

# 2021-2022 General Board Report



Bishop Francine A. Brookins, Esq.  
Chair

Rev. Natalie Mitchem, RDN, Ed.D  
Executive Director

Rev. Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MPH  
Medical Director

**International Health Commission Report  
to the  
General Board of the AME Church  
June 28–29, 2022**

**It is with great pleasure that we provide  
this summary of the work of the  
International Health Commission.**

**We would first like to express our  
gratitude for the support of our Chair,  
Bishop Francine A. Brookins, Esq.**

# About the International Health Commission

The International Health Commission has the duty and responsibility to address health, wellness, education and prevention. IHC is charged to promote health as a part of our faith and to care for our congregations by advocating health as a right – not a privilege by forming collaborative relationships with international, national, state, county or city health programs as well as health associations and community agencies. Our motto is A Ministry that Cares Always, Helps and Assists Those in Need Through Prevention, Prayer and Education.

# Motto

A Ministry that Cares  
Always, Helps and  
Assists Those in Need  
Through Prevention,  
Prayer and Education

# Purpose

<sup>01</sup>  
The International Health Commission has the duty and responsibility to address health, wellness, education and prevention. IHC is charged to promote health as a part of our faith and to care for our congregations by advocating health as a right not a privilege by forming collaborative relationships with international, national, state, county or city health programs as well as health associations and community agencies.



# Commission on Health

Bishop Francine A. Brookins, Chair

1. Dr. Alicia Collins-Dennis
  2. Rev. Dr. A. Qismat Alim
  3. Dr. Kimberly Gordon-Brooks
  4. Bro. Michael Cousin Jr
  5. Bro. Chinelo Tyler
  6. Rev. Kimberly McMichael
  7. Ms. Patricia Parker
  8. Dr. Rhalanda Jackson
  9. Ms. Chantal Alford (YA)
  10. Rev. Dr. Rodercus Johnson
  11. Bro. John Love
  12. Mrs. Sandra Lucas Fields
  13. Rev. Linda Thomas Martin
  14. Mrs. Belinda S. Yahwon
  15. Rev. Willington Bikwa
  16. Ms. Joy Frances Johnson
  17. Bro. Shone Swain
  18. Bro. Hope Lenepa
  19. Bro. Benjy Mofolo
  20. Rev. Rosetta Swinton
- At-Large - Ms. Jeannie Rivers

# Officers & Program Directors

## Elected officers

Chair – Bishop Francine A. Brookins

Executive Director – Rev. Natalie Mitchem, RDN, Ed.D

Medical Director – Rev. Miriam Burnett, MD, MPH

Global Director – Presiding Elder Collins Kavuka

Recording Secretary – Rev. Linda Carmen-Bryant

Corresponding Secretary – Dell Braziel

Treasurer – Cynthia Taylor

Chaplain (open)

Executive Director Emeritus – Exhorter Gwen Williams

## Leaders of the 13 IHC Ministries

1. HIV/AIDS – Rev. A. Oveta Fuller, PhD
2. Caregivers – open
3. Spiritual Health – open
4. Nutrition and Exercise – Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem
5. Mental Health – Toni Johnson Liggins, PhD
6. Differently Abled – Rev. Marion Crayton, Ed.D
7. Clergy and Family Health – Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem
8. Communicable Diseases and Immunizations –  
Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett and Rev. Dr. Lisa Williamson
9. Chronic Diseases – Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett
10. Collaboration with other Connectional Agendas –  
Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett and Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem
11. Death, Dying and Hospice – open
12. Disaster Preparedness and Response – Ouida Collins, MD, MPH
13. Substance Abuse, Addiction and Recovery – open

# **Other Program Directors/Coordinators**

**AME Culinary RX**

**Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem**

**AME - Alzheimer's Association Partnership**

**Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett and**

**Sis. Roslyn Thibodeaux Goodall**

**AME Farm and Gardens**

**Rev. Carolyn Cavaness**

**Cleveland, Ohio Nutrition Grant**

**Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem**

**PA COVID Testing, and Vaccine Education and  
Clinics (AME AVE)**

**Rev. Carolyn Cavaness**

**Webmaster**

**Bro. James Wilson**

**Women's Health**

**Rev. Dr. Ann Marie Bentsi-Addison Posey**

# Episcopal District Directors

1st District – Rev. Lisa Williamson, MD, MPH

2nd District – Elvin T. Price, Pharm.D., Ph.D.

