



Unity Fellowship Church Movement HOUSE OF BISHOP'S BULLETIN

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“God Is Love and Love Is For Everyone!”

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Archbishop Carl Bean's 75th Diamond Jubilee

The UFCM Family invites the world to celebrate the
Prelate's birthday!

May 26, 2019 will mark the 75th birthday of the Presiding Prelate of the Unity Fellowship Church Movement (UFCM), Archbishop Carl Bean. Archbishop Bean a profound spiritual leader, and founder of the UFCM has dedicated his life as a social justice warrior and HIV/AIDS activists. His prophetic voice of Liberation Theology embracing LGBTQIA people of faith, has saved many lives. The iconic, Motown Recoding of, “I was born this way,” is still considered an anthem in our community. Please go to our website, “www.ufcmlife.org,” to learn more about the celebration and ways you can contribute to this initiative.

FROM GOOD TO GREAT BY 2021

by Sr. Bishop Zachary Jones



I wish the greatest New Year to each one of you. We start this year with UFCM moving towards our goal “From Good to Great by 2021.” I am pleased that the work of the Strategic Planning Committee, led by Rev. Pendermon, has placed us on a course of organizing our work toward growth and high-level impact. The results of our Strategic Plan for the Movement’s work include:

- Creating a plan to build the organization’s capacity to aggressively pursue its mission.
- Creating an opportunity to expand and diversify the organization’s funding base.
- Clarifying the organizational structure, and its relationship with churches in the Movement.
- Moving the organization’s national nonprofit status from “Good” to “Great” as defined by the rating scale that non-for-profit organizations use, which was shared by Rev. Pendermon last Spring.
- Clearly identifying and mapping out the Movement's way forward.

This chapter of our Movement is the chapter that counts more than any other in the past. This is the determining chapter that builds a legacy for the work and the message

“God is Love and Love is For Everyone.” It creates a platform on which our new leadership can build and stand. I am always amazed at the way God brings us to a place that reflect His/Her greatness and forces us to move into our greatest selves.

Our mission remains to proclaim the sacredness of all life; thus, focusing on empowering those who have been oppressed and made to feel shame. Through an emerging international network, UFCM works to facilitate social change and improve the life chances for all who have been rejected by society’s institutions and systems, with an emphasis on ministering to the needs of the LGBTQ communities.

We are asking for the participation of all our UFCM members and friends to be a part of this new move. We are blessed with tons of skills and talent within our Movement, and we must begin to build, exchange and learn from each other. The House of Bishops is excited about all that is possible.

Today we say, “Yes” beyond the boundaries, “Yes” beyond the self-imposed limitations, and “Yes” to the fact that God has called us to this place of greatness. We invite all of you to join us with your “Yes.” Many members of our leadership have already committed their “Yes.”

We welcome Elder Jamie Washington and Elder Jackson-Jones to the National Board as new members. Many others have said yes to various communities. If you would like to assist our national work, we need your help with the National Fundraising Committee, and the Policy and Governance Committee.

Our theme this year has been chosen by the Archbishop, “Honesty.” As we turn the pages of a new chapter in our work, “Honesty” speaks to maintaining a standard of strength and integrity in our work. Our work represents an honesty that was established from the very beginning in 1982 by its founding members and our Archbishop, which has set the course and culture of UFCM, extending to this very day.

“From Good to Great by 2021” is happening each day with the work you continue to do in your local church. We all left last year's Convocation, committed to the theme of Progression, with renewed faith and power to increase outreach programs, to invite those who are on the outside of mainstream society of this country's wealth and services, and to help those who struggle to survive. We thank each of you for your work and dedication to our founder’s belief that love is for everyone.



CONVOCATION UPDATE

by Bishop Jacquelyn Holland

It is with great pleasure and pride that we affirm the fact that Convocation 2018 was a major success. The experience was both powerful and inspirational. The workshops and nightly services were well attended. A few new additions to the Convocation experience included the daily child care and the hospitality room. Both services helped to take the event to another level.

We are so grateful to the Jurisdiction 3 Convocation planning team for their dedication and hard work on Convocation 2018. Thank you for creating an amazing and spiritual experience. We know that Convocation 2019 will be as impactful as Convocation 2018 was.

