



# The Lay Communiqué

Magazine of The 11th Episcopal District Lay Organization  
African Methodist Episcopal Church  
Digital / Online Edition



The Tenth Edition of the Digital Magazine † 1st/2nd Qtr. Issue † October '20 ~ April '21  
*Content updates are continuous ~ Please send your articles/photos/flyers, etc. for publication!*

## The Eleventh Episcopal District of the A.M.E. Church host The 51st Quadrennial Session of the General Conference



*Senior Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson, Jr.*

*Presiding Prelate of the 11th Episcopal District*

*Dr. Connie Speights Richardson*

*Supervisor of Missions*



THE ORANGE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER ~ 9800 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE ~ ORLANDO, FL ~ @AJSG

Content in this Digital Magazine will update as new information is submitted / added within the Issue's time frame  
**Please send your articles, photos, flyers & features for the Digital Lay Communiqué**

Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization President: Ms. Patricia H. Wright † West Coast Conference  
EED Lay Organization Director of Public Relations: Ms. Robbyn M. Hopewell † West Coast Conference  
Digital Communiqué Magazine design by AJSG ~ EEDLO Web Servant † East Conference

# The WRIGHT Message

Greetings to Lay Constituents:

*My name is Patricia Wright. I am writing this missive to introduce myself to you, share my background and solicit your support as I aspire for the office of **Director of Lay Activities** of the Connectional Lay Organization.*

*I hail from the Eleventh Episcopal District where I serve as the Episcopal Lay President. Born and raised in North Carolina, I attended the public schools of Carteret County and went to undergrad at Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, NC. Upon moving to Florida in the late eighties, I joined Historic Bethel AME Church in St. Petersburg, Florida.*

*In my professional career I have spent nearly 35 years as an educator. Although I have experience teaching college level classes, most of my time has been spent in the public-school arena. I began as a teacher before moving into administration as an assistant principal, and later, principal at both the middle and high school levels. Currently, I am an Area Superintendent in the 23<sup>rd</sup> largest school district in the United States with the privilege of overseeing nearly 30 schools. Teaching and learning are my business.*

*In the realm of Lay work, my involvement extends across every level of the church. I have served at the local level as president and program developer. At the District of the Annual Conference level I spent several years as chaplain and Director of Lay Activities. On the Annual Conference level, I have chaired committees and presented many learning labs. In addition to being the current president at the Episcopal Level, I also served as the Director of Lay Activities for eight years.*

*This wealth of experience, plus my genuine zeal for growing our church through teaching and training, is what makes me appropriately positioned and prepared for the office of Director of Lay Activities. I wholeheartedly believe that if we educate the pew, expand the knowledge base and ground ourselves in regular teaching and learning, our Zion will be the better for it. As **YOUR** Director of Lay Activities, this will be my focus. In order to do this, I NEED YOUR HELP!*

*I humbly ask for your support and vote during the upcoming 37<sup>th</sup> Lay Biennial Convention in July.*

*Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself and present my candidacy. Thank you also in advance for your support. Please see a separate attachment expressing more information about my candidacy.*

*Be Blessed and Keep Learning...*

*Patricia Wright*



**TEACHING**

**EDUCATING**

**ADVOCATING**



# ELECT PATRICIA WRIGHT

CLO - Director of Lay Activities



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*Teaching and Training are the defining elements of the Lay Organization. The fundamental components of a Good Lay Organization must include opportunities to continuously learn about our Zion.*

## WHAT DO I ADD TO THE CUP?

I have been in education for over 35 years. I have created, coached, modeled and presented lessons for all kinds of learners. From the Local to the Connectional level, from the Nurturing and Discipleship class to seasoned stewards, it is all about the power of learning.

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*We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, according to Aristotle, becomes habit. We should accept nothing less when it comes to presenting our best presentation to the organization and, therefore, our Zion.*

## WHAT DO I ADD TO THE CUP?

Solid teaching at every level of the church is important. I have presented workshops to congregations with a handful of members and to conventions with hundreds of attendees. It matters not the size of the audience; the call for excellence in teaching and learning is always the order of the day. EVERY church requires and demands EXCELLENCE!

