



The Lay Communiqué

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



The 15th Edition of the Web Lay Magazine † 3rd/4th Qtr. Issue † September 2023 ~ February 2024

Online Content updates are continuous ~ Please send your events & other AME flyers for publication!



THE ATLANTIS RESORT ON PARADISE ISLAND ~ NASSAU, BAHAMAS | LAY CONVENTION SITE

Content in this Digital Magazine will update as new information is submitted / added within the Issue's time frame
Please send your event dates &/or flyers, photos & 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

ELEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION 2024

SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY
5-6

VIRTUAL EVENT

EEDLO Executive Board

Log on to our exciting virtual executive board meeting to learn about upcoming elections and more. No registration required.

MARCH
1-2

IN-PERSON
RETREAT

EEDLO Retreat

Come to the West Coast Conference for an informative and impactful retreat. Registration is \$40.

JUNE
17-21

ORLANDO

80th Annual EEDLO Convention

Join us for President Patricia H. Wright's final convention in office at the Rosen Plaza Hotel. Registration will be \$125.

INFORMATION AND
REGISTRATION

eedlo.org



LAY *Eleventh Episcopal District* ORGANIZATION

JOIN US
5-6
JAN
2024



Friday Night Worship Experience

"CALL FOR THE ELDERS"

Winter

Featuring 3 Preaching Presiding Elders

EXECUTIVE BOARD MTG

A **VIRTUAL** EXPERIENCE WITH REAL IMPACT

Friday, January 5

2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. EST

Business Session/Officer Reports

7:00 PM Worship and Praise

"Call for the Elders"

Saturday, January 6 - EPIPHANY

8:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. EST

Business Session

Master Classes

Election Process



Culminating
8 YEARS
#8 Signifies Completeness



Join Meeting Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89426408469pwd=bFJCcEVFUmFzWWdTMS8xU0QzMGMcvQT09>

Meeting ID: 894 2640 8469 Passcode: 855576

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,89426408469#,,,855576# US +13092053325,,89426408469#,,,855576# US

Eleventh Episcopal District **LAY ORGANIZATION** Executive Board Meeting

GOD is Gr8! **And Greatly To Be Praised!**



Teresa **WHITE**
Director of Lay Activities



Ashley **BLAKELY**
Young Adult Representative



Patricia **WRIGHT**
President #8

January 5-6, 2024

Bishop Frank M. Reid, III - Presiding Prelate

Mrs. Marlaa Hall Reid - Episcopal Supervisor

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Mr. M. Abednego Makiti

Connectional Lay President

Ms. Patricia Wright

Connectional Director of Lay Activities

Ms. Patricia Wright

Episcopal District Lay President

Ms. Teresa White

Episcopal Director of Lay Activities

Ms. Ashley Blakely - Young Adult Representative



You are invited...

January 5-6, 2024

Eleventh Episcopal District Executive Board Meeting

FRIDAY - JANUARY 5, 2024

7:00 P.M. EST

Worship Experience

Join us Virtually on Friday 6:45

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89426408469?pwd=bFJCcEVFUmFzWWdTMS8xU0QzMGCvQT09>

Meeting ID: 894 2640 8469 Passcode: 855576

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,89426408469#,,, *855576# US

+13092053325,,89426408469#,,, *855576# US

SATURDAY - JANUARY 6, 2024

8:00 A.M. EST - 12:30 P.M. EST

SAME ZOOM LINK

Meeting ID: 894 2640 8469

Passcode: 855576

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Business of the Lay Organization

Officer Reports

Teaching and Learning

Eleventh Episcopal District Executive Board Worship Experience

Worship Leader - Rev. Dr. Patricia Wallace

Presiding Elder - Tampa District

CALL FOR THE ELDERS

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE

THE DOXOLOGY..... Choir and Congregation

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

THE CALL TO WORSHIP.....Presiding Elder Rev. Henry Postell
North Orlando District

We are gathered to hear of God's goodness

May our mouths speak of God's love,

We come to lift God's voice.

May our ears hear God's truth.

We come to praise God's works.

May our hands celebrate God's power.

We are here to hear of God's goodness, we are gathered.

(Taken from The Anvil 2019-2020 Resource Guide)

THE HYMN OF PRAISE.....Bro. Garian Cason
East Conference

THE LAYMEN'S SONG

(Tune, Zion: Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah)

(1)

Laymen now have thus assembled in Thy Blessed name, O God,

Guide us in Thy true endeavor, light the pathway that we trod.

Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause,

Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause.

(2)

We are banded one in union, to fulfill Thy just command

May we be Thy true disciples, holding to Thy mighty hand;

Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love,

Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love.

(3)

As we walk this Christian journey, Let us keep our armour bright.

