



Hilton Hotel, LAX Airport  
Los Angeles, California

June 20-21, 2017

# COMBINED MINUTES

The Reverend Dr. Jeffery B. Cooper, CIO/General Secretary



**Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, President**  
**Hilton Hotel, LAX Airport**  
 Los Angeles, CA

## **PRE-GENERAL BOARD ACTIVITIES**

### **MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2017**

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	AME SADA Board Meeting	San Lorenzo D
1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Social Injustice Forum	Los Angeles AB
2:00 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m.	Council of Bishops in Executive Session	Carmel
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Council of Bishops and Supervisors Dinner	La Jolla B
5:00 p.m. -- 7:00 p.m.	General Board Self Study	Century B
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Council of Bishops in Executive Session	Carmel
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Presiding Elders Council	Century A
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	AME WIM Reception	La Jolla A

## **GENERAL BOARD AGENDA**

### **TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2017**

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	CONN-M-SWAWO Breakfast	Pacific Ballroom
7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Turner Theological Seminary Breakfast	La Jolla B
7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Payne Theological Seminary Alumni Breakfast	Los Angeles

## GENERAL BOARD MEETING (continued)

9:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	General Board Opening Plenary Session	International
	Call to Order	Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie <i>President</i>
	Devotion	
	Roll Call	Rev. Dr. Jeffery B. Cooper <i>General Secretary/CIO</i>
	Felicitations	Bishop McKinley Young <i>Senior Bishop</i> Bishop Clement W. Fugh <i>President, Council of Bishops and Host Bishop</i>
	Acknowledgments	Bishop Gregory G. M. Ingram <i>1st Vice President, General Board</i>
	Approval of Agenda	
	Minutes	December 2016, Philadelphia, PA April 13, 2017, Executive Committee Conference Call
	For the Good of the Cause	
	Logistics	Ms. Anita Rankin <i>Meeting Planner</i>
11:30 – 12:30.	Commission Meetings – Session I	
	Ministry and Recruitment	Century AB
	Department of Retirement Services	Los Angeles A
	Global Development	Los Angeles B
	Health	Los Angeles C
	Commission on Chaplains	Century CD
12:30 – 2:00	General Board Luncheon	Pacific Ballroom
2:15 – 3:15 p.m.	Commission Meetings -- Session II	
	Publications	Los Angeles B
	Global Witness & Ministry	Los Angeles A
	Women in Ministry	Los Angeles C
	Christian Education	Century CD
	Economic Development	Century AB
3:15 – 4:15 p.m.	Commission Meetings – Session III	
	Seminaries, Universities, Colleges and Schools	Century CD
	Church Growth and Development	Los Angeles C
	Lay Organization	Century AB
	Strategic Planning	Los Angeles A
	Social Action	Los Angeles B
4:15 – 5:15 p.m.	Commission Meetings -- Session IV	
	Statistics and Finance	Century CD
5:30 – 6:45 p.m.	VIP Reception	Bel Air

## GENERAL BOARD MEETING (continued)

7:00	<b>Investiture Banquet and Passing of the Medallion</b> Bishop Clement W. Fugh <i>President, Council of Bishops</i>	International
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### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Supervisors Breakfast	Catalina B
7:30 – 9:00 a.m.	AME Board of Trustees Breakfast	San Lorenzo F
9:00 – 12:00 p.m.	General Board Plenary	International

Call to Order	Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie <i>President</i>
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Devotion

#### Commission Reports

- Ministry and Recruitment
- Department of Retirement Services
- Global Development
- Health
- Publications
- Chaplains
- Global Witness and Ministry
- Women in Ministry (WIM)
- Christian Education
- Seminaries, Universities, Colleges & Schools
- Church Growth and Development
- Lay Organization
- Social Action
- Economic Development
- Strategic Planning
- Statistics and Finance

#### Adjournment

12:00 Noon – 1:30 p.m.	Luncheon	Pacific Ballroom
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Council of Bishops in Executive Session	Carmel
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	General Conference Commission Executive Board General Board Self Study	Los Angeles A Los Angeles B
7:00 p.m.	Council of Bishops Worship Service Council of Bishops Public Statement	

# General Board Official Roll

MEETING DATE: June 20, 2017

## General Board Order

Bishop Vashti M. Mckenzie, President  
Bishop Gregory G. M. Ingram, 1st Vice President  
Bishop Wilfred Messiah, 2nd Vice President  
Bishop Paul Kawimbe, 3rd Vice President

## ACTIVE BISHOPS

	District Assigned	
Bishop McKinley Young	Third	P
Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson Jr.	Eleventh	P
Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie	Tenth	P
Bishop Gregory G. M. Ingram	First	P
Bishop Wilfred Jacobus Messiah	Seventeenth	P
Bishop Paul Jones Mulenga Kawimbe	Nineteenth	P
Bishop James Levert Davis	Second	P
Bishop David Rwhynica Daniels Jr.	Fifteenth	P
Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green Sr.	Seventh	P
Bishop E. Earl McCloud Jr.	Fourteenth	P
Bishop Jeffrey Nathaniel Leath	Thirteenth	P
Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister Sr.	Eighth	P
Bishop John Franklin White	Fourth	P
Bishop Clement W. Fugh	Fifth	P
Bishop Reginald T. Jackson	Sixth	P
Bishop Harry Lee Seawright	Ninth	P
Bishop Michael Leon Mitchell	Twelfth	P
Bishop E. Ann Henning-Byfield	Sixteenth	P
Bishop Ronnie E. Brailsford, Sr.	Twentieth	P
Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker	Eighteenth	P
Bishop Frank Madison Reid III	Ecumenical Officer	P

## RETIRED BISHOPS

Bishop John Hurst Adams	EX
Bishop Frederick Hilborn Talbot	EX
Bishop Frederick Calhoun James	EX
Bishop Frank Curtis Cummings	P
Bishop Philip Robert Cousin Sr.	P
Bishop Henry Allen Belin, Jr.	P
Bishop Robert Vaughn Webster	P
Bishop Zedekiah LaZett Grady	EX

# General Board Official Roll

**MEETING DATE: June 20, 2017**

Bishop John Richard Bryant	P
Bishop Cornal Garnett Henning Sr.	P
Bishop William Phillips DeVeaux Sr.	P
Bishop T. Larry Kirkland	P
Bishop Richard Franklin Norris	EX
Bishop Preston Warren Williams II	EX
Bishop Carolyn Tyler Guidry	P

## ACTIVE GENERAL OFFICERS

	Assignment	
Dr. Richard Allen Lewis	Treasurer/CFO, A.M.E. Finance Department	P
Dr. George F. Flowers	Executive Director, Department of Missions/Global Witness & Ministry	P
Dr. Jerome V. Harris	Executive Director, Department of Employee Security	P
Dr. James C. Wade	Executive Director, Department of Church Growth & Development	P
Dr. Jeffery B. Cooper Sr.	General Secretary/CIO, Office of General Secretary	P
Dr. Teresa L. Fry Brown	Executive Director/Historiographer, Department of Research & Scholarship/Editor of AME Review	P
Rev. Roderick D. Belin	Executive Director/Publisher, Sunday School Union	P
Mr. John Thomas III	Editor, The Christian Recorder	P
Rev. Dr. Garland F. Pierce	Executive Director, Department of Christian Education	P

## RETIRED GENERAL OFFICERS

Dr. Jamye Coleman Williams	P
Dr. Dennis C. Dickerson	EX
Dr. Paulette Coleman	P
Dr. Kenneth H. Hill	P
Rev. Hercules Miles	P
Dr. Johnny Barbour Jr.	EX
Dr. Calvin H. Sydnor III	EX
Dr. Daryl B. Ingram	P

## CONNECTIONAL OFFICERS & EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

	Assignment	
Dr. Shirley Cason Reed	President, Women's Missionary Society	P
Dr. Leodis Strong	President, Connectional Council	P
Mrs. Jacqueline Dupont-Walker	Consultant, Social Action	P
Mrs. Lula Shaw Cleckley	President, CONN-M-SWAWO + PKs	P
Mrs. Ora L. Easley	Administrator, Clergy Family Information Center	P
Ms. Martinique Mix	President, Richard Allen Young Adult Council	P
Mrs. Lyndajo Jones Watson	Administrator, Christian Debutante-Master	P

## General Board Official Roll

**MEETING DATE: June 20, 2017**

Attorney Patricia M. Mayberry, Esq.	President, Judicial Council	P
Attorney William A. Marsh Jr.	Special General Counsel	A
Attorney Douglass P. Selby, Esq.	AME General Counsel	P
Rev. Dr. Earle H. Ifill	President, Presiding Elders' Council	P
Rev. Anthony Vinson, Sr.	President, Music and Christian Arts Ministry	P
Dr. Wanda Ringgold	Director, Young People's Division—WMS	P
Dr. Willie C. Glover	President, Connectional Lay Organization	P
Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem, M.Div., RD	Executive Director, Health Commission	P
Rev. Miriam J. Burnett, M.D., M.Div., MPH	Medical Director, Health Commission	P
Mr. Chinelo Tyler	President, Young People's Division—WMS	P
Rev. Dr. Erika D. Crawford	President, Women In Ministry	P
Chaplain Kenneth E. Johnson	President, AME Church Chaplains Association	P
Mr. George Brown	President, Sons of Allen	A
Mr. Robert Nicolas, Esq.	Executive Director, SADA	P
Rev. Dr. Donald Tucker	Consultant, Nominating Committee	A
Rev. Joy L. Gallmon	Fellowship of Church Educators	EX
Mr. Clarence E. Crayton, Jr.	Boy Scouts Director	P
Ms. Vivianne Frye Perry	Girl Scouts Director	EX

### GENERAL BOARD DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

	Present/Absent
<b>First Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend David Cousin	P
Reverend Jocelyn Hart Lovelace	P
Mrs. Wanda L. Duckett	EX
Mrs. Edna Sharp	P
Mr. Keith Costen (Young Adult)	P
<b>Second Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Ernest L. Montague, Sr.	P
Reverend Gregory Edmond	P
Reverend John I. Swann, Jr.	P
Mrs. Valerie Gary Bell	P
Mr. William Boykin	P
<b>Third Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Dr. Alphonse Allen	P
Reverend Dr. James Harris	P
Sharon Smith Banks	P
Kimberly Gordon Brooks	P
Giselle Lindsey (Young Adult)	P
<b>Fourth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Tyson J. Parks	P

# General Board Official Roll

MEETING DATE: June 20, 2017

Reverend Dr. Reginald Blount	P
Reverend Larry J. Bell	P
Betty J. Tuggle	P
Michael A. Cousin, Jr. (Young Adult)	P
<b>Fifth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend J. Edgar Boyd	P
Reverend Frances Carey	P
Randolph R. Scott	P
Tamika Jones	P
Ka'Dijah Brown	P
<b>Sixth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Dr. William Watley	P
Reverend Dr. Jonetta Prather	P
Reverend Conitras M. Houston (Young Adult)	P
Bro. Charles Murphy	P
Sis. Janice Stewart	P
<b>Seventh Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Dr. Norvell Goff, Sr.	P
Reverend Dr. Williams Smith, Jr.	P
Ms. Vergie Tennison	P
Mr. Keith Britton	P
Ms. Joi Artis (Young Adult)	P
<b>Eighth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Michele Goodloe	P
Reverend Demetrese Phillips	P
Reverend Keith Sanders	P
Ms. Stephanie Burks	P
Ms. Darlene Gordon	P
<b>Ninth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Bobby B. Cox, Jr.	P
Reverend Albert L. Hyche	P
Mr. James C. Bonner, Jr.	P
Ms. Veronica Wiley	P
Mr. Jeremy Joseph (Young Adult)	P
<b>Tenth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Tyronda Burgess	P
Reverend Roderick Dawson	P
Reverend Mittie Muse, Sr.	P
Ms. Kendra Hill-Daughton (Young Adult)	EX
Mr. Carl Davis	P
<b>Eleventh Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Mark L. Griffin	P
Reverend Dr. Julius H. McAllister Jr.	P
Mr. Reginald B. McGill	P



# General Board Official Roll

MEETING DATE: June 20, 2017

Mr. Charlie Nichols	P
Mr. Jamarien P. Moore	P
<b>Twelfth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Tyrone Broomfield	P
Reverend Larry M. Banks	P
Reverend Marcellus Fields	P
Dr. Dorothy Henderson	P
Nakita Bennett (Young Adult)	P
<b>Thirteenth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Walter Reid, Jr.	P
Reverend Troy Thomas	P
Ms. LaTanya Germany	P
Ms. Anjelica Jones (Young Adult)	A
Mr. Jeffery Norfleet II	P
<b>Fourteenth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Alvin E. Attah	EX
Reverend Margaret Fadehan	
Reverend Katurah York Cooper	EX
Mr. Garfield E. Mason	EX
Mr. Eric Coleman	A
<b>Fifteenth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Willem Hanse	Willem Berger (sub)
Reverend Innocent Monare	Albert W. (sub)
Theodore Messiah	substitute
Ntomethemba Racheal September	Quinten (sub)
Tshepang Mmusi	Keith Links (sub)
<b>Sixteenth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Andrew Carver Morris Grant	P
Reverend Newton Dixon	P
Reverend Carlene Sobers	Rev. Carlos Perkins (sub)
Sis. Krystel Compton	P
Sis. Darosa Bigford	EX
<b>Seventeenth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Martin C. Chama	EX
Reverend Moses Achola	P
Bro. Clifford Mugala	EX
Bro. David Kafusu	A
Bro. Martin Lombe	A
<b>Eighteenth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Albert Thwala	A
Reverend Beatrice Mutokoa	EX
Malungisa Auricola Dlamini	A
Sis. Aone Sandra Aedige	A
Sis. Dudu Motjotji	A

# General Board Official Roll

MEETING DATE: June 20, 2017

<b>Nineteenth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend P.J. Mengoi	A
Makhene Mohale Daniel Thabo	A
Abraham Phukuntsi Kgaile	A
Ms. Thumekile Mthanti	A
Mpumelelo Dlamini	A
<b>Twentieth Episcopal District</b>	
Reverend Eustice Ginya	EX
Reverend Rosetta Swinton	A
Stain Simfukwe	EX
Passion Musa	P
Kwandokuhe Khumal (Young Adult)	A

