

**From:** Rev. Kevin T. Taylor <revkttaylor@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2026 4:07 PM  
**Subject:** Western New York Annual Conference | 30th Session FAQs

Dear Christian Friend,  
I greet you in the love and joy of Jesus the Christ.

We are now fewer than fifty days away from the opening of the **30th Session of the Western New York Annual Conference**, and the pearl anniversary of our gathering promises to be a meaningful moment in the life of our Zion.

Following the February welcome letter that introduced **Pearls 1–7**, we now share responses to several frequently asked questions to help delegates, visitors, and friends prepare for their time in Albany. As we draw nearer to this gathering, our prayer is not simply that the Conference will proceed smoothly; rather, it is that God will meet us in ways that renew both our calling and our courage. We come expecting the Spirit to move among us: clarifying our purpose, deepening our consecration, and bringing healing where it is needed.

In that spirit, may every session of the Conference become more than a matter of order and report; may it be an offering worthy of the work entrusted to us. May the work we undertake together reflect our shared commitment to the Gospel and to the communities we are called to serve. And as we worship, deliberate, and fellowship with one another, may our time together remind us that the Church of Jesus Christ is still alive to its mission: steadfast in faith; generous in service; unwavering in its witness to God’s liberating love in the world.

Please expect the next Conference preparation email before the end of March, as we continue sharing important information to help everyone prepare for a blessed and well-ordered gathering.

Yours in Christ,  
Rev. Kevin T. Taylor  
Host Pastor

### **PEARL #8: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

As we prepare to gather in Albany for the 30th Session of the Western New York Annual Conference, we recognize that many attendees will be traveling, planning schedules, and coordinating with their congregations.

The following questions and answers are offered to help you prepare well for your arrival, your worship, and your participation in the work of the Conference.

#### ***When do we convene?***

We gather Tuesday, April 28, for the Conference Welcome Reception at 5 p.m. at Israel A.M.E. Church.

This opening gathering will provide an opportunity for fellowship and welcome before the Ministry of Evangelism Worship Service starts at 6:30 p.m.

#### ***Where will Conference events take place?***

Conference events will take place in two locations in Albany.

#### **Tuesday, April 28, Events**

Israel A.M.E. Church  
381 Hamilton St., Albany

**Wednesday-Saturday, April 29-May 2 Events**  
 Metropolitan New Testament Mission Baptist Church  
 105 2nd St., Albany

We are deeply grateful to the pastor and members of Metropolitan NTMB Church for opening their worship center as an extension of the Conference’s gathering spaces.

***Where should I plan to park?***

Street parking will be available near both churches.

Reserved parking at Metropolitan will be available for Episcopal leadership, Western New York pastors, and designated conference leadership. Additional parking will be available nearby on a first-come, first-served basis.

***Do I need to register to attend?***

Yes! Preregistration helps the Conference prepare appropriately for worship, fellowship, and the work of the sessions.

Registration deadlines:

- Friday, March 20 (Deadline extended!) – WNY pastors, clergy, delegates, and conference leadership
- Friday, April 3 (Deadline extended) – guests, visitors, students, and community attendees

Register here: <https://forms.gle/Ggu7hQjX89F9UJB79>

WNY Pastors, please forward this email — and consider including the attached QR code in your bulletins — to help spread awareness.

***Which hotels are recommended for Conference attendees?***

We have partnered with three nearby hotels:



<b><u>Hotel</u></b>	<b><u>Ideal for</u></b>	<b><u>Book here IF you are staying...</u></b>
<a href="#"><u>TownePlace Suites/Albany - Medical Center</u></a>	Pastors, delegates, and guests seeking extended-stay accommodations with kitchenette and additional space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday-Saturday</li> <li>• Wednesday-Saturday</li> <li>• Thursday-Saturday</li> <li>• Friday-Saturday</li> </ul> <p><i>or any combination of those nights</i></p>
<a href="#"><u>Hilton Garden Inn/Albany - Medical Center</u></a>	Pastors, delegates, and guests seeking a traditional hotel stay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday-Saturday</li> <li>• Wednesday-Saturday</li> <li>• Thursday-Saturday</li> <li>• Friday-Saturday</li> </ul> <p><i>or any combination of those nights</i></p>

<a href="#">Hampton Inn &amp; Suites</a> <a href="#">/Downtown</a>	Evangelism and Women's Missionary Society (WMS) Guests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday-Thursday</li> <li>• Tuesday-Wednesday</li> </ul>
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Each hotel is within a short driving distance of both Conference venues.

***Will meals be available during the Conference?***

Yes. Continental breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be available for purchase during the Conference at a reasonable cost.

Through the Sustentation support of the Western New York Conference, meal tickets will be provided for WNY pastors and delegates beginning with dinner on Wednesday, April 29, and concluding with dinner on Friday, May 1.

***Will Conference services be available online?***

Yes. Worship services will be available via Israel A.M.E. Church’s YouTube channel and Zoom.

Please note that business sessions and internal meetings will not be streamed.

***What is the Souvenir Journal?***

To commemorate the 30th Session of the Western New York Annual Conference, a digital Souvenir Journal will be published celebrating the ministries, congregations, and leaders who continue to strengthen the witness of African Methodism across the region.

Churches and supporters are invited to participate by purchasing advertisements or sponsorships. More details can be found in the attached document.

***What is the WNY “30-for-30” Prayer Initiative?***

Beginning Sunday, March 29, Israel A.M.E. Church will host a 30-day prayer initiative leading up to the Conference.

Each day will feature a brief historical reflection about the Western New York Conference followed by a call to prayer our Episcopal leaders, Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., presiding prelate, and Dr. Phyllis N. Green, episcopal supervisor; presiding elders Rev. Dr. Faye Banks Taylor and Rev. Paul J. Thomas; district consultants Sis. Marion D. Smart and Lady Genelle Thomas; host pastor and first lady Rev. Kevin T. and Mrs. Emily A. Taylor; the Israel A.M.E. and Metropolitan NTMB Church families; and the entire Western New York Annual Conference.

***Is it too late to volunteer to help?***

Absolutely not. There is still time to participate, and we would be grateful for your presence and support. You may serve through prayer, by joining the Conference Choir, or through any other ways God has gifted you to extend radical hospitality during the week of the Conference. [Use this link to sign up.](#)