Let our works be pure and holy that we stand within Thy sight;

Laymen soldiers, strong in unity and love,

Laymen soldiers, strong in unity and love.

(4)

May we stand before Thine Altar, pledging Lord to work for Thee.

In the vineyard, in the pastures, Let us, Lord, Thy Pilgrims be.

Let us lift the cross forever to the skies,

Let us lift the cross forever to the skies.

THE INVOCATION.....Presiding Elder Rev. Willie J. Cook, Jr.
North District

THE MUSICAL SELECTION.....James Gear & Co. w/ Maurette Brown Clark
"I Wanna Say Thank You"

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON.....Presiding Elder Ranford Patterson
James 5: 13-16 Freeport/Eleuthera

THE WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING.....Finance Team and Virtual Giving Platforms

THE PRESENTATION OF THE MESSENGERS.....Conference Presidents: Russell, Causey, Brown

THE MUSICAL SELECTION.....CeCe Winans
"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

THE SPOKEN WORDS

Presiding Elder Valarie Walker - Quincy/Monticello District
Presiding Elder Tony M. Hansberry - Alachua-Central District
Presiding Elder James O. Williams - St. Petersburg District

THE INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP.....Presiding Elder Vincent Mitchell
South District

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE REMARKS.....President Patricia Wright
Bishop Frank Madison Reid III

THE DOXOLOGY.....

THE LAY BENEDICTION

*May God bless us with the true spirit of Christianity, that we may live together not as
man over man but as Lay persons working with God. Amen.*



EEDLO EXECUTIVE BOARD

SATURDAY - JANUARY 6, 2024

8:00 A.M.– 12:30 P.M.

I. Devotion

Chaplain Langston

II. Roll Call

Asst. Secretary Odom

III. Adoption of Agenda (by consent)

LAY ORGANIZATION AT WORK

IV. GREETINGS — President's Review and Overview

Retreat Overview

Teresa White

V. Episcopal VP reports (1st VP, 2nd VP, 3rd VP) (5 minutes each)

VI. Midyear Conference President Reports (B, S, E, WC, FL, C) (5 minutes each)

VII. Convention Budget report Finance Team (10 minutes)

VIII. Officer reports (DOPR, Historiographer, YAR) (3-5 minutes)

IX. Nominating Committee Report

X. COMMISSION REPORTS

A. Program and Activities - Coppock/Brown (up to 10 minutes)

Update on Scholarship and Awards process

B. Organization and Structure - Russell /Berry (up to 10 minutes)

C. Personnel & Procedures - McBride/Graham (up to 10 minutes)

Guidelines for Benevolence

WELLNESS BREAK 15 MINUTES

XI. Teaching and Learning Opportunity

DOLA White

MASTER CLASS

"SHEPHERDING THE FLOCK"

Presenter Rev. Kevin Taylor

XII. Open - Announcements - Reminders

XIII. Adjournment

THE LAY BENEDICTION

May God bless us with the true spirit of Christianity, that we may live together not as man over man but as Lay persons working with God. Amen.

IMPORTANT Election Information

The Election Process includes three committees: Nominating, Election and Credentials. The Nominating Committee works to identify, recruit, solicit, invite, and encourage candidates to present themselves for office and then vets the candidates using the information they have submitted and the constitution and bylaws. The elections committee works to devise a process for the election to occur, and the credentials committee works to ensure that qualified/certified persons participate in the voting process as candidates and voters.

A review of the Constitution and bylaws can provide more information. Of particular note, is the information found in **Article FIVE** – Officers, Duties and Responsibilities, **Article SIX** – Nomination and Election Procedures, **Article SEVEN** – Election of Officers and **Article EIGHT** – Qualifications

The Nominations Committee Members are: Evelyn Graham - West Coast, Mary Smith – South, Franklin Starks – Central, Dessie Mathews – East, Mary Culmer – Bahamas, La'Tasha Jones - Florida

2024 is an election year and All elected offices are open to submit an application.

The way to apply is via a Letter of Intent.

The Letter of Intent can be found on our website at EEDLO.org Under the photos, on the navigation bar and click on 'docs/links.' This will take you to a page with green tabs. Look on right side of page, and go to tab that reads **'Letter of Intent/All EEDLO levels.'** Click it and you will see and be able to download letter of intent.

Complete the form and **make sure to get signatures at every level.** The form must be US postmarked on or before February 8 and mailed to: Evelyn W. Graham 2910 4th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712

It is the responsibility of each candidate to ensure his/her Letter of Intent makes it in on time....
Be Vigilant!

