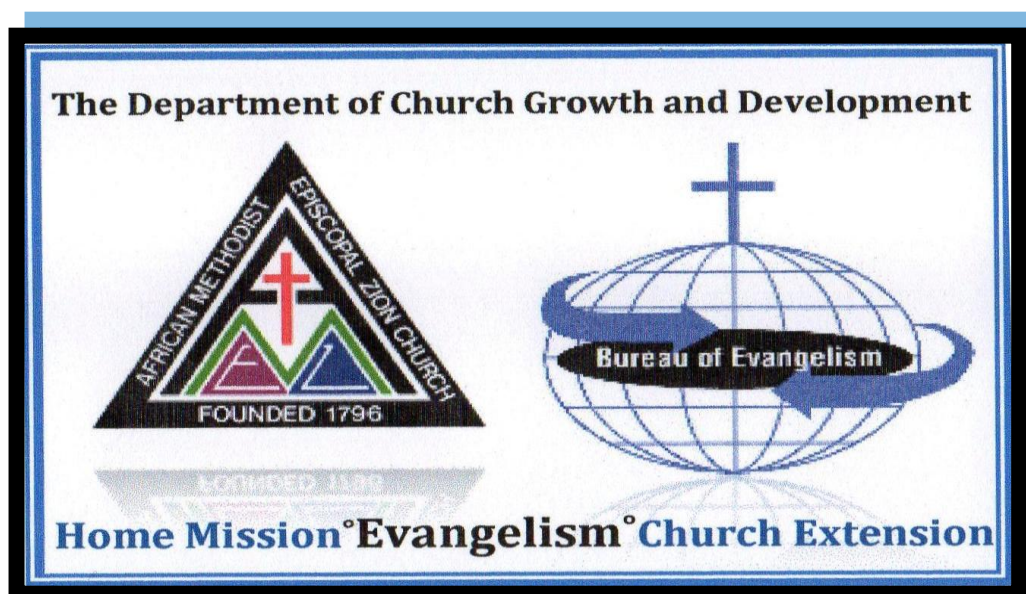


**The Department of Church Growth and Development  
Director's Report**

**Rev. Dr. Otis T. McMillan, Executive Director**

**2017 Connectional Council  
And Board of Bishops Meeting**  
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

July 18-21, 2017



**Knoxville Marriott Hotel  
501 E. Hill Avenue  
Knoxville, Tennessee**

**Rev. Dr. John Butler, Host Presiding Elder  
Sis. Camille C. Starnes, Host Missionary Supervisor  
The Right Reverend Darryl B. Starnes, Sr. Host Bishop**

## **Director's Statement to the Connectional Council and the Board of Bishops**

To the President of the Board of Bishop, Bishop Dennis V. Proctor, the Senior Bishop, Bishop George E. Battle Jr., the host Bishop, Bishop Darryl B. Starnes Sr., other members of the Board of Bishops and the Connectional Council: Greetings in the name of the Father of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! This is my report as Executive Director of the Department of Church Growth and Development with highlights, financial audit with an independent auditor's letter, evangelistic endeavors and an overview of the work.

### **The Department of Church Growth and Development - Home Mission**

The Department of Church Growth and Development has maintained its pre-existing obligations providing assistance to Ministers, Churches and responded to all emergency requests from the Episcopal Districts. The Administrative Board of Church Growth and Development has held regular conference calls in an effort to clarify goals, directions and departmental expectations. Under the Leadership of Bishop Darryl B. Starnes and the administrative board members, the subcommittees have worked the following areas: Church Revitalization, Connectional Prayer Ministry, Discipleship Ministry, Evangelism and Church Planting.

The department has responded to two church plant requests. Presently, the Department is supporting Rev. Charles Thurman Jr. with \$300.00 per month and Rev. Derrick Lamar Smith with \$700.00 for a rental space. The Department of Church Growth and Development prayer ministry led by our International Prayer Coordinator, Rev. Dr. Eric Leake has sponsored and participated in several calls to prayer for our Church and Country. The General Conference Prayer service was well attended and the offering amount was \$4,619.01. The prayer ministry provides ongoing prayer support for the general meeting of the denomination. An overview of the day to day operations of Home Mission, the receipts and disbursements are included in this report.

