

The Cathedral @ St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church
1260 Hamilton Ave. St. Louis, MO. 63112
Church: 314-385-8900 Parsonage: 314-475-5355
Email: stpaulstl@sbcglobal.net Website: stpaulamestl.net
Pastor's Email: pastorbooker7@aol.com

*The Oldest AME Church West of The Mississippi River
"The Mother Church of the 5th Episcopal District"*



"Pivot Toward Hope: Hope to See In 2023"

Romans 8: ²²⁻²⁵ It is plain to anyone with eyes to see that at the present time, all created life groans in a sort of universal travail. And it is plain, too, that we who have a foretaste of the Spirit are in a state of painful tension while we wait for that redemption of our bodies which will mean that, at last, we have realized our full sonship in him. We were saved by this hope, but in our moments of impatience, let us remember that hope always means waiting for something that we haven't yet got. But if we hope for something we cannot see, then we must settle down to wait for it in patience.

The Cathedral @ St. Paul Organization 2023

Right Reverend Clement W. Fugh, Presiding Bishop

Sis. Alexia Butler Fugh, Episcopal Supervisor

Dr. Vivienne Anderson, Retired Episcopal Supervisor

The Rev. Edmund Lowe, Presiding Elder

Rev. Dr. Spencer Lamar Booker, D.Min., Pastor

Lady Gail G. Booker, First Lady

Ministerial Staff

The Rev. W. Bartlett Finney, Retired Presiding Elder

The Rev. Richard Chapman, Itinerant Elder

The Rev. Ella Jones, Itinerant Elder

The Rev. Regina Lowe, Itinerant Elder

The Rev. Cheryl Hairston, Itinerant Elder

The Rev. Willie Carter, Local Elder

The Rev. Amelia Boler, Local Elder

The Rev. Nanette Gaines, Local Deacon

Sis. Toni Gosa, Church Office Administrator

Sis. Maelyn Smith, Assistant Office Administrator

"The Church networking to meet the needs of All people through Jesus, Our Lord"

St. Matthew 28:18-20 - St. Luke 4:18-19

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1260 Hamilton Ave. St. Louis, MO 63112
314-385-8900 Church 314-475-5355 Pastor
Email: stpaulstl@sbcglobal.net Website: pastorbooker.net

“The Mother Church of the 5th Episcopal District”

Greetings,

What a joy it is to present our 10th Annual Church Organization Booklet and Guide. I Thank God for a blissful decade of services to wonderful, faithful, and prayerful parishioners. Together, we have accomplished more than I ever could have imagined. The Bible speaks of **“where there is no vision people, perish.”** Indeed, we have not perished because we believed that God could and that God would, and we have witnessed, God can.

As we embarked upon this new season centered on hope. Let us hold fast to the hope that is in Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us decide that “We Hope to See miracles, signs, and wonders in 2023.” There are multiple challenges we have: Returning to In Person Worship 100%, Replacing the Retaining Wall, Paving the Parking Lot, and Erecting the Renaissance Senior Adult Living Dome. These are major Big Hairy Audacious Goals, but we have hope.

As the scriptures state: ***It is plain to anyone with eyes to see that at the present time, what we need and want has not been granted. Nevertheless, we were saved by hope, but in our moments of impatience, let us remember that hope always means waiting for something that we haven’t yet got. But if we hope for something we cannot see, then we must settle down to wait for it in patience.*** (Romans 8:24,25). Surely, if we keep hope alive, our goals will come to pass. Again, ***Let Us Hope to See Great Accomplishments in 2023.***

Lady Gail joins me in this new venture that we have ahead of us. Let’s do this in Jesus’ name. A-Men!

Be Blessed,

Rev. Dr. Spencer Lamar Booker, Pastor



“The Church networking to meet the needs of All people through Jesus, Our Lord”
St. Matthew 28:18-20 - St. Luke 4:18-19

The Empowerment to Pivot Post Pandemic as The Church

How God Is Redefining

Our View of

TheCathedral@St.Paul

Jesus Christ, the same yesterday,
today, and forever.

Hebrews 13:8

Upon this rock, I build my
Church, and the Gates of hell
shall not prevail.

Matthew 16:18

TheCathedral@Saint.Paul Post-Pandemic Paradigm Pivots

1. Come Back To Church CBTC IN-Person
2. Bring Somebody With You...Enjoy Worship with others in-person.
3. Be A Faithful Facebook Worshipper (Join In Real-Time) or (At Your Convenience).
4. Make Confirmation Comments about Word and Worship in the Comment section.
5. (Don't Be a Spectator, Be A Participator) In-Person, On-Facebook, and On Zoom.
6. Hit the Share icon to invite your FB Family and Friends to participate in real-time.
7. Worship via ZOOM fully alert, fully dressed, with your Camera On!
8. Share The Zoom Link with Your Family and Friends far and near... They can see you and you them in real-time
9. Make Comments in the Zoom CHAT about The Word and Worship.
10. You do not have to Live In St. Louis nor Attend in-Person to be a part of the Kingdom of God or to be an active member of The Cathedral @ African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Stewards

1. Sis. Rosalie H. Bell, Pro-Tem
2. Sis. Narisella Ryan, Co-Pro-Tem
3. Bro. Benjamin Edwards, Esq. Legal Consultant
4. Bro. Nathaniel Keeling, Comptroller
5. Sis Stephanie Johnson, Treasurer
6. Sis. Carol Carroll, Financial Secretary
7. Sis. Vivien Hopper, CIO
8. Sis. Helen Smalley, Steward Secretary
9. Bro. Ricky Clark
10. Sis. Mae Etta Weston
11. Bro. David Koon
12. Sis. Regina Williams
13. Sis. Maelyn Smith, Church Secretary
14. Sis. Sharon Ferrell
15. Sis. Louise Welch
16. Sis. Cora Gatewood
17. Sis. Alice Lacy
18. Sis. Beverly Hudson
19. Sis. Joycie Ebb

Associate Stewards

1. Sis. Lauren Greene
2. Sis. Rosalind Turner
3. Bro. Donte' Fairey
4. Sis. Lee Doss
5. Sis. LeTanya Miller
6. Sis. Pat Moss
7. Sis. Rynetta Moore

The Trustees

1. Bro. Kenneth Ferrell, Pro-Tem
2. Bro. Charles Tobias, Co-Pro-Tem
3. Sis. Cheryl Jackson, Secretary
4. Bro. Byron Price
5. Sis. Rose Farwell
6. Bro. Joel Melton
7. Bro. Steven Gaines (New)
8. Bro. Terrell Spencer (New)
9. Sis. Carolyn Lang (New)
10. Bro. Daryle Nesbitt
11. Bro. Gary Neal
12. Sis. Pat Tolefree
13. Sis. Gladys McKissic
14. Bro. Henry Joliff
15. Sis. Ann Randle
16. Bro. Lloyd Ferrell
17. Bro. Norris Ryan
18. Sis. Ruth Frazier
19. Dr. Carmel Martin-Fairey, Ph.D.,

Associate Trustees

1. Bro. Carl Williams, Hon.
2. Bro. Alvin Andrews, Hon.
3. Bro. Nicholas Booker
4. Sis. Chanda Haney (New)
5. Bro. David Tremble
6. Bro. Simeon Dockett, IT
7. Bro. Michael Dixon, IT

The Secretarial Staff

Sis. Maelyn Smith, Church Secretary Sis. Helen Smalley, Steward Secretary
 Sis. Cheryl Jackson, Trustee Secretary Bro. Benjamin Edwards, Esq., Register Agent

The Stewardship Commission

Sis. Stephanie Johnson, Treasurer - Sis. Carol Carroll, Financial Secretary
 Sis. Maelyn Smith, Virtual Recorder - Bro. Nathaniel Keeling, Comptroller

Stewards

1. Sis Narisella Ryan
2. Sis. Joycie Ebb
3. Sis. Helen Smalley

Trustees

1. Bro. Kenneth Ferrell
2. Sis. Cheryl Jackson
3. Sis. Patricia Tolefree

Members-At-Large

1. Sis. Maelyn Smith
2. Sis. Carolyn Lang
3. Sis. Toni Gosa

Staff: Atty. Benjamin Edwards, Sis. Vivienne Hopper, Sis. Rosalie Bell,
 Sis. Sharon Biddle Ferrell

District Steward: Sis. Cora Gatewood Alternate District: Sis. Sharon Biddle Ferrell,



The Commissions of The Steward Board

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| The Stewardship and Finance Commission | Pastor Booker |
| The Membership, Discipleship, and Evangelism Commission | Steward Rosalie Bell |
| The Christians Education Commission | Rev. Nanette Gaines |
| The Social Action Commission | Steward Rosalyn Turner |
| The Mission Welfare Commission | Steward Rynetta Moore |
| The Public Relations Commission | Steward Beverly Hudson |
| The Health and Wellness Commission | Steward Louise Welch |
| The Behavioral Wellness Commission | Trustee Patricia Tolefree |

The Commissions of the Trustee Board

| | |
|--|--|
| The Commission on Property | Trustee Kenneth Ferrell |
| The Commission on Building and Grounds | Trustee Charlie Tobias |
| | Trustee Norris Ryan, Trustee Gary Neal |
| The Commission on Insurance | Trustee Norris Ryan |
| The Commission on Inventory | Trustee Pat Tolfree |
| The Commission on Vehicle | Trustee Byron Price |
| The Commission on Media | Trustee Joel Melton |
| The Commission on Security | Trustee Darryl Nesbitt |
| The Commission on Parsonage | Trustee Norris Ryan |
| The Commission on Kitchen | Trustee Charlie Tobias |
| | Trustee Cheryl Jackson |

The Deaconess and Stewardess Board

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Deaconesses: Sis. June Mullen, Sis. Martha Akins, Sis. Annie O'Neal | | |
| Sis. Vera Price, <i>Stewardess President</i> Sis Barbara Crumb, <i>Pastor Stewardess</i> | | |
| Sis. Mattie Pruitt, V.P. | Sis. Stephanie Johnson | Sis. Ernestine Hudson |
| Sis. Narisella Ryan | Sis. Darlene Sutherland | Sis. Regina Williams |
| Sis. Delores Neal | | |

The Class Leaders:

| | | | |
|---|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sis. Brenda Doze, President | | | |
| Sis. Patricia Tolfree, Assist. President | | | |
| Sis. Patricia Tolefree | Sis. Ruth Frazier | Rev. Willie Carter | Sis. Loretta Striplin |
| Sis. Alice Lacy | Sis. Sharon Ferrell | Sis. Beverly Hudson | Sis. Juanita Hudson |
| Sis. Kim Ray | Sis. Gladys McKissic | Sis. Louise Welch | Sis. Martha Atkins |
| Sis. Rosalie Bell | Sis. Helen Smalley | Sis. Zerita Washington | Rev. Armelia Boler |
| Sis. Carolyn Lang, Assistant Class Leader | Rev. Cheryl Hairston | | |
| Emeritus: Sis. Henrietta Coleman, Sis. Corliss Jones, Sis. Annie O'Neal, Sis Evelyn Joliff, | | | |