3rd District – Toni Johnson Liggins, MD

4th Episcopal District – Rev. Sharon Hobbs, PhD

5th Episcopal District – TBD

6th Episcopal District – Linda Frazier, NP, MPH

7th Episcopal District – Jacques Days, MD

8th Episcopal District – Stephanie Taylor, MD

9th Episcopal District – Tammy Davis, RN

10th Episcopal District – Sis. Sybil Hunter, RN

11th Episcopal District – Rev. Dr. Helen Jackson

12th Episcopal District – TBD

13th Episcopal District – Ouida Collins, MD, MPH

14th Episcopal District – TBD

15th Episcopal District – TBD

16th Episcopal District – TBD

17th Episcopal District – Judith Sangambo, MS, PhD

18th Episcopal District – Rev. Gomes Cumbe, MD

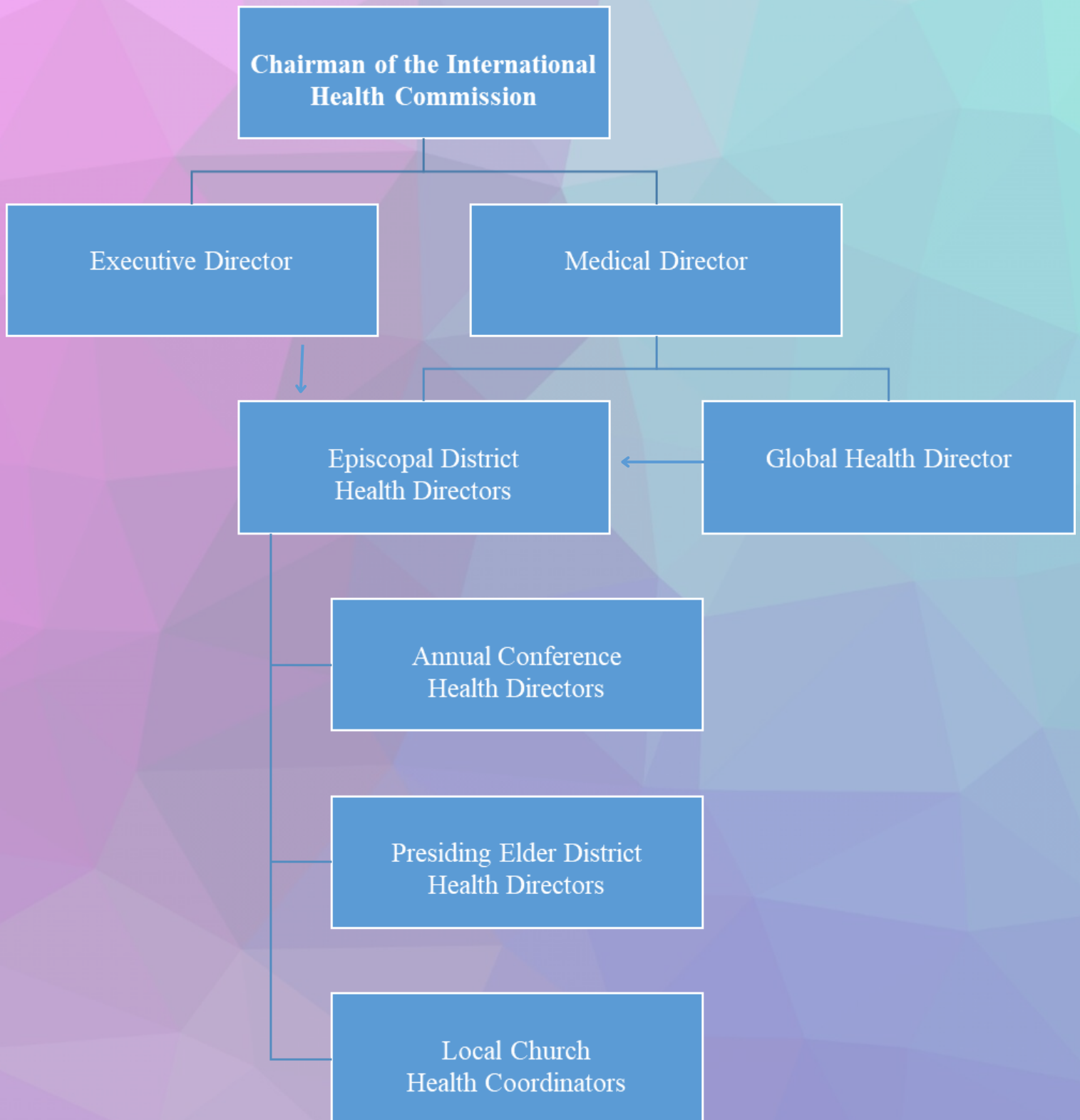
19th Episcopal District –

Rev. John Velaphi Ndimande, MB.ChB, M.Prax Med

20th Episcopal District – Rev. Bosco Feza



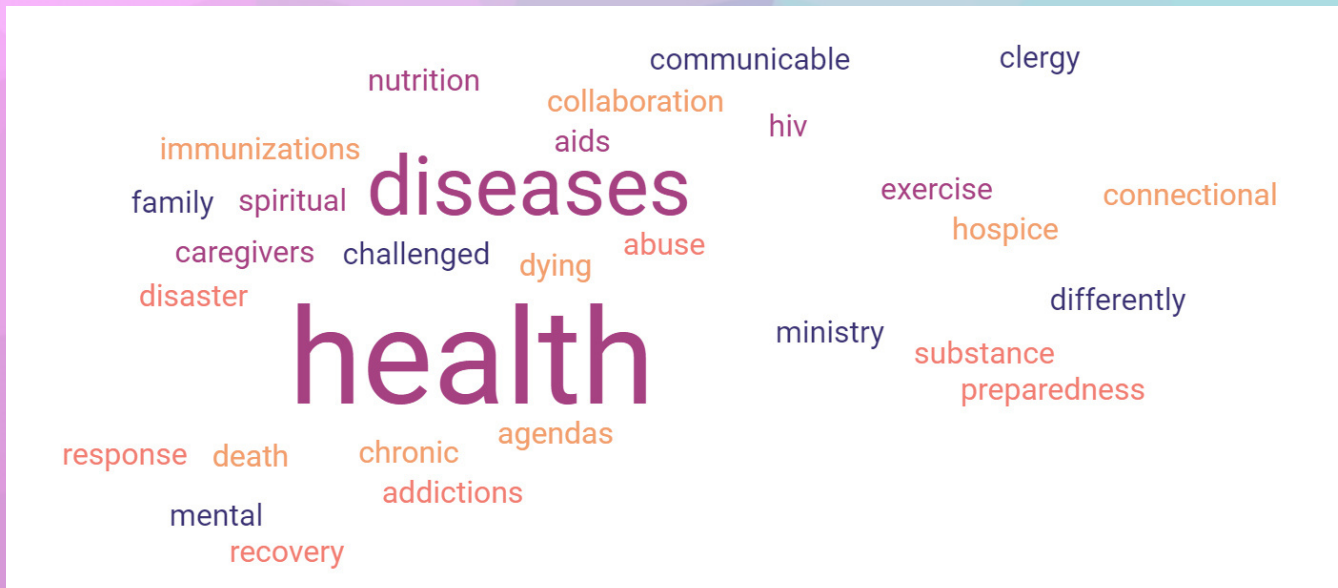
# Organizational Structure



# Partners

Alzheimer's Association  
AME Connectional Organizations - various  
AME Culinary Rx  
American Cancer Society  
American Red Cross  
Black Church Food Security Network  
Center For Black Health and Equity  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Chess, LLC  
Cities Changing Diabetes  
DHS - Department of Human Services  
FDA - Food and Drug Administration  
FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency  
GirlTrek  
Healthcare Ready  
Million Hearts  
NIH - National Institutes of health  
Pennsylvania United Way COVID-19 Grant  
PHEN - Prostate Health Education Network  
PROMETRA  
UPS - United Postal Service  
US Department of Health and Human Services  
US Department of Homeland Security and Federal  
Emergency Management Agency  
World Council of Churches Ecumenical Advocacy  
Alliance  
World Health Organization

# Ministries



- 1) HIV/AIDS;
- 2) Caregivers;
- 3) Spiritual Health;
- 4) Nutrition and Exercise;
- 5) Mental Health;
- 6) Ministry to those who are differently challenged
- 7) Clergy and Family Health;
- 8) Communicable Diseases and Immunizations;
- 9) Chronic Diseases;
- 10) Collaboration with other Connectional Agendas;
- 11) Death, Dying and Hospice;
- 12) Disaster Preparedness and Response; and
- 13) Substance Abuse, Addictions and Recovery.

# Additional Focus Areas

- Women's Health
- Reproductive Justice
- Gender Based, Domestic and Interpersonal Violence Awareness
- COVID-19 Education, Immunization, Testing
- Alzheimer's and other Dementias
- Farm and Garden Program
- Nutrition Labeling and Menu Disclosure Campaign
- Website and Social Media



# Statement of Work

## Overview

This has been a year of tremendous number of activities, events, programs, and planning at all levels of the Connection. The pandemics of COVID-19, social injustices, food insecurity, financial insecurity and others have had a global and individual impact on our physical, psychological and spiritual health. Our communal and individual peace has been disturbed and disrupted. This has been a trying year for the Commission as we have worked excessive hours in our respective health fields while volunteering our time and talents to the AME Church Connection. Yet, we are a people of faith who believe that our peace can be restored by God. God has empowered the International Health Commission to be the instruments of God through public health and disaster preparedness/response education, partnerships and advocacy.

Collaborations are continuing or expanded to include, but not limited to, the American Heart Association; American Cancer Society; American Red Cross; Chess, LLC; GirlTrek; Prostate Health Education Network; AME Culinary Rx; Alzheimer's Association; The Center for Black Health and Equity; United Postal Service; Cities Changing Diabetes and the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance and Health & Healing Consortium.

Work continues with the US Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, US Department of Homeland Security, US Department of Federal Emergency Management Agency, US Department of Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention continues. Our Medical Director, Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett, was invited by the AME Church Ecumenical Officer in collaboration with the National Council of Churches, USA to participate in the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance and its new Health & Healing Consortium.

Partnerships with other AME Departments and Commissions were expanded. Many local churches have developed or expanded their health ministries. Several Presiding Elder Districts have organized Health Commissions, however this needs a great deal of further development. This year we can report that most of the Episcopal District Health Directors have been designated.

This report presents a summary statement of some of the highlights of the work of the Commission followed by reports from many of the ministries and several Episcopal District Health Directors.

## Training and meetings

Monthly Zoom meetings are held on the last Saturday of every month at 11 AM EST. The change to Saturday allowed global participation. A portion of the monthly meetings was dedicated to training conducted by Dr. Burnett.

Due to COVID-19, the 2020 Quadrennial Training and Meeting was rescheduled to June 25-26, 2021 as virtual gathering. The Quadrennial training will include the required HIV/AIDS. The June 2021 Quadrennial Health Directors training: "Life More Abundantly" included the 3-hour required HIV Training. It included the following workshops:

- Overview of IHC programs and ministries
- Alzheimer's Association, including Clinical Trials partnerships
- Mental Health
- Differently Abled Awareness and Adoption of Processes
- The Center for Black Health and Equity partnership
- Disaster Preparedness and Response, including Pandemic Preparation Plan
- Culinary Rx and Lifestyle Medicine
- Farm and Garden Initiative with AAMES and SOA
- The South African experience of the three waves of Covid 19
- COVID update
- The Intersection of Reproductive Healthcare and COVID 19

## HIV/AIDS

The Commission seeks to provide information for persons living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. We encourage screening throughout the Connection as well as provide health education through seminars and workshops. We have continued to recommend and encourage the AME Church internationally to support World AIDS Day on Dec 1st and other national days of recognition like National Black HIV/AIDS Day (February 7) and Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS held during the 2nd week of March. In addition, we continue to support the work of Rev. Oveta Fuller, PhD, Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Michigan, who serves as the Health Commission consultant for Communicable Diseases.

### A Look Forward

The certification course entitled "Science-Based Understanding of HIV/AIDS for Effective Leaders" created by Rev. Dr. Fuller will continue to be offered annually in conjunction with the Annual Training. This course, available at all levels, will fulfill the requirement set on page 235 of the 2016 Doctrine and Discipline of the AME Church.



