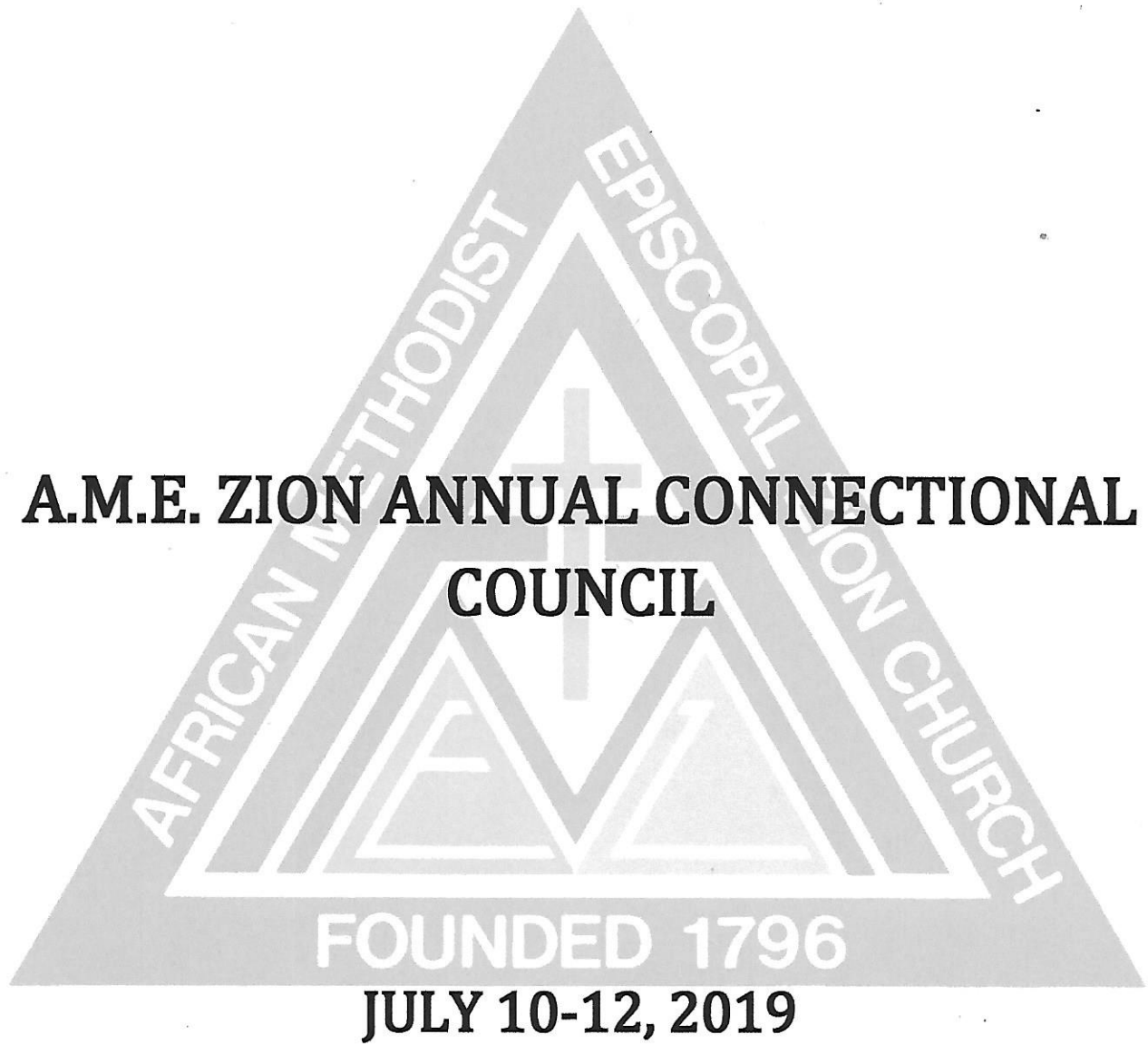


**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR- CHURCH
GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT**

**A.M.E. ZION ANNUAL CONNECTIONAL
COUNCIL**



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To the President of the Board of Bishops, Bishop Michael Angelo Frencher, Sr., Bishop Seth O. Lartey, Host Bishop and Bishop George E. Battle Jr., Senior Bishop, other members of the Board of Bishops, and distinguished members of 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 which houses both Evangelism and Home Mission, with highlights, evangelistic endeavors and financial reviews.

