

Fourteenth Quadrennial Session  
Connectional Lay Institute

# Journal

Honoring Our Past...



...Inspired By Our Future!

Saturday-Monday, September 19-21, 2009  
The Millennium Hotel ☐ St. Louis, Missouri

Clifford L. Harris  
President, Connectional Lay Council

Dr. Victor Taylor  
General Secretary, Department of Lay Ministry

Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr.  
Chairman, Department of Lay Ministry

Bishop Paul A.G. Stewart  
Host Bishop, 3rd Episcopal District



Department of Lay Ministry  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

**14th Quadrennial  
Connectional Lay Institute**

**September 19-21, 2009  
Millennium Hotel – St. Louis, MO**



Fourteenth Quadrennial Session  
Connectional Lay Institute  
Department of Lay Ministry  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

# Journal

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This *Journal* belongs to...

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The Seventh Episcopal District  
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## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

**In this 14<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Connectional Lay Institute, we are seeking to “Honor our Past...Inspired by our Future.” Our ancestors are remembered and appreciated because of their contributions to our enhanced worship, study, fellowship and service. They assisted us in our educational endeavors, our desire to save souls for Christ, our outreach ministry to the world, the poor and oppressed. Vision is conditioned by the past but is not limited by the past. In fact, our past is a prologue to our future. That is why the greatest room in our world is the room for improvement.**

**Our challenge today is to press forward to a higher mark in Christ Jesus. As lay persons and clergy together, let us go from good to great. Thanks Victor Taylor, Clifford Harris and all members of the team of lay ministry who have done an excellent job of leading us. Eyes have not seen nor ears heard what God has in store for the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.**

*Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr.*

**Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr  
Bishop of Seventh Episcopal District  
Chair, Department of Lay Ministry**



DEPARTMENT OF LAY MINISTRY  
14TH QUADRENNIAL CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE  
BISHOP THOMAS L. HOYT, JR. CHAIRMAN  
DR. VICTOR TAYLOR GENERAL SECRETARY  
MR. CLIFFORD HARRIS PRESIDENT CONNECTIONAL LAY COUNCIL



Dear Delegates and Supporters,

Welcome to the fourteenth Quadrennial Session of the Connectional Lay Institute where we will be **HONORING OUR PAST...INSPIRED BY OUR FUTURE!**

Our Chairman of the Department of Lay Ministry, Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr., like the prophet presaging him – challenges us to “write the vision and make it plain”. We expect to fulfill this worthy quest at the 14<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Connectional Lay Institute by concretizing for the lay people, clergy, our esteemed leadership and all who join us in this grand convention – that the lay people are alive, relevant, and energized to be the people of God even today.

We expect by example and precept to build the bonds of earnest commitment that flows from heart to heart – from breast to breast. To hear it is one thing but, ah to see it will make imminently clear that vision is transformative and it is by vision that the people draw inspiration for the future.

Hence, we believe this Lay Institute will acquit itself very well.

**The vision...establishing a Graham/Webb Scholarship for Males  
Making it plain...announcing the first award recipients at  
the Lay Institute.**

**The vision...a broader audience to the vitality of the Lay Institute  
Making it plain...thousands join the several hundred gathered onsite  
through interactive engagement via their personal computer.**

**The vision...efficiency in planning and executing our conventions  
Making it plain...hours are saved by registering and counting votes  
electronically and posting results virtually instantaneously.**

The Lay Institute will be a delegated and deliberative body that presents, debates, and dispatches issues of the day as submitted by lay people across the nation and published in our “lavender book”. Enjoy!

In His service,

*Victor Taylor*

Dr. Victor Taylor



## **Connectional Lay Council**

**Department of Lay Ministry**  
**Christian Methodist Episcopal Church**  
Clifford L. Harris, President  
Dr. Victor Taylor, General Secretary  
Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Chairman



**August 27, 2009**

**Delegates and Visitors,**

**As President of the Connectional Lay Council, it is my honor and my pleasure to welcome you to St. Louis and the National Lay Institute. In working with Bishop Paul A. G. Stewart, the Host Committee, and the Greater St. Louis Community, it has been and continues to be our hope and prayer that your time during the Lay Institute will be fruitful and fulfilling.**

**God has been good to us since we last met four years ago. Through ups and downs and in good times and in bad he has been faithful. I, therefore, urge you to enjoy your time here and to stay encouraged in all that you do.**

**We look forward to your involvement and positive contributions to the sessions and events that will take place over the next two days.**

**Thank you for the support that you continuously give to Lay Ministry and to making our beliefs of Studying, Seeking, Sharing, and Serving come alive all across the CME Connection.**

**May God's peace, protection, and favor envelope each of you.**

**Sincerely, - Your Servant**

*Clifford L. Harris*

**Clifford L. Harris, President**  
**Connectional Lay Council**

# The Lay Ministry Song—We're Laity

Contemporary Words by Dr. Victor Taylor

Original Words By Dr. Willie L. Graham

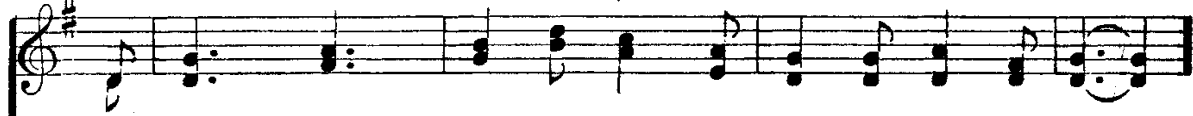
*Traditional Hymn Tune*



1. We're ask - ing o - thers to come And join Lay Mi - ni - stry work\_ And  
2 We know some may\_ not come But we won't lose\_ the faith, For  
3. So let us do\_\_ our best In ser - vice of\_\_ the Lord\_ To



Help to build a stron - ger church And help to build a stron - ger church  
Christ the Lord is on our side, For Christ the Lord is on our side.  
bring God's King - dom here on earth, To bring God's King - dom here on earth.



And win more souls to Christ, And win more souls to Christ.  
With Him we can - not fail, With Him we can - not fail..  
And win the hearts of man, And win the hearts of man.



## CHORUS



We're La - i - ty, God's peo - ple, His ser - vants we're du - ti - ful Lai - ty. We're



Lay who're work - ing for Je - sus\_ To build the King - dom of God.\_



14th Quadrennial Connectional Lay Institute  
Department of Lay Ministry, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church



# Agenda



## Friday, September 18, 2009

6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. Connectional Lay Institute Registration Open  
Delegates Pick Up Registration Material

## Saturday, September 19, 2009

9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Connectional Lay Institute Registration Open

10:30 A.M. - 12:00 Noon Praise & Worship  
Open Forum with the General Secretary

12:00 P.M. - 1:15 A.M. LUNCH

1:30 P.M. - 2:45 P.M. Opening Worship Bishop Paul A.G. Stewart, Sr.  
Host Bishop, 3rd Episcopal District, CME Church

3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. Organizational Session Clifford L. Harris  
President, Connectional Lay Council

Roll Call  
Seating of the Bar  
**Adoption of Agenda**  
**Adoption of Rules**  
**Naming of Committees**  
    **Steering Committee**  
    **Credentials Committee**  
    **Election Committee**  
    **Committee on Minutes**  
Instruction for Election Registration  
Instructions for using Voting Boxes

5:00 P.M. - 6:45 P.M. DINNER









**14th Quadrennial Connectional Lay Institute**  
 Department of Lay Ministry, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church



*Lay Institute Committees*

	<b>Steering Committee</b>	<b>Credentials Committee</b>	<b>Elections Committee</b>	<b>Committee on Minutes</b>
1st	Arthur Shelton	L. Kapell Kirkendoll	Ernest Taylor	Clayrethia Peete
2nd	James Nelson	Deborah Evans	Robert Williamson	Erlene Williams
3rd	Evelyn Moore	Cephus Johnson	James Wesley	James White
4th	Willie M. Barnes	Otha Barnes	Addie Geyen	Rothenia Walton
5th	Joe Powell	Helen Crenshaw	Robert Brasfield	Beverly Combs
6th	Elijah Holley	Barbara Campbell	Curtis Cooper	Reginald Williamson
7th	Bennie D. McDonald	Marvella Willoughby	Carrie Bennett	Freddie McKnight
8th	Joyce Crowder	Carter Curtis	Hurl Scruggs	Verna Simmons
9th	Dorothy Davidson	Rosemary Hill	D. Bruce Levingston	Ann Seay
10th				

**RULES AND PROCEDURES**  
For the  
**14th Connectional Lay Institute**  
Department Of Lay Ministry  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

**GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

§1. The following shall be the General Order of Business:

- A. Opening session
- B. Initial Organization
  - Roll Call
  - Declaration of seated bar
  - Adoption of Agenda
  - Adoption of Rules
  - Naming of Committees
    - (a) Steering Committee
    - (b) Credentials Committee
    - (c) Election Committee
    - (d) Committee on Minutes
- C. Business Session
- D. General Secretary's Address
- E. Reception
- F. Worship Service/Chairman's Message
- G. Life Application of Morning Message
- H. Business Session
- I. Graham – Webb Scholarship Presentation
- J. Meet the Candidates Forum
- K. Episcopal District Caucuses
- L. Bible Study
- M. Business Session
- N. Closing Worship/Commissioning Service

*\*The quadrennial reports shall be limited to ten (10) minutes and only allowed if contained in the Journal.*

## **ORGANIZATION**

- §1. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE will convene with the *roll call of delegates* by Episcopal District and Region. The Connectional Lay Council Secretary shall be responsible for recording all minutes.
- §2. The bar shall be established and the delegates seated.
- §3. The President of the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE will certify the number of voting delegates duly seated, accept motions to adopt its rules and procedures; and appoint any special committees.
- §4. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE shall establish its time of meeting and adjournment for each daily session in accordance with the recommendations of the Steering Committee, and hold special programs and services at its discretion.

## **DUTY OF THE PRESIDENT/PRESIDING OFFICER**

- §5. The President or Presiding Officer shall preside each day at the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE.
  - (a) The President/Presiding Officer shall assume the Chair at the appointed hour, and shall take up the business of the INSTITUTE in the regular order according to these rules and/or other rules and regulations adopted by the INSTITUTE.
  - (b) The President shall decide all questions of order and procedure. His/her decisions shall be subject to an appeal to the INSTITUTE. When an appeal from his/her decision has been made, such an appeal shall be decided without debate; provided that the President shall be allowed to state the grounds of his/her decision, and the appellant the grounds of his/her dissent.
  - (c) The President shall be fair and impartial in presiding, recognizing at all times the rights and privileges of each member of the Institute, but insuring order and decorum throughout the deliberations.

