

66<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
FIFTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION  
HILTON KANSAS CITY AIRPORT  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI  
JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup> – JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

The 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention began at 9:15 a.m. (CST) on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 as a hybrid meeting.

Devotion was led by 5<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain Jene'l Sconier (PNW) with song, prayer and key scripture Mark 11:22 – “Have faith in God,; Jesus answered.”

**BUSINESS SESSION I-Presiding Officer President Lamar Rose(MOAC)**

**Call to Order** - The 5<sup>th</sup> District Lay Organization’s 66<sup>th</sup> Annual session was called to order by President Lamar Rose (MOAC) at 9:26 a.m.

**Roll Call of Officers**- conducted by Recording Secretary Jackie Payton. All District Officers, Conference Presidents, Committee Chairpersons and Advisers were present. Financial Secretary Florette Hampton(MOAC) was excused. Assistant Recording Secretary Brooke Blaylark(DMAC) and Adviser to the President Melvin Jenkins(MDW) were not present.

Rules Committee Report – President Rose(MOAC) called for the report of the Rules Committee. Committee Chair Monice Crawford(MDW) presented the Report of the Rules Committee. Recommendation made and accepted from the Rules Committee:

The aforementioned Issues Discussed, Findings, and Conclusions are adopted for the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization (Hybrid Session).

It was moved by Foster Chisholm(MDW) and seconded by Randy Scott(CAC) to accept the report of the Rules Committee with the stated recommendation. There was no opposition and the motion passed.

**Review and Approval of Agenda** – It was moved by Randy Scott(CAC) and seconded by Foster Chisholm(MDW) to approve the agenda. Unreadiness noted by Bill Dickens(PNW). Bill noted there is no break in the agenda for participants to enjoy the city. President Rose(MOAC) advised there would be no revision to add a break to the agenda. Unreadiness by Nixietta Williams(MOAC) – Registration and Credentials Report should come before the Seating of the Delegation. President Rose(MOAC) approved the change. There being no opposition to the responses of President Rose, the motion to approve the agenda passed.

**Welcome and Greetings** – President Rose(MOAC) shared Presiding Prelate Bishop Clement W. Fugh is unable to be with us and offered prayers and support for our Bishop. The delegation was greeted by Host DOLA and Host President of the Midwest Annual Conference Sis. JoLee Brooks and Midwest Annual Conference Committee members Tim Goff and Jessica Byrd. The delegation was also greeted by Mother Doris Bailey(MDW). Acknowledgements by Presiding Elder Lee Clayton Goodman(MOAC) and President Emeritus Simeon Rhoden(PNW).

**Registration and Credentials Report**- Registration report given by members of Registration committee: Charlotte Floyd, Sandra Nelson(PNW), Kathy Green(SCAC), Carol Young(CAC), Angela Bostick(CAC), Faye Combs(CAC) and Lori Miller.

Conf.	Conn. Officer	Episcopal Dist. Off.	Conf. Pres.	Conf. DOLA	Conf. YA Del.	Conf. DEL	Local Church President	Local Church Delegates	Local YAR	Alt.	Observer	Clergy	Total
DMAC	0	1	1	1	1	5	3	11	2	0	1	0	26
PNW	0	3	1	1	1	5	4	5	0	0	3	2	25
MO	0	3	1	1	0	4	6	2	0	0	2	10	29
MW	0	1	1	0	0	2	6	14	0	0	1	8	33
SCAC	0	3	1	0	0	5	13	19	0	0	1	2	44
CAC	0	0	1	1	0	5	0	9	1	4	0	3	25

Midwest noted they did not hear their DOLA in the count. It was determined the DOLA was miscategorized. *DMAC President JoAnn Thompson noted that the record reflect there are two (2) clergy registered for DMAC. Total count should be 28.* This revision was noted by the Registration Committee. It was moved by Sharrilyn Rose(MOAC) and seconded by Randy Scott to accept the report of the Registration Committee with the necessary changes. There was no opposition and the motion passed.

Credentials Committee Chair Nixietta Williams(MOAC) reported a total voting strength of 143. California (18), Midwest (24), Southern California (41), Desert Mountain (23), Pacific Northwest (20) and Missouri (17). It was moved by Faye Brown(PNW) and seconded by Pat Samuel(MOAC) to accept the report of the Credentials Committee. There was no opposition and the motion passed.

