Second Episcopal District Lay Organization

SEDLO CONVENTION
OCTOBER 21-23, 2026
WILMINGTON, NC

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church Worship Center
4925 New Centre Dr, Wilmington, NC 28403

The Sensational Second

SECOND TO NONE

Bishop Harry L. Seawright, Presiding Prelate, Second Episcopal District
Rev. Sherita M. Seawright, Episcopal Supervisor

Bro. Abe Makiti, Connectional Lay Organization President
Sis. Patricia Wright, Connectional Director of Lay Activities
Sis. Aimee AJ Beasley, Connectional Young Adult Representative

Sis. Penny Oliver, SEDLO President
Sis. D. Faye Conley, SEDLO Director of Lay Activities
Bro. Adam Johnston, SEDLO Young Adult Representative

Welcome To

Wilmington

REVIVING THE CONNECTION:

Exceedingly, Abundantly Above All We Can Ask or Think

Ephesians 3:20-21

THE SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION

5 CONFERENCES | ONE VISION:

Baltimore, Washington, Virginia, North Carolina, Western North Carolina

Reviving the Connection: Exceedingly, Abundantly Above All We Can Ask or Think
LITANY

from the pen of CLO DOLA P. H. WRIGHT 11/2025

LEADER: We are Reviving the Connection of Faith. We celebrate what is visible today, and we acknowledge that there are innovations, opportunities, and blessings awaiting us in the future with possibilities so vast that they are beyond our current imagination.

Reader: **Exceedingly, abundantly above ALL we can ask or think**.

LEADER: We are Reviving the Connection of Gratitude. We are grateful to a God who blesses us not just with sufficiency, but with abundance—providing far more than we dare to ask, hope, or dream. This spirit of thankfulness fuels our optimism and unites us in grace.

Reader: **Exceedingly abundantly above ALL we can ask or think.**

LEADER: We are Reviving the Connection of Blessings. The advancement of science over the last century has eclipsed what our ancestors ever dared to dream. And much the same way, Lord, your blessings and the potential of them abound beyond our wildest expectations and imagination.

Reader: **Exceedingly abundantly above ALL we can ask or think**.

LEADER: We are Reviving the Connection of our Ancestors. Generation after generation we continue to witness the evidence of grace and favor, a testament to God's enduring power which transcend both time and space.

Reader: **Exceedingly abundantly above ALL we can ask or think**.

ALL: We are Reviving the Connection! Standing hand in hand, on one accord, searching God's Word, seeking God's will and serving God's people, surrounded by God's love whose plans for us are Exceedingly, Abundantly Above All That We Can Ask or Think.

Bishop Harry L. Seawright
Presiding Prelate

October 12, 2026

Greetings Attendees,

Welcome to the 21st Second Episcopal District Lay Organization (SEDLO) Convention!

I am excited about this first in-person convention since the COVID-19 pandemic. This gathering is an opportunity for clergy and laity to partner for the good of our Episcopal District. Your theme "Reviving the Connection: Exceedingly, Abundantly, Above All We Can Ask or Think" makes room for God to open unlimited possibilities. While attending and after leaving this convention, please give God free reign. Doing so welcomes the opportunity for God to bless the district beyond our requests or thoughts.

Your participation will make a big difference in this convention. The schedule includes worship, learning labs, and recognitions. Enjoy the fellowship, make time to meet new people, and be open to fresh ideas. I anticipate hearing the results of the election of officers for the 2026–2030 term.

I salute President Penny S. Oliver and the SEDLO team of officers and support staff. Thank you for your willingness to serve and provide this opportunity for growth. I extend my appreciation to President Elbert Davis and the North Carolina Conference Lay Organization for hosting this district event. I honor pastors, ministers, and laity for making the sacrifice to attend this event. This well-planned convention will bless attendees and churches.

I sincerely appreciate your prayers for me. Although I am unable to be with you physically, please know I am praying for this convention. I thank everyone who makes this SEDLO gathering a meaningful event.

Because of Christ, I am,

Bishop Harry L. Seawright
Presiding Prelate of the Second Episcopal District

Episcopal Office • 7610 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 302, Forestville, MD 20747
bishop133@amec2.com 202. 842.3788

Annual Conferences

Baltimore Washington Virginia North Carolina Western North Carolina

Baltimore Conference • Washington Conference • Virginia Conference • Western North Carolina Conference • North Carolina Conference

Welcome to the 21st Session of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention!

With a heart full of gratitude and joy, I welcome our Episcopal leadership, Bishop Harry L. Seawright and Supervisor Sherita Moon Seawright; our pastors and clergy; lay leaders and members; and all of our guests, family, and friends. What a blessing it is to be together!

Our theme, "Reviving the Connection: Exceedingly, Abundantly, Above All We Can Ask or Think" (Ephesians 3:20–21), reminds us that God has more for us than we could ever imagine.

Over these past two years, it has been my blessing and privilege to serve as your President. Through this journey, I have been reminded again and again that we are better when we are together. I am grateful for every prayer, every helping hand, every conversation, every word of encouragement, and every person who has helped move SEDLO forward.
This convention is not just about the Lay Organization. It is about the Church—clergy and laity, pastors and people, coming together as one.

We need one another. We are called to serve with one another—not at one another. When we work together, make room for one another, and value the gifts each person brings, we create a stronger Church and a stronger Lay Organization.
So, as we gather, let us reconnect. Let us encourage one another. Let us celebrate what God has already done and open our hearts for what God is going to do next.

To our clergy and laity, our pastors and lay leaders, our young adults and seasoned leaders, and to all of our guests, family, and friends—thank you for being here and being a part of this special moment.

My prayer is that each of us will leave this convention renewed, encouraged, connected, and ready to serve.
I believe with all my heart that God has more in store for SEDLO. And together, there is so much more we can accomplish for the Kingdom and for our Church.

Welcome to our 21st Convention!

Let us revive the connection, strengthen the bond, and move forward together as one.

With love and gratitude,

Penny S. Oliver
President Second Episcopal District Lay Organization



Greetings from the Connectional Lay Organization

Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

It is with great joy that I extend warm greetings to President Penny S. Oliver and the members of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization as you gather in Wilmington, North Carolina, for your **21st SEDLO Convention, October 21–23, 2026**.

As we continue to embrace our Connectional Lay Organization theme, **"Reviving the Connection: Exceedingly, Abundantly, Above All We Can Ask or Think" (Ephesians 3:20–21),** I am encouraged to see the Second Episcopal District advancing this vision through fellowship, training, worship, and service. Our theme calls us not only to strengthen the bonds that unite us across the Connection, but also to trust God to work through a committed and engaged laity in ways greater than we can imagine.

As you gather for this convention, may you be renewed in your commitment to **study, serve, and lead**. May your time together strengthen local Lay Organizations, inspire new and emerging leaders, and deepen the connection among laity throughout the Second Episcopal District and across our great Zion.

On behalf of the **Connectional Lay Organization**, I commend President Oliver and the entire Second Episcopal District Lay Organization for your faithful service. May God richly bless your convention and continue to do **exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think** as together we **Revive the Connection**.

Yours in Lay Ministry,

Matikane Abendnego Makiti
President
Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Second Episcopal District
Lay Organization



Greetings,

I am delighted to be in the office of the Director of Lay Activities of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization as we convene the 21st SEDLO Convention, the first in-person Convention since 2018.

We welcome all clergy and laity who have sacrificed this time to support us as we gather in Wilmington, NC, hosted by the North Carolina Conference Lay Organization. President Elbert Davis and Dr. Edna Watson have provided oversight to make sure everything is in place as we conduct the business of the organization including the election of officers for the 2026-2030 term.

Since this convention is prior to the 2027 Connectional Lay Organization CLO Biennial Convention, we will present our Conference Outstanding Laypersons and the SEDLO Outstanding Layperson who will represent us during the 2027 CLO convention in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Using the CLO theme *"Reviving the Connection: Exceedingly, Abundantly Above All We Can Ask or Think"* is not by accident, as this convention will be our first district-wide opportunity to provide learning opportunities focusing on the theme. It is our prayer that laity, especially will leave the convention with a better understanding of the need for *discipleship, evangelism, financial awareness and our clergy-lay relation* in the life of the Church as we REVIVE (refuel, retool and re-energize) our connection across conferences and the whole of the Episcopal District.

Our history is an integral part of the church on all levels and we have been intentional in ensuring each conference and subsequently the district can *accurately* tell their story.

We will leave this convention having installed officers with 14-29% of our current officers returning to the same office. We solicit your prayers as we celebrate our outgoing officers and receive our incoming officers.

In His Service,

D. Faye Conley

SEDLO Director of Lay Activities



Greetings from the

Second Episcopal District

Young Adult Representative

Greetings to the 21st Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention!

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

It is my prayer that this 21st SEDLO Convention will be a time of spiritual renewal, meaningful fellowship, and renewed commitment to the work God has called us to do. As we gather under the theme,*"Reviving the Connection: Exceedingly, Abundantly, Above All We Can Ask or Think"*(Ephesians 3:20–21), may we be reminded that God is able to accomplish far more through us when we remain connected in faith, united in purpose, and committed to service.

May this convention inspire us to strengthen the bonds of fellowship among the laity across all five conferences that comprise the SEDLO, empower the next generation of lay leaders, and continue building a legacy of faithful service for those who will follow us. Let us move forward with boldness, trusting God to do exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we can ask or think.

May God bless our gathering, our Lay Organization, and the entire Second Episcopal District as we build upon the faithful work accomplished through our first 20 conventions. May this 21st Convention serve not only as a celebration of our legacy but also as the beginning of another 20 conventions and beyond, as we continue to*"Revive the Connection"* and faithfully answer God's call to service!

Brother Adam Johnston

CONVENTION AGENDA

"Reviving the Connection:

Exceedingly, Abundantly Above All We Can Ask or Think"

(Note: All activities are subject to slight adjustments)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026

TIME	EVENT	PRESENTER, CHAIR	LOCATION
9:30am-12:30pm	Registration Set-Up	Registration Team	Nursery Vestibule
1:00pm-5:00pm	Registration	SEDLO REGISTRAR Sister Jacqueline C. Kanipe & Conference Registrars	Vestibule
2:00pm-2:50pm	*First Timers' Orientation*	Led by Sister Kimberly Mitchell WCLO Director of Lay Activities	Sanctuary
3:00pm-5:00pm	Learning Lab: *Discipleship*	Rev. Doris Lindsey Pastor, Mann's Chapel AMEC Whitakers, NC	Sanctuary
7:00pm-9:00pm	Service of Worship *(Open to the Public)*	PREACHER: Rev. Dr. Abdue L. Knox Pastor, St. Joseph AMEC MUSIC: NCC CHOIR Sister Gwen Davis	Sanctuary

THE SERVICE WILL BE LIVE STREAMED AT: https://www.youtube.com/@AME2nd

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026

8:00am-10:00am	Registration & Kit Distribution	Registration Team	Registration Team
8:15am-8:45am	Devotion Bible Study	SEDLO Chaplain Kenneth Woods & Conference Chaplains	Daniel Fellowship Hall
8:45am-12:30pm	**BUSINESS SESSION I**	President Penny Oliver, Presiding	Daniel Fellowship Hall
8:45am-9:00am	Seating of the Delegation by Annual Conference		
	CALL TO ORDER		
	Presentation of the Proposed Agenda		
	Roll Call of Officers	Sister Jacqueline C. Kanipe, Assistant Recording Secretary	
	Minutes from 2025 Convention	Minutes Review Committee	
9:00am-9:15am	Report of the Rules Committee	Brother Alvin White, Rules Committee Chairperson	
9:15am-9:25am	Preliminary Report of the Registration Committee	Sister Jacqueline C. Kanipe, Registration Committee Chairperson	

CONVENTION AGENDA

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(Note: All activities are subject to slight adjustments)

9:25am-9:35am	Preliminary Report of the Credentials Committee	Sister Paulette Smith Bryant Credentials Committee Chairperson	
9:35am	Presentation of the Connectional President	President Penny Oliver	
9:40am	President's Greeting	President Abe Makiti	
9:45am	Presentation of the Episcopal Supervisor	President Penny Oliver	
9:50am	Episcopal Supervisor's Greeting	Episcopal Supervisor Sherita M. Seawright	
9:55am-10:05am	BREAK		
	New Business		
10:05am-10:30am	Presentation of the 2026-2028 Budget	Sister Cynthia Gordon-Floyd, Budget & Finance Committee Chairperson	
10:30am-10:40am	Final Report of the Registration Committee	Sister Jacqueline C. Kanipe, Registration Committee Chairperson	
10:40am-10:50am	Final Report of the Credentials Committee	Sister Paulette Smith Bryant Credentials Committee Chairperson	
10:50am-11:30pm	Report of the Nominating Committee (Presentation of the Candidates)	Sister D. Faye Conley Nominating Committee Chairperson	
11:30am-11:45am	Report of the Election Committee	Sister Valerie Terry, Election Committee Chairperson	
11:45am-12:30pm	Election of Officers	President Makiti Election Committee	
12:30pm-1:45pm	LUNCH	Provided by the North Carolina Conference Lay Organization	Daniel Fellowship Hall
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026			
1:45pm-2:50pm	LEARNING LAB: *Financial Awareness*	Rev. Shanell White Pastor, St. Matthews AMEC Burlington, NC	Daniel Fellowship Hall
2:45pm-5:00pm	LEARNING LAB: *Evangelism*	Rev. Brent Edwards Pastor, Waters AMEC Baltimore, MD	Daniel Fellowship Hall
5:00pm	BANQUET SETUP	Directors of Lay Activities, Hosts and Hostesses	Daniel Fellowship Hall
7:00pm-9:00pm	BANQUET	*An Evening of Celebration & Inspiration*	Daniel Fellowship Hall

CONVENTION AGENDA

"Reviving the Connection:

Exceedingly, Abundantly Above All We Can Ask or Think"

(Note: All activities are subject to slight adjustments)

FRIDAY OCTOBER 23, 2026			
9:45am-10:00am	Devotion	Chaplains	Daniel Fellowship Hall
10:00am-10:15am	MEMORIAL SERVICE	Chaplains	
10:15am-11:00am	**BUSINESS SESSION II**	Mrs. Jean Wilson Richie First Vice President, Presiding	
	Unfinished Business		
10:30am-10:35am	Report of the Young Adult Representative	Brother Adam Johnston	
10:35am-10:40am	Report of the Director of Lay Activities	Sister D. Faye Conley	
10:40am-10:45am	Report of the President	Sister Penny Oliver	
10:45am – 12:00pm	Learning Lab: *Clergy Lay Relationship*	Rev. Dr. Larry McDonald Pastor, St. John AME Church, Raleigh, NC	Daniel Fellowship Hall
12:00pm-12:10pm	Report of the Time & Place Committee	Brother Xavier Douglas, Time & Place Committee Chairperson	
12:10pm-12:20pm	BREAK		
12:20pm-12:40	Closing Words of Inspiration	Ms. Chandelle R. Ivy Treasurer, Connectional WMS	Daniel Fellowship Hall
12:40-12:50pm	**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**	Supervisor Seawright, President Makiti	
12:50pm-1:10pm	Circle of Love	BOX LUNCHES WILL BE AVAILABLE	
	LAY BENEDICTION		
1:30pm–3:30pm	TRANSITION MEETING		Daniel Fellowship Hall

"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"

2 nd District Lay Convention Rules

Alvin R. White, Chairperson

Rule 1. The sessions of the day shall begin, dismiss, reconvene and adjourn as programmed.

