



“MAXIMIZING OUR MISSION BY MANAGING OUR MINISTRY: THROUGH EVANGELISM”

Mentoring Program for Local Lay Councils

by Ms. Crystal Bailey, Young Adult Initiative (Y.A.I.) Chairperson



Crystal Bailey

Background

The Connectional Lay Council mentoring program is an out growth and extension of the Young Adult Initiative. The primary objective is to aid in developing and sustaining effective lay leadership at all levels of service in the denomination.

The purpose of this brochure is to outline a flexible mentoring program to bridge the leadership gap between traditional adults/senior members of your congregations with their youth and young adult members.

This program is not just a mentoring experience for seasoned adults to young adults but encourages young adults and youth to mentor traditional adult leaders, as well. For example, infusing technology into the life of the local

church could be a training project led by young adults or the youth.

The ultimate goal of the Mentoring Program is to facilitate mentoring as a proactive means of developing effective leaders for the denomination. The intent is not to displace or to “sit down” the current leadership.

To be most effective, mentoring must become the precursor to succession planning in the local church.

The Conceptual Framework

The Connectional Lay Council created the initial framework as a guide to the local church. It is the responsibility of the local church to establish its guidelines for approval by the pastor. The support of the local pastor is a critical. All mentoring relationships will require pastoral approval prior to beginning mentorship activities. This will require the pastor, the mentee and responsible leader outlining

the particulars of the experience, to include specific goals and expectations.

The Connectional Lay Council suggests the following model:

- Individuals in leadership position (mentors) are encouraged to identify mentees to train.
- The mentor would be responsible for creating a “shadowing” and if appropriate, hands on experiences over a defined period of time with specific goals and expectations.
- The pastor along with the mentor must develop a means of evaluating the performance of the mentee in the training position.
- Mentees should be exposed to one or more leadership “shadowing” experience per conference year, if appropriate.
- On an annual or semi-annual basis the local lay council along with the pastor should begin developing a succession planning document for every key leadership position in the local church with names of spiritually gifted and interested mentees.

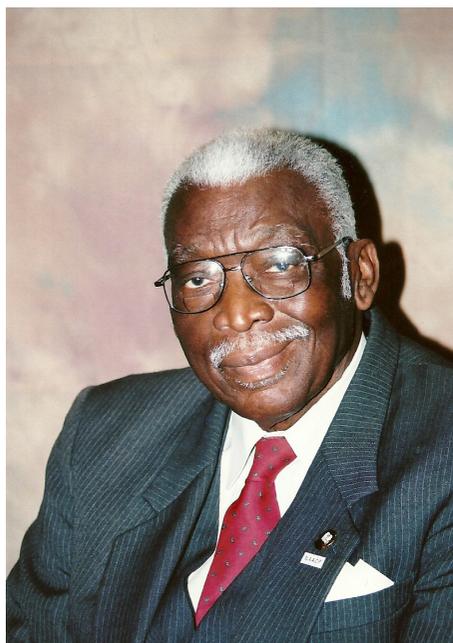
Mentoring Program Forms

The Connectional Lay Council has created Lay Council Mentoring Program Mentee and Mentor form signup sheets (found by going to the CLC website www.connectionallaycouncil.org and clicking on Forms tab on the home page) that can be used to jump start your mentoring program. Feel free to create your own local sheet, if applicable.

This program is a great opportunity for the local church to develop potential new leadership. If used effectively, it should develop, sustain, motivate, and educate the upcoming leaders of our denomination, as well as, allowing the current leadership an opportunity to pass down their “lessons learned” and best practices. It should also aid in the positive and effective transition of leadership positions, which is essential for long-term and effective growth of Zion Methodism.

..... See *Y.A.I.* pg 7

We Remember Denison D. Garrett, Former Connectional Lay Council 2nd Vice President and Historian



Denison D. Garrett

Q - In your opinion what do you think about the removal of the Board of Lay Activities from the Local Church and the District and making the Local Lay Council amenable to the Quarterly Conference and the

the Deacon. When you become a Head Deacon in the Baptist Church, you're somebody. In the A.M.E. Zion Church officers are put down, even in annual conferences, some bishops have a tendency to put trustee and stewards down when saying : “you think you running the church” or “you think the church belong to you.” It is a way of saying; you ain't no more than that board that you are standing on, on the floor. We don't owe you nothing.

Q - As a former Regional Director, how should the Regional Directors get money to operate?

A - We ought to be able to raise some money. The law says a dollar of the membership dues go to the Regional Directors; but we sent it all to the Connection and the Connection is suppose to reimburse us, sending it back to us.

Q - How important do you think the office of Regional Director is?

A - I served as a Regional Director. It is my opinion that they could be of good service if the bishop accepted that person and cooperate with them; he/she could do a good job. Unless you get acceptance from the bishop in charge, it's just an office being held. I don't know if it will do any harm or good. When I served, I tried to coordinate the area. Sometimes I felt like I was doing alright and there were times when I felt, what am I doing? And am I doing any good at all. I don't know, just one of those things.

Q - Describe your relations with the Episcopacy while you served in the Connectional Lay Council?

A - Lot of good relationships! Lot of good relationships! I served under several bishops, matter of fact,

Anderson, Dunston, Stewart; I had a good working relationship with all the bishops that I worked with. I had no particular gripe over any of the bishops that I served with. All of them once they become bishops tend to become dictators at the same time. Bishop/ Dictator.

Q - What do you think of the financial condition of our General Church? And what action should we take to improve our situation?

A - We need money, and it's not because there is not enough money raised. There is enough raised in the Church, in my opinion, to operate comfortably, but there is so much money that is unallocated money. If there was some way to put it to a better use. At annual conference there is a lot of money raised that the General Church never hears about. If there was a way to harness (gain control of) that money; I believe it would do the Church much good. If you look at small churches, the General Claims that are levied on some small churches is ridiculous. In some small churches individual members are paying as much as \$300.00 to \$400.00 dollars for General Claims. Some of us go over and above that figure. Because of that high financial levy that is placed on the Church, it cripples our overall membership. Folk who are looking for a church is not incline to walk into that kind of situation. That's my opinion.

..... See *Garrett*.pg 9

District Lay Council amenable to the District Conference?

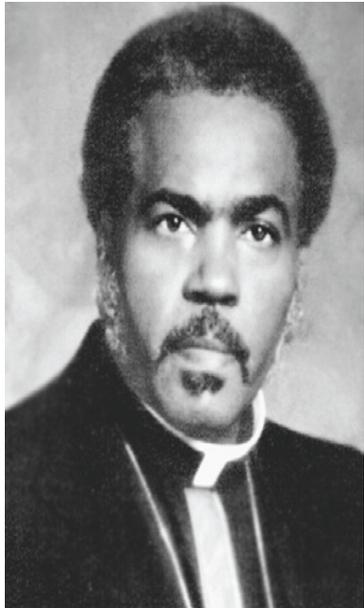
A - I was really not aware of that.

Q - What can we do to get more men involved the Lay Council?

A - We need to get them in the local church. Unless you can get men in the local church you want be able to get them on the Connectional level. For the most part men shy away from the way they are treated in the local church. I hate to make this comparison; but, a deacon in the Baptist church, the pastor respects

The Bishop George J. Leake III Scholarship Fund Crystal Award Coming Soon ...Read More

by Gail Thomas, Committee Chairperson



Reflecting on the awesome responsibility this committee has embarked on I must say we are so humbled and thankful to those of you who continue to support this worthwhile effort.

Thank you our beloved Zion!

The task is still before us building upon the legacy of an outstanding Prelate. Bishop George J. Leake III had a passion for laity and meaningful ministry. We, the Bishop George J. Leake III Scholarship Committee want to carry the torch for the laity of our denomination who want to sit at the table and be nourished by the rich, flavorful, delicious, inspiring, Word of God.

We have been searching for new ways to generate interest and support for this wonderful endeavor. I am proud to say we have found such a way to acknowledge our appreciation to those who want to go the extra mile to support this Scholarship Fund. In the words of our Connectional Lay Council President Mrs. Yvonne Tracy, "This ministry is too important to fail" we must not stop ensuring that Zion's pulpits are filled with academically trained, spiritually equipped, and disciplined messengers of God.

The Connectional Lay Council Bishop George J. Leake Scholarship Committee will soon unveil a special keepsake gift to those who will embrace the next level of commitment – "The Bishop George J. Leake Scholarship Fund Crystal Award". This

award will be given to those who meet the specified levels for contributions as an individual or group to the Scholarship Fund.

Our goal is to encourage higher levels of giving that can lead to an endowed scholarship fund. The crystal award reflects the image of Bishop George J. Leake III and is a wonderful symbol of our commitment to fulfilling his vision of higher academic achievement for members of the clergy.

Zion please join with us in supporting this project for a higher level of philanthropy. We look forward to presenting this award to those who rise to the occasion with their sacrificial donations. Our humble request is that you remain in prayer for this committee as we endeavor to continue to develop and implement this project in support of a great ministry. Coming soon.....

Quadrennial Lay Convocation

by Mary Matthews, Chairperson

Get ready! Get ready! Get ready! The Ninth Quadrennial Lay Convocation is coming. Although there are many details to be worked out; I am very pleased to announce that the Ninth Quadrennial Lay Convocation will be held on March 29 – April 1, 2012. The Convocation theme will be "Fulfilling the Mandate through Education, Engagement and Empowerment."

Our mandate is to equip you for the 2012 General Conference through:

Education

The Convocation offers events and activities that are designed to educate. Equipping you with the knowledge, skills and abilities to make effective decisions, speak confidently on issues affecting our church, and debate resolutions on the General Conference floor.

Engagement

Attendees should engage in all that is offered during the Convocation, especially General Conference delegates, that you may be fully prepared for involvement in the business of the General Conference.

And Empowerment

After digesting all that the Convocation has offered, you will be empowered with the knowledge to make good sound decisions when voting on legislation, electing candidates, and working on General Conference Boards and Committees.

The Convocation Committee has started its work of planning a forum whereby the laity and clergy can meet to present resolutions, and discuss legislative matters that will come before the upcoming General Conference. The sessions and workshops will be designed to provide you with practical understandable information; and give you an opportunity to meet and hear from candidates seeking to be elected General Officers and Bishops in our church. Please circle the Lay Convocation date on your calendar and plan to attend. We are looking forward to your full participation in the Quadrennial Lay Convocation; that you may become more knowledgeable of legislation and critical issues

Meditation/Hymnody

by J. Fairbanks Leach, Education Committee Chairperson

"How Tedious and Tasteless the Hours", is a beautiful Hymn taken from Psalm 73: 25 by John Newton and is found in the A.M.E. Zion Hymnal, P. 523. There are hundreds more that speak to and for our highs and lows of life as we travel this 'pilgrim journey'.

The Education Committee of the Connectional Lay Council is seeking Writers who will contribute to a MEDITATION/HYMNODY. We are soliciting members of our beloved Zion to contribute to this project. You are invited to 'wrap' a Meditation around a favorite Hymn in our A.M.E. Zion Hymnal which we will share with our brothers and sisters in Zion Methodism, and elsewhere. Only 300 words or less – Submission DEADLINE, June 25, 2011.

Send to: J. Fairbanks Leach – Email jfairlea3671@sbcglobal.net or Mail - 2224 High Wheel Drive Ste 119 – Xenia, OH 45385

The MEDITATION/HYMNODY will offer Spiritual enrichment, perpetually for 365 days.

The MEDITATION/HYMNODY will go on sale in July at the site of the Connectional Council in Houston, TX.

Help us raise the level of Daily Spiritual time spent with God by joining our efforts to enrich the lives of fellow laborers in Zion with a Meditation/Hymnody.

We are deeply appreciative for your contribution and cooperation.

"Next to the Word of God,
Music Deserves The Highest Praise."

---Martin Luther

Is Anybody Listening? . . . John, the Disciple of Jesus Christ, writes in Chapter 12, verse 26. "Whoever serves Me must follow Me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves Me" I stop, look and listen. I stop, spend time in His Word; I look for a personal commission in His Word, I listen for His bidding. I found, My Mission: to use my God-given gifts and talents to help His Ministry here on earth and to share His greatness. My Qualifications: a saved heart, a willing spirit and an abundance of love for Him and His people. When: At all times 24/7. Where: Wherever I am privileged to be. "Jesus Calls Us". He calls us to serve Him in many and varied ways. Lyrics for this beautiful Hymn were pinned by Mrs. Cecil Frances Alexander, who wonderfully expressed God's call for Discipleship. Mrs. Alexander was recognized as one of England's finest women hymn writers.