## Communicable Diseases and Immunizations.

Provide information of immunizations. Provide information and updates on communicable diseases that arise during certain times of the year, outbreaks or epidemics, travel health advisories and precautions, recommendations and prevention on AMEHealth.org. We to be plagued with the outbreak of many communicable diseases globally. From COVID-19 to Ebola, the healthcare systems, public health and the outreach of our churches has been tested and tried. Efforts to address these matters was and continues to be multifocal.

### 1) The COVID-19 pandemic

#### a. COVID-19 Health Commission Task Force

i. Bishop Francine Brookins, Commission Chair

ii. Reverend Miriam Burnett, MD, MPH, Medical Director

iii. Ouida Collins, MD, MPH, Hospitalist and Assistant Professor of Medicine

iv. Reverend Lisa Williamson, MD, MPH, Pediatrician and COVID Tracing Manager

v. Reverend Oveta Fuller, PhD, Virologist, Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology

vi. Cynthia Taylor, MCE, Chemist

b. Engaged Mental Health Providers and Chaplains to conduct mental health webinars

c. The partnership with Healthcare Ready was expanded and a new partnership with MAP International was established to provide much needed preventive supplies.

d. Provided informational webinars, educational materials and townhalls.

e. Released updated Guidelines for Reopening and Returning to Church Buildings, the accompanying Checklist, and COVID protocols for large gatherings and conferences.

f. We held over 30 webinars and trainings at a variety of levels.

### 2) Updated the vaccine/immunization program description for recommended vaccines

In an effort to maintain an atmosphere of prevention and preparation there are some basic things that must be undertaken:

- Maintain good hygiene like proper hand washing techniques
- Keep up healthy habits that will boost your immune system: keep immunizations current, eat healthy, exercise, rest and attempt to reduce stress

- Evaluate and education regarding local and regional considerations for churches and communities: understand what social distancing means and maintain and continue the provision of community based services during an outbreak; how it affects worship, visitation, mutual aid and fiscal management; how to maintain timely and pertinent information dissemination (pulpit, flyers, bulletin inserts, phone tree, class leaders, social media, etc.); how to maintain and utilize existing or acquire necessary resources (volunteers, kitchens, shelters, drivers, food and water); and consider worship and bible study alternatives during periods of social distancing.

### A Look Forward

- 1) Revisit the Disaster Preparedness Plan with expansion to include Epidemic and Pandemic preparedness beyond Influenza Preparation (already included) by utilizing lessons learned.
- 2) Continue to offer education and prevention video vignettes, webinars, townhalls, etc.

### **Alzheimer's Association**

This three-year partnership enabled us to make new connections in the communities that we serve. This was initiated in the United States with a plan for global dissemination. We worked to increase concern about Alzheimer's disease and awareness of the resources available through the Alzheimer's Association. These important connections provide our congregations and communities with Association care and support services across all of their chapters and access to services like our 24-hour Helpline, both in the US and globally. Additionally, both the International Health Commission and the Alzheimer's Association recognize that engaging our communities in research is vital. Increasing awareness of new findings in risk reduction and facilitating trial participation in the African Diasporic communities are important to reducing the prevalence of this disease and ensuring that future treatments work for all.

Together, we will advocate for research funding and improved access to care that will initially directly impact African American communities and with a goal for global impact.



## The Partnership Steering Committee:

Bishop Francine A. Brookins, Esq., Chair

Rev. Miriam Burnett, Medical Director

Sis. Rosyln Thibodeaux Goodall – Co-Chairman

Dr. Ouida Collins, MD, MPH

Sis. Virginia Smith Harvin

Sis. Sybil Hunter

### A look forward

We look forward to the signing of the five (5) year extension of the MOU

### **Disaster Preparedness and Response**

We recommend and encourage all Episcopal Districts and Churches to participate in the Annual September Disaster Preparedness Month fire drills and evacuation drills. We provide information on preparedness, First Aid and CPR training, Earthquake, and other Natural disaster responses through the Health Commission website ([amechealth.org](http://amechealth.org)), Twitter and Facebook page as well as through The Christian Recorder. In addition, we provide information on partnerships with the Red Cross, SADA and Medical Corps. Through the American Red Cross, we have partnered to support and encourage Blood Drives and Disaster Preparedness and Response efforts. The American Red Cross help us collaborate with the International Red Cross to provide relief efforts in Malawi after the cyclones in the first quarter of 2022.

Through our partnership with MAP International and the American Red Cross, we were able to ship and distribute an increasing number of supplies in response to many natural disasters and epidemics.

### A Look Forward

- 1)Expand the database of disaster response teams, with an eye toward developing a chapter of the Medical Response Corp.
- 2)Revisit the Disaster Preparedness Plan with expansion to include Epidemic and Pandemic preparedness beyond Influenza Preparation (already included) by utilizing lessons learned.
- 3)Continue to expand partnerships.

# Mental Health Ministry

## Toni Johnson Liggins, MD

The Mental Health Ministry focus the first half of the year was on membership since it had not been a functioning ministry for several years. The membership criteria was developed. It includes being a practicing or retired mental health professional including a physician, psychologist, masters-level therapist, chaplain with mental health experience, nurse, or nurse practitioner with mental health experience. The current membership includes 9 members who meet monthly.

The Mental Health Ministry identified trauma as the mental health topic around which to center a national presentation. Psychological trauma is pervasive and yet, it is often ignored or misunderstood. Trauma causes psychological, interpersonal, and physical dysfunction across all demographic groups. Unfortunately, African Americans are often the recipients of multiple types of trauma which impacts us in unique ways. Although evidence-based treatments exist, a lack of understanding and general stigmatization of mental health needs too often prevent referrals for those suffering to treatment and recovery.

# Activities

**Event: Trauma and Mental Health: Hope for Recovery**

**Purpose: To increase awareness and understanding types of trauma, the consequences of trauma, and treatments available with a focus on recovery**

**Date: Saturday, May 21, 2022 virtually**

**Keynote Speaker: Dr. Thema Bryant-Davis, President-elect of the American Psychological Association and ordained A.M.E. minister**

**Presenters:**

**Jummy Olawale, Therapist**

**Rev. Dr. A'Shellarien Lang, Chaplain**

**Dr. Rikeshia Fry Brown, Psychologist**

**Topics:**

**Military Trauma**

**Sexual Trauma**

**Trauma Signs & Symptoms**

**Trauma & Youth**

# **Nutrition & Exercise**

## **Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem**

### **1. Cleveland, Ohio - Nutrition Menu Disclosure Program**

**Year One - May 2021 to Feb 2022 the IHC participated in training on nutrition, collecting demographics for Cleveland, Ohio, and conducting Town Halls and Focus groups as part of a 3-year grant with a goal of creating a model language for Menu Disclosure/Nutrition Labeling on food in restaurants and stores for legislation.**

**Partners with the The Center for Black Health Equity**

**Year one of Cleveland, Ohio - Nutrition Menu Disclosure Project was successfully completed**

**Year two Cleveland, Ohio grant renewal MOU signature request started May 4, 2022**



2. AME Culinary RX - continued to provide virtual nutrition and cooking course to help individuals, churches and leaders fight and prevent disease. AME Culinary RX is a partnership with Rouxbe the world's largest virtual culinary institution. AME Culinary RX is an innovative program keeping pace with evidence-based research on the link between food and disease prevention.

AME Culinary RX reflects and highlights the global interest and impact of plant-based nutrition and lifestyle medicine in medical schools and hospitals.

AME Culinary RX is an important tool for all communities and especially for communities with limited access to quality health care or health insurance.

It has great potential to support the IHC Farm & Garden Ministry

AME Culinary RX will undergo updates in 2022-2023 with Rouxbe representatives Ken Rubin and Avery and IHC representatives.

