



# REPORT

TO THE

## BOARD *of* BISHOPS CONNECTIONAL COUNCIL

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
*African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church*

BRENDA L.G. SMITH, EDD., LHD  
GENERAL SECRETARY



ROSEN CENTRE HOTEL  
ORLANDO FLORIDA

*July 9-12, 2019*

BISHOP GEORGE EDWARD BATTLE, JR., SENIOR BISHOP

BISHOP STACCATO POWELL  
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF BISHOPS

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## **THE DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

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Bishop W. Darin Moore, *1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson*  
Bishop Nathaniel Jarrett, Jr. *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson*  
Mrs. Ava Swinton, *3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chairperson*  
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Miss Nora K. McNeil

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Rev. Henrico White  
Mrs. Judith Story

#### **Western West Africa**

Rev. Dr. Myrtle Bowen  
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#### **Eastern West Africa**

Rev. Umor Olu  
Mr. Emmanuel G. Anthony



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The Right Reverend Dennis Vernon Proctor, *Chairperson Board of Christian Education*  
The Right Reverend W. Darin Moore, *1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Board of Christian Education*  
The Right Reverend Nathaniel Jarrett, *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Board of Christian Education*  
Mrs. Ava Swinton, *3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair Board of Christian Education*  
Board of Bishops  
Members of The Connectional Council

Greetings to the Board of Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, beloved Episcopal leaders, and members of the Connectional Council:

It is with the wondrous love and joy of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, that I greet you at this time of great unity in our Zion. My heart still marvels at the opportunity that was bestowed upon me to serve as the General Secretary-Treasurer of Christian Education. The past sixteen months have provided a time of full engagement in a variety of experiences that have resulted in my great appreciation for, and increased knowledge and understanding of, the Christian Education endeavor throughout Zion, both here in the States and abroad.

The enthusiastic support of the Board of Christian Education and the dedicated cooperation of the staff of the Department of Christian Education so thoroughly enabled my resolve and assured continued competent implementation and execution of the work of the Department. Accordingly, the transition that might have been fraught with many difficulties has rather been for the Department of Christian Education a period of organizational enhancement, fulfillment in service, and spiritual growth.

It has been my observation that under the inspired leadership of the Board of Bishops, both individually as presiding prelates and collectively as a Board, clergy and lay alike have a strong underpinning of interest in elevating our witness and teaching for spiritual development and faith formation among the people of Zion. It is my belief that the work of Christian Education in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church is positioned to move forward in kingdom building as we approach the next decade.

Since assuming this great responsibility, one that has contributed to my continued spiritual growth, development and in particular, to my walk with God, there are so many individuals who have come forward to ask what, if anything, they could do to assist me.

I thank God for Mrs. Jennifer Armstrong, the extraordinary, efficient, concise and committed CED administrator, who has and continues to be a blessing to me. She provides words of encouragement and is devoted to the work of this Christian ministry. Dr. Joyce Perry Edwards, my Special Assistant, is a blessing and I thank God for her service, without financial remuneration, which has been above and beyond the call.

Since accepting the position of Editor of Church School Literature, Dr. Kenneth James has done such a marvelous work. We thank God for him, Mrs. Kirsten Martin and for Mrs. Lisa Barkley, who retired in 2018, after giving faithful and untiring service to the Department of Church School Literature for 30 years, and worked with us until Dr. James hired her replacement, Rev. Lee'Vea Jordan Patterson, whom we welcome to the Department of Church School Literature as Editorial Assistant.

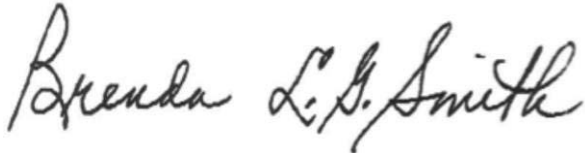
Our dynamic management team, without whom we would not have enjoyed a successful Zion University nor Truthville, has been a blessing to me. These faithful and dynamic young adults are serving God and Zion with gladness. It is to them, I have extended my heartfelt thanks and love. I realize that it was not easy for them to accept me, having lost their beloved leader and friend, Reverend Dr. Brown, but I must say that they have embraced me and have been so supportive. They are all gifted and love Christian Education: Reverend Patrick Barrett, Special Assistant for Program Development; Rev. Tamika Jackson, Program Design Team; Sis. Cleo Chaney, our most proficient and capable Financial Manager; Dominique Turner, Special Assistant for Project Management, Rev. George E. McKain, Public Relations, Cesar Alvarez, hospitality; Jennifer Ruffin, CED website, Stefani Perry, Rev. Clifford Barnett and Mr. Bruce Stanback, Registration.

To the Chairman of the Board of Christian Education, Bishop Dennis Vernon Proctor, on whom I have called night and day, without being ashamed.

Bishop Proctor has provided support and encouragement at all times and to God, I give praise; to the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman, Bishop W. Darin Moore, and as I always love to add, my former and one of my current employers, continues, even today, to be a blessing to me. Thank you so much, Bishop Moore, for your love, support, and encouragement.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman, Bishop Nathaniel Jarrett, who is, himself, one of the greatest Christian educators I know calls me from time to time to see how I am doing and offers words of encouragement and support; and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair, Mrs. Ava Swinton, who does not let a week pass without checking up on me and assisting me in any way she can, thank you. She was in charge of the “calming station” and kept everyone calm during Zion University in Birmingham, when we lost hundreds of rooms due to the water problem. I also give thanks to all members of the Board of Christian Education for their full support!

In God’s Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda L. G. Smith". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the phrase "In God's Service,".

Brenda L. G. Smith, EdD, LHD  
General Secretary-Treasurer

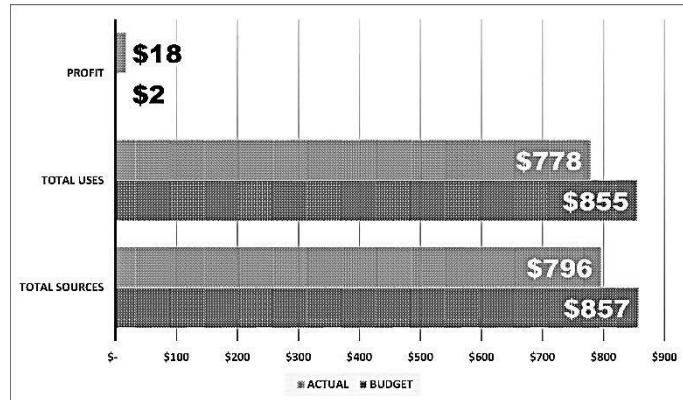
# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AME ZION CHURCH FINANCIAL OVERVIEW FOR 2018 YEAR

In 2018, the Department generated thousand in income and spent \$778 thousand on our various programs, thus the year with \$18 thousand. In comparison we exceeded our budgeted surplus by \$16 thousand. Quadrennial years are financially challenging since the Department manages training conferences instead of one, along normal functions.

Historically, meeting planning over ten months and the conference registration window is open for five months. During a quadrennial year, the planning period and conference registration window timelines are cut in half. This timeline adversely impacts the Department's finances. Our counter strategy is to have a very successful meeting prior to the Quadrennial Convention, i.e., Truthville 2017, thus providing excess funds to offset any potential deficit spending.

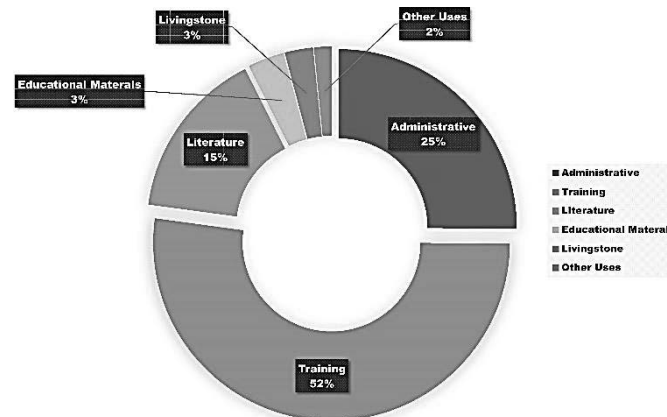
**EDUCATION:** Even with these challenges, the Department moved forward developed new educational materials. The Resource Manual and the Acolyte Manual, presented during the Quadrennial Meeting were sold out!!! Due to the demand for manuals, they were reprinted and sold Truthville 2018. Total educational gross revenue was \$26 thousand and a net surplus thousand. The Department made a \$10 thousand donation to Livingstone College the first quarter of 2019.

**CONFERENCES (i.e., CED Training Vehicle):** The Quadrennial Meeting generated a deficit of \$50 thousand, which primarily due to a lower revenue projection. Sheraton Birmingham closed rooms due to flooding.



