



BACK TO THE BASICS

Part 1

The Lay Organization & Young Adult Representative 101

Cassandra Marshall 5th District Young Adult Representative



Mission – The Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church is commissioned to teach, train and empower its members for lay ministry, global leadership and service following the tenets of Jesus Christ.



Purpose – The purpose of the organization shall be to organize and train the laity of the African Methodist Episcopal Church so that lay persons may maximally utilize their God given abilities and skills to improve and extend the kingdom to create happiness, peace, and harmony among its members.



How do we accomplish the MISSION
and PURPOSE of the LAY
ORGANIZATION ?

The purpose and mission of Lay Organization can be accomplished with the following objectives:

1. By creating a love and appreciation of the History and Principles of African Methodism.
2. Keep the memory of Richard Allen alive.
3. Advocate respect and loyalty for constituted authority.
4. Encourage the support of the total program of the church within the congregation and community.
5. Study the Discipline and learn the laws of the church.
6. Promote the teachings of Jesus Christ and spread personal evangelism.
7. Provide systematic training of laypersons that they may effectively perform their service responsibilities.



“ GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS,
BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE
SON AND OF THE HOLY GHOST”

- MATTHEW 28:19



Purpose of the Young Adult Representative

- Represent the concerns and needs of young adult laity
- Provide programming, teaching, and training that reaches the young adult demographic (18-35) in conjunction with the Director of Lay Activities
- Works in partnership with the President and Director of Lay Activities in teaching, training, & programming



DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Young Adult Representative shall:

1. Be responsible for implementing teaching and training opportunities for Young Adults in conjunction with the Director of Lay Activities.
1. Prepare an annual and biennial line item budget to reflect the work of this office for submission to the Budget Committee.
1. Advocate for Young Adults concerns to Connectional Executive Board and beyond.

(The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2012, p. 390 Article V, Sec. 1, O.)

4. Facilitate Lay Organization Young Adult with the approval of the Executive Board

5. Voice the concerns and visions of a new generation of laity, and serve as a Christian mentor to a younger generation of African Methodists.

(The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2012, p. 390, Article V., Section 1, O.)



QUALIFICATIONS
FOR YEAR

Any candidate seeking the office of Young Adult Representative shall:

- 1) Be between the ages of 18-35 at the time of election. Completion of high school and pursuing a post-secondary degree (at the optimum) is required
- 1) Demonstrate visionary leadership skills through work experience or volunteer opportunities, especially with Youth and Young Adults within the church or other organizations and;
- 1) Possess strong abilities to provide training, and demonstrate effective communication skills

(The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2012, p. 390, Article V.III, Section 15)

WAIT, WAIT, WAIT...
I'M NOT EVEN A
MEMBER



Membership



- Article IV. Section 1

Membership in this organization is open to all Lay (un-ordained) members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, in good and regular standing, in their Local, District of the Annual Conference, Conference, and Episcopal District Lay Organizations.

- Governed by the Constitution
- Pays required dues
- Attends 50% of the local lay organization meetings, and participates on the District, Conference and Episcopal District levels.

Lay Organization

The Laity are essential to the LIFE of their local church – 1 Corinthians 12:1, 4 – 31

Pastoral leaders and your churches would be lost without you. Without you there is no community. Without you Jesus is an empty word rattling about in the corridors of history. Without you the church is a lifeless shell. The measure of the church's success is directly related to how you, the lay members of your community, love one another and live out your faith in your daily lives.

- "A Word for Lay Christians" Wesley Wildman and Stephen Chapin *The Alban Weekly*



OKAY I GOT IT... BUT I'M
NEW TO THIS & WILL
DEFINITELY NEED SOME
HELP



NO WORRIES, WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!