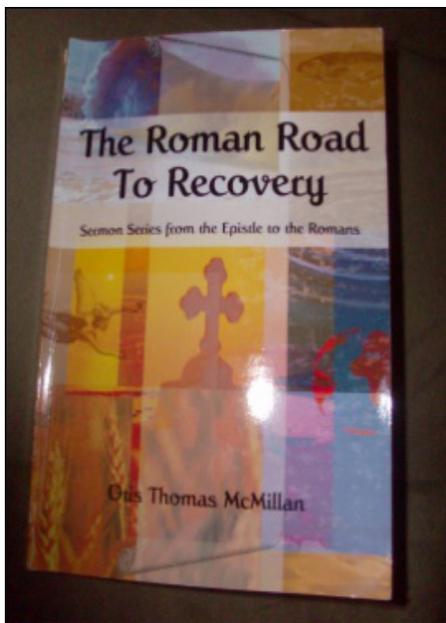
"Jesus Calls Us o'er the tumult of our life's wild restless sea; day by day His sweet voice soundeth, saying Christian, follow me". We invite you to read more of this musical enlightenment and assurance on Page 484 in your Hymnal.

Dear God, I ask for myself and each of us, honest help in listening to Your bidding and Your call for our lives. Give us spiritual sensitivity to know it is You to whom we are listen-ing. May we be faithful followers. Amen and Amen.

This is only a sample OF WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR
There are 277 words above in Arial Narrow – 12 Font
Thank you so very much for sharing this venture with us.
We invite your prayers, as well for the success of this venture.
God Bless and keep you always in His Care.
CLC Education Committee

Newest Edition to the Connectional Lay Council Book of Common Reading List "The Roman Road to Recovery"

by Tonya Cornelius, Assistant Secretary



The Connectional Lay Council is at it again, another common book of reading! The Roman Road to Recovery is a book authored by Dr. Otis McMillan Director, Bureau of Evangelism for the A.M.E. Zion church. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek", reads Romans 1:16-18. Why was Paul not ashamed of the gospel? FIVE

SIMPLE REASONS.

- Because of what it is... the good news.
- Because of what it requires... a personal commitment.
- Because of what it can do... put us in a right standing with God.
- Because of what it gives... the hope of salvation to all. and
- Because of what it reveals... the righteousness of God.

This is just a start to what this book has to offer. "It reveals God's recipe for recovery and revival".

I challenge you to get your copy. Why? I have mine. You need yours! Together we can... DEEPEN the spiritual life of the laity. DISSEMINATE this information. Help CULTIVATE denominational loyalty. EXPAND the denomination through education and evangelism, and PROMOTE any other interest of the Kingdom of God. Contact your Regional Director, or the CLC office at 704-599-4630, x332. MY LIBRARY IS GROWING, IS YOURS?

Message From the Desk of the General President

What Time Is It? Laity: It's Time to Examine Essential Responsibilities



Yvonne A. Tracey

"Let us search out and examine our ways, And turn back to the Lord."-Lamentations 3:40

In the same spirit that we examine our ways and press our way spiritually toward the ways God expects us to conduct our daily lives, likewise, we must examine our ways to ensure that we are aligning our labors with the law, plan, polity, and process as set forth in the Book of Discipline of The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church that governs us.

The purpose of this communication is to search out several laws in the Book of Discipline (2008) to review and assess our full measure of knowledge and compliance. For example:

The District Conference (page 59 ¶168)

V (3) The 46th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference directs that from each lay delegate there

shall be include their report 1) the existence or non existence of an organized and active local lay council, and 2) on the lay activities in the local church, thereby strengthening the role of the lay in the local churches.

The Annual Conference (page 52 ¶155)

Their (Laity) privilege shall be restricted to making known to that body 1) the existence or non existence of an organized and active local lay council, and 2) on the lay activities in the local church, thereby strengthening the role of the laity in the various charges from which they are elected.

Organized Lay Councils (page 291-292)

The mandate for organized Lay Councils is noted in the following paragraphs:

¶652. Annual Conference, ¶653. District Conference and ¶654. Local Church

Provisions are in place to establish local Lay Councils where one is not in existence due to lack of lay leadership or other challenges.

1. If there is no Lay Council in the Local Church, the Pastor shall appoint a convener or organizer during the Church's organization meeting who shall proceed to organize a Local Council and report it progress to each Quarterly Conference.

The role of the local pastor (page 292)

¶655. In the program of Lay Activities, it shall be understood that the pastor is responsible for the local program of the church. Nothing in this plan shall interfere with his/her authority and responsibility.

Election of General Conference Delegates (page 36 ¶114 #1- #5)

It is important that each lay person review the function of the Electoral College. Kindly, refer to page and paragraphs referenced above in the 2008 Book of Discipline for the full text.

It is my prayer that you will keep a Book of Discipline close at hand and begin now reviewing sections that can be germane to strengthening the role of Laity in The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

2012 GENERAL CONFERENCE LEGISLATION AND SUMMIT MEETING DOROTHY WALLS CONFERENCE & RETREAT CENTER | OCTOBER 18 - 20, 2011



SPONSORED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MINISTERS AND LAY ASSOCIATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CONNECTIONAL LAY COUNCIL

See pg 8 for more information

Facing the Future with Faith ... and Action: Rethinking and Redefining the Church

By Marlon I. Brown

*"In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."
James 2:17 (New International Version)*



Marlon I. Brown

Introduction
Any institution that has been in existence for some time will inevitably face the paradox of reconciling its *raison d'être* (reason of being or existing) with the past, present, and future. The institution of the Christian Church

is no different. Throughout the course of history, the church has labored to relate its scriptural and historical past, to the challenges of the day, and chart a vision and course for the future. This exercise is continuously repeated not just in the Christian community at large, but also within her various ecclesiastical denominations.

As members of the black Methodist community called Zion, we realize that ours is a proud and famed heritage, full of faithful men and women devoted to the mission of Christ and the message of the Gospel. However, a storied past will not ensure the success of the church for present and future generations. Our world is rapidly changing, and while the message of Christ remains the same, the challenge is to find relevancy, practicality, and significance in a crowded global marketplace of contradicting religions, values, morals, and belief systems.

Our communities of faith are challenged in many areas, but none are as critical as the challenge of ministering to the needs of the current generation. Young adults as a whole are visibly absent from the pews and

leadership of the church; yet this same demographic is actively and persistently seeking ways to have an impact on the world and bring about real and substantive change in the lives of others. Young adults want to have a sense of God in their lives but aren't necessarily seeking a connection with God inside the walls of a church. Churches and Christians often prove to be barriers to others coming to know Christ. These barriers are both perception and reality; however, if we are to continue to grow and fulfill the commission to make disciples of all nations, then we must revisit our approach to ministry. The current challenges are significant but also provide an enormous opportunity to spark innovation within the church. Our faith communities must engage in real dialogue with people, show a personal interest in their lives, and communicate our religion in a contemporary manner.

Attitudes toward Christianity and the Church

In 2007 researchers from the Barna Group, a Christian research and marketing firm, published a book entitled *Unchristian: What A New Generation Really Thinks About Christianity ... And Why It Matters*. This book included the results of survey research on the perceptions of young adults (Christians and non-Christians) regarding Christianity and the Church. The results revealed some of the major challenges that the church confronts with the present generation. Among the results were the following:

- Among Millennials (persons between 16 and 29 years of age) 2/5 are outsiders or non-Christians. This equates to about 24 million young adults; subsequently, the number of young adults outside the faith increases in each generation.¹
- Christianity is largely seen to be anti-homosexual, judgmental, and hypocritical, even though many believe that the religion has "good values and principles."²
- 1/5 of all non-Christians (50 million U.S. residents) say that bad experiences in church or with a Christian have given them a nega-

tive image of Jesus Christ.³

- In addition to the previously mentioned perceptions of Christianity, young Christians tend to view their own faith as confusing, too political, old fashioned & out of touch with reality, and boring & insensitive to others.⁴ Moreover, 1/3 of Young Christians admit that "the way Christians act and the things they say make them embarrassed to be a Christian."⁵
- Only 15 percent of non-Christians thought the lifestyles of those Christ followers were significantly different from the norm.⁶
- Only one out of five outsiders said they perceive Christian churches as loving environments, places where people are unconditionally loved and accepted regardless of how they look or what they do. Surprisingly, fewer than half of churchgoers, including born-again Christians, felt strongly that their church demonstrates unconditional love.⁷

In addition to this research, there are several other studies that reiterate these negative perceptions. Churches are often too focused on money and don't help people solve real life issues. Young people feel out of place in the church and 1 in 4 young people have left the church by age 23.⁸

Finally, with regard to the overall religious landscape, the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life indicates that Methodism (along with Catholics and Baptists) lose the most members from childhood to adulthood. Out of all protestant faith communities, the only growth from childhood to adulthood occurs in non-denominational and Pentecostal churches. Consequently, historically black churches make up 6.9% of the overall religious landscape, with black Methodist churches accounting for only 0.6% and the A.M.E. Zion Church comprising less than 0.3% of the entire religious landscape in the United States.⁹

See *Facing the Future...* pg 10

Executive Board Attendance at the A.M.E. Zion Winter Meeting of the Board of Bishops and The International Ministers and Lay Association Meeting February 22-24, 2011, Mobile, Alabama

By Dolores Lancaster, CLC Recording Secretary

Members of the Connectional Lay Council (CLC) Executive Board attended and participated in the meetings of the A.M.E. Zion Board of Bishops and the International Ministers and Lay Association in Mobile, Alabama.

The CLC Executive Board was well represented at the International Ministers and Lay Association Annual Awards and Recognition Banquet on Tuesday, February 22, 2011. Those in attendance were Mrs. Yvonne A. Tracey, CLC President; Mrs. Effie Woodard, CLC 2nd Vice President; Ms. Delores B. Lancaster, CLC Recording Secretary; Mrs. Sandra Williams, CLC Regional Director, Piedmont District; Mrs. Helene Zacharias, CLC Regional Director, Mid-Atlantic I District; Miss Randi Stith, CLC Editor Laity Speaks and the Connection; Mrs. J. Fairbanks Leach, CLC Education Committee Chairperson, and Mrs. Rosa Alexander, CLC Historian. In addition to representing the CLC Executive Board, Ms. Delores B. Lancaster served as the International Ministers and Lay Association Regional Vice President for the Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District and Miss Rhandi Stith served as the Banquet Chairperson for the International Ministers and Lay Association.

During the Board of Bishops' Wednesday, February 23, 2011 morning worship service, the members of the Executive Board worship together. The CLC President made her Semi-Annual CLC Report to the Board of Bishops on Thursday, February 24, 2011. Mr. Trubbie Leeper, CLC Treasurer, provided support to Mrs. Tracey during her presentation. The Board of Bishops favorably received her report.

The Annual Meeting of the International Ministers and Lay Association ran concurrent with the Board of Bishops' meeting each day. During the Thursday afternoon session of the International Ministers and Lay Association, Mrs. Yvonne A. Tracey and Rev. Dr. Medis Cheeks were appointed Co-Chairpersons for the Association's General Conference Legislation Committee. The Committee along with other subcommittees will convene at the Association's General Conference Legislation and Summit Meeting to be held at the Camp Dorothy Walls Conference and Retreat Center, Black Mountain, North Carolina, October 18-20, 2011. Additionally, Mrs. J. Fairbanks Leach was appointed the Research Committee Chairperson for the Summit.

Finally, the members of the CLC Executive Board participated in the A.M.E. Zion Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society's Heart Recognition Month by dressing in "Red" during the day on Thursday, February 24th.

ALABAMA-FLORIDA REGIONAL LAY ACADEMY - Mobile, Alabama

By Delores Lancaster, Recording Secretary

The Alabama-Florida Regional Lay Academy was held on Saturday, February 26, 2011 at the Pilgrim Rest A.M.E. Zion Church, Whistler, Alabama. In the absence of the Connectional Council Lay Council Regional Director, Mr. Isaiah Pinkney (due to illness), Ms. Dennis King, President of the Pilgrim Rest A.M.E. Zion Church Lay Council led the devotions and welcomed those in attendance. We also received greetings from Ms. Janice Spencer, Jackson District Lay Council President and Mr. Benjamin Molten, President of the Mobile District Lay Council.

Mrs. Yvonne A. Tracey, President of the Connectional Lay Council (CLC), gave greetings to those present and introduced the members of the CLC Executive Board who were in attendance. Ms. Delores B. Lancaster, CLC Recording Secretary, and Ms. Renee Felton-Pullen, CLC Budget Committee Chairperson, conducted the stoling ceremony. Fifteen (15) members of the Mobile, Alabama Lay Council were stoled as "Life Members of the Connectional Lay Council of the A.M.E. Zion Church.

Dr. Otis McMillan, Director of the Bureau of Evangelism of the A.M.E. Zion Church, gave greetings to those present and gave highlights on how the Bureau of Evangelism is partnering with the Connectional Lay Council. He talked about the two common books of reading the Council is using, which were written by him—"Not Ashamed of the Gospel" and "The Roman Road of Recovery."

Miss Tonya Cornelius, CLC Assistant Secretary, gave a presentation on the CLC Special Projects items and the common books of reading which were available for purchasing during the Lay Academy.

Mrs. J. Fairbanks Leach, CLC Education Committee Chairperson, advised those in attendance of the various publications her committee has developed. She also made a presentation on the Committee's "Meditation/Hymnody Project" during the afternoon session. Mrs. Leach blessed those present with some of the meditation/hymnodies that had already been submitted from persons across Zion. The meditations and the history of the hymns were read concurrently. Some of the 95 persons present were dubbed the choir and were directed in the singing of each hymn by Mrs. Leach. Hymns such as "Jesus Saves," "Have Thine Own Way Lord," "Great is Thy Faithfulness," "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed," warranted a spiritually warm and engaging Lay Academy.