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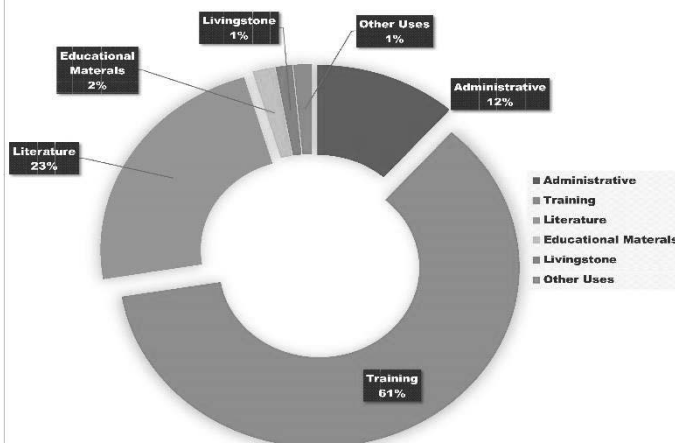
## 2018 Income by Program Type



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Administrative is the AME Zion Church allocation

## 2018 Expenses by Category

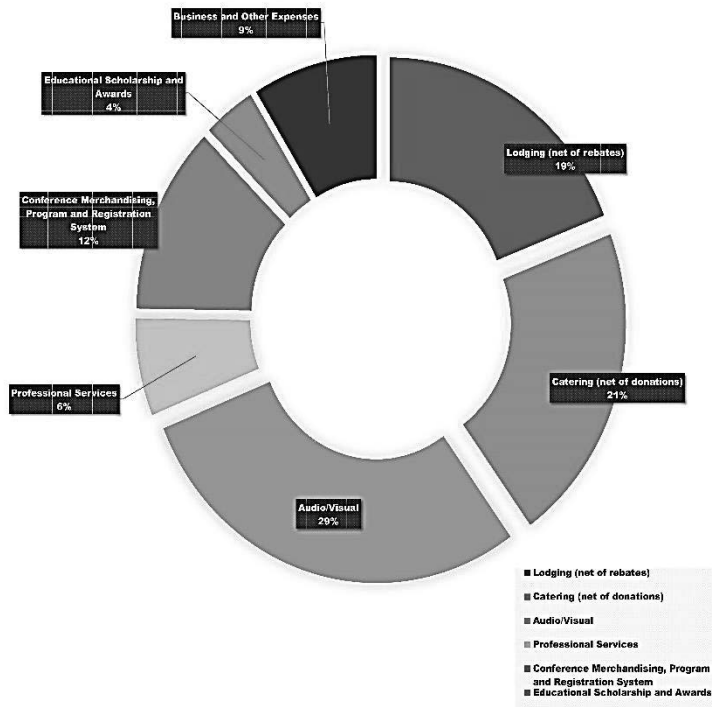


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Administrative expenses are salaries and related benefit and business expenses

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## Conference Expenses by Category



This restricted available onsite housing thus requiring many attendees to move offsite, including 50 departmental staff rooms. To compensate for the housing difficulties and low registration numbers in late June 2018, the Department decided not to implement the late registration fees. Low attendance impacted offerings and registration income. Initial budget was based upon 1,540 attendees. Our final registration numbers were 1,388, a difference of 152. Expenses were adjusted to offset potential shortfall.

Truthville 2018, is historically a smaller meeting for our new Assembly of Christian Educators, Young Adults in Christian Ministries, and Youth leadership. However, in Philadelphia, we heard the vision and moved forward with **“THRIVE: Strengthening Families and Developing Leaders”**. Again, due to devastating storms and slow registration, the Department responded with discount pricing. The initial budget was based upon

1,400 attendees. Our final registration numbers were 1,010, a difference of 390. The Department met its contractual room block obligation, so no attrition was imposed, however, we did receive the room rebate. Historically, this rebate reduces our staff lodging expenses.

The Department continued its focus on education and training by sponsoring a youth and young adult outreach project at both meetings, providing \$11 thousand in college scholarships, recognizing our RLT Scholars and awarding \$6 thousand in quadrennial contest awards. More than 58% of the expenditures are program related. Once all outstanding receivables were collected and payables were settled, the Department is solvent.



**CURRENT CASH BALANCE, RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES**

	<u>12/31/2018</u>	<u>2/12/2019</u>
Conference Registration Bank Accounts	\$ 88,985	\$ 52,017
Accounts Receivable (fund due from City of Philadelphia)	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Outstanding Payable		
Philadelphia Marriot	\$ (40,456)	\$ (15,456)
Livingstone College	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
Other 2018 Truthville Payables	\$ (30,749)	\$ (20,000)
Projected Cash Balance after receipts and payments	\$ 17,780	\$ 16,561
Administrative Operational Account	\$ 59,894	\$ 52,381
Literature Operational Account		
Other Restricted Accounts	\$ 42,588	\$ 43,239
	<u>\$ 120,262</u>	<u>\$ 112,181</u>

*Other Restrict Bank Accounts include the funds the Department holds for Assembly of Christian Educations, Young Adult Ministries, Youth Ministries, Children Ministries, CED Store and CED Foundation.*

**INCOME AND NET IMPACT**

**INCOME SOURCES**

	<u>Church School Herald</u>	<u>Sunday School Literature</u>
Subscriptions	\$ 90,000	\$ -
Profit Share	-	33,032
AME Zion Allocation	50,000	-
Total Sources	<u>\$ 140,000</u>	<u>\$ 33,032</u>

**USES**

Salary	\$ 52,922	\$ 13,231
Professional Services	22,899	20,290
Printing and Distribution	41,603	
Business Expense	15,194	6,662
Travel and Other	6,478	
Total Uses	<u>\$ 139,096</u>	<u>\$ 40,183</u>
Net Impact	<u>\$ 905</u>	<u>\$ (7,151)</u>

*Church School Herald expenses includes a one-time payment of \$4,215 for trademarking the CED characters. General overhead expenses such as salaries and business expenses were allocated between the Herald and Quarterly using a 70/30 allocation. Cost per issues is estimated at \$3.03, which excludes the one-time trademark payment and AME Zion Allocation.*

**INCOME AND NET IMPACT REPORT – CONFERENCES**

	<b><u>Quardrennial Convention</u></b>	<b><u>Truthville 2018</u></b>
<b><u>INCOME SOURCES</u></b>		
Conference Registrations	\$ 181,443	\$ 142,991
Offerings	29,132	17,026
Special Events	4,802	6,865
Merchandise Sales (net)	6,844	860
Vendor Registration	7,481	6,575
Donation for Education	-	10,000
Total Sources	<u>\$ 229,702</u>	<u>\$ 184,317</u>

<b><u>USES</u></b>		
Lodging (net of rebates)	\$ 58,619	\$ 31,972
Catering (net of donations)	24,592	74,893
Audio/Visual	88,527	48,067
Professional Services	14,088	16,080
Conference Merchandising and Program	32,615	10,682
Registration Management System	7,500	7,500
Educational Scholarship and Awards	17,432	-
Business Expense (primarily credit card fees)	13,620	5,368
Travel and Site Planning	11,946	1,324
Benevolences	1,000	-
Other Conference Income/Expense	5,718	2,667
Total Uses	<u>\$ 275,657</u>	<u>\$ 198,553</u>
Net Impact	<u>\$ (45,955)</u> A	<u>\$ (14,236)</u> B

- A. Damages at the Sheraton Birmingham impacted the Department, as a result, the staff was housed offsite at a higher rate. In addition, to encourage attendance registration rates were not increased for onsite attendees.
- B. The Department implemented discount pricing to encourage attendance at the Winter Meeting, especially to those impacted by the storms.

	<b>1,540</b>	<b>1,400</b>
<i>Projected Attendees</i>		
<b>Total Actual Registrations</b>	<b>1,388</b>	<b>1,010</b>
<b>Cost per Attendee</b>	<b>\$185.32</b>	<b>\$196.59</b>
<b>Cost per Attendee per day</b>	<b>\$30.89</b>	<b>\$39.32</b>

THE 24TH QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION  
ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



# ZION UNIVERSITY

AT BIRMINGHAM  
JULY 21-26, 2018

THEME:  
'ELEVATE:

RE-TOOLING TO SERVE THE PRESENT AGE'

SHERATON BIRMINGHAM HOTEL

2101 RICHARD ARRINGTON JR BLVD N, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202

REV. DR. KATHRYN BROWN  
General Secretary (Deceased)

DR. BRENDA SMITH  
Acting General Secretary

BISHOP DENNIS V. PROCTOR  
Board Chair



## **Zion University 24<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Convention**

The Alabama-Florida Site Committee led by Dr. Sandra Coleman did a magnificent job preparing for our arrival. We extend our thanks to Bishop and Mrs. Lartey, Dr. Coleman and the team for making preparations for our arrival. Two weeks prior to our leaving for Birmingham, however, we learned that the Sheraton Hotel had lost the use of 280 rooms, due to a water problem. Unfortunately, the hotel did not contact us. One of our presiding elders learned of this serious matter from a CME pastor who was attending that organization's General Conference also at the Sheraton.