- (d) A Parliamentarian may be appointed by the President or elected by the INSTITUTE provided any advice shall be privately solicited at the sole discretion of the President or presiding officer. Any advice rendered shall not be offered for public consumption.
- (e) Debate cannot begin until the Chair has stated the motion or resolution and opened the floor for discussion or *unreadiness*. If no one rises, the chair calls for the vote.

### **DAILY ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- §6. The order of Business for the daily sessions of the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE shall be stated/recommended by a Steering Committee at the beginning of each business session.

### **DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS**

- §7. Delegates duly seated by the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE constitute the membership of the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE. Such members, in order to sit within the bar, must at all times wear the official CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE NAME BADGE. Such members shall have the right to the floor of the INSTITUTE, engage in all the deliberations, and vote on all issues. Delegates shall have the duty of attending all sessions and meetings of committees to which they may be assigned.
- §8. A member may speak to an issue, make a motion, or raise a question upon proper recognition by the Chair. To obtain the floor (the right to speak) a member must stand and go to the microphone. A member must be recognized by the Chair before speaking! After being recognized the member may address the Chair and then state their Name, Episcopal District, and Region. *Raising your hand means nothing and speaking while another has the floor or before being recognized by the chair is out of order!* When thusly recognized, the member shall at all times be in order and respectful of the Chair, the rights of other members, and the INSTITUTE.

- §9. A member shall have the right to raise a Question of Privilege when matters relating to the rights and welfare of the individual member or of the whole body are so imperative as to justify the interruption of the regular order.
- §10. No member shall speak more than twice on any question without the consent of two-thirds of the members present; nor shall a member make a second speech on a question until every member has had opportunity to speak. Except in the case of a representative of a committee, no member shall speak more than three minutes on a question before the body without the consent of the Institute.
- §11. No member shall absent him/her self from the sessions of the Lay Institute without justifiable cause.
- §12. All motions and resolutions, when properly introduced and seconded, and all reports presented to the Institute, or stated by the President, shall be deemed the property of the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE.

### **PROCEDURES FOR VOTING AND QUORUM REQUIREMENTS**

- §13. Unless otherwise indicated in these rules or Robert's Rule of Order, motions will be carried by the majority vote of delegates present and voting.
- §14. Balloting (Secret). When the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE chooses to vote on any proposition by ballot or when an election of connectional officers is to be held, such balloting shall be conducted by an Election Committee established for that purpose in the organization of the Lay Institute.
- §15. Voting. The CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE may vote on propositions by voice, show of hands, standing, or by Yeas and Nays unless one-fourth (1/4) of the members request a secret ballot, in which case, such questions must be voted on by secret ballot.

## MATTERS OF CONSIDERATION

- §16. The CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE shall give consideration to those matters that come before it by way of reports and recommendations from commissions, committees, and other matters that have been presented to the delegates to the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE by way of resolutions/reports contained in the book of rules, reports, and resolutions.
- §17. Matters presented for *immediate consideration* by the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE (that is, *absent from the Journal*) will require a two-thirds (2/3) vote for the suspension of the Order of the Day and a two-thirds vote for passage.
- §18. All resolutions requiring changes in the wording and/or legal meaning of provisions in The Book of Discipline of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Revised 2006 shall state the paragraph, section, page, and language of the passage to be changed and the language to be substituted.

Unless otherwise indicated by the presenter or the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE, preamble(s) to resolution(s) shall be considered only as item(s) of information regarding the resolution and not a part of the resolution itself when considered for adoption.

## RULES OF ORDER

- §19. The CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE shall at all times and in all matters be governed by the rules herein provided and/or the common practices of parliamentary usage found in Roberts Rules of Order and by The Book of Discipline of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church 2006. These rules shall not be suspended except by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting. In the event of conflict, The Book of Discipline of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church 2006 shall control.

### **LEGISLATIVE INTENT**

- §20. It is the intent of the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE that any and all legislation and/or actions passed in accordance with these rules shall supersede and replace any legislation and actions, or parts of legislation and actions, passed by previous CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTES. Any prior conflicting legislation to this CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE shall be null and void.

### **VIDEO-TAPING/RECORDING**

- §21. The video-taping or recording of non-deliberative sessions shall be in accordance with contractual agreements approved by the Lay Institute but, the deliberative (i.e. business) sessions of the Lay Institute shall not be video-taped or recorded for public sale or consumption.



CONNECTIONAL LAY COUNCIL  
Department of Lay Ministry  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

**Dr. Victor Taylor**  
*General Secretary*

**Clifford L. Harris**  
*CLC President*

**Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr.**  
*Chairman*

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MINUTES OF THE 13TH CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE

The 13th Connectional Lay Institute convened Thursday, October 6, 2005 at the Galt House West Conference Center in Louisville Kentucky at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. The Lay Institute brings together "the laity of the church for praise, presentation, demonstration, deliberation, and legislation on the issues of the day." This historic 13th quadrennial session of the Connectional Lay Institute convened 3 hour after the close of the 19th Annual CME Convocation held at the same location. This change from the traditional December 26 date for the Institute was in direct response to the desires of those in attendance at the 12th Connectional Lay Institute (Little Rock, Arkansas: December 26th - 29th, 2001) who wanted to see a day other than the day after Christmas set as the time for this important assembly.

The Institute was called to order by Connectional Lay Council President L. Kapel Kirkendoll under a banner declaring our theme: Where There is Vision, The People Flourish. President Kirkendoll presented Jon Reddick and The Epiphany who led us in Praise and Worship at this and all subsequent sessions during our three-day meeting. Opening Service also included a vigorous rendering of the Lay Theme Song, We're Laity!; prayer by District Lay Leader Odell Tolliver [9: Northern California Region]; Scripture (Nehemiah 6:1-9) read by Regional Lay Leader Evelyn Moore [3: Michigan-Indiana Region]; and Welcome by Aaron Baker [2: ]. Presentation of the Connectional Lay Organization was made by President Kirkendoll and presentation of The College of Bishops and General Officers was made by Connectional Lay Council Chairman, Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt Jr. The Deputy Mayor of the City of Louisville, William Summers, brought an official welcome from the city and Bishop E. Lynn Brown, host, brought Greetings and a welcome to the 2nd Episcopal District. We also listened to remarks from the General Secretary, Department of Lay Ministry, Dr. Victor Taylor.


The Roll Call of Delegates was read by Region Lay Leader R. Faye M. McGhee [7th: New York-Washington Region]. Afterwards 486 properly registered delegates were seated in the Bar.

The Steering Committee and the Elections Committee were named and rules (pps 24-25 in the Institute Brochure: REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS, RULES ) were adopted.

The Steering Committee: Linda Jones [1st]; William Breeding [5th]; Donald Spencer [7th]; Hurl Scruggs [8th]











The Elections Committee: William Brooks [1st]; Andre Carter [2nd]; Ken Collins [3rd]; Terry Lewis [4th]; Joe Powell [5th]; Clyde Coppin [6th]; Tommy Jackson [7th]; Roberta Boyd [8th]; Bruce Levingston [9th].

Thursday evening, the Lay Address/Report—Where There Is Vision, The People Flourish—was given by Dr. Victor Taylor, General Secretary of the Department of Lay Ministry. Highlights from his address/report:

 Laymen are challenged to exude the kind of energy that compels people to *want* to join our churches

*Continued →*

MINUTES, cont'd

-  60% of the Department of Lay Ministry's Budget goes to Technology
-  Building scalable and repeatable models
-  Introducing CMETV
-  Announcing involuntary email accounts for Region Lay Leaders.
  - To begin the effort to connect the Local Lay Councils with the Connectional Lay Council
-  Announced First Connectional Director of Christian Methodist Men's Fellowship: Travis Hicks [9: Southern California Region; Harper Memorial CMEC; Norwalk, CA]
-  \$80,000.00+ placed in the Willie Graham-Roscoe Webb Scholarship during this General Secretary's 7 year tenure
-  A larger CIT Organization that will create funds and jobs for the CMEC and for CMEs
  - Equipment purchased by the Department of lay Ministry is the sole property of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
  - This equipment is used for the enhancement of the CMEC
-  In December a CMEC Christmas Special will be aired on National TV
-  Jesus and His Disciples were the original Technocrats
-  Laymen must be Multi-Media Literate

Chief Dr. I. Carlton Faulk, General Secretary, Emeritus, Department of Lay Ministry [9th: Northern California Region] moved to accept the General Secretary's report with commendation.

Motion was seconded by Bruce Levingston [9th: Southern California Region] and Leo Pinkett [6th: Northern Georgia Region].

Motion *carried*.

The Connectional Stewardess report was given by Connectional President Maxine Branch McClury.

Friday, October 7, 2005

These are the results of the 12 Resolutions offered to this institute:

Resolution No. 1—Morality Resolution

Motion to accept and refer to the General Conference by

Seconded by

Action: Passed

Resolution No. 2—Mandatory General Conference Delegates

Motion to accept and refer to the General Conference by

Seconded by

Action: Failed (Resolution will NOT be Referred)

*Continued* →

MINUTES, cont'd

Resolution No. 3—Mandatory Clergy General Conference Delegates

Nellie B. King [7th: New York-Washington Region] moved Non Concurrence.

Seconded by Susie Owens [4th: Region]

Action: Resolution will NOT be Referred

Resolution No. 4—Lay Institute Voting Delegate

Motion to accept and refer to the General Conference by Ronald Chase [7th: New York-Washington Region].

Seconded by Walter Oliver [7th: New York-Washington Region].

Action: Passed

Resolution No. 5—Conflict Resolution

Motion to accept and refer to the General Conference by James Scott [9th: Southern California Region]

Seconded by Virginia Mills [7th: New York-Washington Region].

Action: Passed

Resolution No. 6—Regional Lay Leader

G. Bernice Richardson [7th: New York-Washington Region] moved to Concur.

Seconded by Ronald W. Chase [7th: New York-Washington Region].