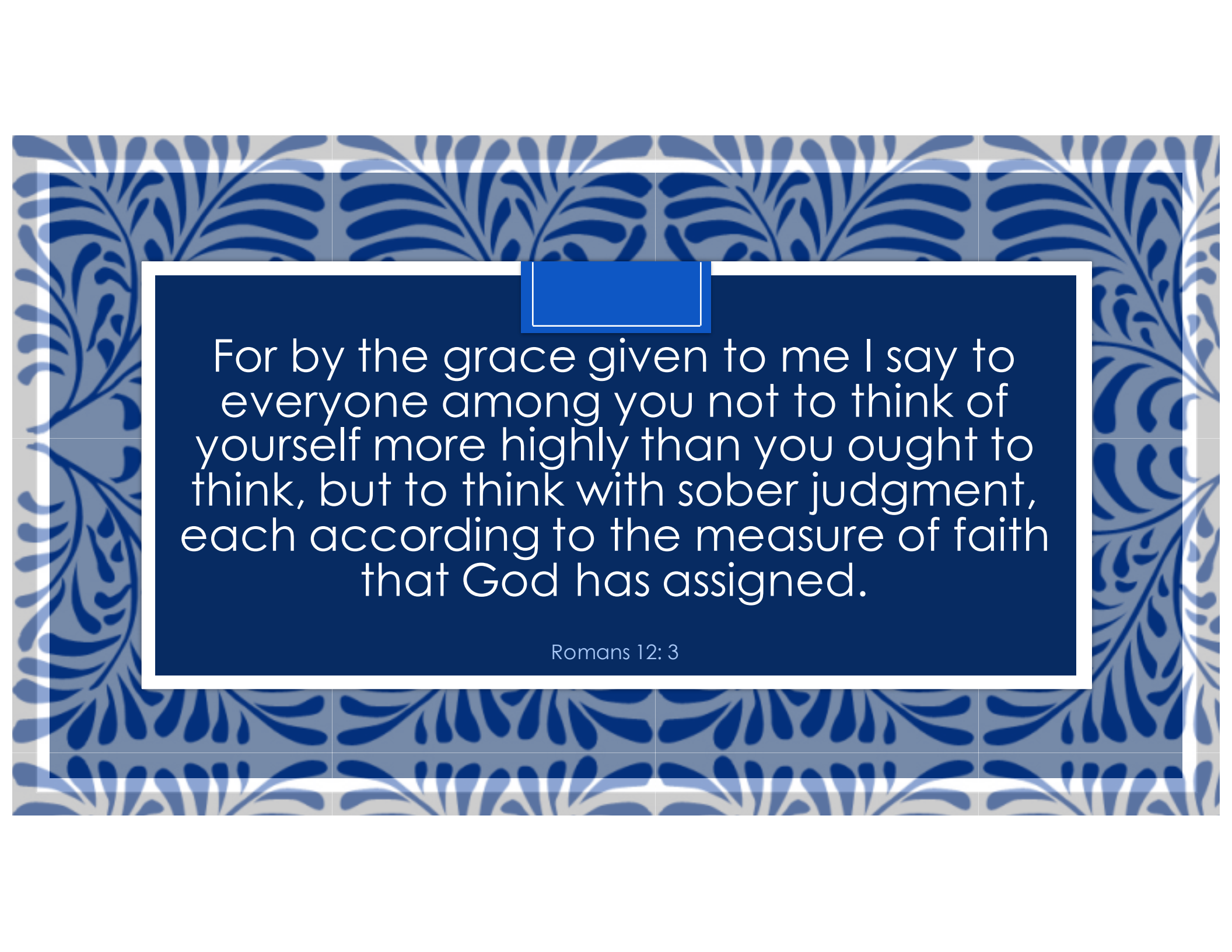
In the Lay Organization it is important to understand that we are all leaders...



WHAT IS A SERVANT LEADER?

LEADERS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE
SERVED, RIGHT?





For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

Romans 12: 3

Lay Ministry is Service to God by the People of God

Lay ministry begins with the clear understanding that ministry is the work of all Christians.