ACTION	DATE OF ACTION	NOTES
NOMINATION Committee		
Letter of Intent due	2/08/24	Signed and delivered
Nom Committee vets applicants	2/8-2/20/2024	Vetting applicants
Nom Com. Present 4/Eboard approval	2/21/2024	
Committee notifies candidates of approval and eligibility to campaign	2/22/2024	No campaigning before this time
Election	June 21, 2024	
ELECTIONS Committee	Jan - Feb	Work with Sup of elec off
Election Committee	May -June	Organize the flow of election
CREDENTIALS Committee	Feb - June	
CREDENTIALS Committee	Feb - June	Confirm as requested(w/Nom Comm) authenticity of candidates attendance. During convention, certify voters via registration records



MARCH 1-2, 2024

ANNUAL LEARNING RETREAT

Dynamic Learning Labs that will engage and challenge

REGISTRATION \$40.00 Must be received by February 15, 2024

Go to EEDLO.org for registration link; follow prompts

Hotel is Sheraton Tampa Brandon

10221 Princess Palm Avenue

Tampa, Florida 33610

Room rate \$219 + tax Make Reservation via link on or before February 1, 2024

(An Information Flyer will be sent at the end of EBoard)

80th EEDLO Annual Lay Convention

JUNE 17 - 21, 2024

ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL

Hotel Reservations may be made **NOW**.

(An Information Flyer will be sent at the end of EBoard.)

NOTE: when booking your room 1 night stay will be held on the card.

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REGISTRATION

\$125 for Adult Laity and Clergy

Registration Includes:

Registration Kit to include Delegation Badge and Voting Privileges

Lay Development Training Seminars and Relevant Materials

Banquet Ticket (for one)

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Registration Opens on March 1, 2024 and closes midnight May 30, 2024



Bishop MOVES...

The itinerancy is a traveling ministry. It is the portal through which the clergy moves. In the AME Church one thing that is certain is that movement will occur within the leadership of our Zion. Nothing makes that point more clearly than a review of what will and may occur in 2024 with mandated movement for over 55% of the Bishops in AME Church.

Indicated with **GREEN shaded box** below are moves that must occur in 2024. A **RED shaded box** indicates no move is mandated but one can still occur. The Ecumenical and Located Bishop may also impact the assignment rotation. 2024 will be a time of Episcopal Moves. Stay Tuned!!!

Mandated Movement				
YES	NO	DISTRICT	Bishop	NOTE
		1	Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Sr.	Retirement Date 2024
		2	Bishop James Levert Davis	8 Year Law
		3	Bishop E. Earl McCloud Jr.	Assigned - GC 2021
		4	Bishop John Franklin White	Retirement Date 2024
		5	Bishop Clement W. Fugh	Retirement Date 2024
		6	Bishop Reginald T. Jackson	8 Year Law
		7	Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green Sr.	8 Year Law
		8	Bishop Stafford J. N. Wicker	Assigned - GC 2021
		9	Bishop Harry Lee Seawright	8 Year Law
		10	Bishop Adam J. Richardson Jr.	Retirement Date 2024
		11	Bishop Frank Madison Reid III	Retirement Date 2024
		12	Bishop Michael Leon Mitchell	8 Year Law
		13	Bishop E. Anne Henning-Byfield	Retirement Date 2024
		14	Bishop Paul J.M. Kawimbe	Assigned - GC 2021
		15	Bishop Silvester S. Beaman	Assigned - GC 2021
		16	Bishop Marvin Clyde Zanders II	Assigned - GC 2021
		17	Bishop David Rwhynica Daniels	Assigned - GC 2021
		18	Bishop Francine A. Brookins	Assigned - GC 2021
		19	Bishop Ronnie E. Brailsford Sr.	Assigned - GC 2021
		20	Bishop Frederick Allen Wright	Assigned - GC 2021
		Ecumenical	Bishop Jeffrey Nathaniel Leath	Assigned - GC 2021
		Located	Bishop Wilfred Jacobus Messiah	Assigned - GC 2021

Christmastide

Christmastide is another name for the Christmas season, which is part of the liturgical calendar, the schedule of events or holidays that hold religious significance to Christians. Christmastide begins on Christmas Eve at sunset, which is the ending of Advent. Christmastide lasts twelve days and ends on the 5th of January. It is followed by the Epiphany season, or Epiphanytide.

Christmas Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Holy Name of Jesus January 1, 2024 (Mary, Mother of God)	Numbers 6:22-27	Psalm 8	Galatians 4:4-7 or <i>Philippians 2:5-11</i>	Luke 2:15-21
New Year's Day January 1, 2024	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13	Psalm 8	Revelation 21:1-6a	Matthew 25:31-46

EPIPHANY THE REVEALING OF CHRIST

Epiphany Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Epiphany of the Lord January 6, 2024	Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
Baptism of the Lord January 7, 2024 <i>First Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	Genesis 1:1-5	Psalm 29	Acts 19:1-7	Mark 1:4-11
Second Sunday after the Epiphany January 14, 2024	1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	John 1:43-51
Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 21, 2024	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Psalm 62:5-12	1 Corinthians 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 28, 2024	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	Psalm 111	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28
Presentation of the Lord February 2, 2024	Malachi 3:1-4	Psalm 84 or <i>Psalm 24:7-10</i>	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany February 4, 2024	Isaiah 40:21-31	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c	1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39
Transfiguration Sunday February 11, 2024 (Last Sunday before Lent)	2 Kings 2:1-12	Psalm 50:1-6	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Mark 9:2-9

Eleventh Episcopal District Lay
Organization
Officer
ELECTIONS
Join our team

All Positions ARE OPEN!