CLASS LEADERS COUNCIL

| <u>CLASS #</u> | <u>CLASS LEADER</u> | <u>CLASS MEMBERS</u> | <u>CLASS#</u> | <u>CLASS LEADER</u> | <u>CLASS MEMBERS</u> |
|------------------|-------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|
| CLASS#1 | BRENDA DOZE | Alfredo Pruitt Thelma Scott Gabe Scott Carl King Betty Francillon Serginho Francillon Beth Francillon Djerinho Francillon Norris Ryan Narissella Ryan Paula Williams Ricky Clark Mary Hamilton Angela Greene Sally Sanders Joycie Ebb Victoria Randall Emeric Mosley Stacy Houston Skinner Angelia Houston Jones Daryle Nesbitt James Nesbitt Dersrosres Manouche Emmanuel Manouche Ismanuel Manouche Samuel Manouche Vernoah Manouche (Infant) Terrell Spencer Dalila Spencer Zion Spencer Zuri Spencer Ezieke Spencer Mariama Waheed Robert Nesbitt | CLASS 11 | KIM RAY | Lauren Greene Donta Fairey Carmel Martin Fairey Henry Jolliff Evelyn Jolliff Shannon Jolliff McWell Rosalind Turner Marty Casey |
| | | | CLASS 12 | REV. AMELIA BOLER | Carol Carroll Beatrice Strong Laura Mullen June Mullen DeAndr Martin Renee Robinson |
| | | | CLASS 14 | REV. CHERYL HAIRSTON | Cleator Clay - Nursing Home Sadie Simpson Patricia Simpson Macon Derrick Hurd Wanda Hurd Robert Douglas Oliver Holmes Karen Mackey Moore Rhonda Coleman Shamar Coleman |
| | | | CLASS 19 | GLADYS MCKISSIC | Emma Jean Cook Marvin Brunson Lynette Brunson Stephanie Coleman Julius Hunter Lloyd Ferrell Sharon Ferrell |
| CLASS # 2 | PATRICIA TOLFREE | Martha Atkins Cora Gatewood Stacy Gatewood Christopher Gatewood Chanda Haney Rashaun Lane | | | Gwendolyn Fox Gloria Roberts Laverne Ross Dorothy Reed Carl Williams Patricia Tolefree |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Raven Lane | | | Delores Neal |
| | | Darlene Southerland | | | Gary Neal |
| | | Joyce Southerland Wade | | | Maxine Curry |
| | | Ellington Wade | | | |
| | | Alma Young | | | Juanita Hudson |
| | | Alberta Breland | CLASS 21 | MARTHA ATKINS | |
| | | Rev. Amelia Boler | | Carolyn Lang, Asst. | Beverly Hudson |
| CLASS # 3 | RUTH FRAZIER | Sharon Whidbee | | | Dorothy Johnson |
| | | Maelyn Smith | | | Ann Randle |
| | | OraBelle Andrews | | | Charles Fort |
| | | Alvin Andrews | | | Stephanie Johnson |
| | | Henrietta Coleman | | | Maia Johnson |
| | | Regina Williams | | | Shirley Harvey |
| | | Brenda Doze | | | Jerrilyn Taylor |
| | | Clay Doze | | | Rev. Ella Jones |
| | | Laverta Johnson | | | Laura Wilkerson |
| | | | | | Ethel Brown |
| CLASS # 4 | REV. WILLIE CARTER | Toni Gosa | CLASS 22 | ROSALIE BELL | Yvonne Coburn |
| | | Zereta Washington | | RUTH. FRAZIER, Asst. | Yvette Coburn |
| | | Joel Melton | | | Vivien Hopper |
| | | Virginia Brown | | | Alice Lacy |
| | | Mattie Berry | | | Homer Lacy |
| | | Candace Fox | | | Chantell McCline Becks |
| | | Keith Hall | | | Rynetta Bell Moore |
| | | | | | Bertha Meriweather |
| CLASS # 5 | LORETTA STRIPLIN | Barbara Crumb | | | Supervisor Vivienne Anderson |
| | | Trudie Crumb | | | Ruth Frazier |
| | | Rev. Cheryl Hairston | | | Presiding Elder Edmund Lowe, S |
| | | Ebony Hairston | | | Rev. Regina Lowe |
| | | Arielle Hairston | | | Rev. W. Bartalette Finney |
| | | Rev. Willie Carter | | | Toni Tobias |
| | | Phyllis Carter | | | Charles Tobias |
| | | Melva Pete | | | |
| | | Karen Pete | | | |
| | | Jasmine Robinson | CLASS 23 | HELEN SMALLEY | Loretta Striplin |
| CLASS # 6 | ALICE LACY | Rev. Dr. Spencer Booker | | | Jennifer Clossum |
| | | Lady Gail Booker | | | Lisa Robinson |
| | | Nicholas Booker | | | Elaine Moore |
| | | Daeryl Booker | | | E.J. Parks |
| | | Ernestyne Brown | | | Loretta Smith Black |
| | | Janice Hykes Harris | | | Louise Welch |
| | | Wallace McPherson | CLASS 24 | LOUISE WELCH | Susan House |
| | | Rose Farwell | | | Vera Price |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| | | Hugh Smith | | Byron Price |
| | | Theresa Foxworth | | Helen Smalley |
| | | Earl Foxworth | | Vicki Gaston - Nursing Home |
| CLASS # 8 | SHARON BIDDLE FERRELL | Nathaniel Keeling | | David Koon |
| | | Veronica Poindexter | | LeeTanya Miller |
| | | Kim Ray | | Rev. Richard Chapman |
| | | Jennofer Ray | | Gladys McKissic |
| | | Jessica Ray | | Atty. Benjamin Edwards |
| | | Claudia Simmons White | | Ken Ferrell |
| | | Stephany Sullivan Florian | | Faith Ferrell |
| | | Renee Bowen | | Lou Helen Lark |
| | | Phyllis Jackson | CLASS 25 | ZERETA WASHINGTON |
| | | Keith Jackson | | Pat Moss |
| CLASS # 9 | BEVERLY HUDSON | Cheryl Jackson | | Ollie Bellamy |
| | | Willie Ferrell | | Aliyah Bellamy |
| | | Linda Allen | | Lee Doss |
| | | Roberta Kelley | | Rosalie H. Bell |
| | | Crystal Diaz Granados | | Carol Wylie |
| | | Sergio Diaz Granados | | Mattie Pruitt |
| | | Dorian Diaz Granados | | Steven Gaines |
| | | Joyce Carthan | | Rev. NaNette Gaines |
| CLASS # 10 | JUANITA HUDSON | Annie O'Neal | | Bryan Bailey |
| | | David Tramble | CLASS 7 | Pastor Booker |
| | | Ernestine Hudson | | |
| | | Mae Etta Weston | | |
| | | Marilyn Person | | Denise Mayberry Johnson |

The Youth Class

Raven Lane
Serginho Francillon
Bethsaina Francillon
Djerinio Francillon
Bobbie Lyn Taylor
Samantha Taylor
Heaven Taylor
Emmanuel Manouche
Ismael Manouche
Samuel Manouche
Fransisca Manouche
Zion Spencer
Zuri Spencer
Ezieke Spencer
Chase Fairey
Jayce Fairey
Kayden Pate
Kamiyah Lewis
Angelo Denay McNeal III
Amelia Denay McNeal

Other Members

Joshua Johnson
Michelle Johnson
JoMia Johnson
Jakayla Johnson
Hope Johnson
Joy Johnson
Jacob Johnson
Ollie Green
Darrin Strother
Renee Williams
Jeanetta Ricks
Maxine Curry
Gail Sanders
Elaine Moore
Edith Davis

Julius McWell
Morris Childs
Lisa Robinson's Family
Lauren Newson
Andrea Pleas
Kendra Robinson
Rylan Torrence
Autumn Lindsay
Aerial Linda
Riley Franklin
Mason Franklin
Precious Miller
Jade Reed
Darius Franklin
Dorothy Reed

The Ministry(s) Presidents/ Directors/ Coordinators

- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 1. | Sis Barbara Crumb | The Vivienne Anderson Women Missionary Society (WMS) |
| 2. | Sis. Narisella Ryan (Shamar Coleman) Lady Gail G. Booker | Young People’s Division Director Young People’s Division President 5 th Episcopal District Treasurer |
| 3. | Sis. Louise Welch | Lay Organization |
| 4. | Rev. Cheryl Hairston | Grief Ministry |
| 5. | Sis. Vivien Hopper Sis. Cora Gatewood | Cathedral Choir/ Cathedral Choir Coordinator |
| 6. | Sis. Sharon Ferrell | Contemporary Choir |
| 7. | Bro. David Koon TBD | Male Chorus Youth Choir |
| | Rev. Quentin Gates, Minister of Music, Sis. Giovanna Johnson, Director of Praise and Worship | |
| 8. | Sis. Stephanie Johnson | Ushers |
| 9. | Sis Brenda Doze | Class Leaders Council |
| 10. | Sis. Ernestyn Brown | Clergy Family Organization |
| 11. | Sis. Regina Williams | Church School |
| 12. | Rev. Nanette Gaines | Christian Education Director |
| 13. | Sis. Vera Price | Stewardess Ministry |
| 14. | Rev. Nanette Gaines | Hospitality Ministry |
| 15. | Sis. Dorothy Johnson | Greeter’s Ministry |
| 16. | Bro. Gary Neal | Men’s Ministry (Sons of Allen) |
| 17. | Sis. Beverly Hudson | Radio Ministry |
| 18. | Sis. Katlin Jacobs | Young Adult Ministry (YAM’S) (RAYAC) |
| 19. | Sis. Mattie Berry | Senior Adult Ministry (SAM’S) |
| 20. | Rev. Nanette Gaines | Women Armed Christian Service (WACS) |
| 21. | Sis. Mae Weston | Educator’s Ministry |
| 22. | Sis. Narisella Ryan | Pastor Aid |
| 23. | Sis. Louise Welch | Faith Promise Pledge Mission Possible |
| 24. | Sis. Chantel Beck | Our Redeemer Lives |
| 25. | Bro. Byron Price | St. Paul Saturday’s |
| 26. | Sis. Lynette Brunson | Birthday/Anniversary/Wedding Ministry |
| 27. | Sis. Rynetta Moore | Decorator’s Ministry |
| 28. | Rev. Amelia Boler | Prayer Line Ministry |
| 29. | Dr. Vivienne Anderson | Quantum Physics Teaching Ministry |
| 30. | Sis. Faith Ferrell | Women of Distinction |
| 31. | Sis. Narisella Ryan | St. Paul Safety Initiative Program (SSIP) |
| 32. | The Board of Directors | The Renaissance Revitalization |
| 33. | Sis. Neshanta Larry “Chef Nesee” | The Community Outreach |
| 34. | Rev. Amelia Boler | The Prayer Line (Sweet Hour of Prayer) |
| 35. | Sis. Vivienne Anderson Sis. Joycie Ebb, Bro. Norris Ryan, Sis. Narisella Ryan, Sis. Stephanie Johnson | Think Bigger with Booker Campaign for The Episcopacy |

**The 169th Session of The Missouri Annual Conference...Sis. Mae Etta Weston, Bro. Norris Ryan
Venue: Marriott Hotel Airport...October 9-15, 2023**

The Vivienne Anderson Women's Missionary Society

Lady Gail G. Booker.....Consultant/Advisor
Sis. Barbara Crumb.....President
Sis. Rosalie Bell.....First Vice President
Sis. Joycie Ebb.....Second Vice President
Sis. Chanda Haney.....Third Vice President
Sis. Helen Smalley.....Recording Secretary
Sis. Chantell Becks..... Assist. Recording Secretary
Sis. Zereta Washington.... Corresponding Secretary
Sis. Brenda Doze.....Financial Secretary
Sis. Stephanie Johnson.....Treasurer
Sis. Vivien Hopper.....Worship Director
Sis. Trudy Crumb.....Co-Worship Director
Sis. Alice Lacy.....Historiographer / Statistician
Sis. Louise Welch.....Parliamentary
Supervisor Vivienne Anderson.....PME Director
Sis. Narisella Ryan.....YPD Director
Dr. Phyllis Jackson.....Member-At-Large

