

African Methodist Episcopal Church Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization

July 29th – July 31st 2015 | Airport Hilton | Kansas City, MO



Melvin L. Jenkins, Esq.

President, Midwest Conference

FIFTY-EIGHTH (58TH) ANNUAL SESSION
FIFTH DISTRICT LAY CONVENTION

Hosted by The Midwest Lay Organization

Opening Statement

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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; Clergy; Delegates; Visitors and Friends

On behalf of Team Midwest, I greet all of you in the name of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We also want to extend congratulations to the Fifth District Lay Organization as we convene for the 58th Annual Session.

This has been a very busy and productive year for Team Midwest. We started our year with two major activities; a Unity Service and a Commitment Service that brought the lay and clergy together in a pledge of support for all activities of Team Midwest. As a further pledge of support, for the first time Team Midwest convened a luncheon meeting between the laity and clergy of the Midwest Annual Conference. Over 60 persons attended from as far away as Wichita, Kansas; Omaha, Nebraska; and Topeka, Kansas. It was a time for Team Midwest to lay out plans for all of its activities for the Conference Year.

In addition to its regular Executive Board meetings, Team Midwest hosted a tour of the Richard Allen Cultural Center in Leavenworth, Kansas. It also provided training to various local lay organizations and continued the monthly telephone conference call training sessions.

Finally, we in the Midwest Conference cannot contain our excitement and enthusiasm in hosting the 58th Annual Session of the Fifth District Lay Convention. As we work together over the next several days, let us do so, "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Ephesians 4:3.

Yours in the Struggle,

Melvin L. Jenkins, President

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization

58th Annual Session

Statistical Report

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1. Number of Local Lay Organizations in the Conference:		36		
2. Number of Churches in Conference & Number of Cities		60 Churches and 45 Cities		
3. Total number of members in Lay Organization		320		
4. This is an Increase/Decrease Over Last Year		20 Increase		
5. Number of Persons to This Convention:		40		
a. Connectional Officers:	0	g. Local Church Presidents:	6	
b. District Officers:	2	h. Local Church Adult Delegates:	20	
c. Conference Presidents:	1	i. Local Church Youth Delegates:		
d. Conference Adult Delegates:	5	j. Observers:	13	
e. Conference Youth Delegates:	1	k. Director of Lay Activities:	1	
f. Total Nr. First-Timers:	0	TOTAL NUMBER DELEGATES:		
6. Number of Persons Deceased This Year:			0	
7. Number of Churches Visited Last Year:			10	
8. Number of Workshops Held Last Year:			4	

Conference Lay Projects/Accomplishments

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- Our major emphasis has been in the following areas; Training, Scholarships, Annual Convention, and Lay Night at the Annual Conference.
- **TRAINING**
- The Free Training Conference Calls is still our method of endeavoring to reach everyone in our Conference that includes the States of Kansas, Nebraska and Northwest Missouri. The following topics were covered: Duties and Responsibilities of Officers; the Electoral College; and How to conduct the Business of the Church.
- **LAY NIGHT AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
- As a departure from prior years, Team Midwest provided a concert of Gospel/jazz and comic relief.
- **ANNUAL CONVENTION**

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- .The Annual Convention opened with Worship and our own Bishop T. Larry Kirkland was the speaker of the hour. The Convention was well attended and the offered several major workshops including one lead by our Director of Lay Activities on, “Know your Church.” At the Royal Blue and White Banquet, one person was inducted as a Life Member. As noted , Team Midwest presented our four scholarship winners.
- Other Noted Accomplishments
- Team Midwest announced its new website, Teammidwest.org
- Team Midwest will continue with its 6:00am worship service every fourth Sunday in the Kansas City area.

Recommendations for Conference

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Recommendations for District

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Budget

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- District Budget Paid Prior to Convention: \$2200.00
- District Budget Paid On-Site at Convention:

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Questions

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