- President
- First Vice President
- Second Vice President
- Third Vice President
- Recording Secretary
- & More!

Qualifications:

- Letter of Intent signed by local, district and conference lay presidents
- Active in the organized lay at the local, district and conference levels
- Must meet attendance and skill requirements outlined in the EEDLO Constitution and Bylaws

Send your letter of intent to:

Evelyn Graham, EEDLO Nominating
Committee Chair
2910 4th Avenue S,
St. Petersburg, FL 33712

**Postmark
Letter of
Intent by:
February 8,
2024**



**Download a letter of
intent form at eedlo.org.**

JUNE 14, 2023, ISSUE 1

The Lay Communiqué

The Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention E-Newsletter



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Welcome to the Bahamas
Opening Worship
Executive Board

EEDLO OFFICERS

Bishop Frank Madison Reid III, Presiding Prelate
Mrs. Marlaa Hall Reid, Episcopal Supervisor
Patricia H. Wright, President
Teresa White, Director of Lay Activities
Ashley Blakely, Young Adult Representative
Robbyn Hopewell, Director of Public Relations
Valderine Evans, Bahamas Conference President

Welcome to the Bahamas!

The 79th Annual Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization convened on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at the Atlantis Paradise Island Resort in the beautiful Nassau, Bahamas. The Bahamas Conference Lay Organization, led by President Valderine Evans, welcomed their guests to "the place where God lives" for three days of faith-filled worship, witness and work! Vilda Chipman was charged with bringing greetings on behalf of her conference at the Opening Worship held in the Poseidon Room. "God has truly been good to the [EEDLO] as we are celebrating 79 years of unwavering dedication, commitment and devotion to this awesome ministry," Chipman shared. "What better place is there to celebrate than right here in the Bahamas where there is an abundance of sun, sand and sea--not to mention the must try conch salad."

Bishop Reid offers key to joy in sermon

"If you know Jesus, you should be happy," said Eleventh Episcopal District Presiding Prelate Bishop Frank Madison Reid III in his fiery—and brief—sermon at the opening worship of the 79th Annual Convention of the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization.

The meeting's theme is "Rejoice and Be Glad For This Day," so the Right Reverend leaned on the scriptures of Nehemiah 8:1-6 and 9-12. He said the keys to joy are found in the passages he uplifted. Joyful people need to learn how to pray, confess, and turn to the scriptures for guidance.

"Once you have done the work and stand on the word, you have a testimony," Bishop Reid concluded. He also implored all present to remember to carry their Bibles and for clergy to carry oil to events because "everybody needs anointing." Making room for the Holy Spirit at ministry meetings is essential to the work, he said.

Worship Leader Lolita D. Brown, West Coast Conference Lay Organization President, set the tone for the evening as the Bahamas Conference Choir lifted up selections



including "God is My Everything," "Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior," and "Praise." Presidents from across the 11th District and Connection found it not robbery to attend the convention including Connectional Lay Organization Corresponding Secretary and First Episcopal District Lay President Cheryl Hammond Hopewell, former Fifth Episcopal District Lay President Simeon Rhoden, Eleventh Episcopal District Women in Ministry President Rev. Marcia Owens, Eleventh Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society President Laurestine Lemon, and Eleventh Episcopal District YPD Director Timika Fountain Coney. The gathering of friends of family was praised by Connectional Lay Organization Director of Lay Activities and EEDLO President Patricia H. Wright, who also penned a new litany for the occasion.

***Because when the joy of the Lord
is your strength, you may get
tired but you won't get depressed.
-Bishop Frank Madison Reid III***



EEDLO Executive Board meeting kicks off convention business

A lively group of Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization officers, advisers and observers gathered in the Eros I room of the Atlantic Paradise Island Resort at 2 p.m. Tuesday to begin their work. Following a brief devotion by Chaplain Deborah Langston, Connectional DOLA and EEDLO President Patricia H. Wright informed the board about the upcoming convention, the current convention's finances and the CLO Biennial on June 26-30 in Chicago. She also engaged the group in a spirited discussion of the Lay Electoral College. The two-hour meeting was attended by Presiding Prelate Bishop Frank Madison Reid III—a first for the organization from any episcopal leader. Young Adult Representative Ashley Blakely led a workshop titled "What's on Your Plate?" which tasked attendees with examining, prioritizing and selecting the most important responsibilities they have. Her question to the board was simple, "Are the things on your plate nourishing you?"