Action: Passed

Resolution No. 7—Lay Manual Revision (Not for the General Conference)

Motion to accept and refer to the Standing Committee by Nellie B. King [7th: New York-Washington Region]

Seconded by G. Bernice Richardson [7th: New York-Washington Region]

Action: Passed

Resolution No. 8—Electing Lay Council Officers

Motion to accept and refer to the General Conference by

Seconded by

Action:

Resolution No. 9—Large Print Discipline

Motion to accept and refer to the General Conference by Frazier Spight [4th:

Seconded by

Action: Passed

Resolution No. 10—Chapter 51 of the Discipline

Motion to accept with previously debated and approved Resolutions in tact and refer to the General Conference by Cathy Ross Roberts [8th:

Seconded by Nelson Tinsley [2nd:

Action: Passed Unanimously

Resolution No. 11

Motion to accept and refer to the General Conference by

Seconded by

Action:

*Continued →*

MINUTES, cont'd

Resolution No. 12 For Department of Evangelism and Missions to be listed first under  
General Church Administration Connectional Ministries

Motion to receive and refer to the General Conference by Melba R. Bright  
[3rd: Chicago]

Seconded by Nelson Gently? [3rd:

Action:

#### Election of Connectional Lay Council Officers

President—Clifford Harris [9th: Northern California Region]

Secretary—R. Faye M. McGhee [7th: New York Washington Region]

Assistant Secretary—Joyce Crawford [8th: Region]

Treasurer—William Gilliard [6th: Region]

Steward President—Charles Taylor [3rd: Michigan-Indiana Region]

Stewardess President—Maxine Branch-McClury [2nd: Region]

Usher President—Diana Winton [9th: Southern California Region]

Vice Presidents for the Connectional Lay Council, Connectional Steward Board, Connectional  
Stewardess Board, and the Connectional Usher Board were elected at After-Hours-Episcopal-  
District Caucuses chaired by the Bishops. Results of these elections:

#### Episcopal Vice Presidents

##### 1st Episcopal District

Lay Council Vice President—William Brooks

Steward Board Vice President—Don Davis

Stewardess Board Vice President—Jenny Betts

Usher Vice President—Delores Favors

##### 2nd Episcopal District

Lay Council Vice President—Robert Williamson, Jr.

Steward Board Vice President—Aaron W. Baker, Jr

Stewardess Board Vice President—Cecelia Poindexter

Usher Vice President—Louise Denson

##### 3rd Episcopal District

Lay Council Vice President—Evelyn Moore

Steward Board Vice President—Earl Bryant

Stewardess Board Vice President—Nancy Madlock

Usher Vice President—Carol Macon

##### 4th Episcopal District

Lay Council Vice President—Odie Powers

Steward Board Vice President—Terry Lewis

Stewardess Board Vice President—Veronica Tolliver

Usher Vice President—Queen Martin

*Continued →*

MINUTES, cont'd

5th Episcopal District

Lay Council Vice President—Joe Powell  
Steward Board Vice President—Evell D. Bowie, Jr.  
Stewardess Board Vice President—Johnnie Summerville  
Usher Vice President—Jacqueline Tribue-Scott

6th Episcopal District

Lay Council Vice President—Frank Morman, Jr.  
Steward Board Vice President—Robert Lowry  
Stewardess Board Vice President—Mary McCurdy  
Usher Vice President—Rever Odom

7th Episcopal District

Lay Council Vice President—R. Faye M. McGhee  
Steward Board Vice President—Dr Bryan Champion  
Stewardess Board Vice President—Louise Helton  
Usher Vice President—Gladys Pendergraph

8th Episcopal District

Lay Council Vice President—Hurl Scruggs  
Steward Board Vice President—Robert Boyd  
Stewardess Board Vice President—Sophia Shepherd  
Usher Vice President—Billye Allen

9th Episcopal District

Lay Council Vice President—D. Bruce Levingston  
Steward Board Vice President—Charles Robinson  
Stewardess Board Vice President—Allie M. Canada  
Usher Vice President—Mary Hawkins

The final service and session of the 13th Connectional Lay Institute featured a challenging sermon from Bishop Henry M. Williamson [Presiding Prelate, 9th Episcopal district, CME Church] and a commissioning service for all officers elected at this Institute.

The meeting was adjourned.

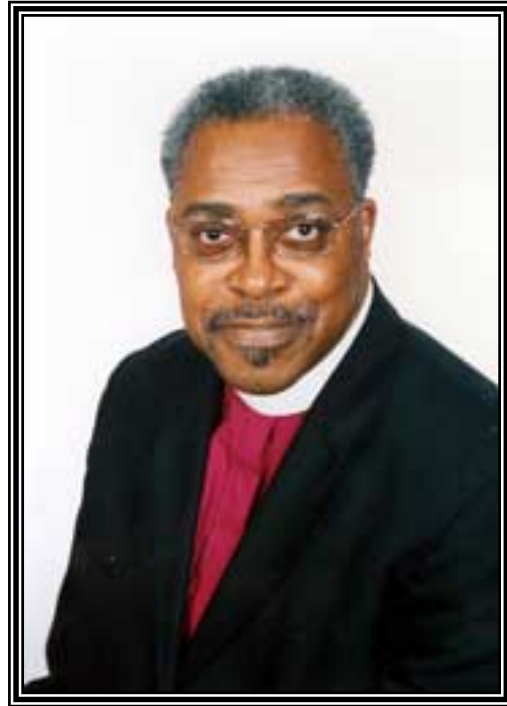
Respectfully submitted,

Faye McGhee

*Department of Lay Ministry*  
*Christian Methodist Episcopal Church*



**Dr. Victor Taylor**  
General Secretary, Department of Lay Ministry



**Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr**  
Chairman, Department of Lay Ministry



# Department of Lay Ministry

Dr. Victor Taylor  
General Secretary

**VICTOR TAYLOR** is a native of St. Louis, MO and member of New Hope CME Church (Evansville, Indiana). At his local church, he is a Bible Study student, Sunday Church School Teacher, and Recording Steward. Additionally, he organized the kid's Praise Band and served as project manager for new church construction [2004-05].



Dr. Taylor received the Bachelor of Arts Degree [BA] in Business Administration and Economics from Coe College (Cedar Rapids, Iowa); attended Northwestern University's J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management (Evanston, Illinois); and earned the Master of Business Administration [MBA] in Finance and Managerial Economics.

On the General Church Level, he was a member of the General Connectional Board [1994-98]; Alternate Delegate at the 1986 General Conference; Delegate to the 1990, 1994, & 1998 General Conferences; Secretary of the 1994 General Conference Finance Committee; Delegate to World Council of Churches in 1991 (Canberra, Australia) and in 1998 (Harare, Zimbabwe); and was a member of Committee to study the election of an indigenous African Bishop in 2001.

Elected at the 1998 General Conference, Dr. Victor Taylor is the Sixth General Secretary elected to lead the Department of Lay Ministry since it's organization at the 1922 General Conference when O.B. Hines was elected the first General Secretary of Lay Ministry. Followed by E.F. Durr [1934], Dr. Willie L. Graham [1950], Dr. Walker E. Solomon [1963], and Chief Dr. I. Carlton Faulk [1974], Dr. Taylor, along with these men continue the legacy of Studying, Seeking, Sharing, and Serving in the life of the church.

Dr. Taylor's goal is the development of talented and inspired Lay men and women, boys and girls from and on behalf of *the local church*. He aspired to serve with an earnest commitment and accountability; and to develop and utilize technology in computer literacy and videography in a unique manner, to edify the Lordship of Christ.

To his credit, Dr. Taylor has led the Connection to purchase staging, lighting, and sound equipment and materials that, here-to-fore, had been rented annually to support our quadrennial meetings. This program has saved the CME Church tens of thousands of dollars that can now be used in other areas. The CIT Technocrats are a professional team of light and sound technicians who also record and video all sessions of Connectional meetings. Knowing that this equipment and the people operating it are CME lay men and women is a great source of pride.

In 2000, Dr. Taylor received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Texas College (Tyler, TX) and in 2002 a school in Africa was named for him-the Dr. Victor Taylor International Day Care and Primary School of Minya, Nigeria.

He is married to the former Wanda Faye Owens and they have two children-Christine Natasha and Philip Nathaniel.

CONNECTIONAL OFFICERS & REPORTS

*Connectional Lay Council*

**Clifford L. Harris, Okmulgee, OK**  
President & Connectional Lay Leader



**Vice Presidents**  
[Episcopal Lay Leaders]

**First Episcopal District - William Brooks, Jackson, TN**

**Second Episcopal District - Robert Williamson, Jr., Cleveland, OH**

**Third Episcopal District - Evelyn Moore, Detroit, MI**

**Fourth Episcopal District - Odie Powers, Hernondo, MS**

**Fifth Episcopal District - Joe Powell, Montgomery, AL**

**Sixth Episcopal District - Frank Morman, Jr., Valdosta, GA**

**Seventh Episcopal District - R. Faye M. McGhee, Kettering, MD**

**Eighth Episcopal District - Hurl Scruggs, Lewisville, TX**

**Ninth Episcopal District - D. Bruce Levingston, Los Angeles, CA**

## *Report of the Connectional Lay Council President*

Allow me to first say thank you to the courageous lay men and women who gave me the opportunity and privilege to serve as your President during this quadrennial. I am also appreciative to Dr. Victor Taylor, General Secretary of Lay Ministry, and our Chairman, Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt Jr., for their assistance and support over the past four years. To Bishop Henry M. Williamson, Sr. and other members of the College of Bishops, I am thankful for your words of encouragement. Further, I am eternally grateful for having the opportunity to work and interact with the Usher, Stewardess, and Steward Presidents over the past four (4) years. Finally, the meaningful and fruitful working relationships that have been established with the Connectional Lay Council Episcopal District Vice Presidents, Connectional Lay Council Officers, Regional, District, and Local Lay Leaders, as well as clergy across the Connection, are especially gratifying.

During my watch as President of the Connectional Lay Council, it became my immediate priority to establish productive communication and working relationships with laity as well as clergy across our Zion. To that end, I trust as we come together in another Lay Institute, that there will be a measure of regard which will allow us to interact with each other at a high level of consideration and respect.

Since assuming office, it has also been my goal to encourage and provoke spiritual growth and awareness among the laity and throughout the church. To this end, I have availed myself of many speaking and teaching opportunities relative to Lay Ministry and the CME Church as a whole. Congregations and occasions include: Reed Temple, Lake Charles, LA; Carter Temple, Chicago, IL; Greater Cleaves Memorial, Okla. City, OK; First MTM Retreat, 6<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District, Savannah, GA; St. Stephen, Fairfield, CA; Northern California Region Lay Day; Lay and MTM Service, South Georgia Region Annual Conference; Florida Region Annual Conference Lay Banquet; Carter Metropolitan, Dallas, TX; Dallas-Ft. Worth Region Lay Day Service; New-York Washington Region Lay Institute and Planning Meeting; Oklahoma Region Spring Lay Institute; Tulsa District (Oklahoma Region) Lay Day; LA-San Diego District CME Loyalty Day Service.