Members:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sis. Martha Atkins | Sis. Lavern Ross |
| Sis. Loretta Smith-Black | Sis. Ernestyn Brown, |
| Sis. Henrietta Coleman | Sis. Rhonda Coleman, |
| Sis. Sharon Ferrell | Sis Carmel Fairey |
| Sis. Ruth Frazier | Sis. Lauren Greene |
| Sis. Beverly Hudson | Sis. Jaunita Hudson, |
| Sis. Helen Lark | Sis. June Mullens |
| Sis. Delores Neal | Sis. Rynetta Moore |
| Sis. Annie O'Neal | Sis. Vera Price |
| Sis. Mattie Pruitt | Sis. Gloria Roberts |
| Sis. Dalila Spencer | Sis. Toni Tobias |
| Sis. Patricia Tolefree | Sis. Joyce Wade |
| Sis. Louise Welch | Sis. Mae Etta Weston |
| Sis. Carol Wiley | Sis. Regina Williams |
| Sis. Jennifer Collosum | Sis. Lauren Mullen |
| Sis. Lisa Robinson | Sis. Laverne Ross |

The St. Paul Lay Organization 2022-23

Sis. Louis Welch, President
Sis. Helen Smalley, Vice President
Sis. Toni Tobias, Treasurer
Sis. Roz. Turner, Secretary
Bro. Benjamin Edwards, Director of Lay Activities
Sis. Alma Young, Chaplain

Sis. Alice Lacy, Cheer Fund

The Cathedral @ St. Paul AME Church

Budget 2022-2023

Rev. Dr. Spencer Lamar Booker, Pastor

Steward Nathaniel Keeling, Comptroller

Steward Stephanie Johnson, Treasurer

Steward Carol Carroll, Financial Secretary

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| I. | Projected Income | | |
| | Category I. | Tithes | \$250,000.00 |
| | Category II | Offerings | \$50,000.00 |
| | Category III | Pledges | \$30,000.00 |
| | Category IV. | Benevolence | \$6,000.00 |
| | Category V | Church Anniversary | \$27,000.00 |
| | Category VI | Men and Women Day | \$25,000.00 |
| | Category VII | St. Paul Ministries | \$20,000.00 |
| | Category VIII | Usher/Radio Ministry | \$14,000.00 |
| | Category IX | Special Events (BTW) | \$100,000.00 |
| | Category X. | SIPP Community Outreach) | \$10,000.00 |
| | Total Projected Income | | \$545,000.00 |
| II. | Projected Expenditures | | |
| | Category I. | Administrative | \$204,000.00 |
| | Category II | AME Obligations | \$83,000.00 |
| | Category III | Requisites | \$24,000.00 |
| | Category IV. | Utilities/Insurances | \$42,840.00 |
| | Category V. | Long Term Debt | \$21,500.00 |
| | Category VI | Media Outreach | \$11,000.00 |
| | Category VII | Honorariums | \$7,000.00 |
| | Category VIII | Benevolence | \$6,000.00 |
| | Category IX | Community Outreach | \$10,000.00 |
| | Category X | Church Supplies | \$8,400.00 |
| | Category XI | Special Event (BTW) | \$100,000.00 |
| | Category XII. | Miscellaneous | \$2,000.00 |
| | Total Projected Expenditures | | \$522,628.00 |
| III. | Recapitulations | | |
| | Total Projected Income | | \$545,000.00 |
| | Total Projected Expenditures | | <u>\$522,628.00</u> |
| | Total Contingency | | \$22,372.00 |



Category I. Administrative Total Budgeted \$204,000.00

This category is designed to compensate the Pastor, Musicians, Church Office Manager, Security, Janitorial Services, and Yard Services.

Category II. AME Obligations Budgeted \$83,000.00

This category meets all fiduciary responsibilities for the AME Obligations. These funds shall pay: The Presiding Elders Salary, Mid-Year, Annual Conference Assessments, Presiding Elder, and Pastor's Annuity. Also, these funds shall meet the assessments for The District Conference, Sunday School Convention, and Founder's Day. Additionally, we shall share special event gifts to the Bishop and Presiding Elder on special occasions, i.e., Birthday and Christmas.

Category III. Requisites \$24,000.00

This category covers the requisites for the Pastor's fringe benefits package as required per discipline.

Category IV. Utilities \$42,840.00

This category is designed to pay all Church insurance, utilities, telephone, and alarm systems. The parsonage utilities, telephone, and garbage will be paid for by the Pastor which is included in the Requisites assigned.

Category V. Long Term Debt \$21,500.00

This category meets our monthly Bank loan.

Category VI. Media Outreach \$11,000.00

This category will meet our outreach ministry through radio, internet, and Hybrid Technology.

Category VII. Honorariums \$7,000.00

To bless our special guest speakers for Worship Celebrations, Special Events, and Programs. Amounts to be determine by the Pastor in consultation with The Stewardship Commission and /or ministry/committee that is sponsoring the speaker.

Category VIII. Category XI. Benevolence \$7,000.00

These funds will be generated to assist those who may be in need. The Steward Missions and Welfare Commission will develop a Benevolent Policy that will guide these funds. If Funds are available a budgeted amount will be used for "Our Redeemer Lives" food pantry, annual Feed the Hungry, Christmas Toys, and Baskets to meet the needs of all people in the Church and community.

Category IX. Community Outreach \$10,000.00

These funds are designed to meet all of our Christian Fraternal Affairs, Ads, and Associations dues in order that we may fully be engaged in the life of the community. The list of association are as follow, but not limited to, NAACP, SCLC, Urban league, Ministerial Coalitions, The West End Community Association. Also, these funds will cover our special events designed with the community in mind.

Category X. Church Office/Building Supplies \$7,000.00

These funds will be used to purchase office supplies: stationary, business cards, paper, pens, pencils, cartridges, other needed office supplies. Also, these funds will be used to purchase Church Supplies: toiletries, light bulbs, cleaning supplies. Also, this fund will seek to cover microphones, batteries, music equipment services. The Church Van Maintenance.

Category XI. Special Event (Build the Wall BTW) \$100,000.00.

These funds are designed to be used to rebuild the Retaining Wall at St. Paul. *We are requesting 100 members, friends, and supporters to give \$1,000.00.*

Category XII. Miscellaneous \$2,000.00

These funds are designed to meet other items otherwise not covered by the budget. If need arises, all funds will be used to meet emergencies beyond our control. Additionally, these funds are designed to meet all of our Christian Fraternal Affairs, Ads, and Associations dues in order that we may fully be engaged in the life of the community.

Contingency Funds are Restricted Funds (Money Market) \$22,000.00

This category is designed to be a savings account. Special Gifts and funds generated for Parking Lot are deposited in this account.

The Stewardship Finance Policy
“Networking to meet the needs of all people through Jesus Christ Our Lord”
St. Luke 4:18-19

The Stewardship Financial Policy
Mode of Operation

- I. All funds raised in the name of St. Paul A.M.E. Church or any other name that represent our local church, must be deposited in the designated bank accounts in the name of St. Paul A.M.E. Church P.O. Box 11986 1260 Hamilton Ave. St. Louis, MO 63112. The Office Manager will retrieve the monthly statements along with the treasurer to balance all accounts.**
- II. The Stewardship Commission (Finance Commission) will handle all monies received and properly deposit, record and report the same to the official body. The Commission shall duly disburse funds according to the approved 2014 budget allocations. All books are open to all members in good and regular standing for review upon a legitimate request.**
- III. All funds will be deposited in the Central Account that includes all ministries, boards, and auxiliaries. Upon accurate verification of funds, a check can be disbursed from an approved voucher and invoice to any person or vendor.**
- IV. No bills nor contracts should be made in the name of St. Paul A.M.E. Church without a proper business plan to cover the indebtedness. If the organization account has the funds available that ministry may proceed after prior approval from the Stewardship Commission and Pastor to protect the credit rating of St. Paul AME Church.**
- V. All approved bills made in the name of St. Paul Church should be a seven-to-thirty-day account receivable to give time for voucher preparation and processing by the Finance Commission.**
- VI. All ministries’ treasurers or finance committees must turn in all monies to the Finance Commission upon verification of Funds immediately following the event. If Finance Commission is not available, you must plan to turn over the funds ASAP. In all events, please allow at least two persons to verify funds in your possession and turn funds in as soon as possible. At no time should monies be kept by a member without approval and verifications of the funds in hand.**
- VII. All Treasurers of ministries are accountable to the Official Board, ministry, board, auxiliary or commission (whatever the case may be) As per Discipline positive Church Law.**
- VIII. All Treasurers of ministries must keep a financial ledger of monies received and expenditures of your ministry.**
- IX. All bills and obligations are the responsibility of all the members of St. Paul A.M.E. Church. At any time there is a need for funds to protect our credibility, the Finance Commission will contact the Presidents of ministries, explain the need, and then proceed. All monies available will be utilized to meet our obligations. The Mode of Operation of St. Paul A.M.E. Church supersedes any and all personal opinions.**

The St. Paul Annual Events, Committees, and Stewardship Goals

**All of our Annual Day Requests are based on 100 members!*

- November 7 – Dec 4.....**Organization Planning Sessions 2022**
- November 19-24**THANKSGIVING SEASON CELEBRATION**
Thanksgiving Give-Away....Saturday, November 19, 2022
Thanksgiving Virtual Worship....November 24, 2022, 10:00am CST
Guest Preacher: The Rev. David Earl Booker, I
- November 27, 2022, 10:00a.m.....**Post-Thanksgiving Family Virtual Worship**
- December 3, 2022.....**Church Conference 2022-23**
- December 11, 2022.....**The Cathedral Christmas Gala, Orlando Event Center**
The Committee: Sis. Patricia Tolfree, Sis. Carol Carroll
The Retainer Wall Committee: Sis. Ruth Frazier, Bro. Carl Williams, Bro Byron Price, Bro. Norris Ryan
100 people share \$1,000.00 Goal \$100,000.00
- December 25, 2022.....**HAVE A HOLY MERRY CHRISTMAS.....Christmas Day**
Virtual Worship Celebration 10:00 a.m. CST
- January 1, 2023.....**Happy New Year.....In-Person Worship 10:00 a.m.**
Pivoting toward Hope with Eyes to See in Twenty-Three
- January 16, 2023.....**MLK, Jr. Memorial Worship.....\$10,000.00**
- January 29, 2022, 10:00am.....**WMS New Year Candlelight Ceremony... \$1,000.00**
- February 12, 2023.....**The 182nd Church Anniversary..... \$18,200.00**
The Committee: Sis. Alice Lacy, Bro. Byron Price, Sis. Helen Smalley
Guest: The Rev. Dr. Garland Pierce, General Officer of Christian Education Department
- February 25, 2023.....**St. Paul Saturday’s 39th Anniversary Celebration**
- Mid-Year Budget Due on or before February 12, 2023**
- The Season of Lent**
- March 2, 2022..... **Ash Wednesday.....SEVEN WEEKS of Lenten Caravan Prayer Line**
Lent Season Theme: “The Hope In The Resurrection”
- April 2, 2023.....**Palm Sunday**
- April 2 – April 9.....**Holy Week**
- April 8, 2023..... **Good Friday – Last Seven Words AME Alliance**
The YPD Annual Fish Fry Good Friday Luncheon..... \$1,500.00
- April 9, 2023.....Easter Day 2023***