AME Culinary RX link is posted on [www.AMEHealth.org](http://www.AMEHealth.org)

# Clergy & Family Health Ministry

## Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem

**July Faith-Based Health, Wellness, Nutrition, & Fitness Month**

**August Clergy & Clergy Family Wellness Month**



Hosted by International Health Commission of the AME Church



**Bishop Francine Brookins, Chair**  
**Bishop Harry Seawright, Former Chair**  
**Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem, RDN, Ed.D.**  
**Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett, MD, MPH**

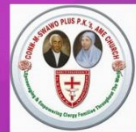
Sunday, July 18, 2021  
2 PM EST

**Event Partners & Supporters:**



for Clergy & Congregational Well-Being

Free Virtual Event  
Registration Required  
[www.AMEHealth.org](http://www.AMEHealth.org)  
Click Flyer



**CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT**



2:10 PM EST

**Healthy Soul Food vs Slave Food & Healthy Equity**

Columbus Batiste, MD Cardiologist - The Slave Project & Health Equity  
Eric Walsh, MD, DrPH - The Slave Project & Health Equity  
Chef Chew - Healthy Soul Food with Better Chew

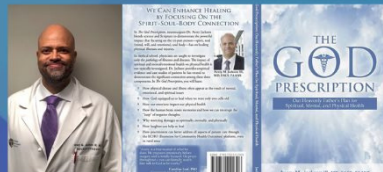


3:00 PM EST - Focus on Clergy and Clergy Family Wellness

**The God Prescription:**

**Our Heavenly Father's Plan for Spiritual, Mental, and Physical Health**

Avery Jackson, MD, Neurosurgeon, FACS



**4:00 PM EST - Panel Discussion: Lessons Learned During COVID-19:**

**Can the Faith-Based Community Support a Culture of Health, Wellness, & Lifestyle Medicine?**

Bishop Harry Seawright - AME Church Health Commission

Thad Austin, Ph.D. - Duke Divinity School

Kenneth Ngwa, Ph.D. - Drew Theological School

Reverend Matthew Williams, President- Interdenominational Theological Center

Sara Wilcox, Ph. D. - University of South Carolina and Director of the Prevention Center & FAN program

Gregory Bolden, Ph.D. - The Center for Black Health & Equity

Rev. Lydell Lettsome, MD - Surgeon - Baptist Church

Scott Stoll, MD - Plantrician Project, AME Culinary RX, Totally Alive, Total Health Immersions

Carla Smith, V.P. - American Heart Association

Rev. Tawana Thomas-Johnson, V.P. - American Cancer Society

Crystal Maxwell, MD & Carleton Maxwell, Pharmacist - Freedom Temple Health Ministries, Rock Hill, South Carolina

Sunday, July 18 - Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZlpcu6rpjkiGtNNpcE6fXnamjjiE1iVOQ1u> ;

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email

IHC hosted the Annual Clergy and Clergy Family event in partnership with WIM, Social Action, CONN-MSWAWO+PK's, Lay Organization, The Christian Recorder, ITC and Duke Divinity in July of 2021 sharing resources and information during a virtual webinar and weekly activities.



## Farm and Garden Ministry (FGM)

Rev. Carolyn Cavaness

The goal of the FGM is to build the capacity of churches to develop sustainable community gardens, as well as develop pathways to community food security. Home and container gardens are also being encouraged.

FGM, partnered with the Association of African Methodist Episcopal Scouts (AAMES), to support a Spring Gardening contest for A.M.E. Scouts during Spring 2021. AAMES in partnership with the “AME International Health Commission” (Healthy Living Project) and “Friend of AAMES” (FAAMES) held a Gardening Competition under the leadership the Chairman of the Competition, Milton Chambliss (8th). This competition was open to all AME Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, ages 6 -17, who could participate as individuals or as Troops or Packs. The contest included the following categories of gardens: apartment or confined garden, vertical GRO System with Casters & Drip System, Individual Scout outdoor garden and Scout Troop or Pack – Community Garden.

To assist with this ministry, FGM is in partnership with the Black Church Food Insecurity Network (BCFIN) to provide important resources and training to address food insecurity and food injustice. Over the past year, orientation, trainings, and other technical support were provided to participating churches. After completing the orientation training, twenty-five (25) churches were given seed money in the amount of \$500. The partnership promoted Earth Day (April 22, 2021), the Garden Launch Weekend (April 23 – 25, 2021) and the

Faith, Food & Freedom Summer Campaign (June 19 - September 26, 2021).

Farms and gardens produce an abundance of healthy food that can be shared in communities and rural areas experiencing food insecurity, lacking access to fresh produce, ability to feed the hungry, and disaster relief. A US and global map of farms and gardens within the AME Church connection and other faith-based communities is currently in development. We are seeking to increase the food supply network along major trucking routes around the Connection. We will create a sustainable food supply network while teaching the economic and health benefits of local farms and gardens. It is also envisioned that this will allow for increased use of Culinary Rx ([amechealth.org/culinaryrx](http://amechealth.org/culinaryrx)).

We continue to focus on capacity-building, planning, and together learning about the food system. We will work closely with churches to assess their food environment, social determinants of health, gardening skills, and inventory relevant physical assets. Churches are being requested to register so that we can inventory resources, connections. This assessment will allow us to develop an action plan. In addition, we will assist churches in establishing or expanding their gardening, health, or food-related ministries. The establishment of miniature Farmers Markets will bring fresh foods to communities while providing a tool for micro- and macro-enterprise.

The registration link can be accessed here:  
<https://forms.gle/MEJAM3HFfWdHUGTz9>



# Differently Abled Ministry

## Rev. Dr. Marion Morton Crayton

Isaiah 56:7b The Message

“Oh yes, my house of worship  
will be known as a house of prayer for all people.”

Due to the challenges presented by the pandemic, some unexpected opportunities or benefits have come for those who typically were unable to physically attend church even before the pandemic.

Many churches found ways to move to virtual platforms via video conferencing platforms such as Zoom or conferencing phone calls. This move has now included persons who were unable to attend church even pre-pandemic. It is our prayer that churches will continue this sharing of the worship experience “outside of the walls” of the church. Churches can sign up for Zoom video conferencing

.

## Activities

1. The pandemic has created a focus on the mental health well-being of God's people. Many persons have and are experiencing grief due to the loss of a loved one or being exposed to traumatic situations such as exposure to killings via news broadcast. The [www.GriefShare.org](http://www.GriefShare.org) website offers scripture-based tools to use as part of church ministries. We have led two 13-week grief support sessions virtually that are effective. Email [mcrayton@turner-ame.org](mailto:mcrayton@turner-ame.org) for more information.

2. We had a wonderful opportunity to share about ministry for persons who are differently-abled in the AME Church on February 24, 2022 with Dr. Erik Carter who is the Cornelius Vanderbilt Professor of Special Education at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. Read more about Dr. Carter at: <https://peabody.vanderbilt.edu/bio/erik-carter>  
The results of the study should be forthcoming. The following joined us virtually for this conversation with Dr. Carter that will be included in his research:

- Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson, Senior Bishop and Presiding Prelate of the 11th Episcopal District of the AME Church,
- Rev. Dr. Supervisor Miriam J. Burnett, Medical Director of the Commission
- Rev. Dr. Daryl K. Kearney–Pastor of Turner Memorial AME Church
- Rev. Dr. Marion Morton Crayton, the Advocate for the Commission and Minister for Congregational Care–Turner Memorial AME Church

3. The Advocate enrolled in a 7-month (e.g., October 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022) Clinical Pastoral Education course with Georgetown Medstar University Hospital (GMUH) which accumulated over 400 hours of course work and clinical interfaith visits with patients. The course provided ministerial insight as to how best to support the spiritual needs of persons experiencing an illness as well as supporting persons who have become disabled due to an accident or illness. The Advocate would be happy to share thoughts or reflections on the experience as the opportunity presents.



# Third Episcopal District Health Commission

## Toni Johnson Liggins, M.D.

The Health Commission of the Third Episcopal District was not meeting in the months following the passing of its very dedicated Health District Leader, Cheryl Boyce, in August 2020. She was a very active member of St. Paul A.M.E. -Columbus, OH and retired Executive Director of the Ohio Commission on Minority Health among other professional and civic activities. The date of her appointment to the Health Commission of the Third Episcopal District is unknown to this author. However, her impact was very significant as many continue to speak of her work in advancing health topics throughout the District. Toni Johnson Liggins, was appointed to this position by Bishop Frank Madison Reid in May 2021.

The first steps began with assembling members of the health commission. This was challenging due to a new challenge with the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to connect virtually.

These are the current members of the Third Episcopal District health Team: Pam Fair -- Inez Edmondson -- Clara Godhigh -- Fran Allen -- Pam Bolte -- Joyce Lawler -- Virginia Collins -- Carlotta Hughes-Culp -- Lisa Isaac -- Valerie Byrd -- Donna McLemore -- Theodore Thompson



## Activities

Presented at Quinn Chapel AME in Cincinnati, Ohio (Rev. Dr. Frederick Wright) for Women's Day Retreat held on May 15th, 2021. Presentation "Letting Go of My Superwoman Identity" covered characteristics and the stereotype of the Black Superwoman identity and unhealthy aspects related to this lifestyle.

