



## *African Methodist Episcopal Church Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization*

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**Bishop Francine Brookins**  
Presiding Prelate

**January 2026**

**Matikane Abednego Makiti**  
Connectional Lay President

**To: Members of the Fifth Episcopal District**

**Lamar Rose**  
President

**From: Dr. Dorothy Vails-Weber, Scholarship Chairperson**

**Subject: Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Scholarship Program**

**Wendell Callaway**  
1st Vice President

Dear Members of the Fifth Episcopal District,

**Angela Bostick**  
2nd Vice President

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, I greet you on behalf of the Fifth District Lay Organization and the young men and women of the District. The organization has joined with the young people of the district to assist them in "Claiming their inheritance". With a post-secondary education, the young adults of the Fifth District will have a greater capacity to participate in the multitude of opportunities offered in the 21st century.

**Vanessa Anderson**  
3rd Vice President

It is to this end that we solicit your support on behalf of the young adults of the Fifth Episcopal District. They belong to all of us; clergy and laity: Lay Organizations, Missionary Societies, Presiding Elder's Councils, Women in Ministry, and the Ministerial Alliances. We solicit the support of your organization at every level of the Fifth Episcopal District; local, conference and Episcopal District.

**Brooke Hawkins**  
Recording Secretary

The Fred J. Stuart scholarship of Achievement is awarded to graduating high school seniors, and the T. Larry Kirkland Scholarship of Excellence is awarded to college students returning to a post-secondary institution. Recently we added two additional scholarships: The Lay Leadership Scholarship, awarded to high school seniors who have demonstrated leadership throughout high school; and the Lay Community Service Scholarship, awarded to high school seniors who are active in their community.

**Florette Hampton**  
Financial Secretary

In 2020, a new scholarship was added to the Fifth District Lay Scholarship program; The Bishop's Graduate Honors Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to graduate students who exemplify outstanding academic success, demonstrated leadership skills and abilities, participation in the local church Lay Organization or other church ministries, community service and a commitment to the mission of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

**Judith Bradley**  
Treasurer

During the 2023 scholarship series, we initiated the Conference Leadership Scholarship. Each of the six conferences will select a graduating high school student who demonstrated outstanding leadership in their church, school and community. The Conference Leadership Scholarship will be awarded from the Fifth District Lay Scholarship Fund.

**Frances Settles**  
Chaplain

Each scholarship will assist our young adults with much needed financial resources in the pursuits of higher education.

**Monice Crawford**  
Parliamentarian

We are prayerful that your organization will make a financial contribution to the Scholarship Fund of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization. Attached are the applications for the five scholarships we offer. We appreciate your support of our young people, and we are already praising God for your generosity.

**Faye Brown**  
Director of Lay Activities

Blessings & Thanksgiving,

**Pamela Williams**  
Director of Public Relations

Lamar Rose, President  
Dorothy Vails-Weber, Chairperson

## Scholarship information

2026 Bishop's Graduate Honors Scholarship is established to assist men and women of the Fifth District to obtain a graduate degree education.

2026 Bishop T. Larry Kirkland Scholarship of Excellence is established to assist to young men and women of the Fifth District to obtain a college education.

2026 Fred J. Stuart Scholarship of Achievement is established to assist deserving young men and women in obtaining a post-secondary education.

2026 Community Service Scholarship is established for graduating high school seniors who have exhibited outstanding Community Service.

2026 Lay Leadership Scholarship is established for graduating high school seniors who have exhibited outstanding Leadership.

2026 Conference Leadership Scholarship is established for graduating high school seniors who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in church, school and community.

## Previous Scholarship Awardees

### **Bishop's Graduate Honors Scholarship**

|           |                     |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2020      | Natalya Romo        | Southern California |
| 2020-2021 | Destinee Williams   | Desert Mountain     |
| 2024      | Pamela Williams     | Missouri Conference |
| 2024-2025 | Karlesha Van Holten | Southern California |
| 2024-2025 | Jeremiah Riggins    | Southern California |