## DELEGATION SEATED

**Reading of Minutes** – President Rose(MOAC) noted if there are no corrections, the minutes will be accepted. It was moved by Randy Scott(CAC) and seconded by Pat Samuel(MOAC) to defer approval of the minutes until the second Business Session. There was no opposition and the motion passed. It was suggested by President Emeritus(PE) Simeon Rhoden(PNW) to have approval of the minutes first on the agenda tomorrow. President Rose(MOAC) duly noted.

**District Officers Reports** - 1<sup>st</sup> VP Wendell Calloway(DMAC), 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Angela Bostick(CAC) presented their reports with no recommendations. Corresponding Secretary Frances Settles(SCAC) presented her report with one recommendation that all Conference Corresponding Secretaries meet quarterly. No report from Recording or Assistant Recording Secretaries. Parliamentarian Monice Crawford(MDW) and Chaplain Jene'l Sconier(PNW) presented their reports with no recommendations.

Historiographer Bill Dickens(PNW) presented his report with the recommendations 1.) conferences need to do a better job in responding to requests. 2.) CLO Historiographer Bill Ayers is spotlighting AME Lay Leaders on their website. Bill reported he will submit Nona Simpkins for the recognition. 3.) a moment in 5<sup>th</sup> District History should be added to all agendas.

DOLA Faye Brown(PNW) presented her report with the following recommendations: coordinate with Conference DOLA on training plan, plan monthly meeting with conference DOLAs to share information, continue monthly meeting with CLO DOLA and District DOLA, conduct training throughout the district when requested, conducted quarterly training for district with young adults via zoom, work with YAR on training development, develop survey for members to request workshop topics, have a Lay Study Guide for Biennial; and start quarterly training for the district.

DirofPR Pamela Williams(MOAC) presented her report.

It was moved by Brenda Simpson(MOAC) and seconded by JoAnn Thompson(DMAC) to accept the reports as presented. There was no opposition and the motion passed.

**President's Address**- Director of Public Relations will post the President's Address on the website. President Rose's(MOAC) message stressed Creativity Helps Achieve New Goals Everyday (CHANGE) and Titus 1:4-17. It was moved by PE Simeon Rhoden(PNW) that we accept the President's Report and its recommendations with the highest commendations. The motion was seconded by 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Bostick(CAC). There was no opposition and the motion passed. 1<sup>st</sup> VP Calloway(DMAC) thanked President Rose(MOAC) for his unwavering support.

*Wellness Break – 11:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.*

**Finance Report** – Financial Secretary Judith Bradley(CAC) reported as of May 31, 2023, the balance of General Account was \$48,378.50. Total Deposits: \$70,657.57 for a total of \$119,036.07. Total Disbursements: \$83,172.46. Current balance: \$35,863.61. As of May 31, 2023, the Scholarship Fund had a balance of \$54,831.53. Total Deposits: \$7847.55 for a total of \$60,319.00. Total Disbursements: \$7,780.20. Current balance: \$52,538.88. A full report will be forwarded to Conference Presidents. It was moved by Jackie Payton(MOAC) and seconded by Sharrilyn Rose(MOAC) to accept the reports of the Treasurer and Financial Secretary. There was no opposition and the motion passed.

**Budget Report** – President Rose(MOAC) acknowledged the Budget Committee: Patricia Holman(DMAC), Judith Bradley(CAC), Florette Hampton(MOAC), Steven Shepard(SCAC), Michelle Allert(PNW) and Dr. Dorothy Vails-Weber(CAC). President Rose presented the proposed budget for 2023-2024. Foster Chilsolm(MWC) moved and Sandy Nelson(PNW) seconded a motion to accept the proposed budget as presented. There was no opposition and the motion passed.

*Lunch – 11:55 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*

**Empowerment Learning Labs 1 & 2**- Monice Crawford(MWAC), 5<sup>th</sup> District Lay Parliamentarian presented a workshop titled “Parliamentary with a Twist.” Parliamentarian Crawford used a book titled “*Focus on Leadership – Parliamentarian*,” a leadership handbook by the National Association of Parliamentarians.

Faye Brown(PNW), 5<sup>th</sup> District Director of Lay Activities presented a workshop titled “Annual Conference Mysteries.”

Adjourned 5:30 p.m.