Presented at Columbus-Springfield-Xenia District Church School Convention (Rev. Dr. Betty Holley) held June 5, 2021 on "Self-Care and Mental Wellness Verses Burnout and Mental Illness". Presentation covered the definitions of stress, burnout and types of mental illness and the importance of self-care.

Presented at Third Episcopal District Women in Ministry Retreat held June 2021 on "Self-Care and Mental Wellness verses Burnout and Mental Illness". Presentation covered the definitions of stress, burnout and types of mental illness and the importance of self-care.

Presented at the Quadrennial AMEC Health Commission Training held June 25th, 2021 on "Mental Health Crisis: The Perfect Storm". Presentation covered the impact on mental health of the two pandemics: COVID-19 and police brutality/ social injustice.

Presented at Third Episcopal District Leadership Conference (Bishop Frank Madison Reid) held June 25th, 2021 on “COVID-19 and Mental Health: Ready to Re-emerge”. Presentation covered the anticipation of re-emerging post COVID-19 quarantine restrictions.

Presented at Third Episcopal District Women in Ministry Retreat held Aug. 7th, 2021 on “Self-Care and Mental Wellness verses Burnout and Mental Illness”. Presentation covered the definitions of stress, burnout and types of mental illness and the importance of self-care.

Presented at The Cincinnati-Dayton District (Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. Melanie Valentine) held Sept. 25th, 2021 on “Life Happens: Managing Stress and Ministry”. Presentation covered the definitions of stress, stress self-assessment and ways to manage stress of life and in ministry work.

Presented at Third Episcopal District Planning Meeting (Bishop Errenous E. McCloud) held Nov. 12th, 2021 on “Life Happens: Managing Stress and Ministry”. Presentation covered the definitions of stress, stress self-assessment and ways to manage stress of life and in ministry work.

Participated in the COVID-19 Task Force for the Third Episcopal District under Bishop Frank Madison Reid and Bishop Errenous E. McCloud. Provided guidance returning to in-person worship and the 2021 Planning Meeting on the COVID-19

# **AME North District Michigan Conference Fourth Episcopal District Health Commission**

**compiled by Presiding Elder Larry Bell at the  
November 2021 AME North District Michigan  
Conference Planning Meeting**

The report lists the following members of the AME North District Michigan Conference Health Commission: Chairperson, Rev. Dr. Apryl Brown, MD; Committee Members: Rev. Dr. Taleah Phillips, OD; Rev. Dr. Olveta Fuller, PhD (North District Science Director); Rev. Dr. Versay Williams, DMin (Spiritual Care); Dr. Sharon Hobbs, PhD (Mental Health Ministry); and Lady Desiree Blake, RN.

## **Activities**

The chairperson and mental health ministry director of the AME North District Michigan Conference Health Commission met with the director of the AMEC International Health Commission Mental Health Ministry to help plan presenting a program pertaining to mental well-being during May which is mental health awareness month.

Rev. Dr. Oveta Fuller, PhD provided a presentation pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic and the faith-based community. She explained the importance of becoming vaccinated.



# Seventh Episcopal District Health Commission (AME7 Health Ministry)

## Jacques Days, MD

The AME7 Health Ministry continues to embrace AMEC IHC Health and Wellness Calendar, choosing one or more topics each month to present to the district as an area of focus. As the AME7 Health Ministry has done throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, we advised churches and components regarding COVID mitigation planning and preparation for specific activities and helped to coordinate testing, screening, and first aid at varied conference and episcopal district activities. Also, until this quarter, the AME7 Health Ministry has sponsored a child through Compassion International. As of this quarter, we will be sponsoring 2 children. We have collaborated with Alzheimer's Association, South Carolina Cancer Alliance, and Hollings Cancer Center researchers and continue to encourage Alzheimer's awareness, cancer risk modification, and preventative health. We have engaged the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) about health disparities and look forward to forging collaborative work that will improve health equity and access to health resources in the state.

In March, the COVID Advisory Committee developed an update of recommendations for gatherings in the Seventh Episcopal District. In addition, the Health Emergency Planning Commission and the Disaster Response Preparation Commission collaborated with South Carolina State University for health emergency and disaster response training. In

April, the health focus was autism awareness and information was disseminated to promote awareness. Also, we collaborated with a partner regarding helping seniors access all the benefits of Medicare through a program called "A Better You" and with Hydrolyte/Tree of Life, Black distributors who desire to make gloves, masks, and other pandemic-related goods available at lower cost. In May, local and presiding elder district health coordinators were encouraged to initiate walking programs as we focus on physical fitness and sports. We also engaged with Reagrio researchers who desire to empower black farmers by increasing yield, diminishing expenditures, and decreasing the carbon footprint.



## **Activities**

AME7 Convocation First Aid,  
COVID Testing Assistance, and  
COVID Vaccination/Booster Assistance;  
Disaster Planning Training;  
Suicide Prevention Webinar

## **Internal & External Ministry Partners**

Alzheimer's Association; SC Cancer Alliance;  
MUSC Hollings Cancer Center,  
SC State University

## **Potential Future Collaborations**

Church/Black farmer alliance;  
expanded relationship with A Better You;  
Hydrolyte;  
Reagrio

# **Tenth Episcopal District Health Commission**

## **Sybil Hunter, 10th District Director**

### **Dell Braziel, San Antonio Coordinator**

The 10th District HC is comprised of 8 PE Districts and 4 conferences, encompassing Texas. Health information is shared and made available at all levels. The goal is to provide sufficient helps and training throughout the district. This continues to be a work in progress, due to the vastness and diversity of this region. The Covid-19 pandemic has enabled us to lengthen and deepen our reach through virtual programs, webinars and social media platforms.

### **Internal & External Ministry Partners**

Center For Black Health and Equity,  
Alzheimer's Association,  
Black Food Security Network,  
AME Farm/Garden Initiative,  
San Antonio Food Bank,  
Bridges to Care/ NAMI,  
Metro Health of San Antonio,  
National Breast Cancer Foundation,  
American Heart Association,  
White House Faith-Based/Community Engagement,  
AME Culinary RX

## Activities

Vaccine Pilot with Metro Health SA, spearheaded other vaccine hubs across several counties and received news coverage/ media interviews, provided public safety information, access to sites, enabled access to tools for ongoing data collection/ reporting of side effects etc. to appropriate authorities. Direct involvement in major food distribution, co-ordinated with various groups, churches and food banks to provide community assistance and relief. Initiated community garden start-ups, as well as family garden helps and trainings, provided mental health awareness campaigns and education (various teaching modules, weekly mental health moment exercises, expert teaching and training via webinars, Bridges to Care, NAMI etc.) provided presentations on Living Wills/End of Life Care, Affordable Care Act, Medicaid/ Medicare workshops, Active Shooter training (Bexar County Sheriff's Dept.), HIV/AIDS Webinars and Awareness training and emphasis, Special Sunday/calendar events: (Go Red--speakers Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem, Rev. Linda C. Bryant), Purple Sunday ("Bewildered" film presentation with panel of experts on Alzheimer's Disease), Pink Sunday (Breast Cancer Awareness/ National Breast Cancer Foundation/7 ways to Rise), Blue Sunday (Child Abuse Awareness/ toolkits), No Menthol Sunday (provided teaching, toolkits etc), Participated in the Connectional Faith-based Health, Wellness, Nutrition and Fitness Month.

## **Outputs**

**Bridges to Care modules on Mental Health,  
Rev. Dr. Carol Echols' Let's Stay Safe video**

## **Outcomes and Lessons Learned**

We strongly believe that health ministry should be acknowledged in all ministries, therefore we support and are supported by: WMS, Lay Organization, Nurses, Ushers & Greeters, YPD, SOA, WIM, Ministerial staff, Church School, Stewards, Trustees

## **Risks, Issues and Challenges**

Keeping ahead of misinformation/disinformation, covid-fatigue, have been the biggest challenges, an unexpected achievement has been how compliant behavior has helped us to stay as safe as we have been able to navigate corporately as well as in communities.