Following Mrs. Leach's presentation during the morning session, Mrs. Yvonne Baskerville, CLC 2nd Vice President, gave an update on the CLC Young Adult/

Youth Initiatives and the Bishop Leake Scholarship Program. She gave an overview of the current status of the Young Adult Initiative which included the purpose of the initiative and the initiative's current partnership with the A.M.E. Zion "Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society and the Christian Education Department. She also advised those present that the initiative has been expanded to include the youth of the A.M.E. Zion Church. Mrs. Baskerville also advised those in attendance that the Bishop Leake Scholarship Program had been re-energized by the CLC. The purpose of the program is to provide financial support to those persons who are seeking positions in ministry. She advised that a total of \$9,000 in scholarship funds have been distributed to date since the 2009 CLC Convention.

Mrs. Rosa Alexander, CLC Historian, came forward and identified the need to collect and archive information from members of the CLC on the past CLC Presidents, beginning with Dr. Victor Tulane. She advised that she and Miss Rhandi Stith, CLC Editor, Laity Speaks and the CLC Connection, are working together to obtain information about the CLC presidents and the accomplishments during their administration. They are looking to publish the document by July 2011.

The CLC 2nd Vice President, Mrs. Effie Woodard, gave a brief overview of the current status of the CLC Membership. She congratulated the members of the Alabama-Florida Lay Councils for their cooperation and their successful efforts in increasing their membership.

Ms. Mary Matthews, CLC Life Members Chairperson, congratulated the members of the Alabama-Florida Lay Council on having 80 Life Members. She gave an overview of the CLC Life Members Campaign and our theme "Upgrade One, Reach One."

Ms Rhandi Stith, CLC Editor for Laity Speak and the CLC Connection, presented Mrs. Alicia Ross, the CLC Communications representative for the Alabama-Florida Episcopal District with copies of the December 2010 issue of The Connection. Everyone present received a copy to share with their local lay councils. Miss Stith asked those present to send in articles of their lay events. She also gave an overview of the new CLC Website and the Laity Speaks column in the Star of Zion.

During the Fellowship Luncheon the Academy attendees received greetings from Bishop James E. McCoy, President of the Board of Bishops and Presiding Prelate and Mrs. Shirley McCoy, Missionary Supervisor for the Alabama-Florida Episcopal District.

Mrs. Yvonne A. Tracey, President of the CLC, gave an excellent presentation on "The Connectional Lay Council, Our Mission and the Process." Her presentation provided information to the Academy attendees on (1) the purpose of the CLC; (2) the CLC Mission Statement; (3) identification of the membership breakout of the category membership of the CLC; (4) identification of the CLC Strategic Plan Initiatives for the 2010-2011 calendar year; (5) the Zion Methodist Polity; (6) overview of Biblical Truths, True Praise and Worship. She ended her presentation with a detailed description to the laity on "Managing Our Ministry - Mobilizing our Laity." Also included in her presentation was a description of the "Connecting Links and Purposes of the CLC within our Episcopal Areas and the various A.M.E. Zion Departments and Organizations.

The Academy was closed with comments from the President of the Pilgrim Rest A.M.E. Zion Lay Council, Mr. Dennis King.



Please continue to pray for the Zionites that live in Southwestern Delta, Eastern North Carolina, Alabama/ Florida and the Mid West Episcopal Districts who have been affected by tornados and flooding

THE VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP

Jacqueline Anthony, 2nd Vice President, Salisbury District Lay Council and CLC Executive Board Marketing/Technology Chairperson
(This article was given as a presentation at a Salisbury District Lay Council Meeting)



Jacqueline Anthony

As 2nd VP of the Salisbury District Lay Council, I am charged primarily to recruit new members and reclaim expired memberships. But, I am not here to speak about that; I am here to speak on the value of membership in the CLC and the importance of fostering spiritual growth and development in others to promote the Kingdom of God.

The Great Commission

In Matthew 28:19-20, we are told to “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

We are a body of Christ with a ministry to fulfill. The Great Commission holds great significance to all followers of Christ as it is the last recorded personal directive of our Savior to His disciples. This passage is the foundation for evangelism and cross-cultural missions work in Christian theology.

The Lord instructs all of his followers, to “Go,” and put our faith in action while on this earth. The Great Commission is a personal calling for us to step out in faith and spread the Good News.

So, you might ask, “what does the Great Commission have to do with being a member of the Lay Council?” As members of the Lay Council, our mission is that which one is sent to do. We’re in that number that heard Him saying – “Follow me, and I’ll make you fish for people.” (Matthew 4:19) Jesus left no lack of clarity regarding our mission. As I mentioned before, he said, “Go ... make disciples ... and teach them to obey everything that I have commanded you...” (Matthew 28:19-20) As commissioned persons, we’re granted the power and authority to perform acts and carry out prescribed duties in His name. So, we are on a mission.

Promoting the Kingdom of God

As members of the Lay Council, we link our gifted ministries with evangelistic outreach to bring others

into the fold of disciples of Jesus Christ and members of The AME Zion Church. The CLC mission is to prepare and equip Laity for life discipleship in the Kingdom of God by maintaining effective ministries that evangelize, encourage, and edify Laity. As servants of God, and disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ that are guided by the Holy Spirit, the vision of the CLC is to prepare Lay members for a life of service in the Kingdom of God. President Tracey envisions that we will do this by:

1. Developing ourselves and others as Christian disciples;
2. Help others to know, worship and follow Christ in spirit and in truth; and
3. Collaborate and cooperate across organizational, institutional, and denominational lines to minister to the masses.

Our motto, “Come With Us to Christ” is the incentive for implementing ministries that are positive in transforming people’s lives spiritually, socially, and economically; and in promoting fellowship with God and other believers as well as the unsaved.

Membership in the CLC is not a requirement to benefit from the Lay Council’s ministries. All Laity in The AME Zion Church are encouraged to catch President Tracey’s vision for Christian Leadership, Accountability, Stewardship, and Christian Service so that, together, we might usher in the Kingdom of God through The AME Zion Church.

Fostering Spiritual Growth and Development (in others to promote the Kingdom of God)

The purpose for this organized body of Christ, known as the Lay Council, is to 1) deepen the spiritual life of Laity; 2) disseminate information; 3) cultivate denominational loyalty; 4) expand the denomination through education and evangelism; and 5) promote any other interest of the Kingdom of God. Implicit in our purposes is the “command” to promote God’s Kingdom and The AME Zion Church throughout the world by encouraging Laity to serve Jesus Christ and to follow Him in the vocations of everyday life.

Membership in the Lay Council provides an opportunity for Laity and clergy to work together to:

1. Aid in understanding our roles in the church;
2. Find scriptural sound guidelines, training and practical ways for implementing lay ministries throughout the church; and
3. Provide resources and the aids needed to evaluate, improve and expand Lay involvement in the building of God’s Kingdom.

With membership, there are benefits from being a part of an organized and functioning Lay Council.

Laity’s own faith within a Christian community is deepened and, as a member, Laity help to accomplish objectives to:

1. Train Laity for church leadership;
2. Recruit for membership in the church;
3. Help to interpret the purpose and mission of the church; and
4. Interpret and make effective response to the urgent needs of the Church and to Zion’s educational institutions.

This is a personal reason for Zion’s Laity to organize and join to invite men and women to “Come With Us to Christ” for we are to be “fisher’s of men.”

Once we catch the fish, we must train them; and in order to train them, financial support is needed to get the training done. So, we finance our training through the structure of our membership dues.

There are many resources utilized for training. Our resources are designed to equip and empower Zion’s Laity to 1) promote objectives of the CLC; 2) prepare spiritually for ministries; and 3) develop effective servant-leaders.

For example, the Lay Academy is our educational forum that provides quality instruction with a well-defined purpose of equipping and empowering Laity for effective service. The Lay Academy proceedings:

1. equips us to fulfill our role in supporting The AME Zion Church to fulfill its ministry and mission;
2. empower us through educational experiences in Bible Study; theological reflections; study of Zion Methodism, its history, doctrines, and polity; Christian fellowship and other experiences that focus on lay ministries and services which ultimately strengthens the integrity of The AME Zion Church;
3. developing and implementing programs that promote Jesus’ model of servant leadership and builds awareness of one’s identity as God’s servant; and
4. encourage Laity to serve their communities through outreach ministries that address problems and needs.

As another example, the CLC Education Committee, with design and purpose, seeks to condition members of Zion Methodism to the worship and service of God. It purposes to edify, stimulate, qualify, influence, redirect, and challenge God-given gifts and talents to spiritual maximization with verve for Kingdom Building through the Lay Council for God and Zion Methodism.

See *Membership...pg 7*

Connectional Lay Sunday Offerings

(This report reflects monies received by October 29, 2010. If you have not sent in your offering, please send it to the CLC Office immediately)

| Episcopal District | Church | Amount | Episcopal District | Church | Amount | |
|------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| North Eastern | Greater Centennial A.M.E. Zion, Mt Vernon, NY | 300.00 | Alabama-Florida | Butler Chapel A.M.E. Zion, Greenville, AL | 125.80 | |
| | Walls Temple A.M.E. Zion, Colonie, NY | 100.00 | | Southwest Delta | Cherry Street A.M.E. Zion, pine Bluff, AK | \$50.00 |
| | Varick Memorial A.M.E. Zion, Brooklyn, NY | 200.00 | | | Western | Community A.M.E. Zion, Vancouver, WA |
| | St. Charles A.M.E. Zion, Sparkhill, NY | 180.00 | | Kyles Temple A.M.E. Zion, Sacramento, CA | | \$200.00 |
| Eastern North Carolina | Graham Chapel A.M.E. Zion, Riegelwood, NC | 200.00 | St. Matthew A.M.E. Zion, Kansas City, MO | \$140.00 | | |
| | Mid-Atlantic II | John Wesley A.M.E. Zion, Washington, DC | 200.00 | Previously listed | | \$2,137.75 |
| Mid-West | | Stoner Memorial A.M.E. Zion, Louisville KY | 150.00 | | TOTAL MONIES SENT TO THE CLC OFFICE | \$6,293.30 |
| | | Kyles Temple, Des Moines, IA | \$75.00 | | | |
| Mid-Atlantic I | Mt. Zion A.M.E. Zion, Kansas City, KS | \$50.20 | | | | |
| | Mt. Zion A.M.E. Zion, Eatonton, NJ | \$66.75 | | | | |

.....Mentoring

continued from page 1

Foundation Ministries

(Samples)
Worship Service:
Acolyte Directors
Musicians
Choir Directors
Dance/Mime Ministry Leaders
Ushers
Audio/Visual Ministry Leaders
Lay Worship Leaders
Security
Deaconess

General Local Ministries:

Trustee – Junior Trustee
Steward - Junior Stewards
Stewardess – Junior Stewardess
Sunday School Teachers
CED Leaders
Lay Council Officers
WH&OMS Officers
Community Service Leaders (pantry, homeless groups, ECT)

Young Adult to Senior Mentoring Opportunities:

Computer Training (example: creating e-mail ready ministry forms)
Internet Training (How to search the internet, exploring new tools for ministry)
Technology Growth (How to make the ministry/evangelism more effective in contemporary times)

Lay Council History

By Rosa J. Alexander, Historian

HISTORY Our primary task is. The What, When, How and by Whom of our existence and the continuation of the record-keeping of all of Lay Council activities, on Local, District, and Conference levels.

Consider this to be “Review 101” on how the Connection/Laity Speaks came into being. During the tour of our second General President, Arthur E. Brooks, Dr. A.L. Cromwell, Vice president, offered the recommendation that all worthwhile activities of the Council be recorded and forwarded to the Star of Zion. Our Third General President Betty Stith appointed Dr. Gossie H. Hudson as chair of the publicity Committee. Dr. Hudson provided Zion with the ‘worthwhile news’ Dr. Cromwell had suggested. During her second quadrennial, President Stith appointed Bennie E. McCall to serve as Column Editor of the “Laity Speaks”. This work was continued under the fourth General President, Dr. C. Dupont Rippey who appointed Ted Shaw as Column Editor of “Laity Speaks”. Mr. Shaw continued to serve as Column Editor with sixth General President Mary E. Taylor. Our seventh General president Lula Howard, appointed Dr. Clara Robinson as Editor of the “Laity Speaks” column. It was under our eighth General president, David A. Aiken, Sr., that the use of ‘The Connection/Laity Speaks evolved and it is still operating at full steam with Editor Rhandi Stith who has been instrumental in moving the Connection into the world of high technology.

I am presenting this historical data to point up the need for keeping good records and, to make sure that these records are kept in a safe, attainable environment.

Fast forwarding to today, May I refer you to the new STUDY/RESOURCE GUIDE on the very engrossing article on ARCHIVING? It is urgent that we record, and keep in a particular, safe place the history that has been made by our predecessors and yes, the history that we are making today. We need your help. Should you have any old bulletins, pictures, books, artifacts that we can use, please we are asking, nay, we are begging your help in securing these materials. Check your files, your basement, and any place where you have stored information and check it thoroughly for any, any materials that pertain to the CONNECTIONAL LAY COUNCIL. We guarantee the return of your materials should you need to keep them; we’ll gladly accept copies.