Lay – Derived from the Greek word *laos* which means “people of God”

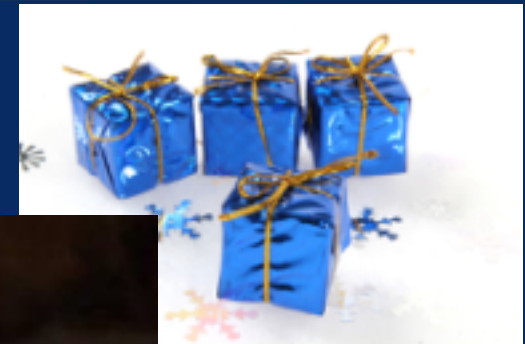
Ministry – The English word Ministry originates from the Greek word *diakonia* which is translated as **service**.

Spiritual Gifts

1 Peter 4:10-11 (10) Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. (11) Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Spiritual Gifts

- Everyone of us has at least one spiritual gift (v.10).
- Spiritual gifts are intended to serve people, not bolster our reputations (v.10).
- We use our gifts as stewards, not owners (v. 10).
- God is the source and the sustainer of every gift (v. 11).
- We are to employ our gifts as though we were serving the Lord. (v.11).



Servant Leaders

Those who have
tapped into their gift
from God and give
back to God
through Service in
the church and
community.

Your



Picture Here

Every Laymen Knows...



What to Read:

- The Holy Bible
- The Book of Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church
- We Speak Magazine



What to Wear:

The official colors of the Connectional Lay Organization are:

Royal Blue and White or **Navy Blue** and White

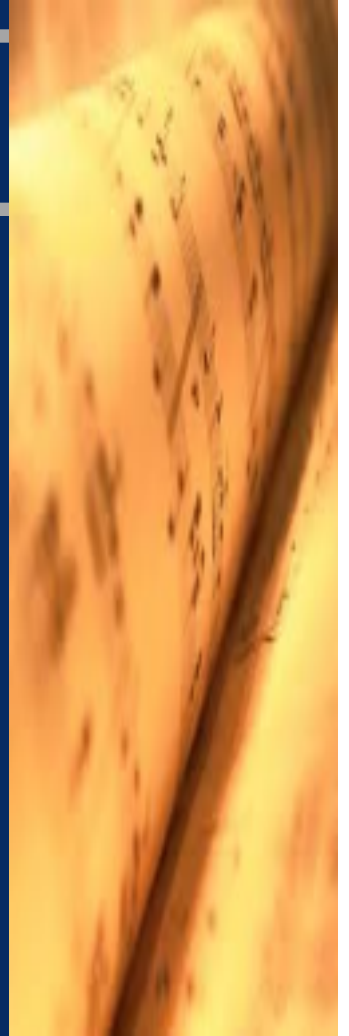


The Lay Hymn

Tune: "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah" Frances A. Walston

Laymen now have thus assembled,
In Thy blessed name O God.
Guide us in our true endeavor,
Light the pathway that we trod;
Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause
Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause.

We are banded one in union,
To fulfill Thy just command.
May we be Thy true disciples,
Holding to Thy mighty hand;
Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love
Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love.



Every Laymen knows...

The Lay Benediction

May God bless us with the true spirit of Christianity.
That we may live together, not as man over man,
but as lay persons working with God.

Amen.





QUESTIONS



BACK TO THE BASICS

Part II

The 3 M's of Attracting Young Adults

Cassandra Marshall

Young Adult Representative
5th District Lay Organization



The Institute of Church Leadership lists several reasons why church membership is declining. Some of those reasons are: “Lack of vision, inept leadership, poor or no evangelism efforts, one-way communication, church mentality, little working capital, inadequate childcare, out dated youth programs, and being seeker sensitive.”

Will this become OUR Legacy?

Back To The Basics

The 3 M's of Attracting Young Adult



"Here's a résumé from a candidate who says he can't grow a church but loves attending conferences to learn how."

- Marketing
- Mentorship
- Ministry

MARKETING

What is your purpose? How are you perceived?

What are you representing?