## AT LARGE MEMBERS

Reverend Dr. Harold Mayberry (5)	P
Reverend Henry Belin (1)	P
Reverend Dr. Ronald Braxton (2)	P
Reverend Dr. Ceasar Richburg (7)	P
Reverend Dr. David W. Green, Sr. (11)	P
Mrs. Sandra Lucas (12)	P
Mr. Larry Holley (10)	A
Mr. John Autry (8)	P
Mrs. Ladonna Liggins (3)	P
Mr. James A. Alexander, Jr. (6)	P

## SEMINARIES, COLLEGES & SCHOOLS—PRESIDENTS, DEANS, & ADMINISTRATORS

	<b>Assignment</b>	
Dr. Herman J. Felton, Jr.	President, Wilberforce University	P
Dr. Nathaniel Glover	President, Edward Waters College	EX
Dr. Michael Sorrell	President, Paul Quinn College	EX
Dr. Rodrick Moore	Dean, Paul Quinn College	P
Dr. John Green	President/Dean, Turner Theological Seminary	P
Rev. Angela Brewster	President, Jackson Theological Seminary	P
Rev. Gregory Nettles	Dean, Jackson Theological Seminary	P
Dr. Ernest McNealey	Interim President, Allen University	EX
Rev. Ellen-Fatu G. Varfely	President, Monrovia College	EX
Rev. Temba A. Mbambo	Dean, R. R. Wright Theological Seminary	EX
Rev. George Johnson, Jr.	Dean, Abington School of Religion	P
Dr. Stanley Pritchett	President, Morris Brown College	P
Dr. Michael J. Brown	President, Payne Theological Seminary	P
Dr. O. Jerome Green	President, Shorter College	P
Dr. Eric Manning	Dean, Dickerson Theological Seminary	EX

## General Board Official Roll

**MEETING DATE: June 20, 2017**

Rev. Debra Manyoba	President, Sizane School—Zimbabwe	EX
Dr. Michelle Goodloe	Administrator, Bonner-Campbell School of Religion	P
Rev. Dr. C. Dennis Williams	Dean, Richard Allen Chapel—Dallas, TX	P
Dr. Muriel Nelson	Dean, Bryant Theological Seminary	EX
Dr. Joseph Isaac	President, AME University—Monrovia, Liberia	P
Rev. Temba A. Mbambo	Rector, Wilberforce Community College—Evanton, South Africa	EX
Rev. Fred Jenkins	Dean, Camp Primm-Simons—Nashville, TN	A

**The General Board  
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

Hilton Hotel, LAX Airport  
Los Angeles, California

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, President

June 20-21, 2017

**Opening Plenary**

June 20, 2017

**CALL TO ORDER**

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie called the plenary to order at 9:05am.

**DEVOTION**

Presiding Elder Chuma Okoli as worship leader and other members of the Tenth Episcopal District led devotion with the Reverend Pamela Rivera leading in singing “*Victory is Mine*”; prayer by Presiding Elder George Johnson; and scripture, 2 Chronicles 12:12-14 by the Reverend Dr. Raymond Bryant. The sermon by Presiding Elder Brenda Payne, “*A Turnaround Prayer*”. She directed the body in three-person prayer groups to pray three prayers.

**ROLL CALL**

Bishop McKenzie called on the Reverend Dr. Jeffrey B. Cooper, General Secretary/Chief Information Officer, to call the roll (see the roll call).

**FELICITATIONS**

Bishop McKenzie presented Bishop McKinley Young, Senior Bishop and Bishop Clement Willie Fugh, President of the Bishop’s Council and Host Bishop to greet the body. Bishop Fugh presented Mrs. Arvella Strong, Chief of Protocol for the Fifth District to give instructions for the Investiture Banquet.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Bishop McKenzie presented the First Vice President of the General Board, Bishop Gregory G.M. Ingram, to give acknowledgements. He presented Angela Watson of Silver Lining Entertainment to present the trailer to the movie “*A Question of Faith*”, shot at Turner Cathedral African Methodist Episcopal Church in Marietta, Georgia.

## **GENERAL BOARD SELF-STUDY**

Bishop McKenzie presented the Reverend Roderick Belin, President of the AME Publishing House, to present on the General Board Self-Study. Those persons on the General Board Commission for Self-Study will receive Dr. Belin's PowerPoint presentation by email. Bishop McKenzie made remarks concerning the Survey and appealed to the members who have not responded to do so. The survey can be taken on site by seeing Dr. Cooper or the Reverend Conitras M. Houston of his staff. She then had the new General Board lapel pin distributed to the members. While this was being done, Bishop McKenzie recognized the presence of the Episcopal Supervisors.

## **MINUTES**

Bishop McKenzie presented Dr. Cooper for the approval of the December General Board Minutes and the April Executive Board Conference Call Minutes. Dr. Cooper moved to approve the Minutes with the proper corrections.

### **Unreadiness**

Bishop John Franklin White made the correction that the December General Board Meeting was in Chicago, Illinois. **The motion carried.**

## **LOGISTICS**

Bishop McKenzie presented Ms Anita Rankin, Meeting Planner to present logistics. She noted the only change to the printed agenda is the Trustee lunch is today in La Jolla A.

Bishop McKenzie called for the first round of Commission Meetings to begin at 11:00.

Bishop McKenzie presented Bishop David Rwhynica Daniels Jr. who presented to Bishop McKinley Young, the Senior Bishop the budget raised on behalf of the Fifteenth District \$15,000 cash to meet the District's budget to the African Methodist Episcopal. Bishop Anne Henning Byfield noted for the record the Sixteenth District has paid their budget. Mr. Richard Allen Lewis, Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer, gave Bishop Daniels a receipt.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The plenary adjourned at 10:38 am with prayer offered by Bishop Philip Robert Cousin Sr.

**The General Board  
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

Hilton Hotel, LAX Airport  
Los Angeles, California

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, President

June 20-21, 2017

**Closing Plenary**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie called the plenary to order at 9:10am.

**DEVOTION**

The Reverend Juan Tolliver (10<sup>th</sup>) led the devotion. The Psalmist was the Reverend Pam Rivera (10<sup>th</sup>) singing “*Alas and Did My Savior Bleed*”. The Reverend Dr. Raymond Bryant (10<sup>th</sup>) offered the invocation. The Reverend Roderick Dawson (10<sup>th</sup>) read the Old Testament Lesson: *Isaiah 40:28-31*, with the New Testament Lesson, *Acts 2:1-4* read by the Reverend Tolliver (10<sup>th</sup>). The Reverend Rivera (10<sup>th</sup>) led “*Bless the Lord With Me*”.

**GUESTS**

Bishop McKenzie presented Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green Sr., who in turn presented the Reverend Arbra L. Bailey, the National Director of African American Relations for Compassion International for remarks concerning his organization’s work.

Bishop McKenzie presented Dr. Arikana Chihombori Quao, Ambassador and Permanent Representative from the African Union Mission to the United States of America, who spoke on her organization’s work. Bishop McKenzie asked the Social Action Commission to craft a statement from this body concerning what the Ambassador shared today. Braxton (at large) moved the body would ask the Social Action Commission to work on crafting a statement, seconded by the Reverend Henry Allen Belin III (at large) and the Reverend Dr. William Smith Jr. (7<sup>th</sup>). **The motion carried.**

**COMMISSION REPORTS**

Bishop McKenzie called for the following Commission reports:

**MINISTRY AND RECRUITMENT**

Bishop Ronnie E. Brailsford, Sr. presented the Secretary, Sister Darlene Gordon (8<sup>th</sup>) to present the report (see the report). Mrs. Veronica Wiley (9<sup>th</sup>) moved, and it was properly seconded. **The motion carried.**

## **DEPARTMENT OF RETIREMENT SERVICES**

Bishop Green presented Dr. Jerome Harris, Executive Director of the Department of Employee Security, who in turn presented the Reverend Tyronda Burgess (10<sup>th</sup>) to present the report. The Reverend Smith (7<sup>th</sup>) moved the adoption of the report, seconded by the Reverend Troy I. Thomas (13<sup>th</sup>). **The motion carried.**

## **GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT**

Bishop Paul Jones Mulenga\_Kawimbe presented the Reverend Demetrese D. Phillips (8<sup>th</sup>) to present the report (see the report). Mr. Carl Davis (10<sup>th</sup>) moved the adoption of the report, seconded by the Reverend Caesar Richburg (at large).

### **Unreadiness**

Bishop David Rwhynica Daniels Jr. noted the Global Development Council (GDC) voted to send five recommendations to include in the report. He did not hear them and wondered why. The Reverend Phillips responded they are included as information in the report.

Bishop E. Earl McCloud Jr. expressed concern that we are expanding into other areas like Brazil while we are not able to properly fund the areas we are already in.

Presiding Elder Albert Biwa (15<sup>th</sup>) wondered if there would be opportunity eventually to address the recommendations Bishop Daniels referred to. Bishop Kawimbe responded that the opportunity will come but the Commission has not had the chance to review. Bishop Daniels is concerned that persons made sacrifices to attend the GDC to make decisions not shared with the larger church. Bishop Jeffrey Nathaniel Leath suggested that Bishop Daniels work with the Commission and the Chief Information Officer to put them online. Bishop McKenzie suggested if they are included in the report they can be online. Bishop Kawimbe agreed.

**The motion carried.**

## **HEALTH**

Bishop Seawright presented Joi Artis (7<sup>th</sup>) to present the report (see the report). The Reverend Leodis Strong (9<sup>th</sup>) moved the adoption of the report; Edna Sharp seconded.

### **Unreadiness**

Bishop Harry Lee Seawright noted that within months of being named Chair of the Health Commission he suffered a cardiac arrest and had quadruple bypass surgery. He thanked the church and the world for prayers, particularly the people of the Ninth Episcopal District. He asked everyone go to the Health website, and encouraged all churches to purchase a defibrillator.

The Reverend Miriam J. Burnett, M.D., Medical Director, Health Commission made remarks concerning General Conference legislation.

The Reverend Leodis Strong, President, Connectional Council, gave words of support of Bishop Seawright on behalf of the Ninth Episcopal Church.

#### **GLOBAL WITNESS AND MINISTRY**

Bishop John Franklin White Sr. presented Sharon Smith Banks (3<sup>rd</sup>) to present the report (see the report). The Reverend Ronald Braxton (at large) moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Mr. Michael A. Cousin, Jr. (4<sup>th</sup>). **The motion carried.**

Bishop White thanked Dr. George F. Flowers, Executive Director, Department of Missions/Global Witness & Ministry, Dr. Shirley Cason Reed, Connectional Women's Missionary Society President, Dr. Wanda Ringgold, Director, Young People's Division of the Women's Missionary Society, and Mr. Robert Nicolas, Esquire, Executive Director, SADA for their work and support. He encouraged the entire connection to travel to Haiti to celebrate the dedication of the Sara Francis Davis Health Facility. Bishop McKenzie stated the Tenth District will be there. Bishop E. Ann Henning-Byfield noted that not only did the Health Facility get built, but they had to build roads, provide water, and continue the existing schools.

#### **WOMEN IN MINISTRY (WIM)**

Bishop Henning-Byfield presented Sis Betty J. Tuggle (4<sup>th</sup>) to read the report (see the report). It was moved by Henning-Byfield and seconded by Ms Darlene Gordon (8<sup>th</sup>) to adopt the report. Bishop McKenzie asked the Commission to add among the shoulder being stood upon the name of the Reverend Elizabeth Scott. **The motion carried.**

#### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Bishop Daniels presented Dr. Garland F. Pierce, Executive Director, Department of Christian Education, who presented Tamika Jones (5<sup>th</sup>) to read the report (see the report). Bishop Daniels thanked Bishop Leath and the Thirteenth District for hosting the Christian Education meeting, and Bishop Reginald T. Jackson and the Sixth District who have invited the meeting for next year. The Reverend Reginald Blount (4<sup>th</sup>) moved the adoption of the report, seconded by the Reverend Troy I. Thomas (13<sup>th</sup>). **The motion carried.**

#### **SEMINARIES, UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES & SCHOOLS**

Bishop Jackson presented the Reverend **Dee Dawkins-Haigler (name not on the roll)**, Secretary, to present the report (see the report). The Reverend Larry J. Bell



(4<sup>th</sup>) moved the adoption of the report with commendations, seconded by the Reverend Richburg (at large). **The motion carried.**

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

The Reverend Henry Allen Belin III (at large) presented Ms Stephanie Burks (8<sup>th</sup>) to read the report (see the report). Mr. James A. Alexander, Jr. (at large) moved the adoption of the report, seconded by the Reverend Ronald Braxton (at large) and Mrs. Sandra Lucas (at large). Mr. John Thomas III, Editor, The Christian Recorder, noted the Christian Recorder is 165 years old this year and is the oldest black newspaper in continuous publication in the United States. However, the total subscription is 4,000. He requested the support of the paper with bulk subscriptions. The Reverend Roderick D. Belin, Executive Director/Publisher, Sunday School Union presented a video (see the video). **The motion carried.**

#### **CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson presented the Reverend Roderick Dawson (10<sup>th</sup>) to read the report (see the report). The Reverend David W. Green Sr. (at large) moved the adoption of the report, seconded by the Reverend Alphonse Allen (3<sup>rd</sup>). **The motion carried.**

Dr. James C. Wade, Executive Director, Department of Church Growth & Development announced a seminar in Jacksonville, Florida at the Hyatt Hotel and spoke concerning the Digital Secret Chamber.

#### **LAY ORGANIZATION**

Bishop McCloud presented Mr. Keith Britton (7<sup>th</sup>) to read the report (see the report). Mr. Carl Davis (10<sup>th</sup>) moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Mr. Reginald B. McGill (11<sup>th</sup>). Dr. Willie C. Glover, President, Connectional Lay Organization, invited all to attend the Lay Biennial. Bishop McCloud announced the name of the graduate school building at AME University is to be named the AME Bishops' Hall. It is currently being renovated. **The motion carried.**

#### **CHAPLAINS**

Bishop Frank Madison Reid III presented the report and Major Ronald Owens (US Army, retired) presented the Ministry Review (see the report). Motion by Chaplain Livingston (13<sup>th</sup>) the report be adopted, seconded by Commander Glenda Jennings Harrison. **The motion carried.**

The Reverend Leodis Strong, President, Connectional Council, on behalf of the Connectional Council, pledged \$1,000 to the Health Commission building and stated the Connectional Council will attend the dedication. He then offered commendations to Bishop Henry Allen Belin for the success of Dr. Roderick Belin.