Upon learning of the serious matter and being told that these rooms would not be available to us, we were informed that we, the Department staff, would not only have to notify our perspective attendees that they would be displaced, but that we would have to also assist in placing calls and helping to place attendees in approximately nine (9) hotels located throughout the city.

We offer our thanks to Rev. George McKain and Mr. Cesar Alvarez who went to Birmingham early, and worked with the hotel staff in Birmingham, while we worked from our areas to assure that we would be able to host this meeting as planned.

Special thanks to the Special Assistant for Program Development, the Reverend Patrick Barrett, II, and Reverend Tamika Jackson who spent many days and nights in preparation of the ZU Program as well as the Special Assistant for Project Management, Mr. Dominique Turner and our beloved Ms. Cleo Chaney, Director of Finance. The team worked extensively to create a program of study that would aid in "Fostering the Development of Credible, Committed, Christian Disciples."

It was with joy, love and excitement that we welcomed children, youth, young adults and church leaders to the campus of Zion University @ Birmingham.

Our theme, "ELEVATE: Re-tooling to Serve the Present Age", provided courses of study that were designed and tailored for children, youth, young adults and seniors.

Zion University continued

At Zion University, “Church leaders selected a cohort from one of three “colleges,” The College of Faith Formation, The College of Leadership Excellence, and The College of Ministry with Children, Youth and Young Adults.

Cohorts were provided with intensive training and development in subject areas related to the cohort’s specific college, and church leaders had the opportunity to enroll in several electives in a wide variety of subject areas including family life, spiritual and personal growth and leadership development.” Varick’s Children Academy provided exciting experiences for children, ages 3-7.

**REGISTRATION:**

Alabama-Florida District	229
Eastern North Carolina District	117
Mid-Atlantic District	183
Mid-West District	108
North Eastern District	174
Piedmont District	202
South Atlantic District	128
Southwestern Delta	114
Western District	32
Western West Africa District	2
Unidentified Episcopal District	99
<b>Total Registrants</b>	<b>1388</b>

# ZION UNIVERSITY AT A GLANCE:

## **Saturday, July 21st - YARD FEST**

Rock your Greek or college apparel!

## **Sunday, July 22nd - COMMUNION WORSHIP & OPENING CONVOCATION**

For Communion Service, dress in your Sunday's Best. For the Convocation: ACE members wear navy blue suits and stoles, Officers wear departmental colors, faculty in academic regalia and staff should wear purple!

## **Monday, July 23rd - HERITAGE NIGHT**

Dress in your African attire for the evening worship service

## **Tuesday, July 24th - EPISCOPAL DAY & ZION'S GOT TALENT GALA**

Wear your Episcopal District shirt or colors (contact your ED for details)! Semi-formal attire for the Gala!

## **Wednesday, July 25th - COLLEGE RALLY & COMMENCEMENT**

College or Greek paraphernalia during the day and church attire for evening worship!

\*This is a general overview, NOT an inclusive list! If you are part of a special event or ceremony, please pack accordingly. Remember to keep it CLEAN, CLASSY, and CHRISTIAN!



24th Quadrennial on Christian Education  
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
July 21 - July 26, 2018  
Birmingham Sheraton  
Birmingham, AL



**Truthville 2018: THRIVE is a Leadership Advance and Family Life Conference all in one! This experience is for EVERYONE and we're looking forward to how God will bless our time together in Philadelphia! Still deciding if you want to go? We hope a little more information will help you get registered TODAY!**



THRIVE is about Family. It's about growth. It's about facilitating healing and being healed. It's about growing as leaders and growing in community. Truthville 2018 will be a time to equip those in attendance with tools and insights to address issues that have been crippling our families in secret for far too long. Participants will delve into issues like mental health, domestic violence, generational trauma, grief and loss, abuse, and racism, and also explore lighter topics like dating, family planning, family discipleship, parenting, and college and career readiness.

Everything you've come to expect from Truthville! Powerful preaching, transformative teaching, and fun-filled fellowship. The Leadership Intensive kicks-off December 27<sup>th</sup> at 10am! Varick's Children, Just for Seniors, the College Rally Luncheon, service and mission opportunities, and other feature functions are on the docket as well. We are excited to announce that Bishop Jason Nelson and Bishop Millicent Hunter will be our guests!!



One word: **EVERYONE!** This Winter Meeting and the Leadership Intensive are open to everyone. There will be experiences for pastors, clergy, Christian educators, young adults, youth, seniors, and children. Don't miss this experience. Visit [bit.ly/Truthville2018](http://bit.ly/Truthville2018) to register TODAY! See you in Philly!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT — AME ZION CHURCH  
DR. BRENDA SMITH, GENERAL SECRETARY  
BISHOP DENNIS V. PROCTOR, CHAIRMAN

## **Truthville 2018 Winter Meeting**

During the Winter Meeting the emphasis was on Family Life! THRIVE! We had many workshops, Small Group Discussions, Plenary and Great Peaching that focused on Family Life, Small Group and Panel Discussions, Plenary Sessions and Dynamic preaching that focused on Family Life.

We were blessed with Stellar Clinical and Business Professionals, Lay Leaders, Educators, Teachers, Preachers, Presiding Elders and Bishops, who shared their gifts and professional expertise!

The Family Life Component of the Winter Meeting was phenomenal! Many people expressed that they were blown away by the education, knowledge and resources that they received. There was an enormous amount of people who expressed that it was great to be at a church conference discussing “real life issues”. It was evident that, “no one left without a new outlook, revelation and commitment to do whatever it takes to do his or her part in building relationships within members of the family and strengthening the connection between home and church. To God Be the Glory!

### **REGISTRATION:**

Alabama-Florida District	48
Eastern North Carolina District	125
Mid-Atlantic District	241
Mid-West District	60
North Eastern District	168
Piedmont District	96
South Atlantic District	94
Southwestern Delta District	47
Western District	21
Unidentified Episcopal District	110
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

*\*“Truthville 2018, a place where disciples of Jesus could THRIVE as they shift to higher levels as a family. This year, attending Truthville was exciting for me as a Pastor, a mother, a wife, and as a Woman of God with a heart for the community. It was a blessing to be able to Thrive with my first-time attending Youth Director and a new youth from my church, my two biological children, my husband and my mother. The workshops were relatable and useful but my favorites were the workshops on Trauma, Parenting and the Women’s Panel on “Breaking the Glass Ceiling”. Each of these workshops have been useful in the growing of Deliverance Temple in Washington, DC. Lastly, my children, ages 4 and 5, have never stayed for an entire Winter Camp; however, Truthville 2018 was life changing for them as they grew personally and spiritually and THRIVED as children. This year, they completed the Winter Camp and ministered with the children multiple times throughout the conference. Truthville 2018 was truly the place where the people of God could THRIVE! Kudos to Dr. Smith, Rev. Barrett and the entire CED Staff!”*

*Rev. Dr. Nichole Johnson-Douglas*  
**Mid-Atlantic Episcopal District**



\*Truthville 2018 Continued

*“Truthville 2018 was an all-inclusive experience this year. There was something for everyone. The Glory of the Lord filled the Ballroom daily. Each day I felt the presence of God’s anointing power. The Worship and Fellowship was electrifying, the Preaching was transforming, and the workshops were power packed.*

*I attended Truthville 2018 with anticipation; expecting the great. And I left knowing that God is Greater. I will continue to “Thrive” to be a more powerful worshipper, be more impactful in my teaching and I will be more meaningful in my fellowship. If I had to sum up Truthville 2018, in one word it would be “Impartation”. I received more gas in my tank to thrive toward Truthville 2019. Thank you, Bishop Dennis V. Proctor, Bishop W. Darin Moore and Dr. Brenda Smith, also your entire CED Staff for a Job well done. Special thanks for a beautiful Mid-Winter in the City of Philadelphia, PA a City filled with such rich History. God Bless”*

