REPORT TO THE COUNCIL OF BISHOPS









2022

God Our Healer

HEALTHY CHURCH HEALTHY COMMUNITY

JEREMIAH 33:6 + LUKE 8:48

FRANCINE A. BROOKINS BISHOP

MIRIAM J. BURNETT SUPERVISOR OF MISSIONS

EPISCOPAL GREETING

l am going to bring it recovery and healing; l will heal them and reveal to them abundance of prosperity and security. Jeremiah 33:6 [NRSV]

God Our Healer



We bring greetings on behalf of the people of the 18th Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church where the Supervisor and I have encountered one of the most brilliant, spirit-filled and committed communities of believers in all of African Methodism. The Kingdoms of Lesotho and Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), and the Countries of Botswana and South Mozambique are united across a vast geographical landscape under the shared banner and uniform of African Methodism. Together we represent people from diverse backgrounds, languages, and cultures, who share a common calling to serve under this vine and fig tree, for such a time as this. What a privilege it is to become a part of the 18th District family in times like these!

In spite of an ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, civil unrest, femicide, food shortages, wars and rumors of wars, we continue to believe God for total healing and restoration. We are grateful to Bishop and Supervisor Wicker for their faithfulness in service. By faith, we have stepped in and begun to plant and to build. We see farms & gardens growing, jobs being created, clergy being trained, church infrastructures being repaired and rebuilt, and new ministries developing. Through the intentional and creative fellowship of believers and increased care for one another, we are believing God for healed bodies, happy children, seniors who are well cared for, and safe communities around our schools and churches.

There is nothing God can't or won't do for us and through us, as we reach together in faith.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS

- I. Number of Annual Conferences 5
- 2. Number of members in each Annual Conference

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		Botswana Conference	805
		S. Mozambique Conference	810
		Eswatini (Swaziland) Conference	1623
		NE Lesotho Conference	1938
		Lesotho Conference	4414
 Total Membership 			9590

- 3. The amount of the General Budget Fund Apportioned
 - a. The Episcopal District \$6810
 - b. Allocated to each Annual Conference
 - i. To be established
- 4. The amount of the General Fund collected and sent to the office of the Chief Financial Officer of the AME Church from each of the annual conferences.

a. \$0 - Payment deducted from District allocation

- 5. If this represents an increase, the same amount or a decrease as compared with last year's report, list the following, and give details:
 - Ministers who have been tried, suspended and expelled during the year. 0
 - Ministers who have withdrawn from the connection during the year.
 - Congregations that have split or withdrawn from the connection during the year.
- 6. Give details of new churches organized or established during the year. N/A

18TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT EVENTS July 15, 2021 - May 31, 2022

- 28 July WMS Prayer Call Against Terrorism and Civil Unrest
- I August District Covid Townhall
- 14 August Episcopal Welcome Reception
- 28 August District WMS Legacy Celebration
- 5-7 November Lesotho Annual Conference
- 12-14 November S. Mozambique AC
- 26-28 November NE Lesotho AC
- 2-4 December Eswatini AC
- IO-I2 December Botswana AC
- 18 December District Planning Meeting
- 19 April Women's Empowerment Dialogue
- 22-23 April District WMS Convention
- 30 April District Mid-Year
- 7-14 May YPD Self Denial Week
- 3-4 June 2022 District YPD LTI

COMING SOON...

- I 3 July 2022 District Allen Stars Bonanza
- 27-29 October Botswana AC
- 4-6 November NE Lesotho AC
- 10-12 November S. Mozambique AC
- 17–19 November Eswatini AC
- 25-27 November Lesotho AC
- 2-3 December Planning Meeting (Hybrid)

Hallelujahs and Hopes

- Thank you to the 5th Episcopal District and Bishop Clement W. Fugh for helping us find our footing. The 18th Episcopal District is out of debt. Hallelujah! Now we HOPE to repair, rebuild and expand.
- Thank you to the International Health Commission of the AMEC for including us in your Farm & Garden initiative. Gardens are growing and Farms are getting started. Hallelujah! We have now awarded more than we have received, and we HOPE to be able to keep giving and keep growing.
- Thank you to Turner Theological Seminary and President/Dean Ammie Davis for enabling 36 students from the 18th to be admitted to the Certificate of Theology Program. We HOPE the District will be stronger and the work of God increased as we seek more opportunities for continuing education.
- Thank you to Delta Sigma Theta and Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie for your faithfulness to the Selula Sandla Vashti Village home for orphaned children. You have helped us put water back into the village, and provide increased staffing to accommodate the growing number of children residing in the village. Hallelujah! Infrastructure repairs are under way. We HOPE to complete the new water and fencing systems in the next 6 months.



FARM & GARDEN MINISTRY

Multiple projects throughout the District intended to increase food security, provide jobs, and increase intergenerational fellowship by working together.

Mushroom Shed - Paul Quinn AMEC - Eswatini



EDUCATION

In Lesotho we have over 5300 students being taught by only 173 teachers. In most places there is little infrastructure to support the learning environment and committed teachers are in need of training.



FC James Centre for AME Service - Lesotho

INFRASTRUCTURE

The FC James Centre for AME Service, the M Joan Cousin Youth Empowerment Center, and the average local church, are in need of essential repairs and renovations

18TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT FUNDRAISER

FRANCINE A. BROOKINS, BISHOP

MIRIAM J. BURNETT, EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR

CASHAPP - \$18THDISTRICTAME ZELLE - BISHOPBROOKINS141@GMAIL.COM TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS UPON REQUEST

[N]ow I will heal and mend them. I will make them whole and bless them with an abundance of peace and security.- Jer. 336