

June 19, 2012



The Connectional Lay Organization Online  
Bishop C. Garnett Henning, Sr., Lay Commission Chairman  
Dr. Willie C. Glover, President of the Connectional Lay Organization  
Mrs. Eileen S. Warner, CLO Online Administrator

## Calling ALL Laymen!!

The first official meeting of the members of the Connectional Lay Organization during the 49th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference will be held on June 27th in Nashville, Tennessee. **Please be reminded that the daily briefings of the Connectional Lay Organization are OPEN to ALL members of the lay organization.**

Daily meetings are tentatively being scheduled for 7:00 a.m. each day. Episcopal District Presidents will contact members of their Episcopal Districts with the LOCATION and TIME! Delegates are asked to provide their cell phone numbers to the Episcopal District Presidents for contact purposes!

**REMINDER: The report of the Lay**

Organization will be read on Thursday, June 28th. ALL members of the lay organization are asked to stand in support of the President's message.

The banner features a central logo with the word "TEAM" above a yellow square containing the number "13". To the right, a portrait of Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie is shown. Text on the banner includes: "Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, PRESIDING PRELATE" and "Supervisor Stan McKenzie, SUPERVISOR OF MISSIONS". Below the portrait, it reads "13th Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church". At the bottom, it says "THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH" and "49TH QUADRENNIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE". Logos for "EXALTING CHRIST TO IMPACT THE WORLD" and "Bishop Gregory G.M. Ingram, Chairperson of the General Conference Commission" and "Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, Host Bishop" are also present.

## First Lady Michelle Obama to Address AME General Conference

Contact:

CDT Richard Lewis (615.259.3771)  
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### AME Church Announces First Lady Michelle Obama as Keynote Speaker at General Conference

*Mrs. Obama's visit marks the first time a sitting First Lady has spoken to the Conference*

The African Methodist Episcopal Church, the oldest Black religious denomination in America today announced First Lady Michelle Obama will deliver the keynote address at the 49th Session of the General Conference on June 28, 2012 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville, Tennessee. President Barack Obama addressed the AME Conference in 2008 when he was a U.S. Senator.

Host Bishop of the Conference, Presiding Prelate Vashti Murphy McKenzie, stated, "We are extremely honored First Lady Michelle Obama will be sharing her thoughts at this quadrennial meeting. Mrs. Obama's commitment to family as the Mother-In-Chief is encouraging to women around the world and her leadership in fighting childhood obesity has been embraced by many of our congregations in the United States."

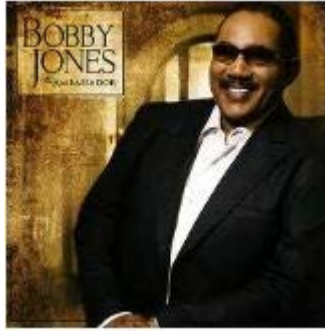
Nashville is part of the 13th Episcopal District, which comprises Tennessee and Kentucky. The last time the 13th District hosted the General Conference was in 1996 in Louisville, KY., and this year is the first time the conference has been held in Nashville since the late 1800s. The mission of the AME Church is to minister to the spiritual, intellectual, physical, emotional and environmental needs of all people by spreading Christ's liberating gospel through word and deed.

Every four years the AME Church assembles for the General Conference when delegates and leaders from around the world are charged with the responsibility to discuss, debate and pass significant legislation that will impact the mission and ministry of this great Zion.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church has a membership of more than three million people worldwide with an even broader range of influence. There are approximately 7,500 churches throughout North and South America as well as Europe, Africa and India. The Church has established and supports 12 higher education institutions, helping those with diverse backgrounds to obtain formal educational opportunities. The Church was founded in 1787 in Philadelphia, PA, and in 1816 the AME Church became an official religious denomination.

Bishop Gregory G.M. Ingram serves as chair of the General Conference Commission, Bishop John R. Bryant is Senior Bishop and Bishop David Daniels is president of the Council of Bishops. Media interested in covering the First Lady's remarks should contact Royya James at 615.554.2269 or Anica Howard

(615.305.9985) to RSVP by Tuesday, June 26th. For information about the conference contact the Office of Bishop McKenzie (Linnie Davis at 615.242.6814.)



## Dr. Bobby Jones to MC Centennial Celebration Breakfast

Dr. Bobby Jones, Grammy Award-winning Gospel music singer and television host from Nashville, Tennessee will be the MC for the Connectional Lay Organization (CLO) Centennial Celebration Breakfast Sunday, July 1, at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee (USA). Dr. Jones is also the host and executive producer of several cable television gospel music programs including *Bobby Jones Gospel*. This celebration will occur during the 49th Session of the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The history of the Connectional Lay Organization is one of progress, achievement, and service. At the General Conference, the Connectional Lay Organization will celebrate its 100th anniversary since the passage of the legislation from which evolved the Connectional Lay Organization. This is a praiseworthy milestone in the history of the laity of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. This event is part of the Connectional Lay Organization's celebration of its Centennial year and will serve as a primary fundraiser for the Organization with a focus on supporting its scholarship program, providing global disaster relief funding under the AME Church banner and continuing its program of Lay Witness, Leadership Training and Advocacy - a role the CLO has played through these 100 years. The Connectional Lay Organization President, Dr. Willie C. Glover, stated that "Our centennial year will be a time to give thanks, reflect, celebrate, evaluate, and reposition ourselves for greater service to the Church and the world."

The breakfast promises to be an exciting event and will feature some of the 13th districts top talent and will also include participation from Africa, India, the Caribbean and Europe which reflects the diversity and inclusiveness of the AME denomination. This event represents a huge milestone for the Connectional Lay Organization and we want all who can to participate in this momentous occasion. The breakfast will take place in the Presidential Ball Room at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel - 2800 Opryland Drive - Nashville, Tennessee. Breakfast will start promptly at 7:00 a.m. (doors will open at 6:15 with open seating unless otherwise noted). Tickets are \$100 and can be secured through the Episcopal District Presidents. Tickets will not be sold at the door. District Presidents can contact Ms. Anna Johnson, breakfast committee co-coordinator, for additional tickets via email

anaj1@windstream.net by phone on 859-539-4674. Please see the Connectional Lay Organization Centennial webpage [www.connectionally.org](http://www.connectionally.org) or our face book page [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) for additional insight about Centennial events and the Connectional Lay Organization and its varied programmatic endeavors.

## Greetings Connectional Lay Organization!

I pray all is well with you as we prepare for the upcoming AME General Conference. Below you will find a video presentation of images from the 2012 Seventh Episcopal District Lay Convention. The convention was held June 8-9, 2012 on the campus of Allen University. God was with us from beginning to end and we had a great time!

We look forward to seeing you in Nashville.

Peace,

Keith E. Britton, President

**NOTE: Please copy and paste the link below in your browser to view the video presentation of the convention.**

[http://animoto.com/play/DJJvrGZw8FYEpOLi2rLmvw?utm\\_content=main\\_link](http://animoto.com/play/DJJvrGZw8FYEpOLi2rLmvw?utm_content=main_link)

The purpose of the Lay Organization is to organize and train the lay members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, so that each member may utilize to the maximum the abilities and skills granted by God, in assisting with the improvement and extension of God's kingdom, and creating happiness, peace and harmony among its members.