*Secretary's point of personal privilege. During dinner on this evening, lay member Lisa Collier(MOAC) started choking. Lay member Jackie Payton(MOAC) performed the Heimlich maneuver and God saved the day. Jackie later received the Lifesaving Award from the Mid County Fire Protection District in St. Louis, Missouri. Lisa Collier(MOAC) and President of the MACLO Brenda Simpson(MOAC) were in attendance at the ceremony.*

7PM – Opening Worship Service – 5<sup>th</sup> District Director of Public Relations Pamela Williams(MOAC), Worship Leader. 5<sup>th</sup> District DOLA Faye Brown(PNW), Service Coordinator. Praise and Worship was lead by Rev. Everett Fletcher and Elevated Praise, Processional, Doxology, Call to Worship Invocation, Hymn of Praise, Scripture Lesson, Lay Litany, Worship Experience by Midwest Conference Mass Choir, Worship thru Dance, Karri Comelli and the

Alberta A. Smith's Sisters of Praise, Offering, Musical selections, Invitation, Presentation of LAOS Awardee, Lay Agape Outreach Service, Lay Benediction.

Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 – Day 2

**BUSINESS SESSION II-Presiding Officer 1<sup>st</sup> VP Wendell Callaway(DMAC)**

Day 2 of the convention opened with Devotion/Morning Glory led by 5<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain Jene'l Sconier with song, prayer and key scripture, Hebrews 11:6. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. What is Faith? Faith is more than just believing in God. Faith draws you closer through prayer and studying the bible. Faith come before a prayer is answered.

1<sup>st</sup> VP Callaway called business session II to order at 9:15 a.m.

Minutes from the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention were accepted. There was one correction by Judith Bradley(SCAC) under Finance Reports. Judith Bradley(SCAC) was listed as the Financial Secretary but she is the Treasurer. Other corrections submitted by Pamela Williams (MOAC) were typographical in nature and did not change the substance of the minutes.

**Blue Table Talk** – Presenter was Leslie Washington(MOAC). Topic was Domestic Violence awareness. Questions were asked and answered.

**Standing Committee Reports** – Constitution and By-Laws Committee Chair PE Simeon Rhoden(PNW) gave a new legislation recap. It was moved by Randy Scott(CAC) and seconded by Linda Smith(SCAC) to accept the report with the caveat the report is distributed to the conferences ASAP. There was no opposition and the motion passed. Dr. Dorothy Vails-Weber(SCAC) voted abstention on the motion.

Dr. Dorothy Vails Weber(SCAC) reported for the Scholarship Committee. All scholarships are received, screened and submitted through this committee. It was moved by Dr. Dorothy Vails Weber(SCAC) and seconded by Judith Bradley(SCAC) that the J.D.Williams, Joseph C. McKinney and the Jayme C. Williams scholarships be increased by \$500.00. There was no opposition and the motion passed to increase the scholarships. There was one nay vote from a virtual participant. It was moved by Mable Alexander(PNW) and seconded by JoAnn Thompson(DMAC) to accept the report of the Scholarship Committee. There was no opposition and the motion passed.

Marilyn Grant(CAC) chair of Organizational and Effectiveness Committee gave the report. Committee members are Barbara Burton(CAC), Maurice Thomas(DMAC), Tim Goff(MDW) and Nixietta Williams(MOAC). The task of this committee is to collect information, store historical data and retain history as it relates to our organizational impact. Jene'l Sconier(PNW) thanked the committee for doing the evaluations because they push us to do better. It was moved by Dr. Dorothy Vails Weber(SCAC) and seconded by Faye Combs(SCAC) to accept the report of the Organizational and Effectiveness Committee. There was no opposition and the motion passed.

*Wellness break from 11:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.*

**THE YAR TAKE OVER**

**Moment for Outreach Learning Lab #3** – “Campaign Letter Writing” led by Vanessa Anderson(SCAC). Know your Mayor and other elected officials. Know dates that your City Council meets. We must educate ourselves and know what causes affect us. Some practices that were accepted years ago, are unacceptable now so we must unlearn, relearn, and educate

ourselves. If we educate ourselves, when there is an issue, then we will know if we can support that cause or not.

Lunch break 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Learning Lab #4** – “Bridge the Intergenerational Water” Panel Discussion. Panelist were Young Adults, Lay and Clergy. Rev. Charles Norris(MOAC), Rev. Dr. Roger Richardson(MOAC), Maria Thompson(PNW), Carol Young(CAC), Miya Johnson(PNW) and David Maddox(???). Moderators were 5<sup>th</sup> District YAR Dallas Richardson(PNW) and Rev. Everett Fletcher(MDW)

Discussion held regarding how to make all generations feel included in the church. Listen to each other and respect each other’s opinions are the first steps. Some traditions of the church need to be revisited. We all must adapt to church personalities. Discussion about music, dress attire, and church hurt.