Rule 2. The adopted agenda shall be the official agenda of the convention

Rule 3. The presence of a quorum shall be established by registered delegates.

Rule 4. To be recognized on the floor, please raise hand. All delegates shall state their name and annual conference before speaking. A delegate shall not speak in debate more than once on the same question, or longer than two (2) minutes, until every delegate desiring to speak on the question has had an opportunity to do so.

Rule 5. A motion shall not be open discussion until it has been moved and seconded and so stated by the chair.

Rule 6. When a question is pending, no other main motion shall be in order.

Rule 7. Voting- Votes shall be cast electronically via the use of delegates telephone, whereas training will be provided prior to any voting taking place. Business may also be conducted by unanimous consent.

Rule 8. In the absence of a special rule herein stated, the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern.

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Second Episcopal District Lay Organization
Virtual Special Lay Convention Minutes
August 23, 2025

The Second Episcopal District Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church convened on August 23, 2025 for the special virtual Lay Convention beginning at 10:00 a.m. Greetings were extended by special message from Connectional Lay President Matikane A. Makiti.

Devotion conducted by Chaplain Kenneth Woods, Brother Brian Glover sang; prayer was given; and the scripture reading from Ephesians 4:1-8 and 11-16.

A powerful message was delivered by Minister Jordan DeVeaux, a twenty-five-year-old fourth generation minister who was introduced by Sister Taylor Sutton, highlighting her diverse ministry experience and commitment to bridging generations in faith. The powerful message on spiritual maturity referencing the scriptures Psalm 13:1, Psalm 22:24. In summary "I want to be a true disciple of Christ."

Business Meeting

The business session was called to order by SEDLO President Penny Oliver.
Roll call was done by recorded virtual attendance. The printed agenda was adopted without changes. A report from the Minutes Review Committee indicated that the minutes were approved by the said committee including recording secretaries from the Baltimore Conference, Sister Tess Palmer; Washington Conference, Sister Angela Kilson; Virginia Conference, Sister Rita Turner; North Carolina Conference, Sister Rose Sinclair; and Western North Carolina Conference, Brother Brandon Owens and Assistant Recording Secretary for the SEDLO, Jacqueline C. Kanipe, Chair.

Financial Report given by Sisters Azzie Conley, Financial Secretary and Dr. Edna Watson, Treasurer:

- A summary of finances: $47,220.34 in receipts; $17,884.29 expenses; balance $24,957.05 and $5,177, CD. As funds are submitted by Givelify, the individual's name, conference and the funding account should be given also.

Unfinished Business

Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report was given by Sister Janice Murray. Updates to the Constitution and Bylaws were submitted. There were three grammar changes, eleven wording alignments; three amendments were voted on, all passed with overwhelming support. Approved Amendments will be implemented effective the close of the SEDLO Convention as per Constitution and Bylaws. Committee members include Sister Azzie Conley, Brother Adam Johnston, Sister Janice Murray, Sister Paulette Smith-Bryant, Sister Jacqueline H. Thomas, Sister Glen White and Brother Phillip White.

Updates on the Davis-McKinney Scholarship Ways and Means, Brother Alvin White, Chair

Brother White reported that the scholarship is named after people who are worthy of the recognition, Dr. Joseph McKinney and Ms. Maude Davis, for their contributions to the Lay Organization. Committee members include the Lay Conference Presidents, Sister Janice Murray, Dr. Edna Watson, Sister D. Faye Conley and Brother Adam Johnston.

$'s for Scholars – all funds have not been reported

Plans are being made to host an upscale Sneaker Ball. The committee is trying to determine the feasibility of holding the event during the mid-winter meeting or scheduling during Summer Summit. Sister Glen White and Brother Alvin White will confer with the Bishop's office to help in making the right decision.

The CD that will be renewed in February, funds will be provided for the scholarship fund.

2026 District Convention will be held in Wilmington, North Carolina with host North Carolina Conference President Elbert Davis. One item on the agenda will include the election of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Officers.

Calendar of Events:

October 12, 2025	Connectional Lay Witness Sunday
November 15	Learning Lab: Protocol, virtual (tentative date)
December 3, 7 p.m.	Advent Service
February 26 – 28, 2026	Reid Temple - Founder's Day/Mid-winter meeting
March 28	The Discipline (virtual)
April 7-11	Baltimore Annual Conference
April 14-21	Washington Annual Conference
April 28-May 1	North Carolina Annual Conference
May 19-22	Virginia Annual Conference
May 26-29	Western North Carolina Annual Conference hosted by Greater Bethel, Charlotte
May 24	Pentecost Sunday/Evangelism Sunday
July 6-7	SED Planning Meeting
July 8-10	Summer Summit
October	SEDLO Convention, North Carolina Conference Lay Organization, host

Sister D. Faye Conley, Director of Lay Activities introduced the Learning Labs From Membership to Discipleship highlighting the contributions of key figures in the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization, First Vice-President Sister Jean Richie; Connectional Lay Organization, Dr. Dorothy Henderson, and former Connectional Lay Organization Young Adult Representative Jamesha Williams. The session with these ladies made a significant impact as they discussed strategies for enhancing and retaining membership in the church.

They discussed the role and significance of the Lay Organization in the A.M.E. Church. Dr. Henderson highlighted the educational and leadership opportunities, which played a crucial role in her career advancement. Sister Jamesha described her long-standing involvement starting as a child evolving into a leadership position. Both emphasized the organization's importance in empowering lay members and fostering community engagements, addressed misconceptions about the organization, affirming its impact and calling for increased membership and engagement.

The session focused on strategies to strengthen and grow the A.M.E. Lay Organization with participants sharing insights on young adult engagements training platforms and operational improvements. Sister Jamesha stated a need for a digital training platform to share resources across the districts; while Dr. Henderson highlighted the importance of intergenerational

collaboration and effective communication. Participants discussed challenges of declining church membership and suggested creative solutions like combining resources, providing childcare at events to increase participation and the necessity of staying true to the organization's mission serving God rather than being swayed by personal or external influences.

The meeting focused on the history and importance of the AME Church's Lay Organization. Sister Jamesha and Dr. Henderson discussed strategies for encouraging new members to join the Lay Organization, emphasizing the spiritual and community benefits. The session concluded with a discussion on collaboration between the Lay Organization and other church groups such as the Women's Missionary Society to enhance training and outreach efforts.

A.M.E. Church Protocol and Traditions

Sister Paulette Smith-Bryant from the North Carolina Conference explained that protocol is more than just calling names in order but a system for doing things correctly according to the A.M.E. Church for seating, processions, programs, and worship services. Sister Conley emphasized that some church customs have been relaxed over the years while tradition represents what are commonly specific rules that should be followed. The group will provide more enhanced training on the issue of protocol November 8.

Officers: Duties and Responsibilities

Sister D. Faye Conley focused on the roles, responsibilities and elections of the Lay Organization and understanding the importance in understanding the duties of the local, conference, and district levels. There is a need for proper training and preparation. The upcoming election in 2026 was highlighted and encouraged officers to fulfill their roles with dedication and respect for constituted authority. Members were encouraged to read the Constitution and Bylaws to keep abreast of the role of the office that one is serving in and/or one is aspiring to seek election for.

Sister Conley also emphasized on finding and fulfilling God's calling through spiritual gifts, passion and abilities. It is important to understand and seek guidance and direction to fulfill the assigned tasks. The session concluded with a discussion on local church bylaws and

the need to be aware of conference and district guidelines. Point of observation the "Discipline is a tool not a weapon."

The convention was praised for the content and the collaborative spirit as presented.

Chaplain Kenneth Woods provided the closing prayer, and the Lay Benediction was sung by Brother Brian Glover.

Adjournment 2:03 p.m.

Jacqueline C. Kanipe

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Jacqueline C. Kanipe, Assistant Recording Secretary

SEDLO Treasure Report
May 30, 2026 - June 30, 2026
Summer Summitt Planning Meeting
July 6, 2026

Balance Brought Forward Aug. 31, 2026	36,216.34		
Plus Receipts	28,817.89		
Total Funds	65,034.23		
Less Expenditures	(5,111.68)		
Balance July 30, 2026 (per bank statement)		59,922.55	
Less Outstanding Check			
Adjusted Balance		59,922.55	
Funds Held			
Davis/McKinney Scholarship (restricted funds)		12,610.86	
Total Funds Held		**12,610.86**	
Total Funds Available for Operating Expenses		47,311.69	
Itemized Receipts			
SEDLO Sneaker Ball			
Baltimore Conference			
Washington Conference		100.00	
Virginia Conference		1,590.00	
Total SEDLO Sneaker Ball			1,690.00
SEDLO Conference Membership			
Virginia Conference		98.00	
Total Conference Membership			98.00
SEDLO Miscellaneous Items			
Refund - Country Inn Radisson - VA		436.64	
Total SEDLO Miscellaneous Items			**436.64**
Ways and Means Activities			
Virginia Conference - Attire		415.00	
WNCC - Stole		428.83	
Total Ways and Means Activities			**843.83**
SEDLO Convention Registration			
Baltimore		1,650.00	
Washington		5,749.42	
Virginia		1,800.00	
North Carolina		15,600.00	
Western North Carolina		6,450.00	
Adjustment WCCL check deposited in October		(5,600.00)	
Total SEDLO Convention Registration	-		**25,649.42**
Executive Board Assessment			
Adam Johnston		50.00	
Kenneth Woods		50.00	
Total Executive Board Assessment			**100.00**
Total Itemized Receipts		28,817.89	**28,817.89**
Itemized Expenditures			
SEDLO President's Expenses			
Hotel			
Hotels		781.27	

SEDLO Treasure Report
May 30, 2026 - June 30, 2026
Summer Summitt Planning Meeting
July 6, 2026

Gas	50.01	
Airline	580.40	
Total President Expenses		**1,411.68**
Communications		
Zoom	50.00	
Total Communication		**50.00**
Refunds		
Penny Oliver	250.00	
Total Refunds		**250.00**
Lay Stoles		
Harold Hughes Company	3,350.00	
Total Lay Stoles		**3,350.00**
Miscellaneous		
Alamanc Community	50.00	
Total Miscellaneous Expenses		**50.00**
Total Itemized Expenditures	**5,111.68**	**5,111.68**
	Dr. Edna S. Watson	*Aggie Conley*
	Treasurer	Financial Secretary

Second Episcopal District Lay Organization
President's Report – Penny S. Oliver
21st SEDLO Convention | October 21–23, 2026

Through God's grace and mercy, the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization is **Reviving the Connection: Exceedingly, Abundantly, Above All We Can Ask or Think** (Ephesians 3:20–21). Our focus has been **moving from membership to discipleship**—engaging members, strengthening leaders through training, organizing and reorganizing lay organizations, empowering young adults, and creating opportunities for service and leadership. We are strengthening partnerships between pastors and laity, connecting our conferences and local churches, and engaging every generation.

Membership, Organization & Engagement

- Active lay membership increased from 4,208 in 2025 to 4,373 in 2026, with 245 active Lay Organizations and 95 active young adults. Each of the five conferences has a Young Adult officer. All 79 churches in the North Carolina Conference are organized and active.
- Strengthened partnerships with Stewards, Trustees, Ushers, Music Ministry, WMS, Sons of Allen, and RAYAC while encouraging dialogue among conference presidents, Presiding Elders, and pastors to strengthen the pulpit-to-pew relationship.
- At the 39th Connectional Lay Organization Biennial the SEDLO received recognition for the second-highest lay membership in the CLO and was recognized by *The Christian Recorder* for 101 subscriptions, increasing to 116 by December 2025. All five conferences submitted articles to *The Christian Recorder* and *We Speak Magazine*.
- Ninety-six delegates, alternates, and observers participated in the 39th Connectional Lay Biennial in Atlanta. Also participated in Connectional meetings, District Lay Meetings, RED Board meetings, and planning for the 2027 Lay Biennial in Johannesburg, South Africa. Hosted the 2025 SEDLO Virtual Lay Convention.
- Continued communication and collaboration across the District; prepared 28 death acknowledgements, recorded 8,096 website visits, conducted six Executive Board meetings, and maintained collaboration with Episcopal leadership.
- Supported evangelism, church and community events, Lay Witness opportunities, conferences, anniversaries, and the WNCC Clergy and Lay Institute.
- Hosted two Founder's Day Breakfasts and two Virtual Advent Services, established Dollars for Scholars and the Intergenerational Sneaker Ball to support the Maude Davis/Joseph McKinney Scholarship Fund, and conducted three in-person Component Meetings.
- Participated in a two-day Payne Theological Seminary retreat addressing pastoral shortages.

Leadership Development

We continue to believe that trained leaders are prepared leaders. Training included: Membership to Discipleship | Protocol I & II | Officers' Duties & Responsibilities | Electoral College Training | Organizing a New Lay Organization | Work of Committees | Monthly Reading List | AME Church Virtual Training Opportunities

The work continues. We must build on what God has allowed us to accomplish, strengthen our connections, develop leaders, engage young adults, support our pastors, and create meaningful opportunities for every generation to serve. **Clergy and laity must continue to work together—not separately—to advance the Kingdom of God.** Together, let us remain **connected, engaged, trained, and committed to service**, moving the Second Episcopal District forward with faith, purpose, and unity. **To God be the glory for the great things He has done and for your willingness to serve.**

Second Episcopal District Lay Organization
First Vice President's Report – Jean Wilson Richie
21st SEDLO Convention – October 21-23, 2026

With the blessings of Almighty God, the ***Second Episcopal District Lay Organization*** counting the many faithful hands committed to Christ throughout the **District**, continues to move forward from "membership to discipleship", believing on the promises of God our Father, who told us a long time ago that "All Things Are Possible Through Christ" His Son, our Lord.
We have employed an intergenerational approach to enhance training and active roles as we move from membership to discipleship to enhance the opportunity for generations of members to learn from each other.
Membership: Active membership increased from 4,208 in 2025 to 4,373 in 2026. There is a total of 245 active Lay Organizations with 95 active Young Adults. Each Conference has a Young Adult Representative over the last two years. In the North Carolina Conference, 100% of the churches have an organized Lay Organization.
Engagement/Partnerships: Internal partnerships have been strengthened with the following: WMS, Sons of Allen, RAYAC, Ushers, Stewards, Trustees, Pastors, and Presiding Elders. These enhanced collaborations have been strategically addressed to build stronger relationships between the "pulpit and the pew", with the ultimate goal of increasing recruitment and retention among all age groups and levels of experiential service.
The SEDLO was presented a **Connectional** award at the 39th Biennial Convention for its accomplishment of attaining the second highest membership in the Connection. The Christian Recorder acknowledged SEDLO for having 116 paid subscriptions in December 2025.
Connectional First Vice President's Meetings For 90% of the meetings, SEDLO had the highest number of participants in attendance and was acknowledged each time for its tremendous support for the Connectional meetings.

Active Representation for the President:

- Represented SEDLO President at Funerals in the Baltimore/Washington area
- Represented SEDLO President at Retirement Celebrations for Clergy

Outreach and In-Reach to Support Growth and Retention:

- Assisted local Lay Organizations in strategic building of local organizations
- Conducted interviews with 24 Young Adults to ascertain their various perspectives and strategies to successfully recruit and retain members in their age category, which included the following outcomes:
    - Relationship-building activities with older adults
    - Academic and Career Guidance
    - Outreach Opportunities to expand church activities into communities
    - Legislative training and other civic connections
    - HBCU Connections

To God be the Glory for the First Vice Presidents at each level (SEDLO local church and Conference) and all the wonderful members of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization who have labored in the vineyard together.