In September 2006, I began writing a monthly program of study. The monthly series was designed for study, teaching, and sharing. It was our prayer and vision that this effort would aid Local Lay Councils, pastors, and congregations of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in equipping the Laos to become more knowledgeable and effective in their stewardship and overall service and witness. In September of 2007, the timeline of our writings became a quarterly program of study, and leading up to the end of this quadrennial, they have become a seasonal [winter, spring, summer, fall] series, entitled "Helping Hands Bulletin". I appreciate, to no end, the Episcopal District Vice Presidents, Regional, District, and Local Lay Leaders, as well as Pastors, who have shared and taught from what God has given us the opportunity and vision to provide. There have been nineteen (19) total publications so far, each of which can be quickly accessed from the c-m-e.org website, thanks to efficient postings by Ms. Theresa Duhart.

In the Book of John, twelfth chapter, beginning with verse twenty-three and ending with verse fifty, Jesus takes time to teach and inform the Galilean people. In verse forty-six He declares, "I come as a light into the world, that everyone who believes in me may not remain in darkness." Jesus informed and taught those who did not know and satisfied the yearning of those who wished to know. In that spirit, *leaders must teach and be intentional about it!* I, therefore, trust that lay leaders, especially at the local level of our church, will *catch on fire* and seek fresh opportunities to bring light to those who may be walking in darkness.

In conclusion, I pray that Lay Leaders will lock arms with Pastors, Boards of Christian Education, and others who can and have a mind to effectively teach. If done with commitment, enthusiasm, and purpose, no one will go lacking in knowledge; more will be informed; and a better sense of unity and togetherness can be kindled across our Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Connection.

Your Servant,

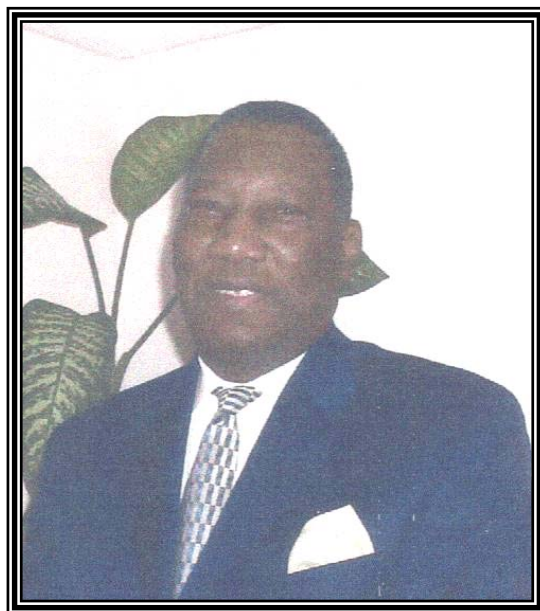
*Clifford L Harris*

Clifford L. Harris

NATIONAL OFFICERS & REPORTS, cont'd

## *Connectional Board of Stewards*

**Charles S. Taylor, Detroit, MI**  
President & Connectional Steward



### Vice Presidents [Episcopal Stewards]

First Episcopal District - Don Davis, Blytheville, AR

Second Episcopal District - Aaron W. Baker, Jr., Louisville, KY

Third Episcopal District - Earl Bryant, Chicago, IL

Fourth Episcopal District - Terry Lewis, Ruston, LA

Fifth Episcopal District - Evell D. Bowie, Jr., Birmingham, AL

Sixth Episcopal District - Robert Lowry, Augusta, GA 30901

Seventh Episcopal District - Bryan L Champion, Washington, DC 20017

Eighth Episcopal District - Robert Boyd, Dallas, TX

Ninth Episcopal District - Charles Robinson, Los Angeles, CA

## *Report of the Connectional Steward President*

To Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr.-Chairman, College of Bishops and spouses, Dr. Victor Taylor-General Secretary, Mr. Clifford Harris-President, Connectional Lay Council, Delegates and Guests:

I greet you in the name of our Lord, Redeemer and Savior, Jesus the Christ!

This quadrennial presented us with many challenges, opportunities and blessings. We have overcome most of our challenges, taken advantage of most of our opportunities and have received God's most precious blessings. We give God all the praise, honor and glory.

As I spoke with stewards throughout our Zion, it became painfully clear that we are suffering from a lack of understanding about how to discharge our duties as set forth in the **Book of Discipline**. I believe strongly that the CME Church should invest in the time and funds to train stewards in developing budgets and the tax laws, specifically, tax laws that affect our church.

It is vitally important to develop a budget because without a budget it is difficult, best if at all possible to accurately and effectively make provisions for the church's ministries. Reporting accurately without a budget is a figment of someone's imagination. It is as important to adhere to a budget as it is to develop it.

I am pained when I learn of the large number of employees of our church who have run afoul of the IRS because we are treating employees as independent contractors and we are treating independent contractors as employees. A basic understanding of the tax laws could avoid these situations. The IRS will conduct workshops to assist you in resolving this issue.

I thank all of you for your prayers during my health challenges and I also thank you for your advice and support. My sincere gratitude for allowing me to serve the church in the capacity of President of the Connectional Stewards.

To my wife, Geraldine, thank you for your love, care for me and your ever present support.

Finally, I thank God for the blessings He has bestowed on my family and me.

Charles S. Taylor  
President, Connectional Stewards

## *Connectional Board of Stewardesses*

**Maxine McClury, Indianapolis, IN**  
President & Connectional Stewardess



**Vice Presidents**  
[Episcopal Stewardesses]

**First Episcopal District - Jenny Betts, Memphis, TN**

**Second Episcopal District - Cecelia Poindexter, Hopkinsville, KY**

**Third Episcopal District - Nancy Madlock, Detroit, MI**

**Fourth Episcopal District - Veronica Tolliver, Shreveport, LA**

**Fifth Episcopal District - Johnnie Summerville, Birmingham, AL**

**Sixth Episcopal District - Mary McCurdy, Toccoa, GA**

**Seventh Episcopal District - Louise Helton, Charlotte, NC**

**Eighth Episcopal District - Sophia Shepherd, Dallas, TX**

**Ninth Episcopal District - Allie M. Canada, Tacoma, WA**

## *Report of the Connectional Stewardess President*

**To: Senior Bishop William Graves  
Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr. Chairman Department of Lay  
Bishop Paul A G Stewart, Sr. Presiding Prelate, 3<sup>rd</sup> Episcopal District, Host Bishop  
Bishop E. Lynn Brown, Presiding Prelate, 2<sup>nd</sup> Episcopal District  
College of Bishops**

**TO: Dr. Victor Taylor, General Secretary of Lay Ministry  
Mr. Clifford Harris, Connectional Lay Council President**

**TO: Other Connectional Officers present  
And to all my brothers and sisters here assembled**

**I greet you in the precious name of Jesus.**

**We have come a long way since December 1997, again in December 2001, then in October 2005 and now September 2009. Twelve years of developing and implementing unity with all Stewardesses in the C.M.E. Church across the Connection. Twelve years of fasting, praying, meditating, crying, meeting, talking, fellowshiping and doing whatever it took to get the message of unity in our dress, duties and commitment. God is a good God and so many of you encouraged me and kept me lifted up so I could keep going and doing what God had placed me in this position to do.**

**Now we must honor the many successes of our past and look forward to a new beginning. We have made many improvements in the Connectional Stewardess ministry, but there is a lot more we can do. Let us establish a prayer line for the next four years to get our College of Bishops in unity with us. To have our Elders, Pastors and local ministers on one accord as we perform our Stewardess duties. To have a plenary session with the Bishops and Pastors at the CME Convocation. These are just a few of the issues for us to help our newly elected President to work with when she obtains office.**

**God bless the Stewardess ministry as we continue to serve the Table of the Lord, the Table of the Poor and the Table of the Ministry. God bless the Department of Lay Ministry and let us continue to pray for the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.**

**In Christian Love.**

**Maxine McClury,  
Connectional Stewardess President  
In Service from December 1997 to September 2009**

## *Connectional Board of Ushers*

**Diana Winton, Gardenia, CA**  
President & Connectional Usher



### **Vice Presidents** [Episcopal Ushers]

**First Episcopal District - Valerie Mack, Trenton, TN**

**Second Episcopal District - Louise Denson, Akron, OH**

**Third Episcopal District - Carol (Madge) Macon, Chicago, IL**

**Fourth Episcopal District - Queen Martin, Holly Springs, MS**

**Fifth Episcopal District - Jacqueline Tribue-Scott, Orlando, FL**

**Sixth Episcopal District - Rever Odom, Savannah, GA**

**Seventh Episcopal District - Gladys Pendergraph, Chapel Hill, NC**

**Eighth Episcopal District - Evelyn L. Bassett, Terrell, TX**

**Ninth Episcopal District - Mary Hawkins, Phoenix, AZ**

## Report of the Connectional Usher President



**“Ushers United On One Accord in the Body of Christ”**

**Ephesians 4: 1-6**

**Connectional Usher Quadrennial Report**

**Our mission is to *serve!* We are Ambassadors for Christ with a servants’ heart. Our Usher Ministry is a blessed opportunity to witness for Christ, as we interact and share God’s unconditional love with others. It is our duty to assist in providing a loving and caring atmosphere in which God can manifest His Holy Spirit, wherever and whenever we gather to worship, praise, and bless His Holy Name. We meet, greet, seat, and welcome all with a smile and the spirit of love through Christ.**

**In these past four years, Ushers have been highly favored by God. We have productively worked together on every level (Local, District, Regional, Connectional and General Conferences). We have served and supported all CME functions, events, conferences, and special programs. We participate and support each other in our Usher Anniversaries and worship services. Each Episcopal District has a Connectional Usher Vice President that works closely with the Connectional President. The Connectional Usher Vice President should also assist local Usher Boards in coordinating usher-training workshops. Our Communication has greatly improved!**

**As your Connectional Usher President, I organize, coordinate, and facilitate on-going training workshops throughout the conference year. I develop on-going training materials and resources to keep ushers informed and abreast of various changes, improvements, and variables in our Usher Ministry. I have written and organized a new Usher Ministry Manual, that addresses, informs, prepares, educates and trains Ushers to become excellent Ushers, good role models, productive leaders, and devoted Doorkeepers and Servants for Christ. The manual prepares us to meet and handle challenges, prepare for emergencies, build self-confidence, and positive attitudes in serving others. Ushers are responsible for serving, performing, and executing the various duties and responsibilities, outlined and mandated in this manual, with pride, humbleness, and thanksgiving.**