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*Accountable. Ardent. Able. These words speak to an attribute found in the pews which are greatly enhanced by engagement in the Lay Organization. An educated pew will give rise to an informed, thriving church.*

## WHAT DO I ADD TO THE CUP?

One way to ensure that training reaches all levels of the Connection is to work with Directors of Lay Activities to develop curricula that includes delivery of content and a timeline for implementation. I bring vast knowledge in curriculum development and lesson planning and will use such to develop skills in and resources for our directors.



## The Purpose of Protocol

Protocol speaks to the rules or conventions of correct behavior on official or ceremonial occasions or the rules of correct or appropriate behavior of a group, organization or profession. **In the AME Church we use protocol as a code of conduct in demonstrating respect and recognition of the leaders or heads of our church.**

## FORMS OF PROTOCOL INCLUDE WRITTEN AND ORAL.

**Oral Protocol** - based on those individuals present

**Written Protocol** - includes all the dignitaries of church (based on level)

**KYC - KNOW YOUR CHURCH MINI LESSON**

The Eleventh Episcopal District of the AME Church  
East Annual Conference  
Suwannee-North District Lay Organization  
Presents

# IDENTITY

Tapping into Who You are in God

A 4-Part Interactive Series on Discipleship for  
Young Adults

## Session Dates

April 3, 2021

May 9, 2021

June 13, 2021

July 18, 2021

6:00PM Nightly

## Hosted By

Dante' D. Buckson  
Suwannee-North District  
Lay Organization  
Young Adult Representative



Zoom Meeting ID: 961 064 4195

Session URL Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9610644195>



# IDENTITY

SERIES PLAYLIST

SUWANNEE-NORTH  
DISTRICT  
LAY  
ORGANIZATION

April 3, 2021  
May 9, 2021  
June 13, 2021  
July 18, 2021  
6:00PM Nightly

Colton Dixon - Identity  
Crystal Rucker - Enter In  
Kierra Sheard-Kelly - I Choose You  
Jason Nelson - I Am  
Lecrae - Tell the World  
Bishop Paul S. Morton - I Am What You See  
Lauren Daigle - You Say  
Johnathan Nelson - Called to Be  
Rich Tolbert - I'm Alive  
James Fortune - Identity  
Mali Music - Royalty

**African Methodist Episcopal Church**  
**Fifth District Lay Organization**

**64th Annual Lay Convention**

# TIME TO SOAR



Isaiah 40:31

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

**SAVE  
the DATE**

# June 2021

**3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> (VIRTUAL MEETING)**

Hosted by Missouri Conference - St Louis, MO

**DISTRICT ELECTIONS**  
**INFORMATIVE BUSINESS SESSIONS**  
**POWERFUL TRAINING SESSIONS**  
**DIVINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

**Bishop Clement W. Fugh**, Presiding Prelate  
**Abe Makiti**, CLO President  
**Ametta Reaves**, CLO DOLA  
**Simeon P. Rhoden**, Fifth District President  
**Marilyn Lovelace-Grant**, Fifth District DOLA  
**Pamela Williams**, Host President



AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION

THE **37<sup>TH</sup>**

*Biennial Convention*

“LAITY WALKING HUMBLY WITH GOD,  
TO DO JUSTICE AND TO LOVE KINDNESS.” MICAH 6:8

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

**JULY**  
**11-12, 2021**

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**MATIKANE A. MAKITI**  
CLO-PRESIDENT

