

# **Historic Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church**

5151 W. Chicago Boulevard

Detroit, Michigan 48204

## ***STEWARDESS APPRECIATION SUNDAY***

**MAY 31, 2026**

**10:00 AM**

### **THEME**

**“ORDINARY WOMEN ENGAGED IN EXTRAORDINARY WORK”**



**Church Office: (313) 933-6943**

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**Website: [www.historicebenezeramedetroit.org](http://www.historicebenezeramedetroit.org)**

**Rev. Gladys J. Burroughs, Local Elder**

**Rev. Elaine M. Donaldson, Local Elder**

**Rev. Vickie R. Gray, Local Elder**

**Rev. Gwendolyn Y. Wilson, Local Elder**

**Rev. Amelia Dortch, Itinerant Elder**

**Rev. Dr. Willie A. Gholston II, Senior Pastor**

**Rev. Larry J. Bell, Presiding Elder**

**Rt. Rev. Frederick A. Wright, Sr., Presiding Bishop**

# Anita Ruth Lemmons



**Anita Ruth Lemmons** was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. She attended public and parochial schools in Detroit, graduating from Lutheran High School West. She received a Bachelor of Science in Broadcast Communications from Western Michigan University in 1986.

In 1989, Anita pursued employment in the automotive industry as a Quality Assurance Coordinator with the Bing Group and worked there for six years before joining Ryder Integrated Logistics as an Operations Manager in 1995. She has also worked for the Southfield Public Schools as an elementary school teacher and as the Director of College Bound Kids Learning Center in Detroit. She is currently employed at St. Anne's Mead and Assisted Living & Memory Care in Southfield, Michigan.

Anita has been a member of Ebenezer A.M.E. church all her life. She is a member of the Women's Missionary Society and the Clergy Family Organization. She is also a member of Alpha Theta Chapter of Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, a professional business women's sorority.

Anita enjoys traveling, reading poetry and spending time with family and friends. She is married to Rev. H. Michael Lemmons, Presiding Elder of the North District of the Michigan Conference of the A.M.E. Church. She is the proud parent of Kourtney Denise Thurman. She takes to heart her favorite scripture, Ecclesiastes 3:1, "*To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.*"

**THE HISTORIC EBENEZER AME CHURCH  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

***STEWARDESS APPRECIATION SUNDAY***

**MAY 31, 2026**

**10:00 AM**

**WORSHIP AND LIVE STREAM SERVICE**

**MUSICAL PRELUDE**

**Musicians**

**PROCESSIONAL**

***"Welcome Holy Spirit"***

**GREETINGS**

**Rev. Vickie Gray**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Sis. Carolyn Jones**

**MINISTER:**

I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go to the House of the Lord!" Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

**PEOPLE:**

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

**MINISTER:**

For the sake of the House of the Lord our God. I will seek Your good.

**PEOPLE:**

Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

**MINISTER:**

O Lord, I have loved the habitation of Your house and the place where Your honor dwells.

**PEOPLE:**

For the Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him.

**MINISTER:**

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

**PEOPLE:**

O sing unto the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises.

**OPENING HYMN AMECH #394**

**Sis. Carolyn Jones**

***"We Are Often Tossed and Driven,"** by Charles Albert Tindley*

**1** We are often tossed and driven on the restless sea of time;  
Somber skies and howling tempests oft succeed a bright sunshine;  
In that land of perfect day, when the mists have rolled away,  
We will understand it better by and by.

**[Refrain]**

**By and by, when the morning comes,  
All the saints of God are gathered home,  
We will tell the story how we've overcome,  
We will understand it better by and by.**

**2** We are often destitute of the things that life demands;  
Want of food and want of shelter, thirsty hills and barren lands;  
We are trusting in the Lord, and according to his Word,  
We will understand it better by and b

**[Refrain]**

**3** Trials dark on every hand and we cannot understand  
All the ways that God would lead us to that blessed Promised Land,  
But he guides us with his eye, and we'll follow till we die,  
For we'll understand it better by and by.

**[Refrain]**

4. Temptations, hidden snares often take us unaware,  
And our hearts are made to bleed for a thoughtless word or deed,  
And we wonder why the test when we try to do our best,  
But we'll understand it better by and by.

**[Refrain]**

**CALL TO PRAY**

**Sis. Carol Griffin**

*“Holy Spirit You are Welcome in This Place”*

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

*“Spirit of the Living God”*

**CHORAL SELECTION**

**SCRIPTURES**

**“Romans 16:1-6” (NIV)**

**Sis. Michele Burrell**

**16** I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae.

**2** I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of his people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me.

**3** Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in Christ Jesus.

**4** They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them.

**5** Greet also the church that meets at their house. Greet my dear friend Epenetus, who was the first convert to Christ in the province of Asia.