#### **SOCIAL ACTION**

Bishop Reid presented the Secretary, Mrs. Saundra Lucas (at large) to read the report (see the report). Mr. Reginald B. McGill (11<sup>th</sup>) moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Mr. Carl Davis (10<sup>th</sup>). **The motion carried.**

Bishop Jackson noted there are 20,000 Richard Allen stamps left unpurchased from the United States Postal Service which will be destroyed if left unpurchased. Bishop Clement Willie Fugh asked Mrs. Jacqueline Dupont-Walker, Consultant, Social Action to set up outside the meeting room so that persons may purchase quantities. Mrs. Walker spoke to the issue, stating Mrs. Saundra Lucas will set up outside the registration area. Bishop Jackson has a list of the bishops who committed to purchase. Those stamps not purchased will be purchased by the Treasurer's office and then become available there. Bishop McKenzie, with the Reverend Tyronda Burgess (10<sup>th</sup>) presented \$2,000 on behalf of the Tenth District to purchase bulk stamps. Various questions and statements were made by the Reverend Ronald Braxton (at large), the Reverend William Watley (6<sup>th</sup>), and Bishop Henning-Byfield.

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Bishop Harry L. Seawright presented Ms Janice Stewart (6<sup>th</sup>) to read the report (see the report). The Reverend Roderick Dawson (10<sup>th</sup>) moved the adoption of the report, seconded by the Reverend Reginald Blount (4<sup>th</sup>). **The motion carried.**

#### **GENERAL BOARD SELF-STUDY**

The Reverend Alvelyn Sanders (9<sup>th</sup>) presented the report (see the report). Randolph R. Scott (5<sup>th</sup>) moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Mr. Reginald B. McGill (11<sup>th</sup>). Bishop McCloud noted that Eric Coleman from the Fourteenth District is their Young Adult Representative to the Self-Study. **The motion carried.**

#### **STATISTICS AND FINANCE**

Bishop Fugh presented Mrs. Valerie Gary Bell (2<sup>nd</sup>), Secretary to read the report (see the report). The Reverend Michele Goodloe (8<sup>th</sup>) moved the adoption of the report, second by the Reverend Tyonda Burgess (10<sup>th</sup>).

#### **Unreadiness:**

Bishop Richardson wanted to verify that the Eleventh District has made electronic reports. The committee will make the adjustment.

Bishop McCloud stated his District has no capacity to electronically report but brought a hard copy. Also, the Twentieth District. Bishop Fugh verified that the commission did not mean they did not have the reports, they were just reporting those submitted electronically.

Bishop James L. Davis question if the committee wanted spread sheets. Bishop Fugh responded in the affirmative.

Mr. James A. Alexander, Jr. (at large), member of the Commission wanted to know what the housing allocations were used for. He also wanted to know if the districts were depreciating property values for tax purposes. Bishop McKenzie deferred to Mr. Richard Allen Lewis, Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer, who deferred to affected bishops and/or accountants/CPAs.

### **Point of Order**

Bishop Leath called for the order of the day. **The motion carried.**

Bishop McKenzie referred to the affected bishops to consult with the committee. Bishop Richardson stated that Mr. Alexander's concern is important and should be addressed.

Bishop Leath agreed with Bishop Richardson the question is important, but each district varies on audit.

The Reverend J. Edgar Boyd (5<sup>th</sup>) on behalf of the Fifth District and his co-chair for the Investiture Celebration, Mrs. Jackie Dupont Walker spoke high commendations on the leadership of Bishop Clement W. Fugh in the year he has led the Fifth District. Mrs. Walker on behalf of the Laity spoke commendations to Team Fugh. The Reverend Harold Mayberry (5<sup>th</sup>) also spoke commendations.

The Reverend Roderick Dawson (10<sup>th</sup>) on behalf of the Tenth District gave commendations to Bishop McKenzie for her leadership of the General Board and the Tenth District.

Bishop Henning-Byfield spoke to the hurricane crisis affected the Sixteenth District last year, and the cancer diagnosis of her husband. The cancer is now zero as of the end of March and the only effects are from the chemotherapy. She presented the audited CPA report of the Sixteenth District and spoke to the work of the District. The Reverend Newton Dixon (16<sup>th</sup>) on behalf of the Sixteenth District spoke commendations on the work of Bishop Anne Henning-Byfield.

Bishop C James Kings Jr., 63<sup>rd</sup> elected and consecrated bishop of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church was acknowledged.

Bishop Fugh gave announcements.

Bishop McKinley Young was presented by Bishop McKenzie, who presented Mrs. LaDonna Liggins (3<sup>rd</sup>) who on behalf of the Third District announced the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Senior Bishop and Mrs. Young on September 29, 2017 with all proceeds to go to Wilberforce University.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Closing prayer offered at 12:23pm by Bishop John Bryant.



**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

Self-Study

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<b>Commission On:</b>	Ministry and Recruitment
<b>Presiding Officer:</b>	Bishop Ronnie E. Brailsford, Sr.
<b>General and/or Connectional Officers:</b>	Rev. Garland F. Pierce, Executive Director, Department of Christian Education
<b>Vice Chairperson:</b>	Presiding Elder Jocelyn Hart Lovelace
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ms. Darlene Gordon

**Actions Taken:**

Inasmuch as, one of the primary mandate of this commission is to plan for the systematic recruitment, training, placement, and compensations of young people for the pastoral ministry and other church vocations and that the commission's duties to this end are to be discharged by the Executive Director of the Department of Christian Education, the commission discussed extensively a 3-year, 3-pronged plan related to the broad theme of vocational discernment for this 2016-2020 quadrennium.

In 2018, the commission will plan and offer a track at the 2018 Connectional Christian Education Congress related to vocational discernment. There will be learning labs for youth regarding gift discernment and the diversity of ministries as well as a learning lab for adults related to the same.

In 2019, from the information gathered in the Congress learning labs, there will be an issue of *The Journal of Christian Education* devoted to themes related to vocational discernment.

In 2020, a curriculum and tool kit related to vocational discernment will be produced that can be used as part of Bible studies, Church Schools, retreats, Church School Conventions, etc. We will gather stories, evaluations, and feedback to continue the process so that leaders can assist others with vocational discernment. The commission seeks partnership with leadership in the church and among the components at all levels.

**Recommendations:**

The Commission on Ministry and Recruitment therefore recommends that the General Board approve this 3-year, 3-pronged plan related to the broad theme of vocational discernment.

**Roll:**

1<sup>st</sup> Presiding Elder Jocelyn Hart Lovelace  
2<sup>nd</sup> Rev. John I. Swann, Jr.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Rev. Dr. Alphonse Allen  
4<sup>th</sup> Rev. Tyson Parks  
5<sup>th</sup> Rev. Frances Carey  
6<sup>th</sup> Rev. Conitras M. Houston  
7<sup>th</sup> Ms. Joi Artis

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8<sup>th</sup> Ms. Darlene Gordon  
9<sup>th</sup> Ms. Veronica Wiley  
10<sup>th</sup> Rev. Tyronda Burgess  
11<sup>th</sup> Rev. Dr. Julius H. McAllister, Jr.  
12<sup>th</sup> Rev. Marcellus Fields  
13<sup>th</sup> Rev. Walter Reid, Jr.  
14<sup>th</sup> Rev. Dr. Katurah York Cooper  
15<sup>th</sup> Rev. Innocent Monare  
16<sup>th</sup> Ms. Darosa Bigford  
17<sup>th</sup> Rev. Moses Achola  
18<sup>th</sup> Ms. Beatrice Mutokoa  
19<sup>th</sup> Rev. T.A.M. Mbabo  
20<sup>th</sup> Presiding Elder Rosetta Swinton  
At Large Rev. Dr. Newton Dixon

Commission on:	Annuity Investments & Insurance
Presiding Officer	
Chairperson:	Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr.
General and/or Connectional Officers:	Reverend Dr. Jerome V. Harris
Vice Chairperson:	Reverend Dr. William Watley
Secretary:	Reverend Tyronda Burgess

Actions Taken: Meeting was called to order by the Executive Director, the Reverend Dr. Jerome V. Harris at 11 a.m. Prayer and scripture were offered by commission members. The Commission roll was called by the secretary. Dr. Harris presented Bishop Green for for remarks.

Dr.Harris presented the 2017 Annual Report overview which was followed by questions and answers.

A number of guests were recognized, including Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, presiding prelate 10th Episcopal District and president, General Board; Bishop Michael Mitchell,presiding prelate, 12th Episcopal District. General Officer spouses: Mrs. Flowers and Mrs. Lewis.

Meeting was adjourned with prayer.

#### Recommendations

All eligible pastors be encouraged to be enrolled in the annuity and insurance programs

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

1st - Cousin - P	10th - Burgess - P	19th - Makhene - A
2nd - Montague - P	11th - Griffin - P	20th - Swinton - A
3rd - Harris - P	12th - Banks - A	
4th - Bell - P	13th - Thomas - P	
5th - Carey - P	14th - Mason - A	
6th - Watley - P	15th - Hanse - A	
7th - Smith - P	16th - Morris-Grant - A	
8th - Sanders - A	17th - Chama - A	
9th - Hyche - P	18th - Dlamini - A	

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<b>Commission On:</b>	Global Development
<b>Presiding Officer:</b>	Bishop Paul J M Kawimbe
<b>General and/or Connectional Officers:</b>	
<b>Vice Chairperson:</b>	Rev. Dr. Caesar R. Richburg
<b>Secretary:</b>	Rev. Demetrese D. Phillips

**Actions Taken:**

19<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District Economic Development update  
16<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District report and the AMEC planting/presence in Brazil by Bishop Ann Henning Byfield  
And opportunities for partnership and investment in Brazil.  
Bishop Henning also discussed the ongoing rebuilding of churches and facilities in Haiti and the need for infrastructure.  
Information received from Mr. Arbra L. Baily of "Compassion" in regards to helping Children living in poverty at \$1.09/ day. Their mission is to focus on children by helping in the developing of minds body and spirits and also partnering with local churches.  
Update on the GDC Young Adult Missionary Summit held May 11-14 in Johannesburg R.S.A. The Theme was "Speak Life." Over 600 Attendees including 75 delegates from the U.S.A. The summit included outreach in the community.  
15<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District Investment Report. Would like to build student accommodations and Hostels in Cape Town and a Hotel in Port Elizabeth. Estimated to cost 11 Million Rand.  
Review by the GDC meeting by the President of the GDC, Bishop David R. Daniels. Recommendations of GDC meeting were briefly shared by Bishop Daniel.  
SADA-Discussion by Robert Nichols regarding the level of funding for overseas development by the current administration.  
The Editor of the Christian Recorder Mr. John Thomas has identified representatives from district 14-20 to submit articles in the Christian Recorder.



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**Recommendations:**

Funding for seed money for church planting in Brazil be referred to the Commission on Statistic and Finance.

Individuals willing to invest and partner with the 16<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District should contact Bishop Byfield.

LOADI (Lay Organization African Development Initiative) date be published on the connectional church calendar. Proposed date is the end of May hosted by the 17<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District.

The Chair of the commission along with Bishop Byfield will continue discussion with the organization Compassion to determine partnering opportunities.

**Roll:**

Bishops Paul J M Kawimbe- Commission Chair	Rev. Phafane J. Mengoai
Bishop Ann Henning Byfield	Rev. Deborah Manjoba
Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie	
Bishop David R. Daniels Jr.	
John Thomas III	
Rev. Dr. Caesar R. Richburg-Vice Chair	
Rev. Demetrese D. Phillips – Secretary	
Carl Davis- Asst. Secretary	
Rev. John Swan Jr.	
Sharon Smith Banks	
Michael Cousin Jr.	
Janice Stewart	
Vergie J. Tennison	
Charlie Nichols	
Rev. Margaret laeleher	
Rev. William Burger	

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<b>Commission On:</b>	International Health Commission
<b>Presiding Officer:</b>	Bishop Harry L. Seawright
<b>General and/or Connectional Officers:</b>	Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett and Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem
<b>Vice Chairperson:</b>	Mr. Jeremy Joseph
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ms. Joi Artis

**Actions Taken:**

The International Health Commission promoted and hosted a variety of wellness activities, events, programs and planning at all levels of the Connection. Collaborations and partnerships continue and have been developed or expanded with the following organizations the National Kidney Foundation, American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA/ASA), American Cancer Society, Prostate Health Education Network (PHEN), Girl Trek (a walking program for women of all ages) and the American Red Cross. Work with the US Department of Health and Human Services and CDC continues. Partnerships with other AME Departments and Commissions were expanded, including working with Social Action Commission to promote environmental wellness and solar energy.

Several local churches hosted walks, CPR training, HIV/AIDS information sessions, started Girl Trek Walking programs and participated in the American Heart Association Healthy for Life Project, Prostate Cancer Father Day Rallies and Symposiums, Disaster Preparation and Men Walking for Wellness. Several Episcopal Districts, Presiding Elder Districts and Local churches still do not have appointed Health Directors. This is of great concern because for almost every “preventable” disease condition (diabetes type 2, high blood pressures, heart disease, stroke and some cancers) people of color rank the highest for people suffering and dying from “preventable diseases”.

Monthly conference calls are held with the Executive Director on the last Friday of every month at 8 PM EST. The Health Commission writes a bi- monthly article for The Christian Recorder.

Website and Social Media – [www.AMEHealth.org](http://www.AMEHealth.org)

The Health Commission is a “One Stop Shop” website ([amechealth.org](http://amechealth.org)) provides a wealth of information on a variety of topics in Active Shooter Guidelines, Disaster Preparation, Men Walking for Wellness, Mental Health, Environmental Wellness and more. The Facebook group has grown and has many dedicated followers. The Twitter account has linked to the website and the Facebook page. Health Commission app and online store contains fitness, disaster preparedness, first aid and solar energy supplies. The company that manages the online store will make a donation to Health Commission for each purchase in support of the ministry of the Health Commission. We encourage all Episcopal Districts and churches to create a link to [www.AMEHealth.org](http://www.AMEHealth.org) to provide health resources and information.

Text Wellness Program

Text4Wellness, is a free health messaging campaign, offered by our technology partner, UPRISCorp that seeks to improve the healthy lifestyle choices of participants by leveraging mobile technology to deliver

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culturally appropriate informational and motivational health messages to members of participating churches. Through a two-way text messaging campaign, Text4Wellness will encourage participants to make healthier nutrition, exercise and wellness choices for themselves and their families.