REPORT OF THE SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

To God be the Glory for the good things he has done for each conference in the SED, and for all of the officers, members and friends of their Lay Organizations.

Since the orientation meeting was held in August 2025, working meetings consisting of all levels of second vice presidents from all conferences has gathered to plan and have discussions concerning the present and the future .Looking at the next 3,5,10,and 20 years, the question is what will the Lay Organization look like.

Meetings and discussions involving the focus teams had positive outcomes, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats were recognized and discussed with all levels involved without criticism or judgement. Mutual ideas regarding longevity, the art of delegation, sharing via technology, and creating a comfortable space for others to step up to the plate and for the young population. I every team the topic of membership and leadership was discussed with much concern about what to do and how to do it showing action processes.

Leadership has been another primary focus throughout the globe, this key factor prepares members to lead and serve in a diverse manner. The objectives listed in the discipline are being reviewed, discussed, measured and revised if deemed necessary. Actions should be seen on how we can apply the mission statement of the Lay Organization into action at each level.

Review of the survey was conducted by Ms. Reaves from the third district, the percentages that were shared captured leadership, effectiveness, commitment, recruitment, retention, expansion of training at all levels, and enhancement of engagement of young adults all of the above rated notably high 70 - 80%.

Duties of the second vice presidents on all levels is to be engaged in the Strategic Planning Process. All levels have been invited to meetings and to participate in the focus teams. My active profile : (1) Chaired a focus session with co-chair N. Khoza from the 19th district, the team discussion was geared toward what does a true Global Lay Organization look like as it relates to leadership, membership, opportunities, and threats. (2) Conducted Registration for the breakfast meeting at midwinter. (3) Outlined and shared information from November 29th second vice president's meeting. (4) Introduced SMART goals sheet to my VCLO second vice president and to my local church. (5) Assisted VCLO First Vice President with the organization and reorganization of lay organization in the local churches that had none or had become inactive. (6) Introduced young adult members to local and conference meetings encouraging their participation.

Stewardship Report

of the

SEDLO Director of Lay Activities

Our mission statement clearly states that we have been ***commissioned*** to teach, train and empower its members for lay ministry, global leadership and service following the tenets of Jesus Christ.

We are to fulfill the purpose by executing item "a. To instill in the membership of the church a love for and an appreciation of the history, traditions, principles and development of African Methodism by encouraging, motivating, and educating all lay persons."

As we close this term, for the last 24.5 months through the office of the Director of Lay Activities, I have been especially intentional with regards to ensuring our local churches and conferences are carrying out the mission and the purpose of the Connectional Lay Organization.

The first major event was the *Breakfast* held at the seat of the Mid-Winter Meeting in Charlotte, NC, where we were given one hour to celebrate the Conference Outstanding Laypersons including Young Adults and announce the SEDLO Outstanding Laypersons. Each person along with Episcopal District President Penny Oliver and the Worship Leader, Brother Alvin White were given a copy of Dennis Dickerson's AME History Book. Every member of the AME Church should have a copy along with the recently-published "*I AM AME,"* a church membership guide written by Dr. Roderick Belin.

2025 was a CLO Biennial Convention year, so many Connectional Meetings were held in preparation and subsequently within the entire Second Episcopal District. Processes were put in place for selecting the Outstanding Laypersons for the SEDLO, as well as securing attire prior to the Biennial Convention. Several committees were put in place to carryout the work of the SEDLO, where at least one Conference President and/or one Conference Director of Lay Activities served as Chair/Co-Chair.

While the 20th Lay Convention was a one-day virtual meeting, workshops included *Officer Roles and Responsibilities* and *Church Protocol* with attention to the AME Service of Worship.

An additional committee convened to work on AME Discipline training, especially the AME Book of Discipline, focusing on the fact that it is a *tool and*

not a weapon. Plans were put on hold since the Eighth Episcopal District holds a virtual monthly study on the discipline.

A *Suggested Reading List* to enhance spiritual growth has been provided monthly to include books authored by Bishop and Episcopal Supervisor Seawright.

Monthly meetings have been held on the 3rd Wednesdays for the Conference Directors of Lay Activities. In addition, the CLO Director of Lay Activities holds monthly meetings the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Workshops have been given on *The Work of Committees, The Electoral College and How to Grow (and Start) A Local Lay Organization.*

I was honored to attend Conference Lay Nights to witness the abundance of gifts and talents among the SEDLO. I have had the pleasure of conducting workshops across the Episcopal District and due to scheduling conflicts I will be speaking at several churches in 2027.

The *History Initiative* began as we celebrated all who have served as Episcopal District Presidents during the 2026 Mid-Winter Meeting. Phase 2 will culminate during the 21st SEDLO Convention as the five display their history. Phase 3 will be held during the 2027 Mid-Winter Meeting in celebration of all who have served as Conference Lay Presidents.

As I end this assignment, I want to thank those who thought it not robbery to offer the position to me and then for the SEDLO E-board to approve the choice. It is my prayer that something has been done to equip the organization, especially as we move to carry out the current theme and our convention theme, "*Exceedingly, Abundantly Above All We Can Ask of Think."*

Blessings,

D. Faye Conley
Director of Lay Activities
October 2024 – October 2026

REPORT OF THE SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

OCTOBER 2026

This is the report of the Director of Public Relations for February 1, 2024, through October 2026.

Number of emails sent: ~1,013

Created hundreds of specialized custom:

- Graphics/artwork
- Fliers, Ads, and Promotional materials

Designed and created many special projects and booklets

Attended CLO Correspondence Secretary Meetings

Attended CLO DOPR Meetings

Maintained the SEDLO website – Performance score of 91 which means. The website site service provided measures the SEDLO.ORG online performance, compared to online businesses like it. A high score means SEDLO.ORG is engaging visitors well. The score calculates website engagement and social presence. It factors in how often the SEDLO.ORG website is viewed, and how active site visitors are on your connected social accounts. Scores may go up if site traffic is high.

Created a group/listserv to communicate with Conference Correspondence Secretaries and DOPRs.

Report of the SEDLO Young Adult Representative

As I present my final report as Young Adult Representative (YAR), I do so with deep gratitude for the opportunity to serve the Second Episcopal District. My service has focused on strengthening young adult engagement, elevating their voices, and fostering meaningful connections across generations of lay leadership. I am thankful for the experiences and relationships that have shaped this journey and for the opportunity to contribute to the continued growth of our Lay Organization.

During my final term, I had the honor of serving as the Lay Day Speaker at FAME AME Church in Manassas, Virginia, and supporting the selection of the Lay Persons of the Year who represented the District at the 39th Lay Biennial. At the Second Episcopal District Meeting this past February, I attended the RAYAC Day Conference, offering the perspective of serving as the District Young Adult Representative and contributing to conversations surrounding young adult engagement and leadership. At the Connectional level, I contributed to the Constitutional and By-Laws Committee and supported young adult outreach through the YAR Squad under the leadership of Connectional Young Adult Representative Aimee Beasley. I also remained active with the Kittrell Allen Adams and James Johnson Scholarship Committees and served on the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Ways and Means Committee.

One initiative I am particularly proud of is the Lay Savings Plan, which I developed and presented to young adults as a practical strategy for preparing financially for the upcoming 40th Connectional Lay Biennial in Johannesburg. The plan encouraged advance saving, financial discipline, and personal responsibility while addressing one of the barriers that can prevent young adults from participating in Connectional events. This initiative reflects the importance of moving beyond inviting young adults to participate and equipping them with practical tools to make participation possible. My hope is that the Lay Savings Plan will inspire continued efforts to promote financial preparedness and meaningful young adult involvement throughout the Lay Organization.

Attracting and retaining young adults remains an important challenge. Professional responsibilities, family commitments, financial pressures, and competing demands can make sustained involvement difficult. We must therefore make Lay membership more visible, welcoming, and relevant while creating meaningful opportunities for young adults to lead, contribute, and grow.

We must also strengthen the YAR position through consistent communication, mentorship, clear expectations, and support for initiatives that engage young adults. The responsibility for young adult engagement cannot rest solely on the individual holding the YAR title; it must be a shared commitment among District leadership, local Lay Organizations, and members. We must ensure that young adults are not simply invited to the table, but are given meaningful opportunities to help shape the future of our organization.

As I conclude my tenure, I encourage the incoming Young Adult Representative to continue advocating for young adults, building relationships, and developing initiatives that strengthen their connection to the Church. I offer my prayers and best wishes as they assume this important responsibility.

To the leadership and members of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization, thank you for the opportunity to serve. Although my tenure as YAR is ending, my commitment to the mission of the Church and the development of future leaders remains. May we continue building a Lay Organization that welcomes, equips, and empowers young adults to serve faithfully for generations to come. May God continue to bless the work of the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization.

BALTIMORE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
BALTIMORE CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION
REPORT TO THE BALTIMORE DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2026

OUR CURRENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- 10 Delegates to 2026 SEDLO Convention in Wilmington, North Carolina, October 21 to October 23, 2026
- September 12, 2026, Eastern Shore Freedom Tour sponsored an historical black history engaging experiences – presenters Naomi for Kennard Cultural Black History Center, Union Soldiers Cemetery – Rev. Nancy Dennis, Harriet Tubman Museum and Gloria Richardson of Cambridge
- Supported "Sneaker Ball" Fund Raiser for Davis/McKinney Scholarship
- Monthly Meetings are held with excellent training presented by DOLA Elaine Weaver
  Fulfilling the Mission of the Lay Organization
- March 2026 Installation of New Conference Lay Officers, Bishop Harry L. Seawright
- 100 Gift Card Contributions to Eastern/Baltimore District Church School Conventions June 2026
- 23 Delegates to the 39th Biennial of the Connectional Lay Organization in Atlanta, Georgia, July 6-12,2025
- 23 New Subscriptions to the Christian Recorder, Second Episcopal District Reported as the only district at the Biennial reporting 100 new members from the five conferences combined
- 26 Attendees for the Second District Special Convention, Saturday, August 23, 2025
- 2025 Lay Institute held Saturday, October 25, 2025 featuring Guest Speakers – Second Episcopal District Director of Lay Activities Sister D. Faye Conley; Rev. Devan Martin, Bethel / Cambridge; Sister Carlotta Oliver, PhD, Bethel / Baltimore and Rev. Dr. Marilyn Aklin, Micah Mission AME – TOPIC: KINGDOM PURPOSE, PROCESS, PLAN planned and executed by DOLA Elaine Weaver, Members: Cynthia
  Bryant Pitts, Jean Wilson Richie, Tessie Palmer-Waters
- Local Lay Organization named after one of the 1954 original founders of the Baltimore Conference Lay Organization – Estelle Kaintuck Local Lay Organization-Waters AME
- Connectional Lay Organization Position Appointments – Sister Barbara Peyton/Bethel Baltimore / Fundraising Committee Member; Brother Alvin White, Trinity Baltimore Vice Chairman Constitution and Bylaw committee

OUR PROJECTED GOAL(S)

- Discipleship / Evangelism Training
- President Council of Local Presidents to improve communication
- Bylaws Alignment of Officers Responsibilities with Connections and District

- Enhanced Church Protocol
- Additional Local Churches BCLO Membership – 100% Mandated Organized Lay

Submitted by: Brother Alvin R. White, President Baltimore Conference Lay Organization

SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION

Washington Conference Lay Organization

Convention Report
October 22, 2026

Number Of Churches in the Conference: 79
Number Of Churches with Active Lay Organizations: 44
Membership Since January 1, 2026: 654

The Washington Conference Lay Organization (WCLO) proudly embraces and supports the new Connectional Lay Organization (CLO) theme of "Reviving the Connection: Exceedingly, Abundantly Above All We Can Ask or Think" (Ephesians 3:20-21).

Throughout the past two conference years, we have continued to offer timely trainings, both virtually and in person, designed to encourage, empower, and equip the laity while ensuring accessibility and participation across the conference. Dynamic presentations and training were facilitated by special guests Rev. William H. Lamar IV, Metropolitan A.M.E. Church, Washington, DC ("Duties and Responsibilities of the Episcopal Committee Chair"); Rev. Dr. Michael A. Cousin, Sr., St. Paul A.M.E. Church, Chapel Hill, NC ("General Conference Legislation"); Bro. Jerry Turner, Second Vice President of the Connectional Lay Organization ("Strategic Planning for Local and Conference Lay Organizations"); former SEDLO DOLA Sis. Adrienne Warren (delegate elections); and past WCLO President Bro. Matthew Douglas ("Officers' Roles and Responsibilities within the Washington Conference Lay Organization"). Our own Historiographer, Bro. Darwin Curry, DOLA Kimberly Mitchell, and YAR Xavier Douglas also provided timely lessons. Topics included "Honorary Ladies of the WCLO," "Grief in 15 Minutes," "Servant Leadership vs. Secular Leadership," Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., O. W. Gurley, founder of Black Wall Street, and A.M.E. notables such as Rev. Dr. Mark Tyler, Historiographer and Executive Director of the Department of Research & Scholarship for the A.M.E. Church, Dr. Ossian Sweet, and Mary Cardwell Dawson. We also attended Learning Labs hosted by the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization (SEDLO).

To prepare for the 2024 elections and increase voter turnout through education, registration, and innovative solutions, the WCLO participated in primary candidate forums and other collective voter-empowerment activities, including the Poor People's Campaign and barber and beauty shop bus voter registration tours.

After our summer break, the WCLO hosted our Fall Lay Institute at Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church in Columbia, MD. Our opening session, "Lay Involvement and Roles Across the District," was presented by Judge Starr Battle, A.M.E. Judicial Council. Workshops included "General Conference Legislation," "Improving Your Local Church with Technology," "Financial Literacy, Investing & Money Management," and "Self-Care – How Can You Pour from an Empty Vessel." Two of our YARs, Dr. Shannon Douglas and RN Kori Douglas, staffed a wellness station which included blood pressure screenings and "brown bag" medicine consultations. The day ended with a workshop on "Elections on All Levels" by Rev. Kent Roberson, Ebenezer A.M.E. Church, Fort Washington, MD, and member of the House of Delegates representing the 25th District of Maryland, and concluded with NARCAN Training by YAR Justin Clark.

Lay Theme: Exceedingly…

[20]Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, [21] to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3: 20-21)

Each October, we held our Annual Lay Revival under our continued theme, *Lay and Clergy, Collaborating for Kingdom Building*. In October 2024, our "Evening of Impact Lay Revival" featured Rev. Latia Suite, St. John A.M.E. Church, Hughesville, MD, as our revivalist. In October 2025, we were blessed to have Rev. Dr. Dededrick O. Rivers of Ward A.M.E. Church serve as our revivalist for the afternoon.

Our Christmas outreach continued each year. In December 2024, the WCLO and the family of Sis. Izetta Ferrell donated items and raised over $2,000.00 to provide Christmas toys, clothes, shoes, hats, gloves, and other necessities for families in Prince George's County, MD. We also collected gift cards, cleaning supplies, and toiletries for Grassroots Day Resource Center (Columbia and Jessup, MD), and gift cards, tissues, cleaning supplies, and uniforms for Glass Manor Elementary School in Oxon Hill, MD. In December 2025, we provided toys, clothing, and essential items for Brooklyn Park Elementary School and donated $969.00 to Columbia Community Care.

