

African Methodist Episcopal Church Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization

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



Pamela L. Williams

President, Missouri 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

I greet you with Jesus joy. I pray that the awesome power of God is moving throughout your Conferences and guiding you in magnificent directions.

We have had overwhelming support of all our events this year: the Annual Prayer Breakfast in January, the Holy Smoke! in February and our Lay Weekend in June, featuring Bishop Clement Fugh of the 14th District. 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.

For the second year, I reached out to all the Pastors of the Missouri Conference and we have had almost every church to pay fair share this conference year whether they have an active Lay Organization or not. We have added two new Lay Organizations to the Missouri Conference this year. 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 three first-timers attending this convention.

Our final major event of this year will be the Missouri Annual Conference Lay Witness Night in Friday, October 9, 2015, where we are planning a night of Gospel 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 questions, and to the members of the MCLO for the steadfast 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

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1. Number of Local Lay Organizations in the Conference:		22 (2 new)	
2. Number of Churches in Conference & Number of Cities		# Churches: 30 / # Cities: 19	
3. Total number of members in Lay Organization		191	
4. This is an Increase/Decrease Over Last Year		3 Decrease	
5. Number of Persons to This Convention:		22	
a. Connectional Officers:	0	g. Local Church Presidents:	4
b. District Officers:	4	h. Local Church Adult Delegates:	5
c. Conference Presidents:	1	i. Local Church Youth Delegates:	0
d. Conference Adult Delegates:	5	j. Observers: Clergy	1
e. Conference Youth Delegates:	1	k. Director of Lay Activities:	1
f. Total Nr. First-Timers:	3	TOTAL NUMBER DELEGATES:	22

6. Number of Persons Deceased This Year: Janet Johnson; Bessie Wilson Money; Kathleen Gillespie	3
7. Number of Churches Visited Last Year:	2
8. Number of Workshops Held Last Year:	2

Conference Lay Projects/Accomplishments

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- Added two (2) new local organizations
- Overwhelming attendance at all our events, including clergy.
 - Annual Prayer Breakfast
 - Holy Smoke! A Tasting Affair
 - Missouri Conference Prayer Walk for Peace (Entire Conference Event)
 - Lay Christian Arts Festival
 - Lay Weekend – Saturday Workshop; Sunday Worship – featuring Bishop Clement Fugh
- 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. It is working.

Conference Lay Projects/Accomplishments



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- **Conference Training Workshops**

- Evangelism Beyond the Walls Prayer Breakfast
- Christian Discipling

- **Local Lay Workshops & Events**

- Monthly Meetings
- Assist with New Members Classes
- Lay Worship Service or Weekend
- Lay Day Play: "God Uses Ordinary People to do Extraordinary Things"
- Annual Back to School Give-a-way
- Advent by Candlelight
- Black History Month Celebration with the Children's Church
- Trivia Fellowship
- Shop 'til You Drop Bus Trip
- Being A Member In the AME Church
- Fruit of the Spirit Prayer Breakfast
- Evening of Jazz
- Do You Know Your Church?
- Sunday Morning Breakfast
- Annual Lay & WMS Friends and Family Day
- Workshop: "The Order of Service, Signs of a Successful Church, Signs of an Unsuccessful Church"
- Annual Birthday Celebration
- Salad Festival
- National Black Lives Matter - Silent March in historic St. Charles
- Christmas Fellowship
- St. Charles Community MLK Celebration - St. John Lay org featured on program
- Resurrection Day Fellowship - lunch and egg hunt on the lawn
- Graduation Celebration
- Community Coat Drive
- 2nd Sunday Church School - Lay Workbook Training
- Prayer March
- Wolf Pack Summer Camp

Recommendations for Conference

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- None at this time.

Recommendations for District

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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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