

African Methodist Episcopal Church Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization

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



Dorothy Vails-Weber, Ed.D.

President, Southern California Conference

FIFTY-SEVENTH (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

Greetings in the Precious Name of Jesus,

I wish to make the following report on behalf of the Southern California Conference Lay Organization.

Statistical Report

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1. Number of Local Lay Organizations in the Conference:		47	
2. Number of Churches in Conference & Number of Cities		56 Churches: 36	
3. Total number of members in Lay Organization		565	
4. This is an Increase/Decrease Over Last Year		(Increase)/Decrease	
5. Number of Persons to This Convention:		33	
a. Connectional Officers:	0	g. Local Church Presidents:	12
b. District Officers:	5	. Local Church Adult Delegates:	30
c. Conference Presidents:	1	i. Local Church Youth Delegates:	1
d. Conference Adult Delegates:	5	j. Observers:	1
e. Conference Youth Delegates:	1	k. Director of Lay Activities:	1
f. Total Nr. First-Timers:	5	TOTAL NUMBER DELEGATES:	33
6. Number of Persons Deceased This Year:		16	
7. Number of Churches Visited Last Year:		16	
8. Number of Workshops Held Last Year:		10	

Conference Lay Projects/Accomplishments

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- Fall Extravaganza: November 1, 2014
 - Awards Luncheon/Silent Auction: Lay Person of Year, Floyd Webster Trail Blazer, Community Service, Evangelism and four scholarships awarded. Kathy Drayton, Chairperson, Jackie Dupont-Walker, Silent Auction.
- “Spring Into Fashion”, Fashion Show: February 14, 2015
 - Luncheon and Fashion show. Sold-out event. 200 in attendance
 - Dr. Verda Bradley/Barbara McCombs, Co-Chairpersons.
- Spring Revival: April 30-May 1, 2015; Bishop T. Larry Kirkland, Revivalist . Dinner served each evening before worship. Exhorter, Gwendolyn Williams, Chairperson
- Lay Christian Arts Festival: Six Contestants; Three winners. One seventeen year old in poetry, one 13 year old painter, on Fifteen year old singer. All none winners and none traveling participants (poetry and painting) received \$150.00

Conference Lay Projects/Accomplishments

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- 2015 LAY INSTITUTE: Director Of Lay Activities
“Laity Fulfilling the Great Commission: The Evidence Of Discipleship”
Plenary Session: “Faith Without Works Is Dead”

WORKSHOPS:

“Help Is Here :Traveling Road Out of Poverty

“Missions That Test Our Faith

“Tithing J.O.B. (Jesus Opportunity Bank)

“Field Trip” Sex Trafficking In Los Angeles

Workout to Get Ready to Serve (Movement suggestions to prepare for Energy builders, wellness exercises).

Mock Lay Electoral College and General Conference Tidbits.

Recommendations for Conference

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- Probably the SCCLLO is the only conference with the problem of delegate nullification. In the SCCLLO Lay Organization, local presidents to the convention run as delegates to the Fifth District and Biennial Conventions. Some do not attempt to replace themselves by holding an election for another member to attend the Fifth District and Biennial conventions. This minimizes the voting strength of the conference delegation to the District and the Fifth District delegation to the Biennial.
- The recommendation is:
 - In the best interest of the Lay Organization at all levels, Presidents of local organizations can not be elected as Conference delegates to the Fifth District or the Biennial. Local presidents have automatic membership at the Fifth District and the Biennial.
 - When local presidents are elected as conference delegates, they must hold an election to choose a delegate from the local church organization to the Fifth District and the Biennial.
 - The above recommendations will keep the voting strength of the Fifth District at an optimal level.

Recommendations for District

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- The Lay Christian Arts Festival has become an important of the organization for many young people.

Once again, I am recommending that those whose talent is poetry be allowed to read their poetry in the conference and Fifth District competitions. The most important aspect of poetry is the beauty of hearing it read. I believe it is unfair to the young people who write poetry to deny them the opportunity to read it.

Budget

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- District Budget Paid Prior to Convention: \$2,400
- District Budget Paid On-Site at Convention: \$ 0

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Questions

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