# Examples of Health & Wellness Calendar with Scripture References

**November 2021 Health Awareness emphasis topics:**

Diabetes Month, Alzheimer's Awareness Month, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (November 25)

1. Scripture: Proverbs 23:1-3;19-21

2. Resources: Visit [www.AMEHealth.org](http://www.AMEHealth.org),  
<https://www.who.int/>

a. Diabetes: [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org), <http://www.idf.org/>,  
<https://www.citieschangingdiabetes.com/>

b. Alzheimer's Awareness Month  
[www.amechealth/alz](http://www.amechealth/alz)

c. International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/ending-violence-against-women-day3>

## **December 2021 Health Awareness emphasis topics:**

**World AIDS Day, International Day of Persons with Disabilities Day, Flu Vaccine Awareness Week**

**1. Scripture: Revelation 22:1-2**

**2. Resources: Visit [www.AMEChealth.org](http://www.AMEChealth.org);**

**<https://www.who.int/>**

**Dec 1 - World AIDS Day**

**[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov);**

**<http://www.who.int/campaigns/aids-day>;**

**[www.worldaidsday.org](http://www.worldaidsday.org); World AIDS Day Toolkit | CDC**

**Dec 3 - International Day of Persons with Disabilities Day**

**[www.aapd.com/idac/](http://www.aapd.com/idac/);**

**<https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/international-day-of-persons-with-disabilities-3-december.html>;**

**<https://www.who.int/campaigns/international-day-of-persons-with-disabilities>;**

**<https://idpwd.org/>**

**Dec 6-12 - National Influenza Vaccination Week**

**(US) [www.cdc.gov/flu/resource-center/nivw/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/resource-center/nivw/index.htm)**

## **January 2022 Health Awareness emphasis topics: Glaucoma Awareness Month, Cervical Health Awareness Month**

1. Scripture: Psalm 134

2. Resources: [www.AMEChealth.org](http://www.AMEChealth.org), [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

### **a. Glaucoma Awareness Month**

<http://www.glaucoma.org/news/glaucomaawarenessmonth.php>; Glaucoma Awareness Month | National Eye Institute ([nih.gov](http://nih.gov))

### **b. Cervical Health Awareness Month**

<http://www.nccc-online.org/>,  
[https://www.who.int/health-topics/cervical-cancer#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/cervical-cancer#tab=tab_1);  
<http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/cancers/en/>

## **February 2022 Health Awareness emphasis topics: Heart and Stroke Month**

1. Scripture: Philippians 4:4-9

2. Resources: [www.AMEChealth.org](http://www.AMEChealth.org), [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org),  
[www.millionhearts.hhs](http://www.millionhearts.hhs), [www.abc cardio.org](http://www.abc cardio.org),  
[www.heartandstroke.ca/](http://www.heartandstroke.ca/), [www.stroke.org](http://www.stroke.org),  
[www.cdc.gov/stroke/communications\\_kit.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/stroke/communications_kit.htm),  
[www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/american\\_heart\\_month.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/american_heart_month.htm)

**March 2022 Health Awareness emphasis topics:**  
**Nutrition Month, Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month,**  
**World Kidney Awareness Month**  
**Week of Prayer for the Healing of HIV/AIDS and**  
**Awareness Days, Brain Awareness Week**  
**World Tuberculosis Day (March 24)**

1. Scripture: James 2:14-26

2. Resources:

Overall: [www.AMEChurch.org](http://www.AMEChurch.org), <https://www.who.int/>

**a. Nutrition Month**

<https://ame-church.rouxbe.com/>, [www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org),

<https://blackchurchfoodsecurity.net/>,

<https://nutritionstudies.org/plant-based-health-mini-course/>,

<https://www.lifestylemedicine.org/>,

<https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource/healthy-eating-plate/>,

<https://plantricianproject.org/>,

<https://www.heart.org/en/healthy-living/healthy-eating/cooking-skills>,

**b. Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month**

<https://www.preventcancer.org/education/preventable-cancers/colorectal-cancer/>,

<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/colon-rectal-cancer.html>,



**c. World Kidney Awareness Month**

<https://www.worldkidneyday.org/2022-campaign/2022-wkd-theme/>,

<https://www.kidney.org/content/national-kidney-month>,

<https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/community-health-outreach/national-kidney-month> (includes a Kidney Sunday Toolkit)

**d. Week of Prayer for the Healing of HIV/AIDS (March 6-12)**

<https://www.balmingilead.org/nwpha/>

**e. Brain Awareness Week (March 14-20)**

<https://www.brainawareness.org/>

**Connectional Purple Sunday (March 20)**

[www.AMEChealth.org/alz](http://www.AMEChealth.org/alz)

**f. World Tuberculosis Day – March 24**

[https://www.stoptb.org/events/world\\_tb\\_day/](https://www.stoptb.org/events/world_tb_day/),

<https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-tb-day>,

<https://www.cdc.gov/tb/worldtbdays/> (includes a toolkit in English and Spanish)

*amechealth.org*

*Facebook*

*Instagram*

*Twitter*

*YouTube*

launched Jan 6,  
2021

5, 009 views

1,400 viewing hours

27 videos viewed

119 subscribers

A.M.E. Church's 2nd Annual Connectional Purple Sunday Program

AME IHC Gardens/Black Church Food Security Net

Town Hall - Food Choices & You in 2022, 1-17-2022

Farm and Garden Launch Recording 10-17-2021

AME Church International Health Commission COVID-19 Update  
Town Hall

A M E Church's 2nd Annual Connectional Purple Sunday Program

AMEC Connectional Purple Sunday 03-21-2021

Reopening Church Buildings Safely Strategic Planning

AMEs Let's Get Growing 2-27-2022

July August Wellness Month Webinar 7-18-2021

Vaccine Hesitancy Myths vs Facts recording 8-26-2021 video

AME Womens' Missionary Society COVID Campaign Podcast Ep 1

Our Hair: The Story, Beauty, Health and Legislation around our  
Crowns 3-5-2022

AME International Health Commission is Live!



COVID-19 Town Hall - International Health Commission  
2-13-2021

AME's Lets Get Growing Recording - 3-27-2022

International Health Commission of AME Church Leading Through  
Midnight

Reopen Webinar 6-12-2021 - AME International Health  
Commission

COVID19 Health Town Hall First District 2-25-2021

Healthy Men 2022 for the Connectional Sons of Allen

COVID Webinar - AME International Health Commission and  
Bishop Walker - 12-19-2020

International Health commission COVID-19 Town Hall

IHC AME Emergency Disaster Preparedness Webinar 6-27-2020

Bioethics and Clinical Research Webinar

ALZ Community Forum LOS ANGELES, CA 1-23-2021

Bioethics Webinar - AME International Health Commission and  
Alzheimer's Association - 10-1-2020

You Matter Addressing Mental Health Wellness 8-29-2020



# 123 GREEN LIGHT: Moving Forward From COVID

A discussion on strategies and facts about what to anticipate with an in person meeting and other health tidbits

**March 26, 2022**  
2:00 PM EDT  
9PM GMT+2, 7PM GMT, 3PM ADT  
1PM CDT, 12PM MDT, 11AM PDT

**zoom**

Meeting ID: 822 4610 2607  
Passcode: 750639  
One tap mobile  
+13126266799, 82246102607#,,,,  
\*750639# US (Chicago)

**Presenter:**  
Rev. Miriam Burnett, M.D., M.Div., MPH  
Supervisor of the 18th Episcopal District  
Medical Director, Health Commission



BISHOP STAFFORD J. N. WICKER  
CLO COMMISSION CHAIR



MATIKANE A. MAKITI  
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PATRICIA WRIGHT  
CLO DOLA



JAMESHA WILLIAMS  
CLO YAR


DIANNE H. BATTLE CLO-DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS CLODOPR16@GMAIL.COM

*"Living A Global Witness Ministry That Transforms, Transcends and Liberates"* LUKE 4: 18-19




1. ENTER AND EXIT THROUGH THE DESIGNATED DOORS ONLY
2. IF SICK - DO NOT ENTER THE SANCTUARY
3. THERE WILL BE TEMP CHECKS
4. WEARING A MASK IS REQUIRED
5. WASH YOUR HANDS AND SANITIZE OFTEN
6. NO HUGGING OR SHAKING HANDS


## AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH




# GUIDELINES FOR REOPENING AND RETURNING TO CHURCH BUILDINGS




**Bishop Harry L. Seawright**  
Chairman



**Rev. Natalie Mitchem,**  
RDN, M.Div.  
International  
Executive Director




**Rev. Miriam Burnett,**  
MD, MPH  
International  
Medical Doctor




**P.E. Collins Kavuka**  
International Health  
Commission  
Global Health Director

The International Health Commission of the AME Church  
PRESENTS


# VACCINE HESITANCY MYTHS VS. FACTS




Rev. Dr. Lisa Williamson, MD MPH  
MODERATOR



Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett, MD MPH



Dr. Ouida Collins, MD MPH



Dr. A. Ovceta Fuller, PhD

**August 26, 2021**  
@ 7pm

Click & Join Us!