THE BUREAU OF CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT - The Bureau of Church Growth and Development has maintained its obligations of the Home Mission ministry by aiding ministers and churches serving in mission conferences. The Department has also responded to all emergency requests from mission conferences in several Episcopal Districts. The administrative Board of Church Growth and Development has held regular conference calls receiving updates from the subcommittees of the following areas: Church Revitalization, Connectional Prayer Ministry, Discipleship Ministry, Evangelism and Church Planting. The board has received regular financial updates of the ministry operations. The department is extremely grateful for the support we have received from the Women’s Home & Overseas Missionary Society. Even though we have experienced a reduction in their monthly support, we will strive to continue to carry out the mandate of the department of “Helping Zion Grow at Home.”

The Prayer Ministry - The Bureau of Church Growth and Development Director has participated in several calls to prayer led by our Prayer Coordinator, Rev. Dr. Eric Leake. The prayer ministry sponsored a special call to prayer on New Year’s Day with 142 participants on the call. This ministry provides ongoing prayer support for the general meeting of the denomination. I am thankful the leadership of Rev. Dr. Eric Leake and greatly appreciate the work of our Prayer Ministry. An overview of the day to day operations of Home Mission, the receipts and disbursements are included in this report.

2018 Decision Day – This year, God is calling His Church back to the basics: being a disciple of Christ and helping others to do the same. Decision Day 2018 is rooted and grounded in the quest to see all 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 has been 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. So far 50 churches responded to the Department request, returning the forms and sending gifts in the amount of \$3,370.00 and reporting 1181 conversions and 1165 new members. Although these responses represent only a small sample of our church, the responses were encouraging.

2018 Spiritual Emphasis Week – Spiritual Emphasis Week offers an opportunity for each local church to begin the new year on a high spiritual note. The entire membership should be and are encouraged to participate as the church gathers Sunday through Friday for prayer, praise, and proclamation of the word. This annual event should normally climax 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 2019 was: Christ’s Ambassadors in Pursuit of Excellence - God’s people in pursuit of excellence: Sharing, Serving and Striving. The key Scriptures: Ephesians 4:17-24; 5:15 -33, 6:1-20. Many districts observed some form of Spiritual Emphasis this year. Some “Spiritual Emphasis” events were postponed, cancelled or rescheduled because of severe weather experience in the southeastern part of the country. I appreciate the support from the Bishops, Presiding Elders and Pastors who made the event meaningful.

Ecumenical Highlights

The Director participated and facilitated several workshop presentations during the Christian Education Quadrennial Convention in Birmingham, Alabama. The evangelism workshops were well-attended with nearly two hundred participants.

The Director participated in the evangelism weekend at Solid Rock AME Zion Church, Lithonia, Georgia with the Georgia Conference attending and a church/community partnership event with a local homeless family shelter. The event attracted nearly three hundred persons with five conversions.

The Director continues to participate and share with the Evangelism Connections Group. This year, we are planning the first public evangelism event in many years. The 2019 event’s theme is “Following Jesus: Forming disciples and transforming the world,” The meeting is planned for May 2-4, 2019 was postponed due to unforeseen difficulties. The complications of planning a two site live event, connected by satellite,

prove to be more of a challenge than the committee anticipated. The two sites were on both side of the Great Lakes, in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Winnipeg, Manitoba. The Evangelism Connection group is a network of Directors committed to developing new approaches to evangelism in the 21st Century.

The Director provided support to families during the floods of Eastern North Carolina despite having two personal properties severely damaged by the storms. I solicit your prayers as many in our area are still recovering.

