

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization

July 30th - August 2nd 2014 | Marriott Oakland City Center | Oakland, CA

Pamela Williams

President, Missouri Conference



FIFTY-SEVENTH (57TH) ANNUAL SESSION
FIFTH DISTRICT LAY CONVENTION

Daily Fulfilling the Great Commission

Hosted by The California Conference Lay Organization

Opening Statement

Laitty Fulfilling the Great Commission



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TO: Bishop T. Larry Kirkland, Presiding Prelate of the Fifth Episcopal District; Mrs. Mary Kirkland, Episcopal supervisor; Dr. Willie Glover, Connectional Lay President; Connectional Officers; Mr. Simeon Rhoden, President, Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization; Fifth District Lay Officers; Presiding Elders; Pastors; Members of the Clergy; Delegates; Visitors and Friends

I greet you with Jesus joy. This is my first District Convention report as the President of the Missouri Conference Lay Organization. I pray that the awesome power of God is moving throughout your Conferences and is giving you joy and peace and hope.

We have had record-breaking support of all our events this year: the Annual Prayer Breakfast in January, the Holy Smoke! in February and our Awards Banquet in June. The support of the Conference, and especially of our Presiding Elders and Pastors, has been overwhelming and greatly appreciated. We continue to conduct monthly meetings and special conference call meetings as needed.

I reached out to the Pastors of the Missouri Conference and we have had three churches pay fair share this conference year who have never paid fair shares or had an active Lay Organization. We have added four new Lay Organizations to the Missouri Conference this year and we have visited with two of them so far to help get them established, and are making plans with one additional organization to visit and get it set up. I have visited seven churches this year to conduct training, lead workshops or serve as the Lay Day speaker. I have made all the Conference training materials available in a Dropbox folder and emailed the link to the local presidents so everyone has access to the same materials at all times. We have two first-timers attending this convention.

Our final major event of this year will be the Missouri Annual Conference Lay Witness Night in Friday, October 10, 2014, where we are planning another awesome night of Jazz and Christian Comedy. Please join us if you are in St. Louis.

Thank you to District President, Simeon Rhoden, for helping the Missouri Conference to have a very successful year. A special thank you to my Advisors, MCLO past presidents Lamar Rose, Nona Simpkins and Samantha Kendall for the advice, instruction and for answering the countless questions I have had, and to the members of the MCLO for bearing with me this first year through the mistakes, transitions and growing pains as well as the support to make this a very successful year.

We welcome you to join us at any of our meetings and all of our events. Please keep the Missouri Conference Lay Organization in your prayers as we are in continual prayer for each of you.

Yours in His Service,
Pamela L. Williams, MCLO President

Statistical Report



Lay Fulfilling the Great Commission

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1. Number of Local Lay Organizations in the Conference:		20 (4 new)	
2. Number of Churches in Conference & Number of Cities		# Churches: 30 / # Cities: 19	
3. Total number of members in Lay Organization		194	
4. This is an Increase/Decrease Over Last Year		Increase	
5. Number of Persons to This Convention:		14 attending / 19 registered	
a. Connectional Officers:	0	g. Local Church Presidents:	3
b. District Officers:	4	h. Local Church Adult Delegates:	0
c. Conference Presidents:	1	i. Local Church Youth Delegates:	0
d. Conference Adult Delegates:	5	j. Observers: Clergy	5
e. Conference Youth Delegates:	0	k. Director of Lay Activities:	1
f. Total Nr. First-Timers:	2	TOTAL NUMBER DELEGATES:	19

6. Number of Persons Deceased This Year:	1
7. Number of Churches Visited Last Year:	7
8. Number of Workshops Held Last Year:	2

Conference Lay Projects or Accomplishments

Lay Fulfilling the Great Commission



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- Added four (4) new local organizations
- Record-breaking attendance at all our events.
 - Annual Prayer Breakfast
 - Holy Smoke! A Tasting Affair
 - Lay Christian Arts Festival
 - Annual Awards Banquet
- In communication with all pastors to pay fair share, even if they do not have a Lay Organization and to encourage those churches without Organizations to get one established (pgs. 61-74 – 2012 Discipline)
- Working in conjunction with the Presiding Elders to get clergy support at all Lay events

Conference Lay Projects or Accomplishments



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• Conference Training Workshops

- How to Run a Meeting
- How to Start a Lay Organization
- Purpose and History of the Lay Organization
- Robert's Rules of Order
- Your Money: Where Does It Go?



*2014 Prayer Breakfast
"Believers Breaking Bread:
The Love Feast"*

• Local Lay Workshops & Events

- 12 Standards for Church Leaders
- 25 Articles of Religion
- Advent by Candlelight
- AME 101: Know Your Church History and Church Operation
- Annual Easter Sunday Sunrise Breakfast
- Annual Lay Day
- Annual Lay Founder's Day Celebration
- Being A Member In An AME Church
- Black Heritage Video Night
- Doctrine and Discipline 2012
- Fish Fry
- Know Your Church
- Officers Duties
- Signs of a Dying Church
- Tithes, Offerings and Pledges
- Trivia
- What We Believe

*2014 Awards Banquet
Layperson of the Year*



2014 LCAF Participants

Recommendations for Conference

Lay People Fulfilling the Great Commission



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- None at this time

Budget

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- District Budget Paid Prior to Convention: \$2,100
- District Budget Paid On-Site at Convention: \$0 – paid in full

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Questions

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