The delegation was greeted by Arizona State Representative Rev. Quiana Crews and Rev. Benjamin Thomas, Jr.

The delegation was addressed by Rev. Jimmy L. Williams III, candidate for Judicial Council. Rev. Williams said if elected, he intends to use the commonsense approach of compassion, integrity and accountability.

Adjourned at 5PM for dinner.

**Gospel Concert** - 7:00p.m.- Reverend Everett Fletcher(MWC) was our MC. Opening Prayer, Scripture, Praise & Worship by Remnant Worship, Worship and Arts by Ebenezer AME Church Dance Ministry, Offering, Musical Selection by Pastor Laron Thompson. The Worship Experience featuring National Gospel Recording Artist Bishop Cortez Vaughn.

Friday, June 23<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 – Day 3

**BUSINESS SESSION III-Presiding Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Angela Bostick**

Day 3 was opened with Devotion/Morning Glory led by 5<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain Jene’l Sconier with songs and prayer.

Meeting was called to order by 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Bostick and 9:05 a.m.

**Blue Table Talk- “Church Hurt”** was the topic. 5<sup>th</sup> District 1<sup>st</sup> VP Wendell Callaway was the moderator. Maurice Thomas(DMAC) and Marilyn Grant(CAC) were panelists. Church hurt often leaves members feeling overwhelmed and underappreciated. Scripture to support this topic is Matthew 18:6 - but if you give them a hard time, bullying or taking advantage of their simple trust, you’ll soon wish you hadn’t. You be better off dropped in the middle of the lake with a millstone around your neck, doomed to the world for giving these God believing children a hard time!

Hard times are inevitable, but you don’t have to make it worse and it’s doomsday to you if you do.(MSG version). 1<sup>st</sup> VP Callaway advised we will have a Part 2 later. Blue Table Talk will be incorporated into the district on either a monthly or quarterly basis.

**Standing Committee Reports (con’t)**

Chair of AME/V-Alert/Social Action -Lisa Collier, Chair(MOAC), committee members Bill Dickens(PNW), Carol Young(CAC), Faye Combs(CAC), Barbara Blanton(DMAC) presented

their report. It should be noted that the purpose of the AME-V-Alert Team is to make sure members of the AME churches are registered to vote. AME V-Alert toolkit can be downloaded at [www.amev-alert.org](http://www.amev-alert.org).

It was moved by Bill Dickens, (PNW), and seconded by Faye Combs, (CAC), to accept the report as presented. There being no opposition the motion passed.

Special Presentation by Bill Dickens(PNW) and Dr. Dorothy Vails Weber(SCAC). It was moved by Dr. Dorothy Vails Weber(SCAC) and seconded by Bill Dickens(PNW) to nominate Mother Doris Bailey(MDW) and Thomas Sutton(DMAC) as President Emeriti. On the request of Bill Dickens(PNW) the record shall reflect the vote was UNANIMOUS!

Legislation Report – given by Committee Chair Sandy Nelson(PNW). Other committee members are Randy Scott(CAC), JoAnn Thompson (DMAC), Linda Smith(PNW) There are 14 proposed amendments in the proposed legislation packet. Six were submitted by members of the 5th. A DRAFT packet will be available from the CLO at the Spring Executive Board Meeting. When the packet is approved at the Biennial, it will be distributed. General Conference delegates should educate themselves and know which legislation to support. New legislation will go into effect in 2024. It was moved by Linda Smith(SCAC) and seconded by Randy Scott(CAC) to accept the report as presented. There was one vote of absentia by LaToya Mitchell.

### Convention Committee Reports

**Time & Place Report** – included in convention booklet. Bobby Brown(PNW) moved and Wanda Moose(MOAC) seconded to accept the report as printed. There was no opposition and the motion passed.

**First Timers Report**- Chair Brenda Simpson(MOAC) and committee member, Phyllis Kitchen(MDW) reported we had 19 first timers! Ten were in the virtual world and the other 9 were in the room. Three of the First Timers in the room are Young Adults. It was moved by JoAnn Thompson(DMAC) and seconded by Anita Robinson(DMAC) to accept the report. There was no opposition and the motion passed.