*Rev. Patricia A. Bufford,*

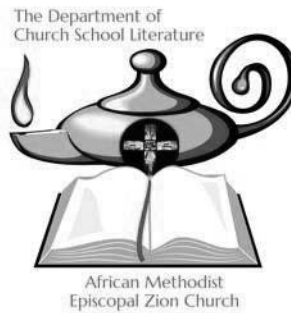
**Northeastern Episcopal District**

*“The Christian Education Winter Meeting of the A.M.E. Zion Church, for me, has become one of the most significant events in my life and I look forward to it every year. “Truthville 2018,” the 2018 Christian Education Winter Meeting held in Philadelphia, PA, was a powerful, holistic experience. The theme of the meeting, “Thrive: Strengthening Families and Developing Leaders,” was apparent in every aspect of “Truthville” through the impactful encounters with God through thoughtfully planned worship services, the significant opportunities for teaching and training through meticulously curated programming for all age groups and a wide spectrum of Christian Educators, and the meaningful fellowship of our beloved Zion connection and friends.*

*The intense labor of Dr. Brenda L.G. Smith and her dedicated staff was evident as the Spirit of God moved throughout the meeting in the worship services and workshops sessions and even in the fellowship confirming that He had ordained what we experienced. I am confident that many attendees were able to take the “Thrive” spirit back to their local congregations, districts, and conferences and share and apply many of the tenets of the great variety of teaching, preaching, and training experienced in Philadelphia. I commend Dr. Smith and her staff on their continued commitment to “Excellence without Excuse” in the ministry of Christian Education in the A.M.E. Zion Church and I am grateful for the impact and influence of “Truthville 2018” on our beloved Zion!”*

*Mr. J. Hayes McClendon*

**South Atlantic Episcopal District**



## **CHURCH SCHOOL LITERATURE**

The Office of Church School Literature, by the grace of God, has been able to continue the vision to reach the masses in innovative ways. Production and printing challenges, we were able to complete the Sunday School Literature and *Church School Herald Journal* for June, July, August – 2018. Copies were distributed domestically and internationally, both electronically and via international mail, to our overseas conferences: Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, and England.

The Church School Literature staff continues to receive positive feedback from the addition of the “*Faithful Five*” and “*Zion and Zaya*” in the ***Beginner, Primary and Junior Quarterlies***, and the admirable qualities these Christian superhero characters possess. The characters were birthed by Mrs. Kirsten Martin (Graphic Designer/Layout Master for those quarterlies) and first introduced in the June, July, August 2017 quarter. Their inclusion has provided a tangible way for children to possibly see themselves and emulate those positive qualities. The characters also provide a platform for teachers to present the lessons in contemporary terms to which the children can relate. Overseeing the children’s quarterlies is Senior Editor, writer, curriculum designer, Rev. Dr. Michelle Searles.

Finding ways to keep youth and adults engaged in the Sunday School process is also a priority as we continue to assess the curriculum needs of the ***Intermediate-Senior and Young People-Adult*** age groups. The focus is on encouraging the use of biblical principles as a moral compass to guide and protect them throughout everyday life.

As in the children’s quarterlies, format changes were also made to the youth and adult quarterlies as the literature sought to address the spiritual needs in today’s world.

We are thankful for the literary contributions of the following writers during this reporting period: Rev. Dr. Helen C. Scott-Carter, Rev. Dr. Gina Casey; Bishop Nathaniel Jarrett, Jr., Sis. Angela Marks, Sis. Rhonda Means, Rev. Dr. Kathy T. McFadden, Rev. Dr. Mozella T. Mitchell, and Sis. Renee Perry. Rev. Lea Vee Jordan-Patterson is our Layout and Design Consultant.

### Church School Literature continued

The Department of Christian Education welcomed with great excitement Rev. Dr. Kenneth Q. James as the Editor of Church School Literature. Since his appointment in September 2018, Dr. James, together with his dedicated staff are very excited to continue providing Zion with quality publications. When asked recently what ideas were on the horizon for us, Dr. James shared the following:

Sunday/Church school ideas/goals;

1. Seek and be intentional about making an impact of EXCELLENCE known and valued for the Sunday/Church school from the denominational level to the local church.
2. Explore the possibilities of technology to enhance the Sunday/Church school (i.e., apps, electronic versions of Sunday/Church school lessons)
3. Encourage diffident ways/times/venues for Church School, i.e., small groups, not just limited to Sunday, etc.
4. Provide lesson outlines for teachers from the Committee on the Uniform Series (maybe on CED or CSL website) in advance of the ensuing quarter for better teacher preparation and training.
5. Invite churches and leaders to join the “Sunday/Church School Ten Year Challenge” - let’s ask, what/how will the Sunday/Church school look in 10 years (2029)?

The Church School Herald-Journal  
Third Quarter - March - April - May 2019

CALL

STUDIES IN:

MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE AND ROMANS



## **Church School Herald-Journal**

There are two files that comprise the *Church School Herald-Journal* Database for Conference Subscriptions: HERJOUR (2345 subscribers) and 6HER (2145 subscribers). Currently, the total number of subscribers is 4490. However, there are other categories of persons receiving the *Church School Herald-Journal*:

Persons who are individual subscribers (not a part of a conference). There is a separate file for these individuals. There are approximately 80 individual subscribers.

Persons receiving complimentary copies: i.e., Senior Citizens. (These persons are not in the database. Their *Heralds* are mailed directly from CSL.)

Persons who are a part of a Conference, are in the database, but have trouble receiving their *Heralds* via the database – cause unknown! (These *Heralds* are usually mailed directly to them from CSL.) Checks from Individual *Herald* Subscribers and Conferences are deposited, and deposit slips are given to the CED Office Administrator, who will update account and balance books. Letters acknowledging receipt of checks are mailed and payment reminders are sent if necessary.

The Publishing House receives their quantity of 1850 *Heralds* directly from Lake Printing. (Note: CSL submits to the Publishing House an invoice for those *Heralds*.)

On behalf of the Christian Education Department and the Office of Church School Literature, I express my appreciation to Mrs. Lisa Barkley, a life-long Baptist, who devoted 30 years of unwavering service to Zion. Mrs. Barkley who was hired by Dr. Mary A. Love, has served Zion with distinction, and noted that she “can retire as an honorary member of the A.M.E. Zion Church.”

# **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRIES**

VARICK'S CHILDREN

VARICK INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN YOUTH COUNCIL

YOUNG ADULTS IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

THE ASSEMBLY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS

THE BISHOP STEPHEN GILL SPOTTSWOOD ORDER OF THE CHANCEL  
MINISTRY

ZION WOMEN ROCK

ZION CLERGY WOMEN

INSTITUTE ON AGING

COMMISSION ON SPIRITUAL FORMATION

COMMISSION ON LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE

COMMISSION ON FAMILY LIFE

COMMISSION ON SCHOLASTIC ENGAGEMENT

JUST FOR SENIORS – SENIOR MINISTRY



## VARICK'S CHILDREN

*Dr. Michelle Searles, Director*

The mission of Varick's Children (VC) is to foster spiritual formation, leadership development, scholastic reengagement and cultural enrichment for children in the A.M.E. Zion Church. The mission is primarily achieved through church school literature, VC winter camps at the annual CED Winter Meeting, VC summer academy at the CED Quadrennial Meeting and workshops for the annual Children's Day observance.

### Church School Literature

The children's curriculum is produced by the teamwork of one graphic artist (Kirsten Martin), three writers for the Beginner and Primary quarterlies (Angela Marks, Renee Perry, Rhonda Means), one writer for the Junior quarterly (Dr. Helen Scott Carter), and one senior editor (Dr. Michelle Searles).

At the beginning of the production cycle the senior editor distributes the lesson outlines published by the National Council of Churches Committee on the Uniform Series to all writers. Beginner/Primary writers also receive a list of the behavior scenarios to be incorporated in the Faithful Five lesson stories. Writers then have 30 days to draft a warm-up activity, scripture summary, superhero story, discussion question(s) and a craft activity for each of their assigned lessons.

The senior editor is responsible for developing key verse exercises, superhero challenges and teacher guides. After the senior editor compiles and edits the weekly lessons, they are sent to the graphic artist for the final layout that is given to the publisher. During this reporting period, the children's team produced the Winter 2018 and Spring 2019 quarterlies, which comprised a total of 78 lessons (26 lessons for each age group). Additionally, 18 teacher guides (one guide per age group for each of the six months in the reporting period) were made available as resources on the CED website.

## Varick's Children Continued

### Winter Meeting

Seventy (70) children registered for the VC Winter Camp at the 2018 CED Winter Meeting. The camp was facilitated by two co-directors (Nora McNeill, Rev. Dr. Michelle Searles), eight bible lesson teachers (Rhonda Means, Myrtle Powell, Robyn Perkins, Rev. Wanda Polite, Douglas Ike, Rev. Dr. Leon Newton, Rev. Adriane Newton, Rev. Dr. William Ward), and three worship and arts instructors (Angela Whittaker, Matthew Whittaker, Priscilla Gough-Grinage). The camp curriculum, *THRIVE*, was aligned with the general theme of the meeting to strengthen families.

