

MINUTES
of
The 14th Quadrennial Session
of
The Connectional Lay Institute



WHICH CONVENED
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

Bishop William H. Graves
Senior Bishop



Department of Lay Ministry
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church



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.
Department Chair



THE 14TH QUADRENNIAL CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE MINUTES

Saturday – 19 September 2009

The 14th Quadrennial Session of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Connectional Lay Institute convened at The Millennium Hotel-St Louis, MO on Saturday, September 19, 2009. Dr. Victor Taylor is the General Secretary of the Department of Lay Ministry, Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt Jr. is the Chair of the Lay Department, and Clifford L. Harris [9th: Oklahoma Region] is the President of the Connectional Lay Council. Prior to the Organizational Session, Dr. Victor Taylor hosted an Open Forum on issues concerning those in attendance; and Host Bishop Paul A.G. Stewart, Presiding Prelate of the 3rd Episcopal District, preached a vibrant and dynamic sermon-Being Grateful Enough to be Faithful- at our opening Worship Service.

Jon Reddick and Family began our Institute with a Praise and Worship Service and were on hand at all services to lead us through music. Jon Reddick [lead vocalist] and the Family consists of background vocalists Harmonie Reddick, Eric Gaines and Janice Gaines; pianist Shea Norman; bass guitarist Antoine Davis; and drummer Terence Clark.

Organizational Session

Clifford L. Harris, President of the Connectional Lay Council, called to order the Organizational Session of the Institute and the Secretary, Faye McGhee [7th: New York-Washington Region], began to call the Roll of Registered Attendees. Upon acceptance of a suggestion by Warren L. Bryant [9th: Southern California Region] to allow those in attendance to come to the microphone and verbally identify themselves, thus, negating the practice of reading the entire Registration List; the Roll Call was completed in that fashion. After completion of roll call the “Bar” was established.

Theresa Duhart [9th: Alaska-Pacific Region] gave a demonstration of the Clicker Technology we would use at this Institute. With it, votes are secure and tamper-proof. Clickers will be distributed to delegates on Sunday along with a lavender lanyard, which along with the official Connectional Lay Institute Badge will allow delegates to sit in the “Bar”.

President Clifford L. Harris asked us to peruse the Minutes on pages 19-23 in the Journal. Willie Robinson [9th: Northern California Region] moved that the Minutes be received with any editing or corrections necessary. The motion was seconded by Walter Prater [5th: Birmingham Region]. Motion passed.

Corrections: Pp 20-22 Resolutions: No. 1-motion by Nellie B. King [7th: New York-Washington Region], seconded by Bruce Levingston [9th: Southern California Region]; No. 2-motion by Frazier Spight [4th: Region], no second, motion failed; No. 4-motion failed; No. 8-motion by Velma Louise Jones [3rd], seconded by Susie Owens [4th], motion passed; No. 9-motion by Frank Morris [4th], seconded by Frazier Spight [4th]; No. 11-motion by Nellie B. King [7th], seconded by Bruce Levingston; p.22 Joyce Crowder not Crawford; P. 23 Minutes by Joyce Crowder

Dinner Break

Business Session, cont'd

President Clifford L. Harris called the Institute Delegation to order to continue the Organization of the Institute. Joyce Crowder [8th: Dallas-Fort Worth Region] was appointed chair of the Steering Committee and was called upon to offer the orders-of-the-day for this Session: Adoption of the Agenda, Adoption of the Rules, Naming of Committees, and Recognition. The motion to accept the Report of the Steering Committee was offered by Carter Curtis [8th: Central Texas Region] and seconded by Sue Alexander [8th: Southeast Texas Region]. Motion passed.

Motion to Adopt the Agenda [Journal pp. 8-11] was offered by Carter Curtis [8th: Dallas-Fort Worth Region] and seconded by Sue Alexander [8th: Southeast Texas]. Motion passed.

Motion to Adopt the Rules [Journal, pp. 13-18] was offered by Walter James [8th: Region] and seconded by Johnnie Summerville [5th: Birmingham Region]. Motion passed.