**AMETTA L. REAVES**  
CLO-DIRECTOR OF LAY ACTIVITIES

**JAMESHA J. WILLIAMS**  
YOUNG ADULT REPRESENTATIVE

## *The Revised Common Lectionary ~ a Service of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library ~ Year A*

Season after Pentecost	First Reading and Psalm	Alt. 1st Reading & Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
<b>Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> October 4, 2020	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20  Psalm 19	Isaiah 5:1-7  Psalm 80:7-15	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46
<b>Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> October 11, 2020	Exodus 32:1-14  Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23	Isaiah 25:1-9  Psalm 23	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14
<b>Canadian Thanksgiving Day</b> October 12, 2020	Deuteronomy 8:7-18  Psalm 65		2 Corinthians 9:6-15	Luke 17:11-19
<b>Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</b> October 18, 2020	Exodus 33:12-23  Psalm 99	Isaiah 45:1-7  Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22
<b>Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost</b> October 25, 2020	Deuteronomy 34:1-12  Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17	Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18  Psalm 1	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Matthew 22:34-46
<b>Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost *</b> November 1, 2020	Joshua 3:7-17  Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37	Micah 3:5-12  Psalm 43	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	Matthew 23:1-12
<b>*All Saints Day ~ 11/1/20</b> (celebrated on 1st Sunday when falling on another day)	Revelation 7:9-17  Psalm 34:1-10, 22		1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12
<b>Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost</b> November 8, 2020	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25  Psalm 78:1-7	Song of Solomon 6:12-16 <i>or</i> <i>Amos 5:18-24</i>  Song of Solomon 6:17-20 <i>or</i> <i>Psalm 70</i>	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
<b>Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b> November 15, 2020	Judges 4:1-7  Psalm 123	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18  Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
<b>Reign of Christ</b> <b>Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b> November 22, 2020	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  Psalm 100	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  Psalm 95:1-7a	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46
<b>Thanksgiving Day, USA</b> November 26, 2020	Deuteronomy 8:7-18  Psalm 65	In a very few instances, no Psalm reading is offered for reasons relating to the thematic nature of the Day.	2 Corinthians 9:6-15	Luke 17:11-19

"First" OT readings, read semi-continuously, follow major stories / themes, beginning in Year A with Genesis and ending in Year C with the later prophets. "Alternate First" OT readings follow the complementary historical tradition of thematically pairing the OT reading with the Gospel reading. Visit the Website to interact: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/lections.php?year=A&season=Season%20after%20Pentecost>

For some readings, PDF & PPTX SLIDESHOWS are available to view and / or download; links to available PDFs begin on the next page. Visit this page for the lists: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/slides.php> / or the main page for ALL links: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>



Advent / Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
First Sunday of Advent November 29, 2020 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37
Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 2020 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 40:1-11	Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 1:1-8
Third Sunday of Advent December 13, 2020 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	Psalm 126 or <i>Luke 1:46b-55</i>	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
Fourth Sunday of Advent December 20, 2020 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16	Luke 1:46b-55 or <i>Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26</i>	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38



Christmas / Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Nativity of the Lord ~ I December 24 & 25, 2020 <i>Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid-Day</i> <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 9:2-7	Psalm 96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)
Nativity of the Lord ~ II December 24 & 25, 2020 <i>Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid-Day</i> <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 62:6-12	Psalm 97	Titus 3:4-7	Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20
Nativity of the Lord ~ III December 24 & 25, 2020 <i>Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid-Day</i> <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 52:7-10	Psalm 98	Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)	John 1:1-14
First Sunday after Christmas Day December 27, 2020 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Psalm 148	Galatians 4:4-7	Luke 2:22-40

# The Revised Common Lectionary ~ a Service of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library ~ Year B

Christmas / Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<a href="#">Holy Name of Jesus</a> January 1, 2021 <i>(Mary, Mother of God)</i> <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">Numbers 6:22-27</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 8</a>	<a href="#">Galatians 4:4-7</a> or <i><a href="#">Philippians 2:5-11</a></i>	<a href="#">Luke 2:15-21</a>
<a href="#">New Year's Day</a> January 1, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">Ecclesiastes 3:1-13</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 8</a>	<a href="#">Revelation 21:1-6a</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 25:31-46</a>
<a href="#">Second Sunday after Christmas Day</a> January 3, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">Jeremiah 31:7-14</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 147:12-20</a> or <i><a href="#">Song of Solomon 10:15-21</a></i>	<a href="#">Ephesians 1:3-14</a>	<a href="#">John 1:(1-9), 10-18</a>