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/8492283787?pwd=DG92EDRpdDdWbGQvbmkuOHhCRkR0d09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8492283787?pwd=DG92EDRpdDdWbGQvbmkuOHhCRkR0d09)



AME INTERNATIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION  
ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTS ITS

# Volunteer Welcome and Orientation

November 16, 2021  
6:30 PM CST (7:30 PM EST)



Register at  
[https://al-zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_m9Y9II7aSwGcplI7mOf4MA](https://al-zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_m9Y9II7aSwGcplI7mOf4MA)



## TURN AMEN INTO ACTION

A SEMINAR SERIES WITH CHURCH LEADERS  
KEEPING CONVERSATIONS ALIVE INSIDE &  
OUTSIDE OF THE CHURCH

COVID-19 VACCINE  
THURSDAY  
DEC | 03 | 2020  
7PM-8PM EST  
6PM-7PM CST | 4PM-5PM PST

Join us on Zoom!  
<https://bit.ly/2U8fDYG>

[The COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

Zoom Register: <https://bit.ly/2U8fDYG>  
Facebook Live: [Black Body Health | Facebook](#)  
Youtube Live: [The Center for Black Health & Equity - YouTube](#)

# AME Church International Health Commission Virtual Quadrennial Training and Meeting



rescheduled from July 2020



June 25 and 26, 2021

Register at  
<https://amechealth.org/june2021training>

International Health Commission meeting plus  
Training topics:  
Alzheimer's Association, including Clinical Trial partnerships  
Mental Health  
Differently Abled Awareness and adoption of processes  
HIV/AIDS certification  
Global Health  
Disaster Preparedness and Response,  
including Pandemic Preparation Plan  
Nutrition and Culinary Rx  
Reproductive Health  
Pediatric Health  
Farm/Garden Initiative with AAMES and SOA

## ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION 2<sup>nd</sup> Connectional Purple Sunday

Stewardship of the Mind Through  
Alzheimer's Awareness

Sunday, March 20, 2022  
1 p.m. PDT; 3 p.m. CDT; 4 p.m. EDT 11p.m. GMT+2

The African Methodist Episcopal Church (A.M.E.) and the Alzheimer's Association® invite you to attend the second annual Connectional Purple Sunday, a free virtual program that will raise awareness of Alzheimer's and other dementia. Join us to hear from guest speakers and learn about:

- » The impact of Alzheimer's in our community.
- » Tips to recognize warning signs of the disease.
- » The benefits of early detection.
- » The importance of participating in clinical trials.
- » The Association's care and support resources.



Register today at [www.amecps2.eventbrite.com](http://www.amecps2.eventbrite.com)

- 
-   
Bishop Francine Brookins
  -   
Bishop Anne Henning Byfield
  -   
Congressman James Clyburn
  -   
Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett
  -   
Mrs. Roslyn Thibodeaux Goodall
  -   
Mrs. Dierdre Rockey Moore
  -   
Ms. Kristin Henning, Esq.
  -   
Dr. Monica Parker
  -   
Mrs. Paschell Cummings Mix





# Our Hair!

The Story, Beauty, Health and Legislation around our crowns



Join us for a discussion around hair, hair care and people of color.

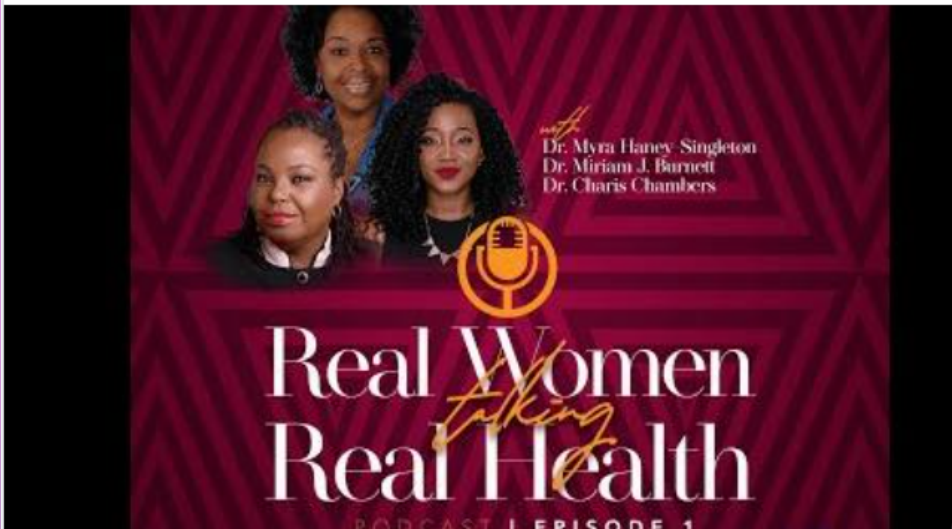
Special attention will be given to the history of braids, cornrows and locks; Biblical understanding of hair; How to have healthy hair; and "The Crown Act" Legislation

**Saturday, March 5, 2022**  
7pm SAST; 12pm EST; 11am CST; 9am PST

**Zoom Meeting ID:**  
**857 8790 5267**



**Sponsored By**  
The following AMEC Commissions  
and Ms. Howard University



Annual Conference AME  
In Ministry

Sisterfriend:  
Let's have a Heart to Heart Talk.

Black Women & Healthcare!  
Mind & Body

Presenter:  
Rev. Dr. Ann Marie Bentsi - Addison  
Healthcare Professional & Pastor



**February 18, 2022 @ 7:30 pm**

MEETING ID: 957 7275 3253

Passcode: 923218

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

Rev. Alicia Bailey, NY Conference AME WIM Coordinator

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL: [NYAMEWIM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NYAMEWIM@GMAIL.COM)





# Men Under Construction

Theme: God Still At Work



For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him. Do everything without complaining and arguing  
 -Philippians 2:13-14



Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.  
 Presiding Prelate  
 7th Episcopal District  
 (Preacher)



Bro. Monroe Miller  
 President  
 Connectional Sons of Allen



Bishop Frank M. Reid, III  
 Presiding Prelate  
 11th Episcopal District



Dr. Miriam J. Burnett  
 Medical Director  
 Health Commission  
 (Presenter)



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



Johnathan Holley  
 JP Holley Funeral Home  
 Funeral Director

Please Join Us:  
 Saturday, February 19, 2022  
 12:00 Noon Eastern Standard Time

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4840702001>

Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem, RDN  
 Dr. Donna Green-Goodman, Columbus Batiste, MPH  
 Minister James Tate  
 Jalecia Claytor, YPD  
 Bishop Francine Brookins  
 Rev. Dr. Miriam Burnett, MD  
 James Wilson

What You Need to Know!!

## Food Choices & You in 2022

Virtual Town Hall \* Faith-Based Call to Action  
**Monday, Jan. 17, 2022 6PM-8PM EST**  
 \*\*An opportunity to win a Healthy Gift during the virtual event.  
 \*\*6 PM Healthy Ingredient Swap Demo!

Renew Your Mind, Body, & Spirit in 2022

AME International Health Commission  
 Northwest Ohio Black Health Coalition  
 Educate, Advocate, Empower

ZOOM LINK:  
 MEETING ID: 844 2079 6887  
 PASSCODE: 047078  
[www.AMEhealth.org](http://www.AMEhealth.org)

March 15, 2022 - June 15, 2022  
 Youth are encouraged to begin to prepare early

## AAMES Spring Youth Gardening Contest

AME Youth ages 6-17 will be eligible to participate.  
 (AME Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts can participate as individuals or as Troops or Packs)

The contest will include three categories of gardens and prize levels:  
 a. Apartment or confined garden: 1st Place \$100 2nd Place \$50 3rd Place \$25  
 b. Individual Scout outdoor garden: 1st Place \$100 2nd Place \$50 3rd Place \$25  
 c. Scout Troop or Pack Garden: 1st Place \$200 2nd Place \$100 3rd Place \$50  
 Gardens will be judged based on the size, quality, quantity, and variety of plants grown.