Research shows African-centeredness builds resiliency in African American children who have adverse childhood experiences. *THRIVE* incorporated African-centered family values emphasized in the principles of Kwanzaa. Key elements of the curriculum included affirmation, storytelling with a griot, bible instruction, Kwanzaa crafts, worship and arts sessions and structured play time.

Beginning each day with affirmation and storytelling proved to be a highly effective way to create a happy and positive environment for learning. The affirmations and African folktales used to begin each day are listed below. Rev. Dr. Michelle Searles led the affirmation and Rev. Dr. William Ward served as the griot.

#### **Day 1**

**Morning Affirmation:** In every difficulty we can find an opportunity.

**Morning Story:** *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer

“When William Kamkwamba was 14 years old, living in a drought-ravaged area of Malawi in Africa, he pursued a dream that brought electricity and running water to his desperately poor village... William’s story shows how – no matter how young you are and how huge the challenge – creativity, determination, and hard work can help save your world.”

**Discussion Question:** What did William have to do to build a windmill?

#### **Day 2**

**Morning Affirmation:** We are one, our cause is one, and we must help each other if we are to succeed.

**Morning Story:** *Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti* by Gerald McDermott

“Anansi the Spider is one of the great folk heroes of the world. He is a rogue, a mischief-maker, and a wise, lovable creature who triumphs over larger foes.”

**Discussion Question:** How did Anansi safely make his way home?



## Varick's Children Continued

### **Day 3**

**Morning Affirmation:** There is no reason to repeat bad history.

**Morning Story:** *Two Ways to Count to Ten: A Liberian Folktale* retold by Ruby Dee  
“King Leopard is wise enough to plan for a successor. He plans a contest. The winner is to be named prince and marry his daughter. Contestants must throw Leopard’s spear up in the air and count to ten before it comes to earth again...[This tale shows] that being strong is not the same as being smart.”

**Discussion Question:** Did the winner repeat the actions of other contestants?

VC also had the opportunity to participate in the College Rally Luncheon and Victory Night Service. The College Rally presentation emphasized self-efficacy. Self-efficacy is the belief in one’s ability to achieve goals. We want VC to be confident in their ability to do all things through Christ. Dr. Helen Scott Carter’s six-year old grandson, Michael Sekou Carter, led the Apostles’ Creed for the Victory Night Service. He invoked joy and awe in those attending the service with his bold enunciation and correct pronunciation of words like “apostolic” and “universal” when he fluently read the call to affirm our faith.

The VC closing program, *VC Live*, was well attended by parents, chaperones and Connectional leaders. Children shared what they learned during the three-day camp. Participants and VC leaders dressed in black and African attire to affirm African heritage. VC camp registrants learned the following lessons over the course of the three days.

- Families are the building blocks for society. If the family unit is weak, then the society will be weak.
- No family is perfect or without problems. But families that work together find it easier to deal with problems when they arise.
- The greatest testimony of our faith is living the way God wants us to live. The things you do and say show whether you are a true believer or a make believer.
- Family devotion is a time when the family reads the bible together, prays together, appreciates each other, encourages each other, supports each other and has fun.
- A family is a team. Each member has a part to play to make the family the best it can be. Do not be satisfied with giving less than your best. Replace excuses with determination.

## Varick's Children Continued

### Goals and Objectives for 2018-2020

Children's ministry must continuously evolve as new technologies emerge to facilitate learning and outreach. VC will focus on five goals over the next two years to keep our children's ministry relevant and impactful.

1. Generate financial resources for VC programming
  - 1.1 Work with the Church School Literature (CSL) Editor-in-Chief to increase subscriptions to children's curriculum
  - 1.2 Develop and implement a strategy to obtain external funds for scholastic reengagement initiatives
2. Build collaborative partnerships for VC programming
  - 2.1 Build network of Children's Workers attending CED connectional meetings and conventions
  - 2.2 Work with VICYC to create volunteer opportunities for youth leadership development
  - 2.3 Work with District, Conference and Episcopal Directors to provide onsite training as needed
3. Provide learning and development opportunities for Directors of Children throughout the denomination
  - 3.1 Develop webinars for children's workers
  - 3.2 Provide VC resources and CSL teacher guides on the AMEZ CED website
  - 3.3 Work with CED Program Design Team to develop learning labs at the CED Winter Meeting and Quadrennial
4. Develop innovative curriculum for use in Children's Ministry throughout the denomination
  - 4.1 Incorporate high impact, African-centered practices in VC programming (Winter Meeting Camps, VC Academy and Children's Day)
  - 4.2 Develop children's literature to teach basics in spiritual formation (52 Week Bible Lessons and Faithful Five/Zion and Zaya Vacation Bible School)
  - 4.3 Produce CSL lessons in digital formats for use with accessible devices (like talking tablets) for children with specific learning disabilities
5. Promote CED initiatives to foster academic excellence within the African American community
  - 5.1 Develop out-of-school time summer camps based in Science, Technology, Engineering Arts and Math (STEAM)
  - 5.2 Become a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center at one site in each Episcopal district

Institute the Helen Scott-Carter Scholastic Achievement Award for presentation at the CED Winter Meeting



## **VARICK INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN YOUTH COUNCIL**

*Sis. Allison Lee and Sis. Angellica Sweat, Advisors*

Varick International Christian Youth Council is attempting to reset in order to adequately and accurately provide effective ministries that will produce credible, committed, Christian disciples.

Some may say that effective change comes from the renewing of your mind. Others may say it comes from the softening of hearts. This work will come by providing innovative ideals and being willing and ready to work to see the vision materialize.

Over the next four years, the VCYC Connectional Cabinet desires to incorporate new methods along with old, as we foster the growth of credible, committed, Christian disciples within youth ministry. We would like the following goals to be obtained:

1. The cultivation and production of well-rounded leaders through training and continued leadership development,
2. Creating an environment that ignites and continues to burn a zeal for Zion through increased communication, spiritual growth, education, and relationship,
3. Establishing a system that allows for representation from the Overseas region, and
4. Increasing the functionality of district and conference presidents.

Over the last six months, the VCYC Cabinet has focused on structurally getting things and people into place, in addition to preparing for the December 2018 Winter Meeting. Once they entered office in July 2018.

Appointed are: Chief of Staff, Daniel Walker, as well as the Director of Public Relations, Grace Cole. In September, each officer was able to schedule a 1-on-1 call with VCYC Advisors, in order to discuss goals, concerns, positions, personal spiritual growth, and expectations over the next four years. In September, they begin the search for six Members-at-Large to the VCYC Executive Cabinet.

## VCYC Continued

Each applicant had to submit an online application and participate in an interview. The Interview Committee, along with VCYC Advisors, reviewed each application.

In October according to the VCYC Constitution Cabinet was divided into committees. The various committees have been meeting monthly and will be reporting quarterly along with VCYC officers. The Members-at-Large were selected in November. All Cabinet members were registered, and in attendance at the Winter Meeting on Christian Education in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. While at Truthville 2018, they were able to receive and be poured into through various opportunities, particularly during the Leadership Intensive Day and Cabinet Retreat. Dr. Eric Leake facilitated a presentation entitled, “#WeGotNext.” The Regional Vice Presidents will be working with their delegates to ensure that the work that was presented can be completed

It is VCYC desire over the next four years through the Education Committee, to continue enhancing the process by providing scholarships. The Roosevelt L. Thompson Scholarships for high school and college students, the Roosevelt L. Thompson Honor Society, and the Zion’s Young Star Awards, are all processes that the Executive Cabinet will continue managing, in order to highlight some of Zion’s finest youth.

Going forward, they have also discussed establishing a scholarship that is able to speak to the needs of students who attend community college or are in trade school. Finding and implementing creative ways to both inspire youth to take ownership of their education, and to see it through to the very end is a continuous goal.

During the 2018 Winter Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Youth Design team planned workshops for all youth in attendance that would engage them regarding how they are “thriving” in life, regarding education and passion.

On Friday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, the 13-15-year olds attended a workshop entitled, “Living Your Best Life,” and the 16-21-year olds attended a panel discussion entitled, “Thrive Talks: Navigating Life.” Both workshops were geared around the different phases of life, and how education plays a major role in the development process. At Truthville 2018, workshops were held for all youth in attendance on Saturday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, entitled, “The Game of Life,” for 13-15 year old’s, “Money Moves,” for 16-18 year old’s, and “Making a Life, Not a Living,” for 19-21 year old’s which all focused on proper money management for the present, as well as how to build for the future.

The VCYC Finance Committee along with the Youth Design Team, are regularly developing ideas to show our generation how to think smart and move intentionally when it comes to finances, decreasing debt, and saving for the future.