In February 2025 and February 2026, WCLO members attended the Founder's Day and Mid-Winter Meeting, as well as the SED Women's Missionary Society Dorcas Extravaganza. At the 2025 SEDLO Prayer Breakfast, Bro. William "Bill" Ayers (Ward Memorial A.M.E. Church, Washington, DC) and Young Adult Representative of the Year Sis. Robin Brown (Reid Temple A.M.E. Church, Glenn Dale, MD) were honored as Lay Persons of the Year for the WCLO. At the 2026 SEDLO Prayer Breakfast, the following former SEDLO Presidents were honored:

- Dr. Joseph C. McKinney (deceased)
- Dr. Cellestine Cheeks
- Sis. Valerie Faith Gary Bell (deceased)
- Bro. Matthew Douglas

In May 2025, we hosted our Outstanding Lay Person Brunch at Reid Temple A.M.E. Church with over 200 clergy and lay persons in attendance.

In July 2025, we had a strong lay representation at the 39th Biennial Session of the Connectional Lay Organization in Atlanta, GA. Seven members of the WCLO were selected to serve on committees of the Connectional Lay Organization:

- Audit Committee – Sis. Satina Williams (Member)
- Disaster Relief Committee – Sis. Lisa Washington-Thomas (Vice-Chair)
- Election Committee – Sis. Glen White (Member)
- Music Committee – Bro. Brian Glover (Chair)
- Organization and Officer Effectiveness Committee – Sis. Angelita Edwards (Member)
- Social Action Committee – Sis. Lynette Cosby (Vice-Chair)
- Technology Committee – Sis. Chenay Saunders (Chair)

In August 2025, we attended the SEDLO Virtual Special Convention and supported the Connectional RAYAC Convention in Baltimore, MD.

In summer 2024 and again in November 2025, the WCLO partnered with the Ministerial Alliance, under the leadership of Rev. Krishnan Natesan, for an intergenerational bowling event. These events fostered fellowship, strengthened relationships between clergy and laity, and engaged the community in a fun and interactive way.

Lay Theme: Exceedingly…

[20]Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, [21] to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3: 20-21)

Under the leadership of Sis. Chenay Saunders, who served as our First Vice President during the 2024-2026 term, we continued to recruit new lay members and reactivate inactive organizations through the "No Church Left Behind" initiative. Our team remains committed to supporting local lay organizations by attending annual lay days and special services, both virtually and in person.

In April 2026, the newly elected executive board was installed at the 76th Session of the Washington Annual Conference.

In June 2026, we hosted a "Power in the Pews" Lay Institute where we discussed the Power of Being a Delegate, the Power of Movement, the Power of Action, and the Power of Presence.

Our young adults remain actively engaged at the local, conference, district, and connectional levels, and our Health and Wellness Committee continues to keep us informed on important health topics and concerns.

Goals for the Conference Year

Our primary goals are to:

- Empower and mobilize laity through active engagement in social action initiatives
- Increase participation in community service
- Build strategic partnerships with faith-based, civic, and advocacy organizations

We will achieve these goals through:

- Targeted training and outreach programs
- Collaborative efforts addressing social justice, voter education, economic empowerment, and community development

We also remain committed to integrating technology to stay connected, informed, and engaged through virtual platforms and digital resources, while continuing to prioritize in-person gatherings to strengthen relationships and deepen our impact.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our ministry partners, including the Ministerial Alliance, the Women in Ministry, the Women's Missionary Society and YPD, and RAYAC, as we continue to work towards kingdom building.

As we move forward, we remain committed to supporting our local lay organizations and the Second Episcopal District Lay Organization. We look ahead with great expectation for the opportunities God has in store for WCLO.

Submitted by:

Chenay N. Saunders

Sis. Chenay Saunders, President
Washington Conference Lay Organization

Lay Theme: Exceedingly…

[20]Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, [21] to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3: 20-21)

Conference Leadership:

- President -Chenay Saunders, Union Bethel AMEC –Randallstown, MD
- First Vice President -Brian Glover, Allen Chapel AMEC – Washington, DC
- Second Vice President -Lynette Cosby, Reid Temple AMEC
- Third Vice President -Derrick Pew, Union Bethel AMEC – Brandywine, MD
- Recording Secretary -Kimberly Clark, Love AMEC
- Treasurer -Agnes Brown, Turner Memorial AMEC
- Financial Secretary -Kennetta Douglas, Mt. Moriah AMEC
- Chaplain -Taylor Clark, Reid Temple AMEC
- Historiographer -Xavier Douglas, Mt. Moriah AMEC
- Director Of Lay Activities -Kimberly Mitchell, Ebenezer AMEC – Fort Washington, MD
- Director Of Public Relations -Janice Murray, Metropolitan AMEC – Washington, DC
- Young Adult Representative -Taylor Sutton, Mt. Moriah AMEC
- Advisors – Sis. Patricia Matthews, Sis. Glen White, Bro. Matthew Douglas

Lay Theme: Exceedingly…

[20]Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, [21] to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3: 20-21)

Virginia Conference Lay Organization
Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention Report
October 22, 2026

NUMBER OF CHURCHES IN THE CONFERENCE: 58
NUMBER OF CHURCHES WITH ACTIVE LAY ORGANIZATIONS: 34
MEMBERSHIP SINCE JANUARY 1, 2026: 561

Accomplishments/Activities of the VCLO over the last two years:

- Membership recruitment efforts resulted in the addition of membership from several churches that did not submit membership in the prior year.

  Three year comparison:

	2026	2025	2024
Number of Churches with Lay Organizations	34	28	26
Number of Members	561	537	472

  Membership increase from 2024 to 2026 = 18.86%
- Conducted all scheduled VCLO meetings, and added meetings (including Executive Board Meetings) that included work needed to support the 2026 SEDLO Convention
- Workshops/training:
  - Identity Theft and Scam Protection
  - History of the Virginia Conference
  - Mental Health
  - Lay Votes – The importance of voting, voter registration
- September 2026 VCLO Meeting – SEDLO candidates for contested offices were invited and attended the meeting to share their vision and why they feel called to serve in their respective offices and to answer questions.
- SEDLO assessments paid
- Created and submitted a letter to address concerns about the AMEC annuity that resulted in a discussion meeting with the SED Bishop, Lay Organization President, VCLO Executive Board, and some clergy
- Attended the 39th Session of the CLO Biennial Convention in July 2025 – 1 District delegate, 7 VCLO delegates, 2 VCLO alternate delegates, 1 local church delegate

- Attended/supported Virginia Conference and SED events, including:
    - SED Founder's Day/Mid-Winter Meeting 2025 and 2026, including SEDLO Component Meeting and 2026 SEDLO breakfast where Sis. Marcie White, former SEDLO President from the Virginia Conference, was honored along with other SEDLO Presidents
    - Virginia Annual Conference 2025 and 2026
    - SED Planning Meeting/Summer Summit, including SEDLO Component Meeting and 2026 SEDLO Sneaker Ball
    - Norfolk/Eastern Shore and Portsmouth/Richmond/Roanoke District Conferences, including coordinating and leading Lay Services with Lay speakers
    - SEDLO Executive Board Meetings
- Coordinated and led Lay Services at Virginia Annual Conference
- Recognized VCLO regional and local church honorees at the VCLO Annual Awards Luncheon in March 2025 and 2026
- Elected VCLO officers in March 2026
- Filling vacant positions – After VCLO officer elections in March 2026, the following positions were vacant: First Vice President, Young Adult Representative, Assistant Recording Secretary, Parliamentarian, Historiographer
  Since then, we have elected individuals to fill the following positions: First Vice President, Young Adult Representative, Historiographer
- Registered delegates, VA Conference Presiding Elders, and observers for the 2026 SEDLO Convention
- VCLO representatives on 2026 SEDLO Convention Committees, chairing three

Challenges:

- Reaching the goal of Lay Organizations in 100% of Virginia Conference churches
- Filling positions of Parliamentarian and Assistant Recording Secretary
- Financial support for VCLO delegates to the 2027 CLO Biennial in Johannesburg, South Africa

Blessed to submit,
Valerie Gowens Terry



President, Virginia Conference Lay Organization

Officers/Leadership:

- President: Valerie Gowens Terry – Saint Mark AMEC, Virginia Beach
- First Vice President: Loretta Freeman – Bethel AMEC, Cave Spring
- Second Vice President: Gregory Bagwell – Gaskins Chapel AMEC, Onancock
- Third Vice President: Yvonne Davis – Saint John's AMEC, Norfolk
- Director of Lay Activities: Ruby R. Greer – Emanuel AMEC, Portsmouth
- Young Adult Representative: Marquibus Brooks – New Union Chapel AMEC, Norfolk
- Recording Secretary: Rita Beane Turner – Bethel AMEC, Cave Spring

- Corresponding Secretary: Adrienne June-Buckner – Saint Paul AMEC, Newport News
- Treasurer: Vivian Hall – Third Street Bethel AMEC, Richmond
- Financial Secretary: Joan E. Wilson – Saint Paul AMEC, Pungoteague
- Chaplain: Lolita Moses – Third Street Bethel AMEC, Richmond
- Historiographer: Donna Gowens-Parker – Saint Mark AMEC, Virginia Beach
- Director of Public Relations: Velda Gullap – Saint Luke AMEC, Chesapeake
- Regional Chairs:
    - Eastern Shore Region: Gregory Bagwell
    - Tidewater-Peninsula Region: Rose Brabble, Ruby R. Greer
    - Western Region: Mary C. Terry
- Past Presidents:
    - W. Germain Favor
    - Lawrence Buckner, Jr.
    - Joan C. Wilson

From the Desk of the President



It is with great joy and gratitude that I greet you. This is a special time for us to celebrate the work of the laity, reflect on what God has allowed us to accomplish, and renew our commitment to serving His Church and building His Kingdom.

The role of a lay member is an important one. Lay members serve faithfully in our local churches, communities, districts, conferences, and throughout the Connectional Church. We support our pastors, strengthen our ministries, serve those in need, encourage one another, and help carry the mission of the AME Church beyond the walls of our sanctuaries.

Over the past year, the members of the North Carolina Conference Lay Organization have demonstrated what can be accomplished when we work together with a common purpose. Through your commitment, participation, leadership, service, and willingness to work wherever needed, we have accomplished so much. Every program supported, meeting attended, ministry strengthened, fundraiser completed, outreach effort provided, and act of service has contributed to our mission of Kingdom building.

As your North Carolina Conference Lay President, I am extremely proud of what we have achieved together. Your commitment and dedication have been instrumental in making this another productive and successful year for the North Carolina Conference Lay Organization.

The Word of God reminds us in **1 Corinthians 15:58**: *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."*

What a fitting reminder for the laity. The work we do matters. Our service matters. Our commitment matters. Even when the work becomes difficult or goes unnoticed, we must remember that when we are working for the Lord, **our labor is never in vain**.

Thank you for your hard work. Thank you for your dedication. Thank you for your faithfulness. And most of all, thank you for understanding that **when we work together, we can accomplish great things for the Kingdom of God.**

To God be the Glory

Mr. Elbert N. Davis

President, North Carolina Conference Lay President

African Methodist Episcopal Church
North Carolina Conference Lay Organization

Mr. Elbert N. Davis, President
19 June Lane, Enfield, NC 27823
Cell: 252-883-3218
Email: elbertndavis@gmail.com

October 7, 2026

PRESIDENT: **Elbert Davis**

NUMBER OF CHURCHES IN THE CONFERENCE: **79**

NUMBER OF CHURCHES WITH ACTIVE LAY ORGANIZATIONS: **79**

2026 MEMBERSHIP: **1256**

MEMBERSHIP SINCE JANUARY 1, 2026: **1290**

MAJOR GOALS FOR THE CONFERENE YEAR:

Building upon our commitment to **teach, train, and empower**, we look toward the coming year with a renewed purpose—to **Train with intention, Grow our membership, Engage our laity, and Serve with purpose**.

TRAIN our members to understand the AME Church and become stronger Christian leaders.
GROW our membership and strengthen local Lay Organizations.
ENGAGE members of every generation and give them meaningful opportunities to participate.
SERVE our churches, communities, and God's Kingdom.

DESCRIPTIONS OF PROGRAMS, INITIATIVES PROJECTS EXECUTED OR PLANNED BY THE CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION

Program / Initiative	Description	How It Will Be Measured
Lay Training & Development	Provide ongoing training to strengthen members' knowledge of the AME Church, Lay Organization, leadership, church history, stewardship, evangelism, parliamentary procedures, and other areas of service.	Number of trainings offered; attendance at each session; number of churches represented; participant evaluations/feedback.
"Each One, Reach One" Membership Initiative	Encourage each current Lay member to invite at least one new person to become an active member of the Lay Organization.	Compare beginning- and end-of-year membership totals; number of new members recruited; percentage of new members who participate in activities.

African Methodist Episcopal Church
North Carolina Conference Lay Organization
Mr. Elbert N. Davis, President
19 June Lane, Enfield, NC 27823
Cell: 252-883-3218
Email: elbertndavis@gmail.com

Program / Initiative	Description	How It Will Be Measured
"Why Lay?" Awareness Campaign	Educate congregations about the purpose, mission, and importance of the Lay Organization and encourage greater involvement.	Number of churches where presentations are conducted; number of informational activities completed; membership inquiries and new members following presentations.

"BUILDING THE KINGDOM, ONE LAY MEMBER AT A TIME"

Respectfully submitted,

Elbert N. Davis

Elbert N. Davis, President & the
NC Conference Lay Organization
Respectfully submitted,

African Methodist Episcopal Church - Second Episcopal District Lay Organization
Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization
2024-2026 Biennial Report – SEDLO Convention Report

We greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ,

What a busy biennial this has been yet through it all we have moved across the conference and the district with speed and purpose. We have attended trainings, webinars, meetings and events that sometimes challenged us to do more. We have shown a commitment and determination to do the work of the church, God's ministry. We are proud to have Sis. Penny Oliver, from the WNCCLO, as our SEDLO President in addition to the representation of four others from our conference on the SEDLO Executive Board. We are thankful to God for their work but moreover thankful to HIM for allowing us to use our God given skills and abilities to move the church and his kingdom forward, especially in times like these. Through it all we must remember whose we are and what is required of us- to love one another as we work to make disciples for Christ. We experienced the passage of Bishop Reginald T. Jackson and his wife, Supervisor Attorney Christy Jackson, and the appointment of a new Bishop and Supervisor, Rev. Harry I. Seawright and Rev. Sherita Moon Seawright. We attended the homegoing celebration of Bishop Jackson in Atlanta Georgia. Yet, we are committed to move His kingdom forward as we strive to be "The Church at Its Best and First for Christ – Second to None".

We see the presence of lay person engaged in work across the conference as we have been included on conference and district committees (i.e., CDC, annual Conference Planning Committee, Trustee, Finance, etc.). Several of our members have recently completed the first level of Parliamentary training . We are thankful to all the churches who celebrated their laity as pastors shared the pulpit with lay speakers for our Lay Witness/Evangelism Services. You see when we work together as brothers and sisters in Christ, clergy and laity, we can move mountains.