**6** Greet Mary, who worked very hard for you.

**“Colossians 3:23-24” (NIV)**

**Sis. Bonnie Price**

**23** Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,

**24** since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

**May God bless the hearers and doers of His Holy Word. The Word of God for the people of God.**

## GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the Beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, Amen.

## CHORAL SELECTION

### WELCOME / RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Sis. Patricia Reason  
*"The Lord is Blessing Me"*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sis. Cheryl Ellerbee

- Thanks to all who participated in the respective meetings during this past week.
- Join us for Wednesdays in the Word at Noon on Zoom and 6:00pm by conference call. The number is **call church office**.
- All youth, parents, grandparents and guardian are asked to join us for a meeting. More information is forthcoming. Please submit all of your students' names and grade levels from PreK to College to Sis. La Shawn Nichols and the church office.
- Join Brown Chapel AME Church 2026 Women's Day **Sunday, May 31st**. The **Episcopal Supervisor, Jennifer D. Wright**, is the speaker for the **2:00pm** Worship Service. You are welcome to rock your colors of white with purple accent.
- **Sunday, May 31st at 10:00am** is the **Stewardess Appreciation Worship Service**. The Guest Speaker is Lady Anita Lemmons, South District Consultant, Michigan Annual Conference.
- **Tuesday, June 2nd at 6:30pm** the Steward Board will meet via Zoom
- **Thursday, June 4th at 6:30pm** Presiding Elder Larry Bell's Fourth Quarterly Conference will meet in person.

- **Friday, June 5th at 12:00pm -2:00pm** the Church Women United, the Detroit Unit, will celebrate Human Rights Day. The Rev. Dr. Willie A. Gholston is the speaker.
- **Friday, June 5th, through Saturday, June 6th**, is the Michigan Conference Lay Convention.
- **Sunday, June 7th at 10:00am** is Family Communion Sunday
- **Sunday, June 7th** is the Church Conference will be held immediately following the worship service.
- **Monday, June 8th at 7:30 pm** the Youth Workers, Christian Education Department will meet via Zoom
- **Thursday, June 11th through Saturday, June 13th** is the Fourth District Lay Convention.
- Ebenezer Community and Cultural Center (ECCC) is recruiting volunteers to assist with Thursdays Community Outreach Day for two to four hours per week. Assistance is needed in the Center's Food Pantry, "Stone of Help" Clothes Closet and to help prepare hygiene and personal care kits. Join them and experience the joy of helping others! For more information, contact the center at (313) 635-3355 or leave a message with Ebenezer AME Church Office at (313) 933-6943. With appreciation and gratitude to all! Sis. Edna Walker
- Do not forget about the **B.E.L.I.E.V.E. in Ebenezer and Ebenezer Cares Stewardship Campaigns**. Give back to God and His church Ebenezer. As a cheerful giver, your contribution is tax-deductible. See a member of the Stewardship and Finance Commission after church for more information.
- Please fill out an updated membership contact form for our business records.
- **Cover Photo:** The Stewardess Board of Ebenezer AME Church

- **Thought for the Week:** If you really put all of your trust in God, He will trust you with more in your life.

**STEWARDESS HISTORY**

**Sis. Yvonne Johnson**

**ALTAR CALL**

*“Something Within”*

**Rev. Vickie Gray**

**EBENEZER HOUSE OF PRAYER**

Community of Care and Concern  
 The Crawford Family  
 The Dawkins Family  
 Bro. Heyward Dortch and Family  
 Sis. Willamina Forrest  
 Sis. Anita Giles and Family  
 Bro. Kenneth Jackson

Dr. Dennis Laffoon  
 The Melvin Family  
 The Morgan Family  
 Sis. Sandra Morrison  
 The Robinson Family  
 The Spencer Family  
 The Sudduth Family

**MINISTRY OF GIVING**

**Sis. Carol Griffin**

**OFFERTORY SELECTION**

*“O Give Thanks Unto the Lord for He is Good”*

**BLESSING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*“All Things Come of Thee”*

All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

**INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER**

**Sis. Donna Brown**

**SERMONIC AMECH #461**

**Sis. Donna Brown**

*“I Was Sinking Deep in Sin,”* by James Rowe  
*(Love Lifted Me)*

**1** I was sinking deep in sin, Far from the peaceful shore, Very deeply stained within, Sinking to rise no more; But the Master of the sea Heard my despairing cry, From the waters lifted me, Now safe am I.

**[Refrain]**

**Love lifted me! Love lifted me! When nothing else could help, Love lifted me. Love lifted me.**

**2** All my heart to Him I give, Ever to Him I'll cling, In His blessed presence live Ever His praises sing; Love so mighty and so true Merits my soul's best songs Faithful loving service, too, To Him belongs.

**[Refrain]**

**3** Souls in danger, look above, Jesus completely saves; He will lift you by His love  
Out of the angry waves; He's the Master of the sea, Billows His will obey; He  
your Savior wants to be, be saved today.