### **The Department of Church Growth and Development - Evangelism**

**Decision Day** – 2016 Decision Day theme was “The Freedom Church: Re-Focusing on Our Purpose” The theme was designed to call God's Church to bountiful fruitfulness, blessed obedience and bold witness. Decision Day is rooted and grounded in the quest to see our members, children, youth and adults move beyond religion and ritual to authentic relationships with God through Jesus Christ. While still targeting our youth and children, the Decision Day Observance must broaden its scope in order to reach people of all ages who are in need of making a life-changing decision for Christ. The Decision Day Packets were sent out to the pastors during the month of September. 103 churches responded to the Department request, returning the forms and sending gifts in the amount of \$6,564.67.

**2017 Spiritual Emphasis Week** – Spiritual Emphasis Week offers an opportunity for each local church to begin the year on a high spiritual note. The entire denomination was encouraged to participate as the presiding elder districts gather Sunday through Friday for prayer, praise, and proclamation of the word. This annual event was culminated with the clergy and laity of the Presiding Elder District coming together for a special service on Saturday. The suggested theme for Spiritual Emphasis Week 2017 was “Teaching Believers to Live and Serve as Christ's Ambassadors” The study text was 2 Corinthians 5:1-21 - 2 Corinthians 7:1-2. I was privilege to share Spiritual Emphasis week at the Outland Memorial AME Zion Church, Fort Worth, Texas and the Saint Mark (Vineyard) AME Zion Church, Dallas, Texas.

## **Ecumenical Highlights of the Executive Director**

Participated in the 21<sup>st</sup> World Methodist Conference, Houston, Texas held at the Hilton Americas Houston, Texas, August 31<sup>st</sup> thru September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016, I was invited to the pre-Conference, post Conference events and served on the Evangelism Committee.

Participated in The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church partnership event for “A Day of Prayer for Charlotte”, October 5, 2016 hosted by St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church, Charlotte, NC. The day began with conversation, continued with prayer out in the community, and ended with a worship service. The keynote speaker was The Rev. Albert Starr of the ELCA African Descent office. A special thanks to Rev. Dr J. Elvin Sadler, President Dr. Vergel Lattimore and other AME Zionites who participated in the event.

Participated in the Evangelism Connection’s Bi-Annual Meeting hosted by the United Churches of Canada, held in Toronto, Canada October 2016 at the United Church of Canada Headquarters and the May 2017 meeting in Phoenix, Arizona hosted by the Reformed Church of America.

Served as the keynote speaker for the Cumberland Fayetteville Ministerial Council’s Martin Luther King Jr. Countywide Prayer Breakfast held January 2017 at the Cumberland County Crown Coliseum, Fayetteville, North Carolina with more 2000 in attendance. I have invited to serve as the keynote for the Lee County Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast and community event in January 2018.

Served as one of the keynote speakers and assisted in planning for “The Bold Like Jesus Conference” held February 2-4, 2017 at Trinity AME Zion Church, Greensboro, NC. 50 members of the AME Zion Church family registered and participated in the event. Rev. Dr. Darin Mitchell and the Trinity Church are to be commended for a job well done! A special thanks to Bishop Darryl B. Starnes and Bishop Kenneth Monroe for the participation in the event.

**The Evangelism Articles - Zion’s Evangel** - *Zion’s Evangel* appears in each issue of the Missionary Seer thanks to Dr. Dwight Bernard Cannon and his staff. I also continue to provide article in our web Newsletter; on the Evangelism Connection’s website and on the Bureau’s Website: [www.beamezion.org](http://www.beamezion.org).

**The Quadrennial Evangelism Congress** - The 2017 Quadrennial Evangelism Congress, was held at the beautiful Dorothy Walls Conference and Retreat Resort, Black Mountain, NC on April 18 - 21, 2017. Although the participation from the denomination at the Evangelism Congress has been low, the administrative board has decided that the subsequent evangelism congresses should remain a free standing event. 228 persons attended the congress and 167 registered for the event. A special thanks to Bishop George Battle for his assistance during the meeting, administrative board member, Dr. Yvonne Tracey and the AARP organization their financial assistance, our speakers, presenters and other members of the Administrative Board of Church Growth and development.