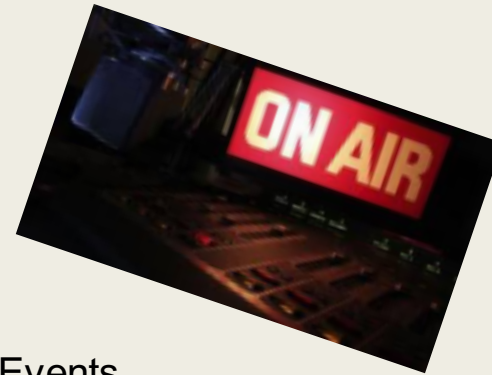
Marketing

- Know your church and organizations purpose
- Deliver your message clearly. Be specific
- Make an emotional connection with young adults
- Network with other community organizations
- Have a genuine positive attitude to make a memorable impression

Name That Brand



Embrace Your Resources



Community Events



- **Word of Mouth** is by far the most effective method of promoting your ministry.



MENTORSHIP

Who Will Be Your Joshua? How Will My Legacy Make An Impact?



LEADERSHIP

IS ABOUT MAKING OTHERS

BETTER AS A

RESULT OF YOUR PRESENCE

AND MAKING **SURE**

THAT IMPACT LASTS IN YOUR

ABSENCE.

Inclusivity

- All are welcome.
- Train once they have shown interest and a commitment to Kingdom Building.
- Fish with a net instead of a rod.
- But Jesus instructed “let down our nets.” (Luke 5:4)
When you fish with a net you catch all kinds of fish (people). They may have various backgrounds, employment status, economic status, educated or uneducated. Accept those who are willing with an open mind.

Effective Mentors

- Positive relationship built upon a mutual level of trust and respect for one another.
- Seeks opportunities for growth and development.
- Guides and counsels according to God's direction. Advises mentees on positive and potentially harmful behaviors.
- Role model – Being sure not to over influence mentee with ones own perspective.
- Genuine
- Motivates
- Inspires
- Responsible

5 Reasons Mentorship Fails

1. Position Entitlement
2. Lack of Interest/ Consistency
3. Fear
4. Change Resistance
5. Judgement

Challenge

Consider your growth over the years...

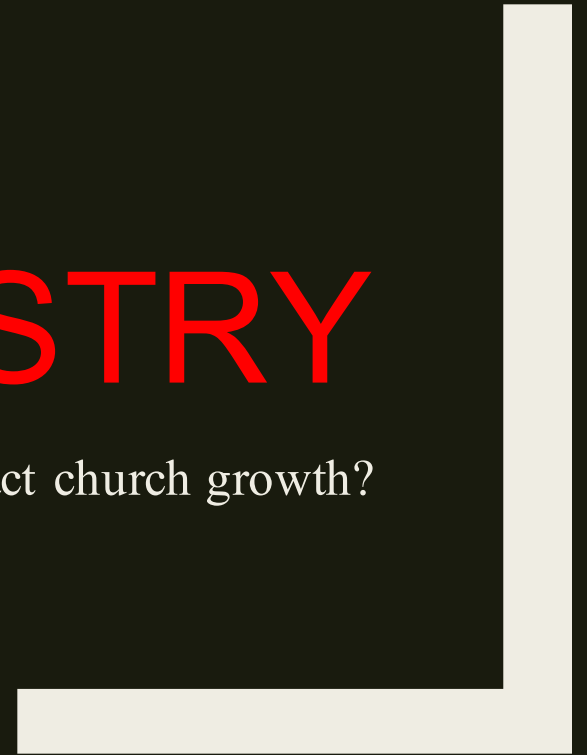
Name those who were influential to your development as a leader...

With those individuals and memories in mind, choose 3 younger individuals to inspire



MINISTRY

What is MY ministry? Will this MINISTRY impact church growth?



Lay Ministry

- Lead by God
- Intentional
- Genuine
- Shared with all that are willing to listen
- Relevant
- Role model of Christian discipleship
- Works with the pastor to strengthen the overall vision and ministries of the church.

Ministry – Brainstorming

- How would you define your ministry?
- How will your Lay Ministry attract young adults?
- What can be done differently?
- What has made the most profound impact on the young adults I have encountered?



QUESTIONS & COMMENTS



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