*Worship All Day
 YPD Easter Parade....9:00 a.m.
 Resurrection Worship 10:00 a.m.*

- April 13-16.....The Connectional Christian Education Convention
 St. Louis, Missouri*
- APRIL 16, 2023.....HOSPITALITY FAMILY AND FRIEND’S DAY.....\$7,000.00**
 Guest: The Rev. Dr. Gabriel Nelson, Pastor, Hickman AMEC, Philadelphia, PA
- May 6, 2023.....The WMS First Lady Crystal Tea.....\$7,000.00**
 Honorees: Sis. Sally Bradford
- May 21, 2023.....Educator’s Day \$1,000.00**
- May 28, 2023.....Annual Lay Day.....\$500.00**
- June 11, 2023.....The Women/Men’s Day..... \$20,000.00**
The Committee: Sis. Lynette Brunson, Rev. Nanette Gaines, Bro. Marvin Brunson, Bro. Steve Gaines
 Guest Speaker: Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield, TBD
- June 25, 2023.....The Electoral College.....Church Conference**
- August 2023..... Conference Claims Drive..... Optional Based of Funds on Hand**
ALL AME BUDGET GIFTS ARE DUE September 1, 2023
- August 20, 2023.....Annual Usher Day.....\$7,000.00**
 Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. David Green, St. Stephens AMEC, Jacksonville, FL
- September 24, 2023.....Radio Ministry Anniversary..... \$7,000.00**



The Connectional 2023 Events and Dates

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|
| The Church Growth & Evangelism..... | January 24-26..... | Nashville, TN |
| Turner Seminary Founder's Day..... | February 5-7..... | Atlanta, GA |
| Global Development Conference..... | February 20-25..... | Monrovia, Liberia |
| Payne Seminary Founder's Day..... | | TBA |
| The Christian Education Conference..... | April 2023..... | St.Louis, MO |
| The Bishop Council..... | June 2023..... | New Orleans, LA |
| The WMS/YPD..... | July 25-August 3..... | Orlando, FL |

THE 5th EPISCOPAL DISTRICT ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023

| | | |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| THE MID---YEAR CONFERENCE | March 14-16 | Los Angeles, CA |
| THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST | August 8-12 | Seattle, WA |
| THE DESERT MOUNTAIN | August 15 – 19 | Denver, CO |
| THE MIDWEST | September 12 – 16 | Kansas City |
| THE CALIFORNIA | October 4-8 | Oakland, CA |
| THE MISSOURI | October 17-21 | St. Louis, MO |
| THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA | October 24-29 | Los Angeles, CA |
| THE 5 TH DISTRICT PLANNING MEETING | October 30 | |

THE ST. LOUIS CAPE GIRARDEAU

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| The Planning Meeting | November 13, 2023 | The Cathedral @ St. Paul |
| THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE | April 21-23, 2023 | TBD |
| THE CHURCH SCHOOL CONVENTION | June 23-24, 2023 | TBD |

THE ST. PAUL QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| THE FIRST QUARTER | December 15, 2022 | TheCathedral@St.Paul |
| THE SECOND QUARTER | March 9, 2023 | TheCathedral@St.Paul |
| THE THIRD QUARTER | June 8, 2023 | TheCathedral@St.Paul |
| THE FOURTH QUARTER | September 9, 2023 | TheCathedral@St.Paul |

THE LEADERSHIP ANNIVERSARY AND BIRTHDAY

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| LADY GAIL BOOKER | NOV 24 | BIRTHDAY |
| BISHOP CLEMENT FUGH | DEC 17 | BIRTHDAY |
| PRESIDING ELDER AND LADY LOWE | DEC 26 | ANNIVERSARY |
| BISHOP & SUPERVISOR FUGH | APRIL 10 | ANNIVERSARY |
| PASTOR BOOKER | MAY 15 | BIRTHDAY |
| SUPERVISOR VIVIENNE ANDERSON | JULY 27 | BIRTHDAY |
| PRESIDING ELDER LOWE | AUG 15 | BIRTHDAY |
| REV. REGINA LOWE | AUG 25 | BIRTHDAY |
| PASTOR & LADY BOOKER | AUG 31 | ANNIVERSARY |
| SUPERVISOR ALEXIA FUGH | SEPT 3 | BIRTHDAY |

Weekly Schedule

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Moments of Inspiration Media-Cast Halleluiah 1600 am Radio Station/I-Heart Internet

9:00 a.m. Church-At-Study (Church School) Prayer-Line (Until Spring 2023)

9:50 a.m. Closing

10:00 a.m. Hybrid Worship Celebration

Stream Live on St. Paul Facebook (pastorbooker.net), Zoom, Prayer-Line

5:00p.m. Freedom School and YPD Training via Zoom

Monday: The Day of Reflections

Tuesday:- 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Church Office Hours

Friday

12:00 p.m. Senior Adult Ministry Bible Hour of Power (Weekly) Via Zoom

5:30 p.m. Stewardship Commission Meeting (After The 1st Sunday) Monthly via Zoom

6:30 p.m. Steward Board Meeting (After The 1st Sunday) Monthly Via Zoom

6:30 p.m. Trustee Board Meeting (After The 2nd Sunday) Monthly Via Zoom

6:30p.m. The Official Board (After the 3rd Sunday) Quarterly Via Zoom

SIP Afterschool Tuesday – Thursday 3:30p.m – 5:30p.m.

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. The Wisdom on Wednesday (Weekly) via Zoom

The Class Leader Council Last Wednesday of the Month

Friday: The Day of Fasting and Prayer

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. The Intercessory Prayer Line

9:00 a.m. St. Paul's Saturday

11:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. Ministry of Music

Note: Please See the Monthly Calendar for all other ministry meeting date and time.

Due to inclement weather we will worship Virtually, Zoom, Facebook, and prayer line

Giving On-Line:

Please remember you can share your tithes, offerings and gifts through Givelify.com.

1. Download the Givelify APP.

2. Set Up your Log in Info.

3. Search for St. Paul AME Church

1260 Hamilton Ave. St. Louis, MO 63112



Please remember we do accept all major credit cards through our Virtual Merchant Machine.

Contact Steward Stephanie Johnson, Treasurer, or Steward Carol Carroll, Financial Secretary

The Cathedral @ St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church
“Mission Possible Project Plan”

There are **THREE** plans that parishioners/supporters can contribute towards MONTHLY.

These **THREE** plans must have a minimum of 42 givers each, totaling 126 givers.

These **THREE** plans are given above and beyond your Tithes and Offerings.

The **THREE** plans are:

83.33 Plan

63.33 Plan

43.33 Plan

Projected Income:

(Based on 4 month intervals...Nov-Feb, Mar-Jun, Jul-Oct)

\$83.33 * 42 contributors = \$3,499.86

\$63.33 * 42 contributors = \$2,659.86

\$43.33 * 42 contributors = \$1,819.86

\$7,979.58 Monthly

(Nov-Feb) \$7,979.58 * 4 month interval = \$31,918.32

(Mar-Jun) \$7,979.58 * 4 month interval = \$31,918.32

(Jul-Oct) \$7,979.58 * 4 month interval = \$31,918.32

\$95,754.96 Annually

If AME obligations are \$60,000 annually, that leaves an additional \$35,754.96 to go towards savings, renovations, mortgage liquidation, etc.

Please Renew Your Pledge Today for the Period of November 2022 – October 2023



MY 2022-2023 FAITH PROMISE PLEDGE
St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church

In dependence on God, the most cheerful giver, I pledge the tax-deductible gift of:

~~\$83.33~~ \$63.33 \$43.33

Per month to St. Paul AMEC in support of its ministries and programs for the 2022-2023 conference year. I believe that giving is good stewardship practice. I also believe that it is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate my faith and trust in God's radical generosity.

I understand that my pledge is in addition to my giving of tithes and offerings.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

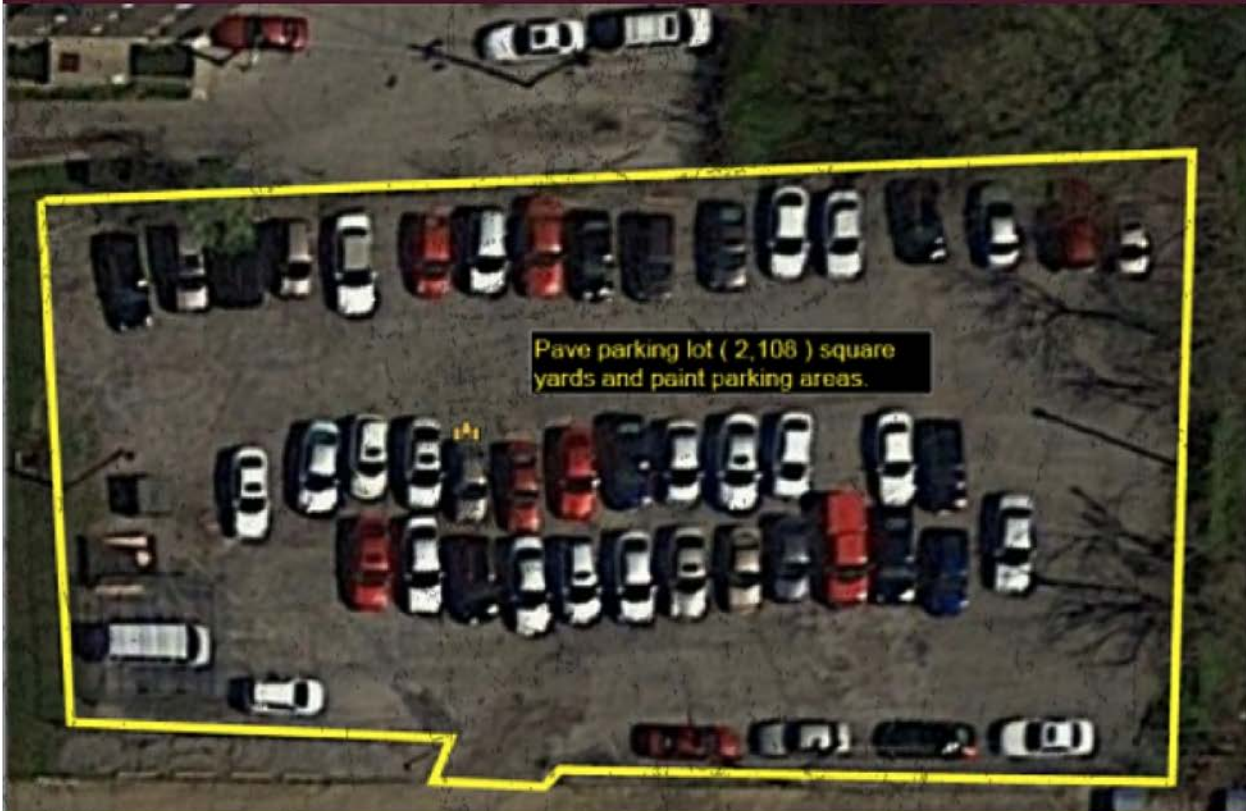
Tel.: _____ Email: _____

(Instructions: Please give your completed pledge card to an Usher. You may email your completed pledge card to Stpaulstl@sbcglobal.net. You may also place it in the offering box/plate. Also, you can mail it to the church office: St. Paul AMEC-St. Louis, 1260 Hamilton Ave., St. Louis, MO 63112.)