Epiphany / Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<a href="#">Epiphany of the Lord</a> January 6, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 60:1-6</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14</a>	<a href="#">Ephesians 3:1-12</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 2:1-12</a>
<a href="#">Baptism of the Lord</a> January 10, 2021 <i>First Sunday after the Epiphany</i> <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">Genesis 1:1-5</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 29</a>	<a href="#">Acts 19:1-7</a>	<a href="#">Mark 1:4-11</a>
<a href="#">Second Sunday after the Epiphany</a> January 17, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18</a>	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 6:12-20</a>	<a href="#">John 1:43-51</a>
<a href="#">Third Sunday after the Epiphany</a> January 24, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">Jonah 3:1-5, 10</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 62:5-12</a>	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 7:29-31</a>	<a href="#">Mark 1:14-20</a>
<a href="#">Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany</a> January 31, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">Deuteronomy 18:15-20</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 111</a>	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 8:1-13</a>	<a href="#">Mark 1:21-28</a>
<a href="#">Presentation of the Lord</a> February 2, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">Malachi 3:1-4</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 84</a> or <i><a href="#">Psalm 24:7-10</a></i>	<a href="#">Hebrews 2:14-18</a>	<a href="#">Luke 2:22-40</a>
<a href="#">Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</a> February 7, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 40:21-31</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 147:1-11, 20c</a>	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 9:16-23</a>	<a href="#">Mark 1:29-39</a>
<a href="#">Transfiguration Sunday</a> February 14, 2021 <i>(Last Sunday before Lent)</i> <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	<a href="#">2 Kings 2:1-12</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 50:1-6</a>	<a href="#">2 Corinthians 4:3-6</a>	<a href="#">Mark 9:2-9</a>

# LENT

A SEASON OF RENEWAL

Lent / Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<b>Ash Wednesday</b> February 17, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or <i>Isaiah 58:1-12</i>	Psalm 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
<b>First Sunday in Lent</b> February 21, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Genesis 9:8-17	Psalm 25:1-10	1 Peter 3:18-22	Mark 1:9-15
<b>Second Sunday in Lent</b> February 28, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Psalm 22:23-31	Romans 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38 or <i>Mark 9:2-9</i>
<b>Third Sunday in Lent</b> March 7, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
<b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> March 14, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
<b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b> March 21, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm 51:1-12 or <i>Psalm 119:9-16</i>	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
<b>Annunciation of the Lord</b> March 25, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 7:10-14	Psalm 45 or <i>Psalm 40:5-10</i>	Hebrews 10:4-10	Luke 1:26-38
<b>Liturgy of the Palms</b> March 28, 2021 <i>Sixth Sunday in Lent</i> <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>		Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29		Mark 11:1-11 or <i>John 12:12-16</i>
<b>Liturgy of the Passion</b> March 28, 2021 <i>Sixth Sunday in Lent</i> <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47 or <i>Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)</i>



Italicized readings, complementary to the standard reading, may be used with, or in place of it.

Visit the Website to interact further: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/lections.php?year=B&season=Lent>

Holy Week continues on the Next Page: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/lections.php?year=B&season=Holy%20Week>

# H O L Y W E E K

Holy Week / Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<b>Monday of Holy Week</b> March 29, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalm 36:5-11	Hebrews 9:11-15	John 12:1-11
<b>Tuesday of Holy Week</b> March 30, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalm 71:1-14	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 12:20-36
<b>Wednesday of Holy Week</b> March 31, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 70	Hebrews 12:1-3	John 13:21-32
<b>Maundy Thursday</b> April 1, 2021 <i>Holy Thursday</i> <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
<b>Good Friday</b> April 2, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Psalm 22	Hebrews 10:16-25 or <i>Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9</i>	John 18:1-19:42
<b>Holy Saturday</b> April 3, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Job 14:1-14 or <i>Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24</i>	Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16	1 Peter 4:1-8	Matthew 27:57-66 or <i>John 19:38-42</i>

As evening approached,  
there came a rich man from  
Arimathea named Joseph,  
who had himself become  
a Disciple of Jesus.

Matthew 27:57



God Loves You This Much

# Easter

CELEBRATE THE RISEN SAVIOR!