**Evaluation Committee Report** – Roxanne Buchanan(PNW) stated all attendees will receive an electronic evaluation for this convention. Please complete.

Public Relations Report – Chair Pamela Williams – included in packet.

Conference Presidents Reports -included in packet. President Rose(MOAC) accepts Conference President reports as presented.

It was moved by Jene'l Sconier(PNW) and seconded by Randy Scott(CAC) to accept all reports as presented.

Black Healthcare Coalition was in the house offering glucose and blood pressure screenings for free.

Candidates Forum- President Rose(MOAC) informed there were three that reached out to us. Rev. Jimmy Williams, Rev. Spencer Booker(MOAC) and Rev. Timothy Tyler(DMAC). We heard from Jimmy Williams yesterday. President Rose(MOAC) advised Dr. Tyler will meet and greet us in Chicago at the Biennial. Dr. Tyler provided tonight's dinner for the organization. Dr. Tyler has committed to verbal and financial support.

*Wellness break from 11:35 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.*

**Learning Lab #5** – “Electoral College, Here we Come - Presenter Faye Brown, 5<sup>th</sup> District DOLA.

*Lunch from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.*

**Learning Lab#6** – “What Hats Are You Wearing,” 5<sup>th</sup> District President Lamar Rose  
President Rose introduced us to six thinking hats.

Grey – Information- gathers data

Red – Intuitive – feelings, emotions or hunches

Yellow – Positive -values and benefits

Black- Negative – why it may not work

Green- Creative- possibilities, alternatives, and new concepts

Blue -Process -action plan, everything has order, managing the thinking

The traditional link between “thinking” and “hats” is to put your thinking cap on. Hats can be put on and taken off easily which means you can switch hats very easily. Each hat is a different color and represents a different type or mode of thinking. We all wear the same hats, we just change our thinking. The hats provide a common language in a situation that has the same focus.

Some takeaways: there are many ways to look at the same situation. Our goal is to think collectively and to use the best thinking skills to learn together. Thinking is not about making a case for one position, but looking at all the angles.

Organized thinking is holistic and more complete. 90% of all thinking mistakes by adults are mistakes in perception, not mistakes in logic. Der Edward(?)

Learning labs completed at 3:55 p.m.

2023 CLO Biennial Convention Updates – President Rose gave an update on dress attire. On Monday, attire is all white, on Thursday, we will wear our t-shirts.

Jazz and Comedy Lay Award Program – 7:00 p.m. Jackie Payton(MOAC) mistress of ceremonies, welcome, opening prayer, occasion, dinner with selections by jazz band - , Awards for Outstanding Lay Person of the Year Sis. Dorthie Jean Crim (CAC), Outstanding Pastor of the Year, Rev. Robin T. Hood(DMAC), Community Service Award Patricia W. Bevelyn(DMAC) and Newest Living Legend, JoAnn Thompson(DMAC). Comedy featuring Carrington Lopez, scholarship winners, jazz selections. We made a toast to our newest Presidents Emeritus Mother Doris Bailey(MDW) and Thomas Sutton(MDW).

Saturday, June 24th, 2023 – Day 4

**Chaired by 5<sup>th</sup> District President Lamar Rose(MOAC)**

There was no Unfinished Business to discuss.

5th District Chaplain Jene’l Sconier(PNW) chaired an amazing, moving and Spirit-filled Memorial Service for 5<sup>th</sup> District Laypersons that have gone from labor to reward. Jene’l took us

back with some old spirituals like, *There's a Leak in this Old Building*, *Walk with me Lord*, and *Going Up Yonder!* Jene'l read scripture for Romans 14: 7-9 from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:21-25.

The songs, the prayer, and the PowerPoint presentation were put together very well and was worthy of those who have served. As the names were read, a representative of that conference turned on a candle and placed at the front of the room on a table. The memorial service was very moving.

Our newest Conference President for the Southern California Conference, Sis. Kathy Green was introduced and greeted by the delegation.

Mini convention to be held in Los Angeles at the end of Mid-Year

President Rose gave accolades to Team Midwest Conference for their hospitality and a job well done.

Bill Dickens(PNW) gave the highest commendation to President Lamar Rose for a job well done on the convention.

5<sup>th</sup> District Corresponding Secretary Frances Settles(CAC) gave accolades, commendations, kudos and well wishes to the all of the Young Adults for their presence, participation and all that they did to make this convention happen.

Adjourned with Love Circle.

Minutes recorded by Jackie Payton, Recording Secretary.