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 daily post on social media outlets, post sermons on Sermoncentral.com with more than 78,000 downloads and viewings.

The Bureau of Church Growth and Development New Website - The Bureau of Church Growth has launched a new website, www.ameziondevelopment.org Mr. Steven Mullis has been secured through the generosity of Dr. Cannon and Global Mission to serve as the administrator. The site offers many valuable tools for our constituents around the country and across the world. Please encourage your leaders to visit the site and use the free resources. The feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive. We also maintain three webpages on Facebook posting daily inspirational reflections.

The New Departmental Logo – The administrative board of the Bureau of Church Growth and Development has selected and unanimously approved a new logo for the Bureau. This logo reflects the merger of the departments and our new name. Presently, the logo is in the copyright and trademark process.

Networking for Evangelism Opportunities - The Christian Education Department partnered with the Department of Church Growth and Development to provide evangelistic support during the 2018 CED Winter Meeting.

We have partnered with the James Varick Bookstore so that books from our department are sold to the bookstore at a discount price. The books have been placed on their website and available for purchase in the bookstore. This decision was based on the recommendation of the auditor.

The Connectional Lay Council has provided an opportunity for the director to present workshop during their October 2018 Evangelism Conference. This partnership helped us to raise awareness of evangelism across the AME Zion Connection. The book, “Empowered to Serve” was selected as the book of common reading.

The World Methodist Evangelism Division of the World Methodist Church is inviting AME Zion evangelistic-minded pastors and their spouses to participate in their extensive evangelistic training during their 2019 Order of the Flame Conference. I appreciate the Board of Bishops for continuing to send leaders from across the denomination to experience this enriching Wesleyan/Methodist training opportunity. The World Methodist Director of Evangelism, Rev. Dr. Kimberly Wiseman facilitated a wonderful conference, March 11-15, 2019 at Saint Simon Island, GA at the Epworth by the Sea. World Methodist Evangelism offers resources and events to strengthen discipleship and equip Christ followers to share their faith in Jesus Christ. Over 130 members of the Order were able to share together as we explored what it means to be a mission evangelist. This year, it was exciting to welcome people from 24 different states, some traveled to Georgia from as far away as California, South Dakota, New York, and Maine. Our farthest members arrived from Indonesia, Romania, and South Africa.

The 2019 Igniting the Flame of Evangelism Event – The 2019 Igniting the Flame of Evangelism Event was held on April 2-5, 2019 at the beautiful Simon Temple AME Zion Church Complex, Fayetteville, North Carolina. The event was very successful, with our largest attendance ever. Rev. Brian R. Thompson and the Simon Temple team were royal host. I want to thank the Board of Bishops for the prayers, attendance, participation and their registration. Bishop Kenneth Monroe and the Eastern North Carolina Episcopal District are to be commended for registering 124 active participants in the event. The total registration was 247 persons. A special thanks to the Administrative Board of Church Growth and Development for their support and commitment to Evangelism. Finally, a special to the Stoner Memorial AME Zion for sending several persons form their congregation in addition to providing assistance for several other person to attend.

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 of our Church.

Special thanks the Chairman of the Church Growth and Development: Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, 1st Vice Chairman; Bishop Seth O. Lartey, 2nd Vice Chairman, Bishop Uduak Effiong, and 3rd 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, Rev. Dr. Calvin Miller and other members of the area staff, who provide invaluable service in prayer, planning, strategizing and implementing programs and ideas for the Bureau 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 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!