**Evangelism Website** – [www.beamezion.org](http://www.beamezion.org) The Bureau of Evangelism maintains a site which offers many valuable tools for our constituents around the country and across the world. The feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive. Thanks to Rev. William Dudley, Episcopal Director of the Washington-Oregon Conference for his skill, generosity and constant work in maintaining and updating the site. We also maintain three webpages on Facebook

**Evangelism Networking Opportunities** -The Christian Education Department partnered with the Department of Church Growth and Development to provide evangelistic training during their Winter Meeting. The director taught (3) workshops on evangelism and provided altar support and follow-up for 30 persons who accepted Christ during the CED winter meeting in Washington, DC. The Connectional Lay Council has provided opportunity for the director to present an evangelistic Bible Study at their meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee. These partnerships have allowed me to raise awareness of evangelism and increased the distribution of evangelistic materials across the AME Zion Connection.

**The World Methodist Evangelism Division of the World Methodist Church** invited a number of AME Zion, evangelistic-minded pastors and their spouses to participate in their extensive evangelistic training during their 2017 Order of the Flame Conference. I encourage our Board of Bishops to continue to send leaders from across the denomination to experience this rewarding, Wesleyan/Methodist training opportunity. The Director, along with other directors from the Wesleyan/Methodist family participated in this event. The World Methodist Director of Evangelism, Rev. Dr. Kimberly Wiseman held this year's conference, March 11-17, 2017 at Saint Simon Island, GA at the Epworth by the Sea. This year, 28 pastors and spouses of the AME Zion Church participated in the event.

### **Acknowledgements**

Thanks to the Board of Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church for your support as I have tried to be faithful and give a good day's work to the ministry of Church Growth and Development.

Special thanks the Chairman of the Church Growth and Development: Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman; Bishop Seth O. Lartey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman, Bishop Uduak Effiong, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chairman, Mr. Robert Benton and the International Administrative Board of Church Growth and Development for providing outstanding leadership, support, insight and encouragement to the Department;

Special thanks and sincere appreciation to Mrs. Edna Dumas Littlejohn, my dedicated Administrative Assistant; Reverend Doctor J. Wardell Henderson, Ms. Pat Sharpe, and other members of the area staff, who provide invaluable service in prayer, planning, strategizing and implementing programs and ideas for the Department of Church Growth and Development;

Finally, deepest thanks go to my darling wife, Barbara, my traveling partner and one of the hardest working people on my team who have support me tirelessly during these 37 years of ministry in the AME Zion Church. By the grace of God the Father of our Lord Jesus the Christ, I am what I am!

In His Service, Rev. Dr. Otis T. McMillan,  
Executive Director, the Department of Church Growth and Development  
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