## **VARICK INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN YOUTH COUNCIL**

*Sis. Allison Lee and Sis. Angellica Sweat, Co-Advisors*

	<b>VICYC Officer</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Episcopal District</b>
Sis. Justala Simpson	President	South Central	Alabama – Florida
Ms. Kenashia Thompson	Executive Vice President	Southeastern	South Atlantic
Mr. Daniel Walker	Chief of Staff	Central	Mid-West
Ms. Rachel Means	Recording Secretary	Eastern	Mid-Atlantic
Ms. Briana Peters	Corresponding Secretary	Mid-Western	Southwestern Delta
Ms. DaNidrah Carson	Treasurer	South Central	Alabama – Florida
Sis. Charnita Ponder	Chaplain	South Central	Alabama – Florida
Mr. Isaak Harrison	Parliamentarian	Western	Western
Ms. Grace Cole	Director of Public Relations	Mid-Western	Mid-West
Ms. Jessica Franks	Southeastern Region Vice President	Southeastern	Eastern North Carolina
Ms. Angelica Richardson	Midwestern Region Vice President	Mid-Western	Southwestern Delta
Ms. Ebony Williams	South Central Region Vice President	South Central	Alabama – Florida
Ms. Makeyla Hayes	Eastern Region Vice President	Eastern	Northeastern
Ms. Rapunizal Boykin	Member at Large	South Central	Alabama – Florida
Mr. Justin Brown	Member at Large	Mid-Western	Mid-West
Ms. Nakima Harris	Member at Large	Southeastern	Eastern North Carolina
Ms. Reality Patton	Member at Large	Mid-Western	Mid-West
Ms. Tasharah Person	Member at Large	Eastern	Northeastern
Vacant	Central Region Vice President		
Vacant	Western Region Vice President		



## **YOUNG ADULTS IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES**

*Reverend Brian Thompson and Reverend Felica Thompson, Advisors*

The 2018-2022 steering committee is committed to supporting and helping to strengthen the efforts of the General Church as outlined by the Board of Bishops and aligning themselves with the Christian Education Department.

The Young Adults in Christian Ministries primarily services a demographic of persons aged 22-40 who see their purpose as serving where they are.

Their primary focus now is planning for their annual fall retreat where they will develop and strategize for the implementation of a four-year strategic plan.

The steering committee has discussed and currently at the regional level is focusing on Spiritual Formation, Community Development, Political & Economic Empowerment, and Health & Wellness. They feel that focusing on these tenants will help to better inform their decision making as they develop ministry models to help revitalize how our congregations reach the lost, thus making them a more viable resource to the communities they serve.

The steering committee will, in this quadrennium, be committed to empowering local and district directors of YACM to be more practical in their approach to Young Adult Ministry.

They will also explore forging partnerships/alliances with other Ecumenical and Civic Organizations whose goals and objectives align with the AMEZ/CED, thus broadening their reach and consequences that will lead to increasing their visibility!

## **YOUNG ADULTS IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES**

*Reverend Brian Thompson & Felica Thompson, Co-Advisors*

Sam Brown	Chairperson
Jon Rankins	Vice Chairperson
Joseph Robbins	Treasurer
Whitney Bronson	Secretary
Arthur Monroe	Parliamentarian
Andrew Webber	Chaplain
William DeArmon	Member at Large
Ms. Xellex Rivera	Eastern
Ms. Brandi Moore	Midwestern
Mr. Jonathan Moore	South Central
Mr. Dion Harris	Southeastern
Ms. Corinthia Hurley	Western



## **THE ASSEMBLY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS**

*Mrs. Margaree Coleman-Carter, Advisor*

The Assembly of Christian Educators has been working feverously in pursuit of our mission and purpose of Christian Education, which is to foster the development of credible, committed, Christian disciples.

Listed are some of their accomplishments

1. Full slate of officers – elected and appointed all positions for the Executive Board (23 total)
  - a) Created two (2) new positions for the effectual functioning of our ministry, Chief of Staff and Strategic Planning Officer
  - b) Appointed a Stole Chairperson
  - c) Appointed two (2) Central Regional Co-Vice Presidents as a result of vacancies after the election
  - d) Appointed committee chairs and staffed our committees with regional representatives
2. ACE Officers' Retreat – November 2-4, 2018 hosted by Rush Metropolitan AMEZC in Raleigh, NC
3. Membership & Stole – updated and enhanced the process between the Second Vice President, Stole Chairperson, Treasurer, and Regional Co-Vice Presidents
  - a. Updated the order forms
  - b. Created a temporary online portal for electronic payments
4. Implemented our first Winter Meeting
  - a. Conducted two (2) business sessions in a created and productive manner
  - b. Purchased tickets to the Lewis M. Anthony Luncheon in support of CED's budget.
  - c. Hosted a fellowship event following the opening service; we included food and beverage in support of CED's financial obligations to the hotel.
  - d. Organized and implemented in-house retreat; purchased food and beverage in support of CED's financial obligations to the hotel.



*The Assembly of Christian Educators continued*

5. Regular Meeting Schedules

- a. Monthly meetings of the Executive Board are set for the second Monday of every other month.
- b. Committees are beginning to meet and formulate their work.

*Upcoming plans and projects*

1. Technology Upgrades – Working on a draft website and customer relations management (CRM) software to increase our stewardship and connection to our members
2. Strategic Plan – we are working piece by piece to place ACE in a position where we are clear on our role in the Christian Education Department and for our constituents
3. ACE Certifications – we are drafting a proposal for curriculum for continuing education for Christian Educators in the A.M.E. Zion Church
4. Christian Educator Networks & Teams (CENTs) – building capacity for affinity groups amongst Christian Educators of various types to discuss trends, share resources, encourage and support one another, and build fellowship/relationships throughout the denomination
5. Cross-Organizational Collaborations – we are working with YACM and VICYC to strengthen our ties, work together where possible, and support one another’s work

ACE is on the move and ready to fulfill our role in kingdom building. We are “The New Face of ACE” attempting to develop disciples in a relevant way.

## **THE ASSEMBLY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS**

*Margaree Coleman-Carter, Advisor*

	<b>ACE Office</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Episcopal District</b>
Mr. Eric Alfonzo Smith II	President	Eastern	Mid-Atlantic
Rev. Tyesha N. Harden	First Vice President	South Eastern	Eastern North Carolina
Rev. Adriane Newton	Second Vice President	South Eastern	Eastern North Carolina
Mrs. Yvonne S. Smith	Stole Chairperson	Eastern	Mid-Atlantic
Mr. Adrian D. Smith	Chief of Staff	Eastern	Mid-Atlantic
Ms. Doris M. Davison	Recording Secretary	South Central	Alabama-Florida
Mrs. Tonya Cornelius	Corresponding Secretary	South Eastern	Piedmont
Rev. Carla R. Perry-Johnson	Treasurer	Mid-Western	Southwestern Delta
Rev. Andra Watkins-Wright	Chaplain	South Central	Alabama-Florida
Rev. A. Terry Young, III	Parliamentarian	Central	Mid-Atlantic
Mr. Kyle P. Ledford Sr., CFSP	Strategic Planning Officer	Eastern	North Eastern
Ms. Stacey M. Hayes	Regional Co-Vice President	Eastern	North Eastern
Rev. Donna Stewart	Regional Co-Vice President	Eastern	North Eastern
Rev. Angela W. Boyd	Regional Co-Vice President	South Eastern	South Atlantic
Ms. Renate Lee	Regional Co-Vice President	South Eastern	Eastern North Carolina
Ms. Marycile Echols	Regional Co-Vice President	South Central	Alabama-Florida
Ms. Shelia V. Spencer	Regional Co-Vice President	South Central	Alabama-Florida
Bro. Rick Lee	Regional Co-Vice President	Central	Mid-West
Rev. Austin J. Young	Regional Co-Vice President	Central	Mid-West
Sis. Leshia Sams	Regional Co-Vice President	Mid-Western	Mid-West
Rev. Gwendolyn Peters	Regional Co-Vice President	Mid-Western	Southwestern Delta
Mr. Charles Montgomery	Regional Co-Vice President	Western	Western
Ms. Patricia Schmidt Hunter	Regional Co-Vice President	Western	Western



## **THE BISHOP STEPHEN GILL SPOTTSWOOD ORDER OF THE CHANCEL MINISTRY**

*Dr. Reginald Chandler, Director*

The Bishop Stephen Gill Spottswood Order of the Chancel Ministry - The Acolytes of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church is a juvenile ministry for the Church of God. Its mission is to develop acolytes to be keepers of the altar and assist the presiding minister/pastor in worship by leading the processional and recessional, lighting the altar candles and providing beverages, towels and knee pillows for the ministers.