Committee Information and Updates

**Recommendations:**

1. Adoption and support the International Health Commission calendar at all levels located on [www.AMEChealth.org](http://www.AMEChealth.org)
2. Link District websites to [www.AMEChealth.org](http://www.AMEChealth.org) for online health calendar, store and ongoing health information and resources. Support the International Health Commission Facebook page and Twitter account.
3. Ensure a Health Commission Director is in place at all levels and in all Episcopal Districts to promote health calendar activities, programs and resources available from community partners.
4. Promote the Annual July Faith Based Wellness, Health, Nutrition and Fitness month established by the IHC in partnership with The Association of Black Cardiologist, Prostate Cancer Awareness Network, Heart and Soul Magazine and American Heart Association/American Stroke Association
  - Support July Annual Faith Based Wellness, Health, Nutrition and Fitness month in the African Methodist Episcopal Church
  - Support the last weekend of July Annual Faith Based Wellness, Health, Nutrition and Fitness Weekend. On Saturday and Sunday in the last weekend of July Pastors and churches are encouraged to host walks, health screenings, healthy food contests, jogging suit and sneaker day, sermons and bible study focused on health and wellness.
  - Promote walking groups: M.W.W. Men Walking for Wellness and Girl Trek for Women Enrollment available online at [www.AMEChealth.org](http://www.AMEChealth.org). Get Fit and Healthy with the AME church worldwide!
  - Promote the various wellness, health, disaster preparedness, solar, fitness, nutrition resources and training tools available on [www.AMEChealth.org](http://www.AMEChealth.org).
5. Promote the Annual August Clergy and Clergy Family Wellness Month established by the IHC.
  - Clergy is encourage to participate retreats, sabbaths, family vacations, personal vacations, time of rest, self-reflection, annual doctor visits, marriage enrichment, single life enrichment and events to promote wellness mind, body and spirit. Clergy that makes time for self-care will experience a more fruitful and productive ministry both professionally and personally.

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6. Heath Commission Directors at all levels promote the trainings available to Health Directors on [www.AMEChealth.org](http://www.AMEChealth.org). Encourage all Nursing Units to be active members of their church health commission.
7. Reaffirm the Health Commissions advocacy for the implementation of Disaster Preparedness protocols, including Preparedness Drills and Safety Checks. The Health Commission website [www.AMECHealth.org](http://www.AMECHealth.org) store provides disaster preparedness first aid kits, disaster kits, portal solar backpacks, water testing kits and more. Church Safety Tips can be found on [www.amechealth.org](http://www.amechealth.org) as well as links to the FBI Active Shooter Event Quick Reference Guide.
8. Encourage all Episcopal Districts to actively support the resolutions that were approved in July 2016 regarding persons who are differently challenged; healthy food and beverage toolkit and smoke-free campuses.
9. Promote Prostate Cancer Awareness programs including PHEN annual Father's Day Prostate Rally, PHEN Symposiums, Prostate Cancer PSA screenings events, M.W.W. = Men Walking for Wellness and June Men's Health Month events
10. Partner with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) to conduct free Mental Health First Aid courses. Contact your local chapter to make the arrangements.

**Roll:**

First: Ms. Edna Sharp-present  
Second: Rev. John Swann, Jr. (YA)-absent  
Third: Ms. Giselle Lindsay (YA)-present  
Fourth: Rev. Tyson Parks-absent  
Fifth: Ms. Tamika Jones-present  
Sixth: Ms. Selena Clark-present  
Seventh: Ms. Joi Artis (YA)-present  
Eighth: Ms. Darlene Gordon-excused  
Nineth: Mr. Jeremy Joseph (YA)-present  
Tenth: Ms. Kendra Hill-Daughton (YA)-present  
Eleventh: Mr. Jamarion Moore (YA)-present  
Twelfth: Ms. Nikita Bennett (YA)-absent

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Thirteenth: Ms. Angelica Jones (YA)-absent  
Fourteenth: Mr. Eric Coleman (YA)-absent  
Fifteenth: Mr. Theodore Messiah-absent  
Sixteenth: Rev. Carlene Sobers-absent  
Seventeenth: Mr. David Kafusa-absent  
Eighteenth: Ms. Dudu Motjotji-absent  
Nineteenth: Rev. M.D.T. Makhene-absent  
Twentieth: Ms. Passion Musa

Guest in attendance:

Rev. Everett Bell

Mr. James Wilson-website designer

Mr. Ronald O'Neal

Rev. Micheala Mims (5th)

Ms. Dana Gaymon (5th)

Rev. Selena Clark (6th)

Mr. Leo Strong (9th)

Dr. Linda Green (12th)

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<b>Commission On:</b>	Publications
<b>Presiding Officer:</b>	Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie
<b>General and/or Connectional Officers:</b>	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
<b>Vice Chairperson:</b>	Rev. Henry A. Belin III
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ms. Stephanie Burks

**Actions Taken:**

Commendations were given to the General Officers for their service.

**Recommendations:**

**DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP**

- Initiation of a connectional database of all archive holdings throughout the church. This would begin as a formal request to all local church, annual conference and episcopal district historians to provide listing of archival holdings (papers, recordings, books and objects) in their current archive or church history collection. The inventory should be submitted to the Historiographer/Executive Director of Research and Scholarship for establishment of a digital connectional compendium of archival resources ordered by episcopal district. The listing would be linked to the Department website for access to all members of the church. Completion projected December 2018.
- Usage of the Department of Research and Scholarship website for all research requests, article submissions, archive data bases, subscription updates and updates and payments beginning January 1, 2018.

**AME SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION**

- That the Church supports the vision of the AMEC Publishing house to be the sole provider of all print and digital media for all the Connectional Departments of the AME Church.

**THE CHRISTIAN RECORDER**

- Churches are encouraged to purchase at least two (2) copies of The Christian Recorder. One copy should be mailed to the church address.
- Bishops of the Church are encouraged to apply the Discipline provision to Chaplains and Supernumeraries that “All traveling preachers in the Connection are required to subscribe to The Christian Recorder, and to the Voice of Missions or The A.M.E. Church Review or The Journal of Christian Education. Presiding elders, at their quarterly conferences, shall require all local preachers to subscribe to at least one of the church periodicals.”
- The laity of the church—especially Stewards, Trustees and Class Leaders—are encouraged to subscribe to The Christian Recorder. Pastors should display copies of The Christian Recorder in a public area and make an appeal for subscriptions the month before the Annual Conference.

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- The Bishops of the Church are encouraged to assist the Editor in identifying a network of volunteer reports to cover pertinent events in the various Annual Conferences and Episcopal Districts.
- Clergy and laity are encouraged to share news stories about churches and AME ministries produced by other news outlets and obtain formal permission for reprinting in The Christian Recorder.

**Roll:**

1	Reverend David B. Cousin, Sr.	P
2	Rev. Gregory Edmond	A
3	Ms. Kimberly Brooks	P
4	Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount	P
5	Rev. J. Edgar Boyd	P
6	Rev. Conitras Houston	P
7	Mr. Keith Britton	A
8	Ms. Stephanie Burks	P
9	Mr. James Bonner	P
10	Mr. Carl Davis	P
11	Rev. Dr. Julius McAllister	P
12	Rev. Dr. Marcellus Fields	P
13	Rev. Walter Reid	A
14	Rev. Dr. Katurah Cooper	A
15	Rev. Willem Simon Hanse	A
16	Ms. Krystel Compton	A
17	Ms. Passion A. Nhekairo Musa	A
18	Rev. Albert Npmvuyo Thwala	A
19	Mr. Mpumelelo Dlamini	A
20	Ms. Kwandokuhle Musa Khumalo	A
	Members At- Large	
	Reverend Harold Mayberry	P
	Rev. Henry Belin	P
	Presiding Elder Ronald Braxton	P
	Mrs. Sandra Lucas	P
	Mr. James Alexander	P
	Ms. Ladonna Liggins	A
	Mr. Michael Cousin	P

Chairperson – Bishop John Franklin White, Sr.

Presiding Officer – Bishop John Franklin White, Sr.

General Officer – Dr. George F. Flowers (Executive Director, Global Witness & Ministry) and Dr. Hercules Miles (Retired)

Connectional Officers – Dr. Shirley Cason-Reed (International President, WMS), Mrs. Wanda T. Ringgold (Connectional YPD Director), Chinelo Cary Tyler (Connectional YPD President and Robert Nicolas (Executive Director, AME-SADA)

Other Bishops – Bishops James Davis (2<sup>nd</sup>), McKinley Young (3<sup>rd</sup>), Michael Mitchell (12<sup>th</sup>) and Frank Cummings (Retired)

Supervisors – Supervisors Stan McKenzie (10<sup>th</sup>), Penny White (4<sup>th</sup>), Arelis Davis (2<sup>nd</sup>), Dorothy Jackson Young (3<sup>rd</sup>), Phyllis Green (7<sup>th</sup>), Carol Messiah (15<sup>th</sup>), Carolyn Brailsford (20<sup>th</sup>) and Jessica Ingram (1<sup>st</sup>)

Spouse of General Officer – Phoenicia Flowers

Recorder/Reporter/Secretary – Sharon Smith Banks

**Actions taken:**

- The various departments gave a summary of their reports. They were:
  - ✓ ***Department of Global Witness & Ministry***
    - Our witness has been strengthened with amazing relationships with companions and partners working collaboratively together to bring resolve, relief, and refreshment to people not as blessed as we are. Together we have set five program priorities, and engaged corporate partnerships for which we believe can generate significant results. All five program priorities are expected to be used to bring help and hope to a global world.
      - Fight hunger
      - Respond in emergencies
      - Protect and Assist children
      - Provide clean water
      - Encourage families with HIV/AIDS
    - July has been designed as “Christmas ‘N’ July” for the department as we collaborate with corporate sponsors, business executives, and volunteers uniting together for gathering material resources, clothing and toys for boys and girls around the world.
    - Made recent travels to Havana, Cuba, Port-a-Prince, Haiti and West Africa (Nigeria and Ghana).



✓ ***Connectional Women's Missionary Society***

- The work of the Connectional/International Women's Missionary Society depends upon the support of the Episcopal Districts and its members. The WMS operates through four (4) Commissions whose three (3) primary focuses during this quadrennial with the theme "Transforming Lives, Building Communities and Impacting the World".
- Focus 1: Women's Missionary Society has worked to ensure that The UN Sustainable Goals were addressed and plans executed that addressed injustices in all its forms.
- Focus 2: Sustainable cities and communities address the need to make our cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- Focus 3: First Ever – The 28<sup>th</sup> NGO Convention was held in Washington, DC.

✓ ***Save the Dates***

- October 30, 2017 – Dedication Ceremony for the Bishop Sarah Frances Davis Women's Clinic in Haiti
- October 12-13, 2017 – UN NGO Conference in Washington, DC
- December 8-9, 2017 – PME Dialogue in Baltimore, MD
- January 31-February 3, 2018 – Executive Board Meeting in Baltimore, MD

✓ ***Connectional YPD***

- The Connectional YPD presented over \$27,000 in scholarships to Districts 1 through 20 through the Self-Denial Program. This year's LTI was held in St. Louis with over 700 in attendance. 2018 LTI will be in the 10<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District.

✓ ***AME-SADA***

- The staff of AME-SADA, despite nearly overwhelming challenges, remains committed to positively impacting the lives of the people, particularly those in need. Our ongoing programs are described below.
  - 160,000 patients are seen in Haiti
  - 60% of the budget is through non-profits
  - Much thanks to Bishop & Supervisor Young for their continuous support and to the WMS for their financial support in building the new Bishop Sarah Frances Davis Women's Clinic.
  - Opening an office in Ghana because of need
  - The uncertainty of funding after September 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - New initiatives are planned for South Africa and in West Africa.

**Recommendation:**

The Office of Global Witness & Ministry: It is asked that the clergy and/or churches in Districts 1 through 13 subscribe to The Voice of Mission.

**Roll:**

Reverend David Cousin (1<sup>st</sup>) -excused  
Sharon Smith Banks (3<sup>rd</sup>) - P  
Ka'Dijah Brown [YA] (5<sup>th</sup>) - P

Reverend Gregory L. Edmond (2<sup>nd</sup>) - A  
Michael Cousin, Jr. [YA] (4<sup>th</sup>) - P  
Charles Murphy (6<sup>th</sup>) - P

Joi Artis [YA] (7<sup>th</sup>) - P  
Reverend Bobby Cox (9<sup>th</sup>) - A  
Reverend Jamarien P. Moore [YA] (11<sup>th</sup>) - P  
LaTanya Germany (13<sup>th</sup>) - P  
Tshepang Mmuse (15<sup>th</sup>) - A  
Reverend Moses Achola (17<sup>th</sup>) – A  
Abram Kgaile (19<sup>th</sup>) - A

Stephanie Burks (8<sup>th</sup>) - P  
Reverend Mittie Muse (10<sup>th</sup>) - A  
Dr. Dorothy Henderson (12<sup>th</sup>) - A  
Reverend Orlando McCauley (14<sup>th</sup>) - A  
Reverend Andrew C. Morris-Grant (16<sup>th</sup>) - P  
Aone Sandra Aedige (18<sup>th</sup>) - A  
Passion Musa (20<sup>th</sup>) – P

**At-Large:**

Reverend Dr. Ronald Braxton (2<sup>nd</sup>) - P  
James C. Bonner (9<sup>th</sup>) - P  
Saundra Lucas (12<sup>th</sup>) – P

Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg (7<sup>th</sup>) - P  
Reverend David Green, Sr. (11<sup>th</sup>) - P

**Commission on Women in Ministry****Date:** 20 June 2017**Chairperson:** Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield (Presiding Prelate, 16<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District)**Connectional Officer Reporting:** Rev. Dr. Erika D. Crawford (1<sup>st</sup> District), Connectional WIM President**Secretary:** Betty J. Tuggle (4<sup>th</sup> District)**Actions Taken:**

Roll Call was conducted by the Chair with assistance by the Connectional WIM President.

Betty J. Tuggle (4<sup>th</sup> District) was nominated and elected by unanimous vote to act as the Secretary for the WIM Commission.

Connectional AME/WIM reminded the commission that during the December of 2016, General Board meeting, the board unanimously adopted a resolution committing the church to an intentional pursuit of Gender Justice and Equality.