## Director's Evangelistic Endeavors

<i><b>Date</b></i>	<i><b>Site/Church</b></i>	<i><b>Leader</b></i>	<i><b>Event</b></i>
July 27-29, 2016	Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Dunn, NC	Elder Floyd Ray	Annual Revival Preacher
<b>August</b>			
August 7, 2016	Bal Perazim Christiian Center, Fayetteville, NC	Apostle M. K. Braxton	Pastor's Appreciation Speaker
August 10-12, 2016	Norrington AME Zion Lillington, NC	Rev. Donald CoZart	Annual Revival Preacher
August 14, 2016	Mt. Zion AME Zion Church Eastover, NC	Rev. James Davis III	Morning Worship
Aug 16-18, 2016	Household of Faith Outreach, Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Dr. Larry W. Carter	Annual Revival Preacher
August 21-25, 2016	Asbury Chapel AME Zion Pascagoula, MS	Rev. Dr. O'neal Wiley	Annual Revival Preacher
August 30-31, 2016	21 <sup>st</sup> World Methodist Conference, Houston, TX	Bishop Ivan Abraham	Participant
<b>September</b>			
September 1-4, 2016	21st World Methodist Conference, Houston, TX	Bishop Ivan Abraham	Participant
September 6-9, 2016	New Hope AME Zion Sanford, NC	Rev. Maximiliano McMillian	Annual Revival Preacher
September 10, 2016	Household of Faith Outreach, Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Dr. Larry W. Carter	Pastor's Appreciation Banquet speaker
September 11, 2016	Well of Living Water Fayetteville, NC	Apostle Kathy Matthews	Pastor's Appreciation
September 13-16, 2016	AME Zion Headquarters Charlotte, NC	General Officer Sadler and Watkins	G.O.T. Planning Meeting
September 25, 2016	Avery Grove AME Zion Ch Smithfield, NC	Rev. Linda E. Lock	Homecoming Celebration Speaker
September 21-23, 2016	Friendship Missionary Baptist Ch, Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Dr. S. Lee Downing	Annual Revival Preacher
September 24, 2016	Trinity AME Zion Church Gastonia, NC	Mr. Jerry McComb Lay President	Workshop Presenter
September 24, 2016	New BeginningZ Praise and Worship, Raeford, NC	Bishop William McPhaul	Pastor's Appreciation
<b>October</b>			
October 2, 2016	Mount Olive AME Zion Elizabethtown, NC	Rev. Haywood Oliver	Pastor's Appreciation
October 6, 2016	Trinity AME Zion Church Greensboro, NC	Rev. Dr. Daran Mitchell	Bold Like Jesus Site Visit
October 5-7, 2016	Matthew Chapel AME Zion Laurinburg, NC	Rev. Larry McQueen	Annual Revival Preacher
October 9, 2016	Gardners Chapel AME Zion Beard, NC	Rev. Dwight Nelly	Pastor's Appreciation
October 13, 2016	AME Zion Headquarters Charlotte, NC	Mr. Herbert Watkins	G.O.T. Luncheon
October 16, 2016	Saint John AME Zion Church, Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Connie Lowe	Homecoming Preacher
October 18-20, 2016	Soldier's Memorial AMEZ Salisbury, NC	Rev. Dr. Derrick Anderson	Annual Revival Preacher
October 21, 2016	Mt. Pisgah's Community Raeford, NC	Sheriff Herbert Peterkin	Sheriff's Banquet
October 22, 2016	New Hope AME Zion Church, Sanford, NC	Rev. Maxi McMillian	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
October 23, 2016	Creeksville AME Zion Church,	Rev. Delilah Gaddy	Pastor's Appreciation

	Spring Lake, NC		Preacher
October 24-26, 2016	United Church of Canada Toronto, Canada	Evangelism Connection Rev. Michael Blair, host	Semi Annual Meeting
October 28, 2016	Faith Deliverance Church Lillington, NC	Bishop Veorah Davis	Appreciation Speaker
October 30, 2016	Willis Creek AME Zion Fayetteville, North Carolina	Rev. Selvyn Lindo	Turner Day Celebration Speaker
October 30, 2016	Resurrection AME Zion Pembroke, NC	Rev. Nathaniel Cox	Workshop Presenter and Appreciation Preacher
<b>November</b>			
November 9-12, 2016	Central N C Conference Fayetteville, NC	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	Annual Conference
November 13, 2016	Grace AME Zion Church Charlotte, NC	Rev. Dr. David McLean	Homecoming Preacher
November 14, 2016	T.H.E. Church Hope Mills, NC	Rev. Dr. Mathew Rouse	Revival Preacher
November 16, 2016	Trinity AME Zion Church Greensboro, NC	Rev. Dr. Daran Mitchell	Stewardship Workshop
November 20, 2016	Clarkton District AMEZ Elizabethtown, NC	Presiding Elder Florence Brown	Stewardship Workshops
November 22, 2016	New Bethel AME Zion Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Chalmers McDougald	Thanksgiving Service Preacher
November 30, 2016	Trinity AME Zion Church Greensboro, NC	Rev. Dr. Daran Mitchell	Stewardship Workshop
<b>December</b>			
December 3, 2016	Hood Memorial AME Zion Fayetteville, North Carolina	Rev. Frederick Hendley	Fayetteville District CED
December 3, 2016	Hood Memorial AME Zion Fayetteville, North Carolina	Presiding Elder Joseph Brown	Fayetteville Organization Meeting
December 4, 2016	White Hill AME Zion Church, York, SC	Presiding Elder Alvin McLamb	Moring Worship Preacher
December 4, 2016	White Hill AME Zion Church, York, SC	Rev. Vanessa McLamb	Christmas Program Participant
December 9, 2016	New Bethel AME Zion Church, Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Chalmers McDougald	Christmas Gala at Gate Four Golf Course
December 11, 2016	Mount Zion AME Zion Church, Eastover, NC	Rev. John Morrison	Morning Worship
December 27-30, 2016	Christian Education Winter Meeting, Washington, DC	Rev. Kathryn G. Brown	Presenter
December 31, 2016	Wesley Chapel AME Zion Wade, NC	Rev. Johnnie Council	Community Watch Night Service
<b>January</b>			
January 4-6, 2017	Outland Memorial AME Zion, Fort Worth, Texas	Rev. Rodney McCullough	Spiritual Emphasis Workshop
January 8-13, 2017	Outland Memorial AMEZ Fort Worth, Texas	Rev. Rodney McCullogh	Annual Revival Services
January 16, 2017	CC Crown Coliseum Fayetteville, NC	FCCMC Annual Prayer MLK Jr Breakfast	Keynote Speaker
January 17-19, 2016	Saint James AME Zion Goldsboro, NC	Rev. Ronald Miller	Stewardship Workshop and Revival
January 26-27, 2017	ENCED Convocation Raleigh, NC	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	Convocation Presenter
<b>February</b>			
February 1, 2017	Outreach Mission Church Turn Bull, NC	Pastor Christine Rich	Church Anniversary
February 2-4, 2017	Trinity AME Zion Church Greensboro, NC	Rev. Dr. John Mocko	Bold Like Jesus Conference Keynote
February 4, 2017	The Highlands	Apostle Gregory B.	Couple's Banquet Speaker