### **T. Larry Kirkland Scholarship of Excellence**

|           |                    |                       |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 2010-2011 | Andre Richards     | Southern California   |
| 2011-2012 | Meryl Williams     | Southern California   |
| 2012-2013 | Toure Owen         | California Conference |
| 2013-2014 | Peyton Barber      | Mid-West Conference   |
| 2014-2015 | Alexis Williams    | Pacific Northwest     |
| 2015-2016 | Toure Owen         | California Conference |
| 2016-2017 | Askia Stewart, Jr, | Desert Mountain       |
| 2017-2018 | Gabrielle Kennedy  | Missouri Conference   |
| 2018-2019 | Logan Ruggles      | California Conference |
| 2019-2020 | Shirley Magee      | Southern California   |
| 2020-2021 | Logan Ruggles      | California Conference |
| 2021-2022 | Leslie Washington  | Missouri Conference   |
| 2022-2023 | Kelsie Anderson    | Missouri Conference   |
| 2023-2024 | Honey Rose Smith   | California Conference |
| 2024-2025 | Breana Barnes      | Desert Mountain       |
| 2024-2025 | Honey Rose Smith   | California Conference |

**Fred J. Stuart Scholarship of Achievement**

|           |                       |                       |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2010-2011 | Raven Rutledge        | Southern California   |
| 2011-2012 | Kyra Price            | Southern California   |
| 2012-2013 | Tonya Russell         | Missouri Conference   |
| 2013-2014 | Rukiyah Cotton        | Southern California   |
| 2014-2015 | Shaka Terry           | Southern California   |
| 2015-2016 | Morganne Watson       | California Conference |
| 2016-2017 | Mikayla Strothers     | Missouri Conference   |
| 2017-2018 | Andrew Adegboro       | Southern California   |
| 2018-2019 | Jerimah Riggins       | Southern California   |
| 2019-2020 | Ashaya Stewart        | Desert Mountain       |
| 2020-2021 | Alysia Counts         | Midwest Conference    |
| 2021-2022 | February Pulley       | Missouri Conference   |
| 2022-2023 | Shelby Goodman        | Desert Mountain       |
| 2023-2024 | Kylie Freeman         | California Conference |
| 2023-2024 | A'sha Nae Hayes-Petti | California Conference |
| 2024-2025 | Anais Wandji          | Pacific Northwest     |

**Lay Community Service Scholarship**

|           |                    |                            |
|-----------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 2014-2015 | Ayron Lewellan     | Midwest Conference         |
| 2015-2016 | Azra Carrington    | California Conference      |
| 2016-2017 | Samantha Davis     | Pacific Northwest          |
| 2017-2018 | No Selection       |                            |
| 2018-2019 | Aisha Watt         | Pacific Northwest Southern |
| 2019-2020 | Tristyn Stewart    | California Southern        |
| 2020-2021 | Aliya Richardson   | California Conference      |
| 2021-2022 | No Selection       |                            |
| 2022-2023 | No Selection       |                            |
| 2023-2024 | No Selection       |                            |
| 2024-2025 | John Michael Davis | Desert Mountain            |

**Lay Leadership Scholarship**

|           |                      |                       |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2014-2015 | Jerry Buck           | Missouri Conference   |
| 2015-2016 | DeShon Hill          | Missouri Conference   |
| 2016-2017 | Jordan Brown         | Missouri Conference   |
| 2017-2018 | Maiyo Taylor-Jackson | California Conference |
| 2018-2019 | Logan Ruggles        | California Conference |
| 2019-2020 | William Pollard, III | Missouri Conference   |
| 2024-2025 | Zoey Nimako          | California Conference |

## **Conference Leadership**

|           |                     |                       |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 2022-2023 | Nayla Butler        | Pacific Northwest     |
| 2022-2023 | Matthew Broome      | Midwest Conference    |
| 2022-2023 | Leza Stembridge     | Desert Mountain       |
| 2022-2023 | Zanaya Adams        | California Conference |
| 2023-2024 | Terrell Woods       | Midwest Conference    |
| 2023-2024 | Cody Holmes         | Southern California   |
| 2023-2024 | Chance Charlmere    | Pacific Northwest     |
| 2023-2024 | Breanna Barnes      | Desert Mountain       |
| 2023-2024 | Cameron Thurman     | Missouri Conference   |
| 2023-2024 | Kylie Freeman       | California Conference |
| 2024-2025 | August Morgan-Scott | Missouri Conference   |
| 2024-2025 | Alanis Devezon      | Southern California   |
| 2024-2025 | Justus Wiley Turner | Desert Mountain       |
| 2024-2025 | Anais Wandji        | Pacific Northwest     |
| 2024-2025 | Honey Rose Smith    | California Conference |