Because of that commitment, AME/WIM surveyed its membership, both male and female. Data from 17 of the 20 Episcopal Districts revealed the following:

- 65% of Episcopal District Finance Committees have no female clergy members
- 97% of Annual Conference Finance Committees are chaired by male clergy
- 88% of Annual Conference Trustee Boards are chaired by male clergy
- 71% of Annual Conference Trustee Boards have no female clergy members
- 87% of Annual Conference Board of Examiners are chaired by male clergy
- 78% of Annual Conference Ministerial Efficiency Committees are chaired by male clergy
- 69% of Deans of the Annual Conference Ministerial Institute are male clergy
- 69% of Annual Conferences have all male Presiding Elders
- 76% of “#1 churches” in Presiding Elder Districts have male clergy
- 83% of Chairs of the Committee on Ministerial orders are chaired by male clergy

The Commission on Women in Ministry, re-affirmed their commitment to justice and equality, standing on the shoulders of pioneering women like the Daughters of

Rev. Dr. Erika D. Crawford, President \* Rev. Ammie L. Davis, First Vice President  
Rev. Joelynn T. Stokes, Esq., Second Vice President \* Rev. Dr. Monica L. Spencer, Third Vice President  
Rev. Louise V. Jackson, General Secretary \* Rev. Tyronda Howse Burgess, Financial Secretary  
Rev. Garland D. Higgins, Communication Secretary \* Rev. Angelique J. Mason, Treasurer  
Rev. Dr. Janie Dowdy-Dandridge, Herstorlographer \* Rev. Pamela R. Rivera, Director of Liturgy&Worship  
Rev. Nomalungelo Pamella Vena, Central South Africa Coordinator

Zelophehad (Numbers 27:6-7), Rev. Jarena Lee, Rev. Carrie Hooper, Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, Bishop Carolyn Tyler Guidry, Bishop Sarah Frances Davis, Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield, Rev. Teresa Fry Brown, Ph.D., Rev. Jacqueline Grant Collier, Ph.D., Rev. Lillian Frier Webb and Mother Charlotte Maxeke. As well as, spiritual brothers and fathers who mentored, prepared and positioned their spiritual sisters and daughters for ministry, like Bishop Frederick Hillborn Talbot who appointed Reverend Dorothy Millicent Stephens Morris, the first female Presiding Elder in the AME Church and Bishop Vinton Anderson who appointed Rev. Cornelia Wright as the first female Presiding Elder in the Continental United States.

A motion was made by to adopt the recommendation seconded. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

The chair encouraged WIM to have discussion with their Episcopal leadership around the equitable appointment of women.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Bishop Henning Byfield.

#### **The Commission makes the following recommendations:**

1. That the General Board empower each WIM Commission Member to complete an introspective analysis of its Episcopal District's key leadership and pastoral positions regarding female clergy and report its findings to the commission within 90 days.
2. That the General Board empower its members to encourage Presiding Elders to work with WIM leadership to prepare and provide workshops and training at a Presiding Elder District meeting to assist pastors and congregations in fulfilling the churches intentional commitment to Gender Justice and Equality by the June 2018 General Board meeting.

Chairperson: Bishop Anne Henning Byfield (Present)

Commission Members:

1<sup>st</sup> District: Rev. Jocelyn Hart (Present)

2<sup>nd</sup> District: Presiding Elder Ernest Montague (Absent)

3<sup>rd</sup> District: Ms. Kimberly Brooks (Absent)

4<sup>th</sup> District: Ms. Betty Tuggle (Present)

5<sup>th</sup> District: Rev. Fran Cary (Absent)

6<sup>th</sup> District: Rev. Jonetta Prater (Present)

7<sup>th</sup> District: Ms. Vergie Tennison (Present)

8<sup>th</sup> District: Ms. Darlene Gordon (Present)

9<sup>th</sup> District: Rev. Albert Hyche (Present)

10<sup>th</sup> District: Miss Kendra Hill-Daughton (excused)

11<sup>th</sup> District: Bro. Charlie Nichols (Present)

12<sup>th</sup> District: Rev. Marcelle Fields (xxxxxx)

13<sup>th</sup> District: Rev. Troy Thomas (xxxxx)

14<sup>th</sup> District: Rev. Margaret Fadehan (Present)

15<sup>th</sup> District: Bro. Theodore Messiah (xxxxxxx)

16<sup>th</sup> District: Rev. Carlene Sobers (xxxx)

17<sup>th</sup> District: Rev. Moses Achola (xxxx)

18<sup>th</sup> District: Ms. Beatrice Mutokoa (xxxx)

19<sup>th</sup> District: Sis. Thumekile (xxxx)

20<sup>th</sup> District: Presiding Elder Rosetta Swinton (Present)

Special Guests: Rev. Dr. Jessica Kendall Ingram (1<sup>st</sup> District Supervisors)

Humbly Submitted,

Betty J. Tuggle

Acting Secretary, Women in Ministry Commission



*Report for the*  
**Commission on Christian Education**

*2:15 pm- 3:15 pm | Tuesday, June 20, 2017*

*Hilton Los Angeles Airport*

**Presiding Officer/Chairperson**

Bishop David R. Daniels

**General Officer**

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

**Connectional Officers**

Richard Allen Young Adult Council President: Ms. Martinique Mix  
Christian Debutante-Master Commission Administrator: Mrs. LyndaJo Jones Watson  
Music and Christian Arts Ministry Director: Rev. Anthony B. Vinson Sr.  
Association of African Methodist Episcopal Scouts Director: Mr. Clarence Crayton

**Organization of the Commission**

Vice Chair: Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount (4<sup>th</sup>)

Secretary: Giselle M. Lindsay (3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Actions Taken**

**Report from Christian Education Director Pierce**

***Highlights included:***

- Church School and Bible Study Resources have been enhanced; Production timeline has been lengthened to allow for sufficient time for thorough development of content and editing for quality control; New writers have been added to the Writers Guild
- Daily Spiritual Vitamins (DSVs) are still being prescribed; The DSVs are daily focal scripture for meditation and reflection; New additions include a more attractive & inviting format, a prompt for prayer and/or reflection, the incorporation of the connectional quadrennium themes, and other significant denominational and global themes and observances; DSVs are now offered on multiple platforms—email, website, Twitter, and Facebook
- People of the Anvil is now available in Spanish, French, and Portuguese. They can be found on the Christian Education website for free. Translations into Dutch and Haitian Creole are in production
- CED Website and Social Media accounts were redesigned; New information and features have been added to the website, including a free resources session, an enhanced online bookstore, a section for sharing creative ideas for the teaching ministry, and dedicated collaborative spaces for the various Ministries of Christian Education

- *The Journal of Christian Education* continues to be a resource for sharing ideas, information, and resources for the teaching ministry; The Journal needs new subscribers and new submissions
- *Annual Ministries in Christian Education Training and Planning Meeting* was held April 20-22, 2017 in Nashville, Tennessee. Thank you to Greater Bethel AME Church- Nashville and the 13<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District for their support of this event
- *2019 Christian Education Summit* will occur in Cape Town, South Africa, February 17-19, 2019. It will be a rich time of worship, fellowship, networking and shared learning; More information is forthcoming.
- *Ecumenical Faith Formation* has been a top priority this year; Collaborated to produce a 2017 Liberation and Unity, Lenten Devotional Meditation and Guide Book with the AMEZ and CME churches; the Director participated in the World Methodist Conference and Council and was named as an AME representative to the World Methodist Council and its Education Committee; the Director participated in a consultation on mission formation in Matanzas, Cuba, sponsored by the Commission on World Mission and Evangelism (CWME) of the World Council of Churches (WCC)
- *TEACH, Inc.* is a non-profit corporation operated by the CED; it is an avenue to secure additional funding for faith formation, leadership development, and resource development; TEACH, Inc. will participate in partnerships with agencies that have similar interests including but not limited to youth serving agencies and will utilize governmental and foundation funding as appropriate to its purposes
- *Vincent F. Foster Trust Fund* has been maintained; it will continually provide supplementary funds to enhance the work of the CED. The balance of the Fund at the end of the 2016-2017 fiscal year (ending March 31, 2017) was \$153,123.64.
- *Commission on Ministry Recruitment and Development* with the consultation of Director Pierce is exploring the of processes, policy, and procedures related to discernment for Christian vocations and ministry as well as professional development and continuing education

#### **Report from Richard Allen Young Adult Council President Mix**

##### ***Highlights included:***

- Several members attended the World Methodist Conference and Council in Houston, TX
- RAYAC members attended the International Methodist Young Leaders Seminar (IMYLS) held at the WMC. President Mix was reappointed to the WMC
- RAYAC Board members worked with districts to establish or re-establish Episcopal District RAYACs
- RAYAC leadership worked with the AMEZ, CME and UMC young adults to host the First Pan-Methodist Young Adult Conference, held in Atlanta, GA

#### **Music and Christian Arts Ministry Director Rev. Vinson**

##### ***Highlights included:***

- Music and Christian Arts Ministry is grateful to have been a part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Session of the General Conference of the AME Church.
- They release their second CD: Celebrating 200 Years of the AME Church
- They are proud to have been a part of the historic first live recording session at the seat of the General Conference.

- MCAM is eagerly anticipating the 2017 Music and Christian Arts Conference that will take place August 15-18 in Atlanta, GA
- MCAM needs people to advocate for MCAMs in the Episcopal Districts

#### **Association of African Methodist Episcopal Scouts Director Crayton**

##### ***Highlights included:***

- AAMES had a record number of members join —60; has at least 1 scout unit in every Episcopal District
- Held a Quadrennial Camporee at Camp Hart, in Pennsburg, PA on July 3-9, 2016; they had 75 youths; 120 people total
- AAMES is working on a handbook to pass down to future generation scouts
- AAMES have started planning for the 2018 Christian Education Congress and the Christian Education Summit in Cape Town, South Africa, February 2019.
  - Striving to have every Episcopal District to send 1 Boy scout and 1 Girl Scout to the Christian Education Summit

#### **Christian Debutante-Master Commission Administrator Watson**

##### ***Highlights included:***

- CDMC has been in existence for 65 years; the best kept secret of the AME church
- CDMC is proud to be self-supported and has CDMC Commissioners in 11 of the 13 stateside districts
- New website and new brochure have been created
- Additional topics to the CDMC Manuel are in development. New topic include My Civic Duty, Church Etiquette, and Finances.

We also had special guests in attendance:

- Bishop Frank Cummings
- Former CED Director Dr. Kenneth H. Hill
- Former CED Director Dr. Daryl B. Ingram

#### **Recommendations**

- AME members, particularly church leaders, pastors, clergy, and Christian educators at each level of the church, sign-up for the Daily Spiritual Vitamins
- Episcopal Districts will support TEACH, Inc. as a non-profit partner with the Department of Christian Education for character, resource, and leader development
- Former CED Director Dr. Daryl B. Ingram be on the Board of Trustees for the Vincent F. Foster Trust Fund
- Each Church School be encouraged to subscribe to The Journal of Christian Education
- Each Episcopal District be encouraged to incorporate the Disciple Bible Study Series in its Christian Education offerings.
- Leaders in the music and Christian arts ministries of the AME Church as well as pastors, ministers, and others attend the 2017 Music and Christian Arts Ministry Conference, August 15-18, 2017.
- Persons with gifts and interest in writing (particularly curriculum development) be encouraged to join the Writers Guild



- AME members submit articles related to Christian education themes, best practices, and events to The Journal of Christian Education for publication.
- AME members on social media, particularly church leaders, pastors, clergy, and Christian educators at each level of the church, connect to the Department's Twitter (@ame\_ced) and Facebook.
- AME members, particularly church leaders, pastors, clergy, and Christian educators at each level of the church, purchase the 2017 Advent/Christmas Devotional Meditation Guide produced jointly by the Christian Education Departments of the AME, AMEZ, and CME Churches.
- Episcopal Districts encourage strong participation in the 28th Christian Education and Youth Congress to be held June 2018, immediately following the Council of Bishops and General Board meetings, Atlanta, GA,

### **Commission Members in Attendance**

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

\*: Indicates this person was absent

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<b>Commission On:</b>	Colleges, Universities and Seminaries
<b>Presiding Officer:</b>	Bishop Reginald T Jackson
<b>General and/or Connectional Officers:</b>	
<b>Vice Chairperson:</b>	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Rev Dee Dawkins-Haigler

**Actions Taken:**

Bishop Reginald T. Jackson, Chairman of the commission on Colleges, Universities and Seminaries called the meeting to order at 3:22 pm. He acknowledged the presence of Senior Bishop McKinley Young, Bishop Samuel Green and Bishop David Daniels. The Chairman stated that there are nine institutions and while allotted one hour, it may not be sufficient for each school to give a full report.

**First Report – Allen University**

Dr. Earnest McNeally, President stated the governance of the institution has progressed smoothly and it has completed the accreditation process without a hitch. He is proud to report that the institution with the support of Chairman, Bishop Green has a hold on its finances. He highlighted the following five areas.

1. The creation of the Institute for Civility Project, which will provide instruction and experiences that will promote the practice of civil discourse.
2. The Dickerson-Green Graduate Seminary will provide instruction for those in the 7<sup>th</sup> and throughout the connection.
3. The business incubator has 1300 participants and the goal is for them to become students of Allen.
4. A Symphonic Band program will be initiated to tell the rich history of music and should be a catalyst to boost enrollment
5. They are launching a new sports program to include an intercollegiate women's softball team.

**Second Report – Edward Waters College**

Dr. Nathaniel Glover, President acknowledged Senior Bishop Young and Bishop Mitchell. He stated that Bishop Young was diligent in helping to save the College by raising \$2 million. He highlighted the following.

1. Enrollment is almost 1000 students
2. The acquisition of the James Weldon Middle School which adds four acres and over 100,00square feet to the campus
3. Signature Criminal Justice Program which allows students to earn both their Bachelor's Degree and Certification with Florida Law Enforcement simultaneously so that upon graduation they are ready to work.
4. 60% of athletes and 40% of all students are honor students.
5. Retention rate is 60% and Graduation rate is almost 30%.

President Glover stated that after 8 years of service to Edward Waters he will be retiring next year. Chairman Jackson asked him about the number of students matriculated and the President stated 994. The Chairman stated he couldn't leave until he reached the 1000 mark in which President Glover replied

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that he intentionally wasn't going to respond to that request but the school did intend to go online in 2019. He thanked Board Chairman Bishop Richardson for all of his support.