The Acolytes of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church are on the move! Since the conclusion of the Board of Bishops Meeting in July 2018, our Acolytes led by the Acolyte Task Force have participated in the Christian Education Department Quadrennial in Birmingham, Alabama and the Winter Meeting in Philadelphia, PA. Both events were well attended by Acolytes and Acolyte Directors throughout our beloved Zion.

In fact, more than 40 young people participated in the processional at the Quadrennial and Winter Meeting during our worship service. Training workshops were conducted at both meetings with ground-breaking attendance.

The Task Force is now looking ahead at participating at the upcoming National Acolyte Festival in Washington, DC at the National Cathedral on Columbus Day weekend. This is an Interdenominational gathering of acolytes from across the country.



**Bishop Dennis V. Proctor**  
CED Board Chairman



**Bishop W. Darin Moore**  
Host Bishop  
1st Vice Chairman



**Bishop Nathaniel Jarrett, Jr.**  
2nd Vice Chairman



**Mrs. Ava Swinton**  
3rd Vice Chairman



**Dr. Brenda G. Smith**  
CED General Secretary

*save the date*  
**A WEEKEND**  
*of* **GLORY**

**GIVE ONLINE**  
**Givelify**  
**CED - ACOLYTES**

**NATIONAL ACOLYTE  
FESTIVAL**  
**Washington, DC**



**OCT**  
**11, 12, 13**



**Registration online**

**TENTATIVE ITINERARY**

<https://cathedral.org/event/national-acolyte-festival-2019/>

**Friday, October 11, 2019**  
Arrive at hotel (TBD) at 5:00pm  
8:00PM: Meet & Greet. Ice breakers & prizes

**Saturday, October 12, 2019**  
Registration Check In is at 8:00AM at the National Cathedral.  
Program starts 10:00AM - 12:00PM  
Acolytes will participate in an activity (TBD)  
Fireside chat & chew with the Bishop

**Sunday, October 13, 2019**  
Acolytes will participate in worship at **John Wesley AME Zion Church (National Church of Zion Methodism)** at 10:00AM  
The Bishop will preach and give a charge to the Acolytes. Service concludes at 12 Noon. Send off

**HOTEL INFORMATION**  
Bethesda North Marriott  
5701 Marinelli Rd  
Rockville, MD 20852  
(301) 822-9200

King rooms  
**\$119 per night plus tax**  
Queen rooms  
**\$139 per night plus tax**

**National Cathedral**  
3101 Wisconsin Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20016  
(202) 527-6200



## **ZION WOMEN ROCK MINISTRY**

*Tawanda Harris, Director*

Truthville 2018 ZWR held its first Circle of Sisters Prayer Breakfast It was a sold-out event. The objective of the Prayer Breakfast was to bring women together to encourage one another and to celebrate and honor the special bond between women. The Praise Team, Preacher and Prayers provided physical and spiritual nourishment to the Circle of Sisters.

Another exciting workshop was the *Sister to Sister - Battle of the Generations Family Feud*. The objective of this workshop was to bring women of all ages together to bond, work together and build intergenerational relationships.

The vision and focus of the Zion Women Rock Ministry is to inspire women to be true women of God; to encourage women to grow in their faith in Christ and strengthen relationships with women of all ages.

## **ZION CLERGY WOMEN**

*Rev. Robyn Anderson, Director*

The Zion Clergy Women an Up and Coming Network of all of the AME Zion Clergy Women from all over the Diaspora. The organizing of Zion Clergy Women was a vision of Dr. Kathryn G. Brown to form a network of Zion Clergy Women that would Strengthen Clergy Women in the Ministry and to mentor up and coming Clergy Women.

The Zion Clergy Women Kickoff Event took place at the Zion University CED Quadrennial Meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. The Kickoff began with a workshop utilizing Teresa Frye-Brown's book entitled "Can a Sista Get Some Help?" All of the Clergy Women unanimously agreed that they would like to go through the book chapter by chapter. Immediately following the workshop there was a Networking Brunch. During the Networking Event there was a Tribute to the late "Dr. Kathryn G. Brown"

During the Winter Meeting, Clergy Women had a two-part workshop on Chapter 7 of the book entitled "Can a Sista Get Some Help". Once again, Zion Clergy Women were strengthened, new relationships and connections were made between the Clergy Women. Each session of the Zion Clergy Women, More Women are joining the Network. The Zion Clergy Women meet monthly and are in the processing of planning their next workshop and networking event.

## **COMMISSION ON FAMILY LIFE**

*Reverend Robyn Anderson, Chairperson*

Mission: To Enrich and strengthen the family life of the A.M.E. Zion Church and assist churches in developing and sustaining a Family Life Ministry that better Connects Church and Home Life. (Need to talk to you about this Gregg – too much here. I need to just put the following in the appendix and just include the mission for here. What do you think?)

*Areas of Focus: All ages including, but not limited to, addressing the following topics:*

- Family Enrichment
  - Self Care –
- Pre-Marital Counseling
  - Adult Children Caring for
- Marriage Elderly Parents
- Blended Families
  - LGBT
- Multiculturalism
  - Stress
- Biracial Relationships
  - Domestic Violence/Intimate (children and family members)

### Partnership Violence

- Emptiness Syndrome □ Adverse Childhood and Adult
- Parenting - Parenting/Single Trauma, Sexual Abuse
- Parenting/Grandparents □ Family Advocacy raising Grandchildren □ Credit
- Repair □ Children involved in Juvenile □ Education  
Justice, Child welfare systems □ Employment
- Incarceration □ Management
- Mental Health □ Housing
- Substance Use □ Singleness
- Terminal Illnesses □ Sexual Diseases – HIV AIDS
- Bereavement, Grief and Loss, □ Life Cycles of Children, Adults  
Separation, Divorce and Seniors
- College □ Transition

## Commission On Family Life continued

### Tasks to accomplish Vision:

- Ensure appointment of a representative from each Episcopal area, to serve on the Commission
- Propose and Establish a presence of a Family Life Component at our denominational meetings on the Connectional, Conference, District and local church levels.
- Write and Share Articles and publications that can be published in our denomination's paper and publications
- Design Train the Trainer Models on Family Life Topics that can be utilized by everyone.
- Establish a clear link between the local churches' Family Life Ministries and the churches' Health Ministries
- Develop a Family Life Ministry Handbook to be utilized in the local church.
- Design and implement a Family Life publication that can be distributed in and outside of the denomination

The Commission on Family Life Is on the move to enhance, enrich and strengthen families and to build a stronger connection between Church and Home Life.

During the Quadrennial each member of the Commission on Family Life and other AME Zion Clinical Professionals with various expertise conducted the Center for Family Life Workshops. The workshops were entitled "Twerk Generation"; "Breaking the Silence of Mental Health; " Living Beyond Grief"; "Domestic Violence 101" and "Where do We Begin in Developing Family Life Ministries". Many of the workshop participants were enlightened and expressed the need for more workshops that would focus on Family Life.

The workshop participants also expressed, the need for workshops that would assist them in their own family life and would provide them with the tools and resources needed to Minister to the needs of church members and the surrounding community.

## **COMMISSION ON SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

*Reverend Dr. Barbara Latoison, Chair*

The terms spiritual formation, faith formation, and discipleship while often used interchangeably, there are some differences. Spiritual Formation is the vehicle used for a continuous journey for an interior transformation so that our actions reflect the nature and character of Christ that uses various practices to open one to the work of change. Faith Development is a process of moving people through appropriate developmental stages to find meaning in life. Discipleship is the goal, to partner with God to purposefully cultivate, encourage, and foster the growth the Spirit is producing inside the disciple.

## **COMMISSION ON LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE**

*Reverend Dr. Gina Casey, Chair*

Devises strategy for developing essential leadership competencies among laity and clergy. The clergy leadership component will make recommendations for revised Conference studies and continuing education for clergy. The lay component will recommend learning and development opportunities for church leaders, including, but not limited to Christian educators. This commission will also develop leadership excellence programming for the CED Winter Meetings, Quadrennial Conventions and at the district and local church levels.

## **COMMISSION ON SCHOLASTIC ENGAGEMENT**

*Reverend Jeffrey Tribble, PhD Chairman*

The purpose of the commission is to develop ministries and programming for local church and denominational implementation that will strengthen the academic performance of African Americans.

If you have a passion for academic excellence, are a member of the A.M.E. Zion Church, have a heart for fostering the development of credible, committed Christian disciples and desire to serve on this commission, please send your contact information to Mrs. Armstrong at [ced@amezhqtr.org](mailto:ced@amezhqtr.org).