MY 2022-2023 FAITH PROMISE PLEDGE
St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church

Paving Our Way To 2020



Expected Fund Raised: \$32,000 - \$40,000



\$20 for 20 Months

For More Info, Call: (314) 385 8900 or www.stpaulamestl.net

THE REPLACING OF THE RETAINING WALL



THE ERECTING OF THE RENAISSANCE SENIOR ADULT LIVING DOME

The Renaissance Revitalization Community Development Corporation Senior Adult Living Dome

The Renaissance Revitalization Community Development Corporation is a subsidiary of St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church. Our Mission is to serve the community in various capacities to meet the needs of all people. We are networking to serve the community spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally, environmentally, and economically.

"The RR-CDC is a nonprofit service provider networking to meet the needs of all people."

We proposed to erect a Sixty-Six state-of-the-art building for senior citizens and disabled citizens who need safe haven residential quarters in the West End Neighborhood. The six-story building will house a full-time restaurant for the residents that will employ a chef, food service manager, and gourmet cooks. In addition, we will employ a maintenance team and maidservants for the residents. The massive senior living center will house all amenities that enable the residents never to leave the facility. The first floor will include but not be limited to, A grocery store, laundry, a small medical clinic, an auditorium, a movie theater, a beauty and barber shop, and a recreation area inside and outside.



St. Paul AME Church

Leadership Training

THE ROLE OF A STEWARD

Excerpts taken from:

Stewards from the AME Church by Rev. J M Grandberry Jr.

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

THE ROLE OF A STEWARD

The word steward comes from the Anglo-Saxon word which refers to a guard or guardian. While it seems probable that the term “steward” was never specifically given to the servant who tended the livestock the figure of speech is deeply suggestive. The steward was the person in charge of the affairs of the household of another, the keeper of the estate, Steward of the manor, or a holder of a position of public trust.

Christian stewards recognize and acknowledge God’s proprietary ownership and their trusteeship of the farm, of the factory, of the store of the money in their pockets, in banks, mortgages, and stocks and of any other material as well as of all spiritual values.

When we give money to the church it is as though we were dedicating our lives through the service made possible through our gifts. Money then becomes the means by which we truly consecrate our lives in service to God.

We cannot be faithful stewards if we undertake to give one thing and withhold something else that God wants. To understand Christian stewardship, we must understand the attitude of Jesus towards the whole life.

According to the historical meaning of the word, we find the steward had authority and responsibility delegated to him by his master in proportion to his faithful or unfaithfulness in the discharge of the trust committed to his hand. This historical meaning must be brought over and applied to the Christian steward. He, too, has authority and responsibility as well as fellowship with his Lord and Master. God has given his children the responsibility of participating with him in his purpose. The steward was the personal representative of his master. He knew his master’s mind and he managed his affairs. Into his hands was committed the keeping of all his master’s goods. His title was one of honor and his position one of sacred trust.

Christ expects every steward to take his place in the ranks of the visible organization through which he is working to overcome the powers of evil and to usher in the rule of righteousness in the personal and social relationships of all mankind.

Christian religion makes men better here on earth as well as prepares them for citizenship in heaven. Jesus was a true, loyal citizen of state--His stewards should also be.

STEWARDS’ OBLIGATION TO THE CHURCH

We propose to call attention to the steward’s obligation to the church as one of the great institutions of our society. The church helps the individual and the individual should help the church.

The church is the normal institution through which an individual can function in his efforts to help others and in organizing and directing his activities in kingdom building and advancement. Every member is an asset or a liability to his church. He may influence others to greater consecration and friendship in the service of Christ or he may be a stumbling block.

Non-attendance, non-giving, and non-participation in the activities of the church are contrary to true stewardship.

The true steward expresses his stewardship in a sincere, Christ-like life, which manifests itself in worship, in contributions to the church budget, for both local expenses, and connectional causes, and participating in the program and work of the church according to his time and talent.

APPOINTMENT OF STEWARDS

In the A.M.E. Church this question is often asked, how are stewards made? Who is responsible for Mr/Mrs...being on the steward board?

It is well to note that first a man or woman is selected as a steward because of their Christian character. These persons are made stewards because of their love of God and the church, and love for the Discipline of the A.M.E. Church. The stewards of each local church are nominated by the pastor in charge. No fewer than three nor more than nineteen in any charge, such as mission, circuit, or station charges should be allowed. After these persons have been nominated by the pastor they shall be confirmed by the Quarterly Conference.

In being confirmed by the quarterly conference this does not mean that the presiding elder confirms them; it means that the members of the quarterly conference either affirm or reject the pastor's nomination of the persons so named as stewards of the mission, circuit, or station. If accepted by the quarterly conference, they are then stewards of the church.

It is well to note that a person named or confirmed as a steward, his tenure of service is for the period of one (1) year, and the pastor does not have to nominate the same persons as stewards year after year.

To be qualified for the office of steward in the church the persons so nominated and confirmed must be persons of solid piety, who know and love both the Methodist doctrine and Discipline of the church. The stewards must be of good natural or acquired ability to transact the temporal business of the church.

The stewards are of importance to the pastor for they are responsible to uphold the arms of the pastor in the discharge of the spiritual administration of the duties of the pastor.

THE DUTIES OF THE STEWARDS

There are some specific duties that are the responsibility of the stewards alone. The stewards as a department of the church, shall seek out the needy and distressed in the community to relieve them and comfort them. There are many areas of concern that the stewards can explore for aid and comfort of the less fortunate of the community. Being a steward is a serious undertaking. A steward should recognize that he/she not only is to stand up front to lift the offering and tell the members of the needs of the Church but he/she is to lead out in any and all benevolent undertaking of the church. He is a steward not only in the Church, but he/she is a steward of all that he possesses, somewhere it should dawn on him/her that all that we have is a gift from God to be used for His Glory and Honor.

The stewards are directly responsible for the pastor's salary and support. Directly and indirectly, all of the operations of the church are under the direction of the stewards.

The steward department shall make an accurate return of every expenditure of the monies of the church. That which goes to the preacher, building fund, debt retirement, that which is given to the sick and shut-ins and the poor. The stewards are to know all funds raised by all organizations of the church and for what they were expended.

The stewards are members of the quarterly conference and are subject to the actions of the quarterly conference, they shall give advice if asked, in the planning of the work of the church and give counsel in matters of arbitration. Their attendance to the official board, church conference, and quarterly conference is in keeping with their office. All of these meetings they shall attend and be a part of them. The stewards and the pastor shall set the salary of the pastor, the contract is to be honored by the church and the stewards are responsible to the pastor to see that he receives the salary that they have agreed upon.

The stewards of the mission, circuit or station shall write circular letters to the members as the occasion may require and let the membership know how the church is getting along both spiritually and financially and encourage continued attendance to the worship services, and to urge the members to be more liberal in their giving to the church and its causes. Personal visitation to the members is a very fine way to impress upon the members of the church their duty and responsibility to God and the total church program.

The stewards shall keep a record and register of the marriages, baptisms, and deaths of the membership, these records can be of invaluable service in the area of social security concerns and old-age pensions. A church record can be used to verify ages.

The stewards shall provide the elements for the Lord's Supper, they shall see to it that the church is always provided with wine (grape juice) and see to it that the stewardesses make the unleavened bread and keep the linens white and ready for instant use.

The stewards shall take care of the pastor's table comforts (Foodstuffs) and anything that will facilitate the spiritual administration of the pastor's duties.

It should always be understood by the stewards of the church that they are subject to the bishops, elders, deacons, and traveling preachers of the circuits and/or stations.

The Stewards should always sit up front in the church in a body and should be the spiritual dynamo of the church. Their very presence in the front of the church in a body, it signifies that they are a part and parcel of the spiritual power of the church as well as an exemplification of their office and dignity of their position.

ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE STEWARDS

The stewards for the faithful performance and discharge of their duties shall be accountable to the quarterly conference which shall have the power to remove them when they fail or refuse to do their duty.

In the interim of the quarterly conference sessions, the pastor in charge shall have the power to suspend a steward who refuses, or neglects, or fails to discharge his duty. The steward has the right to appeal his

suspension to the next session of the quarterly conference, which should dispose of the case. If in the opinion of the quarterly conference, the steward should be restored, it has the power to restore him and the pastor, at the close of the quarterly conference, has the power to suspend him until the next quarterly conference. The pastor has the prerogative to select a chairman pro-tem of the steward board who shall act at and only at the request of the pastor in his absence or in local steward board meetings. The office of a steward is one of responsibility and honor; any person so honored should recognize the seriousness of his position, and all that it implies.

STEWARD BOARD LOCAL CHURCH ORGANIZATION

Commissions in the Local Church

There may be constituted in each local church the following commissions, whose respective duties are hereinafter defined: (1) The Commission on Membership and Evangelism, (2) The Commission on Christian Education, (3) The Commission on Missions and Welfare, (4) The Commission on Stewardship and Finance, (5) The Commission on Public Relations. (6) The Commission on Christian Social Action, (7) The Commission on Health.

The Pastor *shall* be the chairperson of the Commission on Stewardship and Finance and the ex-officio chairperson of the other commissions. The chairperson of each commission shall be a steward and therefore a member of the Official Board and Quarterly Conference to which he or she is amenable, with the exception of the Commission on Missions and Welfare, whose chairperson may be either a steward or a trustee. They shall make monthly reports to the Official Board and also quarterly reports to the Quarterly Conference. The members shall be elected by the church conference, except that the Commission on Christian Education shall be composed of the pastor, the superintendent of the Church School, the president of the Allen Christian Fellowship, director of the Young People's Division of the Women's Missionary Society, directors of Bureau Service Agencies and additional members who shall be nominated by the pastor and elected by the Quarterly Conference. The director of Christian Education shall be an ex-officio member of this commission.

Each commission shall be composed of no fewer than three nor more than seven members who are in good and regular standing in the AME Church and eighteen years of age or over. This rule may not apply in the case of mission charges and does not apply to the Commission on Stewardship and Finance, which shall be composed of an equal number of stewards and trustees plus Official Board members-at-large. The total number of persons on this commission shall not be fewer than three (3) nor more than nine (9). Each commission shall cooperate with the Connectional and Annual Conference Commission.

A. Rules Governing Commissions

- 1.** There shall be a quarterly and annual review of each commission. The chairperson of the Commission on Missions and Welfare may be either a steward or a trustee.
- 2.** It shall be the responsibility of the presiding bishop, the presiding elder, and the pastor to educate the people concerning the program.
- 3.** At the first Quarterly Conference following the Annual Conference the Presiding elder shall ascertain the type of financial system the church shall use. In the event the first Quarterly Conference occurs less than thirty days following the Annual Conference, the church shall report its choice to the presiding elder.

4. In the interim of the Quarterly Conference, any commission chairperson or member who fails to perform his or her duties as prescribed by The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, may be removed by the pastor with the approval of the Official Board. He or she may also be removed in case of improper temper, words, action, or disloyalty to the rules and regulations of the administration. The pastor shall fill the vacancy until the next meeting of the Quarterly Conference, which shall dispose of the case.