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

THE DIRECTOR'S EVANGELISTIC ENDEAVORS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Site/Church</i>	<i>Leader</i>	<i>Event</i>
July 22-26, 2018	CED Quadrennial Convention, Birmingham, Alabama	CED General Secretary	Evangelism Presenter
July 26, 27, 2018	Solid Rock AME Zion Ch Lithonia, Georgia	Rev. Dr. Karim Currey	Evangelism Weekend
July 29, 2018	Friendship Baptist Church Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Dr. Stackhouse	Senior Day Preacher
July 31, 2018	Midwest Leadership Institute, Indianapolis, IN	Bishop Darryl B. Starnes Sr.	Leadership Institute Preacher
July 1,2, 2018	Episcopal Leadership Indianapolis, IN	Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr.	Leadership Institute Workshop Faciliator
August			
August 2-3, 2018	Mount Zion Baptist Ch Dunn, North Carolina	Elder Floyd Ray	Fall Revival Preacher
August 4, 2018	Conference "B" Baptist Ctr Raeford, North Carolina	Chief Apostle Bishop William McPhaul	Bible Institute of America Speaker
August 9-10, 2018	Kenneth Monroe Transformation Center	Rev. Scot Moore	Men of Zion Conference
August 12, 2018	Trinity AME Zion Church Southern Pines, NC	Rev. Dr. Paul Murphy	Morning Worship
August 12, 2018	New Zion AME Zion Ch Pine Bluff, NC	Rev. Charles McKnight	Family & Friend Days
August 14-16, 2018	Household of Faith Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Dr. Larry Carter	Fall Revival
August 18, 2018	Peaden's Restaurant Fayetteville, NC	Hinton Family	Retirement Speaker
August 19, 2018	Mt. Pisgah OFW Baptist Erwin, North Carolina	Bishop Reginald Hinton	Appreciation Speaker
August 22-24, 2018	Johnsonville AME Zion Cameron, North Carolina	Rev. Anthony Ford	Fall Revival Preacher
August 26, 2018	Marvin AME Zion Church Waxhaw, North Carolina	Rev. Dr. Haven Anderson	Morning Worship
August 26	Ebenezer AME Zion Ch Waxhaw, North Carolina	Rev. Taquan Kyles	Family & Friends Day Preacher
August 31, 2018	Bethel AME Zion Church Spring Lake, NC	Herdon Family	Funeral Participant
September			
September 2, 2018	Bridges Grove AME Zion Shannon, North Carolina	Rev. Edward Spence	Family & Friend Day Preacher
Sept 4-6, 2018	New Hope AMEZ Ch Sanford, North Carolina	Rev. Maximiliano McMillian	Fall Revival Preacher
Sept 16, 2018	Euxousia Fellowship Ch Sanford, North Carolina	Appreciation Committee	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
Sept 24-28, 2018	Greater Harvest AME Zion Wilson, North Carolina	Rev. Lester Brown	Annual Revival Preacher
October			

THE DIRECTOR'S EVANGELISTIC ENDEAVORS

October 2-4, 2018	Mount Olive AME Zion Elizabethtown, NC	Rev. Haywood Oliver	Annual Revival Preacher
October 5-6, 2018	Evangelism Conference Black Mountain, NC	Dr. Mary Matthews	CLC Evangelism Conference Presenter
October 7, 2018	Mount Olive AME Zion Elizabethtown, NC	Rev. Haywood Oliver	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
October 13, 2018	Columbia Camden Event Columbia, South Carolina	Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. Alvin McLamb	District Training Event
October 14, 2018	Rock Springs, AME Zion Hope Mills, NC	Rev. Dwight Neely	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
October 16-19, 2018	Shiloh AME Zion Hope Hull, Alabama	Bishop Seth O. Lartey	Annual Conference Preacher
October 21, 2018	Hood Memorial AME Zion Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Patania Eiland	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
October 26, 2018	Faith Lighthouse Church Lillington, NC	Bishop Veorah Davis	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
October 27, 2018	Hoke County Senior Bldg. Celebration Raeford, NC	Retirement Committee	Retirement Celebration
October 28, 2018	Creeksville AME Zion Spring Lake, NC	Rev. Delilah Gaddy	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
November			
November 3, 2018	Coats Senior Center Coates, North Carolina	Elder Floyd Ray	Pastor's Appreciation Banquet Preacher
November 4, 2018	Exuosia Fellowship Church, Sanford, NC	Appreciation Committee	Pastor's Appreciation Preacher
November 5-7, 2018	Marable AME Zion Ch Kannapolis, NC	Rev. Dr. William McKenith	Revival Preacher
Nov 8-10, 2018	Simon Temple AMEZ Fayetteville, NC	Presiding Bishop Kenneth Monroe	Central NC Annual Conference
Nov 11-13, 2018	Walter Memorial AMEZ Bridgeport, Connecticut	Rev. Elvin Clayton	Family & Friends Day and Revival Preacher
Nov 14-16, 2018	Rock Hill, AME Zion Ch Concord, NC	Presiding Elder Kevin McGill	District Revival & Training Presenter
Nov 17, 2018	Gees Grove AME Zion Ch Siler City, NC	Rev. Edward Hill	Financial Workshop Presenter
December			
December 1, 2018	Conference "B" Center Raeford, North Carolina	Chief Apostle William McPhaul	Conference Preacher
December 15, 2018	Simon Temple AME Zion Fayetteville, NC	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	Conference Meeting
Dec 26-29, 2018	Christian Education Winter Meeting, Philadelphia, PA	Dr. Brenda Smith	Conference Support
December 31, 2018	Mt. Zion AME Zion Church, Eastover, NC	Rev. John Morrison	Community Watch Night Service
January			
January 1, 2019	National Call To Prayer	Rev. Dr. Eric Leake	Prayer Coordinators
January 6, 2019	St. John AME Zion Church Rocky Mount Hill, SC	Rev. Charles Darden	Morning Worship