The Lay Communiqué

The Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention E-Newsletter



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Another Way...

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Mrs. Marlaa Hall Reid, Episcopal Supervisor
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Teresa White, Director of Lay Activities
Ashley Blakely, Young Adult Representative
Robbyn Hopewell, Director of Public Relations
Valderine Evans, Bahamas Conference President

Junkanoo Band keeps EEDLO in step at banquet

The Imperial Ballroom of the Atlantis Paradise Island Resort was enveloped in sound as the brightly plumed Junkanoo band, Colors, marched through the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization awards banquet on Wednesday, June 14, 2023. Led by Christian Justilien, the 22-year-old musical group burst through the ballroom doors with drums, whistles and cowbells ringing to the tune of "Amen" as the dancing girls whipped their headdresses and broke a sweat. The spectacle was accompanied by a brief history of Junkanoo by Justilien. He then encouraged the more than 200 banquet attendees to feel the music and get into the groove. "If you don't dance listening to Junkanoo, you're already dead," he joked.

EEDLO honors scholarship and award recipients at annual convention

in a night of surprises, lay soldiers and hard working high school seniors received their due at the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization annual awards banquet. Program and Activities Chair Loretta Coppock presented six high school seniors with the Selmo Bradley Scholarship including: McKenzie D. Smith of Bethel A.M.E. Church, Tallahassee; William A. Mills III of St. Paul A.M.E. Church, Fort Pierce; Zachary Tobe of Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church, Orlando; McKenzie L. Grey of Historic Bethel A.M.E. Church, St. Petersburg; Joseph L. Dorsey II of St. Paul A.M.E. Church, Jacksonville; and Keziah McPhee of Cousin McPhee Cathedral, Nassau.

Connectional Lay Organization Director of Lay Activities and EEDLO President Patricia H. Wright was inducted into the Hall of Fame before she awarded the Soldier of the Cross to EEDLO Second Vice President Lother Cherry.

Program and Activities Co-Chair and West Coast Conference Lay Organization President Lolita D. Brown presented the Clergy of the Year award to Rev. Dr. Randolph Patterson of the Bahamas Conference and Outstanding Community Service to the wife of recipient Dr. Delton D. Ellis.

East Conference Lay Young Adult Representative Dante Buckson and EEDLO Third Vice President Johnnie Hill were recognized as nominees for awards at the upcoming Connectional Lay Biennial.



Supervisor Reid provides principles of leadership, faith

By Shrin Bryant , South Conference Lay

In a captivating conversation between Supervisor Marlaa Hall Reid and East Conference Young Adult Representative Dante Buckson, the essence of leadership, stewardship, and faith unfolds. With an open and insightful discussion, they shed light on the importance of growth, adaptability, intentionality, and personal development in leadership roles. They also delved into the significance of being good stewards, aligning with God's purpose, and the constant pursuit of evolution.

Leadership: Embracing Growth and Adaptability

One of the fundamental aspects of effective leadership is recognizing that leaders do not possess all the answers. Instead, they are committed to the growth and development of their organization or the people they lead. Supervisor Reid explained the need for flexibility in leadership, especially when faced with unexpected challenges such as the pandemic. She encouraged leaders to focus not on how to fix a situation but rather on how they can contribute to its resolution, fostering a growth-oriented mindset.

Being a Good Steward: Embracing Purpose and Details

Supervisor Reid emphasized the importance of being a good steward, recognizing the resources at hand and understanding that God provides for the journey ahead. She encouraged leaders to pay attention to the details and understand that no task is too small. She dismissed the allure of titles and reminded us that with greater responsibility comes a greater requirement for accountability.

Principles of Leadership: Intentionality, Relationships, and Personal Development

Supervisor Reid urged leaders to create intentional moments and be fully present in their leadership endeavors. By rejoicing in the Lord, leaders can approach their roles with joy and authenticity, fostering meaningful connections with their teams. She emphasized the significance of intentional relationships, recognizing that growth and personal development are nurtured through



genuine connections and the support of others. Prayer is also highlighted as a powerful tool for leaders, providing guidance and clarity in decision-making.

Learning about God: Faithfulness, Bringing Glory, and Authenticity

Supervisor Reid emphasized the importance of faithfulness in fulfilling one's purpose. Leaders are encouraged to bring glory to God through their actions, remaining true to their authentic selves. By fostering clarity in conversations and interactions, leaders can align their intentions with God's plan, creating a positive impact in their spheres of influence.