B. Duties of Commissions

Commission on Membership and Evangelism:

- a. It shall be the responsibility of every pastor to establish in the local church a Commission on Membership and Evangelism.
- b. He or she shall in conjunction with the local Church Conference, establish realistic goals for the growth of the church committed to his or her charge. These goals and objectives shall include increasing membership and training ministerial and lay leaders whose task it shall be to:
 - (1) Study the demographics of the community in which the church seeks to minister to order to identify opportunities for the church to engage in meaningful ministries.
 - (2) Develop workshops for the leadership of the local church and its membership to enhance the opportunity for the entire church to participate in the church's ministry, thereby creating a sense of corporate responsibility for the task.
 - (3) Implement a Bible plan tailored to the community in which the ministry is to take place, including possible street ministries, trained home visitation teams, revival and evangelistic services, distribution of tracts and AME literature, which promotes Christ Jesus.

Commission on Christian Education

There shall be in every local church a Commission on Christian Education, with duties as follows:

- a. It shall make a careful study of the Christian education needs of the local church and the means for meeting their needs such as: the correlation of the program of educational agencies for the various age groups; the recommendation and approval of curricula in harmony with the findings of the curriculum committee and the standards adopted by the Division of Christian Education; the supervision of the recruitment, training, and assignment of Christian education workers in the local church.
- b. It shall see that the Church School, Allen Christian Fellowship, Young People's Division missionary members and all their authorized classes, departments, and groups are supplied with adequate and appropriate literature and proper equipment prepared and approved by the Division of Christian Education.
- c. It shall see that suitable missionary programs are carried out at stated periods in all the departments of the Church School and Allen Christian Fellowship, cooperating with the Young People's Missionary Division.
- d. It shall see that appropriate days are observed annually as Church School Day, Decision Day, and Promotion Day. Plans for the observance of the days shall provide for the presentation to the church of the work of the Church School, Allen Christian Fellowship, and other service agencies.

- e. It shall cooperate in the proper observance of Easter Day, Children's Day, Allen Jubilee Week and Christian Education Week as prescribed by The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. These observances include Allen Jubilee Week in February and September and Christian Education Week in September. The value and use of The Journal of Christian Education should be emphasized during all of these observances

Commission on Missions and Welfare

The duties of the Commission on Missions and Welfare are as follows:

- a. It shall provide for the dissemination of missionary information, the distribution of missionary literature, and the circulation of general missionary periodicals.
- b. It must plan on an annual basis.
- c. It must cooperate with other departments, units, and commissions of the church in the survey and study of the needs of the community.
- d. It shall oversee and control the local church program of welfare and charity.
- e. it shall cooperate with the pastor, the missionary society, and other organizations and units in the local church.
- f. It shall confer annually with the Commission on Stewardship and Finance in setting up the local budget.

Commission on Stewardship and Finance

- a. The Commission on Stewardship and Finance shall promote and cultivate Christian stewardship and administer the financial program of the church. In keeping with this overall function, the duties of this commission are as follows:
 - (1) Each year the Commission shall set up a budget for the church and shall submit the same to the Official Board for its action and determination.
 - (2) Upon approval of the annual budget by the Official Board, the Commission Shall, under the direction of the board, take action to provide the income sufficient to cover same, and shall administer the funds received according to the plan of the Official Board.
 - (3) There shall be an annual "Every Member Canvas" for individual pledges. All payments shall be credited to the donors and a proper account shall be kept for each subscriber and contributor.
 - (4) The funds shall be deposited promptly in a bank approved by the board and the account shall be in the name of the local church.
 - (5) Funds received shall be disbursed as the Official Board directs, subject to the approval of the pastor. The income received each month shall have been shared proportionately among the budgeted items after the pastor's salary and that of the entire church staff shall be given priority.
 - (6) A report shall be made by the financial secretary and treasure(s) to the Official Board each month and to the Quarterly Conference of all receipts and disbursements and of unpaid obligations against the budget.
 - (7) It shall be the continuing duty of the Commission to inform the congregation of the financial needs of the church.
 - (8) No lottery, raffle, or other games of chance shall be used in raising money for any purpose.

Central Budget Fund-The work of the local church requires the support of each member. Participation through services and gifts is a Christian duty and a means of grace. In order that all members of the AME Church on the local level may share in its manifold ministries at home and abroad and that work committed to us may prosper, the following financial plan is hereby duly approved and adopted. (*See "Rules for Giving," p.41*).

- (1) There may be established a central fund in the local church known as the "Central Budget Fund."
- (2) There various causes and services included in this local fund shall be:
 - (a) Ministers' Support
 - (b) Benevolences
 - (c) Christian Education
 - (d) Public Relations
 - (e) Connectional Budget
 - (f) Conference Budget (District, Annual)
 - (g) Community Project
 - (h) Current Trustee Expense
 - (i) Purchase and Repair
 - (j) Church Expansion (Local)
 - (k) Travel (Minister and Lay)
 - (l) Extra Budget Projects
 - (m) Insurance
 - (n) Contingency
- (3) All monies raised by organizations of or for the church shall be reported immediately to this Fund. Each commission shall be permitted to draw on this fund upon presentation of a voucher previously prepared for such purposes. Each organization shall withdraw funds for incidental needs, using the same procedure.
- (4) This Fund shall be administered by the Commission on Stewardship
- (5) Commission on Public Relations
 - a. The duties of this commission are as follows:
 - (1) It shall be responsible for gathering and disseminating information of public interest to the secular press, religious press, radio, television, and other legitimate media of public information
 - (2) It shall be responsible for intra-congregational communication.
 - (3) It shall disseminate information to the official organs of the AME church.
 - (4) It shall submit an annual budget to the Commission on Stewardship and Finance.
- (6) Commission on Christian Social Action
This commission shall coordinate activities in the areas of social, racial, and economic relations; temperance, world peace, and community cooperation as directed by the Connectional Social Action Commission.

In closing, here are a few positives and negatives of good steward's principles which intelligent love offers for you guidance in spending.

Stewardship Nuggets

Some Negatives--

Never buy what you do not need.

Never waste.

Do not borrow without probability of repaying.

Avoid softness of needless

self-indulgence. Do not seek

to get something for

nothing.

Do not live beyond your income.

Some Positives--

All spending should be based on the kingdom of God first.

The test of stewardship is not how much of my money will I give to God, but how much of God's money will I give for his kingdom.

The simple life is the best--for ourselves--for others, and best for the kingdom of God.

Money becomes a means of grace to him who uses it for God's glory.

St. Paul AME Church

THE ROLE OF THE TRUSTEE

Excerpts taken from:
The Role of The Trustee by Rev. A. Lee Henderson
The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

THE ROLE OF A TRUSTEE

Let us clarify the meaning of “Trustee.” It is a good term. And it spells out its intent: Trust = The person or thing in which confidence is placed; the condition and resulting obligation of having confidence placed in one.”

I think of the added “ee” tag in connection with lessor and lessee in real estate. The lessor leases. The lessee is the tenant holding the lease. The Trustee is the person holding our responsible trust.

The Trustee is the person to whom the church designates confidence and credence. Credence is a fine word for “belief.” Confidence and credence belong together in our character sketch of the Trustee’s assets.

Good character traits describe and qualify, beyond all else, the person’s role to become a Trustee.

We place these traits on the Trustee.

It is our way of designating the individual with a mark of service, as important as an enlisted army officer’s hash marks to signify a special rank.

Except that in our African Methodist Episcopal Church, we do not rank one person above another visibly by uniform. We do welcome the service, however, of our Trustees and honor them among us.

A Trustee is defined by his/her duties as outlined in *The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church*. The Trustee is described as an officer of the local church. To become a Trustee one must be nominated by the pastor.

After that, there is a general membership election. Membership election is important. It signifies our accord to vest responsibilities on the shoulders of the person who is nominated. We would hope that any nominated and elected Trustee will take the position that person is asked to fill quite seriously.

But please remember, that one can fill a serious responsibility...even that of Presidency of the United States of America...and still smile and enjoy one’s life in the company of friends and family.

The Trustee is not expected to withdraw from society! Far from it! The Trustee is the same person prior to one’s designation...a human being subject to the everyday strains, the highs, and lows, of life in contemporary society.

Yet there is a plus to becoming a Trustee. It adds a dimension to one’s life...a challenge that brings tremendous satisfaction to them for the minimum amount of time they devote to it in proportion to their normal jobs and duties.

The time it take to devote to church activities as a Trustee will vary. Each church will control the time required, depending upon its size and its financial involvements.

The Trustee's role is to manage the temporal concerns of the church. Temporal defines the area of these concerns: all are secular. Temporal involves the world...the everyday, routine civil and political affairs for which monies may be appropriated, invested, or considered as an outlay. Trustees of money...raised voluntarily as by project design...respond to God's will for the good of the church.

The reasonable concerns for budgets, building premises or new building funds, and banking institutions are always of prime concern.

But the Trustee has entered a new age of applications. The Trustee must be responsible for these dynamic changes in our society.

Being designated Trustee will open your eyes to how fast our society is changing, and what we must do to keep our church aware of it.

The Trustee is an important bridge between the world outside as it changes, and the ecclesiastical heartbeat within it, kept constant.

The Trustee can sustain the life of the heartbeat and even increase its longevity!

THE TRUSTEE IN ACTION

The Trustee is not some inert piece of baggage written into the church laws and filling a tedious position.

Far from it! The Trustee is always geared to service...and to action. The Trustee stands ready to act because: The articles of incorporation in our African Methodist Episcopal Church specify what is exactly involved.

The clarity is crystal clear. Misunderstandings cannot divide the Trustee from his/her accepted role because the law speaks up loud and pure.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church is a non-profit corporation. Among its specified financial and budgetary powers the purpose and power of the church are invited "to hold in trust all real, personal, and mixed property interest and rights of the church, whether general or local in character, or titled in any department, society, agency, auxiliary or board. The Board of Incorporators or General Board of Trustee, herein shall be amenable to the General Conference of the Church."

Therefore, as the General Board of Trustees decrees, and only with its written approval, consent must be forthcoming to sell, donate, mortgage, convey, transfer, abandon, and/or encumber. The Board of Trustees of the Board of Incorporators of the African Methodist Episcopal Church solely and exclusively maintain such jurisdiction...except as it may be held by the Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

On this top church level the Board of Trustees are protected. For they select, designate and retain the General Counsel for the church and all its interests.

You may wish to ask yourself the following:

Who is the legal representative of the church?

Who can sue or be sued in fiscal or property matters or where the interests or rights of the church are involved?

Answers:

The Board of Trustees is the legal representative of our church.

The Board of Trustees can sue, be sued, or stand at cause for the interests or rights of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Board of Trustees has the overall obligation to assume responsibility for anything consequential that can befall the church in the way of property, conveyances or those parcels placed in trust. This extends to any person, local church, society, auxiliary, agency, department or commission which “shall be deemed adverse to the general church, or the General Conference “for the benefit of the church, its members, society, auxiliaries, departments, boards, and commissions whosoever located.”

Distance will not diminish the responsibility. The property in South Africa and the property in Brooklyn, New York are viewed equally by way of the Trustee’s responsibility to oversee.

What good training to prevent one from shrugging indifferently “Because I wasn’t there!” as an excuse! As a Trustee, you are expected to “mind the store” and if you can’t be there physically, at least pay attention to the papers, the deeds, the fiduciary (financial) responsibilities.

Where there is doubt in your mind, as a Trustee you must feel free to question and ask for the paperwork needed to keep you informed.

THE LOCAL TRUSTEE

Local Trustee boards are governed by state laws applicable to all real estate and business transactions.

The local church functions within these parameters.

Learning the guidelines will prove invaluable, and are really very simple to absorb when followed according to the property involved.