The Steering Committee was named: Arthur Shelton [1st], James Nelson [2nd], Evelyn Moore [3rd], Willie M. Barnes [4th], Joe Powell [5th], Elijah Holley [6th], Bennie D. McDonald [7th], Joyce Crowder [8th], Dorothy Davidson [9th]. The motion to accept the Steering Committee was offered by Barbara Campbell [6th: Georgia North Region] and seconded by Frank Morman, Jr. [6th: South Georgia Region]. They are assigned help set the orders of the day and to see that they (orders-of-the-day) are accomplished. Committee seated.

The Credentials Committee was named: L. Kapel Kirkendoll [1st], Deborah Evans [2nd], Earl Bryant [3rd], Otha Barnes [4th], Helen Crenshaw [5th], Barbara Campbell [6th], Marvella Willoughby [7th], Carter Curtis [8th], Rosemary Hill [9th]. The motion to accept the Credentials Committee was offered by Velma Strickland [3rd] and seconded by Erline Williams [2nd: Ohio-Central Indiana Region]. They were charged with verifying that all participants were duly registered, monitoring the Bar, and assisting the Elections Committee. Committee seated.

The Elections Committee was named: Ernest Taylor [1st], Margaret Hughes [2nd], James Wesley [3rd], Addie Geyen [4th], Robert Brasfield [5th], Curtis Cooper [6th], Carrie Bennett [7th], Hurl Scruggs [8th], D. Bruce Levingston [9th]. The motion to accept the Elections Committee was offered by Barbara W. Lee [7th: New York-Washington Region] and seconded by Linda Langston [9th: Arizona- New Mexico Region]. They will receive names of individuals interested in running for a Connectional Lay Council Office and assist in the election process. Committee seated.

The Committee on Minutes was named: Clayrethia Peete [1st], Erline Williams [2nd], James White [3rd], Robert Stewart [4th], Beverly Combs [5th], Reginald Williamson [6th], Freddie McKnight [7th], Verna Simmons [8th], Ann Seay [9th]. The motion to accept the Committee on Minutes was offered by Hiram Springle [7th: Carolina Region]. They will check the minutes each day for accuracy. Committee seated.

Barbara Campbell [6th: Georgia North Region], citing the Instructions on page 37 in the Journal, moved to create a Resolution Committee. Motion was seconded by Gilda K. A. Walker [3rd: Region]. Motion passed.

The Resolution Committee was seated: Calvert Mason [1st], Gilda K. A. Walker [3rd], Thelma Henderson [4th], Robert Truss [5th], Gregory Lewis [6th], Billie Watts [7th], Sue Alexander [8th], Alice Smith [9th].

President Clifford Harris invited Bishop Hoyt to the podium to assist him in presenting a plaque to L. Kapel Kirkendoll who served as president of the Connectional Lay Council for the 8 years between 1997 and 2005.

The Organization Session was adjourned.

The Lay Address

Praise and Worship by Jon Reddick and Friends, and two moving praise/liturgical dances offered by Octavia Calloway-Peters and Davidic Praise of New Hope CME Church-Evanston, IL preceded The Lay Address – Season of Change – by Dr. Victor Taylor. The General Secretary appealed to our sense of purpose and direction in his message of hope for our future in this *season of change*. Dr. Taylor outlined his vision over the past 12 years and challenged us to focus on vision-not programs- as we continue to offer ministries to the world in the 21st century.

The evening concluded with a Reception.

Sunday – 20 September 2009

The 14th Quadrennial Session of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Connectional Lay Institute continued at The Millennium Hotel-St Louis, MO on Sunday, September 20, 2009. Prior to the Business Session, there was a Sunday Morning Worship Service with Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt who preached “A Faith of Our Own” from St. John 20:19-20 followed by a Life Application Class designed to demonstrate how his message could be applied to our lives. Bishop Hoyt prefaced his message by declaring, “The early church was a Lay movement.”