**I humbly thank you for allowing me to serve as your Connectional Usher President. I thank God for our work, services, support, and leadership as we move from Good to Great in our Usher Ministry. Let us continue to stand together in Unity, work in Faith, and serve in Love.**

**Sincerely and In God’s Love,  
Diana Winton  
Connectional Usher Ministry President  
Christian Methodist Episcopal**

## *Regional Lay Leaders- Christian Methodist Episcopal Church*

REGION ( <i>Alphabetized</i> )	EPISCOPAL DISTRICT	REGION LAY LEADER
Alaska-Pacific Region	9	Christopher Ruff
Arizona-New Mexico Region	9	Rosemary Hill
Arkansas Region	1	Manuel Twillie
Birmingham Region	5	Helen Crenshaw
Burundi Region	10	Eugide Niyonkingi.
Carolina Region	7	Billy L. Watts
Central Georgia Region	6	Curtis L. Cooper III
Central Texas Region	8	James Brooks
Dallas-Ft. Worth Region	8	Hurl Scruggs
East Tennessee Region	1	Kapel Kirkendoll
East Texas Region	8	Mark Shaw
Eastern Nigeria Region	10	
Florida Region	5	Ernest Upson
Georgia North Region	6	Elijah Holley
Ghana Region	10	Alex Kwame Togah
Goma Region	10	Felicien Miganda Garaga.
Haiti Region	10	
Jamaica Region	10	
Kitchanga Region	10	David Fazili Ndamiye
Lagos Region	10	
Liberia Region	10	
Kansas-Missouri Region	3	James Wesley
Kentucky Region	2	
Louisiana Region	4	Terry Shaw
Michigan-Indiana Region	3	Evelyn Moore
Mississippi South Region	4	Otha Barnes
New York-Washington Region	7	R. Faye M. McGhee
North Central Alabama Region	5	Robert Brasfield
North-East Mississippi Region	4	Odie Powers
Northern California Region	9	Odell Toliver
Northwest Texas Region	8	James T. Lister, Jr
Nyanzale Region	10	Rwasamanzi Bisobane
Ohio-Central Indiana Region	2	
Oklahoma Region	9	Clifford L. Harris
Rwanda Region	10	Francois Xavier Sibomana..
South Georgia Region	6	Frank Morman
South Louisiana Region	4	Addie Geyen
Southeast Alabama Region	5	Beverly J. Combs
Southeast Missouri, Illinois & Wisconsin	3	Cephus Johnson
Southeast Texas Region	8	Ozell Ward
Southern California Region	9	D. Bruce Levingston
Southern Nigeria Region	10	
Uganda Region	10	Kambale Metia John
West Georgia Region	6	Reginald Williamson
West Tennessee Region	1	Ernest Taylor
Western Nigeria Region	10	

## In Loving Memory...



Chief Dr. I. Carlton Faulk, General Secretary of the Department of Lay Ministry, Emeritus entered into eternal rest March 8, 2007. Chief Faulk served as General Secretary from 1970 to 1994

The service was held at Beebe Memorial Cathedral Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (3900 Telegraph Avenue; Oakland, CA) and was fittingly attended by people from all over the country. Dr. Faulk's pastor, Reverend Dr. Charley Hames Jr., officiated and Bishop Henry M. Williamson [Presiding Prelate, 9th Episcopal District] preached the eulogy. Bishop Lawrence L. Reddick III [Presiding Prelate, 5th Episcopal District], read the official statement from the College of Bishops. Other Bishops in attendance were Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt Jr [Presiding Prelate, 7th Episcopal District], Bishop Lawrence L. Reddick Jr [Presiding Prelate, 5th Episcopal District], Bishop Thomas L. Brown Sr [Presiding Prelate, 4th Episcopal District], Bishop Kenneth W. Carter [Presiding Prelate, 10th Episcopal District],

and Bishop Nathaniel L. Linsey [Senior Bishop, Retired].

Dr. Victor Taylor, General Secretary of Lay Ministry, remarked on behalf of the laity of the CME Church. Other General Officers in attendance were Dr. Eleanor Hamb [President, Women's Missionary Council], Reverend Dr. Willie C. Champion [General Secretary of Evangelism and Missions], Dr. Joseph C. Neal Jr [General Secretary and Chief Financial Officer, C.M.E. Church], and Leo Pinkett [General Secretary of Ministry to Men]. Dr. Taylor shared that just days after his death, the Ibibio Tribe donated 40 acres of land to Dr. Faulk to contribute to his education and economic plans for the people of Africa.

Dr. Faulk earned a B.A. Degree in Theology from Antioch College (Yellow Springs, Ohio), a M.A. Degree from Reed College (Portland, Oregon), and a Ph.D. from the Western Theological Seminary (Portland, Oregon). He was a stock broker, investment counselor, insurance underwriter and a Real Estate Associate. At Beebe, he served on the Steward Board, Usher Board, Trustee Board, Finance Board and Lay Council. Additionally, he served as President of the Oakland N.A.A.C.P. during the turbulent '60s and is credited with helping to launch the political careers of Ron Dellums, Bill Lockyer, Lionel Wilson, Byrom Rumford and others.

Dr Faulk worked on all levels of the C.M.E. Church (local, District, Region, Connectional). He served as Vice President of the National Council of Churches, and a member of the World Council of Churches representing the C.M.E. Church in Africa, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, Canada, Singapore, Ireland and Brazil. His passion was the African Ministry he developed over a twenty year period in which he established and funded Day Care Centers and Pre-Schools and gave annual scholarships to youth. He raised funds for many churches primarily in the Ibibio Tribal of Nigeria. The Ibibio people returned his generosity by conferring upon him the official title of Chief Ibibio and Chief Obong Uwanah.

Dr Faulk was entombed with his wife, Joyce Orr Faulk (who passed January 21—just 46 days prior to his passing) at the Sunset Mausoleum [Kensington, California] after traditional committal services, presentation of a U.S. flag by the U.S. Navy Honor Guard and rites by the Brotherhood of Free Masons.

**2009**

**THE LAVENDER  
BOOK**



**The Book of Resolutions  
for the  
14th Quadrennial Session  
of the  
CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE**

## INSTRUCTIONS

Resolutions must be limited to three (3) paragraphs of preamble. Only the resolved portions of the Resolutions will be forwarded, if approved, to the General Conference for consideration by the General Conference as law in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. By submitting your resolution you agree to any necessary preamble and grammatical editing by our Resolutions Committee prior to review by the CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE.

All resolutions requiring changes in the wording and/or legal meaning of provisions in The Book of Discipline of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Revised 2006 shall state the paragraph, section, page, and language of the passage to be changed and the language to be substituted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1**  
**Duties of Stewards**

**Whereas Chapter 35, Section 511.2 of the 2006 Book of Discipline list the duties of the Stewards;**

**Whereas number 8 listed in this section states that Stewards are “To give advice, *if asked*, in planning the work of the church.”**

**Whereas the wording “*if asked*” is not insinuated or included in the other 16 listing in section 511.2 of Chapter 35;**

**And whereas Stewards by the nature and scope of the other duties listed, are expected to be involved in the work of the church that calls for their wisdom and advice:**

**Therefore Be It Resolved that, the words “*if asked*” be stricken from Chapter 35, Section 511.2, listing # 8 and changed to read as follows: To give advice in planning the work of the church.**

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Clifford L. Harris, Lay Leader  
Oklahoma Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2**  
**The Lay Council**

**Resolved:**

That the section named Department of Lay Ministry on pages 159-160, which reads...

**Department of Lay Ministry**

**¶535. There shall be in each church a Department of Lay Ministry.**

**§1. The department shall be responsible for the program of lay ministry in the church in accordance with the objectives and structure outlined by the General Department of Lay Ministry. (cf. ¶1160 and ¶1165)**

**§2. Any member of the local CME Church who indicates a desire to do so may join the Department of Lay Ministry. Upon joining, such persons will be given a membership card.**

**§3. The department shall be under the direction of a Lay Leader elected by the Lay Department membership. The Local Lay Leader shall be a member of and subject to the Quarterly Conference. The Lay Leader shall preside at department meetings.**

**§4. The department membership shall elect other officers.**

**§5. The department shall establish the local chapter of the Christian Methodist Men's Fellowship. (cf. ¶1167)**

**§6. The department shall present a written report to the District Lay Department**

**§7. The department must observe Connectional Lay Day.**

**§8. The membership of the Lay Department shall elect delegates to the Connectional Lay Institute.**

*continued→*

**...Shall read:**

**The Lay Council**

**¶535. There shall be in each church a Lay Council.**

**§1. The Lay Council shall be responsible for the program of lay ministry in the church in accordance with the objectives and structure outlined by the General Department of Lay Ministry. (cf. ¶1160 and ¶1165)**

**§2. Any member of the local CME Church who indicates a desire to do so may join the Lay Council. Upon joining, such persons will be given a membership card.**

**§3. The Lay Council shall be under the direction of a Lay Leader elected by the Lay Council membership. The Local Lay Leader shall be a member of and subject to the Quarterly Conference. The Lay Leader shall preside at Lay Council meetings.**

**§4. The Lay Council membership shall elect other officers.**

**§5. The Lay Council shall establish the local chapter of the Christian Methodist Men's Fellowship. (cf. ¶1167)**

**§6. The Lay Council shall present a written report to the District Lay Council.**

**§7. The Lay Council must observe Connectional Lay Day.**

**§8. The membership of the Lay Council shall elect delegates to the Connectional Lay Institute.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Faye McGhee  
New York-Washington Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3**  
**General Conference Delegates**

**Whereas, the leadership of the Annual Conference is expected to represent us, and to speak for us as the occasions rise; and**

**Whereas, the Regional Lay Leader, District Lay Leaders, Regional Missionary President, and District Missionary Presidents are considered the primary leaders of an Annual Conference/Region; and**

**Whereas, these leaders act on our behalf, speak for us, stand for us and stand in for us on the Local, Zone, District, Region, and Connectional levels of our church;**

**Be it, therefore, Resolved...**

**That the secretary of the Annual Conference be empowered to cast one unanimous ballot to elect the Regional Lay Leader, District Lay Leaders, Regional Missionary Society President, and District Missionary Presidents as delegates to the General Conference by virtue of their elected office.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Gloria P. Gray  
R. Faye M. McGhee  
New York-Washington Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 4**  
**The Quarterly Conference**

**Whereas, Many times when inclusive language, i.e. “all other”, is used some who should be included are omitted because they were not specifically named.**

**Therefore, be it Resolved:**

**That ¶ 253. The Quarterly Conference shall have authority as follows:  
§3. To confirm the Sunday Church School Superintendents, members of the Board of Christian Education and the President of the Women’s Missionary Society.**