The corporation of the church, by its Board, holds in trust all bequests, gifts, grants, donations and funds given or conveyed directly to the African Methodist Episcopal Church. This applies to those things given, conveyed, in addition, directly to the African Methodist Episcopal Church or its Trustees, and incorporators.

These grants are to be designed and committed to, or for the benefit of the church, its members, society, auxiliaries, departments, boards, and commissions.

However, keep this in mind: there is no requirements to accept any gifts, property, grant, or donation, not in harmony with the purposes and intent of a church body. And certainly nothing is acceptable which conflicts with *The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church*.

VOTING RIGHTS OF THE BOARD OF INCORPORATORS

Them elected Secretary and Treasurer of the church are non-voting members of the Board of Trustees.

Each board shall have representation from the presiding or resident bishop of the First Episcopal District. Also, a minister and layperson who are residents of Pennsylvania will be on each board. The duly designated Bishop over the district (including Pennsylvania) will be the Registered Agent for the Board of Incorporators.

Trustees elected by the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Quadrennial Session are the Trustees of the Corporation.

These Trustees will serve whatever terms the General Conference decides.

TRUSTEE CONDUCT

Although each church may differ, some in an operational set-up without a specific trust clause, this oversight is not problematical. Absence of such clauses does not exclude a local church from the Connectional character assigned to the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

For beyond all procedures, the African Methodist Episcopal Church holds all its local churches strictly accountable. There is no acceptable excuse to absolve a local congregation, church agency, or Board of Trustees of its responsibilities and accountability to the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The local church must be governed by the African Methodist Episcopal Church charter overall, and the trusteeship involved is a key cornerstone. Ministers are appointed by the Bishop and Trustees shall not in any manner obstruct or interfere in any pastoral charge or attempt to prevent bishops, ministers or preachers of the African Methodist Episcopal Church from preaching or using the property for religious or proper services as shall be from time to time duly authorized by the General Conference of the said church or by an Annual Conference, or by appointment of the presiding bishop of the Annual Conference, under which jurisdiction the pastor's charge is located.

Aside from being publicly known as an African Methodist Episcopal Church, the church must convey its property to the Trustees of a local African Methodist Episcopal Church or agency. The acceptance of the pastorate or ministers appointed by a bishop of the Episcopal District or Annual Conference must be forthcoming, and payment of conference assessments or dues approved. The local church must always, as part of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Inc. Connection, participate in the Quarterly and Annual Conferences.

TRUSTEE PROPERTY ACTIONS

The local church's Board of Trustees, duly elected by provisions in The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, is empowered to purchase, mortgage, sell, transfer, and convey real and personal property.

There is a major provision attached to this property action. The transfer has to be duly approved by the resolution made in the Quarterly Conference of the member church.

Again, this action must be upheld by the Trustees of the Annual Conference, within which the property is located. All of this is achieved under the aegis of the presiding bishop.

The property is never held in individual names. It is held always in trust for the General Church by the Board of Trustees of the local church corporation.

All property of whatever nature, is deeded to the corporate name: In Trust for the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Inc.

Similarly, all sale proceeds from any local church property must be held in trust for the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Disbursements can go toward improvement of other owned property by the local church. Additional property may be purchased from property sale(s).

Keep in mind that any sale of property has to be made with the explicit approval of the Quarterly Conference, by resolution.

THE TRUSTEE ON THE LOCAL BOARD AND ON THE GENERAL BOARD

The local Trustees are accountable as follows:

Local Trustee
Accountable to
Quarterly Conference
Accountable to
Annual Conference
Accountable to
General Board

The General Board of Trustees or the Board of Incorporators accountable to
the General Conference of the Church

General Conference of the Church

We can refresh ourselves with the details later, but we should always keep in mind that the local church corporation has the power to sell, convey and dispose of both real and personal property.

Within the local church the proceeds may be dispersed for another improvement with the monies that elected incorporators and Trustees of the local church mortgage or borrow against (mortgage) church property.

But...the Quarterly Conference must approve all sales of church property and make a resolution which passes to sell any property. B e f o r e purchase of the property the Quarterly Conference must resolve to do so.

Abandoned properties are held by the Annual Conference and sold subject to the Annual Conference of Trustees.

I thought it would be helpful to compare the local board and general board perception of “Trustee” in relationship to each other by benefit of the foregoing.

I would like very much to encourage you to take your time with these materials.

One does not become an expert by the benefit of holding the Book of Knowledge in hand!

Our best Trustees can come to us with good business backgrounds, yet in order to adapt themselves to our criteria and constitution, it does take time!

One step at a time is my favorite counsel.

Nothing is too complicated to understand if one makes the effort and is patient.

We are not expected to arrive at a trusteeship with the qualifications of a Supreme Court Judge! Supreme Court Judges are potential candidates for us, but we are quite content to run our churches with the good participation of women and men who can qualify with good common sense, respect for the church, loyalty to the church and connection, and a desire to apply themselves to gain the knowledge needed to serve with:

1. Financial wisdom.
2. Alertness to the issues in the church, the community, and the nation at large,
3. Respect for confidentiality when needed regarding church matters that deserve to be kept internally when needed.
4. A self-informed grasp of the business needed, whether it be real estate or banking matters.
5. Generous sharing of time as needed.
6. Total honesty.

The church servant is expected to share the time for meetings, phone conferences, and the private hours needed to do whatever reading is necessary to keep oneself informed.

A discussion of guidelines can be very helpful among Trustees to informally acquaint themselves and any other audience that the pastor may wish to invite for a discussion of the role of Trustee.

The inner satisfaction glows from the Trustee participant who has spent tireless hours and even self-searching toward making a mutual decision that can bring glory to the church and insure its stability in our problem-filled society.

What a delight to realize that the future holds better stability, a finer measure of visibility (the new or remodeled church) for the work of Jesus.

Whether the business requires some careful scanning prior to investment rests on the dependable shoulders of those who have the power to spend the monies to make handsome profits..small or big. The addition of a new pencil sharpener or a mainframe computer to publish is important in the eyes of the Lord.

We serve the church by putting our minds to the business of the church knowing that our Trustees, watching and protecting, are standing by.

The Trustee are, indeed, valuable asset, and the best friends we have through their years of tireless service.

UNDERSTANDING THE TRUSTEE:

The A.M.E. Church Defines the Age, Numbers, Elections and Duties

To understand the Trustee within the African Methodist Episcopal Church setup, we discover that there are specific numbers needed, specific qualifications, and specific means to elect the Trustee. Even, under dire circumstances, there are procedures to follow to expel a Trustee.

Duties, of course, are spelled out in detail as they relate to our Trustees in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Church membership of a six months-minimum is a prerequisite to becoming a Trustee.

There are rare exceptions made to this in the case of missions, new work, or considered emergencies. Regular church membership is requisite to becoming a Trustee.

You can generally review the following:

Qualifications:

Age 18 years old or more

Church

Requirement: Must be eligible through regular church membership

Length of Church

Membership: At least six months duration. (Waiver only in case of Mission service, new-work service, or emergency.)

A good rule of thumb is simple: One has to learn to walk before one can *run*! Running for the election to become a Trustee follows specific, yet simple guidelines.

ELECTING THE TRUSTEE

1. Guidelines for elections will comply with “the law of the land and civil law.” Our

forefathers wanted to be sure that they complied with the existing legal structure wherever the church was planted. (Assuming all is in accord.)

2. Trustees are to be elected annually by church members.
3. The minister nominates twice the number of persons to be elected.
4. The church minister fixes the time and place to hold elections
5. Notice for the elections is made from the minister's pulpit.
6. The time of notice should be at least ten days (two consecutive Sundays included) before the date of the election.

WHO VOTES FOR THE TRUSTEES?

Voting is a privilege. Persons with the privilege to vote include:

1. Everyone who is a member above 18 years old.
2. Everyone who is in full communion.
3. Everyone at the meeting casts one vote for the nominees of their choosing.
4. The number of Trustees will be elected by majority vote only. Voting by ballot shall continue until majority votes come in.
5. The minister declares the results of the Trustee(s) elected.

Who is the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees?

The minister in charge.

Whose Signature is needed to make the acts of trustees legal?

The minister in charge. His signature is binding to acts of the Trustees on all documents.

What happens in the absence of the Chairperson?

The Chairperson may appoint a president pro tem to sign legally in his/her absence. And generally, execute all approved transactions, and report the same.

Can there Be a Protest to stop the elections of Trustees?

Protecting the African Methodist Episcopal Church local Trustees being elected by churches is a primary concern. The invincibility of the electoral process is guaranteed. Squabbles or dissension of any kind are presumed to be part of the type of electoral procedures we see by our major Republicans and Democrats in whipping up an electoral slate in the national convention arena. However, we do not play political football at the time of local Trustee elections! Subject to the patrolled scrutiny of election boards, we expect the same kind of peaceful activity to prevail at all our African Methodist Episcopal Church elections. Nobody, no member or even an officer of the church can stand in the way of free elections at the scheduled time.

What might happen if there is any disruption?

Our law insists upon peaceful assembly and conduct of our elections. Would-be offenders are subject to expulsion from the church for breaking this law.

DUTIES OF OUR TRUSTEES

There is no training as valuable to an individual who must get down to business and mind the details which keep that business solvent, as a Trustee's on-the-job duties! Most Trustees come to us with a solid background in business, and even preferably to my mind, successful enterprises.

But in truth, it is the discipline, the dedication, and the devotion to serve the “trust” placed in one’s hand that concerns the church.

As a Trustee, your duties are:

1. To pay bills.
All expenses accruing to the church for its upkeep come out of the church till and are meted out by the Trustees for fuel, lighting, energy needs such as air conditioning and running electronic computers, insurance and mortgage payments.
2. To guard and act as overseer of:
Real estate, parsonages, churches, school property, and any other properties owned through the connection.
3. To make improvements of:
All real estate and properties that a majority of the legal church members Authorize.
4. To provide for the minister and his/her family by:
Securing a house for them by purchase or lease, furnishing it, and paying moving costs for them to get there. In some cases a housing allowance in lieu of the above.

A Trustee, therefore, must be watchful, concerned, and responsive to all matters involving the province of temporal secular concerns assigned to them by the laws of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

God’s house is entrusted to the hands of the Trustees. And the major and minor details of its upkeep and physical environs is considered to be in good hands with the election of our valued Trustees.

Their service is considered an honor, and they bring to it a sense of deep responsibility and the ability to act upon them efficiently and with dispatch.

THE TRUSTEE ON IMPROVEMENTS AND REPORTS

When we see a beautiful building, well-tended and cared for, our minds register approval. We tend to accept cosmetic appearance. The Trustee knows better. The Trustee knows that upkeep takes time, devotion, diligence to maintenance, and...the payment of the bills to make it possible! Good maintenance preserves our cherished churches, but there are times that a little preventive maintenance goes a long way toward preserving our church heritage.

A checklist of the points needed to keep the church property protected against weathering and decay should be part of our portfolio. Neglect costs monies...more dollars in the long run! However, the order for improvements ought to be made by the minister in charge. It will help for the Trustees to keep their minister informed, however, of what they consider needful improvements. Likewise, they must keep a sensitive ear to what their minister tells them regarding property upkeep and property essentials.

What is needed to improve Property for the Church?

A meeting called by the minister among the legal voters of the church. Majority consent is then considered legal among those present to consent to the improvements needed.