**[Refrain]**

**MESSAGE**

**First Lady Anita Lemmons  
Michigan Conference**

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP AMECH #258**

*"Just As I Am," by Charlotte Elliott*

**1** Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me, And that  
Thou bidst me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

**2** Just as I am, and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot, To the whose  
blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

**3** Just as I am, though about tossed about With many a conflict many a conflict,  
many a doubt, Fightings and fears with in, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I  
come.

**3** Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,  
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

**REMARKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**Sis. Donna Brown, President  
Pastor Willie Gholston, II**

**DOXOLOGY**

**CLOSING SONG**

*"Let the Church Say Amen"*

**BENEDICTION**

**EBENEZER AME CHURCH  
STEWARDESS BOARD 2026**

**PRESENT MEMBERS**

Donna Allen Brown, President	Patricia Reason, Vice President
Judith Welch Hayes, Treasurer	Carolyn Jones, Secretary
Milicent McClary, Corresponding Secretary	Carol Griffin, Chaplin
Scheryl Brooks, Member	Michele Burrell, Member
Cheryl Green Ellerbee, Member	Beatrice Morris, Member

**EMERITUS MEMBERS**

Triandis Crim	Marcia George	Darlene Jackson
Yvonne Johnson	Dora Lane, Deaconess	Bonnie Price
Mariam Smith	Joyce Staples	Yvonne Walker

**BOARD #1 DECEASED MEMBERS**

Pinkie Bagsby	Belle Billingslea	Vaciel Hicks
Maude Hunter	Jean McCann	Sallie Shine
Eddie Mae Terhune		

**BOARD #2 DECEASED MEMBERS**

Virginia Adams	Marcella Bender	Evelyn Bibb
Marcella Black	Gloria Brown	Lillian Brown
Roben Buckhalter	Blanche Burns	Elizabeth Carpenter
Earlean Duncan	Mary Gray	Elizabeth Grubbs
Earserleane Hall	Ethel Hallman	Julia Haynes
Mamie Hill	Massie Hill	Ruthell Holiday
Maggie Holmes	Elizabeth Hughes	Bernice Jacks
Louise Jackson	Ora Jackson	Lessie Jefferies
Amy Jefferson	Agnes Joyce	Patricia King
Beatrice McGuire	Susie Moore	Patricia Mosley
Bernice Nichols	Emma Nunley	Janett Pope
Addie Smith	Nellie Smith	Susie Thomas
Hattie Walker	Genevie Williams	Mary Woods

**EBENEZER AME CHURCH  
STEWARDESS BOARD 2026**

**BOARD #3 Deceased Members**

Mamie Allen	Edna Anderson	Lucille Bailey
Gussie Beebe	Alice Belden	Julia Bender
Florence Blair	Maxine Boynton	Eva Brown
Virginia Carmicheal	Cora Ann Cobb	Elizabeth Cole
Delores Crockett	Helen Davis	Willie Mae Dixon
Vivian Dortch	Alice Easley	Lynette Evans
Maggie Foster	Edna Freeman	Mary Geter
Emmie Goolsby	Bernice Gray	Ella Green
Helena Harris	Sara Harrison	Mozene Henderson
Lula Henley	Delilah Hickman	Maxine Jack
Betty Jackson	Cordelia Jackson	Johnnie Mae Johnson
Mary Johnson	Thelma Johnson	Lillie Jones
Malissa Jones	Mary Jones	Maude Kemp
Eloyce LeFlore	Emma Leslie	Bessie Lewis
Erma Lewis	Helen Lewis	Emma Lowe
Fannie Marlowe	Cora Matthews	Ola McCrary
Rose McDowell	Mima Miles	Susie Morgan
Ella Morris	Ada Moss	Beatrice Morris
Bernice Nichols	Catherine Noel	Willie Payne
Viola Peoples	Leila Powell	Mytrice Powell
Sallie Readye	Alice Riley	Lula Riley
Martha Robertson	Elizabeth Ross	Mildred Russell
Louise Sims	Ann Smith	Lula Smith
Florence Spikes	Diann Stovall	Jessie Stovall
Rebecca Thompson	Velen Trent	Della Wash
Mary Webb	Ruby Webb	Hattie Webster
Lula White	Louise Williams	Euzera Wright
Mary Yarbrough		



Research shows that mental illnesses are common in the United States, affecting tens of millions of people each year. Estimates suggest that only half of people with mental illnesses receive treatment.

During the month of May, which is Mental Health Awareness Month, the members of the Grant Women's Missionary Society, along with missionaries throughout the 4<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District of the AME Church, are focused to bring more awareness of this important matter to our families, churches and communities.

You may find additional information concerning mental health matters, including available resources, by going to the United States National Institute of Mental Health website at:

[www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics](http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics)

We want everyone to "have life and have it more abundantly". We encourage you to please take a green ribbon, available in the Narthex, to remind you of the importance of addressing this important matter and to encourage "More Good Days Together".