Health Concerns Growing

By Lester G. Belk,

President of the Pee Dee Conference Lay Council and
South Atlantic Region representative on The Social and Political Action Committee

We have moved into the second decade of the 21st century and we have found that our overall health, nationwide, leaves something to be desired. There are many problems facing Americans, especially African-Americans and Latinos. Heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, kidney disease and cancer, just to name a few have become entrenched in our communities. The recession that has had this country in its grip, is improving but with government budget cuts we find that health care has become a casualty of these cuts. Both federal and state budget cuts being considered will bring further hardship to needy, under-insured and uninsured Americans. We must not sit still and endorse what is happening, because doing nothing is an endorsement!

We can do many things to help improve our health situation. First, we must make sure that every eligible person is registered to vote and that they vote in every election. The makeup of this present congress is a direct result of our not getting out the vote. We then must use every tool available to contact those who represent us and let them know how we feel about ALL issues. We also must embrace the work of The N.A.A.C.P., the nation’s largest and oldest civil rights organization. This group has been at the forefront of the struggle for health concerns. All of our churches should make joining the NAACP a priority for its members. We have stood on the backs of others for long enough; it’s time we start to bear some of the weight of the struggle.

The next thing we can do is to support President and Mrs. Obama’s many health initiatives. Mrs. Obama’s “Let’s Move” initiative targets childhood obesity. Obesity has been shown to be an underlying factor in all the illnesses listed above. This initiative targets the youth of America, but studies now show us that over half of all Americans are overweight. Some causes of this weight gains are physical inactivity, poor eating habits and lack of proper medical attention. Through many improvements to school lunches, many children are now eating healthier and exercising more to improve their health. We all must adopt better eating habits and start exercising in order to shed pounds necessary for improved health. We encourage churches to become involved in this initiative as we know many of our meals are consumed at church, a great place to start. Churches should sponsor or participate in health fairs and training that will educate its members about good health.

We also need to encourage everyone to seek medical attention. It is vitally important that we have regular check-ups and examinations. Although lack of insurance is a major reason many don’t seek medical care; it does not diminish the need for such care. We as lay people must be vigilant in our searches for free clinics, health fairs and practitioners who serve the needy. We then must make it our business to get this information to our people. Many of the above mentioned diseases can be controlled or prevented with proper medical care. Men and women all need regular examinations. Encourage each other to seek medical help. This is so very important.

At the local church, we need to have a person or persons who will be the social and political contact to insure that pertinent information is conveyed to the members. This will greatly influence our ability to improve our health, social and political concerns. We must put health care on the front burner as it is one of the most serious issues of our time. We must not sit idly by and allow these concerns to linger. We have a moral responsibility to work for a better world and a better health is a great place to start.

.....Membership

continued from page 6

The Study and Resource Guide offers tools for Kingdom Building that are traditionally sound, historically correct, yet contemporized to meet today’s Christian citizenry ... to invite and “bring them in.” The call, “Come With Us to Christ” represents an invitation we accepted from our Lord and Savior. What we found in accepting the invitation is of such magnitude and fulfillment we now wish to share with all persons outside of the Church. So, we invite them to come with us to hear, read the words of Christ and join with fellow-believers to be captured by the heart of God. It offers the thought that together we can gain strength and help both the joys and sorrows we daily encounter. “Come With Us to Christ” is our Evangelistic thrust to men and women, boys and girls, to fellowship with people who care to seek to guide their daily lives, pointing the way to a redemptive Christ.

Our motto, “Come With Us to Christ” is our evangelistic intent as members of the CLC. “Come” is indicative of an invitation. In Matthew 18:11, we find an explanation as to why the Son of man has come. “For the Son of man has come to save that which was lost” as Matthew 11:28, records ... “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” This invitation undergirds this scripture in Hymn #408 of the Church, “Come to Jesus.”

As members of the CLC, we share the belief that the Lord Jesus Christ offers the remission of sin, rest, and offers a place where we are given Grace, Mercy, and Salvation. We are convinced that Jesus is Lord, and gladly take the responsibility to Evangelize by going wherever to seek the lost and to let them know the benefits and rewards of “Coming to Christ.” We humbly, with an unconditional pride for the privilege, issue an invitation, “Come With Us to Christ” to share this faith with everyone. I Peter 2:9 remind us that we are a chosen generation and His own special people. This scripture serves as a testimony of who we are, whose we are, and what we can do to glorify God.

There are other resources to use to foster spiritual growth and development (i.e., the Bible, and our Discipline)...

Northeastern Episcopal District Annual Regional Meeting

Marie H. Baxter, Regional Director

Bishop George E. Battle, Jr. Presiding Prelate

By Eloise Homer



On April 30, 2011, the New York Conference Lay Council hosted the Northeastern Episcopal District Annual Regional Meeting. It was held at Greater Centennial African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, where the Reverend Dr. W. Darin Moore is pastor, Conference President, David A. Aiken, Sr., Regional/Westchester District President, Marie H. Baxter and the Reverend Dr. Cynthia Willis Stewart, Presiding Elder.

Marie H. Baxter was the Presiding Officer. Greetings came from Presiding Elder Stewart, David A. Aiken Sr.,

Ruby Figueroa, host president and Rev. Julius Walls on behalf of Rev. Dr. W. Darin Moore. The Worship Service Opening Hymn – “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah; Scripture Lesson “Romans 12, read by Ruth Gulf, New England Conference; Prayer by David A. Aiken Sr., New York Conference President, Selection; “Get Right With God”. The Reverend Dr. Moses Carter introduced our Presiding Elder, The Reverend Dr. Cynthia Willis Stewart. After the singing of “O How I Love Jesus”, Reverend Dr. Cynthia Willis Stewart read Psalm 37: 16 & 19 and Ruth 1: 1-5. The Meditation, “A Word for a Time of Scarce Resources”. Remember, no matter what you are going through, we as Believers and Christians know God will supply and satisfy what we need. Following the Worship Service we had a fellowship meal prepared by the Lay Council of the host church.



Marie H. Baxter introduce our General President of the Connectional Lay Council, Yvonne A. Tracy, presented a brief Lay Academy.

“PARADIGM SHIFT” (To Another Level)

1. CLC WEBSITE: www.connectionallaycouncil.org- Overview by Rhandi M. Stith, CLC Communications Chair
2. CLC Programs, Partnerships and Initiatives

President Tracy reminded us that as laity we should have the following publications, our common books of reading: The Connectional Lay Council Handbook, CLC Study/Resource Guide, (Revised 2009), The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church A Description of the Quadrennial Theme by Bishops Nathaniel Jarrett, Richard K. Thompson and Kenneth Monroe, Not Ashamed of the Gospel by Bishop Darryl Starnes and Dr. Otis McMillan, perfecting Kingdom Leadership by J. Elvin Sadler and The Roman Road to Recovery by Dr. Otis T. McMillan.



The Connectional Lay Council partners with the Department of Christian Education in support of building attendance at the CE Meeting in California

December 2011. Save the Date; October 18th-20th 2012 General Conference Legislation and Summit Meeting in partnership with the International Ministers and Lay Association at Dorothy Walls Conference and Retreat Center, Black Mountain, N.C.

The CLC has introduced the Young Adult Initiative; which is a mentoring program for young adults and youth in various leadership positions in the church. Yvonne A. Tracy suggested the use of the book 52 Interactive



Messages for Varick’s Children written by Dr. Joyce Perry Edwards.

The president said every District and Annual Conference lay delegate must report if their local church has an organized and active lay council. This was legislation adopted at the 48th Session of the General Conference of the A.M.E. Zion Church.

All in all the Northeastern Episcopal District Annual Meeting was spiritually motivated and informative in many ways.

2012 General Conference Legislation and Summit Meeting

Sponsored by The International Ministers’ and Lay Association

in partnership with The Connectional Lay Council

The cost is packaged to include sleeping accommodations, meals, (at the Camp Dorothy Walls Conference and Retreat Center) taxes and information/program packet

Rooms

Double - (2 double beds) 28 rooms total; Room rate: \$111.54 Single; \$149.76 Double; All Taxes meals/snacks included
 Handicap- Accessible - (1 queen bed) 3 rooms total; \$111.54 Single; \$149.76 Double; All Taxes meals/snacks included
 Queen - (1 queen bed) 3 rooms total; \$111.54 Single; \$149.76 Double; All Taxes meals/snacks included
 Triple Suite - (3 full size beds) 16 rooms total; \$132.99 Single; \$170.53 Double; \$208.07 Triple; All Taxes meals/snacks included

The M&L Summit Meeting is now open for reservations with the following information:

1. All room reservations require a two night minimum stay.
2. To make your reservation call Mon-Fri 9AM - 5PM 1-828-419-9200 ask for Brandon, Front Desk Manager- no online registration for this event. Provide the name of the meeting - 2012 General Conference Legislation and Summit Meeting.
4. All reservations require the name of your Episcopal Area and the names of individuals sharing the same room. A credit card is required to reserve the reservation, but will not be charged unless you fail to arrive by 11:00 PM.
5. An overflow hotel with a negotiated meeting rate and meal plan will be available once the Dorothy Walls Conference and Retreat Center reaches its capacity.

Please note:

A) This is a working meeting. Everyone in attendance will be assigned to (or you may choose) a committee to work with. The cost and the agenda

were not designed to accommodate observers.

B) There is no registration fee however; all persons attending must be current members of the M&L Association and the Connectional Lay Council. M&L dues can be collected on- site; Connectional Lay Council dues must be paid through your local church, please plan ahead.

C) Contact: Yvonne A. Tracey via e-mail: ytracey@bellsouth.net or call 704-637-8687, should you need assistance or have questions.

Preliminary Meeting Information

Purpose: To focus on the development and adoption of 2012 General Conference Legislation through the following committees: Budget; Expense; Assessments; Restructuring; General Departments; Schools and Colleges; Ministerial Concerns; Minimum salary; Pension; Pastor’s Bill of Rights; Conference Boundaries; Domestic and Overseas
 There will also be a support group to critique resolutions drafted by individuals and other constituencies of the A.M.E. Zion Church.

Preliminary Timeline:

Tuesday, October 18, 2011

- Check into Dorothy Walls Conference & Retreat Center (All day)
- Visit Information Area to pick-up meeting ID badges and information packet
- Opening Fellowship Dinner (5:00 PM)
- Orientation, organization and initial meetings of General Conference Legislation Committees (7:00 PM)

Wednesday, October 19, 2011

- General Conference Legislation Committee Meetings

Thursday, October 20, 2011

- Presentations by committees and adoption of Int’l M&L Assoc..
- General Conference Resolutions
- Closing at 12 Noon

.....Garrett
continued from page 1

Q - What is the total number of years that you served on the Connectional Lay Council and in what positions did you serve?

A - Back in 1971 is when the Lay Council first met as a national body. We first met at Livingstone College. At that time Arthur Brooks was the president, I was the vice president, Richard J. Harris was treasurer and Betty Stith was the secretary.

The letter below was read by DD Garrett:

May 22, 1967

Signed by DD Garrett

This letter comes for a twofold purpose, to announce the first convention of the Lay Council of the AME Zion Church, to be held at Livingstone College July 7-8, 1967. Number two, to inform you that the program committee has seen fit to invite you to participant on the program. We have chosen a theme; "Current Problems Recent Developments, Future Trends in the AME Zion Church. We hope to approve the theme for such topics: Centralize budget, Local church organization, Organic union and Church economy. I mention this letter because I was vice president at the time and that was the first Lay Council meeting on a national scale. We had not starting meeting Quadrennially yet. The record needs to show that we first met in 1971. If we are talking about the length of time I served; that's been 40 years.

Editor's Note:

Born in 1914, D.D. Garrett experienced the limitations of segregation while growing up rural Pitt County, in the Flemings Chapel community. However, he never let that white dominated society define his choices in life. While a teenager, he was working as a grounds keeper at East Carolina Teacher's College, when he encountered a young student who was working his way through college. Armed with this example, Garrett returned to school and graduated from the Greenville Industrial School. He then hitchhiked to Durham where he worked in shoe repair while pursuing a college degree at the North Carolina College for Negroes, or what is now North Carolina Central University. By the time he enlisted during World War II, he had nearly completed his junior year of college.

Garrett's experience in the Navy taught the young man new ways to deal with prejudice. While stationed in Puget Sound, Washington, Garrett and 24 other African-American servicemen engaged in a strike of silence to bring attention to poor food and living conditions. Their success taught him the value of working with others as a group to bring about change. A firm belief in the political process would be fundamental Garrett's later career as a community leader.