	Laurinburg, NC	Thompson	
February 11, 20017	St. Paul AME Zion Church Ewing, New Jersey	Rev. Keith D. Tillett	Church Growth Workshop Presenter
February 12, 2017	St. Paul AME Zion Church Ewing, New Jersey	Rev. Keith D. Tillett	Morning Worship Preacher
February 21-25,2017	Board of Bishops Meeting Atlanta, GA	Board of Bishops	General Officers Report
February 26, 2017	Avery Grove AME Zion Smithfield, NC	Rev. Ernest Blizzard	Black History Speaker
<b>March</b>			
March 1, 2, 2017	Fayetteville District AMEZ Fayetteville, NC	Presiding Elder Joseph Brown	Evangelism Workshop and Revival
March 5, 2017	Simon Temple AME Zion Fayetteville, North Carolina	Rev. Brian R. Thompson	Early Morning Worship
March 5, 2017	Mattock Memorial AMEZ Fayetteville, North Carolina	Rev. James Whitted	Morning Worship
March 10, 2017	Central North Carolina Pittsboro, NC	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	Check Up Meeting
March 11, 2017	Eleventh Hour Ministry Dunn, North Carolina	Apostle Leroy Smith	Appreciation Banquet Speaker
March 12, 2017	New Diggs AME Zion Hamlet, North Carolina	Rev. Beulah LeGrande	Evangelistic Service
March 13-16, 2017	Order of the Flame Saint Simon Island, GA	Dr. Kimberly Wiseman	Evangelism Conference
Mar 17-18, 2017	Albany District Conference Utica, New York	Presiding Elder Alphonso Meadows	Preaching and workshop
March 19, 2017	Walls Temple AME Zion Albany, New York	Rev. Alphonso Meadows	Morning Worship Preacher
March 21-22, 2017	Sanford District, Fair Promise, Sanford, NC	Presiding Elder Ricky Frazier	District Revival Preacher
March 24-25, 2017	Midwest Regional CED Jackson, Mississippi	Mrs. Gwen Peters, host	Christian Education Regional Meeting preacher
March 26, 2017	Cathedral AME Zion Church, Jackson, MS	Rev. Gary Adams	
March 29-30, 2017	Johnsonville AME Zion Ch Johnsonville, NC	Presiding Elder Hanna Broome	Evangelism Workshops
<b>April</b>			
April 1, 2017	St. Phillips AME Zion Ch Greensboro, NC	Rev. T. Anthony Spearman	Shift Event, Home Mission Ministry
April 3-5, 2017	Salisbury District AME Zion, Salisbury, NC	Presiding Elder Dr. Harrison Grant	Salisbury District Revival
April 10-12, 2017	Mt. Pisgah OFWB Church Erwin, North Carolina	Bishop Reginald Hinton	Annual Spring Revival
April 13-15, 2017	New Beginningz Worship Raeford, North carolina	Rev. Dr. Vanessa Mc Phaul	Spring Revival Preacher
April 18-21, 2017	Dept of Church Growth Black Mountain, NC	Rev. Dr. Otis McMillan	Quadrennial Evangelism Congress
April 26-28, 2017	Community Revival Birmingham, Alabama	Rev. Gary S. Moore	Community Revival
<b>May</b>			
May 1-5, 2017	Freedom Chapel AME Zion Raeford, North Carolina	Presiding Elder Dr. James A. French	Laurinburg District Revival Preacher
May 8-10, 2017	St. Paul AME Zion Church Maryville, Tennessee	Presiding Elder Dr. Willa Estell	Spring Revival Preacher
March 12-13, 2017	Rush Temple AME Zion Jamaica, New York	Rev. Dr. Charles Young Conference Director	Workshop Presenter
March 14, 2017	Shaw AME Zion Church Jamaica, New York	Rev. Dr. Charles Young	Morning Preacher

