

(SEDLO Versions)

Lay Mission Statement

The mission of the Second Episcopal Lay Organization is to teach and train the laity of the churches of the District to support the total programs of the church, the community, and the Connection through a systemic and regular study of the Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and to keep alive the principles and sacred memory of our founder, Richard Allen.

Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to organize and train the laity of the African Methodist Episcopal Church so that lay persons may maximally utilize their God given abilities and skills to improve and extend the kingdom to create happiness, peace, and harmony among its members.

Lay Litany

Leader: With grateful hearts, we, the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, give thanks to Almighty God for His divine inspiration and revelation to our ancestors.

People: We thank God for our ancestors.

Leader: For the privilege of hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ, our Lord, and the desire to live daily according to His Holy Word.

People: We thank God for the privilege.

Leader: For His Commandments to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to visit the sick, and to be a bold witness for Him.

People: We thank God for the Commandments.

Leader: For the teachings of Richard Allen, to minister unconditionally to the Spiritual, Emotional, Intellectual, and Financial needs of our brothers and sisters.

People: We thank God for the teachings of Richard Allen.

Leader: For forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation for all of us when our faith has been displaced by pain, despair, hatred and fear.

People: We thank God for the ability to forgive.

Leader: For continued appreciation and teaching of the History, Doctrine and Philosophy of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

People: We thank God for the leadership of our Bishops, Presiding Elders, Pastors, and Laity.

Leader: For spiritual guidance and Biblical teaching to our youth and young adults that are actively seeking answers to morals, political and religious issues influencing the growth and development of the church.

People: We thank God for the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Leader: With grateful hearts, the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church is thankful for the preaching of the gospel; the teaching of the Bible, Discipline, and Doctrine; the privilege to minister, to sow and serve; the forgiveness of sin and the promise of an eternal home in Heaven.

People: We thank God for the opportunity to Worship and Serve Him.

(Local Lay Version)

THE LAY LITANY

Leader: With grateful hearts, we, the Robert R. and Ora B. Kelly Lay Organization of Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church, give thanks to Almighty God for His divine inspiration and revelation to our ancestors.

People: We thank God for our ancestors.

Leader: For the privilege of hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ, our Lord, and the desire to live daily according to His Holy Word.

People: We thank God for the privilege.

Leader: For His Commandments to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to visit the sick, and to be a bold witness for Him.

People: We thank God for the Commandments.

Leader: For the teachings of Richard Allen, to minister unconditionally to the Spiritual, Emotional, Intellectual, and Financial needs of our brothers and sisters.

People: We thank God for the teachings of Richard Allen.

Leader: For forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation for all of us when our faith has been displaced by pain, despair, hatred and fear.

People: We thank God for the ability to forgive.

Leader: For continued appreciation and teaching of the History, Doctrine and Philosophy of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

People: We thank God for the leadership of our Bishops, Presiding Elders, Pastors, and Laity.

Leader: For spiritual guidance and Biblical teaching to our youth and young adults that are actively seeking answers to morals, political and religious issues influencing the growth and development of the church.

People: We thank God for the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Leader: With grateful hearts, the Robert R. and Ora B. Kelly Lay Organization of Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church is thankful for the preaching of the gospel; the teaching of the Bible, Discipline, and Doctrine; the privilege to minister, to sow and serve; the forgiveness of sin and the promise of an eternal home in Heaven.

People: We thank God for the opportunity to Worship and Serve Him.

THE LAYMEN'S HYMN



1. Lay-men now have thus as - sem-bled, In Thy bless - ed name, O God.
 2. We are band - ed one in un - ion, to ful - fill Thy just com-mand.
 3. As we walk this Chris-tian jour-ney, let us keep our ar - mor bright.
 4. May we stand be - fore Thine Al - tar, pledg-ing, Lord, to work for Thee.

Guide us in our true en-deav - or, Light the path - way that we trod;
 May we be Thy true dis - ci - ples, hold-ing to Thy might - y hand;
 Let our words be pure and ho - ly, that we stand with - in Thy sight.
 In the Vine - yard, in the pas - tures, Let us, Lord, Thy Pil - grims be:

Give us strength to ev - er la - bor for Thy cause,
 Give us bless - ings from the foun - tain of Thy love,
 Lay - men Sol - diers, strong in un - i - ty and love,
 Let us lift the Cross for - ev - er to the skies,

Give us strength to ev - er la - bor for Thy cause.
 Give us bless - ings from the foun-tain of Thy love.
 Lay-men Sol - diers, strong in un - i - ty and love.
 Let us lift the Cross for - ev - er to the skies. A - men.

Words: Francis A. Wallson
 Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872

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87.87.47.

THE LAYMEN'S HYMN

Tune: "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah" written by Frances A. Walston

Laymen now have thus assembled,
In Thy blessed name O God.
Guide us in our true endeavor,
Light the pathway that we trod;
Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause
Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause.

We are banded one in union,
To fulfill Thy just command.
May we be Thy true disciples,

Holding to Thy mighty hand;
Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love
Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love.

As we walk this Christian journey,
Let us keep our armour bright.
Let our works be pure and holy
That we stand within Thy sight;
Laymen soldiers, strong in unity and love
Laymen soldiers, strong in unity and love.

May we stand before Thine altar,
Pledging Lord to work for Thee.
In the vineyard, in the pastures

Let us Lord Thy pilgrims be;
Let us lift the cross forever to the skies,
Let us lift the cross forever to the skies.

Lay Benediction & Colors

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

The official colors of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization are: Royal Blue and White or Navy Blue and White.

THE LAY BENEDICTION

The Lay Benediction Connectional Lay Organization AME Church

Words by Mrs. Rose Reese
Tune by Ms. Jackie Winston/Ms. Florine Herron
Scoring by Ms. Florine Herron

May God bless us with the true spir-it of

The first system of musical notation for 'The Lay Benediction'. It features a piano accompaniment with a treble and bass staff. The melody is in the treble staff, starting with a whole rest followed by a half note G4, then a quarter note A4, and a half note Bb4. The lyrics 'May God bless us with the true spir-it of' are written below the treble staff.

6

Chris-ti - a - ni ty. That we may live to-geth-er not as man o - ver man. But as

The second system of musical notation. The melody continues with a quarter note C5, a half note D5, and a quarter note E5. The lyrics 'Chris-ti - a - ni ty. That we may live to-geth-er not as man o - ver man. But as' are written below the treble staff.

10

Lay per - sons work-ing with God - - But as Lay per - sons work-ing with

The third system of musical notation. The melody continues with a quarter note F5, a half note G5, and a quarter note A5. The lyrics 'Lay per - sons work-ing with God - - But as Lay per - sons work-ing with' are written below the treble staff.

13

God - - But as Lay per - sons work-ing with God. A - men.

The fourth system of musical notation. The melody continues with a quarter note Bb5, a half note C6, and a quarter note D6. The lyrics 'God - - But as Lay per - sons work-ing with God. A - men.' are written below the treble staff.