Constantly Evolving: Listening, Learning, and Growing

Supervisor Reid and Buckson explored the concept of constant evolution in leadership. Leaders are called to listen to God, remaining open to His guidance and wisdom.

Supervisor Reid and Buckson shared that leadership is an ever-evolving journey that requires humility, faith, and a constant pursuit of growth.

Health walk in humid, sunny Nassau

By **Connie E. Jenkins-Pye**, Florida Conference Lay

"On Wednesday, June 14, 2023, 12 energetic walkers from the Philadelphia, Florida, South, East, West Coast and Bahamas Annual Conferences walked two miles coordinated by the host conference and chair of the health walk activities.

First Episcopal District Lay Organization President Cheryl Hammond Hopewell delivered the prayer to ensure God's protecting hand was all around us. The walkers engaged in conversations about family life and the Lay Organization. After the health walk, the walkers ate healthy snacks like bananas, oranges, water, health bars and toast cheese crackers.

The health walk activities committee coordinated an early morning walk on Thursday and Friday. Personnel and Procedures Chair LuCretia McBride provided gift cards to the three walkers who completed the two mile walk the fastest. The health walk activities committee is looking to take the church at the next level at the 80th Annual EEDLO Convention in Orlando.



Members model effective communication through games with Shrin Bryant

Eleventh Episcopal District Young Adult Representative Ashley Blakely received permission from her leadership team to reimagine young adult involvement in the convention because of time constraints. Blakely created a three activity series called "In Another Way" featuring young adult presenters. Former South Conference Lay Organization Young Adult Representative Shrin Bryant asked the laity to move their feet and seats for a team exercise on communication. She had six teams designate speakers, illustrators and listeners and assigned them each a picture to communicate without being able to ask questions. The wild variation in or stunning similarities in the final drawings demonstrated the effectiveness of the leader's communication style. Bryant highlighted that effective communication is detailed and considerate of its audience.



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The Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention E-Newsletter



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Final Plenary Workshop
Privilege Walk
Evaluation

EEDLO OFFICERS

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Final plenary workshop teaches effective teamwork

For the final training of the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization 79th Annual Convention, Sis. Rhoshonda Herring brought some creative English to illustrate four components to effective planning and teamwork. Titled "There is No I in Team... But There is A Me," Herring's workshop took inspiration from Kobe Bryant's own philosophy about never forgetting yourself in the preparation for collaboration. Herring challenged groups to create a plan for their goal in the organization at any level by defining the meat (problem), mate (best team for the work), meta (detailed plan) and at'em (marketing and follow up plan). The groups walked away with a framework for future project planning.

A.M.E. Privilege Walk displays distance between ideals and practice

Connectional Lay Organization Director of Lay Activities and Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization President Patricia H. Wright referenced the work of social justice scholar Glen Singleton when she asked the room of 96 laymen to form a line. Next she made a statement and asked them to step forward or backward if they agreed. "If when I get up to go to church on Sunday someone in my household is left behind, take a step back," she said and the crowd began to shuffle. Privilege walks were designed to let people see physical representation of the distance between the lived experiences of those around them. The practice usually yields non-Black participants standing far in front of their Black counterparts at the end of the exercise. Wright's A.M.E. Walk showed inequalities exist in our Zion that we don't address before planning programs and activities. In order to meet people where they are, you need to know where they are first.



Dr. Judy Johnson Celebrates 80th Birthday on final convention day

Dr. Judy Johnson of the South Conference was all smiles as former Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization President and son of the Eleventh Episcopal District Simeon Rhoden and Health Walk Activity Chair Connie E. Jenkins-Pye serenaded her with Stevie Wonder's version of "Happy Birthday" to celebrate her 80 years of life. Johnson, born on June 15, 1943, celebrated her big day in style at the final session of the EEDLO Convention at the Atlantis Paradise Island in Nassau, Bahamas. She also received well wishes and a monetary gift from Eleventh Episcopal District Presiding Prelate Bishop Frank Madison Reid III.



THE 2023 LITURGICAL COLOR CALENDAR for The African Methodist Episcopal Church

2023 LITURGICAL COLOR CALENDAR

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 ³⁰	24	25	26	27	28	29

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 ³⁰	24 ³¹	25	26	27	28	29

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 ³¹	25	26	27	28	29	30

COLORS FOR THE AME CHRISTIAN YEAR

In the Christian year of our church, we recognize two cycles: the Christmas Cycle (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany) and the Easter Cycle (Lent-Easter-Pentecost). Within each cycle are a preparatory season symbolized by the color purple and a festival season symbolized by the color white. Between each cycle follows an ordinary time of growth symbolized by the color green in the Seasons After the Epiphany and After Pentecost. Therefore, there is a sequence of seasons using purple, white, and green in that order twice each year.