The 2026-2028 Election of Conference officers was held at our Annual Meeting on April 11, 2026. Those officers who had served 8 years were recognized and the newly elected officers were installed by Bishop Harry Seawright at our conference Annual Lay Program. Newly elected Officers:

President- Sis. Barbara R. Myers
Recording Secretary – Bro. Brandon Owens
DOLA – Sis. Azzie Conley
Treasurer – Sis. Dorothy Jeffreys
Financial Secretary – Sis. Bettie Duell
Western District Coordinator – Bro. Paul Williams
Parliamentarian- Bro. John Smotherson

1st VP - Sis. Chaynel Nichols
3rd VP – Sis. Gerald Logan
Corresponding Sec. – Sis. Betty Parker
Chaplain – Sis. Carolyn Davenport
Bro. Kenneth Woods - Histographer
Eastern District Coordinator - Sis. Bobbi Hague

2nd VP – Sis. Regenia Melvin
DPOR – Sis. Danita Thompson

Our membership has increased from 1155 in 2024 to 1349 in 2026 with 50 of 81 churches reporting organized Lay Organizations. During this time, we had Sis. Sonia Barbre and Bro. Brandon Lindsay selected as the nominees from the SEDLO to represent the district at the 36th CLO Convention in Atlanta as Outstanding Lay Persons, Adult and Young Adult. Even though they were not selected at the connectional level, they represented us well. And, our conference sent 5 Delegates to support them. Our members are showing a desire to learn more about the church, the lay organization and their role in helping to move the church and God's teachings forward. We supported the SEDLO The Christian Recorder Challenge by obtaining 27 of the 100-subscription, goal for the district. We are thankful to our Presiding Elders, clergy and laity for their support. We have voted to donate $500 to our Men's Shelter in Raleigh. Again, it can only happen when we work together.

We were able to move from virtual meetings to in person meeting, with meeting sites from the mountains to the central/piedmont region of North Carolina. We have consistently held our conference meetings in August, October, January, March and April. In addition to other events i.e., Annual Lay Breakfast and Clergy Lay Institute in September and November. Our attendance has continued to grow with participation from both clergy and laity. Several themes included: "Steadfast Seekers of Social Justice: Together, We Can Transform, Transcend and Liberate" and "The Church at Its Best: WNCCLO Called to Do Better." And such topics as" There is Power in Togetherness", "Let's Take a Journey in Faith and Service" and "the SEDLO/WNCCLO At Its Best: The ABC". Our presenters moved us to a better understanding of the power of a relationship with God and the impact of our working together for God's church and kingdom building. Our host were gracious, the food was exceptional and the fellowship

and conversation were meaningful, engaging, timely and productive. We already have churches who are willing to serve as host this year, because we know working together, we are making a difference. For our Annual Lay Programs in 2025: We celebrated our Episcopal Leadership , Bishop Reginald Jackson and our Supervisor the Late Christy Jackson, Esq, with a spirit filled creative and expressive worship experience under the theme: "Dancing in the Spirit: A Celebration of God's Faithfulness and Joyful Worship". And, in 2026 we closed the year with our Annual Lay Witness Program which was cited as a Family Reunion by our presiding officer, Sis. Regenia Melvin. Our Theme was "Reviving the Connection Exceedingly, Abudantly Above All We Can Ask and Think" but our speaker, Minister Carmen Seawright, put his spin on it as he brought forth "That's Not In the Discipline" using Luke 10:38-42 as his text. What a Blessing as evidenced during the altar call-clergy and laity standing together in unity and commitment. The Holy Spirit moved and the congregation responded. Thanks to Sis. Azzie Conley, DOLA, and her commmittee for their hard work in planning and supporting these programs.

We have awarded Dr. James C. McKinney and Kitrell Allen Adams scholarships to young adult in our conference, collected donations for the Dollars for Scholars initiative and supported the Intergenerational Sneaker Ball. Remembering a quote from Mary McLeod Bethune, "We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power toward good ends".

The Conference laity has worked in concert with our WNCCWMS with voter education, registration and mobilization. We continue to provide information regarding voter registration, education and empowerment; provide handouts at meetings, in our churches, in emails; by our attendance at community meetings (i.e., board of election, county commissioners, city council, disaster preparedness, etc.), partnering with other organizations; encouraging friends, family and members to volunteer as poll workers, watchers, monitors and canvassing and phone banks.

For the last 2 years the laity has expressed our appreciation to our retiring pastors with a congratulatory card and gift. We are thankful for their service and pray God's speed as they enter a new phase of their life and ministry. The conference lay recognized Sis. Dorothy Jeffreys for her outstanding service as our treasurer.

President Myers attended the Summer Summit and Planning meetings, the Western District Sunday School Convention and the Eastern and Western District Conferences. She also attended virtually, the 4th District Lay Organization Convention and left with renewed spirit and much information to share. She attends District and Connectional virtual meetings and other officers (i.e., DOLA, 1st & 2nd VP) and members as well. All the information gained was informative and useful as we work to build relationships.

We will continue to focus on efforts to engage our young adults, enhance our use of technology in communication, registration, and information sharing across the conference, continue to work to establish organized Lay Organizations across the conference, institute more training directed toward the needs and growth of our members, and development of working relationships among other components. We want to set up our website and develop a newsletter. We are standing on His promises as we strive to do what sometimes seems impossible.

As with most things there are challenges and we make every effort to manage them as they arise; however, there are times we believe the lack of understanding and misinformation seemed to be at the center of these situations. Praise be to God we have been able to continue the work knowing that what we do is important to the growth of the church and those seeking solace and comfort in His care.

We are thankful to all who continue with us on this walk and give God all the praise as He leads us toward the mark of the high calling. We weathered the aftermath of Hurrican Helene and are grateful to all who supported our members across the state during their time of need. As we continue to work to return our lives to some form of normalcy we solicit your continued prayers, what ever you did to lighten the load is appreciated. We are thankful for the opportunity to serve and pray we are making a difference as we join together in fellowship, service and love. And, we look forward to our time in Wilmington as we learn, train, deliberate andelectour new SEDLO Officers. Pray for us as we continue to do the work.

Submitted on behallf of the WNCCLO
Barbara R. Myers, Conference President



Rev. Dr. Abdue L. Knox

The Rev. Dr. Abdue L. Knox is a visionary pastor, executive leader, and community builder with a proven record of growing churches, strengthening organizations, and advancing social impact initiatives. He currently serves as pastor of **St. Joseph AME Church in Durham, North Carolina**, where he leads with the guiding theme: *"Love God, Love the People, Do the Work."*

- **Ministry Leadership**

Over the course of his ministry, Dr. Knox has shepherded congregations of varying sizes, achieving measurable growth in membership, revenue, and community impact. At **Greater Bethel AME Church in Charlotte, NC**, he oversaw the expansion of a metropolitan congregation of more than 400 members (local and virtual), increased annual revenue from **$347K to $1.1M**, and strengthened ministries through innovation, stewardship, and community partnerships.

One of his most significant milestones was leading Greater Bethel in the **liquidation of its mortgage**, where he presented the bank with a **$350,000 check**, freeing the church from long-term debt and positioning it for greater ministry expansion. In the midst of a global health crisis, he launched **GB Cares**, which provided financial relief to employees displaced by the COVID-19 pandemic and delivered vital supplies to seniors. Under his leadership, **more than 5,000 vaccinations were administered**, directly supporting public health and saving lives during the pandemic.

Earlier, at **Bethel AME Church in Selma, NC**, Dr. Knox not only grew the congregation but also successfully **liquidated its mortgage ahead of schedule**, demonstrating fiscal discipline and forward-looking leadership that set the foundation for continued ministry growth. While there, he also founded **Bethel Cares**, a ministry created to assist families throughout the country impacted by government shutdowns and natural disasters in Eastern North Carolina.

- **Community Engagement and Leadership**

Beyond the pulpit, Dr. Knox is a respected civic and denominational leader. He currently serves on the **General Board of the AME Church**, previously on the board of **Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region**, where he was chair of the tithe committee, and the **Shaw University Alumni Association (Charlotte Chapter)**. His commitment to affordable housing and community development was honored in Charlotte with the naming of a street (Abdue Knox Way) in recognition of his legacy of service.

Dr. Knox's ministry is marked by a deep investment in **health, wellness, and equity initiatives**. He has spearheaded projects to address food insecurity, designed food pantry and healthy meal-prep resources (including multilingual recipe cards and booklets), and led congregational programs around mental health, active senior living, LGBTQ inclusion, HIV awareness, and chronic disease prevention. His leadership consistently bridges faith with tangible action, improving quality of life for individuals and families across North Carolina and beyond.

- **Education and Preparation**

Dr. Knox holds a **Doctor of Ministry** from Payne Theological Seminary, a **Master of Divinity** from Campbell University Divinity School, and a **Bachelor of Science in Religion** from Liberty University, with additional undergraduate study at Shaw University. His academic preparation is paired with extensive hands-on leadership in congregational, nonprofit, and civic settings, giving him both theological depth and practical wisdom.

- **Personal Life**

A devoted husband and father, Dr. Knox has been married to **Rashida for 23 years**. Together, they are the proud parents of Kezia, Abdue II and their fur baby Christmas. His personal life is grounded in faith, family, and service, reflecting his lifelong commitment to leaving a legacy of love, justice, and transformative leadership.



The Reverend Doris Lindsey

Presenter

Discipleship

Rev. Doris Lindsey is a dedicated resident of Whitakers, North Carolina, where she faithfully serves her community in multiple capacities. She is an elected official on the Whitakers Town Board, holding the positions of Commissioner and Mayor Pro-Tem. Rev. Lindsey also serves as the Pastor of Mann's Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, endeavoring to lead her congregation with wisdom, compassion, and a deep commitment to ministry.

Rev. Lindsey pursued her education at Shaw University and Edgecombe Community College. She is certified by the State of North Carolina in Early Childhood Development and holds both a Master's Degree in Theology and a Master's Degree in Christian Counseling and has a Doctoral Degree of Theology. In addition to her pastoral and civic responsibilities, she is employed by H.D. Pope Funeral Home offering comfort and support to families during their most difficult moments.

A visionary community leader, Rev. Lindsey is the Founder and Director of the DEL Resource Center, located in the heart of Whitakers. Under her leadership, the Center has provided vital educational and enrichment services, including afterschool programs, tutoring, GED preparation, basic computer training, and a Youth Summer Camp. The summer camp equips young people with essential social skills and offers enriching educational field trips for both youth and adults. The DEL Resource Center has also operated a weekly food ministry serving local families and provides assistance with utility bills for those facing hardship.

Rev. Lindsey is a devoted member of Women in Ministry (WIM). She served on the Executive Board of the 2nd Episcopal District WIM for 16 years in several leadership roles, including Worship Leader, 2nd Vice President, and 1st Vice President. She currently serves as Parliamentarian for the North Carolina Conference WIM. Her life's work reflects her unwavering dedication to Kingdom Building. She loves her church, her community, and is widely known as a woman of God with a genuine heart for people.



The Reverend Shanell Shanay White

Presenter

Financial Awareness

Rev. Shanell Shanay White, wife to one Jamaal White, is the eldest of five children and a native of Silver Spring, Maryland. As a first-generation college student, she attended North Carolina Central University, earning bachelor's degrees in Accounting and Computer Information Systems. She later graduated *Summa Cum Laude* with a Master of Science in Information Technology from North Carolina A&T State University and was honored as *Valedictorian* and *Summa Cum Laude* graduate of Payne Theological Seminary, where she earned her Master of Divinity in 2023.

Though called to ministry at the age of 16, Rev. White officially entered ministry in 2019. She was ordained an Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church during the 133rd Session of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference under the leadership of the late Bishop Reginald T. Jackson and was appointed Pastor of St. Matthew African Methodist Episcopal Church in Burlington, North Carolina, during the 134th Session by Bishop Harry L. Seawright.

A visionary leader with a passion for discipleship and church growth, Rev. White is committed to bridging generational gaps and cultivating thriving ministries. Her leadership has consistently produced measurable growth, including tripling the membership and service engagement of the Young People's Division at First A.M.E. Church in Gaithersburg, Maryland, during her tenure as YPD President.

Rev. White lives by the promise of Isaiah 43:19: "*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*"

Reverend Edwards has served in evangelism alongside some of the world's most respected ministry leaders. He participated in Operation Multiplication under Dr. Billy Hanks, an affiliate of the renowned late evangelist Dr. Billy Graham. He also served with the late Apostle Barbara Brewton Cameron, founder of Harvest Kitchen in Charlotte, North Carolina, where more than 72,000 people experiencing homelessness received food, clothing, transitional housing, education, and health care. Through shared outreach efforts, he has also served as a spiritual mentor and ministerial colleague to members of the NFL's Carolina Panthers. Known for his strong evangelistic and deliverance ministry, he has ministered in the streets, started Bible studies in drug houses, and witnessed notable miracles under his leadership. His ministry has helped transform cities, enabling many marginalized people to become productive, responsible citizens and inspiring some to become preachers of the Gospel. At St. Stephen AME Church, the rural congregation flourished against all odds, with hundreds of conversions and people traveling from surrounding cities and towns to attend a single service.

Education

He received his early education in the public schools of Charleston, South Carolina, and graduated from historic Burke High School. He enrolled at Livingstone College, an HBCU in Salisbury, North Carolina, as a pre-med biology major before transferring to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies. As a singer and musician, he received classical training in piano and trumpet from the late classical pianist Mr. Ralph Wise at the Ralph Wise Music Studio in Charleston and continued his musical education at Livingstone College. He earned a Master of Divinity from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, through its Charlotte, North Carolina, campus. He is a Fall 2026 candidate for the Doctor of Ministry degree at Duke Divinity School at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. He has received numerous awards and completed training in mental health and social services. He is also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and its historic Delta Lambda Chapter in Baltimore, Maryland.

A Humble Servant

Reverend Edwards, a former Christian stand-up comedian, has a gift for connecting with people from all walks of life. Despite his many accomplishments, he has learned, in the words of the late poet Rudyard Kipling, to "walk with kings—nor lose the common touch." He has never forgotten those who have mentored him from childhood to the present, including the late Reverend Mother Ella Mae Brown of the Seventh Episcopal District, Bishop Zedekiah Grady, Pastor Reuben Wright Sr., Apostle Barbara Brewton Cameron, Mother and Overseer Marquita Friend, Rev. Dr. Conrad K. Pridgen, the late Dr. Eddie Fox, former global president of World Methodist Evangelism, and many others. His humility allows people to readily connect with him. He has ministered to people experiencing homelessness, individuals from the streets, and people of celebrity status, often sharing his testimony of how he backslid and was restored to fellowship in Christ before preaching his initial sermon. His testimony of being introduced to the occult as a child by an unsuspecting public-school teacher, and later being supernaturally delivered by Christ, has given him a deep passion for apologetics. Through that passion, he has taught and led seminars across the United States and abroad.



The Reverend Brent La Prince Edwards

Presenter

Evangelism

The Reverend Brent La Prince Edwards, a native of Charleston, South Carolina, is the second son of retired educators, city activists, and community servants: the late Mr. James Christopher Edwards II and Mrs. Gloria La Prince Edwards. He is a highly sought-after, anointed speaker, pastor, seminar facilitator, educator, and author of three books: *Preachers Gone Wild! Where Do Preachers Go When They Hurt?*; the anti-bullying children's book *You Can't Bully Me Anymore*; and *You Can't Bully Me Anymore: The Discussion Starter*. He is also an artist, fitness advocate, singer, musician, praise and worship leader, missionary to Africa, and a member of World Methodist Evangelism's *Order of Faithful Leaders as Mission Evangelists* (FLAME), which serves all branches of Methodism across cultures in more than 155 countries. In 2015, he received the distinguished honor of serving as keynote speaker before this global audience.

He has been appointed Director of Evangelism for the Second Episcopal District, which includes congregations in the Baltimore, Washington, Virginia, North Carolina, and Western North Carolina conferences, under the leadership of Bishop Harry L. Seawright. He also serves on the Baltimore Conference Board of Examiners as the Fourth-Year Lead Instructor, teaching the principles of evangelism. His many gifts have opened opportunities for him to serve on local, national, and international platforms, including television and social media, alongside internationally recognized keynote speakers.