**Third Report – Morris Brown College**

Dr Stanley Pritchett recognized the bishops, trustee members present and Board Chairman Bishop Jackson.

1. He stated that the school is no longer in bankruptcy and is in the process of applying for re-accreditation.
2. Pritchett explained that it was imperative that the school maintain students because in the event that it does not operate for even one semester all 6 ½ acres and buildings would be forfeited to Clark Atlanta University.
3. The school maintains enrollment of about 100 students and graduates 17 or 18 students per year.

Bishop Jackson stated that he has given the school 2 years to achieve accreditation and plans to do everything in his power to help make this happen. In the unlikely event that this doesn't occur then the resources of the church will no longer be used to assist the college.

**Fourth Report – Paul Quinn College**

Dr Michael Sorrell recognized Bishops and Paul Quinn board members. He gave an extensive report and here are some of the highlights

1. First HBCU in the United States to be federally work certified, which means students work 10-20 hours a week in addition to academics. By being a work college, they are able to reduce tuition and students can attend school for 4 years for \$10,000
2. The school is now boasting a waiting list. They are breaking ground on a new dormitory in the fall in hopes that it will eliminate the waiting list.
3. The school was down to 2.5 million debt however a sponsor just gave the institution 2.5 to erase the debt.
4. The school has raised over \$4.4 million this year and over \$20 million under the leadership of Board Chair Bishop Vashti McKenzie.
5. They utilize a summer bridge program which boosts enrollment and allows them to pull down Pell grant money.
6. For the first time, they have a group of students who have studied abroad and one of the school's graduates will be attending an Ivy league school.

**Fifth Report – Shorter College**

President Jerome Green recognized Shorter Board Chairman Bishop Mitchell and Bishop Young. He is proud to state that school is moving along nicely, they went from no students or full-time faculty in 2012 to having 1216 students in 2016.

1. Adjusted income of \$3 ½ million. They have finished a successful audit report without any sanctions or debt.
2. School is in the process of \$500,000 renovation thanks to a grant.
3. Shorter is 1 in 60 schools selected for the 2<sup>nd</sup> chance Pell grant which allows those in prison to apply and attend school using Pell grant funds.
4. The school had 53 graduates this year and 80% have jobs or will be attending graduate school.
5. Partnership with the Los Angeles Chapter of SCLC to recruit Los Angeles kids to attend Shorter.

**Sixth Report – Wilberforce**

Dr Herman Felton Jr recognized Board Chair Bishop Young and Alumnus Dr Jamye Coleman Williams, President Felton stated that the school has trimmed over \$700,000 from the budget. The school had to give furloughs and terminated 10 employees. He took a 25% pay cut and the remaining employees 10%. Highlights

1. He gave all 115 graduated this year a \$25 to teach them the importance of philanthropy.
2. They received a \$500,000 grant to focus on entrepreneurship. The Center of Entrepreneurship will focus on

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rebuilding the Rust Belt.

3. Alumni increased giving from 1% to 9%. He has visited 21 of the 26 Alumni chapters,
4. School received a \$50,000 Home Depot Re-tool your school grant in which they are using to build an intramural field.

**Seventh Report – AME University – Monrovia Liberia**

President Joseph Isaac thanked Board Chairman Bishop McCloud for his support.

1. School has \$2.4 Million budget and graduated 278 students this year,
2. Enrollment has increased in 4 years under his presidency from 1,700 students to 4,392.
3. Installed 5 new computer labs
4. Received \$4,000 today from Bishop Bryant

Bishop McCloud stated that the school has been paying \$28,000 year to the district and he has stopped this process said that the money can be used for student scholarships.

**Eighth Report – Payne Theological Seminary**

President Michael Brown recognized Chairman Bishop Young. School has focused on the following things.

1. Eliminate deferred maintenance
2. Record enrollment 209 Students. School has been running surplus for past 3 years. Funding the endowment each year and plan to reach \$1 million dollars
3. Payne only HBCU selected by the Smithsonian to house the human origins at schools.
4. Recognized staff Dr Holley who was unanimously elected to the Association of Theological Schools (ATS)
5. Graduated 30 Students
6. Partnering with the 17<sup>th</sup> District this fall and the 16<sup>th</sup> District next year to offer classes and is opening an extension site on the West Coast.

**Ninth Report – Turner Theological Center**

Dr John Green, President recognized Board Chairman Bishop Jackson and highlighted the following

1. 53 students enrolled & 13 graduates this year
2. School fully accredited
3. Raised \$100,000 during Founder's Day
4. Thanked Payne President for assistance with his first book, The Haves and the Have Nots.

**Tenth Report – Sizane High School Zimbabwe**

Principal Rev Deborah Mayoba

1. 1,439 Students and 54 Teachers
2. They have created numerous new programs for students ranging from academics to co-curricular activities such as clubs and sports.
3. Installed a digitized water station and an industrial generator.

Chairman Jackson thanked all the Presidents for their reports. He is proud of the work that the institutions are doing and is glad to see that all of them are on solid footing and will continue to work with Morris Brown to receive accreditation.

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**Recommendations:**

- 1. **Develop a strategy to increase Alumni Support**
- 2. **Each Institution develop 3 or 5-year Strategic Plan to chart out future goals**
- 3. **Develop a marketing strategy to promote the achievements of the schools that can be shared throughout the connection.**

**Roll:**

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

Actions Taken:

Recommendations

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

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<b>Commission On:</b>	Lay Organization
<b>Presiding Officer:</b>	Bishop E. Earl McCloud, Jr
<b>General and/or Connectional Officers:</b>	Dr. Willie C. Glover
<b>Vice Chairperson:</b>	Valerie Gary Bell
<b>Secretary:</b>	Keith E. Britton

**Actions Taken:**

The Commission heard the report of Dr. Willie C. Glover, Global President of the Connectional Lay Organization (CLO). Dr. Glover provided a summary of work for the organization highlighting the following:

- Continued interface with sister denominations including the World Council of Churches
- Prepared lay delegates to be actively involved and present in all business sessions of the 50<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference and actively promoted legislation drafted by the CLO.
- Participated in the Global Development Council held at the Johannesburg, South Africa. Several Lay candidates seeking office at the upcoming Biennial Session were in attendance.
- Provided disaster relief funds to the following Episcopal Districts: \$5,000 to the Eighth Episcopal District and \$5,000 to the Twentieth Episcopal Districts to assist with flood relief efforts, \$10,000 to the Sixteenth Episcopal District to rebuild a family home destroyed by Hurricane Matthew.
- Donated \$5,000 to AME SADA for work in Haiti
- Celebrated the election of all candidates endorsed by the CLO at the General Conference including the election of a female to the Bench of Bishops
- The CLO will donate \$50,000 to AME University in Monrovia, Liberia at the upcoming Biennial Session
- Anticipating the largest delegation from Episcopal Districts 14-20 at the 35<sup>th</sup> Biennial Session of the Connectional Lay Organization.

The Commission also heard the report of the Treasurer for the CLO Mr. Darwin Eldridge.

- The CLO has received unqualified audits for the entire tenure of the President, Treasurer and Financial Secretary.
- The Organization is in excellent financial position and the independent auditor stated the records were impeccable.

The Commission members provided commendations to the President Willie C. Glover, Treasurer Darwin Eldridge, and Financial Secretary Richard Bowden for a job well done.

The Commission also received an update on the upcoming Biennial Session.

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**Recommendations:**

1. Encourage continued registration for the upcoming Biennial Session
2. Remind Episcopal District Presidents of the registration procedures and the need to provide complete and accurate information for all registered persons to facilitate the electronic registration check in process.
3. Continue to encourage all laity to subscribe to the Christian Recorder
4. Promote active involvement by the laity on all levels of the church

Additional Items:

- General Officer John Thomas thanked Dr. Glover and the Lay Organization for supporting his efforts as a former Lay Officer and as a candidate. He expressed appreciation to the CLO and the Commission for working to increase Christian Recorder subscriptions.
- Bishop McCloud gave a preview of communion worship service procedures for the Biennial Session.

**Roll:**

*Bishop E. Earl McCloud, Jr. - Chair (Present)*  
*Dr. Willie C. Glover, Global President Connectional Lay Organization (Present)*

Episcopal District	Representative	Attendance 6/20/17 (P=Present, A=Absent,
First	Edna Sharp	P
Second	Valerie Gary Bell	P
Third	Kimberly Gordon Brooks	P
Fourth	Betty Tuggle	P
Fifth	Tamika Jones	P
Sixth	Janice Stewart	P
Seventh	Keith Britton	P
Eighth	Stephanie Burks	P
Ninth	Veronica Wiley	P
Tenth	Rev. Mittie Muse	P
Eleventh	Reginald B. McGill	P
Eleventh	Rev. Mark Griffin	P
Twelfth	Dr. Dorothy Henderson	P
Twelfth	Rev. Tyrone Broomfield	P
Thirteenth	LaTanya Germany	P
Fourteenth	Garfield Mason	E
Fifteenth	Theodore Messiah	A
Sixteenth	Krystal Compton	P
Seventeenth	Martin Lombe	A
Eighteenth	Malungisa Auricola Dlamini	A
Nineteenth	Abram Kgaile	A
Twentieth	Stain Simfukwe	A
At Large	John Autrey	A
At Large	Larry Hollie	A
At Large	Rev. Henry A. Belin III	P



June 21, 2017

Commission On Social Action

Chairman: Bishop Frank M. Reid, III

Connectional Officers: Consultant/Director. Mrs. Jackie Dupont-Walker

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

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

Vice Chairperson: Mr. Reginald McGill

Secretary: Mrs. Sandra S. Lucas

Actions Taken:

1. Partner with the Office of Ecumenical Affairs to highlight critical issues of the day that is consistent with the denomination theme of Justice.
2. Ensure that no Richard Allen stamps would be destroyed per USPS guidelines.
3. Support and encourage Legislative visits and social justice work at the local, State, and National levels.

Recommendation:

1. At the seat of the General Board each year engage members in the critical issues of the day that expands Ministries beyond the walls of the Church.
2. While in Los Angeles members would purchase the Richard Allen stamp.
3. Convene AME's on the Hill as well as encourage similar visits at the local and state levels securing justice for all.

Members:

Bishop Frank M. Reid, III (P)

Mrs. Jacqueline Dupont Walker (P)

Mrs. Lula Sharp Cleckley (P)

Mrs. Ora L. Easley (P)

Mrs. Wanda Duckett 1<sup>st</sup> (A)

Mr. William Boykin 2<sup>nd</sup> (P)

Ms. Giselle Lindsay 3<sup>rd</sup> (P)

Mrs. Betty Tuggle 4<sup>th</sup> (A)

Ms. Ka 'Dijah Brown 5<sup>th</sup> (P)

Mr. Charles Murphy 6<sup>th</sup> (P)

Rev. Demetrese Phillips 8<sup>th</sup> (P)

Mr. James Bonner 9<sup>th</sup> (A)

Mr. Carl Davis 10<sup>th</sup> (P)

Mr. Reginald McGill 11<sup>th</sup> (P)

Rev. Larry Banks 12<sup>th</sup> (A)

Mr. Jeffrey Norfleet 13<sup>th</sup> (A)

Mr. Eric Coleman 14<sup>th</sup> (A)

Rev. William Hanse 15<sup>th</sup> (A)

Ms. Krystel Compton 16<sup>th</sup> (A)

Mr. Clifford Mugala 17<sup>th</sup> (A)

Ms. Aone Sandra Aedige 18<sup>th</sup> (A)

Ms. Thumkile Mthanti 19<sup>th</sup> (A)

Mr. Stain Simfukwe 20<sup>th</sup> (A)

Mrs. Sandra Lucas (P)

General Board  
Commission Report Form

<b>Commission On:</b>	Economic Development
<b>Presiding Officer:</b>	Bishop Harry L. Seawright
<b>General and/or Connectional Officers:</b>	
<b>Vice Chairperson:</b>	Bishop Wilford Messiah
<b>Secretary:</b>	Veronica Wiley (9)

**Actions Taken:**

Bishop Wilford Messiah presented the Commission Chair, Bishop Harry L. Seawright, who greeted and thanked the members in attendance and asked Rev. James Harris (3) to offer prayer. Bishop Seawright stated that economic development is about empowering the people.

In a discussion on economic development, Mr. Randolph Scott stated that the Commission needed to come up with a purpose for the Commission. The purpose was drafted and reads as followed: It is the purpose and vision of the Commission on Economic Development this Quadrennium to promote and share practical and innovative approaches for stewardship ministries and economic empowerment for our churches and the communities we serve.

Bishop Seawright presented an economic development plan proposal to host an International Stewardship and Economic Development Summit in 2018 to the Commission. After much discussion, Rev. Mark Griffin moved to accept the proposal and Rev. James Harris seconded, it was unanimously received by the Commission members.

**Recommendations:**

The Commission recommends the A. M. E. Church sponsor an International Stewardship and Economic Development Summit to be hosted tentatively in May, 2018 in partnership with Beeson School of Divinity at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama.

**A Global Outreach Initiative**

A collaboration between the Commission on Economic Development and the Department of Retirement Services to convene an International Stewardship and Economic Development Summit in 2018. The objective is to share practical and innovative approaches to stewardship ministries and economic development best practices for churches, communities, and individuals.

