foster globalization across the Connectional Church. Implement a plan so Episcopal Districts 14-20 are better represented on the Bench of Bishops.

Additional Item: Dorothy Henderson from the 12th Episcopal District will represent the Lay Commission on the General Board Ad-Hoc Study Committee.

Lay Commission Roll 12/06/16

Bishop E. Earl McCloud—Chair (Present)

Episcopal District	Representative	Attendance 12/6/16 P=Present, A=Absent, E=Excused
First	Mrs. Edna Sharp	P
Second	Mrs. Valerie Gary Bell	P
Third	Ms. Kimberly Gordon Brooks	P
Fourth	Ms. Betty Tuggle	P
Fifth	Tamika Jones	P
Sixth	Ms. Janice Stewart	P
Seventh	Mr. Keith Britton	P
Eighth	Ms. Stephanie Burks	E
Ninth	Ms. Veronica Wiley	P
Tenth	Rev. Mittie Muse	P
Eleventh	Bro. Reginald B. McGill	P
Twelfth	Dr. Dorothy Henderson	P
Thirteenth	Ms. LaTanya Germany	P
Fourteenth	Bro. Garfield Mason	A
Fifteenth	Bro. Theodore Messiah	A
Sixteenth	Ms. Krystel Compton	A
Seventeenth	Bro. Martin Lombe	A
Eighteenth	Malungisa Auricola Dlamini	A
Nineteenth	Bro. Abram Kgaile	A
Twentieth	Bro. Stain Simfukwe	P
At Large	John Autrey	P
At Large	Larry Hollie	P

Commission on:		
Presiding Officer		
Chairperson:		
General and/or Connectional Officers:		
Vice Chairperson:		
Secretary:		

Actions Taken:

Recommendations

Roll: *(indicate if they are absent or present)*



COMMISSION ON SOCIAL ACTION

December 7, 2016

Chairperson: Bishop Frank Madison Reid, III

Connectional Officers: Consultant/Director, Mrs. Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker

CONN-M-SWAWO President, Mrs. Lula Sharp Cleckley

Clergy Family Information Center Administrator, Mrs. Ora L. Easley

Secretary: Mrs. Sandra Lucas

Theme for 2016 - 2020: Planning To Rebuild Black America

Recommendations: The Social Action Commission submits for consideration critical issues that will be lifted up for action, ministry focus and policy crafting at all levels of the church

- A. Affordable Care Act-Protecting Access
- B. Immigration-Equity for all regions of the globe (especially Africa and Caribbean)
- C. Voter Education & Mobilization-partnership with AME V-ALERT and all components
- D. Mass Incarceration and Prison Re-entry with Payne/ITC Theological Seminaries
- E. Criminal Justice Mandate-legislation, policy, re-entry and prevention
- F. Climate Change and Energy Conservation-with Eco-America
- G. Public Education protection-with The Expectations project
- H. Gentrification and Displacement – highlighting affordable housing and land banking

Consistent with the Connectional theme for 2016 - Political Justice – we propose action that includes:

- A. AME's On The Hill
- B. Campaign to solidify liason with Elected Officials at all levels of government
- C. Strengthen ties with AME Congresspersons and other stakeholders
- D. Circulate Talent Survey to identify AMEs who have talent, skills, access to facilitate our advocacy and social justice interest

Minutes to be submitted via dropbox.

Respectfully submitted,

The Social Action Committee

Members Present:

Bishop Frank Madison Reid III, Chair
Mrs. Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, Director/Consultant
Mrs. Lula Sharp Cleckley, Pres – CONN-M-SWAWO
Mrs. Wanda Duckett – 1st
Mr. William Boykin – 2nd
Ms Giselle Lindsay-3rd
Ms. Ka'Dijah Brown – 5th
Mr. Charles Murphy – 6th
Rev. Demetrese Phillips-8th
Mr. James Bonner – 9th
Mr. Carl Davis- 10th
Mr. Reginald B. McGill – 11th
Rev. Larry Banks – 12th
Mr. Eric Coleman – 14th

Members Absent

Mr. Stain Simfukwe-20th
Mrs. Sandra Lucas-Member at Large

Mrs. Ora Easley (excused)

Mrs. Betty Tuggle – 4th

Mr. Jeffrey Norfleet-13th

Rev. William Hanse – 15th

Ms. Krystal Compton-16th

Mr. Clifford Mugala- 17th

Ms. Aone Sandra Aedige-18th

Ms. Thumekile Mthanti-19th.

Visitors:

Supervisor Marlaa Hall Reid

CDMC Administrator Lyndajo Jones Watson

Rev. William Swinton – 7th

Rev Robert Richard Allen Turner - 9th

Mr. Byron Moore – 13th

Report of the Commission on Statistics and Finance

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Commission Chairman

Bishop Clement W. Fugh

General Officers

CFO/ Treasurer

CIO/ General Secretary

Dr. Richard Allen Lewis

Dr. Jeffrey Cooper

Actions taken:

1. Commission Organization 2016-2020

Vice Chairman

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Chaplain

Sergeant at Arms

Representatives for Self-Study

Rev. Dr. Harold Mayberry

Mrs. Valerie Gary Bell

Mrs. Ladonna Liggins

Rev. Walter Reid, Jr.

Rev. Dr. David W. Green, Sr.

Clergy-Rev. Dr. William Watley

Lay-Mr. Reginald B. McGill

2. Summary report of CFO-Dr. Richard Lewis

Social Media reached over 700,000 persons during the General Conference, which was an increase of over 113% from 2012. The final report including income statements will be provided at the General Board meeting in June 2017.