*The Lord has risen indeed. Luke 24:34*



Easter / Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<a href="#">Easter Vigil</a> April 4, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Old Testament Readings and Psalms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Genesis 1:1-2:4a and Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26</li> <li>• Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13 and Psalm 46</li> <li>• Genesis 22:1-18 and Psalm 16</li> <li>• Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21 and Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18</li> <li>• Isaiah 55:1-11 and Isaiah 12:2-6</li> <li>• Baruch 3:9-15, 3:32-4:4 or Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6 and Psalm 19</li> <li>• Ezekiel 36:24-28 and Psalm 42, 43</li> <li>• Ezekiel 37:1-14 and Psalm 143</li> <li>• Zephaniah 3:14-20 and Psalm 98</li> </ul> New Testament Reading and Psalm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Romans 6:3-11 and Psalm 114</li> </ul> Gospel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark 16:1-8</li> </ul>			
<a href="#">Resurrection of the Lord</a> April 4, 2021 <i>Easter Day</i> <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	*Acts 10:34-43 or <i>Isaiah 25:6-9</i>	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or <i>Acts 10:34-43</i>	John 20:1-18 or <i>Mark 16:1-8</i>
<a href="#">Easter Evening</a> April 4, 2021 <a href="#">PDF Slideshow w/images</a>	Isaiah 25:6-9	Psalm 114	1 Corinthians 5:6b-8	Luke 24:13-49

**THE EASTER SEASON BEGINS ON RESURRECTION SUNDAY / EASTER**

The Great 50 days of  
 E A S T E R

**WILL CONTINUE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE LAY COMMUNIQUE'**

# LEADERSHIP

## The Cost of Leadership

From Ron Edmondson

Leadership should be expensive. If we desire to be leaders it should cost us something. Leadership is a stewardship. It's the keeping of a valuable trust others place in you. Cheap leadership is never good leadership.

### Here are 7 high costs of leadership:

#### Personal agenda

Good leaders give up their personal desires for the good of others, the team or the organization.

#### Control

What you control you limit. Good leaders give freedom and flexibility to others in how they accomplish the predetermined goals and objectives.

#### Popularity

Leading well is no guarantee a leader will be popular. In fact, there will be times where the opposite is more true. Leaders take people through change. Change is almost never initially popular.

#### Comfort

If you are leading well you don't often get to lead "comfortably". You get to wrestle with messiness and awkwardness and push through conflict and difficulty. It's for a noble purpose, but it isn't easy.

#### Fear

Good leadership goes into the unknown. That's often scary. Even the best leaders are anxious at times about what is next.

#### Loneliness

I believe every leader should surround themselves with other leaders. We should be vulnerable enough to let others speak into our life. **But, there will be days when a leader has to stand alone.** Others won't immediately understand. On those days the quality of strength in a leader is revealed. This one should never be intentional, but when you are leading change...when it involves risk and unknowns – this will often be for a season a significant cost.

#### Outcomes

We follow worthy visions. We create measurable goals and objectives. We discipline for the tasks ahead. We don't, however, get to script the way people respond, how times change, or the future unfolds.

As leaders, we should consider whether we are willing to pay the price for good leadership. **It's not cheap!**

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?

# A LEADER...

*A leader must be close enough to relate to others but far enough ahead to motivate them.*

*John Maxwell*

**A Leader has to be...**

**Visionary Educator Innovator Motivator  
Communicator Facilitator Advisor**

## What Does It Mean To Be A Leader?

The Verbs of Leadership... HINT: A Verb is an Action Word!

Getting up when you don't feel like it

Standing in front of folk and proclaiming the news.. good or bad

Tackling the issues and confrontations

Remaining invested yet neutral

Leading and Listening to Everyone

Being relatable and in communication

Supporting the levels Above and below you

Being Relatable and Relevant

Communicating—clearly, often, and **patiently** repeating yourself, explaining

Doing your homework... being prepared.

Accepting that you do not know everything..

Receiving and asking for help

Delegating and trusting people to give you their best

Growing people...helping them discover the gifts that lie within them. (Someone did it for you!).

Showing up...in places unknown, unheard of , unexpected.

Giving support

Stepping back... Everyone has a role)

Using and knowing the constitution and by laws (Read and reread it!)

