



**REPORT – MARCH 21, 2020**

**The Path Forward - IMLA/CLC Legislation Development**  
51<sup>st</sup> Quadrennial Session General Conference A.M.E. Zion Church

**Dr. Yvonne A. Tracey, Co-Chair IMLA/CLC Legislation Development**  
**The Reverend Erich Shumake, Co-Chair IMLA/CLC Legislation Development**

**To: The Reverend Dr. Anthony N. Witherspoon, IMLA President, The Reverend Dr. Eleazar Merriweather, IMLA Executive Director, Dr. Mary J. Matthews, CLC International President, Mrs. Lula Howard & Members of the IMLA Executive Board**

The Purpose of the report is to confirm the status of **The Path Forward for IMLA/CLC Legislation developed for the 51<sup>st</sup> Quadrennial Session General Conference A.M.E. Zion Church:**

**. Resolutions passing through various Annual Conferences:**

The resolutions were transmitted on the official proposed resolutions submission form developed by the General-Secretary Auditor for Annual Conferences.

**. Resolutions passing through the Connectional Lay Council (constituted body of the AMEZ Church):**

The resolutions were transmitted on the official proposed resolutions submission form provided by the General-Secretary Auditor (GSA) for Administrative Boards to Dr. Matthews who facilitated the ratification by the CLC Executive Board and transmitted to the GSA.

**. The IMLA & CLC Resolutions for AMEZ Compilation Committee (resolutions adopted by the GC but not codified):**

Packaged and submitted to Presiding Elder Shumake and Dr. Mary Matthews (members of the committee) for the next meeting of said committee.

**. Finally, the IMLA & CLC Resolutions will be placed on both websites to **Build Collaboration** once released by the GSA.**

We will also include Administrative Board Resolutions or recommendations supported by IMLA\_CLC Summit Committees.

**The Path Forward -  
IMLA/CLC Legislation Development For  
51<sup>st</sup> Quadrennial Session General Conference A.M.E. Zion Church  
To Annual Conferences**

**Mr. Ervin Reid – *Western North Carolina Annual Conference***

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**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part IV – The Conference  
General Conference**

**Part I-Young Adult Delegates to the General Conference:**

Resolution Developed Provided for “strong consideration” by annual conferences to elect Young Adults (clergy & Lay) but not mandatory.

The criteria are consistent with the guidelines identified in the current issue of the Book of Discipline

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**Mrs. Yvonne Baskerville – *Philadelphia/Baltimore Annual Conference***

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**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part IV – The Conference  
General Conference**

**Part 2-General Conference Elected Delegate Criteria:**

*the resolution will be reported on at our March 21 checkup meeting along with the others submitted by our General Conference delegates. It has been vetted by our MAED resolutions committee, our PE's and Bishop Moore. It was found to have merit will be recommended to go forward to Dr. Sadler's office. If the question is asked about combining it with the resolution for the young adults, the response should be, at this time that is not my desire. Yvonne Baskerville*

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**Rev. Yolanda Lowe & Ms. Clarice Smith Jarvis – *SW Delta***

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**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part V – The Ministry Bishops (Election of Indigenous Bishops)**

*I submitted our resolutions to the Resolution Committee chair for the Southwestern Delta, Presiding Elder Barbara LaToison on February 15th. (Lowe)*

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**Rev. Yolanda Lowe/Ms. Clarice Smith Jarvis – SW Delta**

**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part VI – The Ministry, Local Exhorter**

*I submitted our resolutions to the Resolution Committee chair for the Southwestern Delta, Presiding Elder Barbara LaToison on February 15th. (Lowe)*

**Rev. Dr. Eric Leake – Mid West**

**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part VIII – Temporal Economy, Local Benevolence and Support of Ministry –**

Confirmed & copy of resolution to be received by IMLA\_CLC Legislation Co-Chairs.

## **To Connectional Lay Council**

**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part IX – Temporal Economy**

**The General Administrative Boards:**

**Connectional Budget Allocation/Apportionment**

-Proposed Methodology for Equitable Apportionment by IMLA\_CLC Summit Committee

### **Evaluation of Candidates for Preaching Licensure**

This resolution was adopted at the 2015 Legislative Summit but **was not submitted** to the General Secretary/Auditor. It refers to paragraph 180, in the 2016 Book of Discipline as it speaks to a “possession of a sound mind.”

### **Pastoral Care Division**

This resolution was adopted at the 2015 Legislative Summit but **was not submitted** to the General Secretary/Auditor. There is a necessity for proper Pastoral Care and the 2016 Book of Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church has minimal reference, see part V “Clergy in Specialized Ministry.”