**Be changed to...**

**That ¶ 253. The Quarterly Conference shall have authority as follows:  
§3. To confirm the Sunday Church School Superintendents, members of the Board of Christian Education, the Local Lay Leader, and the President of the Women’s Missionary Society.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Freddie McKnight  
R. Faye M. McGhee  
New York-Washington Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 5**  
**The Quarterly Conference**

**Whereas Many times when inclusive language, i.e. “all other”, is used some who should be included are omitted because they were not specifically named.**

**Therefore, be it...**

**Resolved:**

**That ¶ 252.2 The Quarterly Conference shall be composed of the Pastor-in-Charge, Local Preachers, Exhorters, Stewards, Stewardesses, Treasurer, Trustees of church property, and all other organizations authorized by the Church Conference.**

**Be changed to...**

**¶ 252.2 The Quarterly Conference shall be composed of the Pastor-in-Charge, Local Preachers, Exhorters, Stewards, Stewardesses, Treasurer, Trustees of church property, the Lay Leader, President of the Missionary Society, and all other organizations authorized by the Church Conference.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Freddie McKnight  
R. Faye M. McGhee  
New York-Washington Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 6  
CLASS LEADERS**

**Resolved:**

**That:**

**¶510. Class Leaders shall be appointed by the pastor. One member from each class shall be chosen by the pastor to serve as Class Leader.**

**Be Revised to Read:**

**¶510. Class Leaders shall be lay persons appointed by the pastor. One member from each class shall be chosen by the pastor to serve as Class Leader.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Freddie McKnight  
R. Faye M. McGhee  
New York-Washington Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 7**  
**Acting Presiding Elders**

**Resolved**

**That:**

**¶ 252.1 The presiding officer of the Quarterly Conference, without privilege of vote, shall be the Presiding Elder. In the absence of the Presiding Elder, the Pastor shall preside, provided that, in the event there is no pastor, the Presiding Elder shall designate someone else to preside.**

**Be revised to read...**

**¶ 252.1 The presiding officer of the Quarterly Conference, without privilege of vote, shall be the Presiding Elder. In the absence of the Presiding Elder, the Pastor shall preside, provided that, in the event there is no pastor, the Presiding Elder shall designate someone else to preside. Pastors may not confirm officers that they are nominating nor hear complaints that have been duly registered according to the provisions of the *Discipline*.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Freddie McKnight  
R. Faye M. McGhee  
New York-Washington Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 8**  
**Rental of Parsonages**

**Resolved**

**That**

**¶603. Rental of Parsonages**

**§1. If a pastor lives in his or her own home or provides his or her place of residence, the rent from the parsonages designated for the preachers residence shall be given to the pastor; said rent shall not be counted as salary.**

**Be revised to read**

**¶603. Rental of Parsonages**

**§1. If a pastor lives in his or her own home or provides his or her place of residence, the rent from the parsonages designated for the preachers residence shall be given to the pastor after taxes, insurance, and repair costs have been recouped by the church; said rent shall not be counted as salary.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Freddie McKnight**  
**New York-Washington Region**

**Travis Story**  
**Southern California Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 9**  
**District Lay Council**

**Resolved:**

**That...**

**¶1166. District Lay Board**

**§1. The District shall be organized into zones.**

**§2. The Zone Leaders shall submit a written report to the District Council.**

**§3. The District Board shall submit an annual written report to the Conference Lay Department.**

**§4. The District Lay Leader shall preside at District Board Meetings. The Lay Leader shall be elected by the Lay delegates to the District Conference in session. Other officers shall be elected by the District Board.**

**§5. The District Board shall meet as often as necessary to effectively carry out the work of the Board.**

**§6. The Board shall conduct the program of lay activities as outlined under the direction of the Department of Lay Ministry by promoting the listed objectives.**

**§7. The minutes of all meetings of the Board shall be kept in a permanent journal by the secretary.**

**Shall be amended to read...**

**¶1166. District Lay Council**

**§1. The District shall be organized into zones.**

**§2. The Zone Leaders shall submit a written report to the District Lay Council.**

**§3. The District Lay Council shall through its' District Lay Leader, submit an annual written report to the Region/Annual Conference Lay Council.**

**§4. The District Lay Leader shall preside at District Lay Council Meetings. The District Lay Leader shall be elected by the Lay delegates to the District Conference in session. Other officers shall be elected by the District Lay Council.**

**§5. The District Lay Council shall meet as often as necessary to effectively carry out the work of the District Lay Council.**

**§6. The District Lay Council shall conduct the program of lay activities as outlined under the direction of the Department of Lay Ministry by promoting the listed objectives.**

**§7. The minutes of all meetings of the District Lay Council shall be kept in a permanent journal by the secretary.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**R. Faye M. McGhee**

**New York-Washington Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 10**  
**Incorrect Reference**

**That page**

**¶1167. Local Lay Council (cf. ¶ 522)**

**Correctly refer to the Local Lay Council (cf. ¶ 535 )**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**R. Faye M. McGhee**

**New York-Washington Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 11**  
**The Regional Lay Council**

**Resolved: That....**

**¶1164 The Regional Lay Council**

**§3. This Department shall hold one annual meeting in conjunction with the Annual Conference and such other meetings deemed necessary and/or upon the call of the Lay Leader.**

**§4. The Department shall submit a written report to the Annual Conference and to the Department of Lay Ministry.**

**§5. The minutes of all meeting of the Department/Board shall be kept in a permanent journal by the secretary.**

**Shall be amended to read...**

**¶1164 The Regional Lay Council**

**§3. This Regional Lay Council shall hold one annual meeting in conjunction with the Annual Conference and such other meetings deemed necessary and/or upon the call of the Regional Lay Leader.**

**§4. The Regional Lay Council shall submit a written report to the Annual Conference and to the General Department of Lay Ministry.**

**§5. The minutes of all meeting of the Regional Lay Council shall be kept in a permanent journal by the secretary.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**R. Faye M. McGhee**  
**New York-Washington Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 12**  
**The Regional Lay Council**

**Resolve: That...**

**¶1165. The Department shall carry out the program of lay activities as outlined under the direction of the General Department of Lay Ministry by promoting the following objectives:**

**Be amended to read...**

**¶1165. The Regional Lay Council shall carry out the program of lay activities as outlined under the direction of the General Department of Lay Ministry by promoting the following objectives:**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**R. Faye M. McGhee**  
**New York-Washington Region**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 13**  
**The Regional Lay Council**

**Whereas the elected Connectional Steward President, Connectional Stewardess President, and Connectional Usher President became members of the Connectional Lay Cabinet in 1998**

**Resolved**

**That the Annual Conference/Regional Steward, Stewardess and Usher be elected to the Annual Conference/Regional Lay Cabinet.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**R. Faye M. McGhee**  
**New York-Washington Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 14**  
**Background Checks**

**Resolved:**

**The CME Church shall seek comprehensive background checks on our clergy, church staff-workers (clergy and lay), and volunteers to include criminal, financial, motor vehicle and educational credentials.**

**Harper Chapel CME Church**  
**Southern California Region**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 15**  
**National Usher day**

**Whereas our Ushers are faithful and committed to door-keeping in the house of the Lord; and**

**Whereas, we believe they should be recognized annually for their service in the church;**

**Be it therefore Resolved**

**That the second Sunday in September be recognized as National Usher Day.**

**Diana Winton**  
**Southern California Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 16**  
**Unofficial Titles**

**Whereas, the Discipline of the CME Church gives job descriptions and names for all positions in the church; and**

**Whereas, administrative assistant, liaison, assistant Bishop, Associate Bishop, associate pastor, minister, co-pastor, co-bishop are not described or recognized by the Discipline of the CME Church;**

**Therefore, be it resolved**

**That the title of administrative assistant, liason, assistant Bishop, Associate Bishop, associate pastor, minister, co-pastor, co-bishop will not be recognized and shall not have a voice in the CME Church.**

**Evangeline McCallum-Ellison**  
**Southern California Region**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 17**  
**Delegates to the General Conference**

**Whereas the business of the General Conference calls for Delegates to vote on all legislative laws;**

**Whereas, there must be delegates at all sessions including the last session;**

**Whereas some delegates have skipped the last sessions of the Conference to prepare to return home;**

**Be it therefore Resolved**

**That all elected delegates of the General Conference be in attendance from the beginning to the end or reimburse their Region for expenses and/or services incurred but not used on their behalf.**

**Harper Chapel CME Church**  
**Southern California Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 18**  
**Passing Of Character**

**Whereas, the Quarterly Conference is the conference-of-record for the interest and claims of the CME Church in the Local Church; and**

**Whereas, pastors in charge should have updated Quarterly Journals at the time of the District Conference according to the Discipline [¶234]; and**

**Whereas, in the passing of character of pastors-in-charge and considering the threat and reality of many lawsuits in our litigious society.**

**Therefore, be it resolved**

**That ¶802 be extended to include this statement:**

**Quarterly Journals must be updated at the time of character passing at the Annual Conference**

**Los Angeles –San Diego Journal Committee**  
**Evangeline McCallum-Ellison**  
**Southern California Region**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 19**  
**Candidates for Bishop**

**Whereas, the Bishops of our church are the Fathers and CEOs and constitute the Executive Branch of the CME Church;**

**Whereas, persons wishing to become Bishop must give the responsibility serious prayer, thought, and study to come to that conclusion;**

**Therefore, be it resolved**

**That candidates for Bishop will vacate all positions that they hold in the CME Church so that others may seek them without reservation.**

**Brenda Johnson**  
**Southern California Region**

**RESOLUTION NO. 20**  
**Orderlies**

**Whereas, in large assemblies, such as the General Connectional Board, General Conference, Regional Conferences, it is necessary to use orderlies or attendants; and**

**Whereas, the job description is to be able to distribute materials among the body as assigned by the Bishops; and**

**Whereas, in most cases the assignments are given to male clergy.**

**Therefore, be it resolved...**

**That orderlies will be made up of equal numbers of clergy and lay (male and female included).**

**Evangeline McCallum-Ellison**  
**Southern California Region**

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**RESOLUTION NO 21**  
**Sexuality**

**Resolved:**

**Having a meaningful action to better understand, prevent and eliminate sexual misconduct by clergy and lay, church-workers and volunteers.**

**Harper Chapel CME Church**  
**Southern California Region**

**RESOLUTION NO 22**  
**Sexuality**

**Whereas the CME Church loves everyone regardless of sexual orientation;**

**Whereas, homosexual sex acts as well as heterosexual sex acts outside the bonds of marriage are against the rules and teachings of the Bible and CME Church;**

**Be it Therefore Resolved,**

**That the unmarried are to remain celibate regardless of sexual orientation.**

**Harper Chapel CME Church**  
**Southern California Region**

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**RESOLUTION NO 22**  
**Sexuality**

**Resolved:**

**Adulterous behavior: heterosexual and/or homosexual; consensual and/or nonconsensual will not be tolerated in the CME Church.**

**Harper Chapel CME Church**  
**Southern California Region**

## RESOLUTION NO 23

### The Book of Discipline

The following change(s) is proposed to the The Book of Discipline of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church 2006 :

Change page 99, ¶417 §3 the current wording reads:

The candidate for the order of Elder must : (a) pass an approved examination on the Course of Study proscribed by the College of Bishops; (b) shall be encouraged to pursue a Bachelor's of Arts degree or an equivalent thereof; (c) be recommended by the Committee on Ministerial Examination before a vote to elect to orders by the Annual Conference is taken.