Meeting and planning with adhoc/sub committees so that when you get to the large group there will be a plan

**THINK ABOUT IT... What does being a leader mean to you?**

# Connectional Lay Executive Board Highlights Hilton Atlanta Airport



## *Connectional Lay Executive Board Highlights and information...*

December 5-7 The Connectional Lay Organization held the Executive Board meeting. The information shared included the President's report with her recommendations and officer and committee reports. Please find some snippets and excerpts from the meeting on this page; other items will be communicated during EEDLO executive board meeting. If further or clarifying details are desired, have a conversation with President Wright or DOLA White. Also in attendance were Evelyn Odom and Reginald McGill.

### **Recommendations from President's report:**

1. To elevate Evangelism and Discipleship as a priority in each Episcopal District by observing Evangelism Sunday. Successfully implemented by 3rd Vice President Starr Battle.
2. Encourage each Bishop and Episcopal District to support and incorporate the Lay Leadership Certification Program as updated and completed.
3. Encourage each Pastor and Presiding Elder to ensure the presence of an active Lay Organization in each local church.
4. Support and Promote the election of Informed, Committed Delegates to the 2020 General Conference. Since all delegates have been elected, I need each Episcopal District President to share and explain the Lay Organization Proposed Legislation, and to collect the contact information for all lay Delegates elected in the lay electoral college.
5. The Connectional Lay Organization support the election of at least one female bishop. We may not have the opportunity to elect two female bishops.

Other Information came through reports from Organizational officer effective, social action and LEDP

CLO Lay person of year... delayed until Lay Breakfast of General Conference

Information was shared from the :

Budget and finance report of the biennial convention – \$165,000 over expected expenditures due to food costs, delegation from districts 14-20, technology costs

Evaluation committee, constitution and by laws, proposed legislation. Retired General Officer jayme Coleman Williams (101 years young) gave a presentation on leadership.

Upcoming CLO meetings.,

**2021 CLO Convention is in Chicago 4th Episcopal District**

July 2-10, 2021 (dates fall between this time)

**Hilton Chicago**

Michigan Avenue

# PROPOSED LEGISLATION

## Connectional Lay Organization

### CONVO IX Winter Meeting

*While a bill does not need to be submitted to Convo in order to be submitted, that has been the recommended practice.*

Bill Number	Title of Bill	Notes (Convo Response)
CLO - 1	Codifying General Conference Delegates for Connectional	WITHDRAWN
CLO - 2	Adjusting Denominational per diem/ mileage allocations	Yes
CLO - 3	Laity as Members of the Board of Examiners	NO (74:14)
CLO - 4	Adjustment of criteria to submit legislation to the General	YES
CLO - 5	Adjusting CONVO to assist in streamlining the legislation process for the General Conference	With Recommendations: discussion about changing 9 months to 90 days...discussion on format
CLO - 6	Extension of Episcopal Committee Authority	NO — needs clarification Deals with term limits for chair; a subcommittee that would work
CLO - 7	Ministerial Training Board Composition	NO
CLO - 8	Ministerial Training Board Course of Instruction	NO
CLO - 9	Stewardship and Finance Commission	YES

Note: There are a number of bills that have been submitted, but the ones listed here ones that were proposed by the Connectional Lay Organization and sent to CONVO.

# *The Lay Litany*

~ From the Pen of P. H. Wright ~

## **EEDLO 75 YEARS: GOD IS GREAT!**

**LEADER:** *The Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization is established, maintained and fueled by a spirit of excellence. Excellence is defined by many as the essence of GREAT. Only God, himself, can command greatness.*

**PEOPLE:** **How Great is God's Wisdom, Power and Grace?**

**LEADER:** *From its onset, the Eleventh District Lay Organization was led by Lay folk who did not shrink from engaging in heavy dialog and critical discourse about the welfare of the church even though efforts to hush their voices came from all corners of the sanctuary. They refused to be quelled by the established practices and instead stayed and prayed the course until the blessing came.*

**PEOPLE:** **And I will make you a GREAT nation, And I will bless you, And make your name GREAT; And so you shall be a blessing; Genesis 12:2**