Business Session

The chair of the Steering Committee, Joyce Crowder [8th: Dallas-Fort Worth Region], presented Bennie McDonald [7th: New York-Washington Region] who presented the orders-of the day: Brief Period of Recognition; Committee on Minutes, Elections Committee, Resolutions, Candidates Statement, Elections.

A delegation from the St Louis District presented a plaque to General Secretary of Lay Ministry Dr. Victor Taylor and flowers to Mrs. Wanda Faye Taylor, his wife. President Clifford L. Harris presented a plaque to Dr. Taylor and Theresa Duhart [9th: Alaska-Pacific Region] presented the monetary gifts from the Laity.

The Committee on Minutes Chair James White [3rd: Southeast Missouri, Illinois, and Wisconsin Region] presented Ann Seay [9th: Southern California Region] who reported that the Committee had met and found the minutes to be in order. The motion to accept the report of the Committee on Minutes was offered by Reginald Williamson [6th] and seconded by Beverly Combs [5th: Southeast Alabama Region].

The Elections Committee chair, Bruce Levingston [9th: Southern California Region], announced that the committee is receiving Nomination Forms from those who wish to run for a Connectional Lay Council Office.

Connectional Presidents Reports

President Harris requested Episcopal District Lay Vice President William Brooks [1st: East Tennessee Region] to assume the Chair so that President Harris could give his report along with the other Connectional Officers. Connectional Officer Reports were presented: The Usher Report [Journal, p. 33] was delivered by Diana Winton [9th: Southern California Region]. The motion to receive the Connectional Usher's Report was offered by Dessie Tyson [9th: Southern California Region] and seconded by G. Bernice Richardson [7th: New York-Washington Region].

The Steward Report [Journal, p. 29] was delivered by Charles Taylor [3rd: Michigan-Indiana Region]. The motion to receive the Connectional Steward's Report was offered by Walter James [8th:] and seconded by Dr. Bryan Champion [7th: New York-Washington Region].

The Lay Council Report [Journal, p. 27] was delivered by Clifford L. Harris [9th: Oklahoma Region]. The motion to receive the Connectional Lay Leader's Report was offered by Frank Morman, Jr. [6th: South Georgia Region] and seconded by Anna Woods [9th: Southern California Region].

The Stewardess Report [Journal, p. 31] was delivered by Maxine McClury [2nd: Region]. After her report, Maxine McClury was presented a plaque to honor her 12 years of exemplary service by General Secretary Dr Victor Taylor and Connectional Lay Council President Clifford Harris. The motion to receive the Connectional Stewardesses' Report was offered by Margie Hughes [2nd: Ohio Central Indiana Region] and seconded by Johnnie Summerville [5th: Birmingham Region].

Business Session, Continued

The Credentials Committee and the Elections Committee were called. The Credentials Committee Chair is Barbara Campbell [6th: Georgia North Region]. The Credentials Committee distributed lavender lanyards to identify those who were duly registered and the Elections Committee distributed clickers to the same. A total of 308 units were distributed at this session.

The motion to receive the Credentials Committee Report was offered by Carter Curtis [8th: Dallas-Fort Worth Region] and seconded by Sue Alexander [8th: Southeast Texas Region].

William Gerald Henderson [9th: Oklahoma Region] was named Parliamentarian by President Harris. The motion to accept Mr. Henderson as the Parliamentarian was offered by Willie Robinson [9th: Northern California Region] and seconded by Hiram Springle [7th: Carolina Region].

President Harris then requested that General Secretary Victor Taylor assume the Chair to present the first resolution listed in the Journal, because President Harris was the author of the resolution.

Resolutions

The Institute began to review Resolutions [Journal, pp 43-77]. Results of the review:

Resolution No. 1 – Duties of Stewards

Concurrence-77; Non Concurrence-22; Action: Passed.

Resolution to be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

President Harris resumed his duty as Chair.

Resolution No. 2 – The Lay Council

Concurrence-194; Non Concurrence-97; Action: Passed.

Resolution will be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 3 – General Conference Delegates

Concurrence-49; Non Concurrence-229; Action: Failed

Resolution will not be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Lunch Break

Business Session, Cont'd

The Steering Committee offered the orders-of-the-day: Election Committee; Credential Committee; Resolutions Committee; Candidates Remarks, Election of Officers.