Garrett returned to Greenville upon his graduation in 1946. In the fall of that same year he founded the D.D. Garrett Agency at 102 East Second Street, D.D. offered insurance, real estate and notary services to Greenville's African American community which still serves as one of the two oldest real estate firms in Pitt County, North Carolina. His leadership soon extended well beyond business. He first ran for election as alderman in 1949, earning a mere 44 votes in that election. However, his example encouraged black political participation. He stood for city council again in 1959 and 1965, gaining 720 votes and 1,058 votes

respectively. In 1974, the Reverends John Taylor and Clarence Gray became the first African-Americans elected to the Greenville city council. A few years later an African American mayor would follow. In 1988, Garrett became the first African American elected to a county-wide office in Pitt County, when he won a seat on the Pitt County Board of Commissioners.

Though long frustrated at the polls, Garrett found other ways to serve his community. Over the years, he frequently volunteered to serve on task forces, committees and commissions for East Carolina University, Greenville, Pitt County, and the State. He also served as president of the Pitt County chapter of the N.A.A.C.P. for nearly twenty years. He consistently worked to improve the position of African Americans in his community. Mindful of the difficulties that blacks faced gaining clerical jobs in Greenville, Garrett founded the D.D. Garrett School of Business in 1950, as a way of teaching typing and secretarial skills. Though short-lived, the school encouraged the city to begin teaching typing at Eppes High School. In May of 1965, D.D. Garrett initiated the integration of the previously all-white neighborhood of Greenville Heights through the sale of a modest dwelling at 1112 Ward Street.

As for service to the Church, he has been devoted to his denomination at the local, district, conference and connectional level. Mr. Garrett serves as a Member, Trustee and Sunday School Teacher at Saint Stephen AME Zion Church, Farmville, NC. The past and present duties and offices that he has held in his church are much too numerous to mention. D.D. has served the Connectional Lay Council under the following Presidents and elected/appointed positions: 1968 - 1972 - President - Arthur Brooks; 2nd Vice President - Denison D. Garrett. 1972 - 1976 - President - Arthur Brooks; 2nd Vice President - Denison D. Garrett. 1976 - 1977 - President - Betty V. Stith; 2nd Vice President - Denison D. Garrett. 1977 - 1981 - President - Betty V. Stith; 2nd Vice President - Denison D. Garrett. 1985-1989 - President - Dr. C. DuPont Rippey; Bishop George J. Leake III Scholarship Committee Chairperson - Denison D. Garrett. 1997 - 2001 - President - Lula K. Howard; Church Historian - Denison D. Garrett. 2001-2005 - President - David A. Aiken, Sr.; Bishop George Leake III Scholarship Committee Chairperson - D. D. Garrett.

A brief list of other civic affiliations have included The Mayor's Advisory Citizens Council, Governor Jim Hunt's Sickle Cell Advisory Committee, The Pitt-Greenville Housing Resource Board and The Executive Committee of the First Congressional District Black Leadership Caucus.

Mr. Garrett's professional associations include the North Carolina Association of Realtors, The Pitt-Greenville Board Of Realtors, The Pitt-Greenville Chamber of Commerce and the National Association Of Public Accountants.

Three very significant honors he received are 1992 Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce awarded him the Citizen of the Year ; 2005 East Carolina University chapter of Phi Kappa Phi awarded him an honorary lifetime membership into the National Honor Society and 2008 an exhibit at the Verona Joyner Langford North Carolina Collection of East Carolina's J. Y. Joyner Library at East North Carolina University explored the contributions of this long-time community leader. "Patience, Persistence & Political Participation: The Life and Career of D.D. Garrett".



Effie B. Woodard, 2nd Vice President

2009 - 2013 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN SLOGAN

KEEP ONE REACH ONE

The Episcopal District that claims the highest percentage increase in memberships whether new or renewed from now until July 2011 (vs. July 2010) will receive a special incentive. Look out! The incentive will be very rewarding. Those Episcopal Districts that have the highest percentage increase New Councils by July 2011 (vs. July 2010) will also receive a remarkable incentive!

Southwest Delta Regional Lay Academy

Saturday, July 23, 2011

Houston Hilton-Americas Four Seasons Hotel & George R. Brown Center
Houston, TX

(Check hotel monitors for room location)

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Stephany C. Ricks-Fields, Regional Director
Yvonne A. Tracey, General President

Mrs. Camille C. Starnes, Missionary Supervisor
The Right Reverend Darryl B. Starnes, Sr., Presiding Prelate



Lay Academy Program Outline

| Time | Activities | Facilitators |
|------------------|--|---|
| 9:30 - 9:45 AM | Devotion/Welcome | Stephany C. Ricks-Fields, Regional Director |
| 9:45 - 10:30 AM | CLC Committee Updates | Members of the CLC Executive Board |
| 10:30 - 11:00 AM | President's Q&A | Yvonne A. Tracey, General President |
| 11:00 - 12:00 PM | Introduction to the new book of common reading The Roman Road to Recovery | Rev. Dr. Otis T. McMillan, Director, Bureau of Evangelism |
| 12:00 - 12:30 PM | Greetings | Mrs. Camille C. Starnes, Missionary Supervisor |
| Closing | | Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Presiding Prelate |
| | | Stephany C. Ricks-Fields, Regional Director |

LAY ACADEMY AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE CONVOCATION DATES

see Website www.connectionallaycouncil.org for all local church, district and annual conferences dates

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| MAY New Jersey Annual Conference Lay Convocation Wednesday, May 10, 2011 St. Stephens A.M.E. Zion Church Ashbury Park, New Jersey | June 7, 2011 12 noon The Scholarship Dinner will be held at 4:00 p.m. Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church Hartford, Connecticut The registration is \$30.00 | 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Host church: St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan Rev. Mwana Strickland, Host Pastor Bishop Roy A. Holmes, Presiding Prelate Conference site: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan | Cape Fear Conference "Beacon of Light" Cotillion July 25, 2011 Place: TBA |
| Blue Ridge Conference Lay Convocation May 17, 2011 9:00 Dorothy Walls Conference and Retreat Center Mr. Kenneth Hines, Conference President Mrs. Yvonne Tracey - attending | East Tennessee and Virginia Annual Conference Lay Convocation Tuesday, June 14 Location TBA | New York Annual Conference Lay Convocation Wednesday, June 22, 2011 Augusta Printz Scholarship Luncheon(\$16,000 in scholarships to Livingstone & Clinton) Lay Academy Worship Service More details to follow Westchester Marriott Hotel Tarrytown, New York | AUGUST Theme Component Change – "Maximizing Our Mission by Managing Our Ministry Through: Empowerment" |
| Ohio Conference Lay Council / Christian Education/ Evangelism/ Missionary Society Retreat May 20, 2011 Viola Spottswood Camp Grovesport, Ohio | Ohio Annual Conference Lay Convocation Tuesday, June 14, 2011 Henry L. Walters Challenge Luncheon 12:00 Noon Keynote Speaker: Yvonne Tracey Donation: \$25.00 Price Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church 920 Dryden Avenue Youngstown, Ohio 44505 | Cape Fear Conference June 25, 2011 "Beacon of Light" Cotillion Place: TBA | SEPTEMBER North Carolina Conference Lay Council Executive Committee Meeting TBA |
| 9th Michigan Conference Lay Academy Saturday, May 21, 2011 9:00 - 3:00 St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church Detroit, Michigan Rev. Eleazar Merriweather, Pastor Mary Ann Edmond, Conference President | Regional Lay Meeting June 17, 2011 Greenville Convention Center, Greenville, NC | West Central Conference Lay Convocation June 28, 2011 9:00 Mrs. Yvonne Tracey - Presenter Dorothy Walls Conference and Retreat Center Mrs. Minnine McRae, Conference President | North Carolina Annual Conference Lay Council Academy September 10, 2011 Union Chapel AME Zion Church Jacksonville, NC |
| Philadelphia and Baltimore Annual Conference Lay Academy Tuesday, May 24, 2011 1:00 p.m. Marriott Bethesda North Hotel and Conference Center 5701 Marinelli Road Bethesda, Maryland 20852 | Virginia Annual Conference Lay Convocation Tuesday, June 21, 2011 in the afternoon Sheraton, Hotel, Norfolk, VA | JULY Western New York Annual Conference Lay Convocation July 5, 2011 Walls Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church Buffalo, New York | North Carolina Conference Lay Council Breakout Session September 24, 2011 9:00 a.m. 4th Check-up Meeting St. John AME Zion Church Rocky Mount, NC |
| Western North Carolina Conference Lay Council Lay Academy Saturday, May 28, 2011 9:00 a.m. Shiloh AME Zion Church Statesville, NC The Rev. Amy Ciceron, host pastor | Western North Carolina Annual Conference Lay Convocation Tuesday, June 21, 2011 9:30 am (morning session) Biltmore Ballroom Crowne Plaza Mountain Resort Asheville, NC Mrs. Yvonne Tracey - Greetings Albert S. Stout Memorial Scholarship Luncheon 12 noon Expo Center Crowne Plaza Mountain Resort Asheville, NC 3:00pm (afternoon session) Bishop Ruben L. Speaks Gymnasium Dorothy Walls Conference and Retreat Center Black Mountain, North Carolina | Missouri Annual Conference Lay Academy Wednesday, July 6, 2011 1:00 p.m. Washington Metropolitan St. Louis, Missouri JoAnn Collins, Presenter | OCTOBER North Carolina Conference Lay Council Annual Prayer Breakfast October 1, 2011 St. Julia AME Zion Church Jacksonville, NC |
| JUNE Eastern North Carolina Conference Lay Council Breakout Session - Award scholarships June 4, 2011 9:00 a.m. 3rd Check-up Meeting Purvis Chapel AME Zion Church | Michigan Annual Conference Lay Convocation Wednesday, June 22, 2011 | Connectional Lay Council Executive Board Annual Meeting July 22, 2011 Houston, Texas | Carolina North Carolina Conference District Meetings October 14th Bethel A.M.E. Zion Church |
| New England Annual Conference Lay Convocation | | Southwest Delta Lay Academy July 23, 2011 10:00 – noon Houston Texas Hilton Houston Texas | Connectional Lay Sunday October 16, 2011 Mrs. Yvonne Tracey - Speaker Trinity A.M.E. Zion Church Greensboro, NC |
| | | | Allegheny Annual Conference Lay Academy October 20, 2011 Wesley Center A.M.E. Zion Church Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania |
| | | | NOVEMBER North Carolina Annual Conference Lay Academy November 15, 2011 St Julia AME Zion Church Jacksonville, NC |

Visit the Connectional Lay Council Official Website for the latest news & updates:
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REGIONAL NEWS

Piedmont Episcopal District

**Mrs. Sandra C. Williams,
Regional Director
Bishop George W.C.
Walker, Sr.
Presiding Prelate**

Salisbury District 10th Annual Lay Academy

By Tonya Cornelius CLC Assistant Secretary

The Salisbury District of the Western NC Conference held its 9th Annual Lay Academy. Jacqueline Anthony, 2nd



Vice President presented on the value of membership. "Go and put your faith in action while you are here on this Earth. Catch the vision of Christian leadership, accountability, stewardship, and Christian service. Membership in the Lay Council helps you understand your role in the church. Membership provides an opportunity for clergy and laity to work together. So read our A.M.E. Zion publications, be proud of our Zion Connection, know the structure and polity of the church, and visit points of interests within our denomination."

Traci Cuthbertson, chairperson of Social Media technology for the Connectional Lay Council creatively explained "SOULcial" networking. She focused on how to use our existing social networks to bring souls to Christ. As humans we are social by nature. Many of us belong to the YMCA, book club, athletic association, etc. in addition to using Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and other social media outlets. Cuthbertson stated, "Jesus was a part of a social network. He was not an outsider; He didn't just drop in; and He was not a stranger to his disciples. He shared in their daily needs and they witnessed to his every deed. "SOULcial" networking requires us to use a missionary mentality. In other words; meet a need, add value, and cultivate a relationship from there.

Connectional Lay Council President Yvonne Tracey focused on Engaging Evangelism, being champions of the gospel at all times, and when necessary use words. She reminded us that evangelism is about making a difference in a person's life. She used three volunteers to show how each one of us evangelizes through our responsibilities. The usher who seats people, greets people with a

smile, and is always aware of the worshipper's needs; the trustee who keeps decorum, a comfortable room temperature, clean pews, and clear aisles; and the minister of music who chooses ap-



propriate music for worship President Tracey presented Champions of the Gospel buttons to volunteers Larry Holt, William Pittman, and Joanne Harrison. She closed with a breathing exercise for the group, and reminded attendees that "you take in the message, then you have to give it out."

Reverend Jordan Boyd was the instructor for the Systematic Study. The focus this year was on "Christian Ethics – How It Shapes Our Lives." The following individuals completed the course: Dorothy Gill-Smith, Twanda Mitchell, Joanne Harrison, Dr. Grant Harrison, Jr., Jacqueline Anthony, and Tonya Cornelius. They will be recognized at the 28th Annual Recognition Dinner.

Mildred Neely is the host Lay Council President, Reverend Hezekiah Lawson, host Pastor, Julius Suiter, Salisbury District Lay Council President, and Reverend Herbert R. Warren, Jr. is the Presiding Elder.