**LEADER:** *With no stone left unturned and no call going unanswered stalwart Lay folk began a movement – by meeting in churches and in small groups, with a focused agenda ~ that flows east to west, north to south, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Florida Keys and across the Atlantic Ocean into the Breezy Bahamas.*

**PEOPLE:** **Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. Psalm 145:3**

**LEADER:** *An organization that survives for a decade is quite remarkable. An Organization that survives, thrives and revives for 75 years is an uncommon occurrence that surely must be held in high regard by a God given to greatness.*

**PEOPLE:** **Ah Lord GOD! Behold, Thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for Thee. Jeremiah 32:17**

**LEADER:** *WE stand in celebration of 75 years of labor, tears, setbacks, giant leaps and love. Most of all, we celebrate the journey of African People who refused to be tethered by their physical status, their economic limitations or their mental acuity. When told no, they responded, "Yes." When encouraged to stop, they kept going; when they were held down, they reached up, grabbed hold of one another and pulled themselves up. They pulled Up 75 years... up seven decades and more... up towards the mark of a high calling of excellence to become the Electrifying Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization.*

**PEOPLE:** **Seventy-five years of new mercies have come to us each morning! GREAT is our Faithfulness! We are grateful and continue to marvel at the GREATNESS of Your Wisdom, Power and Grace!**

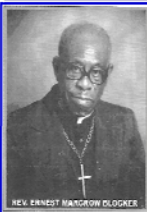
From the Laymen League of the Eleventh Episcopal District to the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization

## Blocker

ERNEST M. BLOCKER  
FROM SOUTH  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE

Nov 2, 1948 - 1953

Lead the Laymen to meet and organize the Miami District Laymen's League at Greater Bethel AME Church. The Lay movement Gained momentum as Brother Blocker was invited to hold organizational meetings throughout the South Florida area.



REV. ERNEST MANGROVE BLOCKER

1944

The 1944 General Conference convened in Philadelphia, PA. Delegate E. M. Blocker, a steward of Greater Bethel AME Church in Miami, Florida, attended the Laymen's Connectional Meeting. He was inspired to organize the Lay League in the Eleventh Episcopal District.

1945

In the East Florida Conference, J. L. Williams, Sr. of St. Paul AME Church, Jacksonville, called together Laymen who organized the Laymen Alliance Incorporation of the AME Church.

Bishop Henry Young Tookes directed Reverend H. W. Fayson and Reverend S. A. Cousin not to allow Laymen to hold meetings in churches.



BISHOP H. Y. TOOKES

## Bradley

SELMO BRADLEY  
FROM FLORIDA  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
1971-1984

Obtained Lakeland property donate by Senator Scott Kelly  
Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization Store in Quincy  
Hosted Biennial in Miami



## F. White

FELIX WHITE  
FROM EAST  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE

Longest tenure as President (1953-1971)



JAMES L. WILLIAMS, JR.  
FROM EAST  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
1984-1992

Brought organizational structure in terms of meetings  
Hosted Connectional and Episcopal Meetings

## Williams



## Burns

JESSE BURNS, JR.  
FROM WEST COAST  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
(formerly known as Tampa Annual Conference)

1992-2000  
Commission System implemented  
Added Fall E-Board Meeting  
Awards Banquet  
LEDP established



MARIAN WHITE  
FROM SOUTH  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
2000-2008

Selmo Bradley scholarship program implemented  
Structured time line for Annual Convention planning  
Episcopal District Directory  
First Lay Retreat  
Lay Benevolent Auxiliary changed to Laura P. Robinson Benevolent Auxiliary

## M. White

## Nichols

CHARLIE NICHOLS  
FROM FLORIDA  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
2008-2016

SMART Goal Reporting Format  
Hosted Regional Training Retreat with 9th Episcopal District  
Bahamas Conference returned to Convention rotation  
Annual Convention held at Edwards Waters College



PATRICIA WRIGHT  
FROM WEST COAST  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
2016 - Present

Publication of 3Rs Growing your Lay Organization  
Scholarship Ads project awarded \$24,000

## Wright

### HISTORIC FOOTNOTE...

Died: Bishop John Andrew Gregg, 75, a senior bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, of a heart ailment, at Breckinridge Hospital, in Jacksonville, Fla. He was presiding bishop of the Florida AME district and board chairman of Edward Waters College in Jacksonville. During 50 years as a religious leader, Bishop Gregg was president of Wilberforce University, Xenia, Ohio; and a missionary to South Africa. A daughter, Susan Chertoff, survives. First funeral service was held in Jacksonville, a second in Kansas City, where he was buried.