March 19, 2017	Kenneth Monroe Center Rock Hill, South Carolina	Mrs. Jeanette Wise Conference Worker	Musical Concert Conference Worker Event
May 24-26, 2017	Wesley Chapel AMEZ Ch Wade, North Carolina	Rev. Dr. Johnnie Council	Spring Revival Preacher
May 31, 2017	Good News Mission Outreach, Dunn, NC	Minister Jerry Bell	Spring Revival Preacher
<b>June</b>			
June 1-2, 2017	Good News Mission Outreach, Dunn, NC	Minister Jerry Bell	Spring Revival Preacher
June 3, 2017	Double Tree by Hilton Fayetteville, NC	Presiding Bishop Reginald Hinton	150th OFWB Conference Banquet
June 4, 2017	Ebenezer AME Zion Church, Apex, NC	Rev. James Smith	Family and Friend's Day Preacher
June 7-9, 2017	Greenville Convention Ctr Greenville, North Carolina	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	ENCED Institute
June 15-16, 2017	Greater Harvest Global Fayetteville, North Carolina	Apostle Jamaal Dunham	Summer Revival Preacher
June 18, 2017	New Beginningz Center Raeford, North Carolina	Bishop William Mc Phaul	Father's Day Speaker
<b>July</b>			
July 6-7, 2017	Lomax Hannon Greenville, Alabama	Bishop Seth O. Lartey	Alabama Florida Institute Workshop Presenter
July 15, 2017	Philippi Church of Christ Greenville, NC	Tiffany McMillan	Wedding Participant



The Department of Church Growth and Development

**Evangelism - Home Mission**  
**The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**

P. O. Box 217258  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28221-7258



DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE 2017

**THE FREEDOM CHURCH:**  
**REFOCUSING ON OUR PURPOSE**



**Theme:**

**“Spiritual Directions for a New Generation”**

**Decision Day**  
**Observance 2017**

October 22, 2017

*The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church*

Please note the Spiritual Emphasis Week 2018  
Information on the last page!



## **DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE**

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church



October 22, 2017

### **Theme: Spiritual Directions for a New Generation**

The Book of Discipline of our Church directs that every Sunday Church School shall emphasize "Decision Day" annually in the month of October. It further directs that each Sunday Church School should undertake an evangelistic quota for active membership. In the recent past, the Decision Day Observance has also been an opportunity for the local churches to share financial gifts in support of the Department of Church Growth and Development: *Evangelism & Home Mission*. While financial gifts are welcomed during this observance, the Department of Church Growth and Development is placing its greatest emphasis upon decisions for Christ and faithfulness in ministry.

The 2017 Theme is "**Spiritual Directions for a New Generation.**" The selected Scripture lessons are 2 Timothy 3:1-13; 4:1-5. Our purpose as New Testament, born again believers is to do the work of an evangelist, faithfully sharing the word of Faith that brings salvation to all who believe in their hearts and confess with their mouth the Lord Jesus Christ.

