

Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization

Life Members Guidelines

About Life Membership in Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization

Life Membership will be granted to any Lay Member in the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization according to the provisions of Section 17 through Section 19 and Subsections 1-4 of the Constitution & By-laws of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Section 17:

A.) Life Membership designee will be established for those members of the Fifth District Lay Organization who have served the District as officers and/or standing committee chairpersons for a period of not less than eight (8) years,

OR

B.) Life Membership must be recommended by the local Lay Organization to the Conference Lay Organization of persons who have provided outstanding leadership, who have made outstanding contribution to their Conference Lay Organization and who have been an active members of their Local and Conference Lay Organization for a period of not less than four (4) continuous quadrennials. Recommendation must be submitted on the Life Member nomination form, accompanied with the resume/ bio and enrollment fee.

C.) All such recommendations shall be reviewed by the Fifth District Lay Organization Life Member Committee prior to consideration by the Fifth District Lay President, Fifth District Lay Organization Executive Board and shall be subject to approval by a majority vote of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay membership present at the time of voting during the annual Fifth District convention.

D.) Once the Life Member nominee is approved by the Fifth District Lay Organization Life Member Committee, Fifth District Lay President, Fifth District Lay Organization Executive Board and by the majority vote of the convention body the nominee becomes a Life Member for a lifetime. The Life Member will receive and acquire all of the privileges as set forth in the Constitution and By-laws of the 5th Episcopal District Lay Organization as well as being a member in good and regular standing in their Local Lay Organization.

E.) There will be no Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Awards presentation during the year of a General Conference. The Layperson of the Year and Young Adult Representative (YAR) names from the previous even year will be submitted to the Connectional Lay Organization if needed to represent the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization as our representatives at the Connectional Lay Organization Convention since we are asked by them to submit these two persons' names from our district.

F.) All newly nominated Life Members will pay a one-time fee to assist in supplying the cost of the benefits.

Subsection 1. Life members should continue to be active in their Local and Conference Lay Organization as long as their health permits.

Subsection 2. Life members who register for the Fifth Episcopal District Lay convention meetings through their Local Lay Organization shall receive a 25% discount on their registration.

Subsection 3. Life members shall be extended all the rights and privileges of other active members of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization as set forth in Section 17D.

Subsection 4. Any provisions or condition not expressly covered in either the Constitution & By-laws of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization shall be interpreted and construed in keeping with the long established policy, custom, tenets and traditions of African Methodist Episcopal Church, the AME Book of Discipline and Roberts Rules of Order, newly revised edition.

Section 18

Life Membership Processing Procedures:

1. Any member of the Local Lay Organization can make a nomination to their Conference for Life Membership.
2. Applications are available from the 5th District Lay Second Vice President.
3. All application forms must have the required signatures such as Local and Conference if they are being presented as a nominee for consideration as a Life Member and must be accompanied by one-time enrollment fee.
4. Members requesting Life Membership will have to apply no later than one month (30 days) prior to the annual convention meeting of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization.
5. Application form and a one page resume/bio should be sent for the person desiring Life Membership status to the 5th District Lay Second Vice President with the one-time enrollment fee.
6. Life membership will be granted only once during the Conference Year.
7. A Conference cannot have more than a total of seven (7) Life Members per Conference.
8. No additional Life Member applications will be approved or accepted if the Conference has more than a total of seven (7) names unless the death of one of the Life Member has occurred during the Conference year and before the thirty (30) day annual convention meeting rule (See procedure number 4).

Section 19

Life Membership Benefits:

1. Life Members shall have special seating status at all Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Conventions and worship services. (no cost to district)
2. Life Members shall be responsible for purchasing decorum such as Life Member Jacket. (no cost to district)
3. Life Members will march in together at the worship services behind the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Officers. (no cost to district)
4. Life Members shall have discounts on Registration fee not to exceed 25% to the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Conventions.
5. Life Members will receive a small plaque showing the year of inauguration paid for by the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization from the Second Vice President's budget. (no cost to district)
6. Life Members will receive a special Life Membership pins. (no cost to district)
7. Life Members shall have voting member status at the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Convention and is not included as one of the six (6) elected delegate which are five (5) elected delegates and one (1) elected young adult delegate between the ages of eighteen to thirty (18-30) years since the President and the Director of Lay Activities are automatic delegates that is a total of eight (8) delegates (no cost to district). Note: This benefit is on hold until after the Connectional Lay Organization Convention in July 2013.
8. Life Members shall have the privilege and honor of being part of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Executive Board, but will not be paid a stipend to attend conventions unless he/she is an actual Executive Board Member.
9. The Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization will pay 5% of the Life Member's registration fee to the Biennial Convention if he/she decides to attend as an observer and is not a district, conference or local delegate (example: registration is \$225.00 x 5%= \$11.25 off fee).
10. The Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization will only be responsible for the benefits as specifically stated on line item number four (4) and number nine (9) under Life Member Benefits.

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