The theme for Convocation 2019 is “Honesty,” a word that encourages you to be thoughtful and introspective. Convocation 2019 will be October 6–13 at the Crowne Plaza, in Charlotte, NC. Registration will be via www.eventbrite.com and will begin in March, 2019. The fees are as follows: Early registration package \$140.00; Regular registration package \$170.00; Registration without the Saturday event \$120.00; One day registration \$60.00.

Get ready for an amazing and worshipful experience. Book your rooms and your register early. If you show up, I guarantee God will show out!



INSPIRATION

By Sr. Bishop Zachary Jones

An affirmation:

"I am the manifestation of the peace of God!"

When I think of peace, I think of the Hebrew word for peace: Shalom. In the Bible, peace is more than the negative absence of armed conflict or violence. Shalom means the positive presence of harmony and wholeness, of health and prosperity, of integration and balance. It is the peace presence of God in all our relationships, including our relationship with God, our relationship with each other, our relationship with nature, and our relationship with ourselves. According to Christopher D. Marshall, a famous author from Wellington, New Zealand, peace is when everything is as it ought to be.

Justice and peace are connected. When people try to take our rights away, there is no peace. When government systems hold back on support to the poor, there can be no peace. When people who are in authority abuse their workers, young people, congregation members, and students, there can be no peace. When people are unemployed, there can be no peace. We must demand peace for all! We must demand peace for ourselves! We must demand peace for those who cannot speak for themselves!

I find peace when I center myself in prayer; when I align myself and my thoughts with the Spirit of God. I find peace when I connect my ideas with all freedom fighters, to ensure that all of God's people can work and be educated.

God grant us peace for ourselves and peace for our land.



MOVEMENT UPDATE

by Bishop Harris Thomas

The House of Bishops has decided to produce our bulletin quarterly (March, June, September, December) instead of monthly. Since our last bulletin, Bishop Holland celebrated her 61st birthday on December 7, 2018, Elder Leslie Burke celebrated her birthday on January 12, 2019, and both Bishop Jones (61st) and Bishop Thomas (64th) will celebrate their birthdays on March 8th and 10th, respectively. Let's

congratulate

Rev. Robert Arrington who celebrated his 8th pastor's anniversary on February 17, 2019, and UFC NewArk for the 1st year anniversary in their new building on January 10, 2019. Elder Dorothy Harris is also celebrating her 9th pastor's anniversary on March 17, 2019.

Archbishop Bean gathered a few people at Convocation 2016, and Bishop Zachary Jones introduced them at Convocation 2017 as the Game Changers. Since their introduction, the Game Changers have gathered and led several worship services for various UFCM churches. The Game Changers visited UFC of Greater Atlanta in July 2018, UFC Columbia in November 2018, and UFC Charleston's Pastoral Anniversary in February 2019. The Game Changers are the first group, outside of the House of Bishops, to lead a Friday night worship service at our 2018 Holy Convocation. Their upcoming schedule includes visits to Charlotte in March 2019 and Atlanta in July 2019, before attending our 2019 Holy Convocation.

The Game Changers, UFC Charlotte, and the Movement experienced a big challenge on Saturday, December 8, 2018 when we laid to rest one of our beloved leaders, Minister L'Tricie Chandler. Minister Chandler was known and loved by her church, the Game Changers, the Movement, and the community which she served, not only as a minister, but also as a barber. We continue to hold Minister Chandler's family in prayer throughout the process.

The Leadership Board of the Game Changers are: Rev. Sean Robinson; Rev. Jermaine Green; Rev. Carla Johnson; Deacon Kellee Phillips; and Deacon Leslie "Mouse" Bond. Rev. Robinson is the contact person and can be e-mailed at twenspirited@gmail.com.

The External Department plans to have three committees under the direction of one of the co-leads. Elder Taylor will continue the expansion of the Communications Committee, Elder Green will establish a national HIV/AIDS Committee, and Elder Burke will establish a Transgender Initiative Committee.

To begin organizing and staffing committees, one member from each local church is needed to serve on the Communications Committee, one member for the HIV/AIDS Committee and one member for the Transgender Initiative Committee. If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please speak to your pastor and have them forward your contact information, local church, and the committee on which you would like to serve, to me, at hthomas@ufcb.org.