Grow Amazing Plants!

### Hints!

1. Decide what you want to grow
2. Choose a location
3. Plan your garden beds
4. Invest in basic garden tools
5. Test your soil
6. Prepare the soil
7. Choose the right seeds
8. Plant with care
9. Nurture your garden
10. Enjoy your harvest!

Participants should prepare to document with photos and a written account (date when each step occurred) of their progress from before planting through harvest

Please forward photos of garden to [miltonchambiss@yahoo.com](mailto:miltonchambiss@yahoo.com)  
 AAMES Gardening Contest Committee  
 AMEC International Health Commission  
 Christian Education Department (AMECED.com)  
 Friends of AAMES

Designed by Deann Coppitt





AN EVENING OF GOSPEL, INSPIRATION AND ACTION

# PARTNERING FOR LIFE

Join us as we help prevent and fight cancer - together. Wendy Raquel Robinson will host can't-miss performances by Jonathan Nelson, Maurette Brown Clark, Patrick Lundy and the Ministers of Music, Dottie Peoples, and messages of hope from special guests!



A LIVE FACEBOOK EVENT  
**A CALL TO ACTION  
CONCERT**

SATURDAY  
**DECEMBER 4, 2021**  
5 P.M. - ET

[cancer.org/partneringforlife](https://cancer.org/partneringforlife) • #partneringforlife

OUR PARTNERS:



## Malawians feel Tropical Cyclone Ana impact

JONATHAN PASUNGWI  
STAFF REPORTER

Malawians yesterday started feeling the impact of Tropical Cyclone Ana as the country experienced nationwide power outage following downpours that have been hit parts of the Southern Region since Sunday.

In a statement issued last evening, Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi said the outage follows an emergency shutdown of Nkula B Hydro-Power Station in Neno due to accumulation of debris resulting from incessant rains the country is experiencing.

Reads the statement in part: "We regret to inform all our valued customers that there has been a system shutdown resulting in power outage in most parts of the country."

"Our engineers are doing everything possible to restore power supply within the shortest time possible. We shall avail our customers with regular updates. We apologise sincerely for any inconvenience the situation is causing."

In a separate statement signed by Ministry of Education Principal Secretary Chikondano Mussa, all schools in the Southern Region have been temporarily suspended due to the Tropical Cyclone Ana warning issued by the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services.

Reads the statement in part:



Part of the damage caused by Cyclone Ana

"For those in boarding schools, students should stay indoors. This is a measure to preserve life."

Writing on Facebook earlier, Electricity Generation Company said it was experiencing flash floods in its power stations, a situation that forced it to shut down some machines to protect the intake structures from damage.

The Nation spot-checks found that the most hard hit districts include Chikwawa, Mulanje, Thyolo, Blantyre and Chiradzulu.

Some people have been rendered homeless after their houses collapsed while others sustained different injuries.

In an interview last night, Chikwawa district commissioner Ali Phin said preliminary reports

show that all the families in Tsapa Village in Traditional Authority Makhwira and Mthumba area between traditional authorities Katunga and Kasi in the district have evacuated following floods.

He said as at 10pm, the M1 section between Thabwa and Dyeratu in the district is impassable.

Phiri said: "So many places here in Chikwawa have been affected, but we are yet to assess the extent of the damages."

He said following the warning by Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services on Tropical Cyclone Ana, the council conducted sensitisation campaigns warning communities to relocate to the uplands. ■

## Abolish restrictive Chakw...

← PAGE

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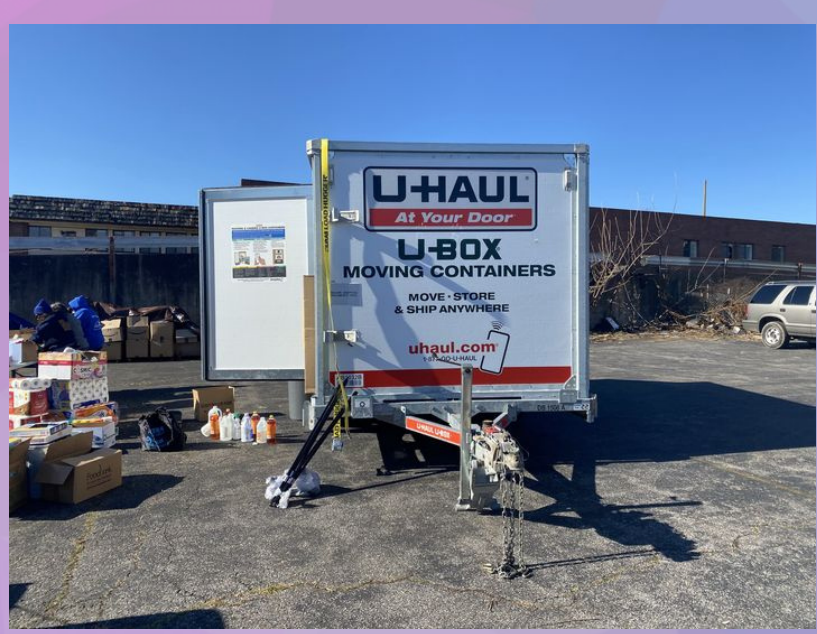
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# AMEs LET'S GET Growing!

Preparing for the Growing Seasons for New and Established Church Gardens!



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022**  
6 PM-7 PM EST via ZOOM

Hear from a Master Gardener

Learn of Resources in Your Local Area

Ideas for Garden Planning

Ask your Questions!

For more information, contact [amefarmfresh@gmail.com](mailto:amefarmfresh@gmail.com)

To register visit:  
[bit.ly/AMEgrow](https://bit.ly/AMEgrow)



AME International Health Commission



AMEC HEALTH COMMISSION

# Let's Get Growing!

AME Farm/Garden Initiative

NEXT MEETING:

**Sunday,  
March 27  
6:00pm EDT**

VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING



**1 Hour  
Discussion**

**Registration  
Required**

Presentation Spotlight:



**Rev. Herber Brown III**  
Black Church Food Security Network  
National Organizer

We help black churches use their assets to establish gardens on their land, host miniature farmer's markets, and buy wholesale from black farmers.

To Register: [www.bit.ly/AMEgrow](https://www.bit.ly/AMEgrow)  
Email Us: [amefarmfresh@gmail.com](mailto:amefarmfresh@gmail.com)







# In Memory of Dr. Chiquita A. Fye Former Medical Director

Dr. Fye served as the Medical Director of the  
AME Connectional Health Commission from  
1988–2000.

## Ivy Beyond The Wall Ceremony

Friday, March 11, 2022

5:00 p.m.

St. Peter AME Church  
Ft. Valley, GA

## Funeral Services

Saturday, March 12, 2022

10:30 a.m.

Macon County High School Gym  
Montezuma, GA

Services can be viewed on our Facebook page  
or link below

<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/CTFY4VcAPbQ>

## Interment Services

Dudley Memorial Cemetery  
Dublin, GA



*In Loving  
Memory*

*Dr. Chiquita  
A. Fye*



SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO





*Help us celebrate  
30 years  
as a  
Connectional organization*



**Bishop  
Francine  
Brookins**



**Rev. Dr.  
Natalie  
Mitchem,  
RDN**



**Rev. Dr.  
Miriam  
Burnett,  
MD**



**Dr.  
Columbus  
Batiste, MD**



**Dr. Scott  
Stoll, MD**



**Jalecia  
Claytor,  
YPD  
3rd District**



**James Wilson  
The  
Word Church**

**Lifestyle Medicine is Faith in Action**

**Virtual Town Hall**

**July is Faith-Based Health, Wellness, Nutrition, & Fitness Month**

**An opportunity to win a Healthy & Safety Gift**

**Nutrition Facts Label Scavenger Hunt for Healthy Food**

**30 - Day AME Culinary RX & Lifestyle Medicine Challenge**

**Saturday, July 16, 2022, 11 AM-1 PM EST**



**AME International  
Health Commission**



**NORTHEAST OHIO  
Black Health Coalition**  
*Educate, Advocate, Empower*



**AMEC International Health  
Commission Health  
Director/Coordinator Contact  
Information Form**

<https://forms.gle/wwFRYtTJJiAtUXu68>

**Thank  
You**