**Roll:**

Bishop Harry L. Seawright	Rev. Keith Sanders (YA-8)	Bro. Martin Lombe (17) E A
Bishop Wilford Messiah	Ms. Veronica Wiley (9) P	Rev. Albert Thwala (18) A
Rev. Jocelyn Hart (1) A	Rev. Roderick Dawson (10) P	Rev. P. J. Mengoal (19) P
Mr. William Boykin (2) P	Rev. Mark Griffin (11) P	Sis. Passion Musa (20) P
Rev. James H. Harris (3) P	Mrs. Sandra Lucas (12) A	
Rev. Reginald Blount (4) P	Ms. Angelica Jones (YA-13) A	
Mr. Randolph Scott (5) P	Bro. Eric Coleman (YA-14) A	
Ms. Janice Stewart (6) P	Rev. Innocent Monare (15) A	
Mr. Keith Britton (7) P	Rev. Newton Dixon (16) P	

General Board  
Commission Report Form

<b>Commission On:</b>	Statistics and Finance
<b>Presiding Officer:</b>	Bishop Clement W. Fugh
<b>General and/or Connectional Officers:</b>	Dr. Jeffrey B. Cooper Dr. Richard Allen Lewis
<b>Vice Chairperson:</b>	Rev. Harold R. Mayberry
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mrs. Valerie Gary Bell

**Actions Taken:**

1. Received the Report of the CIO/General Secretary/with commendations.  
Accomplishments  
\*Website redesign complete with new features  
\*AME meeting app fully functional  
\*General Board Orientation Handbook is available online and on the AME app  
\*Working to enhance website archives of the Judicial Council Database of past decisions  
\*Connectional Electronic Communications Protocol completed and functional to insure consistent cohesive flow of official information  
\*The Official Minutes of the 2016 General Conference (Volumes 1&2) have been printed and distributed
2. Received the Report of the CFO/Treasurer/with commendations  
Accomplishments  
\*2016 General Conference final report, fully paid for with surplus of 346,514  
\*Completed General Conference Survey  
\*2017-2020 Connectional Budget approved with -0- increase  
\*Received unqualified Audit opinion (21<sup>st</sup>)  
\*Line of credit paid in full (10<sup>th</sup>)  
\*All Episcopal Districts current with Quarterly payments  
\*Quarterly Payment Schedule    Sept. 15    Dec. 15    March 15    June 15
3. Episcopal District Audit Reports received:  
\*1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,10,11,12,13,15,16
4. Episcopal District requests for funding within the District, which have no impact on the Connectional Budget, reviewed and approved:  
\*Districts 3,6,8,11,12

General Board  
Commission Report Form

5. The Commission on Statistics and Finance has established a committee to review Episcopal District Connectional Budget Allocations.

Chairman-Rev. Mark Griffin

\*Members

Rev. Harold Mayberry

Rev. Ronald Braxton

Rev. Tyronda Burgess

Mrs. Ladonna Liggins

Rev. Newton Dixon

Mr. Michael Cousin, Jr. (YA)

Rev. David W. Green

Rev. Henry Belin

Mrs. Valerie Gary Bell

Each Episcopal District is asked to make available either hard or electronic copies two (2) complete sets of pastoral reports for 2016-2017, and 2017-2018, as a basis for data gathering.

The following Episcopal Districts have submitted the Pastoral Reports:

Hard copies submitted in the meeting; 3,10,12,16

Electronic versions reported to be online: 8, 13

6. The Commission will revisit the concept of Zero Based Budgeting.

**Recommendations:**

General Board  
Commission Report Form

**Roll:**

Present:

Bishop Clement W. Fugh, Chairman

Dr. Richard Allen Lewis, CFO

Dr. Jeffrey B. Cooper, CIO

1. Mrs. Edna Sharp
2. Mrs. Valerie Gary Bell
3. Rev. James H. Harris
4. Rev. Larry Bell
5. Rev. J. Edgar Boyd
6. Rev. Dr. William H. Watley
7. Rev. Dr. Norvel Goff, Sr.
8. Rev. Michele Goodloe
9. Rev. Bobby Cox
10. Rev. Tyronda Burgess
11. Mr. Reginald McGill
12. Dr. Dorothy Henderson
13. Rev. Walter Reid, Jr.
- 14.
- 15.
16. Rev. Newton Dixon
- 17.
- 18.
19. Rev. P. J. Mengoi
- 20.

At-Large members:

Rev. Dr. Harold R. Mayberry

Mr. James Alexander (YA)

Rev. Henry A. Belin III

Rev. Dr. Ronald Braxton

Rev. Tyrone Broomfield

Rev. David Cousin

Mr. Michael Cousin, Jr. (YA)

Rev. Dr. David W. Green, Sr.

Rev. Mark Griffin

Mrs. Ladonna Liggins

Rev. Julius McAllister, Jr.

General Board  
Commission Report Form

Absent:

- 14. Rev. Alvin Attah
- 15. Ntomethemba Rachel September
- 17. Rev. Martin Chama
- 18. Mrs. Beatrice Mutokoa
- 20. Kwandokuhe Khumal (YA)

The General Board of the African Methodist Episcopal Church  
Hilton Los Angeles Airport  
Los Angeles, California

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Commission Meetings – Session III

Strategic Planning – General Board Self Study

Meeting Room: Los Angeles-A

Report to the General Board

The meeting was Called to Order by Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie at approximately 3:28 p.m.

The Opening Prayer was offered by Bro. Jeffery Norfleet, 13<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District.

The Scripture, Ephesians 4: 11- 16, was read by Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount, 4<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District.

Bishop McKenzie welcomed everyone to the session and thanked them for their time and service.

In Bishop McKenzie's opening remarks, she stated that the General Board Self-Study is moving forward. Because we are able to do the work in a digital process the surveys for stakeholders have been ongoing since April. Stakeholders should complete their surveys by the end of June 2017. This process should yield close to 700 surveys ready for analysis.

The stakeholders surveyed include: Bishops, General Officers, Connectional Officers, Presiding Elders Council, Women in Ministry, Women's Missionary Society, Lay Organization, YPD, RAYAC, College Presidents and Deans, and Members of the General Board.

Bishop McKenzie stressed the importance that members of the committee understand the goals and progress of the Self-Study, know the questions to ask their respective commission or auxiliary, as well as have access to the links for the surveys so that members can share this information with the Commission to which they belong. The referenced information was sent to members of the committee via e-mail the morning of this particular committee meeting.

She stated that every survey has a set of core questions. The goal of the Self-Study is to be able to find out what is on the hearts and minds of our constituency. This information will allow us to be able to craft a ministry that will suit the people who are a part of that ministry – and meet the needs of the people and the people who are on the way and who do not know that they are coming in our direction.

Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett presented trending issues in the surveys submitted so far. Those trending issues are:

- Time management of the General Board, particularly as it relates to using technology to help with pre and post meeting work so that the work of the General Board members can be year-round.
- Money. This issue is prevalent in surveys submitted by General Officers and Connectional Officers, as well as the Lay Organization. Funding for activities is a recurring issue. However, even though fiscal resources was a number one issue in the surveys that ask, "Do you tithe?," the answer to that question was overwhelmingly, "No."

- What brings you to the AME Church?  
The top three responses are pride of heritage, liturgy, and litanies.
- There are two trends in regard to the important elements in worship.  
For the younger respondents, the top three responses are music, litany and liturgy, and sermon.  
For the older respondents, the top three responses are litany and liturgy, music, and sermon.
- Being in engaged in ministry consistently, as well as accountability. Not necessarily fiscal accountability, but accountability for work is an issue that comes up repeatedly.

After Dr. Burnett's presentation, members of the General Board Self-Study Committee gave feedback to the stated goals and direction of the Self-Study, as well as the trending issues. In the discussion, Bishop McKenzie presented a list of recommendations for the committee to consider for presentation to the General Board at-large. After review and healthy discussion, those recommendations were finalized.

In the discussion, Bishop McKenzie cautioned that it is too early to finalize all of the trends from the surveys. These are initial findings. However, Bishop noted that we do not have a place in the AME church that is a repository of where we are as a denomination. There is no repository of data. There is no repository of trends. All we have now is institutional memory. Other mainline denominations gather this kind of data, and they can see trends, and they can make adjustments. The learning curve is shorter because they can see the trends. The learning curve for us is longer because we have not gathered the information that we need to have. But it's a good start.

The General Board Self-Study Committee presents the following recommendations to the General Board of the AME Church:

That members of the General Board take the survey, that we commend those who have taken the survey, and that we encourage anyone who has not taken the survey to do so by the end of June 2017.

That we continue to work with Payne Theological Seminary both professors and Master of Divinity of Doctor of Ministry students as they look to develop coursework to assist with this endeavor.

That we present results of the surveys to the General Board, CONVO, and the General Conference.

That we distinguish what needs to be legislative, suggested, and common consent after the data has been gathered and the analytics completed.

That we gather as much data as possible to give an accurate picture of leadership and ministry that is counted in the General Board of this denomination.

That we utilize technology in a greater way to disseminate information about the General Board Self-Study, and that we continue our work through conference calls, e-mails, and webinars until the committee meets again when the General Board convenes next year.

That we tell the authentic story of the AME Church so that it resonates with the next generation.

That we ask our auxiliaries to include information about the General Board Self-Study on their websites, and that the information is on the main AME Church's website as well.



That we partner with Publications to provide them with the material they need to promote the vision and goals of the General Board Self-Study.

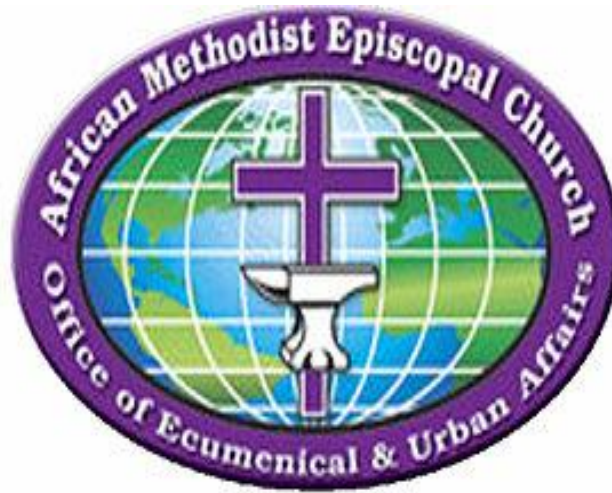
That we fill the vacant positions of a young adult representative on the Self-Study Committee from the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> Districts.

The Closing Prayer was offered by Rev. Pamela Rivera of the 10<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on Behalf of Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie,  
Reverend Alvelyn Sanders, CIO Staff, 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District

# THE COMMISSION ON CHAPLAINS GENERAL BOARD REPORT – JUNE 2017



**THE RIGHT REVEREND FRANK M. REID III ~ ENDORSING AGENT**

**MRS MARLAA HALL REID ~ EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR**

**THE REVEREND AMMIE L DAVIS ~ EXECUTIVE LIASON**

# The Commission on Chaplains

## General Board Report – June 2017

Chaplains serve as an extension of the local church in places that other members and church staff sometimes cannot go. The Chaplaincy has a place of service for you. Chaplains are not only in hospitals and in military uniforms. They are in boardrooms and classrooms. They work with a diverse group of people in various settings. Chaplains have virtually unlimited opportunities to serve in hospitals, military, law enforcement, institutions, corporations and places that are sometimes closed to “professional clergy.”

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

BISHOP FRANK M. REID III  
ENDORISING AGENT

LTCOL KENNETH JOHNSON JR  
USAF/ACTIVE DUTY

CDR GLENDA HARRISON  
USN/ACTIVE DUTY (EX OFFICIO)

REVEREND G. DIANNE LEWIS  
VETERANS AFFAIRS- ACTIVE

MAJ RONALD OWENS  
USA/RETIRED

COL RAMOTSEPA DAN NKOPDI  
SOUTH AFRICA USA/ACTIVE DUTY

MAJ EFFSON BRYANT  
VETERANS AFFAIRS – ACTIVE  
USAF/RETIRED

REVEREND DR. J. EDGAR BOYD  
NON-MEMBER OF HMTCA

## ENDORISING AGENT'S GREETINGS

### ***"A Legacy of Empowering Excellence"***

The African Methodist Church has established a legacy of excellence through our extraordinary chaplains. Henry McNeal Turner and Theophilus Stewart are just a few of the early pioneers who served God, the church of Christ and the nation as chaplains. Under the leadership of Bishop John Andrew Gregg, the AME Church became one of the leading denominations in military chaplaincy.

Legendary AME Chaplains with names like John A. DeVeaux Jr., Carroll R. Chambliss, I.V. Tolbert, W.O. Gillard, Elliott Strickland, Calvin H. Sydnor III, Mabel Mixon, John Morrison, Greene H. White, William H. Hightower, Lorenzo D. Bennett, Cecelia Williams continued the AME Church's empowering legacy of excellence.

Today, the AME mantle of excellence is being held high by Chaplains like Benita Livingston, Kenneth Johnson Jr., Addison Burgess Sr., \* Maurice Buford\* and Autumn Wilson\*.

This is my first full report as the Endorsing Agent for our Zion. I want to thank the following organizations and persons for their leadership and guidance this year: all the leadership entities of The AME Church, The Commission on Chaplains, The Henry McNeal Turner Associations and Bishop Reginald Jackson (the AME Endorsing Agent for 2012-2016).

Finally, the help and guidance of Supervisor Marlaa Reid and retired Navy Chaplain, The Reverend Ammie L. Davis (8th District) have been invaluable this year. They are the key staff people who have worked hard to uphold and build upon our legacy of empowering excellence in the 21st Century.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bishop Frank Madison Reid, III

**\*See Significant Achievement Highlights**

## AME CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY OVERVIEW

Chaplains are an extension of the local church, taking the gospel and prayer to places many churches and pastors cannot go. We ask for your continued prayers for chaplains as they take the gospel as ambassadors of African Methodism.

### Our **Chaplaincy Strategy:**

- **Embrace** our chaplains and their families
- **Educate** our pastors and churches on the ministry of the chaplaincy
- **Engage** our pastors and denominational leaders on an intentional strategy in support of our chaplains and their families
- **Enlist** chaplains for continued local church ministry on all levels of the church

### Our **Chaplaincy Goals:**

- Endorse the best AME chaplains
- Conduct annual chaplain training events
- Provide pastoral care to our chaplains (Chaplains' Ambassador Program-Initiative)

### Our **Chaplaincy Strength:**

- **80 AME Endorsed Chaplains**
  - ❖ Federal Chaplains
    - 50 Military
    - 17 Veterans Affairs
    - 1 Federal Bureau of Prisons
  - ❖ Non-Federal Chaplains
    - 7 Board of Chaplaincy Certification
    - 2 Prison
    - 1 Hospice
    - 2 Corporate

**ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS**

The 2012 Book of Discipline requirements for endorsements is listed under "Commission on Chaplains"—Section E-5, pages 182. To ensure a complete response to requests for endorsements, each candidate must prepare, complete and submit the following documents:

**Endorsement Checklist for Endorsing Agent files:**

1. Letter from Presiding Bishop stating the candidate is in good and regular standing (Letter should be sent directly to Bishop Reid).
2. Curricula Vitae (CV) or Resume
3. Copy Itinerant Deacon and Elder Ordination Certificate with seal
4. Official Transcripts (Mail sealed transcripts to Bishop Reid).
5. Type of job for endorsement
  - Federal (VA, Military or Federal Bureau of Prisons)
  - Non-Federal (CPE, Hospice, Corporate, Hospital, etc.)