PURPLE is a color of both penitence and royalty used during the preparatory seasons of Advent and Lent. Alternative colors of royal blue or violet may also be used during Advent.

WHITE and **GOLD** are joyous and festive colors used during the Christmas and Easter seasons (except on the Day of Pentecost) and in other seasons on festive days such as Baptism of the Lord, Transfiguration, Trinity, All Saints, and Christ the King. White may also be used at weddings. At services of Holy Communion white linens on top of the Lord's Table are the tradition of the AME Church, and are used on the first Sunday, regardless of the Holy Season that is celebrated. Therefore, even if the first Sunday of the month is the first Sunday of Advent, the color used in the pulpit remains white.

GREEN is a color of growth used in the Seasons After the Epiphany and After Pentecost, except when special days call for white or red.

RED is a color of fire, symbolizing the Holy Spirit. It is used on the Day of Pentecost and at other times when the work of the Holy Spirit is emphasized. Red is also the color of blood - the blood of Christ and the blood of martyrs. Because of its intensity, red is most effective when used occasionally rather than continuously for a whole season. It is appropriate for evangelistic services, for ordinations and consecration, for church anniversaries and homecomings, Founder's Day, and for civil observances such as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving. It may be used during Holy Week, beginning with Passion/Palm Sunday, to symbolize the blood of Christ.

BLACK is a color of death used on Good Friday and Holy Saturday and for funerals. Gray is its alternative.

Although the use of these colors is based on broad ecumenical tradition, other colors have been and are being used in Christian churches. Creativity and use of alternates with colors bring new meaning to the worship experience. Examples include African prints or variations, pink during the third week of Advent and black on Good Friday.

It is always a good policy when in doubt, to seek guidance from a presiding elder, senior pastor, Christian education director, or other person designated by the pastor. These persons will be helpful in providing information on appropriate colors for preparing the sanctuary.

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Who is on the Executive Board?

ELECTED OFFICERS 2020-2024

Patricia Wright - President

John W. Love

Lothar Cherry

Johnnie Hill

Ethel M. Wooten

Evelyn Odom

Esther Ferguson

Sharon Causey

Priscilla Salter

Rebecca Williams

Teresa White

Deborah Langston

Debra Gilliard

Robbyn Hopewell

Ashley Blakley

First Vice President

Second Vice President

Third Vice President

Recording Secretary

Assistant Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Parliamentarian

Director of Lay Activities

Chaplain

Historiographer

Director of Public Relations

Young Adult Representative

CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS

Dr. Katheryn Gillis

Lolita Brown

Donald Russell

Nicholas Causey

Adrian McWilliams

Valderine Evans

South

West Coast

Florida

East

Central

Bahamas

STANDING COMMITTEE/COMMISSION CHAIRS

Sharon Causey

Donald Russell

Lucretia McBride

Loretta Coppock

Carolyn Floyd

Statistics & Finance

Organization & Structure

Personnel & Procedure

Program & Activities

Organization & Officer Effectiveness

PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Charlie Nichols

ADVISORY COUNCIL

*Tyrone Presley
Judith Hollinhead*

*Rhoshonda Herring
Brian Brown*

LAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

**Evelyn Graham-President*

THE EEDLO PRESENCE IN THE CONNECTIONAL CHURCH

Connectional Lay Organization *Patricia Wright-DOLA Charlie Nichols-Chaplain*
Reginald McGill - Social action chair, Dante Buckson & John Love Committee Co-chairs
General Board Members *Reginald McGill, John Love*

Connectional Lay Organization Theme

“Living a Global Witness Ministry That Transforms, Transcends and Liberates”

The Scriptural Reference: Luke 4: 18-19

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Living a Global Witness Ministry means that we intentionally, on purpose, in an unabashed way, in a public way, in a relational way, desire to bring witness that is different, daring, innovative, engaging and liberating.

We serve a church that spans 39 countries, 5 continents, speaks countless languages, is governed by democracy, aristocracy, monarchy amid a plethora of cultures and yet believes in **THE SAME GOD**. We are separated by miles, resources, agendas, political interests and for the past 18 months we can add pandemic to the mix of reasons that we are apart. We have been kept together through the innovation of technology, the willingness to transform to a different way of thinking and worshipping and witnessing. We have had to transcend the usual way of doing things so that all could be privileged to a liberating gospel. We as the Organized Lay Organization have had to step up and be demonstrative of the outcomes we are desirous of seeing. In other words, Living A Global Witness Ministry That Transforms, Transcends and Liberates is where our mission rests.

Living A Global Witness Ministry that Transforms is real life ministry. Everybody seems to be using the word “transformation” to describe the impact of what they are doing. There is transformational leadership, transformational management, transformational development, transformational business, transformational care, transformational learning, transformational marketing!