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**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part IX – Temporal Economy  
The General Administrative Boards: Board of Lay Activities**

The CLC President & Chair of Legislation received the resolution developed by the IMLA\_CLC Legislation Development Committee. The resolution will follow internal protocol to submit to the GSA.

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**General Conference Commission on Legislative Process  
General Conferences Assessing Resolutions for Merit/Non-Merit – Developed by Y. Tracey & L. Howard**

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## **Other Resolutions – “Farmed Out”**

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**Ministers Bill of Rights – Dr. Seth Moulton**

Resolution for the Minister’s Bill of Rights was presented to the 49th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference and received a NON-MERIT status. It was reprepared as a resolution for to the 50th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference and was NOT permitted to move forward. **It was our determination that w REVISIT the Minister’s Bill of Rights and that it be assigned to an appropriate Annual Conference.**

**AND**

**Passing the Character of Bishops – Understand Mid Atlantic ED is Developing Resolution**

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## **Committees Who Worked with Administrative Boards**

**Rev. Dr. Darwin Little & Rev. J. Ruth Davis**

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**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part IX – Temporal Economy  
The General Administrative Boards:  
Board of Records, Statistics and Archives – Historical Society**

Committee recommendations were debated & the majority present at the IMLA Annual Meeting voted **not** to re-constitute the Historical Society as a separate department. The voted included approval for a \$20,000 increase to the annual budget.

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**Mr. Jerry McCombs**

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**AME Zion Book of Discipline –PART VII  
The Judicial Administration: Judicial Council**

The IMLA\_CLC Legislation Development Committee recommendations were presented and embraced by the Judicial Council. The committee continues to work with the President re submitting resolutions & a budget increase request to Chief Financial Officer.

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**Rev. LaKeshia Womack**

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**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part IX – Temporal Economy  
The General Administrative Boards:  
Department of Church Growth & Development**

The IMLA\_CLC Legislation Development Committee presented recommended editorial adjustments to the Resolutions Committee of the Department of Church Growth & Development. The CG&D Admin. Board met and agreed on a large portion of the editorial changes.

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**Rev. Dr. Darwin Little & Mr. Demond Nichols**

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**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part IX – Temporal Economy  
The General Administrative Boards: Part 1  
Board of Communications**

The IMLA\_CLC Legislation Development Committee recommendations were presented and embraced by the Chief Communications Director/Editor.

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**Rev. Dr. David McLean**

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**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part IX – Temporal Economy  
The General Administrative Boards: Board of Christian Education  
– Schools & Colleges – Church School Literature**

The CED Secretary-Treasurer received the recommendations from the IMLA\_CLC Legislation Development Committee. The CED Secretary-Treasurer asked the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair of the CED Admin. Board to work with the committee re the next steps for each recommendation.

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**Dr. David Aiken**

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**AME Zion Book of Discipline Part IX – Temporal Economy  
The General Administrative Boards: Zion Benefits**

Several members of the Zion Benefits Admin Board worked with the Executive Director recommendations from the IMLA\_CLC Legislation Development Committee  
The Executive Director has provided three areas of the work that will be presented for adoption by the 2020 General Conference Delegates.

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**Action Items for “Seat” of General Conference:**

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**Suspending the Rules** (*Election of Indigenous Bishops for CSA*) – President Witherspoon (TBD)  
**Suspending the Rules** (Extending Tenure of Judges) – President Witherspoon (TBD)

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***Not Submitted - #2***

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**#1 - Resolution to Remove Article Twenty-Three from the Articles of Religion**

Submitted Dr. Reginald Broadnax, Chair of the Department of Religious Studies - Clinton College, Rockhill, SC  
To Be Referred Back to Dr. Broadnax Seeking Permission to Use an Alternative Resolve

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**#2 - AME Zion Book of Discipline Part IX – Temporal Economy  
The General Administrative Boards: Allocation/Appportionment**

The IMLA\_CLC Legislation Development Committee received, reviewed, and formally presented a recommendation re “**Tithing**”.

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## Forward to Codification Commission:

**Presiding Elder Erich Shumake & Dr. Mary Matthews:** *supervise insertion into 2020 BOD*

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### Reparations Motion

Resolution GC50-R08 – Adopted but Excluded from BOD

*“The 50<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Session of the General Conference directs that the Social Justice and Economic Development Committee evaluate the recommendation for an International call for Reparations and shape the parameters, policies and initiatives of the Pan-African Commission on Reparations.”*

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### Continuing Education/Clergy

Resolution # GC50-R27-2016 - Adopted but Excluded from BOD

Category: Continuing Education for Clergy    Subject: Continuing Education for Clergy

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**Prepared by:**

***Dr. Yvonne A. Tracey & Rev. Erich Shumake, Co-Chairs of Legislation***

**March 21, 2020**