This should be changed to read (all proposed changes are in ***BOLD Italics***):

The candidate for the order of Elder must : (a) pass an approved examination on the Course of Study proscribed by the College of Bishops; (b) shall be ***required to complete*** a Bachelor's of Arts degree or an equivalent thereof; (c) be recommended by the Committee on Ministerial Examination before a vote to elect to orders by the Annual Conference is taken.

Rationale:

As chapter twelve of The History of the CME Church by Bishop Othal Hawthorne Lakey, makes clear that the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (then the Colored methodist Episcopal Church) and Bishop Holsey recognized as early as 1898, in his article "*The Purpose of the Colored M. E. Church*" written in the **Independent**. This and the history of CME's holding school in church buildings during the week and in Schools on Sundays when churches had been destroyed. It is clear that education is a key in that one of the founding ideal of the C.M.E. Church has been the need for education; this was further demonstrated with the founding of Lane and Paine Colleges in 1882, and by the continuing support that the connectional church provides to the five (5) C.M.E. Colleges.

As the Pastor of a church is the spiritual leader and guide of a congregation, it is vital that he as the Elder be on a educational par with the majority of the Lay membership. As the membership of the C.M.E. Church becomes increasing more well educated, by attending CME &/or other colleges and universities, the lack of an equally educated and prepared ministry will continue to contribute to a growing lack of respect for the clergy. For how can you expect to lead where you have not been and why should others follow you?

We are no longer in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries when a person with a high school education was considered well educated. Now in the 21<sup>st</sup>. century when people with graduate degrees are unemployed; why should the membership be expected to rely on and follow the leadership of the uneducated? Therefor it is vital to for the continued growth prospects of our church that ALL our clergy keep up educationally.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela L. Davis  
Mt. Carmel C.M.E. Church  
Chicago District  
SE MO, IL & WI Annual Conference

**RESOLUTION No. 24**  
**RETIREMENT COMPENSATION FOR GENERAL OFFICERS**

**Whereas the retired Bishops of the CME Church are paid  $\frac{1}{2}$  the salary of active Bishops and General Officers are paid  $\frac{1}{2}$  the salary at the time of the General Officer's retirement;**

**Be it resolved that paragraph 1039.4 article 1 & 2 be stricken and two new paragraphs replace as follows:**

***GENERAL OFFICERS RETIRING***

**1039.4.1**

**A General Officer who serves twelve (12) consecutive years or more, and retires while actively in office as such General Officer, shall be entitled to a sum equal to one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a current General Officer's salary.**

**1039.4.2**

**A General Officer who serves a minimum of eight (8) consecutive years or more, and retires while actively in office as such General Officer, shall be entitled to a sum equal to one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of a current General Officer's salary.**

**RESOLUTION NO 25**  
**Electing Delegates**

**In recent San Francisco District Department of Lay Ministry monthly meetings we have been discussing the election of delegates to our District, Annual and General Conferences.**

**The discussions have centered around the need to elect delegates who are active in local and district lay ministry in our churches. In an effort to both strengthen the Lay Department in our churches and get better representation at these conferences we are considering a resolution to the General Conference to make it a requirement that at least one delegate from each charge elected to District and Annual Conferences be an active member of the Local Lay Council at each church.**

**We recognize that many of our smaller churches do not have an active Local Lay Council; however we still want to plant the seed that participation in your local lay council is important to the growth of your church and lay ministry in general. We should also be aware of the need to have and active Local Lay Board in each church.**

**If you are the chairperson or president of a board, department or auxiliary you should be a part of your local lay board.**

**We need these boards and councils working together to help work through and resolve some of the issues and problems that arise in our churches. By working together on these boards and councils we should get a better understanding of the responsibilities of each board and auxiliary in our church.**

**As presidents and chairpersons of these boards and auxiliaries it is our responsibility to ensure that training and development takes place for all officers for whom we are responsible.**

**This is also part of our need for internal evangelism. We need to minister to the needs of those who are working in the church by better equipping them to perform the duties of the office they have been elected to.**

**These same people who are better educated in the working of our church should make better delegates to our conferences.**

**I would like to hear your thoughts regarding this idea of a resolution to have better lay representation at these conferences.**

**Darryl Hunter**

**Lay Leader, San Francisco District, Northern California Region, 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District**

**RESOLUTION NO 26**  
**Delegates**

**A resolution to include an active member of the Local Lay Council as a delegate to the District and Annual Conferences.**

**Whereas, ¶ 213.3(d) Each pastoral charge shall have the right to elect two (2) lay members to the next session of the Annual Conference..., and for the District Conference, ¶ 231 ... There shall be at least one delegate elected from each charge...**

**Whereas, ¶ 1160. §1. There shall be in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and organization known as the Department of Lay Ministry. And**

**Whereas, ¶ 535. §1. The department shall be responsible for the program of lay ministry in the church in accordance with the objectives and structure outlined by the General Department of Lay Ministry. (cf. ¶ 1160 and ¶ 1165);**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, ¶ 213.3(D) reads, “*Each pastoral charge shall have the right to elect two (2) lay members, one of which shall be active in the Local Lay Council, to the next session of the Annual Conference..., and for the District Conference, ¶ 231... There shall be at least one delegate elected from each charge, who shall be active in the Local Lay Council...*”**

**Humbly Submitted,**

**Darryl Hunter, Lay Leader,**

**San Francisco District Department of Lay Ministry**

**RESOLUTION No. 27**  
**Resolution Format**

**WHEREAS** the information pertaining to resolutions is listed under Chapter 5, The General Conference, ¶206, pages 44 – 49 (The Book of Discipline, 2006); and

**WHEREAS** the information excludes examples related to writing resolutions;  
and

**WHEREAS** the information excludes the procedures, including all points of origin of resolutions; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That an example of writing resolutions should be included in the Book of Discipline; and

**RESOLVED**, That all points of origin of resolutions be included in the Book of Discipline, as well as creating a separate section devoted to resolution writing.

**Dr. Joseph L. Fox**  
**Carolina Region**

**RESOLUTION No. 28**  
**Church Employee Procedure**

**WHEREAS the information pertaining to Personnel Services is listed under Chapter 48, The General Board of Personnel Services, ¶1034, pages 229 – 239 (The Book of Discipline, 2006); and**

**WHEREAS the information pertaining to Personnel Services excludes examples on church hiring of employees; and**

**WHEREAS the information pertaining to the liabilities related to hiring employees, such as payroll issues and reporting of income is not addressed; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That because liabilities related to church employees are extremely important, it is deemed necessary for such information to be included in the Book of Discipline as a separate section;**

**RESOLVED, That information related to what constitutes an employee should be included in the Book of Discipline; and**

**RESOLVED, That specific information related to the hiring process, reporting and paying payroll taxes, and reporting of pastor and employee income to the Internal Revenue Service is provided in the Book of Discipline.**

**Dr. Joseph L. Fox, Chair**  
**Carolina Region**

**RESOLUTION No. 29**  
**Resolution on Church Budget Assessment**

**WHEREAS** the information pertaining to church finance is listed under Chapter 45, The General Department of Finance, ¶1004, pages 214 – 221 (The Book of Discipline, 2006); and

**WHEREAS** the information pertaining to church finance excludes the process of assessing local churches; and

**WHEREAS** the information related to requesting local church assessment changes/analysis is not addressed in the Book of Discipline; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That because the importance of church assessment is paramount to the operational effectiveness of the CME Church and effectiveness local churches, it is deemed necessary for the process to be included in the Book of Discipline;

**RESOLVED**, That the process and procedure for budget assessment should be clearly detailed from the General Church to the local church; and

**RESOLVED**, That the process for local churches to request assessment challenges/review should be included in the Book of Discipline.

**Dr. Joseph L. Fox**  
**Carolina Region**

**RESOLUTION No. 30**  
**Book of Discipline Editing**

**WHEREAS the information included in the Book of Discipline is the guiding body of literature for the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church; and**

**WHEREAS the information presented in the Book of Discipline should be consistent; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED that the Book of Discipline should be edited for consistent use of the term C.M.E, Stewardess, and information listed in the Table of Content, and Index.**

**Dr. Joseph L. Fox**  
**Carolina Region**

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**RESOLUTION No. 31**  
**Election of Lay Leader**

**WHEREAS the information pertaining to the election of the Lay Leader is listed under Chapter 5, The General Conference, ¶201.5 - ¶201.7, pages 42 – 43 (The Book of Discipline, 2006); and**

**WHEREAS the information related to the procedures for electing a Lay Leader excludes terminology related to voting Lay delegates, now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That specific wording should be included in the Book of Discipline to state:**

**A simple majority of votes cast by registered Lay Council delegates, from active local Lay Councils, shall be the minimum required for any person to be elected. ¶201.7 §1**

**Dr. Joseph L. Fox**  
**Carolina Region**

**RESOLUTION No. 32**  
**Admitting Preachers on Trial**

**WHEREAS** the information pertaining to pastors' requirements is listed under Chapter 16, Admitting Preachers on Trial, ¶413, §4, page 96 (The Book of Discipline, 2006); and

**WHEREAS** the pastor is the leading executive officer of the local church; and

**WHEREAS** the pastor must understand not only spiritual issues, but issues related to church law, church liability, church risk, and church budgeting processes; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the requirements for admitting preachers on trial should be amended to include the wording, "college degree."