Living A Global Witness Ministry that Transcends goes beyond borders and boundaries. It is the charge and chance for us to extend ourselves beyond our comfort zones to communicate and create avenues that will reach generations, open minds and activate people to engage in a unifying work.

Living A Global Witness Ministry that Liberates frees one to be liberal in praise, in service and witness. The gospel is a message of freedom and liberation — the ministry of Jesus was that of liberating captives. The gospel tells us that it is through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that we can courageously leave our comfort zones to reach, teach, preach and serve others just like Christ did in the synagogues.

AS YOU PLAN YOUR LAY PROGRAM...

Use the Connectional Theme in your programs. The artistic rendering that supports the theme is included here. It is NOT the lay Logo, but a rendering. Feel free to use it, coupled with the theme, as you plan your lay programs.

In planning your lay programs and activities try to incorporate the theme or components thereof as a way to continuously keep persons aware of it.



This is the Lay Logo. It is the **ONLY** Lay Logo. It does not change.

Artistic rendering for the Current Connectional theme. It is **NOT** the Lay Logo!



The Bishop is on the MOVE...



The itinerancy is a traveling ministry. It is the portal through which the clergy moves. In the AME Church one thing that is certain is that movement will occur within the leadership of our Zion. Nothing makes that point more clearly than a review of what will and may occur in 2024 with mandated movement for over 55% of the Bishops in AME Church.

Indicated with **GREEN shaded box** below are moves that must occur in 2024. A **RED shaded box** indicates no move is mandated but one can still occur. The Ecumenical and Located Bishop may also impact the assignment rotation. 2024 will be a time of Episcopal Moves. Stay Tuned!!!

Mandated Movement				
YES	NO	DISTRICT	Bishop	NOTE
GREEN		1	Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Sr.	Retirement Date 2024
GREEN		2	Bishop James Levert Davis	8 Year Law
	RED	3	Bishop E. Earl McCloud Jr.	Assigned - GC 2021
GREEN		4	Bishop John Franklin White	Retirement Date 2024
GREEN		5	Bishop Clement W. Fugh	Retirement Date 2024
GREEN		6	Bishop Reginald T. Jackson	8 Year Law
GREEN		7	Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green Sr.	8 Year Law
	RED	8	Bishop Stafford J. N. Wicker	Assigned - GC 2021
GREEN		9	Bishop Harry Lee Seawright	8 Year Law
GREEN		10	Bishop Adam J. Richardson Jr.	Retirement Date 2024
GREEN		11	Bishop Frank Madison Reid III	Retirement Date 2024
GREEN		12	Bishop Michael Leon Mitchell	8 Year Law
GREEN		13	Bishop E. Anne Henning-Byfield	Retirement Date 2024
	RED	14	Bishop Paul J.M. Kawimbe	Assigned - GC 2021
	RED	15	Bishop Silvester S. Beaman	Assigned - GC 2021
	RED	16	Bishop Marvin Clyde Zanders II	Assigned - GC 2021
	RED	17	Bishop David Rwhynica Daniels	Assigned - GC 2021
	RED	18	Bishop Francine A. Brookins	Assigned - GC 2021
	RED	19	Bishop Ronnie E. Brailsford Sr.	Assigned - GC 2021
	RED	20	Bishop Frederick Allen Wright	Assigned - GC 2021
	ECUMENICAL	Ecumenical	Bishop Jeffrey Nathaniel Leath	Assigned - GC 2021
	LOCATED	Located	Bishop Wilfred Jacobus Messiah	Assigned - GC 2021

GET READY! PRELIMINARY INFO BELOW...

THE SWEETER THE KNOWLEDGE 2.0

We will begin to collect ads after our 78th Convention

This is the book for Brothus and Sistus TOGETHER

We will create a Printed Color Souvenir Journal Book of FULL Page Ads

Each ad is \$125.00

Ask Greek Friends, Sororities, Fraternities, Civic and Social Groups,
Fraternal Organizations, Eastern Stars, Masonic lodge members,
Jack and Jill, Links, et cetera...

Your Print ready ad may be submitted to eedlo1@gmail.com, or a request for your ad to be created may be sent to the same; the dates will post on our upcoming flyer. There will be a link available through **RegFox** where you can submit your funds securely... **STAY TUNED!**

PARTNER WITH FRIENDS TO DO AN AD TOGETHER!!

Securing 200 ads will allow us to increase the number of scholarships we award and support registration of more persons attending the 2023 Connectional Lay Biennial Convention in Chicago.

Our first project was successful because of your help, we Thank You! For 2.0, we look forward to sharing ALL Organizations & Groups' ADs as you REPRESENT creatively. Plan now to secure your special page in "THE SWEETER THE KNOWLEDGE 2.0!"

African Methodist Episcopal Church
The Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization



"THE SWEETER THE KNOWLEDGE"