Pastoral, Evangelistic and Global Ministry

Rev. Edwards preached his initial sermon on October 28, 1989, at historic Morris Brown AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, in the Seventh Episcopal District, under the leadership of the late Rev. Dr. James Gilbert Blake, former General Officer of the AME Church. In 1993, he transferred to the Second Episcopal District and served at Greater Bethel AME Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, under the leadership of retired Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. Conrad K. Pridgen. He was ordained an itinerant elder in the AME Church in 1995 at St. Joseph AME Church in Durham, North Carolina, under the episcopal leadership of the late Bishop Frederick Calhoun James. Since then, he has faithfully served as pastor of three congregations and founded three nonprofit organizations: Helping Hands Youth Community Center at St. Stephen AME Church in Mt. Gilead, North Carolina; the Rosa Walker Advancement Initiative, Inc., at St. James AME Church in Asheville, North Carolina; and the newly founded Maji Advancement Initiative, Inc., at Historic Waters AME Church in Baltimore, Maryland. In every congregation he has served, Rev. Edwards has left a stellar record of service marked by exponential growth, extensive community engagement, social action, political initiatives, and partnerships with elected officials at the local, state, and national levels. He has launched educational initiatives, raised significant funding for building restoration projects, and led uncommon evangelistic efforts. Because of his city- and county-wide influence in Asheville, North Carolina, Mayor Esther Manheimer, Vice Mayor Sandra Kilgore, and the City of Asheville declared every May 20 as *Reverend Brent La Prince Edwards Day* in recognition of his spiritual and civic impact on the city.

Reverend Edwards has served in evangelism alongside some of the world's most respected ministry leaders. He participated in Operation Multiplication under Dr. Billy Hanks, an affiliate of the renowned late evangelist Dr. Billy Graham. He also served with the late Apostle Barbara Brewton Cameron, founder of Harvest Kitchen in Charlotte, North Carolina, where more than 72,000 people experiencing homelessness received food, clothing, transitional housing, education, and health care. Through shared outreach efforts, he has also served as a spiritual mentor and ministerial colleague to members of the NFL's Carolina Panthers. Known for his strong evangelistic and deliverance ministry, he has ministered in the streets, started Bible studies in drug houses, and witnessed notable miracles under his leadership. His ministry has helped transform cities, enabling many marginalized people to become productive, responsible citizens and inspiring some to become preachers of the Gospel. At St. Stephen AME Church, the rural congregation flourished against all odds, with hundreds of conversions and people traveling from surrounding cities and towns to attend a single service.

Education

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The Reverend Dr. Larry McDonald, Sr.

Presenter

Lay-Clergy Relation

The Reverend Larry McDonald, Sr., is the current Pastor of St. John AME Church. He was assigned to St. John AME Church from St. Paul AME Church (Raleigh) and Allen Chapel AME Church located in Roxboro, North Carolina. Pastor McDonald is married to Sheila Vanhook McDonald and they are the proud parents of two children, Larry McDonald, Jr. (Tasmin & Taylen) and Olivia Simone McDonald.

Pastor McDonald serves on numerous Western North Carolina Conference-level committees, namely, the Board of Examiners, Chair of Abandon Properties Committee and he is the Chief Marshall of Protocol. Also, he is a cabinet member for the Western District's Presiding Elder. Pastor McDonald has preached too many congregations; with one of his greatest experiences being when he preached a revival in Cantina, Italy in February 2005. He was selected to preach the Annual Sermon at the opening of the 113th session of the Western North Carolina Conference in 2006.

Join us as we strive to "Recoup the lost and make St. Paul AME Church a place to belong." Together, we can create a better future, inspire change, and make a difference. Whether you're a member of our community or someone seeking a place of belonging, your participation is crucial. Join our efforts to restore and revitalize St. Paul AME Church, ensuring it becomes a beacon of hope, love, and support for all.

Let us unite in purpose and work towards a brighter tomorrow. Together, we can make a lasting impact. Join us today! By upholding these values, you create a foundation for your vision as a Pastor. Your vision might encompass goals such as fostering spiritual growth, cultivating a loving and supportive community, promoting social justice, and bringing the message of hope to a broader audience. Your values guide your actions and decisions as you work towards achieving this vision, ensuring that you stay aligned with the teachings of Jesus Christ and the needs of your congregation.

Remember, values are not static, and as you continue to learn and grow in your ministry, they may evolve and adapt. Regular reflection, prayer, and seeking wisdom from trusted mentors and fellow believers can help you refine your values and strengthen your pastoral leadership.



Chandelle R. Ivy currently serves as the Treasurer of the Connectional Women's Missionary Society (WMS) and the Episcopal District Accountant for the Second Episcopal District of the AME Church. She has formerly held the positions of Second Episcopal District (SED) WMS Treasurer for last 5 years, and the SED WMS Member-at-Large representing the Young Adult Missionaries for 7 years. In this position of the Member-at-Large, she not only actively served on the Second Episcopal District Executive Board, but she represented the SED in the planning of and attending the Inaugural Young Women Initiative Empowerment Conference. At the seat of the 2016 General Conference, Chandelle was recognized with the Sarah Allen Trailblazer award for Young Adult Missionaries by the Connectional Society. In addition, in February 2025, she was appointed to the Board of Trustees for Payne Theological Seminary in Wilberforce, OH.

Chandelle is a member and the Chief Financial Officer of Turner Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church in Hyattsville, MD. As an active and integral part of this ministry she serves as a steward, and 2nd Vice President of the Johanna Morris Women's Missionary Society. She has previously served as the 1st Vice President of Turner Memorial's local WMS. Chandelle was awarded her 8-year YPD director pin at the 2019 Quadrennial.

A product of the Prince George's County Public School System, Chandelle graduated from Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School in Greenbelt, MD. She received a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Accounting with a minor in Business Administration from Delaware State University located in Dover, DE, graduating as the class valedictorian with a grade point average of 4.0. Chandelle received her Masters of Science Degree in Accounting and Information Technology from University of Maryland – University College.

She is currently employed at Pentagon Federal Credit Union in Alexandria, VA as the Senior Manager of Information Reporting. Previously, for 10 years, Chandelle functioned as a Senior Tax Compliance Manager at

American Capital, Ltd. in Bethesda, MD. This position follows her tenure at PriceWaterhouseCoopers, LP, a nationally reputable public accounting firm, where she worked for 2.5 years as a senior tax associate in the Business Compliance Services group. One of her professional passions is serving as Chief Operational Officer of Ivy Accounting Group, LLC in Greenbelt, MD, a family-run & owned accounting business. Through this vehicle she is able to not only grow in the industry of accounting, but she is able to reach people and make a substantial difference through financial coaching, tax return preparation, etc.

Chandelle is the eldest child of Melvyn and Charlene Ivy. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. Above all, Chandelle R. Ivy is a child of God. Her biblical mantra is Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things, through Christ which strengthens me.”



Pastor Wesley & First Lady Nedra Hendrix

Banquet Music Ministers

Pastor Wesley Hendrix and his lovely wife, First Lady Nedra Hendrix, are a husband-and-wife team who share a passion for God, family, music, and ministry.

Pastor Hendrix serves as the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Valdese, North Carolina. He is a graduate of Davidson-Davie Community College, where he earned a degree in Human Services. He is also currently pursuing his Bachelor of Arts in Human and Community Services at Lenoir-Rhyne University, with an anticipated graduation date of May 2027. In addition to his pastoral responsibilities, he serves as a Teen Court Coordinator, working to positively impact the lives of young people and families in his community.

First Lady Nedra Hendrix is a licensed and ordained minister who shares a deep passion for serving God and His people. She is a proud graduate of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NC A&T), where she earned her degree in Psychology. She is also a proud member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated. In addition to her work in ministry, she is an entrepreneur and the proud owner of M&C Hair, Beauty and Body, located in Morganton, North Carolina.

Together, the Hendrixes believe that music is more than just a melody—it is a ministry. Their desire is to use their God-given gifts to encourage hearts, uplift spirits, and bring glory to God.

With a shared commitment to faith, family, service, and one another, they count it a blessing to minister together through song.

Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Officers (2022-2026)

President	Brother Matthew Douglas (2022-2024) Sister Penny Oliver (2024-2026)
First Vice President	Sister Penny Oliver (2023-2024) Sister Jean Wilson Richie (2024-2026)
Second Vice President	Sister Jean Wilson Richie (2022-2024) Sister Yvonne Davis (2024-2026)
Third Vice President	Sister Yvonne Davis (2022-2024) Sister Rose Brabble (2024-2026)
Recording Secretary	Sister Monica Davis (2022-2026)
Assistant Recording Secretary	Sister Jacqueline Kanipe (2022-2026)
Treasurer	Dr. Edna Watson (2022-2026)
Financial Secretary	Sister Azzie Y. Conley (2023-2026)
Chaplain	Brother Kenneth Woods (2022-2026)
Historiographer	Brother Darwin Curry (2022-2026)
Parliamentarian	Sister Glen White, PRP (2022-2026)
Director of Lay Activities	Dr. Felecia Commodore (2022-2024) Sister D. Faye Conley (2024-2026)
Director of Public Relations	Sister Janice Murray (2022-2026)
Young Adult Representative	Brother Adam Johnston (2022-2026)

The African Methodist Episcopal Church
Second Episcopal District
Lay Organization
Mrs. Penny Oliver, President
Ms. D. Faye Conley, Chair, Nominating Committee

TO: SEDLO Executive Board

FROM: 2026 SEDLO Nominating Committee

DATE: May 15, 2022

RE: SEDLO 2026 Nominating Committee Report

Pursuant to the **2025** Second Episcopal District Lay Organization Constitution and Bylaws, **Article V – Officers, Duties and Responsibilities, Section 8-Duties of the Nominating Committee, item b**, please find the 2026 SEDLO Slate for the Election of Officers for the 2026-2030 term attached for your approval. Upon receipt of your approval, the ballot will be distributed to each Annual Conference Lay Organizations and to the SEDLO Director of Public Relations for distribution & posting on the SEDLO website.

The Nominating Committee has met and reviewed Letters of Intent for each prospective candidate and find that they meet the criteria as defined.

There are no prospective candidates for the offices of Assistant Recording Secretary nor Parliamentarian. According to **Article V, Section 1** of the current Constitution & Bylaws, the two offices are elected at the discretion of the Executive Board.

In addition, recommendations are attached.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

D. Faye Conley, Chair
Fred Wallace, Washington
Malissa Spaulding, Virginia
Judy Rhodes/Gwen Smith, North Carolina
Jacqueline C. Kanipe, Western North Carolina

SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION

2026-2030 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

OFFICE	**NAME**	**CONFERENCE**
PRESIDENT	MS PENNY OLIVER	WESTERN NC
PRESIDENT	DR. EDNA WATSON	NORTH CAROLINA
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	MRS. JEAN WILSON-RICHIE	BALTIMORE
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	MS GLEN WHITE	WASHINGTON
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	MRS. CYNTHIA GORDON-FLOYD	WASHINGTON
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT	MR. ALVIN WHITE	BALTIMORE
RECORDING SECRETARY	MR. BRANDON OWENS	WESTERN NC
TREASURER	MR. ADAM JOHNSTON	WESTERN NC
FINANCIAL	MS AZZIE CONLEY	WESTERN NC
CHAPLAIN	MS ROSE BRABBLE	VIRGINIA
HISTORIOGRAPHER	MR. XAVIER DOUGLAS	WASHINGTON
DIRECTOR OF LAY ACTIVITIES	MR. BRIAN GLOVER	WASHINGTON
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS	MRS. JANICE MURRAY	WASHINGTON
YOUNG ADULT REPRESENTATIVE	MS TAYLOR SUTTON	WASHINGTON

OBSERVATIONS

1. 2023-2024 attendance records were not accessible.
2. Recording Secretary maintained attendance for Executive Board meetings.
3. There has been no consistent process for maintaining business meeting attendance for membership.
4. Local organizations are not consistently meeting and/or tracking attendance.
5. Some Pastors are not aware their members are seeking offices. (Hence: Pastor's signature is no longer included on the Letter of Intent to certify "good & regular standing.)

According to the SEDLO Constitution & Bylaws (2018), The Recording Secretary shall:

1. Serve as Secretary of the SED Lay Convention and the SEDLO Executive Board meetings.
2. Be responsible for recording attendance of all District Roll Calls and membership registrations.
3. Record accurate minutes of all business transacted during meetings, including the reading and distributing minutes of any previous meetings and insuring widespread dissemination of pertinent information.

f. The Assistant Recording Secretary shall:

1. Assist the Recording Secretary in all duties as outlined above.
2. In the absence of the Secretary, shall perform the duties of the Secretary.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Add the Pastor's signature back to the Letter of Intent for the Conference and the
   Episcopal District to certify "good and regular standing."
2. Beginning with the 2026-2030 term, the Recording Secretary must establish a system to manage attendance at all business meetings that will include frequent data backup to at least 2 locations.
3. In the interim, each Conference must continue to provide members to register/check-in members during in-person business meetings who will provide a copy of the registration sheets to the Assistant Recording Secretary and the Financial Secretary (with funds collected).
4. 4. Virtual attendance rosters should be forwarded to the Assistant Recording Secretary and the Director of Lay Activities within 72 hours.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
D. Faye Conley, Chairperson
Fred Wallace (WCLO)
Malissa Spaulding (VCLO)
Judy Rhodes (NCCLO)
Gwen Smith (NCCLO)
Jacqueline C. Kanipe (WNCCLO)

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Second Episcopal District Lay Organization
21st Lay Convention
Order of Worship

Worship Leader: Sister Penny Oliver, SEDLO President

Praise & Worship (6:45pm)	North Carolina Conference Choir
Doxology	
Call to Worship	President Oliver
Opening Hymn	Lay Hymn
Prayer	Brother Kenneth Woods *Chaplain*
Prayer Response	North Carolina Conference Choir
"Thank You for Hearing Our Prayer"	
Selection	North Carolina Conference Choir
Scripture	Sister Yvonne Davis *Second Vice-President*
Lay Litany	Sister Jackie Kanipe *Assistant Recording Secretary*
Welcome/Occasion	Sister Glen White *Parliamentarian*
Host Greeting	Brother Elbert Davis *Host President*
Episcopal Greetings	Rev. Sherita M. Seawright *Episcopal Supervisor*

Offering (Choir selection) Offertory	SEDLO Finance Team "*All Things Come of Thee"*
Announcements	Sister D. Faye Conley *Director of Lay Activities*
Presentation of the Speaker	Sister Barbara Myers *WNCCLO President*
Sermonic Selection	North Carolina Conference Choir
The Charge to the Lay Organization	Rev. Dr. Abdue L. Knox *Pastor* *St. Joseph AME Church,* *Durham, NC*
Invitation to Christian Discipleship	
Communion	Chief Celebrant: Rev. Sherita M. Seawright *Episcopal Supervisor* (Assisted by): Rev. Thomas O. Nixon *Presiding Elder* Northern District, North Carolina Conference

Hymn of Fellowship

"When they had sung a hymn,
they went out to the Mount of Olives…" (Matthew 26:30)

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Second Episcopal District Lay Organization

Banquet Program

An Evening of Celebration & Inspiration

Celebration Leader: Sister D. Faye Conley
Director of Lay Activities

Pre-Celebration Music	Pastor & First Lady Nedra Hendrix *Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Valdese, NC*
Welcome	Sister Jean Wilson-Richie *First Vice President*
Ministry of Music	Pastor & Lady Hendrix
Prayer	Brother Adam Johnston *Young Adult Representative*
Scripture	Sister Rose Brabble *Third Vice-President*
The Occasion	Sister Janice Murray *Director of Public Relations*

Dinner is Served

Ministry of Music	Pastor & Lady Hendrix
Conference Outstanding Laypersons	Sister Jackie C. Kanipe *Chairperson* Brother Adam Johnston *Young Adult Chairperson*

Baltimore-**Sister Elaine Weaver** (Hemingway Temple AME-Baltimore)
Washington–**Sister Deborah M. Gilmore** (Greater Mt. Nebo AME
Virginia-**Sister Yvonne Davis** (St. Johns AME-Norfolk)
North Carolina-**Sister Arlene Lawson** (St. James AME-Castle Haynes)
Western North Carolina-**Sister Danita Thomspon** (Mt. Zion AME-Hillsborough)
Washington-Young Adult-**Brother Josh Finley** (First AME-Alexandria)

Presentation of SEDLO Outstanding Layperson	Sister Kanipe, President Oliver & Supervisor Seawright
Ministry of Music	Pastor & Lady Hendrix
Presentation of History Initiative Winners	Sister D. Faye Conley
Presentation of 8-Year Conference President	Sister Penny Oliver *President*

Sister Glen White, Immediate Past President, WCLO

Presentation of Outgoing Officers — President Penny Oliver

8-Year Officers

Brother Darwin Curry, *Historiographer*
Sister Yvonne Davis, *2nd & 3rd Vice-President*
Brother Adam Johnston, *Young Adult Representative*
Dr. Edna Watson, *Treasurer*
Brother Kenneth Woods, *Chaplain*

4-Year Officer

Sister Jacqueline C. Kanipe, *Assistant Recording Secretary*

2-Year Officer

Sister D. Faye Conley, *Director of Lay Activities*

Tribute to All Honorees — Pastor & Lady Hendrix

Closing Remarks — Sister Conley, President Oliver, Rev. Sherita Seawright *Episcopal Supervisor*

Closing Prayer

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all program participants, hosts/hostesses and especially to our *Music Ministers* for the evening, Pastor Wesley & First Lady Nedra Hendrix.