Bishop Gregg



CELEBRATING GOD'S GREAT GRACE!



# Your Membership is Needed & Encouraged...

## The African Methodist Episcopal Church ~ Eleventh Episcopal District

### LAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

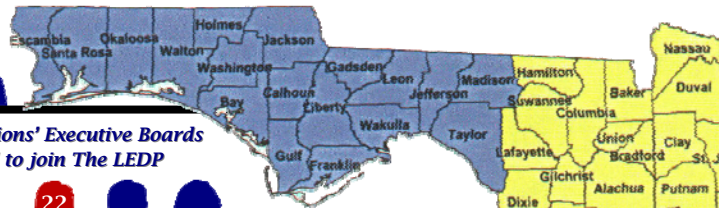


All Officers of Leadership at all levels of each Lay Organization within the 11th Episcopal District should have membership in the LEDP. Though it's Not a requirement, we strongly encourage ALL Officers to join, maintain membership, get involved & help us to help others. Make the LEDP a serious obligation ~ we need All Presidents, Executive Officers & Members. We offer a diagram below to demonstrate your value & how many more we can help/with God's help through additional membership, starting with all levels of Office. Please join us!

**The 11th Episcopal District Lay Organization Executive Board / 18 Definite LEDP Members**



**19** 15+ Executive Board Members join LEDP



**East Conference & District Lay Organizations' Executive Boards**

**23** 15+ Executive Board Members join LEDP

**Florida Conference & District Lay Organizations' Executive Boards**  
4 Definite / 60+ Officers & Members Encouraged to join The LEDP

**20** 15+ Members  
**21** 15+ Members  
**22** 15+ Members  
Executive Boards of Each District's Lay Organization would add 45+ Members!

**4 Definite (Presidents) / 60+ Officers & Members Encouraged to join The LEDP**  
Executive Boards of Each District's Lay Organization would add 45+ Members!

**24** 15+ Members  
**25** 15+ Members  
**26** 15+ Members

**Central Conference & District Lay Organizations' Executive Boards**  
4 Definite / 60+ Officers & Members Encouraged to join The LEDP

**27** 15+ Executive Board Members join LEDP

**West Coast Conference & Each District Lay Organizations' Executive Boards**

Executive Boards of Each District's Lay Organization would add 45+ Members!

4 Definite (Presidents) / 60+ Officers & Members Encouraged to join The LEDP

**28** 15+ Members  
**29** 15+ Members  
**30** 15+ Members

**South Conference & Each District Lay Organizations' Executive Boards**  
4 Definite (Presidents) / 60+ Officers & Members Encouraged to join The LEDP

**35** 15+ Executive Board Members join LEDP  
**36** 15+ Members  
**37** 15+ Members  
**38** 15+ Members  
Executive Boards of Each District's Lay Organization would add 45+ Members!

**31** 15+ Executive Board Members join LEDP

**32** 15+ Members  
**33** 15+ Members

**34** 15+ Members

Executive Boards of Each District's Lay Organization would add 45+ Members!

**Bahamas Conference & Each District Lay Organizations' Executive Boards**  
3 Definite (Presidents) / 30+ Officers & Members Encouraged to join The LEDP

**39** 10+ Executive Board Members join LEDP

**40** 10+ Members  
**41** 10+ Members

Executive Boards of Each District's Lay Organization would add 30+ Members!

**ALL PRESIDENTS at Each Level of the Lay Organizations Should be Definite:**  
**Conference, District & Local Presidents Must JOIN & MAINTAIN LEDP Membership!**  
**ALL 11th District Lay Organization Executive Boards together could produce**  
**41 Definite & 330 "Strongly Encouraged to Join" LEDP Members: Total = 371!**