**Dr. Joseph L. Fox**  
**Carolina Region**

**RESOLUTION No. 33**  
**Leadership Accountability**

**WHEREAS** the information pertaining to **Spiritual Expectations of Church Officers, Boards, and Auxiliaries** is listed under **Chapter 35, Church Officers, Boards, and Auxiliaries, ¶509, pages 144 – 1161 (The Book of Discipline, 2006);** and

**WHEREAS** the information excludes terminology related to church leadership accountability; and

**WHEREAS** the information excludes terminology referring to expectations of **Bishops, Presiding Elders, and Ministers;** now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the section on **Spiritual Expectations** be expanded to include that church leaders will be held accountable for their spiritual development, as well as the duties and responsibilities to the Church; and

**RESOLVED,** That the section be expanded to include that **Bishops, Presiding Elders, and Ministers** will be held accountable for their spiritual development, as well as the duties and responsibilities to the Church.

**Dr. Joseph L. Fox**  
**Carolina Region**

**RESOLUTION No. 34**  
**Financial Accountability**

**WHEREAS** the information pertaining to Church Officers, Boards, and Auxiliaries is listed under Chapter 35, Church Officers, Boards, and Auxiliaries, ¶509, pages 144 – 161 (The Book of Discipline, 2006); and

**WHEREAS** the information related to the Church Treasurer is listed in ¶514 and ¶514.1; and

**WHEREAS** the information excludes terminology referring to financial responsibilities, bonding, checks and balances, misuse of church finance, and separation of accounting duties; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the section on the duties of the Treasurer should be expanded to include information related to bonding individuals handling church funds, creating a system of financial checks and balances, misuse of church finance, and creation of a system of division of labor related to accounting duties and responsibilities.

**Dr. Joseph L. Fox**  
**Carolina Region**

**RESOLUTION No. 35**  
**Parliamentary Procedures**  
**for all CME Conference and Meetings**

**WHEREAS** the *Book of Discipline* stipulate that the rules of order of the 2006 General Conference in Chapter 58, ¶1400.11, page 323; and

**WHEREAS** these rules of order are not stipulated for any other conference or meeting of the CME church; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That each of the conferences listed in PART II, Chapters 5 thru 10 of the *Book of Discipline* contain a paragraph making this same stipulation, and the paragraph should be changed to read: ... and in all matters be governed by the rules herein provided and the common practices of parliamentary usage found in *Robert's Rules of Order* and by the *Discipline* of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. These rules shall not be suspended except by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting, and

**RESOLVED**, That an entry for *rules of order* be placed in the index to reference these paragraphs.

**Billy L. Watts**  
**Carolina Region**

**RESOLUTION No. 36**  
**Resolutions**

**Strike section ¶206.2, page 45, from The Book of Discipline of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church 2006 and replace it to read:**

**Resolutions mailed, sent or given to the Episcopal District representative shall be examined by him or her to ascertain if they meet the requirements for proposed legislation (all resolutions requiring changes in the wording and or legal meaning of provisions in the Discipline shall state the paragraph, section, page and language to be changed and the language to be substituted). In addition to the requirements referenced, resolutions shall not contain more than three preamble paragraphs. If the resolutions do not meet the requirements, they shall be returned for corrections.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Angela L. Davis, Mt. Carmel C.M.E. Church  
Ralston B. Simmons, St. Paul C.M.E. Church  
Chicago District  
James White, Scruggs Memorial C.M.E. Church  
St. Louis District**

**SE MO., IL & WI Annual Conference**

**RESOLUTION No 37**  
*Rental of Parsonages*

The following change(s) is proposed to the The Book of Discipline of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church 2006 :

Change ¶ 603 *Rental of Parsonages* current wording follows:

§ 1, If the Pastor lives in his or her own or provides his or her place of residence, the rent from the parsonages designated for the preacher's residence shall be given to the Pastor; said rent shall not be counted as salary.

To read (all proposed changes are in *BOLD Italics*):

§ 1. If the Pastor lives in his or her own or provides his or her place of residence, the rent from the parsonages designated for the preacher's residence, *provided that there is no encumbrance/loan/mortgage upon said Parsonage. If there is any encumbrance/loan/mortgage, any rent received shall first be applied to those encumbrances/loans/mortgages After the monthly payment is paid any remaining funds from the received rent shall be given to the Pastor; said rent shall not be counted as salary.*

Additionally proposed are the following addition to ¶ 603 to become § 2 - 3.

§2. *Should the preacher have his or her own residence, and choose to reside there during the conference year, notice of his or her intent shall be provided to the church in writing at the first church conference of the conference year.*

§3. *In the event that the preacher shall have moved into the parsonage for ANY period of the conference year, notice of his or her intent/decision to move from the parsonage for any reason shall be provided to the church in writing at the first church conference immediately after the decision to move/vacate is made. Should the church choose to rent the parsonage, the provisions of § 1, regarding payment of rent to the preacher shall not apply for that conference year and all rent shall go to the church in full.*

*continued→*

*This provision shall not apply if the parsonage is deemed unsuitable/unsafe for human habitation by reasonable standards [i.e., local health department standards] for example, peeling &/or falling ceilings, Mold, excess water damage (flooding) that has not been corrected, etc. Should this occur a meeting between the Presiding Elder, Pastor and the appropriate church officers (and Bishop, if needed) shall be called to reach a mutually acceptable solution.*

**Rationale:**

**While the membership recognizes the need to provide a safe and livable residence for the preacher (and their family), the stewards and trustees are encouraged to develop and maintain the parsonage with the same attention and vigor that they do the church proper. There must also be a recognition by the ministry of the burden both financial and in terms of time that the process of renting a parsonage would place on the local church, especially in cases where there may still be an encumbrance/loan/mortgage on the property. There are numerous situations in which parsonages have not been adequately maintained and are not up to current local codes, making rental impossible or would require the imposition of a substantial financial burden on the local church in order to bring them up to current rental standards and codes.**

**These changes will provide for more consistent upkeep of parsonages across the connection.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Angela L. Davis  
Mt. Carmel C.M.E. Church  
Chicago District  
Southeast Mo., Illinois and Wisconsin Annual Conference**

**LAY COUNCIL BYLAWS NO. 1**  
**Election of Officers**

A Nominating Committee shall be appointed to produce a slate of nominations for Lay Council Officers-Lay Leader, 1st Vice Lay Leader, 2nd Vice Lay Leader, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Worship Leader.

The Nominating Committee may be used at all levels-Local Lay Council, Zone Lay Council , District Lay Council, Regional Lay Council (refer to ¶1164, §2. *Officers*, concerning the office of Regional Lay Leader), and Connectional Lay Council.

The Nominating Committee must converse with the total populace to give all laypersons the opportunity to be nominated for office.

The Nominating Committee may nominate no more two person for each office.

**The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall present the slate of nominations to the presiding officer (Bishop, Presiding Elder, Pastor, or designee) and offer a *motion to accept the report of the Nominating Committee*.**

When the motion has carried, the Presiding Officer may dismiss the Nominating Committee.

The presiding officer will read the list of nominees and ask “Are there other nominations?” At this time, nominations may be taken from the floor. However, if there are no nominations for an office, the presiding officer may declare the nominee elected (having asked the question 3 times with no answer).

Where there are two [2] or more nominees for an office, the body may vote by voice, show of hands, standing, or secret ballot.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**R. Faye M. McGhee**  
**New York-Washington Region**

**LAY COUNCIL BY-LAWS NO. 2**  
**Sample Agenda**

**Sample Agenda for Lay Council Meetings**  
**(may be modified to suit Council needs)**

**Header:**  
**Our Local Lay Council**  
**Church CME Church**  
**Address, City and State**  
**Local Lay Leader          Pastor**

**Agenda**  
**Date**

**Devotion**

**Call to Order**

**Approval of Agenda**

**Minutes**

**Correction and Approval of Minutes (if taken and distributed)**

**Treasurer's Report**

**Committee Reports**

**Unfinished Business**

**New Business**

**Special Issues/Concerns**

**Announcements**

**Adjournment**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**R. Faye M. McGhee**  
**New York-Washington Region**

# *College of Bishops*

## *Christian Methodist Episcopal Church*



### **Front Row, Left to Right**

**Bishop Henry M. Williamson, Sr., Ninth District**  
**Bishop Paul A.G. Stewart, Sr., Third District**  
**Bishop E. Lynn Brown, Second District**  
**Senior Bishop William H. Graves, First District**  
**Bishop Othal Hawthorne Lakey, Sixth District**  
**Bishop Thomas Lanier Hoyt, Jr., Seventh District**  
**Bishop Lawrence L. Reddick, III, Fifth District**

### **Second Row, Left to Right**

**Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr., Fourth District**  
**Bishop Charles L. Helton, Deceased**  
**Senior Bishop Nathaniel L. Linsey, Retired**  
**Bishop Dotcy Ivertus Isom, Retired**  
**Senior Bishop Marshall Gilmore, Retired**  
**Bishop Kenneth W. Carter, Tenth District**  
**Bishop Ronald M. Cunningham, Eighth District**

# General Officers

## Christian Methodist Episcopal Church



### Front Row, Left to Right

Reverend Dr. Tyrone Davis, General Secretary, Department of Personnel Services

Dr. Elnora P. Hamb, President, Women's Missionary Council

Attorney Juanita Bryant, Executive Secretary

Reverend Dr. Kenneth E. Jones, Editor, The Christian Index

Reverend Dr. Willie C. Champion, General Secretary, Department of Evangelism and Missions

### Second Row, Left to Right

Dr. Joseph C. Neal, Jr., General Secretary, Department of Finance

Dr. Leo Pinkett, General Secretary, Department of Ministry To Men

Dr. Victor Taylor, General Secretary, Department of Lay Ministry

Reverend Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield, General Secretary, Department of Christian Education

Reverend William E. George, General Secretary, Department of Publications Services

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## **Organizational and Strategic Planning Committees**

### **LOCAL COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Maxine L. Day  
Assisting, Cora Williams

### **ARRANGEMENTS & LOGISTICS**

**INFORMATION & MESSAGE**  
Yvonne L. Peters, Chair  
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### **FINANCE**

Dr. Joseph C. Neal, Jr., Chair

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Rev. Wayne A. Williams, Chair

### **REGISTRATION**

Mrs. Doris Herring, Chair

### **RECEPTION**

Evelyn Head & Hazel Mimms, Co-Chairs

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Theresa Duhart, Chair

### **SOUVENIR BOOKLET**

Mr. Michael Morgan, Chair

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

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### **PROGRAMMING**

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Del Doss-Hemsley, Chair

### **CLERICAL**

Lillian Curlett, Chair

### **GREETERS**

Rev. Renee Johnson  
Rev. Gene Williams  
Co-Chairs

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