Congratulations to all *Outstanding Laypersons & Outgoing Officers.*



Elaine Weaver

Director of Lay Activities

Baltimore Conference Lay Organization

Outstanding Layperson

Sister ***Elaine Weaver*** is a third-generation African Methodist Episcopal Church member raised in Hemingway Temple African Methodist Episcopal Church in historical Cherry Hill in Baltimore, Maryland. She has actively been a member of the Baltimore Conference Lay Organization for over 35 years.

Elaine has always been more than just a member of Hemingway Temple; she has served God well through her active involvement in the life of her church. At Hemingway Elaine has served in the capacity of an Usher, a Class Leader, a Stewardess, a Steward, a member of the Nurturing and Discipleship Team, as the Immediate Past Local Lay Organization President, and as member of the Chancel Choir. In addition, at the Conference Level, Elaine has served as 3rd Vice President, Recording Secretary, Assistant Recording Secretary and currently serves as very informative Director of Lab Activities. Elaine was unanimously recognized as the "2026 Outstanding Lay Person" representing the Baltimore Conference Lay Organization.

Deborah Gilmore
Washington Conference Lay Organization Outstanding Layperson



For many years, Sister Deborah Gilmore has demonstrated unwavering dedication, servant leadership, and a deep commitment to living out her faith both within our local congregation and in the wider community.

Attends connectional meetings, revivals and training institutes at every level.

She consistently supports the Washington Conference Outreach projects by taking the lead in garnering contributions from the Lay and church members. Personally, contributes generously every year.

She serves as the Director of Lay Activities. Managed the Class Leader Ministry for over ten years. Works diligently to bring support to church members, post Covid, via a new approach called Congregational Care Circles. Served on the Steward Board for 20 years. Sis. Gilmore led the church's annual recognition and celebration of the of the Divine Nine historically African American international Greek-letter fraternities and sororities as well as the same for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Serves on the Church Collection Team where she was instrumental in streamlining the counting process that resulted in increased accuracy of the count each Sunday. She actively participates in Bible Study and often serves as a spiritual anchor and a trusted mentor to many in our congregation.

She participates in voter registration and awareness activities and events to encourage members of the church and larger community to register and vote. She is known to visit the sick and the homebound to offer comfort and prayer.

Sister Gilmore embodies the true spirit of a servant leader through her humility, hard work, and steadfast faith. She does not seek recognition but honoring her with this award would celebrate a life poured out in service to others.



Yvonne Davis
Third Vice-President
Virginia Conference
Lay Organization
Outstanding Layperson

Sis. Davis has been attending CLO Biennials since the 1980s and has served as a Delegate more than once. She exuberantly shares with the VCLO all she learns while attending the Biennial. She served as a medical wellness facilitator at the Biennial when the Second District hosted. She actively attends the CLO Second Vice Presidents' meetings, and shares the information from those meetings with her local church and the VCLO. Also, she has served as a delegate to the AMEC General Conference more than once.

She is currently the SEDLO Second Vice President and was formerly the Third Vice President. She will be attending this year's SEDLO Convention as an alternate delegate while also serving as the Health Unit chair.

She is currently the VCLO Third Vice President. She has led teaching moments at our Conference meetings, and enthusiastically shares valuable information with us.

She is currently her local church Lay Organization President.

At her local church, she serves as facilitator for the Health Care Ministry, treasurer for Stewardess Board #2, Vice President of the Daughters of Lydia, Chaplain for the Shut-in-Club, a member of Female Usher Board #1, and a member of the Flossie McIntyre Scholarship Committee. She works with the church food pantry. She acts as the church social action lead, providing voter registration information. She has also served on numerous committees and is currently working on new welcome packages for the church.

She served with the Norfolk/Eastern Shore Presiding Elder District Health Commission.

She has been a member of the WMS for over 40 years and is a life member. She served as the Conference WMS First Vice President for eight years, chairperson for the Mary W. Sanders Area of the WMS for six years, and a member of the WMS Health Care Ministry. She is the Correspondence Secretary of her local church WMS.

She is an active member of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) and participates in their outreach work, such as feeding the homeless. She is active in Good Health WINs (Women's Immunization Networks), which is a national initiative to improve health equity and increase vaccination rates in communities of color. She facilitates and coordinates Good Health WINs in-services and workshops. She is also a member of the NAACP.

Arlene Lawson
First Vice-President
North Carolina Conference
Lay Organization
Outstanding Layperson



Sister Arlene Lawson is the former Chairperson of the Connectional Lay Organization Budget & Finance and Nominating Committees. She also served as a member of the Credentials Committee.

She served as SEDLO Financial Secretary and a member of the Budget & Finance Committee.

She currently serves as the NCCLO First Vice President and has served the conference as 2nd VP, 3rd VP, Financial Secretary and interim Treasurer.

She is the former local Lay Organization President.

Other local church involvement includes Steward Protem, Treasurer, Choir member, Grant Committee Member, Member WMS and received the Legacy Award in 2026.

She serves her community as President of the Project Task Force for A Better Community, Inc., President of the AMEZ Housing Community Development Inc. She is the former Chairman of the Wilmington Housing Authority and former President of the YWCA of Lower Cape Fear.

She has the Beverly Kievman Leadership Award, Who's Who in American Universities & Colleges, winner of the National Network of Women in Sales.

She is a member of St. James AME Church, Castle Haynes, NC.

Professionally, she retired after 50 years as a Banker, Senior Vice President and Regional Community Development Officer.



Danita Thompson
Western North Carolina Conference
Lay Organization
Outstanding Layperson

Danita was elected as a delegate to the CLO Biennial Convention (2025).

She regularly attends SEDLO meetings, as well as WNCCLO meetings. She serves as the WNCCLO Director of Public Relations. She was a former Historiographer.

She serves as the current local Lay Organization President. During her tenure she has worked diligently with the 1st Vice-President to involve the membership and increase the number or members to make our organization one of the largest in the conference. Working with the Director of Lay Activities, she has brought innovative and informative training and programs to the congregation centered around the history, teaching and the governing of our denomination. She has freely shared her knowledge through the teaching of new member and discipleship classes. Under her leadership the Lay Organization has hosted conference meetings and the annual WNCCLO Prayer Breakfast.

She leads the church in voter registration awareness.

Danita has served Mt. Zion as a Steward, Co-Chair of the Commission on Stewardship and Finances, Director of the Gospel and Senior Choirs, past VBS and Sunday School teacher. She currently is integral in support of graphic design, support webmaster and Facebook management.

Danita was recently highlighted by the Orange County Historical Museum in their 2026 Special Exhibit "United We Stand Divided We Fall," where the participants were selected because they were connected to one of the celebrated themes. She was also highlighted in a video during Black History month by Orange County speaking on the History of the Historic Cedar Grove School, now Community Center where she serves as Executive Director.

Josh Finley
Washington Conference
Lay Organization
Outstanding Young Adult
Layperson



Josh is a 25 year old young man who has been a member of First AME Church of Alexandria VA since elementary school. As a young boy he sang in the youth choir and was an integral part of the Sunday School program and was part of the Youth Explosion in Hampton for many years.

Josh is a natural leader who is focused on positivity and sharing his positivity with his community. He recently joined the Men's Fellowship where he provides insights from the young people's perspective. He has started a young people's ministry and Bible study with young brothers from his community. His goal is to bring the youth of his neighborhood to Christ and to evangelize to young boys and girls, young men and women.

Josh's influence on his peers is reflected in him bringing numerous young men to Sunday church services. Sometimes up to 6 or 7 at a time, which is a much needed demographic in our church and indeed in all of our churches today. It is with great pleasure that we nominate Joshua Finley as our outstanding young adult.

Baltimore Conference Lay Organization Necrology

2024-2026

Presiding Elder Ernest L. Montague
Guila Ruth Gwendolyn Mack Andrews – Hemingway Temple AME
Margaret Smith – Hemingway Temple AME
Shirley Lathan – St. John AME
Deborah Wood – Mt Zion AME
Rev. Sandra Moore Stanley
Carrie Louise Davis – Oak Street AME
James Griffin – Trinity AME/Baltimore
Fannie Mae McKenzie – Payne Memorial AME
Debra Yvette Wilkins-Tibbs – Mt. Calvary AME
Anita M. Richardson – St. Stephens Essex
Rev. Barry F. Wilson – Shiloh AME
Timothy D. Johnson – St. John AME Baltimore
Diane Winifred Powell – Ebenezer AME Baltimore
Pamela Sue Cevis – Wright's AME
Thelma S. Wright – Bells Chapel AME
Bernard Watts – Bethlehem AME
Staffon Smith – St. James AME Green Street
Morris Brown – St. John AME Baltimore
Anthony Wayne Robinson – Empowerment Temple
Cleveland Brister – Bethel AME Baltimore
Harriet Lousie Randall Dunlap – Grace AME
Hagger Lois W. Armstrong – Ebenezer AME Baltimore
Lauretta Freeman – Mt. Olive Worton
Bishop Reginald T. Jackson
Linda Blake – St. James AME Gravel Hill
Rev. Reginald Bishop – St. James AME Gravel Hill
Bernadine Holland – St. James AME Gravel Hill
Charles Calvin Robinson – Empowerment Temple
Valerie Johnson – Mt. Calvary AME
Floyd Cooper – Payne Memorial AME
James Dorsey – Payne Memorial AME

Washington Conference Lay Organization Necrology

2022-2023

Paulette Armstrong - Reid Temple AMEC
Doris L. Lowrie - Ward Memorial AMEC
Mary Isbell - Allen Chapel AMEC, Washington, DC
Peola McCaskill - Turner Memorial AMEC
Pamela Tolson - Embry AMEC
Roosevelt Hite - Campbell AMEC
James Watkins, Jr. - Mt. Zion AMEC, Severn
Kenneth White - Turner Memorial AMEC
Marlene Williams - Brown Memorial AMEC
Annie Wright - Turner Memorial AMEC
Rosa Leigh Williams - Lee Memorial AMEC
Mary Lewis - Ward Memorial AMEC
Sara A. Smith - Allen AMEC Silver Spring, MD
Floyd McCaskill - Turner Memorial AMEC

2023-2024

Arnetta Dorsey - Union Bethel AMEC Randallstown
Emily (Bonnie) Canty - Fair Havens AMEC
Joseph Melton, Sr - Falls Road AMEC
Betty M. Pointer - Reid Temple AMEC
Mother Elaine Stone - Mt. Pisgah AMEC

2024-2025

Juanita Hartsfield - St. Paul AMEC
Leroy Alexander Evans - Mt. Olive AMEC
Margerie C. Johnson - Turner Memorial AMEC
LaVern Richardson - St. Paul AMEC
V. Susie Oliphant - Reid Temple AMEC
Gloristine Deniece Nick - Ebenezer AMEC
Eva McLeod - Turner Memorial AMEC
Elizabeth Adams - Embry AMEC

2025-2026

Robert T. Mills - Hemingway Memorial AMEC
Edna N. Dorsey - Union Bethel AMEC Randallstown, MD
Ronald Harris - St. Mark AMEC
Monica McGill - Allen AMEC Silver Spring, MD
Curtis W. Butler - Campbell AMEC
Mildred Raby - Campbell AMEC

2026-2027

Eunice Pierre - Embry AMEC
Jessie Kay - Pilgrim AMEC

Virginia Conference Lay Organization Necrology

2023-2024

Lucy Maggie Briddell - Bethel, Eastville
Mattie Virginia Collins Morris- Bethel, Eastville
Richard H. Peoples, Sr. - Bethel, Eastville
Thelma Satchell Savage- Bethel, Eastville
Wesley F. Jacobs III - Ebenezer, Capeveille
Avonne Bassfield - Macedonia, Accomac
Addie Elizabeth Boulds Greene - Macedonia, Accomac
Charles Edward Baines, Jr. - New Allen, Franktown
Clara Bernice Christian - New Allen, Franktown
Isaac Lee Christian - New Allen, Franktown
Mack Holly Ransome, Jr. - New Allen, Franktown
Sherene Odelia Peed Joseph - Shorter's Chapel, Machipongo
George D. Mizelle, Jr. - St. Luke, Daugherty
Reverend Percy R. Watford, Jr. - St. Luke, Daugherty
Rosa C. Alston - Bethel, Richmond
Barbarann Butler - Bethel, Richmond
Hilda Wilson Gray - Bethel, Richmond
Keith Arnold Grooms - Bethel, Richmond
John Richard Hall III - Bethel, Richmond
Dorothy Louise Mitchell - Bethel, Richmond
Howard M. Jenkins, Sr. - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Margaret V. Savage - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Julia Kaye Wiltshire-Sealey - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Thelma Felton Tyner - Rehoboth, Chesapeake
Maxine Elliott Barnes - St. John, Norfolk
Alfred Lamar Davis - St. John, Norfolk
Percy Aubrey Johnson, Sr. - St. John, Norfolk
Iris H. Spruill - St. John, Norfolk
Col. Howard Mordecia Williams, Sr. - St. John, Norfolk
Alma Graves Woodbury - St. John, Norfolk
James Melvin Wright, Sr. - St. John, Norfolk
Melvine Yvonne Wyatt-Norman - St. John, Norfolk
Marie Edney Young - St. Mark, VA Beach
Robert Victor Cross, Jr. - St. Paul, Newport News
Earl Henry Robbins, Sr. - St. Paul, Newport News
Valeria Argathia Wrenn - St. Paul, Newport News
Shelia Marie Hughes - Bethel, Rocky Mount
Lula Catherine Ramsey - Bethel, Rocky Mount
Larry Edwin LeGrande, Sr. - Ebenezer, Roanoke
James H. Smith - Ebenezer, Roanoke
Edward Lewis St. Clair- Ebenezer, Roanoke
Constance Imogene Cooke - St. Paul, Danville
Mary Gwynn Frith - St. Paul, Danville