North Eastern Episcopal District Mrs. Marie Baxter, Regional Director Bishop George E. Battle, Jr. Presiding Prelate

Bahama Islands Annual Conference Stoles 11

Birth of Bahama Islands Conference Lay Councils

By Ruth Gough, Eastern District
Lay Council President

During the 2010 Bahama Islands Conference Mrs. Ruth Gough, Eastern District Lay Council President and Mr. James West, Western District Lay Council President both of the New England Annual Conference encouraged the laity of the Bahama Islands Conference to join the Connectional Lay Council of The A.M.E. Zion Church. Bishop George E. Battle, Jr. commissioned The Rev. Dr. Barbara White, the pastor of Evans Memorial Church in Norwich, CT to raise funds to pur-

chase Connectional Lay Council Life Memberships and Life Member stoles for the Bahama Islands Conference.

Thanks to the vision Bishop George E. Battle, Jr., who saw a need for the Bahama Islands Conference to have organized Local Lay Councils to bring all his conferences into compliance with the Book of Discipline, and the hard work of Rev White, eleven members of the of the Bahama Islands Conference were presented with Life Memberships in the Connectional Lay Council. The Northeastern Region now has a full compliment of Connectional Lay Council members.

On Thursday evening January 20,



2011 Mrs. Marie Baxter North East Regional Director, Mrs. Ruth E. Gough Eastern District Lay President with the help of the Rev. Dr. Barbara White presented the eleven new Life Members of the Connectional Lay Council to Bishop Battle for stoling. Bishop George E. Battle and P.E. Rev Dr. W. Darin Moore conducted the Life Members Stoling Ceremony. After the Life Members Stoling Ceremony Bishop Battle presented the newly stoled Life Members to the Bahama Islands Conference.

151st Session of the Bahama Islands Annual Conference Lay Councils from Vision to Reality

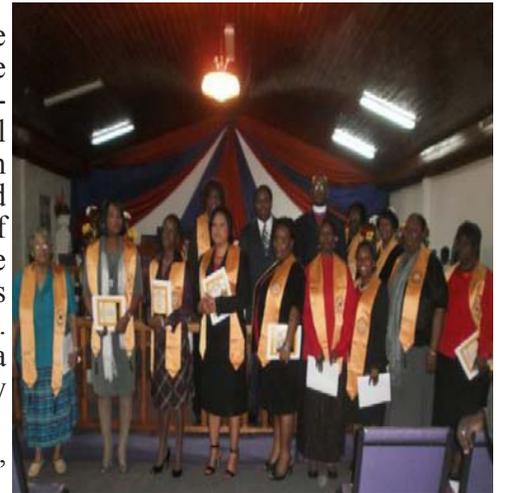
by Marie H. Baxter,
Regional Director

But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His Righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Matthew 6: 33 was the Conference theme for the Annual Conference

The members, delegates and visitors to the Bahama Islands Conference were blessed by the Holy Spirit from Wednesday evening through Sunday's act of worship. However, something wonderful and spiritual happened that lifted the ministry of the laity through the Connectional Lay Council to higher heights. The special highlight was:

A surprise gift to eleven faithful servants of the Bahama Islands Conference occurred with a Life Membership and Life Member Stole of the Connectional Lay Council donated by The Rev. Barbara White, Pastor of the Evans Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church, Norwich, Connecticut, New England Conference, Eastern District. The recipients of this special gift were: Heather Johnson, Joan Dean, Jennifer Carey, Gail McKenzie, Una Romer,

Desiree Barr, Nicole Forbes, Barbara Morris, William Butler, Norma Field,



and Kenequeka Clarke.

On Sunday during the reading of the appointments, Desiree Barr was appointed President of the Lay Council of the Nassau District. To God be the Glory!

We thank Bishop Battle and Presiding Elder Moore for their insight of selecting Ms. Barr as President for the ministry of the Lay Council. We extend a special thanks and gratitude to The Rev. Barbara White for her gift of love from the New England Conference Eastern District. Conference President, Ms. Marion Seay, District President, Ms. Ruth Gough.

Desiree Barr, the North Eastern Episcopal Region of the Connectional Lay Council of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, we welcome you as our President of the Nassau District, Bahama Islands Conference.

Mid Atlantic II Episcopal District Mrs. Katherine S. Burrell, Regional Director Bishop Warren M. Brown Presiding Prelate

Baltimore District Lay Council Partners with the Livingstone Col- lege Washington-Area Chapter

The Baltimore District Lay Council held their Winter Lay Academy at Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church in Rockville, Maryland, host pastor The Rev. T.K. Venable. Under the leadership of President, Gail Wade, 1st Vice President, Katherine S. Burrell and members of the Baltimore Lay Council, Ruth Walden, Clyde Williams, O.W. Burrell, Clive Alexis, Antonell Akiens and Chuck Williams, the Academy was a grand success.

Wanting to prepare our youth to apply for the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference Samantha Wormley Scholarship, the Baltimore District's Winter Lay Academy focused on "Applying for Scholarships." All high school youth and their parents were invited to attend the Academy. Workshops were presented by a panel of experts:

REGIONAL NEWS

Chuck Williams, a financial planner, presented on "Financial Aid". He reminds us to:

Create an environment of excitement about the prospect of your child going to college by adding college wear to their wardrobe in their early years, going to college events during high school (i.e. games, concerts, lectures, etc.)

Start the scholarship search early! Apply for at least 200 scholarships. No one scholarship may cover all expenses, but being awarded many small scholarships may do the trick.

Don't give up hope if college looks out of reach financially. The financial aid process can be a blessing, but don't wait till the last minute! Pay attention to the deadlines!

The Rev. T. K. Venable, a former Admissions Officer in the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics at the United States Military Academy and the Transfer Admissions Officer at Virginia State University, presented on "Interviewing Skills". Rev. Venable reminds the young interviewee to stand tall, have a strong hand shake and look the interviewer in the eye. It is important to remember what information you put on the application, so you can answer questions intelligently. The admission officer's questions will come from what was entered on the application.

The Rev. Tina S. Nelson from Scotland AME Zion Church, Managing Attorney for AARP Legal Counsel for the Elderly in Washington DC, presented a workshop on "Essay Writing Skills and Completing Applications". Her 1-2-3's of completing college applications are:

#1 Meet all the deadlines of the colleges to which you are applying. Even if you are the best and brightest of all the applicants, if your application is received late, it will NOT be considered.

#2 Complete your application fully, honestly, and carefully. Don't make up facts or details that sound good because you may be asked about them in an interview.

#3 Keep a copy of everything! Colleges are receiving applications from thousands of students and things do get lost or misplaced.

Her A-B-C's of writing an effective essay are:

A) It paints a clear, complete and compelling picture of who you are, more than your GPA and test scores, and helps you stand out from other applicants.

B) It is focused, well developed with details and is grammatical correct. Have someone you trust review and edit it. Remember to proofread!

C) It is an interesting read. Write about something personal to you or something meaningful you've experienced that captures the reader's attention in the first paragraph.

Our guest presenter Dr. James L. Gray, Vice-President of the Washington-Area Chapter of the Livingstone College National Alumni Association, spoke on the importance of "network-

ing" and getting to know people who can help you obtain your goal, before and after college.

Each of the workshop presenters talked of the importance of these skills as they relate to every day life and not just in applying for the District scholarship. The Academy was very well attended even with the cold and snow.

Also, attending and participating in the workshop were members of the Washington-Area Chapter of the Livingstone College National Alumni Association, President Barbara Poe, Mary Roseman Williams, Carol Hart McCauley, Delores Pouncey Guy, RADM Larry L Poe and Norris Jennings. As a result of the workshop, the Alumni Association and the Baltimore District Lay Council decided to partner together to create opportunities for college-age African-American youth to get a college education and become socially and economically productive citizens. Knowing that our children represent the future of our churches and communities, we agreed to form this partnership on education to insure our youth are made fully aware of the opportunities available to them to enter and succeed in college, with emphasis on attending Livingstone College.

The Presiding Elder of the Baltimore District, the Rev. Lowell A. Williams, stated that this was the beginning of seeing his dream come true, that all Baltimore District youth who want to attend college would have the opportunity to do so.

We offer many thanks to the Rev. Adrian V. Nelson, II and The Rev. T.K. Venable for donating a Netbook computer that was given as a door prize to one of the youth attending the Academy. The winner of the Netbook was Sade Odegbile of Mt Sinai A.M.E. Zion Church. Her pastor, The Rev. Clyde E. Witherspoon, was also in attendance.

The Baltimore District Lay Council plans to make this Lay Academy an annual event.

To God be the Glory!

Newport News District Lay Council – Virginia Conference Lay Academy

Submitted by Hurley Daye, District President

The first District Lay Academy of the Newport News District Lay Council was held on November 13, 2010 at St. Luke A. M. E. Zion Church, hosted by Rev. Kenneth Zollicoffer. Rev. Dr. Kenneth W. Arrington was the Interim Presiding Elder of the Newport News District during this time. Rev. Dr. Arrington is the Virginia Conference Board of Lay Activities Advisor. Everyone was glad to see Presiding

Elder Dr. A. A. Parsons, Sr., in attendance after a period of absence due to illness. God demonstrated through him, the miracles that God can perform. The city of Franklin, VA was blessed to have the laity of the district in attendance during this important Lay Academy.

Rev. Felecia Johnson, member of the St. Mark A. M. E. Zion Church, Suffolk, VA and former district evangelism chair presented a dynamic class on evangelism. All attendees were engaged. The dialogue between ministers and laity was astounding. Numerous ideas on how to get the wheel rolling was illustrated through the use of a truck drawn by Rev. Johnson to show the connection of the driver and riders rolling along to evangelize in various settings.

Other presentations were given by Ms. Karen Brown, local Lay Council President of the O'Berry A. M. E. Zion Church on Music Used in African American Churches. The final session featured reports of local presidents highlighting accomplishments of the year thus far during this conference year. Everyone left the Lay Academy with a new zeal to evangelize and continue to follow the creed of laity as bold evangelists in our respective communities. Laity and ministers were given examples of promising gifts to use in their upcoming evangelistic experiences. Scriptures were matched with the gifts. Example, a dollar bill, Phil4:19, chocolates, Ps 34:10 and a pen using 1 John 5:13 and an eraser to correlate with Jeremiah 31:34.

Newport News District Black History Celebration

Written by Hurley Daye, Newport News District Lay Council President

Cuffee Chapel A. M. E. Zion Church in Dendron, VA was the local church cite of the District Lay Council Black History Celebration. Rev. Antonio Walker is the pastor.

Rev. Dr. A. A. Parson is the Presiding Elder. Lay Council President, Mr. Hurley Daye emphasized the significance of this location due to the proximity of the church to the historical Jamestown settlement in Jamestown, Virginia. History dictates that the Surry County town was one of the pathways to freedom for many slaves during the Nat Turner era. A great deal of history was shared by the laity and ministers through this interactive intergenerational celebration. Mrs. Essie Ellis is the local Lay Council President and serves on the district as 1st Vice president of the District Lay Council.

The Newport News District Lay Council celebrated Black History Month with an intense study of Blacks in the Bible. Laity from the local churches highlighted biblical characters by reading summaries about the charac-

ter. Scripture references were cited and researched while in the setting of the Blacks in the Bible presentation relating to characters. To further portray the character, clothing of the era was worn. Many wore African attire to accentuate the celebration of Black History month. An activity sheet was given to attendees for further study with family and friends at home. A listing of numerous printed references was provided for use in Sunday School, bible study classes, and other scholarly study sessions.

Acknowledgements from our Regional President, Mrs. Katherine Burrell and Connectional President, Mrs. Yvonne Tracey sent words of appreciation for the celebration of such a timely subject. Our conference president, Mr. Quennon Beatty sent words of greeting and commended the district on the work in progress. This was a beautiful celebration enjoyed by all on the 12th day of February 2011.

Lay Council News Lomax AME Zion Church Arlington, Virginia

The Lay Council of Lomax AME Zion Church recently held its Fifth Annual Awards and Recognition Luncheon. During this year's event, two trailblazer awards were presented and members of the Trustee and Steward boards were recognized.

The trailblazer awards were presented to Mr. Stanley Kendall and Mr. John Linton. Kendall has been a faithful member of the Lay Council and faithfully serves the Lomax AME Zion Church in numerous capacities. Linton is also a member of the Lay Council and serves as the church's property manager.



Stanley Kendall



John Linton

REGIONAL NEWS

In recognizing members of the Trustee and Steward board, a mock talk show was presented with host Mrs. Deborah Baugh and members of the Trustee and Steward Boards as guests. The talk show provided attendees with pertinent information such as who are the current members and officers of the boards; the duties and responsibilities of the boards and; how persons are selected for the boards. During the talk show, commercials revealing the purpose, color, local officers, and available paraphernalia of the Lay Council were provided.

During his closing remarks, Pastor Fredrick Massey congratulated the recipients of the trailblazer awards and thanked the Award and Recognition Luncheon Co-Chairpersons Felecia Massenburg and Anne Williams for using the mock talk show to provide members with information on the operations of the church

**Mid Atlantic I
Episcopal District**
**Bishop Louis Hunter, Sr., Presiding
Prelate**
**Mrs. Helene Zacharias,
Regional Director**

**New Jersey Conference
Involvement**

Submitted by James Davis,
Conference President

The New Jersey Conference Lay Council has tried and is still working at getting more people to, Come with Us to Christ and to increase our membership and membership involvement. Below are some of the activities that we have participated in as fund raisers and/or a means of disseminating information and gathering ideas as to how we can make our communication with each other more effective.