The exception to the majority of legal voters called together

The minister calls together the legal voters of the church, and all of them do not show up. What happens now? Actually, since we consider that a “proper call” has been made, we allow for a vote of those present to be taken. And the majority rule allows for improvements to be made, regardless.

What does the Quarterly Conference say to the Trustees?

The Quarterly Conference accepts the presentation of reports due to it from the Trustees. As we have said, the Trustees are “amenable” or responsive by their bookkeeping reports to the Quarterly Conference.

Are the Trustees Answerable to the Quarterly Conference?

Indeed, they are! For their reports of all receipts and expenditures.

When do the Trustees turn in their reports to the Quarterly Conference?

The Trustees present their reports every quarter.

Does the Quarterly Conference hold Trustees Responsible?

Indeed, they do! Trustees are responsible to the Quarterly Conference for their official conduct.

Can a Trustee Forego the Responsibility of Joint Security by leaving the church?

In no way! A person signing to accept any indebtedness as joint security will not be excused, either by expulsion or choice. However, a Trustee that is expelled or leaves the church will cease to perform as a Trustee. Joint security can be executed to relieve a given Trustee of encumbrance provided the creditors accept.

Can the Minister suspend a Trustee?

The minister does have such power, but the Trustee must be guilty of any one or more of the following offenses:

1. Failure to perform duties
2. Failure of such performance can be construed as the neglect refusal, or deliberate omission of duties.

Can the Minister replace a Trustee?

The minister does not permanently appoint any Trustee. Election is the sole avenue to becoming a Trustee. However, a minister can fill the vacancy created by a discharged Trustee by appointing a new one, temporarily until the next meeting of the Quarterly Conference. Because the Quarterly Conference will take steps to pass upon the case of a Trustee who is dismissed, thus confirming the minister’s action against the Trustee who is not living up to our standards of expectations.

Shall any Trustee be able to impact or stop Ministers, Preachers, or even Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church from their performance?

This type of obstructionist tactic is outside the province of the Trustee. Interference with our ordained ministers, preachers, or bishops to prevent them from preaching, and interpreting God’s “Holy Word,” is not allowed or considered the domain of the Trustee. Also, the use of the church and its properties for African Methodist Episcopal Church religious service, properly conducted according to our doctrine or authorized by the church in question, or by an Annual Conference or by appointment of the presiding bishop of the Annual Conference is guaranteed. The Trustee cannot change this or the foregoing from taking place in the jurisdiction where the pastor and the church exist.

We must admire the care and consideration that went into the thinking of those who laid down the bylaws of our church.

They did not anticipate that the Trustees would wish to interfere in the actual running of the ministry, but they spelled it out...*just in case!*

And the person who wishes to become a Trustee, or the Trustee who wishes to take a refresher course on his or her duties is welcome to probe further into our A.M.E. Discipline source book and some of the past historical records of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and our Connection.

A wonderful letter, as part of history, appeared in the *Methodist Polity*.

The forms for the Trustees' reports attached to the letter is dated, August, 1884!

The categories may even be those you use today, although the expenses from 1884 to the year of our current printing, just before the 21st century, are light years different!

Inflation has taken an ugly toll on our resources.

Yet the meticulous efforts to render, faithfully, the church expenditures, inspires me, and I hope it will inspire you to take heart. Let's continue to build our churches into the crossroads for renewed hope, enlightenment, and spiritual joy they were conceived to be. From the cradle of our beginnings, rocked by the mighty hand of our founder, the humble ex-slave Richard Allen, we celebrated our dignity in the freedom and foundations we built into the first African Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

FORM OF TRUSTEES REPORTS

PHILADELPHIA, PA, August 25, 1884

To the Chairman and Members
of The First Quarterly
Conference of Bethel A.M.E.
Church

GREETINGS:

We, the Board of Trustees, most respectfully beg leave to submit our report for the first quarter, ending August 25th, 1884, which we certify upon our honor and Christian integrity is correct.

RECEIPTS

Remaining in the treasury from last quarter
.....\$125.00

SABBATH COLLECTIONS

June 6th - 11 o'clock..... 22.00
June 6th - 8 o'clock..... 28.50
July 10th - 11 o'clock 19.25
July 10th - 8 o'clock 26.00

| | |
|---|----------|
| August 7 th - 11 o'clock..... | 15.75 |
| August 7 th -8 o'clock..... | 30.00 |
| June 15 th -From supper given for church | 40.00 |
| July 8 th -Lecture by Dr. John Blank | 25.50 |
| July 20 th Sabbath - school concert..... | 21.00 |
| August 8 th - Donation by James Smith..... | 5.00 |
| August 13 th - Contribution by society | 12.00 |
| Sum total..... | \$370.00 |

Quarterly Conference Reports

EXPENDITURES

| | |
|---|----------|
| June 7-Fuel for pastor | 3.00 |
| June 11 th -Dining table for parsonage | 8.00 |
| June 16 th -Paid sexton..... | 10.00 |
| June 30 th -Organist for services..... | 8.00 |
| July 4 th -Broom for sexton | 50 |
| July 6 th -Gas bill | 9.25 |
| July 8 th -Picture for pulpit | 1.00 |
| July 10 th -Digging well for parsonage..... | 70.00 |
| July 19 th -Rent for parsonage | 12.00 |
| August 2 nd -New Floor in school-house..... | 95.00 |
| August 13 th -One ton of coal..... | 7.00 |
| August 15 th -Water-bucket for parsonage | 1.00 |
| Total amount..... | \$233.25 |
| Leaving in the treasury | \$136.75 |

We, the Trustees, beg also to say our department is in good condition, etc. The people are generous, and good behavior characterizes their department, etc. We still owe Mr. Williams three hundred dollars on the church, etc.

As we have no authority to build, or purchase without the consent of a majority of the legal members of the church, we respectfully suggest the need of a parsonage for our minister, etc., and would ask for authority to purchase the vacant lot adjacent to the church, for the erection of a suitable building to that end, etc.

Hoping the Great head of the Church will continue his blessings upon pastor and people we subscribe ourselves your obedient servants.

I concur in the correctness of the report.

Henry J. Jones
Wm. M. Johnson
Joseph Richardson
Samuel Wheeler
James Adkins
Wm Mitchell
Secretary, Trustee

James
Porter,
Pastor and Chairman

As a Trustee you can refresh yourself with the reminder of your ministry to the church. You are planted in fertile soil.

As a Trustee, you can nourish yourself with the knowledge that your position entails. You are strengthened by factual foods, to make you grow and healthy in your mission.

As a Trustee, you can support your growth into the mighty tree sprung by the roots of our forefathers with the solid growth supports of:

1. Attention to organizing your agendas.
2. Conducting meetings maturely and ably designed to handle the business most necessary, to dispatch and conclude it.
3. Keeping records with integrity and minute attention to detail.
4. Creatively assessing the factors needed to enhance church stability and church growth.

As a Trustee, you can flower and bloom with myriad ideas to improve what exists and anticipate the future before it arrives.

We often pay homage to the old adage; A penny saved is a penny earned. But there is wisdom, too, in making the proper expenditures to stave off decay and irreversible collapse. And for that there is another old adage; Pennywise and pound foolish!

I came across a wonderful reminder about the power of the penny in reading about the taxing gap facing the Los Angeles City Council whose taxing gap was \$44 million in the funding of the Convention Center expansion.

How does one fill in a \$44 million hole? Easy does it! The city council merely approved a half-cent increase in the hotel bed tax. “Although wisdom is a house build, and by understanding it is established; “And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches, “A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.” Proverbs 24:3-5

Step By Step Rules For Trustees To Follow

The number of trustees of each mission, circuit, or station shall not be fewer than three, nor more than nineteen.

Qualifications

Each person to be elected a trustee shall be eighteen (18) years of age or over and shall be instructed in the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Trustees of the local church. The training shall be completed within sixty (60) days after the election, or before the appropriate Quarterly Conference, whichever comes first.

All trustees must attend at least three training sessions. A Certificate of Confirmation shall be given to each successful student, to be presented at the appropriate Quarterly Conference, signed by the instructor appointed by the pastor. The nominee shall have been a member of a local church for at least six (6) months and a member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church for not less than two (2) years, except in case of missions or new work. No person who is not a member

in good and regular standing in our, Church shall be eligible to be elected a trustee.

Mode of Election

Whenever the law of the land requires a specific mode of election, the mode shall be observed in electing trustees.

When civil law does not intervene, the trustees shall be elected annually by the members of the church.

The minister in charge shall appoint the time and place for holding the election and give notice of the same from the pulpit at least ten days, including two consecutive Sundays, previous to the time of election.

The minister at the meeting for election shall nominate twice the number of persons to be elected.

Every member of the church eighteen (18) years of age or older and in full communion have the right to vote for the nominees at the election meeting.

The election shall proceed until the required number of trustees shall have been elected by majority vote. The pastor in charge shall declare the results of the election.

No officer, member, or person shall interfere with the election of trustees or attempt to disturb or prevent the pastor from holding the election. Those in violation of this law are subject to expulsion from membership.

The Chairperson of the Board

The minister in charge shall be the chairperson of the Board of Trustees and the minister's signature shall be necessary to make the acts of the trustees legal.

If the Chairperson of the Board is at any time unable to be present at a meeting, he/she shall appoint a chairperson pro tem, whose signature also shall be legal.

Duties of Trustees

The trustees shall manage all the temporal concerns of the church not otherwise provided for and shall have a treasurer elected by the Board.

They shall guard for the Connection, all real estate, churches, parsonages, schools, and any other property obtained by the local church.

They shall make improvements upon the property or real estate when authorized to do so by a majority of the legal members of the church.

They shall secure by purchase or hire, a house for the pastor's family and also comfortably furnish it. In lieu of this arrangement, the pastor may be given a housing allowance.

They shall pay the moving expenses of the pastor and family from their previous assignment.

Order for Improvement

Whenever improvements are to be made, the pastor in charge shall call together in a Church Conference

the voting members of the church, with a majority vote being necessary for the improvements to be authorized.

When a Church Conference has been properly called and a majority of the legal voters of the church are not present, the majority vote of those present shall be considered legal.

Amenable to Quarterly Conference

The trustees shall be members of the Quarterly Conference and shall be answerable to that body for their official conduct. The trustees shall make a report of all receipts and expenditures during the quarter to the Quarterly Conference.

The trustees shall not in any manner obstruct or interfere in any mission, circuit, or station. They shall not prevent or attempt to prevent the bishop, or ministers of the African Methodist Episcopal Church from preaching, expounding God's Holy Word, or serving as pastor. They shall not prevent or attempt to prevent the use of the property for religious services or proper activities held from time to time which is recognized by the Annual/General Conference, or by the duly appointed presiding bishop under whose jurisdiction the pastor in charge is stationed.

Effects of Expulsion

Any trustee ceasing to be a member of the denomination, by reason of expulsion or otherwise, shall immediately cease to be a trustee except in cases of debt for which he/she is joint security. In such cases, termination as a trustee will occur when the creditors have been satisfied.

In the interim of the Quarterly Conference, the minister in charge shall have the power to suspend a trustee who refuses, neglects, or fails to discharge his/her duty and to fill the vacancy temporarily in the manner prescribed in the selection of a trustee until the next meeting of the Quarterly Conference, which shall dispose of the case.

Should the suspension be sustained by the Quarterly Conference, the minister in charge shall proceed to fill the vacancy permanently, following the usual mode of election of a trustee.



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"The Church networking to meet the needs of All people through Jesus, Our Lord" St. Matthew 28:18-20 - St. Luke 4:18-19