The Credential Committee announced the official delegated body for this session is 294. Motion to accept the Report was offered by Barbara Campbell [6th: Georgia North Region] and seconded by Bruce Levingston [9th: Southern California Region]. Barbara Campbell moved to amend the count to 297. Seconded by Earl Bryant [3]. Amendment accepted.

President Harris stated that the Resolutions Committee had reviewed all Resolutions and were prepared to offer a recommendation for each to the body. It was, therefore, agreed that the Resolution Committee would present the Resolutions from this point. The Resolutions Committee then presented the following Resolutions to the body for consideration:

Resolution No. 4 – The Quarterly Conference

Motion for concurrence by Resolution Committee

Concurrence-245; Non Concurrence-21; Action: Agreed.
Resolution will be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 5 – The Quarterly Conference

Motion for concurrence by Resolution Committee
Concurrence-266; Non Concurrence-13; Action: Agreed.
Resolution will be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 6 – Class Leaders

Motion for concurrence by Resolution Committee
Concurrence-195; Non Concurrence-80; Action: Agreed.
Resolution will be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 7 – Acting Presiding Elders

Motion for concurrence by Resolution Committee
Concurrence-233; Non Concurrence-33; Action: Agreed.
Resolution will be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 8 – Rental of Parsonages

Motion for concurrence by Resolution Committee
Concurrence-240; Non Concurrence-39; Action: Agreed.
Resolution will be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 9 – District Lay Council

Motion for concurrence by Resolution Committee
Concurrence-248; Non Concurrence-26; Action; Action: Agreed.
Resolution will be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 10 – The Quarterly Conference

Motion for non concurrence by Resolution Committee
Concurrence-159; Non Concurrence-100; Action: Agreed.

Resolution will not be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 11 – The Regional Lay Council

Motion for concurrence by Resolution Committee
Concurrence-265; Non Concurrence-19; Action: Agreed.
Resolution will be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 12 – The Regional Lay Council

Motion for concurrence by Resolution Committee
Concurrence-270; Non Concurrence-12; Action: Agreed.
Resolution will be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 13 – The Regional Lay Council

Motion for non concurrence by Resolution Committee

Concurrence-161; Non Concurrence-113; Action: Agreed.

Resolution will not be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 14 – Background Check

Motion for non concurrence by Resolution Committee

Concurrence-168; Non Concurrence-104; Action: Agreed.

Resolution will not be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Resolution No. 15 – Connectional Usher Day

Motion for concurrence by Resolution Committee

Concurrence-256; Non Concurrence-15; Action: Agreed.

Resolution will be referred to the General Conference Resolution Committee

Due to time restraints, no other Resolutions were considered. All Resolutions approved by the Resolution Committee will be sent to the General Conference Resolution Committee.

Motion that recommendations coming from the Resolution Committee be put online was offered by Barbara Magwood [6th: Central Georgia Region] and seconded by Sue Alexander [8th: Southeast Texas Region]. Motion Passed. (Appendix 1 – Resolutions)

Special Group Presentation

Motion to change the orders-of-the-day at the request of General Secretary Dr. Victor Taylor was offered by Steering Committee Chair Joyce Crowder [8th: Dallas-Fort Worth Region] and seconded by Bennie McDonald [7th: New York-Washington Region]. Motion passed.

Dr. Taylor presented Yvonne Peters [3rd: Southeast Missouri, Illinois, and Wisconsin Region] who presented Kimberly R. Beck, St. Louis Regional Social Services Director, and Annie Rowe, Program Director of Family Haven.

A motion to amend the orders-of-the-day to accommodate the elections was offered by G. Bernice Richardson [7th: New York-Washington Region] and seconded by Anna Woods [9th: Southern California Region]. Motion Passed.