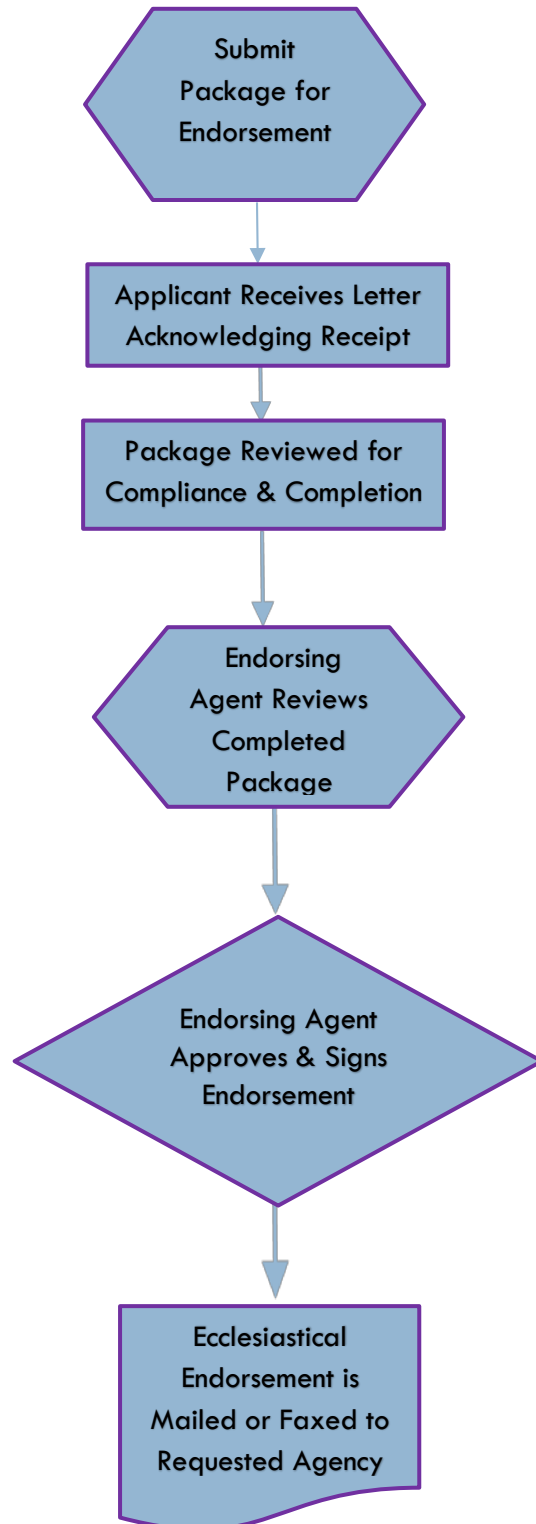
**Note: Federal Chaplains (only) are seated as General Conference Delegates**

6. Copy of the recent background check (Mail to Bishop Reid).
7. Current Photo
8. Copy of References submitted with application
9. Interview with the Bishop Reid and the Commission on Chaplains (may be completed via Skype or Google Hangout)
10. Copy of the last endorsement form signed by the former Endorser Agent.
11. A Copy of the last Annual Conference Chaplain's Report (not applicable for new endorsed Chaplains or Chaplain Candidates).
12. A "Call to Chaplaincy" Personal Statement (one-page only).
13. A Certified Copy of Mental Health Assessment results conducted within the last two years is required (Mail to Bishop Reid).
14. Complete Application for Ecclesiastical Endorsement & Profile Form via link: <https://goo.gl/forms/OeAMaZcrjIQfcmxk2>

Candidates may scan all documents and email them to [bishopreid138@gmail.com](mailto:bishopreid138@gmail.com)

**Mail the completed package to:**

Bishop Frank M. Reid III  
 The Office of the Endorsing Agent  
 1498-M Reisterstown Road -Suite 318  
 Pikesville, MD 21208  
 Office: (443) 963-9440

**ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSEMENT PATHWAY**

## ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSEMENT REQUESTS

As of July 12, 2016 - May 31, 2017

**The Department of Defense (5)****The Veterans Affairs (11)****Board of Chaplaincy Certification (7)****National Guards (1)****Chaplaincy Ministry (3)****(Hospice, Prison, Corporate, Hospital)**

## ENDORISING AGENT

2016-2017 EVENTS, MEETING, & VISTATIONS  
As of March 31, 2017

**August 12, 2016**—Attended Retirement Ceremony of Chaplain (LCDR) Ammie L. Davis at the Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

**September 8, 2016**—Met with Chaplain (CAPT) Jack Lea III (RET), the Executive Director of the National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces, in Baltimore, Maryland

**November 16, 2016**—Met with Randy Edwards, the Chaplaincy Coordinator, Federal Chaplaincies for the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Chaplaincy and Endorsing Agent for the North American Mission Board (NAMB), in Alpharetta, Georgia

**December 6, 2016**—Met with the Commission on Chaplains at the General Board Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee

**December 8, 2016**—Attended Naval Chaplaincy School and Center Basic Leadership Course 17010 Graduation at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Chaplain (LTjg) Netetia Walker, a member of the 4<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District graduated.

**December 8, 2016**—Attended Army's Captain Career Course Banquet at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Chaplain(CPT) Stephanie Handy, a member of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Episcopal District graduated on December 9, 2016.

**January 5, 2017**—Annual Endorsing Agent meeting held with AME Chaplains and the Henry McNeil Turner Chaplains Association (HMTCA) in Memphis, Tennessee

**January 9-11, 2017**—Attended the Annual Endorsing Agent's Training at the National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF) in Alexandria, Virginia

**January 11, 2017**—Panelist at the Marine Corps University Martin Luther King Jr., Breakfast in Quantico, Virginia

**January 30, 2017** – Submitted the Annual AME Chaplain Religious Compliance Form to the Armed Forces Board for Military Chaplains

## MILITARY CHAPLAINCY

Military chaplains provide military personnel and their families with religious services and programs where they can exercise their right of freedom of religion. The military depends on all faith groups to provide theologically trained, spiritually motivated and qualified ministers to serve as chaplains.

**Active Duty**--Military personnel and families often endure frequent transfers from one installation to another. As a result, they are often isolated and limited in active involvement in AME churches. AME chaplains serving on full-time active duty help bridge this gap.

**Reserve/National Guard**--Ministers engaged in full-time ministry within the AME Church may be qualified to serve as chaplains to Reserve and National Guard units. As an adjunct to their full-time pastorate, these chaplains are affiliated with a military unit. This relationship enhances their church's outreach and ministry.

**Chaplain Candidate**--The Chaplain Candidate Program was developed to provide qualified and competent chaplains for Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard. This program affords seminarians a firsthand look at the responsibilities and opportunities for ministry within the military chaplaincy.

## HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINCY

Healthcare chaplains are persons called by God and trained to serve in an environment of sickness, pain, birth and death. The term "holistic medicine" means treating people as total beings: mind, body and spirit. Total patient care provides for a person's spiritual as well as physical and mental needs. Chaplaincy programs that provide pastoral care are essential services in total patient care.

**Healthcare chaplains serve in variety of facilities:** VA medical centers, Hospice, Mental Health Centers and facilities for those who are mentally handicapped, hospitalized, and wounded.

## THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSED CHAPLAINS ARMED FORCES CHAPLAINS ACTIVE, RESERVES & NATIONAL GUARDS As of January 31, 2017



### ❖ UNITED STATES ARMY (9)

- COL RAMOTSEPA DAN NKOPODI (SOUTH AFRICAN)
- COL ADDISON BURGESS SR
- LTCOL HOLLIS GRACE
- MAJ MONICA LAWSON
- MAJ MARK CISCO (RESERVE)
- CPT STEPHANIE HANDY
- CPT SAMUEL SIEBO
- CPT A'SHELLARIEN D. LANG (NATIONAL GUARDS)
- CPT LEVY MARSHALL (RESERVE)

### ❖ UNITED STATES NAVY (10)

- CAPT (SEL) MAURICE BUFORD
- CDR GLENDA JENNINGS-HARRISON
- LCDR DEVON FOSTER
- LCDR CHRISTILENE WHALEN
- LCDR SHERRI GARRETT (RESERVE)
- LCDR JAMES ASKIEW (RESERVE)
- LT NANCY CREWS
- LT MONYA STUBBS
- LT AUTUMN WILSON
- LTJG NETETIA WALKER

### ❖ UNITED STATES AIR FORCE (9)

- COL IONA SMITH
- LTCOL DWAYNE JONES
- LTCOL KENNETH JOHNSON JR
- LTCOL HAROLD OWENS (NATIONAL GUARDS)
- MAJ REGINA SAMUEL
- MAJ SHAWN MENCHION
- MAJ TRAVIS ALLEN
- CPT TARA DIXON
- CPT TEMERA TATEM



THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION (VA)  
ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSED CHAPLAINS

As of May 31, 2017



❖ **VA CHAPLAINCY - ACTIVE (13)**

- THE REVEREND DR. ACIE COLLINS
- THE REVEREND DEBERRY COOK
- THE REVEREND JENNIFER DUKES
- THE REVEREND ROBERT C. FREEDMAN JR
- THE REVEREND LIONEL JACKSON
- THE REVEREND MELVIN JONES JR
- THE REVEREND OREA JONES-WELLS
- THE REVEREND G. DIANNE LEWIS
- THE REVEREND DR. BENITA LIVINGSTON
- THE REVEREND OBIE MADISON
- THE REVEREND DR. VALERIE SANDERS
- THE REVEREND JACQUELINE LONG
- THE REVEREND REGINALD CLEAVER

❖ **VA CHAPLAINCY - RETIRED (4)**

- THE REVEREND DR. WILTON BLAKE
- THE REVEREND CECILIA WILLIAMS
- THE REVEREND LEODIS STRONG
- THE REVEREND DR. QUENTIN WHITE

THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS  
ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSED CHAPLAINS  
As of May 31, 2017



❖ **FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS (1)**

- The Reverend Valerie Perry-White

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSED CHAPLAINS  
ARMED FORCES CHAPLAINS - RETIRED

As of January 31, 2017



❖ **UNITED STATES ARMY - RETIRED**

- COL CALVIN SYDNOR
- COL JAMES S COOPER
- LTCOL JAMES R. JOHNSON SR
- LTCOL WILLIAM LIPTRON
- MAJ SANDY MCLEAN
- MAJ RONALD OWENS

❖ **UNITED STATES NAVY - RETIRED**

- CAPT JOHN MORRISON
- CDR DAVID BROWN
- LCDR MABEL MIXON
- LCDR GERALD BAILEY
- LCDR JON R. BLACK
- LCDR CASSIE ALLEN
- LCDR ATTICUS TAYLOR
- LCDR AMMIE L. DAVIS

❖ **UNITED STATES AIR FORCE - RETIRED**

- COL WILFRED H. BRISTOL
- LTCOL OLEDIA F. BELL
- LTCOL ROGER L. ARMSTEAD
- MAJ JOSEPHINE PINKNEY
- MAJ BRUCE JONES
- MAJ EFFSON C. BRYANT
- MAJ LEROY WEATHERS
- CPT WINSTON JONES



## Ecclesiastical Endorsed Chaplains' Significant Achievements & Highlights

- **Chaplain Addison Burgess** - Promoted to Colonel (USA) US Army Central and Third Army Command Chaplain
- **Chaplain Maurice Buford** – Selected for promotion to Captain (USN)
- **Autumn Wilson** – First AME Chaplain assigned to the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland
- **Reverend Dr. A'Shellarien Lang** – First woman to serve as Chaplain in the Delaware Army National Guards
- **Chaplain Shawn Menchion** – Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel (USAF)
- **Chaplain Regina Samuels** – Selected for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel (USAF)
- **Chaplain David Brown** – Organized a new mission church Hale Ho'onani Fellowship-AME Church in Hawaii
- **Chaplain Stephanie Handy** - Completed the Army's Doctor of Ministry Degree program at Erskine Theological Seminary (USA)
- **Chaplain Mark Cisco** – Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel (USA Reserves)
- **Chaplain Gerald Bailey** – Graduated with a Master in Social Work from Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ (USN Retired)
- **Chaplain Glenda Harrison** – Plan to retire from active-duty service on January 1, 2018 after serving over 20 years as a Navy Chaplain (USN)
- **Chaplain Effson Bryant** – Board Member (Chaplain) for the newly developed National Association for Black Veterans, Inc. (NABVETS) in Columbia, SC (VA, USAF-Retired)
- **Chaplain Obie Madison** - serve as a full time permanent Chaplain at Fargo VA health Care in Fargo, North Dakota (VA)
- **Chaplain Christilene Whalen** – Promoted to Lieutenant Commander (USN)
- **Chaplain Timothy Storms** – Completed Doctor of Ministry; Prophetic Preaching and Praxis program at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio (VA)
- **Reverend Dr. G. Dianne Lewis** – Promoted to Chief of Chaplain Services at the Charlie Norwood Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia (VA)

## DID YOU KNOW?

The lack of diversity in the military may play a role in unequal justice for black troops. In 2016, about 78% of military officers were white, and 8% were black. (USA Today)

- Black troops are far more likely than their white comrades to face court martial or other forms of military punishment, according to a study to be released Wednesday, June 7, 2017 (USA Today)
- Over the past decade, racial disparities have persisted in the military justice system without indications of improvement," the report states. "These disparities are particularly striking for black service members, who face military justice or disciplinary action at much higher rates than white service members in every service branch. In fact, the size of the disparity between white and black service members' military justices involvement has remained consistent over the years, and, in the case of the Air Force and Marine Corps has increased." (USA Today)
  - Black Marines were 2.6 times more likely than whites to receive a guilty finding at a general court martial, the military judicial proceeding for more serious offenses.
  - Black airmen were 71% more likely than whites in the Air Force to face court martial or non-judicial punishment, discipline meted out for less serious offenses.
  - The Army and Navy, show disparities as well. Black soldiers were 61% more likely to face court martial than whites in the Army; and black sailors were 40% more likely than whites in the Navy to be court martialed. That percentage is 32% for black Marines.

\*The article was written by **Tom Vanden Brook**, USA TODAY Published 12:05 a.m. ET June 7, 2017