We had eighteen (18) persons to attend the Evangelistic Retreat in Raleigh, NC. Our Conference President James Davis, Second V.P. Charles Wilson and Conference Sec. H. Selina Nelson, were participants in the play, "The Church is Dead", written and directed by Mrs. J. Fairbanks Leach.

After our return from the Retreat in Raleigh, a meeting was called for all Conference and local Lay Council officers for an information exchange of ideas as to how to improve our councils and distribution and discussions of the newly revised Study Guide and Handbook. At this meeting there were some young and youthful Zionites in attendance.

Our Annual Conference Lay Day, which is observed the fourth Saturday in March, was attended by pastors, local Lay officers from the Camden and Jersey City Districts and the Laity at large who joined us. This was our Membership Lay Down. Mr. Charles Wilson spoke and presented ideas on how we can get more youth involved and increase their membership. There was a question and answer period and discussions on matters when we

need to "speak up" about. Four churches at this membership drive reported a total of 99 new members. We are working hard in trying to help reach our goal for 2013.

In Feb. the Camden District had their Grandparents recognition Luncheon and in April, the Jersey City District will have their recognition tribute luncheon to Grandparents. We are actively planning for our Lay Academy for Annual Conference, to be held on Tuesday, May 10, 2011, at 12 noon at St Stephen A.M.E. Zion Church in Asbury Park, NJ. Bishop Hunter will be with us at this time. All Conference Officers will be elected during the Academy

**Southwestern Delta
Episcopal District**
**Ms. Stephany R. Fields
Regional Director**
**Bishop Darryl Starnes
Presiding Prelate**

**Remember One Of Our
Own**

By Mrs. Margie P. Self
President of the New Orleans District
Connectional Lay Council

Southwestern Delta's Louisiana Connectional Lay Council pauses to remember and acknowledge the contributions of the late Bro. Pleasant Self, Jr. Bro. Self was granted the opportunity to institute a Lay Council for the Louisiana Conference which is comprised of the New Orleans and Roseland Districts. Because of his love for God and mankind, and his diplomatic nature, he graciously accepted the task and laid the foundation for the work that is being carried on to this date. The New Orleans and Roseland Districts flourished under his leadership.

When Bro. Self's health failed, his beloved wife, Mrs. Margie P. Self helped to ensure that the vision was kept alive. Currently, she is the president of the New Orleans District Lay Council. She works diligently behind the scenes, attends meetings and retreats, and makes sure all information related to the Lay Council is properly and promptly disseminated among leaders and churches.

Mrs. Self works under the loving leadership of the present Louisiana Conference Lay Council President, Mrs. Dorothy Miller, an awesome, hard-working, fruitful servant of God, her church, and the Louisiana Conference.

The other members of the Louisiana Conference Lay Council team are Mr. Leroy Whitley, Ms. Leona Morris, Ms. Willie Mae Harrison, Ms. Mary Brown, Ms. Diane Deamer, and Mrs. Dora Daniels. They remember and pay homage to Bro. Self by keeping his dream alive. To God be the glory!

.....Facing the Future

continued from page 4

What does this mean?

What the bulk of this data indicates is that the church as a whole has an image problem and is struggling to keep or attract the vital demographic of young adults. More specifically, the young people who are involved in church or coming back to the church tend to lean toward contemporary non-denominational communities with innovative ministries and a relevant message. Churches, especially traditional and historical denominations, must essentially rebrand themselves to combat negative perceptions of Christianity and redefine ministry in a manner that attracts young adults.

The United Methodist Church has taken an interesting approach toward addressing both of these items through a new campaign entitled ReThink Church. The premise is simply this: "What if church was a verb? What would it look like?"¹⁰ We often think of church merely as a noun – a place to go, a building, a group of people. However, church should be more about action. What does the church do to make a difference in the lives of others? How does the church allow me to express my faith in a meaningful and impactful way?

In preparation for this ministry campaign, the United Methodist Church also looked at what young adults want to see in their church. The survey found that the items resonating the most were "addressing the needs of the poor and disadvantaged," "improving conditions for health around the world," and "helping to develop the next generation of leaders."

Too often we miss the mark and our best efforts still fall short. Churches should simply return to the biblical principles of unconditional love, service to our neighbors, and spiritual truth and enlightenment, and promote these principles in a contemporary and relevant way. Only by doing this can the negative perceptions of Christianity be alleviated. Only by doing this will young adults find a true connection to Jesus Christ within a community of believers.

Our response as believers should not be to dismiss this evidence or even write off the outsiders. Clearly our call is to engage the world with a message of love and hope. Facing the future with faith means that we should look at the reality of the status quo and foster a vision to move forward. In order to have a sustainable future as a

faith community, we are going to have to change our image, revise our approach to ministry, and show the relevancy of the Gospel message to a skeptical and hopeless people. We cannot be afraid to go outside of our walls and spread the Gospel through action rather than words. We cannot be afraid to retool our ministries so that they are relevant to needs of our surrounding communities. Most of all, we cannot be afraid to market or rebrand our churches so that others will want to become a part of the community. An organization or institution that does not evolve will surely die.

St. Francis of Assisi once said that we should "preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words."¹¹ Only God can judge our faith, but others will most assuredly judge our works. We will be known by the fruit that we produce. Furthermore, our fruit – our works – give credibility to the Gospel message that we proclaim. It is time to rethink our existence as a community of believers and as a church. In doing this we will not only be able to face the future with faith but also embrace the future with action.

¹ Kinnaman & Lyons, Pg. 18
² Kinnaman & Lyons, Pg. 27
³ Kinnaman & Lyons, Pg. 31
⁴ Kinnaman & Lyons, Pg. 33
⁵ Kinnaman & Lyons, Pg. 39
⁶ Kinnaman & Lyons, Pg. 48
⁷ Kinnaman & Lyons, Pg. 185
⁸ Grossman, 2007
⁹ Pew Forum – U.S. Religious Landscapes Survey: <http://religions.pewforum.org/affiliations>

¹⁰ UMC Communications – Rethink Church: <http://www.rethinkchurch.org>

¹¹ Brainyquote.com - http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/s/st_francis_of_assisi.html

Cited & Consulted Works:
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Grossman, Cathy Lynn. "Young adults aren't sticking with church." USA Today. August 6, 2007. Accessed at http://www.usatoday.com/news/religion/2007-08-06-church-dropouts_N.htm>

The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life. "U.S. Religious Landscapes Survey." Pew Research Center. © 2008. Accessed at <http://religions.pewforum.org/> United Methodist Church Communications. "Rethink Church." Accessed at <http://www.rethinkchurch.org>

Homegoing Services held for former Chaplain Bro. Coyal Cooper, Sr.



In 1950 Mr. Cooper met and married the love of his life, Alice Blanche Freeman, who has always been his best supporter and his aide, encouraging and loving him in whatever he did. They boast of being the parents of four children, Ricky Cooper, Rev. Coyal Cooper II, Alicia (Cooper) Finley and Roxanne (Cooper) Enright.

Mr. Cooper was an active member of the Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church in Los Angeles, California and Greater Trinity A.M.E. Zion Church in Amite, Louisiana. During his tenure, he served as Chairman and Treasurer of the Trustee Board, Church School Superintendent, Class Leader, member of the Adult Choir, Preacher's Steward, and local Lay Council President.

Among the many honors Mr. Cooper received he was elected to the position the CLC Chaplain in Los Angeles, California and served in the position from 1989 to 1997. His most important contribution in this position was the We Care Committee. Bro. Cooper served as the first chairman of the We Care Committee and loved to pray and send cards to cheer up people. Mr. Cooper was elected and served as General Conference delegate in both 1992 and 1996. He was an active member of the NAACP, Urban League and American Legion Post #131. Mr. Cooper was also inducted into the Laity Hall of Fame in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mr. Cooper was actively serving in the inter-faith prison ministry in Amite, La., sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with those who were incarcerated. He is adequately described as a Gentle Christian gentleman who was a positive role mode to all, always seeking first the kingdom of God.

He was preceded in death by his parents Cleo Sr. and Elizabeth Cooper; Brother Doyal Cooper and Cleo Cooper Jr.; Grandson Jason Christopher Cooper. He leaves to cherish his precious memories his wife Alice B. Freeman Cooper; one sister, Rene Emma Pryor, Children, Ricky (Lauren) Cooper, Rev. Coyal Cooper II, Alicia Finley, Roxanne (Thomas) Enright, Eleven grand-children, Tiffany Cooper, Ushawanda Cooper, Valerie Cooper, Mackenzie Willis, Raven Enright, Ricky C. Cooper, Jr., Coyal W. Cooper III, Joseph P. Finley Jr., Zane Enright, Pierce Enright and Wyatt Enright. Thirteen great-grandchildren, Ja'shanee, Timonhi, Brianna, Ronari, Hasani, Temetrice, Myrachele, Kayla, Justin, Ricky Cooper III, Marcus Rodriguez, Sahdia Cooper, Thomas P. Finley, Niye Cooper and One Great-great granddaughter, Ma'ryah and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins family and friends.

Mr. Coyal Cooper, Sr., a man who was loved, respected, admired and who inspired so many people will truly be missed.

It was a warm and sunny day on Thursday, March 10, 2011 in Los Angeles, California as hundreds of mourners gathered at the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church to celebrate the Life of Mr. Coyal Cooper, Sr. A cadre of Laity including the CLC Chaplain, Mr. Charles Montgomery was in attendance proudly donning the Lay Colors of Black and Gold.

Mr. Coyal Cooper Sr. went home to be with the Lord on February 28, 2011. Born in Magnolia, Arkansas on February 10, 1927, he was the second of four children born to Cleo Cooper, Sr. and Elizabeth Thomas Cooper. He graduated from Yeager Elementary School in Hope, Arkansas; moved to California and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School. He attended the California State University, Los Angeles where he received a degree in architecture. Mr. Cooper served his country as A United States Marine during the Korean War.

Working in design and building construction arts for many years, he received many honors for his accomplishments in architectural and masonry works. He established and was president of Coyal and Sons Engineering Contractors, Inc.



Connectional Lay Council New Website

Yvonne A. Tracey, President of the Connectional Lay Council (CLC) invites all Zionites to a **New Website**. Our new website reflects the vision of leadership of **The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church** and the synergy of working with one major website developer.

The new web address is:
www.connectionallaycouncil.org

New Website Features

- **Blogging:** The CLC is the first A.M.E. Zion Church organization to use this feature which expands the interactive experience and encourages exchange of ideas critical to the health and advancement of our denomination and the Kingdom of God.
- **Flash Windows**
- **Electronic Membership Forms**

Coming Summer 2011

- Submission of **Electronic Membership Forms** with Payment
- **Special Projects Purchases:** Handbooks, Study Guides, CLC Paraphernalia, and Books of Common Reading (to name a few)
- Contributions to the **Bishop George J. Leake III Scholarship Fund** (both group and personal)

Coming Fall 2011

- **Online Registration**



Homegoing Services for Reverend Yyonette Rhodes, former CLC Executive Board Member



A SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT LEFT THIS PLACE

A preacher, a teacher, a vocalist, an encourager, and an angelic sweet spirit. All these qualities and more embodies our Beloved and God's Devoted servant, Rev. Yyonette Alana Johnson Rhodes, whom He called from labor to reward in the early morning on March 9, 2011. Born and bred in Zion, she was the oldest of two girls, and cared for her "baby sister" after the death of their mother. This nurturing experience, along with her abiding faith, taught her responsibility early on, which was witnessed as throughout her life, profession and ministry.

She joined Union Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church attending Sunday School, and praising God through song in both the Children's and Young Adult Gospel Choirs. Everyone who knew her enjoyed her passionate praise of the Lord through her gift of a melodious voice. Each summer when the Gray Family children were shipped to Grandmas', Yyonette, along with her cousin Lewis, did not take a summer vacation from her preaching and praising God through hymns and gospel songs while the other children made up "the congregation." Even as a young girl, she was firmly anchored in the Lord.

SHE WAS SO NICE, ZION DID IT TWICE

In the grand fashion of modern-day she/roes such Mrs. Rosa Parks and Dr. Dorothy Height, Rev. Yyonette Rhodes was remembered in two farewell services, with distinguished religious, gospel and community leaders acknowledging the legacy that she leaves with us. Funeral services were held in both Fayetteville, NC, where she resided upon her death; and in her hometown of Washington, DC. The first service was held on March 14 at Evans Metropolitan

AME Zion Church located in Fayetteville where the Rev. Corey Little is Pastor. With Dr. Ricky Frazier, Pastor of the Bethel A.M.E. Zion Church, presiding, the eulogy was given by the Right Rev. Richard K. Thompson, Presiding Bishop of the Eastern NC Episcopal District of the A.M. E. Zion Church. Invocation was given by Rev. Henry A. Gregory, Jr., Presiding Elder of the Fayetteville District; and Rev. Joseph C. Brown, Sr., Presentation of Eulogist. Other program participants included: Mrs. Frances Jones, President of the Central NC Lay Council; Rev. Ray P. Owens, Pastor of Cameron Grove A.M.E. Zion Church represented Dunn-Lillington District; Mrs. Gail Mays, Church Clerk represented Johnsonville A.M.E. Zion Church; Rev. Brian R. Thompson represented Central NC Conference; Dr. Mary Love, Editor, Department of Church School Literature A. M. E. Zion Church; Dr. Gloria Williams, First Vice President, W.H.O.M.S., A. M.E. Zion Church; Mrs. Nadine Bernard Miller, President, Fayetteville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.; and Mrs. Marlene Anthony Carter of Union Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church, Washington, DC represented the Family.