# COPYRIGHT/TRADEMARKS

In December 2018, the Faithful Five Beginner and Primary Crew and Team Zion and Zaya became a Registered Trademark of the A.M.E. Zion Church. The remaining CED publications and logos are in process of being Copyrighted and Trademarked. We are very happy to report that our website is registered, and we are in the process of completing the website certification process



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Thank you for your continued interest in the Faithful Five and Team Zion and Zaya! We welcome your usage of the characters in your Sunday School classes, Varick's Children's church activities and other church-related activities. All must abide by the rules of usage as established by The A.M.E. Zion Church. We, however, would like to know how you are implementing them and possibly share your ideas in upcoming issues.

Zion's Superhero characters; the Faithful Five Beginner Crew, Faithful Five Primary Crew, and Team Zion and Zaya are now Registered Trademarks ® of The A.M.E. Zion Church Corporate, Inc. 2018. **ALL RIGHTS RESERVED AND ARE TO BE USED BY PERMISSION ONLY.**

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Any requests to use the images in your Church School classes, etc. **MUST** be submitted via email to the Office of Church School Literature **FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL**. The email address is [ZionHeros@AMEZionCorporate.org](mailto:ZionHeros@AMEZionCorporate.org).

Stock images of The A. M.E. Zion Superheroes will be available for purchase in February 2019. If you would like to purchase buttons, membership cards, Faithful Five Beginner and Primary Crew posters, costumes, etc. or have an interest for any other teaching aids, you can also request these items through the Office of Church School Literature. Please send your requests to [ZionHeros@AMEZionCorporate.org](mailto:ZionHeros@AMEZionCorporate.org).

If approached by any movie directors, producers (ex. Tyler Perry), etc. **THINK BIG!!!** Please direct them to the Department of Church School Literature, AME Zion church.

If the characters are used in any way you must cite them in the following manner. Again, the Faithful Five Beginner Crew, Faithful Five Primary Crew, or Team Zion and Zaya are now a Registered Trademark of the A.M.E. Zion Church, Corporate, Inc. 2018. **ALL RIGHTS RESERVED AND ARE TO BE USED BY PERMISSION ONLY.**

Continue to keep us in your prayers as we move forward into more exciting Adventures of The Faithful Five and Team Zion and Zaya, in your A.M.E. Zion Sunday School Literature.

Faithfully,

Kirsten Martin, Character Design/ Creator for The A.M.E. Zion Church

Rev. Dr. J. Elvin Sadler, General Secretary Auditor for The A.M.E. Zion Church

# ZION'S SUPERHEROES ANNOUNCEMENT

First, Dr. Michelle Searles, Dr. Helen C. Scott Carter and I would like to again say thank you for your continued interest in the Faithful Five and Team Zion and Zaya!

Zion's Superhero characters, the Faithful Five Beginner and Primary Crew, and Team Zion and Zaya, are now a Registered Trademark of the A.M.E. Zion Church Corporate, Inc. 2018. **ALL RIGHTS RESERVED AND ARE TO BE USED BY PERMISSION ONLY.** Any requests to use the images in your Church School classes, etc. MUST be submitted via email to the Office of Church School Literature FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL. The email address is [ZionHeros@AMEZionCorporate.org](mailto:ZionHeros@AMEZionCorporate.org). Stock images of the A.M.E. Zion superheroes will be available for purchase in February 2019. If you would like to purchase buttons, membership cards, Faithful Five Beginner and Primary Crew posters, costumes, or have an interest for any other teaching aids, you can also request these items through the Office of Church School Literature. Please send your requests to [ZionHeros@AMEZionCorporate.org](mailto:ZionHeros@AMEZionCorporate.org).

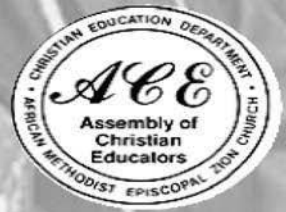
Continue to keep us in your prayers as we move forward into more exciting Adventures of the Faithful Five and Team Zion and Zaya, in your A.M.E. Zion Sunday School Literature.

Faithfully,  
Kirsten Martin  
Creator

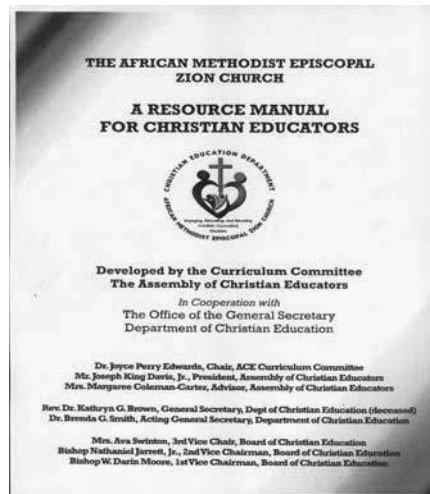




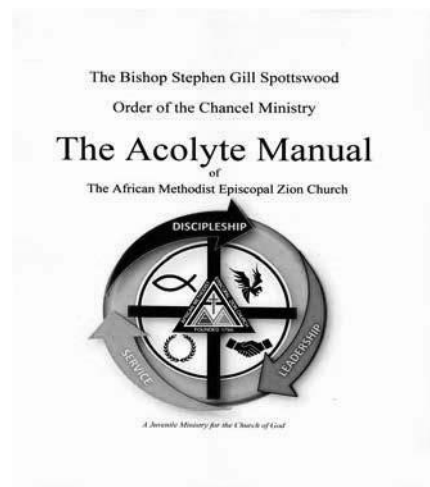
# The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church Christian Education Ministries



## PUBLICATIONS



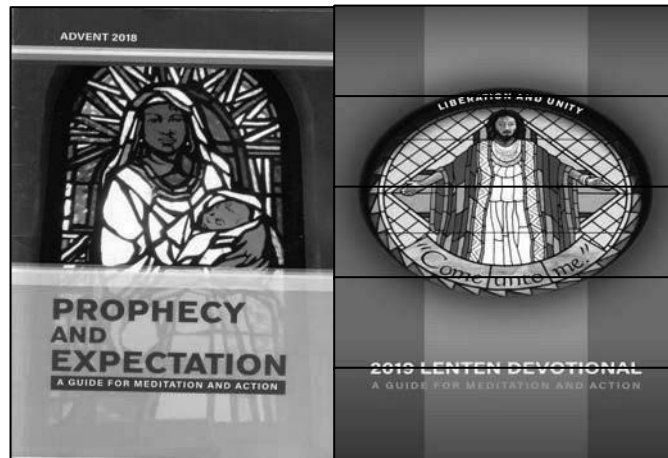
The CED Manual – Mr. Joseph King Davis, 5<sup>th</sup> President of the Assembly of Christian Educators conceptualized the need for a Christian Education Resource Manual (1) to provide information on mission, doctrine, and organization, which supplies background for the ministry of Christian Education in The A.M.E. Zion Church; and (2) to serve as a resource to Christian Educators in our Church for understanding, planning, and implementing viable ministries of Christian Education for faith formation. Under the leadership of the chairman of the Curriculum Committee, Dr. Joyce Edwards, the first publication of 450 books were sold on the first day of Zion University, which led to the publication of an additional 200 books.



The Acolyte Manual is selling very well. All 150 copies printed were sold in the first three hours after it was released at the Quadrennial. Eighty-three out of the 100 copies reprinted were sold at the Winter Meeting. The Task Force is very pleased with how this ministry is being embraced by all. We are grateful to Mr. Herbert Watkins who has agreed to sell the books in the Varick

Bookstore. It is our hope that this vital ministry of our church will continue to grow and grow to the glory of God.

Publications continued



Advent & Lenten Devotional Booklets

Since the late 70's, the Christian Education Department joins each year with the Christian Education Departments of the A.M.E. Church, headed by Dr. Garland Pierce and the CME Church, Dr. Carmichael D. Crutchfield, General Secretary, to publish devotionals for the Advent and Lenten seasons. Our Advent 2018 Devotional was titled, "Prophecy and Expectation," and our Lenten Devotional was titled "Liberation and Unity" – A Guide for Meditation and Action. We thank all writers from our Zion who wrote for both devotionals.

The president of VCYC has recommended that we have an Advent Devotional prepared by youth next year. This is a matter that will be discussed following the presentation of an outline and full proposal from the co-advisors and officers to the Commission on Spiritual Formation, the Reverend Dr. Barbara LaToison, Chair, and her committee will be assigned to guide this work, upon the approval of the Chairs and members of the Board of Christian Education.

We were appreciative that the 2018 Lenten Devotional was dedicated to the memory of Rev. Dr. Kathryn G. Brown.

We are also appreciative of our members and our Episcopal leaders who submitted articles for each devotional.

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