During these perilous times many teachers have wandered into error, away from the pure word of God, gratifying their lusts, and to please the itching ears of those around them. The church must provide accurate spiritual directions for a generation looking for answers. People need sound doctrine. We must proclaim the word of God that is searching, plain, and purposeful. There is a wide difference between the word of God and the word of erring teachers; the one is sound doctrine, the word of truth, the other is only fables.

Those who have turned unto fables have first turned away their ears from the truth, for they cannot hear and mind both, any more than they can serve two masters. It is possible to be overtaken in a fault, to neglect one's duty, and to lose one's soul. Apostle Paul encourages Timothy to watchfulness. Watching unto prayer prevents all these evils. We must endure afflictions, not allowing difficulties to cause us to abandon the truth, nor relax in our zeal for the salvation of men.

Apostle Paul highlights and presses a fourfold duty upon Timothy and other who take this ministry seriously; 1. Be watchful in all things because false teachers will be set him on every side; therefore guard and watch everywhere. 2. Be courageous enduring afflictions: he that fears the frowns of men can never discharge his duty faithfully to God. 3. Be loyal: Do the work of an evangelist which is an extraordinary office, to assist the apostles in preaching and publishing the gospel from place to place; they watered what the apostles planted. 4. Be sincerity: Make full proof of thy ministry; so fulfill all the parts of it, that none may charge thee with the neglect of any part of thy duty.

This year 2017, let the world see that the foremost work of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, the most important and only work is to reach, win and disciple souls for God. Decision Day is rooted and grounded in the quest to see our members, children, youth and adults move beyond religion and ritual to authentic relationships with God through Jesus Christ. While still targeting our youth and children, the Decision Day Observance must broaden its scope in order to reach people of all ages who are in need of making a life-changing decision for Christ.



THE DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT  
 Evangelism –Home Mission  
 The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church



**DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE 2017**

Report Form

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pastor in charge \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 Presiding Elder \_\_\_\_\_ P. E. District \_\_\_\_\_  
 Presiding Bishop \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Conference \_\_\_\_\_  
 Episcopal District \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Event(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Description \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**REPORT OF DECISIONS**

<b><u>Type of Decisions Made</u></b>	<b><u>During Decision Day Observance(s)</u></b>	<b><u>During the Year (Nov. 2016- Oct. 2017)</u></b>
<b>Number of Conversions</b>		
<b>Number of Re-dedications</b>		
<b>New Members Added</b>		
<b>Number called to Preach</b>		
<b>Number of Special Events</b>		

Financial gift for the Bureau of Evangelism \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Check Payable to: **Bureau of Evangelism**  
 The Department of Church Growth and Development:  
*Evangelism –Home Mission – Church Extension*  
 The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
 P.O. Box 217258  
 Charlotte, N.C. 28221-7258  
 Telephone: (704) 599-4630 Ext. 2174 Fax: (704) 688-2547

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Organ Prelude

The Processional Hymn: #225/#648 *Marching To Zion*

The Call to Worship

Leader: But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth.

People: For the Father is seeking such to worship Him. Leader: God is Spirit.

All: And those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth.

The Invocation

The Hymn of Praise: #29/#29 *Come Thou Fount*

The Responsive Reading: [AMEZ Hymnal] p. 96, 43<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Morning or [Bicentennial] p. 76, 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday Morn. - Kingdomtide

The Apostles' Creed: #657/#705 The

Gloria Patri: #641/#703

The Lesson from the Holy Scriptures

The Call to Prayer: #404/#256 *More Love to Thee*

The Pastoral Prayer The

Choral Selection

The Ministry of Kindness Offering The

Announcements

The Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

The Hymn of Preparation: #205/#433 *I Am Thine O Lord*

The Preaching of the Gospel

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Hymn of Invitation: #185/#415 *Just As I Am*

The Recessional Hymn: #252/#287 *Take the Name of Jesus With You*

The Benediction

**(Hymn numbers are from the AME Zion Church Hymnal, followed by the AME Zion Church Bicentennial Hymnal)**

### **The Sinner's Prayer**

Lord Jesus, I confess that I am a sinner. I turn from my sins and my unrighteousness, and I turn to you. I believe that you died for my sins and rose from the dead for my justification. I place my trust in You as my personal Savior, and I receive You into my heart as Lord and Master of my life. Help me to follow you as I accept your free gift of eternal life. Amen.