Election of Officers

The Election Committee presented the Slate of Candidates for Connectional Lay Council Office: **President**- Barbara Campbell [6th: Georgia North Region], Faye McGhee [7th: New York-Washington Region], Robert Stewart [4th: Louisiana Region]; **Secretary**- Joyce Crowder [8th: Dallas-Fort Worth Region]; **Asst. Secretary**-Toni Jackson-Williams [9th: Southern California Region]; **Treasurer**-Otis Bennett [9th: Oklahoma Region]; **Steward**-Freddie McKnight [7th: New York-Washington Region] , Charles Taylor [3rd: Michigan – Indiana Region]; **Stewardess**-Jolinda Dugger [1st: East Tennessee Region], Anna Woods [9th: Southern California Region]; **Usher**-Diana Winton [9th: Southern California Region]. After allowing nominations/applicants from the floor to be included on the slate of officers for each office the chair (President) proceeded with the elections.

Election Results:

President- Barbara Campbell [6th: Georgia North Region]
Secretary- Joyce Crowder [8th: Dallas-Fort Worth Region]
Asst. Secretary-Toni Jackson-Williams [9th: Southern California Region]
Treasurer-Otis Bennett [9th: Oklahoma Region]
Steward President- Charles Taylor [3rd: Michigan-Indiana]
Stewardess President-Jolinda Dugger [1st: East Tennessee Region]
Usher President-Diana Winton [9th: Southern California Region]

Dinner Break

Graham-Webb Scholars

The Graham-Webb Scholarship Presentations were made in a special program hosted by President Clifford L. Harris and featured the performance of an original poem “Take Your Place” by Shanna Barrett of Spencer OK who is a student at Oklahoma City University (OCU).

12 young men representing seven Episcopal Districts applied for the Graham-Webb Scholarship. One gentleman from each of the seven Episcopal Districts was awarded \$700.00: 1st Episcopal District - John Henning; 2nd Episcopal District - Davone' D. Williamson; 4th Episcopal District - Charlie W. Coleman III; 6th Episcopal District- Lendon J. Alexander; 7th Episcopal District- Justin W. Turner; 8th Episcopal District-Brandon Sermon; 9th Episcopal District – Kolin J. Jones.

Those who were not first place winners were awarded \$350.00: 1st Episcopal District-Terence Stringfellow; 6th Episcopal District-Lamar Richardson; 6th- Episcopal District-Dontarius V. Williams; 7th Episcopal District-Brandon K. Easter; 7th Episcopal District-Davon Green.

The Candidates Forum

The Candidates Forum was hosted by the General Secretary, Dr. Victor Taylor and organized by CheRhonda Greenlee [2nd: Kentucky Region]. Moderators were Connectional Young Adult Ministry President Brian Magwood [6th: Central Georgia Region], Faye McGhee [7th: New York-Washington Region], and Reverend Lavisha Williams [Pastor, Wesley C.M.E. Church, Beloit WI].

The Forum was divided into two-1 hour segments with a small break in between. Candidates were given an opportunity to introduce themselves, answer pre-selected questions in 45 seconds, and up to 45 seconds to close at the end of the Forum. Part I of the Forum presented candidates for General Department Heads: Lay Ministry- Clifford L. Harris [9], Willie J. Robinson [9], Robert Stewart [4]; Executive Secretary-Atty Juanita Bryant [2], Essie Clark-George [3], Jeanette Bouknight [3]; Christian Education-Willa Ross [1]; Christian Index Editor- E. Elaine Jack-Crittendon, Ore L. Spragin Jr.; Evangelism and Missions-DeWayne Golightley [2]; Ministry To Men-Leo Pinkett [6].

Part II of the Candidates Forum featured those seeking Episcopal Office: Anthony M. Alford Sr., Bobby R. Best, W.C. Champion, Daryll H. Coleman, Jerry L. Christian Sr., Carmichael D. Crutchfield, Ronald P. Davis Sr., Tyrone T. Davis, Johnie K. Dollarhide, Daniel Fitten, Shirley Fletcher, Joseph Gardner, Arthur S. Green, Manuel Henderson, J.J. Jackson III, Kenneth E. Jones, Eddie L. Jumper, Charles J. King Jr., W.E. Lockett, Wendell M. Oldham Jr., Robert

Peoples, Regina Reese-Young, Theresa E. Snorton, James B. Walker, Sylvester Williams Sr., Wayne A. Williams.