THE DIRECTOR'S EVANGELISTIC ENDEAVORS

January 6, 2019	Throne Chapel Baptist Ch Rocky Mount, NC	Bishop George E. Battle, Jr.	General Officer support Funeral Service
January 13, 2019	New Beginnings Praise Raeford, NC	Bishop William McPhaul	Founder's Day Keynote Speaker
January 17-18, 2019	The Kenneth Monroe Transformation, Rock Hill	Bishop M. Bonnie Hines	South Atlantic Episcopal District
January 21, 2019	Dennis Wicker Civic Center Sanford, NC	C.E.A.D. of Lee County	MLK Jr. Celebration
January 24-25, 2019	Simon Temple AME Zion Fayetteville, NC	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	ENCED Convocation
January 27, 2019	Troy Chapel AME Zion Troy, North Carolina	Rev. Dr. Tyrone Rigsby	Evangelistic Worship Preacher
February			
February 6, 2019	Hood Theological Seminary, Salisbury, NC	Firm Foundation Service	Dr. Vergel Lattimore
February 7, 2019	Livingstone College Salisbury, NC	Founder's Day Celebration	Dr. Jimmy Jenkins
February 10, 2019	Simon Temple AME Zion Fayetteville, NC	Thompson Kick Off Committee service	Kick Off Committee
February 14, 2019	Salisbury AME Zion Church, Wilson, NC	Funeral Service – Mr. Charles Cannon	General Officer Support
February 16, 2019	Avery Grove AME Zion Smithfield, NC	Presiding Elder Anthony Davis	Raleigh District Evangelism Training
Feb 19-22, 2019	Joseph Koury Convention Greensboro, NC	Board of Bishops	General Officers Report
March			
March 9, 2019	Mitchell Chapel AME Zion, Pittsboro, NC	Central NC Check Up	Bishop Kenneth Monroe
March 9, 2019	Eleventh Hour Ministry Dunn, North Carolina	Apostle Leroy & Audrey Smith	Pastor's Appreciation Banquet Speaker
March 10, 2019	Friendship Baptist Church Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Dr. S. Lee Downing	Pastor's Appreciation Speaker
March 11-14, 2019	Order of the Flame St. Simon Island, GA	Dr. Kimberly Reisman	Conference Presenter
March 16, 2019	Wilson Chapel AME Zion Sharon, South Carolina	Rev. Marion Jones, Chairperson	Evangelism Workshop Presenter
March 17, 2019	Wilson Chapel AME Zion Sharon, South Carolina	Rev. Marion Jones, Chairperson	Moring Worship Preacher
March 21-22, 2019	Fair Promise AME Zion Sanford, NC	Presiding Elder Chalmers McDougald	District Evangelism Presenter and Preacher
March 24, 2019	Mt. Zion AME Zion Eastover, NC	Rev. John T. Morrison	Annual Trustee Program Preacher
March 25-27, 2019	Salisbury District Revival Salisbury, NC	Presiding Elder Dr. Grant Harrison	District Revival Services
March 29-30, 2019	First AME Zion Church Knoxville, TN	Rev. Michael McNair	Men's Conference Preacher and Presenter
March 31, 2019	First AME Zion Church Knoxville, TN	Rev. Michael McNair	Moring Worship Preacher
April			