(Please use the appropriate forms to report the number and the nature of the decision made for Christ. These should include any conversions, re-dedications, new members, and those answering the call to the gospel ministry or Christian service.) Send all correspondence to:

***The Department of Church Growth and Development  
Bureau of Evangelism – Home Mission  
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
P. O. Box 217258  
Charlotte, N.C. 28221-7258  
Telephone: (704) 599-4630 Ext. 2174  
Fax: (704) 688-2547***

THE DEPARTMENT OF  
**Church Growth and Development**  
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

**The Official Staff**

**The Rev. Dr. Otis T. McMillan, Executive Director**

The Rev. Dr. J. Wardell Henderson, Assistant to the Director

Mrs. Edna M. Dumas Littlejohn, Administrative Assistant

Ms. Pat Sharpe, Volunteer Assistant

International Administrative Board Leadership  
**The Department of Church Growth and  
Development**

*Evangelism – Home Mission*

The Rt. Rev. Darryl B. Starnes, Sr. Chairman

The Rt. Rev. Seth O. Lartey, 1st Vice-Chairman

The Rt. Rev. U.U. Effiong, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman

Mr. Robert Benton, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chairman

Please use the appropriate forms to report the number and the nature of the decision made for Christ. These should include any conversions, re-dedications, new members, and those answering the call to the gospel ministry or Christian service. Send all correspondence to:

The Department of Church Growth and Development  
Bureau of Evangelism – Home Mission  
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
P. O. Box 217258  
Charlotte, N.C. 28221-7258  
Telephone: (704) 599-4630 Ext. 2174  
Fax: (704) 688-2547



**DECISION DAY  
OBSERVANCE 2017**

Sponsored by the Department

**Church Growth and Development  
Evangelism - Home Mission**

*of the*

**African Methodist Episcopal Zion  
Church**

Theme:

**“Spiritual Directions for a New Generation”**



**“THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW JESUS”**

Sunday, October 22, 2017



# “A Week of Prayer, Praise, and Proclamation”

## January 1-6, 2018

*Sponsored by*

### **THE DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

Evangelism – Home Mission

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

Charlotte, North Carolina

**Dr. Otis T. McMillan, General Secretary Director**

Spiritual Emphasis Week offers an opportunity for each local church to begin the year on a high spiritual note. The entire membership should be encouraged to participate as the church gathers Monday through Friday for prayer, praise, and proclamation of the word. This annual event should climax with the clergy and laity of the Presiding Elder District coming together for a special service on Saturday. The suggested theme and daily sub-themes for Spiritual Emphasis Week 2018 are as follows:

### **THEME: Spiritual Directions for a New Generation**

*The Important Lessons from the New Testament*

### **KEY SCRIPTURES: 2 Timothy 3:1-13; 4:1-5**

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>
<b>Monday</b>	Jan. 1, 2018	Warning Believers about Moral Decay and Erosion	2 Timothy 3:1-13
<b>Tuesday</b>	Jan. 2, 2018	Guiding Believers to Sure Faith & Productive Living	2 Timothy 3:13-14
<b>Wednesday</b>	Jan. 3, 2018	Helping Believers Discover the Power of God’s Word	2 Timothy 3:16-17
<b>Thursday</b>	Jan. 4, 2018	Assisting Believers in Discharging Their Duties	2 Timothy 4:1- 2
<b>Friday</b>	Jan. 5, 2018	Helping Believers Clearly Understand the assignment	2 Timothy 4:2-3
<b>Saturday</b>	Jan. 6, 2018	Doing the Work of Mission Evangelist	2 Timothy 4:3-5

**“But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist,**

**make full proof of thy ministry.” 2 Timothy 4:5**

2017 Quadrennial Evangelism Congress  
Dorothy Walls Conference and Retreat Center  
April 18-21, 2017  
Black Mountain, North Carolina

167 Registered Congress Participants by Episcopal Districts

Piedmont – 30

Eastern North Carolina – 42

Midwest – 22

North Eastern -4

South Atlantic -21

Mid – Atlantic – 10

Alabama – Florida – 20

Southwestern Delta – 8

Western – 2

Central South Africa -2

Western West -1

(5) Did not complete nor identify their Episcopal District

(Approximate 65 attendees failed to register)