Episcopal Caucuses

Following the Candidates Forum, the Episcopal District Caucuses met to elect Vice Presidents of the Lay Council, Stewards, Stewardesses, and Ushers:

1st Episcopal District

Bishop William H. Graves
Lay - Anderson Cook
Steward - Don Davis
Stewardess – Pandora Flakes
Usher – Clayrethia Pete

2nd Episcopal District

Bishop E. Lynn Brown
Lay – James Nelson
Steward – Cherria A. Leveston
Stewardess – Margaret Hughes
Usher – Pamela Young Buford

3rd Episcopal District

Bishop Paul A.G. Stewart, Sr.
Lay - Evelyn Moore
Steward – Liles Young
Stewardess – Lillian Curlett
Usher – Gerald Bullard

4th Episcopal District

Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr.
Lay – Clarence Magee
Steward – Terry Lewis
Stewardess – Bonita Black
Usher – Queen Martin

5th Episcopal District

Bishop L.L. Reddick III
Lay – Joe Powell

Continued Next Column →

Steward – Evelle D. Bowie
Stewardess – Johnnie Summerville
Usher – Jacqueline Tribue-Scott

6th Episcopal District

Bishop Othal H. Lakey
Lay – Frank Morman, Jr.
Steward – Matthew Roberts
Stewardess – Margurite Albright
Usher – Carolyn Johnson

7th Episcopal District

Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr.
Lay – LaVerne Miller
Steward – Hiram Springle
Stewardess – Judith E. Grant
Usher – Carolyn Lyons-Piper

8th Episcopal District

Bishop Ronald M. Cunningham
Lay – Rickey C. Fontenot
Steward – Carter Curtis
Stewardess – Ann Cartwright
Usher – Evelyn Bassett

9th Episcopal District

Bishop Henry M. Williamson
Lay – Donald B. Levingston
Steward – Rosemary Hill
Stewardess – Anna Woods
Usher – Mary Hawkins

Monday – 21 September 2009

The Closing/Commissioning Service featured a sermon from Reverend Van Carl Williams, pastor of Cedar Crest CME Church – Dallas, TX. Clifford L. Harris, in his closing remarks, left a final challenge to delegates and the new Lay Council officers. Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr.

congratulated the outgoing administration on the success of the 14th Quadrennial Connectional Lay Institute and challenged the new officers to carry the flame. Bishop L.L. Reddick, III prayed and pronounced the Benediction on the 14th Quadrennial Session of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Connectional Lay Institute.

337 registered delegates attended. (Appendix 2 – Registered Attendees)

Respectfully,

R. Faye M. McGhee, Secretary

APPENDIX 1

RESOLUTIONS
from the Lavender Book of
THE 14th QUADRENNIAL CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE

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 1 PASSED

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)

continued→

§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.

continued→

- §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.

...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 2 PASSED

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;

continued→

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 3 FAILED

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 4 PASSED

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 5 PASSED

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 6 PASSED

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 7 PASSED

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 8 PASSED

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 9 PASSED

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 11 PASSED

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

RESOLUTION 12 PASSED

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 13 FAILED

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

RESOLUTION 14 FAILED

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 15 PASSED

14TH QUADRENNIAL CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE
September 19-21, 2009 – The Millennium Hotel, St Louis, MO

Registered Attendees

1ST EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

Charles E Anderson
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Bartlett TN 38134

William H Brooks
45 Manor Road
Jackson TN 38305

Walter Clearier

Anderson E Cook
91 Cotton Ridge Cv S –
Cordova TN 38018

Jolinda Dugger
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Jackson, Tn 38301

Emma L Gardner
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Memphis TN 38105

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Jackson TN 38305

Jarel A Hoskin

Robert Hunt
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Millington TN 38053

Herman Johnson

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Ernestine Taylor

Arystine Tipson

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Theresa Yarbrough

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