THE DIRECTOR'S EVANGELISTIC ENDEAVORS

April 2-5, 2019	Simon Temple AME Zion Fayetteville, NC	Church Growth and Development Event	The Bureau of Church Growth/Development
April 6, 2019	Paradise AME Zion Church, Great Falls, SC	Columbia-Camden District Laity	Workshop Presenter
April 7, 2019	Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Montgomery, Alabama	Rev. Dr. Fred G. Rogers	Morning Worship Preacher
April 8-10, 2019	Mt. Zion AME Zion Montgomery, Alabama	Rev. Dr. Claude A. Shuford	Annual Revival Services
April 11-12, 2019	Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Montgomery, Alabama	Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. Fred Rogers	District Christian Education Event
April 14, 2019	Simon Temple AME Zion Fayetteville, NC	Rev. Brian R. Thompson	Morning Worship Service
April 15-19, 2019	Clinton Chapel AME Zion New Bern, NC	Rev. Dr. M. Luther Hill	Revival & Seven Last Sayings Service
April 21, 2019	Mt. Zion AME Zion Eastover, North Carolina	Rev. John T. Morrison	Morning Worship Service
April 24-26, 2019	Avery Grove AME Zion Smithfield, NC	Rev. Dr. Rosa Smith-Williams	Annual Revival Preacher
April 28, 2019	Antioch AME Zion Church Eastover, South Carolina	Rev. Robert Benton Jr.	195 th Church Anniversary Preacher
May			
May 5, 2019	Perfecting of the Saints Fayetteville, NC	Pastor Marion J. and B. Wade	Morning Worship Preacher
May 5, 2019	Simon Temple AME Zion Fayetteville, NC	Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. Joseph C. Brown	Fayetteville District Event
May 7-9, 2019	Fuller Street Church Smithfield, NC	Pastor Marie Livingston	Annual Revival Service Preacher
May 11-12, 2019	Westbury AME Zion Westbury, New York	Rev. Gregor Miles	District Evangelism Event
May 19, 2019	St. Paul AME Zion Church Mayville, Tennessee	Rev. Dr. Willa Estell	Pastor's Anniversary Preacher
May 20-24, 2019	St. James AME Zion Church, Red Springs, NC	Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. James French	Laurinburg District Revival
June			
June 5-7, 2019	Good News Outreach Dunn, North Carolina	Minister Jerry Bell	Revival Service Preacher
June 11-13, 2019	St. Paul AME Zion Canton, Mississippi	Bishop Michael A. Frencher	Southwestern Delta Leadership Institute
June 16, 2019	New Beginningz Worship Raeford, North Carolina	Rev. Dr. Vanessa McPhaul	Father's Day Preacher
June 19-21, 2019	Greenville Convention Ctr Greenville, NC	Bishop Kenneth Monroe	ECNED Leadership Institute
July			
July 6, 2019	Word of Faith Outreach St. Paul, NC	Rev. Dr. Patricia H. Willis	Pastor's Appreciation Banquet Speaker
July 10-12, 2019	Rosen Centre Hotel Orland, Florida	Board of Bishops	Connectional Council
July 13-19, 2019	Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel Orlando, Florida	WHOMS Quadrennial	Participant

THE DIRECTOR'S EVANGELISTIC ENDEAVORS

July			
July 19-25, 2016	Joseph Koury Convention Greensboro, NC	Board of Bishops	50 th General Conference of the AMEZ Church