The second funeral was held on March 18 at Union Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church in Washington, DC with Rev. Dr. Alvin T. Durant, Pastor, presiding. The eulogy was given by Rev. Dr. Lewis M. Anthony, Pastor of St. Lucille A.M.E. Zion Church. Again, she was memorized by kind expressions. Dr. Barbara L. Shaw, International President, W.H.O.M.S., A.M.E. Zion Church; Rochelle Gipson represented the Gospel Ensemble; Shirley Berkley represented the Gospel Music Workshop; Bernard Mavritte represented the Tabernacle Echoes; Anthony Peters, Vice President, represented the DC Ministry; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was represented; and as in Fayetteville, Marlene Anthony Carter represented the Family.

BORN TO SERVANT LEADERSHIP

A Leader Is Born! Yyonette was not only a very active youth preacher and gospel singer, she was destined to become for leadership in her Beloved A.M.E. Zion Church. The foundation for future leadership began as an officer in the Youth Council, a member of Parent Body #1, a member of the Junior Usher Board, and ultimately, President of the DC Ministry. Her music ministry would extend beyond Zion as she founded the Four Voices (now known as the Four Voices + One). Other gospel accolades include the James Cleveland Gospel Music Workshop of America and the Tabernacle Echoes. A SERVANT LEADER.

Yyonette enrolled in Livingstone College after graduating from Cardoza High School in DC in 1963; and subsequently, earned both Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Fayetteville State University. Prior to relocating to Fayetteville, she was a 20-year Civil Servant with the US Bureau of Engraving. An equal, yet relevant opportunity was serving as secretary to the late Rev. Dr. R. H. Collins Lee, Secretary

Auditor of the A.M.E.Zion Church, combining her professional secretarial with serving her Beloved Zion. A SERVANT LEADER.

Arriving in Fayetteville, she continued her tenure in Civil Service in the Health Service Command at Ft. Bragg. Upon completing her terminal degree at FSU, Yyonette was selected as Assistant Principal and Career and Technical Education Coordinator at 71st High School in Cumberland County Schools. In this capacity, she was enabled to provide career development and job readiness training for many traditional and at-risk youth alike. A SERVANT LEADER.

Prior to becoming an ordained minister in the A.M.E. Zion Church, Yyonette would served two positions at the Connectional level: General Recording Secretary of the W.H.O.M.S. and Education Chairperson of the Connectional Lay Council. At the Conference level, respectively, she served as Chairperson of the Board of Laity Activities for Eastern North Carolina and President of the Central North Carolina Conference Lay Council, and she has served as President of the Fayetteville District. A SERVANT LEADER.

A MINISTER, A MENTOR AND A MODEL

Eventually, Yyonette would answer her childhood calling to become a preacher of the Gospel. She attended Hood Theological Seminary, became an ordained minister, and would serve four pastorships in the Central NC Conference – New England, St. Paul, Jonesboro Chapel and Johnsonville A.M.E. Zion Churches.

There was very little that Rev. Rhodes set out to achieve that she did not accomplish. Not only did she achieve her goals, she did so with a spirit of excellence, never complaining, and always leaving an example for others to emulate. The life she lived was a testimony to the goodness of what God expects of His children. She was a shepherd who cared for all of her flock, and everyone she encountered was indeed her flock. To be in her presence was to feel the Spirit of God. Through it all, she stood on God's promises and endured. She was a Minister, a Mentor and a Role Model, never compromising her spiritual principles.

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Rev. Yyonette Rhodes went home to join her husband, Rev. Thurman S. Rhodes, who had preceded her in death about a month before. She is survived by her devoted son, Nathan and two precious grandsons, Nathan, Jr. and David, of Fayetteville, all brought unconditional joy to her life. She is survived by two stepchildren, Sarah Menetta Rhodes-Scribner of Baltimore, MD and Judge Thurman H. Rhodes of Bowie, MD; and nieces Rainna P. Strauss of Washington, DC and Margielene Williams of Fayetteville; nine grandchildren, twelve great grandchildren, and one great grandchild. She leaves to cherish her memories a large extended and associated families up and down the Eastern Seaboard of the United States.



Connectional Lay Council
COME WITH US TO CHRIST
A.M.E. Zion Church



Thank you for visiting the new CLC new web site. As of May 11, 2011 we have had 6562 visitors. Continue to use our site as a teaching tool and to get information. Don't forget to spread the good news.

Scholarships for Minorities

IF YOU FIND OUT THAT THE DEADLINES HAVE PASSED KEEP THIS LIST FOR NEXT YEAR

A

AARP Foundation Women's Scholarship Program
For women 40+ seeking new job skills, training and educational opportunities to support themselves.

Academic Competitiveness Grant
For first-year and second-year college students who graduated from high school.

Actuarial Diversity Scholarship
For minority students pursuing a degree that may lead to a career in the actuarial profession.

Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund
For students who demonstrate excellence in leadership, diversity, integrity and academia.

American Copy Editors Society Scholarship
Available to junior, senior and graduate students who will take full-time copy editing jobs or internships.

AORN Foundation Scholarship
For students studying to be nurses and perioperative nurses pursuing undergrad and grad degrees.

Automotive Hall of Fame Scholarship
For students who indicate a sincere interest in an automotive related career.

AWG Minority Scholarship For Women
Encourages young minority women to pursue an education and later a career in the geosciences.

AXA Achievements Scholarship
Provides more than \$600K in annual scholarships to 52 students - one from each state.

B

Beacon Partners Healthcare IT Scholarships
Awarded to a student pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in the IT Healthcare field.

Best Buy Scholarship
For students in grades 9-12 who plan to enter a full-time undergraduate program upon high school graduation.

Burger King Scholars Program
For high school seniors who have part-time jobs and excel academically in school.

C

CIA Undergraduate Scholarship Program
Developed to assist minority and disabled students, but open to all who meet the requirements.

Coca-Cola Scholars Program
Four-year achievement-based scholarships given to 250 high school seniors each year.

D

Davidson Fellows Scholarship
Recognizes and awards the extraordinary who excel in math, science, and technology.

Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund
Need-based scholarships for college students are part of the progressive movement in their community.

Dell Scholars Program
For students who demonstrate a desire and ability to overcome barriers and achieve their goals.

Development Fund For Black Students in Science and Technology
For students studying science or technology at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Discovery Scholarship
Annual scholarship for high school juniors to support continued education and training beyond high school.

E

Ed Bradley/ Ken Kashiwahara Scholarships

Open to full-time students who are pursuing careers in radio and television news.

EMPOWER Scholarship Award
Designed to increase diversity in the medical rehabilitation field by awarding students of color.

ESA Foundation Computer and Video Game Scholarship Program
For minority and female students majoring in a field related to computer and video game arts.

F

Fulbright Scholar Program
Sends faculty and professionals abroad each year to lecture and conduct research.

Future Engineers Scholarship Program
For students pursuing a career in engineering who shows outstanding academic performance.

G

Gates Millennium Scholarship
Funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; established to help low income minority students.

Go On Girl Book Club Scholarship
Supports authors of the Black African Diaspora who want to write their way to college money.

Google Anita Borg Scholarship
For women who excel in computing and technology, and are active role models and leaders.

H

Hallie Q. Brown Scholarship
For African American women who have a minimum C average, and can demonstrate financial need.

HBCU Study Abroad Scholarship
Provides travel opportunities for students of color who are traditionally under-represented in such programs.

J

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program
Provides fellowships to students who excel in the arts, humanities, and social sciences.

Javits-Frasier Teacher Scholarship Fund
To increase diverse students' access to talent development opportunities through teacher training.

Jeannette Rankin Women's Scholarship Fund
For low-income women who have a vision of how their education will benefit themselves and their community.

Joe Francis Haircare Scholarship
For cosmetology and barber school students who can demonstrate a financial need.

K

KFC Colonel's Scholars Program
For college-bound students who can demonstrate financial need, and have a GPA of at least 2.75.

L

Lincoln Forum Scholarship Essay Contest
A writing contest pertaining to the life and times of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War era.

M

McKesson Pharmacy Scholarship
Designed to assist pharmacy students who plan to continue their education.

N

National Achievement Scholarship
Established in 1964 to provide recognition for outstanding African American high school students.

National Black Police Association Scholarships
For students pursuing careers in law enforcement, criminal justice, and other related areas.

National Institute of Health (NIH) Undergraduate Scholarship
For students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are pursuing science and health-related research.

National SMART Grant
Available to full-time students who are majoring in science, math, technology, engineering, and more.

P

PMI Educational Foundation Scholarships
Established for students in the field of project management or a project management related field.

R

Ron Brown Scholar Program
Seeks to identify African American high school seniors who will make significant contributions to society.

Ronald Reagan College Leaders Scholarship
Seeks to recognize outstanding young people who are promoting American values on college campuses.

S

Siemen Competition
Competition for individual or team research projects in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology.

T

Thurgood Marshall College Fund Scholarships
For first-generation students majoring in business, finance, science, engineering, and more.

Tri-Delta Scholarships
For students who excel in chapter and campus involvement, community service, academics, and more.

Tylenol Scholarship
For students pursuing a career in health care who can demonstrate leadership and academic qualities.

U

United Negro College Fund Scholarships
Administers 400 different scholarship programs so low-income families can afford college, tuition, and books.

U.S. Bank Internet Scholarship
For high school seniors planning to enroll or college freshmen, sophomores, and juniors already enrolled.

USDA/1890 National Scholars Program
For students seeking a Bachelor's degree in agriculture, food, or natural resource sciences and related majors.

V

Vanguard Minority Scholarship Program
Provides merit-based scholarships to minority students studying business, finance, economics, and more.

W

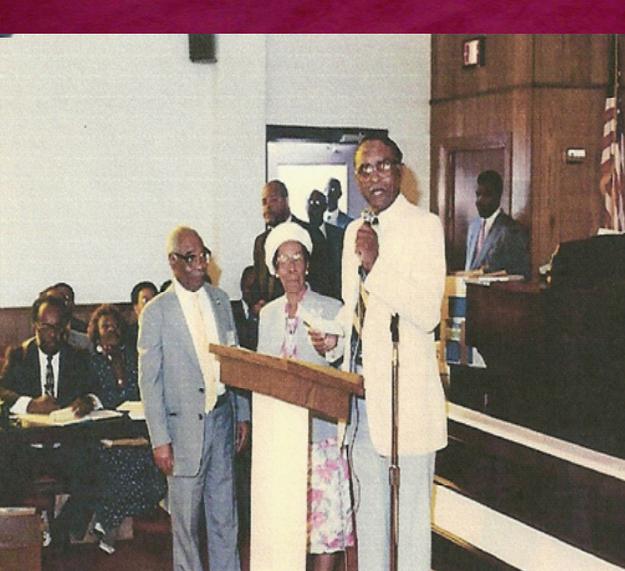
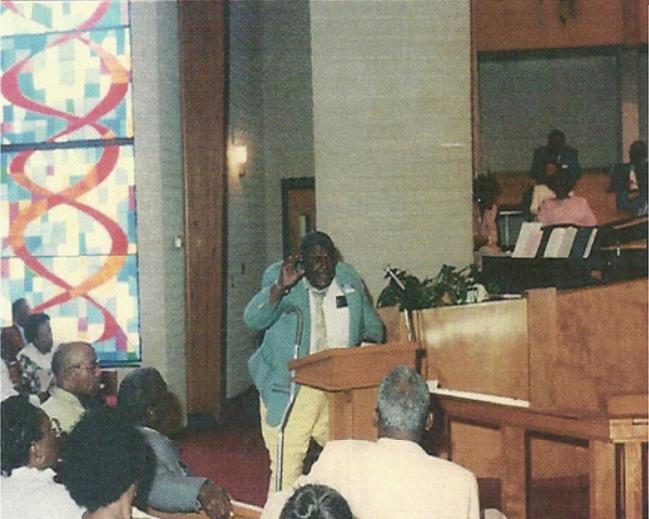
William B. Ruggles Right To Work Journalism Scholarship
Available to undergraduate and graduate students who are majoring in journalism or a related field.

Writer's Digest Annual Short Story Competition
Contest for writers who can compose the best fictional short story, written in 1,500 words or less.

X

Xerox Technical Minority Scholarship
For academic high-achievers in science, engineering, and information technology.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN



Can you name who is in the picture, what the occasion was, where the picture was taken and when the picture was taken? Email answers to the Editor Rhandim@aol.