3. Summary report of CIO-Dr. Jeffrey Cooper

The official minutes of the General Conference have been completed and are in process of being printed. The Book of Discipline, through the efforts of Bishop Gregory Ingram and the Compilation Committee, is on schedule and should be ready for distribution by the June 2017 General Board meeting.

Dr. Cooper presented a "Draft Protocol for Connectional Electronic Communication". In 2012-2016 the use of emails to share information has skyrocketed. This document will begin to provide a more cohesive and consistent flow of information, that has been properly vetted by proper authorities before dissemination.

The motion to approve the draft was passed.

4. A review of the Episcopal District Allocations to the Connectional Budget was done in 2000. In response to the commitment to reevaluate the Allocations, given at the 2016 General Conference, we will begin that process.

To begin the evaluation process, each Episcopal District 1-20 is requested to submit two years of Pastoral Annual Conference reports, hard copy and electronically. The study will be inclusive of demographics, cost of living in various regions, local church indebtedness and other important information deemed vital to the process.

The motion to indorse the concept was passed. Rev. Mark Griffin was appointed as Chairman of this new work.

5. Episcopal District Budgets

*Written requests for special funding were approved for Episcopal Districts 7 and 10.

*Per Discipline, Episcopal District Budget Audits to Statistics and Finance are due annually, beginning in June 2017.

Recommendations:

1. The approval of the “Protocol for Connectional Electronic Communication”
2. The approval of the concept of for reviewing the Episcopal District Allocations.

Respectfully submitted

Roll:		Present	Absent
Commission Chairman	Bishop Clement W. Fugh	X	
CFO/Treasurer	Dr. Richard Allen Lewis	X	
CIO/General Secretary	Dr. Jeffrey Cooper	X	
1	Mrs. Edna Sharp	X	
2	Mrs. Valerie Gary Bell	X	
3	Rev. James H. Harris	X	
4	Rev. Larry James Bell	X	
5	Rev. J. Edgar Boyd	X	
6	Rev. Dr. William Watley	X	
7	Rev. Dr. Norvel Goff Sr.	X	
8	Rev. Michele Goodloe	X	
9	Rev. Bobby Cox	X	
10	Rev. Tyronda Burgess	X	
11	Bro. Reginald McGill	X	
12	Dr. Dorothy Henderson	X	
13	Rev. Walter Reid, Jr.	X	
14	Rev. Alvin Attah		X
15	Ntomethemba Rachel September	X	
16	Rev. Newton Dixon	X	
17	Rev. Martin Chama		X
18	Beatrice Mutokoa		X
19	Rev. P. J. Mengoi	X	
20	Kwandokuhe Khumal (YA)	X	
At Large Members			
	Rev. Dr. Harold Mayberry	X	
	Mr. James Alexander (YA)		X
	Rev. Henry A. Belin, III	X	
	Rev. Dr. Ronald Braxton	X	
	Rev. Tyrone Broomfield	X	
	Rev. David Cousin	X	
	Mr. Michael A. Cousin, Jr. (YA)	X	
	Rev. Dr. David W. Green, Sr.	X	
	Rev. Mark Griffin	X	
	Mr. Larry Hollie	X	
	Mrs. Ladonna Liggins	X	
	Rev. Julius McAllister, Jr.	X	

Strategic Planning Committee

Date: December 6, 2016

Chairperson: Bishop Vashti M. McKenzie

Bishop present: Bishop Jeffrey N. Leath

General Officer present: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey B. Cooper

Connectional Officers present: Rev. Dr. Miriam J. Burnett, Dr. Shirley C. Reed

Recorder/Secretary: Rev. Dr. Miriam J. Burnett

Actions Taken: Bishop McKenzie reviewed strategies of the past and initiated discussions on the value and importance of self-study. She stated that:

1. self-study provides an opportunity to invite all of the stakeholders to the table;
2. we must look for a way to inspire our constituency to do more than they expect; and
3. we will go further if we think outside of the box.

Our work should lead us to answer the questions that include:

1. How do we do the work of the General Board?
2. How to help members work in an optimal way?
3. How do we facilitate working between the General Board meetings?

Dr. Cooper stated that AME Church apps and website are designed to help us work more efficiently.

Bishop Leath encouraged us to focus our attention on the General Board.

Recommendations:

1. Engage in self study of the General Board
2. Two persons from each Commission shall be designated to participate in the self-study committee (one clergy and one lay)
3. The secretary should receive the contact information for the designated persons within the next 10 business days.
4. Initial processes should include:
 - A. a virtual meeting that will occur after January 1, 2017
 - B. utilize a survey to narrow the work of the study
 - C. review the strategic plan to see what can be utilized now
 - D. use electronic media, e.g. Group Me and Google docs, to optimize our virtual work

Roll: Bishops Vashti Mckenzie and Jeffrey N. Leath; Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Cooper; Rev. Dr. Miriam J. Burnett, Dr. Shirley Cason-Reid; Revs. Angelique Mason, Ronald L. Owens, Dr. Emilygail A. Dill, and Dr. Reginald Blount; Atty. Ida Tyree Hyche; Jeffery W. Norfleet II, Stephanie Burks, Kendra Hill-Daughton, Pamela Rivera, Pat Brooks, Renee Scott Smith, and Donna-Lee Chandler-Smith; Observers: Eddie J. Lovelace, Dr. Barbara R. Chism