2024 – 2025

Nancy Dunton Grumbs - Bethel, Eastville
Robert "Gabby" Morris - Bethel, Eastville
William "Billy" Powell - Ebenezer, Capeville
Beatrice Smith Smaugh - Ebenezer, Capeville
Phillip Drummond Bagwell - Gaskins Chapel
Mabel Jean Pringle - Gaskins Chapel

Margaret Loretha Fosque - Macedonia, Accomac
Addie Elizabeth Green - Macedonia, Accomac
John Joseph Matthews - Macedonia, Accomac
Flossie Laidler Blair - Bethel, Richmond
Donna Nutter Dawson - Bethel, Richmond
Marvin Ferber - St. John, Norfolk
Dorothy Spruell Moore - St. John, Norfolk
Hortense Russell Spence - St. John, Norfolk
Barbara Ann Avery Turner - St. John, Norfolk
William H. White, Sr. - St. John, Norfolk
George Ernest Wyatt, Jr. - St. John, Norfolk
Henry L. Blount - St. Mark, VA Beach
Elvas G. Boyd - St. Mark, VA Beach
Arthur L. Beane - Bethel, Cave Spring
Martha Joan Mitchell - Bethel, Rocky Mount
Joe L. Hairston - Mt. Zion, Martinsville
Alma Elizabeth Brown Holland - St. John, Roanoke

2025 – 2026

Thelma Louise Wilson McClendon - Bethel, Richmond
Shirley Lillian Austin - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Thomas Beamon - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Evelyn Mack Scott - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Ben Louis Joyner - Mt. Zion, VA Beach
Mary Frances Pryor - Mt. Zion, VA Beach
Geneva Owens Wills - Mt. Zion, VA Beach
Adell Hendrick Hawkins - New St. James, Norfolk
Donnell Augustus Mann, Sr. - New St. James, Norfolk
Shirley A. Wilson - New St. James, Norfolk
Irene Bertha Pitchford - New Union, Norfolk
Edith Mae Geraldine Wilson - New Union, Norfolk
Phyllis L. Perry - Rehoboth, Chesapeake
Elinor Sutton Smith - Rehoboth, Chesapeake
Elizabeth Sorrell - Rehoboth, Chesapeake
Bettie Mae Spence - Rehoboth, Chesapeake
Alice Elizabeth Hill - St. John, Norfolk
Gwendolyn Milligan Johnson - St. John, Norfolk
James Clifton Richardson - St. John, Norfolk
Dorothy Mae Small - St. John, Norfolk
Linda Hatchett Chapman - St. Paul, Newport News
Fannye Woods Ware - St. Paul, Portsmouth
Gertrude Williams Harris - Bethel, Cave Spring
Joanna Williams Phelps - Bethel, Cave Spring
Carolyn Dianne Brandon Venable - Mt. Zion, Martinsville
Lillie Casey Hickman - St. John, Roanoke

2026-2027

Susie Savage Brooks - Bethel, Eastville
Earlean Elizabeth Douglas - Ebenezer, Capeville
Arnetta Custis - Macedonia, Accomac
Victor Hall - Macedonia, Accomac
Susie Simpkins - Macedonia, Accomac
Ella Baines Boggs - New Allen, Franktown
Arvilla Mae Mapp - New Allen, Franktown
Bessie Patricia Brown - Bethel, Richmond
Beatrice Bullock - Bethel, Richmond

Linda W. Moss - Bethel, Richmond
Joseph Barnes - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Cornelius Elliott - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Renard Humphrey - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Delores Johnson - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Jamal Robinson - Emanuel, Portsmouth
Christine Baker Reid - St. John, Norfolk
Converse Oliver Thomas, Sr. - St. Mark, Virginia Beach
Rose Marie Devin - Bethel, Cave Spring
Eulah Stuart Price - Bethel, Cave Spring
Pearl Marie Ramsey - Bethel, Rocky Mount
Richard Lawrence - Ebenezer, Roanoke

Western North Carolina Conference Lay Organization Necrology

Jessie Cardwell - Bethel AME, Greensboro, NC
Joyce Marie Jones-Whitehurst- Bethel AME, Greensboro, NC
Maggie Gant Cooke- Bethel AME, Greensboro, NC
Thomas Faucette Sr. - Bethel AME, Greensboro, NC
Linda Walker – Bethel - Bethel AME, Greensboro, NC
Sis Mildred Fonville- Bethel AME, Greensboro, NC
Sis. Helen Jones Bond- Bethel AME, Greensboro, NC
Sis Mildred Fonville –Emmanuel AME, Durham, NC
Sis. Helen Jones Bond –Emmanuel AME, Durham, NC
Herman Holman - Gaines Chapel AME, Efland, NC
Marice McAdoo - Gaines Chapel AME, Efland, NC
Robert Riley Sr. - Gaines Chapel AME, Efland, NC
Lillie Boyd - Greater Bethel AME, Charlotte, NC
Hattie Littlejohn - Greater Bethel AME, Charlotte, NC
Mazie Riley - Hunter's Chapel AME, Mebane, NC
Otha Hester - Hunter's Chapel AME, Mebane, NC
Melvin Ruffin - Hunter's Chapel AME, Mebane, NC
Shirley Riley - Hunter's Chapel AME, Mebane, NC
Ervin Johnson - Hunter's Chapel AME, Mebane, NC
Lola Bluford - Hunter's Chapel AME, Mebane, NC
Barbara Cousin - Hunter's Chapel AME, Mebane, NC
Ester Bland - Mt. Sinai AME, Pittsboro, NC
Charlie Bland - Mt. Sinai AME, Pittsboro, NC
Marie C. Torian – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Frances W. Beasley – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Doris Beasley Thompson – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Melvin F. Beasley – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
William V. Beasley – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Carolyn T. Betts – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Paul G. Thompson, Jr. – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Mollie B. Hester – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Sally Ramsey – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Albert Daniels – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Robert Thompson – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Charlie P. Latta – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
James Thomas Latta – Mt. Zion AME, Hillsborough, NC
Sister Willie Lee (Graves) Gray – Springdale AME Church, Burlington, NC
Willie Clay – Springdale AME Church, Burlington, NC
"John" Summers, Jr. – Springdale AME Church, Burlington, NC
Margie Watkins – Springdale AME Church, Burlington, NC
Fannie Stewart – Springdale AME Church, Burlington, NC
Clyde Austin – Springdale AME Church, Burlington, NC
Larry Fuller – White Cross AME Church, Efland, NC
Ernest Moore – White Cross AME Church, Efland, NC
Rev. Mable Warren Rigsbee – White Cross AME Church, Efland, NC

North Carolina Conference Lay Organization Necrology

Charles Jones - Kendall Chapel, Winnabow
Leroy Vaught - Kendall Chapel, Winnabow, NC
Dizziane Zinnerman - Bethel Northwest, Leland, NC
Sheila Lassister - Lee's Chapel, Selma, NC
Thelma Hardy - St. James, Kinston, NC
Frances Williams, Evans Chapel, Smithfield NC
Levi Daniels, Bethel, Selma NC
Hazel Godwin, Bethel Selma, NC
King Godwin, Bethel Selma, NC
Annie Smith, New Pike Creek, Burgaw, NC
Keith Anderson, Bethel, Selma, NC
Alexandriana Scott, Bethel, Selma, NC

Tewana S. Jones – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Joseph A. Hunter, Jr. – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Rev. Robert L. Goode – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Lela G. Becoat – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Stephanie L. Moore – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Rhonda S. Bridgers – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Freda D. O'Neal – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Cynthia L. Ivey – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Glendalyn R. Allen – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
D. LaVerne Harrison – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Ann C. Hooker – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Esther B. Kelly – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Hattie M. Johnson – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Edith J. Donatella – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Elizabeth A. DeLoatche – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Mary Locklear – St. Paul AME Church, Chapel Hill, NC

Roy McAdoo – White Cross AME Church, Efland, NC
Mildred Smith Johnson – White Cross AME Church, Efland, NC
Leonard McCain – White Cross AME Church, Efland, NC
Helen Long – White Cross AME Church, Efland, NC
Sister Shirley Clay - Allen Chapel AME Church, Roxboro, NC
Sister Maybelle Deshazo - Allen Chapel AME Church, Roxboro, NC
Kenneth Clinton Max – Gaston Chapel AME Church, Morganton, NC
Deborah Lucette Carpenter – Gaston Chapel AME Church, Morganton, NC
Terrance Monroe Forney – Gaston Chapel AME Church, Morganton, NC
William Edward VanHook – Johnson Chapel AME Church, Mebane, NC
Jerry Farmer – Macedonia AME Church, Milton, NC
Ivy Robbins – Pearson Memorial AME Church, High Point, NC
Alvin Lomax – Pearson Memorial AME Church, High Point, NC
Henrietta Jackson – Pearson Memorial AME Church, High Point, NC
Elizabeth Robbins – Pearson Memorial AME Church, High Point, NC
Michael Wright – Pearson Memorial AME Church, High Point, NC
Gertrude Upperman – Persimmon Grove AME Church, Greensboro, NC
Blondell Robinson – St. James AME Church, Winston Salem, NC
Rasheika Latoya Gamble – St. James AME Church, Winston Salem, NC
Rev. Benjamin Humphrey Jr. – St. James AME Church, Winston Salem, NC
Lou Ester Jackson – St. James AME Church, Winston Salem, NC
Hubert K. Lash – St. James AME Church, Winston Salem, NC
Dr. Laura B. Smith – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother William Slade – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother Robert McAdams – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother Roy L. Cuttino – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Lucille Williams – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Bettye Smith – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister June Gillard – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother Earl Jenkins Bobo – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Carolyn Taylor – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sis. Laura Sligh – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sis. Dolores Williams – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Bro. Timothy McNair – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Bro. Curt “CT” Tomlin – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Bro. Harold Davis – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sis. Ruth B. Clarke – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Bro. George K Quick – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Honorable Albert Leon Stanback, Jr. – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Janette Warsaw – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother Bill Chamberlain – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother George Bolden – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Gloria Slade – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Carolyn Ford Bolden – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Annette Bryant – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother Jimmy A. Woods – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother Martin H. King – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC

Sister Bernice Marsh – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother Frederick Warsaw – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Aubra Daniels – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Clara Scarborough – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother Edward Abrams – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Alice Hughley – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother Reginald Jones – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Brother Armonte Self – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC
Sister Daisy Harris – St. Joesph AME Church, Durham, NC Sister Jo Ann Hicks Alston
Sister Margaret Sanders – St. Matthews AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Sister Margaret Sharon Davis – St. Matthews AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Reverend Lummie L. Spann, Sr. – St. Matthews AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Sis. Irma Morgan – St. Matthews AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Sis. Ruth Allen – St. Matthews AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Bro. James Battle – St. Matthews AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Bro. Michael Judd – St. Matthews AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Sis. Karen Sue Parker Bridges – St. Matthews AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Angel J. Peterson – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Joseph A. Hunter, Jr. – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Rev. Robert L. Goode – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Lela G. Becoat – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Edward Wills – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Freda Cole – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Robert Hall – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Willie Ruth Fuller – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Felts Lewis – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Leonard Hunter – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Vallarie Harper – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Gloria Creech – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Patricia Booker – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Martha H. Lewis – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Miebaka Aiyede – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Cecilia R. Johnson – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Sherry Ann Taylor – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Marilyn W. Wilson – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Mattie R. Davis – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
William Edward Hooker – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Valorie D. Lockehart – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Betty Ann Purdie – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Pearl J. Holland – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Mary E. Smith – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Bertron D Haywood, MD – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Charles B. Wood – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
James M. Williams – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
John C. Washington – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Dr. Paul F. Bitting – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
Sherree L. Avery – St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC

CONVENTION COMMITTEES

Sister Penny H. Oliver, SEDLO President
Sister D. Faye Conley, SEDLO Director of Lay Activities
Brother Adam Johnston, SEDLO Young Adult Representative
Brother Elbert Davis, Host Conference President
Dr. Edna Watson, Host Conference Convention Chairperson

Ambassadors	Naisa Johnston, Gwendolyn Keith, Arlene Lawson, Brandon Owens, Rakeem Reckley, Jean Wilson Richie
Budget & Finance	**Cynthia Gordon Floyd,** Thomas Gross, Agnes Brown, Janice Servance, Randy Mebane, Vivian Hall, Dorothy Jeffries
Credentials	**Paulette Smith Bryant,** Elaine Weaver, Dale Mercandal, Velda Gullap, Gloria Lea
Election	**Valerie Terry,** Pamela Bethea, Dale Mercandal, Sarsh Hall, John Smotherson
Evaluations	**Kimberly Mitchell,** Jacqueline Thomas, Lawrence Buckner, Jr., Gerald Logan
Finance	**Dr. Edna Watson, Azzie Y. Conley**
Health Unit	**Yvonne Davis, Sharon Boney,** Cecelia Griffin, Mary L. Roseboro
Hospitality	**Linda Thomas, Audrey Barnes** & the North Carolina Conference Lay Organization
Hosts/Hostesses	**Azzie Conley,** Linda Shelton, Belinda Thomas-Wright, Willie Shelton, Drucilla Simms, Beverly Session, Kennetta Douglas, Michele Curtis, Valerie Cherry-Jones, Ruby Greer, Paulette Smith Bryant, Gwen Keith, Tina McNair, Arlene Lawson, Joann Vaught, Dyann Rowell, Chaynel Blake-Nichols, Daniel Bruce Rogers, Laurie Thompson, Ronda Watkins-Smith, Sandra Vincent
Hotels	**Valerie Terry, Penny Oliver**
Logistics	**Azzie Conley, Dr. Edna Watson**
Marshalls/Security	**Elbert Davis,** John Preston, Monroe Preston, Herbert O. Myers
Memorial	**Kenneth Woods,** Alvin White, Antoine Ennis, Lolita Moses, Juanita Jacobs, Carol Davenport
Music	**Gwen Davis**
Outstanding Layperson	**Jacqueline C. Kanipe,** Elaine Weaver, Maria Wallace, Malissa Spaulding, Sonia Barbre
Outstanding Young Adult	**Adam Johnston,** Alice Hillman
Programs/Workshops	**D. Faye Conley,** Elaine Weaver, Kimberly Mitchell, Ruby Greer, Dyann Rowell, Azzie Y. Conley
Public Relations	**Janice Murray, Courtney Patterson** & Conference Directors of PR
Registration	**Jacqueline C. Kanipe, Jackie McLeod,** Belinda Thomas-Wright, Elaine Weaver, Kimberly Mitchell, Beverly Session, Valerie Terry, Cheryl Shannon, Brandon Owens
Rules	**Adam White**, Rose Brabble, Barbara R. Myers
Time & Place	**Xavier Douglas,** Jean Wilson Richie, Joan C. Wilson, Regenia Melvin
Town Hall	**Adrienne Warren,** Mary Vick, Emma Devine
Transportation	**Elbert Davis, Helena Highsmith,** Members of the NCCLO
Stewardesses/Ushers	**Rev. T. O. Nixon, Magdaline Johnson**
History Initiative Judges	President Selerya O. Moore(WMS), Rev. Kimberly Moss(Clergy), (Invited): Presiding Elder Billy R. Hunter, Rev. Christopher Edwards (RAYAC)