

**African Methodist Episcopal Church
Thirteenth Episcopal District**

**Report of the Classification of Pastors and Charges
October 24, 2020**

153rd Session of the Tennessee Annual Conference

Payne Chapel AME Church, Host Church
Nashville, Tennessee

Jeffrey Nathaniel Leath, Presiding Bishop
Susan J. Leath, MD, Supervisor, Womens' Missionary Society

Committee Members

Rev. Anica Howard
Rev. Nathan Frey
Rev. Linda Hopkins
Rev. Jeffrey Norfleet
Rev. Sharon Ogilvie
Rev. Tylan Orr
Rev. Dr. Andre Washington
Rev. Carl Watkins
Sis. Devora Barner
Sis. Hazel Chumney
Sis. Franzettai Council
Sis. Effie Haynes
Bro. Ron Mitchell
Sis. Grace Mooreland
Sis. Emma North
Bro. William Posey
Bro. James Taylor
Sis. Aspen Watkins

Bishop Jeffrey N. Leath, Supervisor Susan J. Leath, General Officers, Presiding Elders, Pastors, Delegates, Friends and Visitors of the 153rd Session of the Tennessee Annual Conference of the Thirteenth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. We, the Members of the Tennessee Conference Classification of Pastors and Charges, wish to make the following report:

From *The Book of Discipline of the African Methodism Episcopal Church*, 2016 edition, p. 138-139, PART VIII MINISTERIAL CLASSIFICATIONS, RULES AND SUPPORT, SECTION II. MINISTERIAL/PASTORAL SUPPORT,

C. Classification of Itinerant Elders

All itinerant elders of the AME Church shall be classified according to tenure of service as 1) full-time pastor or 2) presiding elder, and 3) training for the ministry. The following qualifications shall constitute the classes:

- CLASS A: Full-time pastors having traveled eight (8) consecutive years and any ordained elder holding a degree from a college or seminary and shall have traveled at least one (1) year as full-time pastor. Full-time pastors are itinerant elders who wholly and solely give of their time and talents to pastoral duties without any other work, professional or common, that interferes with or prevents the performance of the regular ministerial duties of a pastor, as negotiated between the pastor and the Board of Stewards.
- CLASS B: Itinerant elders having traveled four (4) consecutive years as full-time pastors.
- CLASS C: Full-time pastors who are itinerant elders in the AME Church.
- CLASS D: Full-time pastors who have not been ordained itinerant elders.
- CLASS E: Part-time ministers.

NOTE: It shall be understood that the term “pastoral charge” shall be interpreted to mean an individual church or group of churches (circuit) that a pastor serves on a Presiding Elder’s District. In the case of circuits and Presiding Elder’s Districts, the travel expenses of the minister, unless otherwise provided for, shall be computed on the basis of thirty-five (35) cents per mile one way, and these expenses shall be an allowable deduction from the minister’s income from the pastoral charge.

D. Classification of Churches for Pastoral Compensation

- CLASS A: Charges requiring full-time pastoral services and providing salaries of \$20,000 or more.
- CLASS B: Charges requiring full-time pastoral services. Salary shall be negotiated.
- CLASS C: Charges requiring full-time pastoral services and providing salaries from \$1,000 to \$2,400.
- CLASS D: Charges requiring full-time pastoral services providing less than \$1,200.
- CLASS E: Charges not requiring full-time pastoral services.

North District - Rev. Alexander Gatson, Presiding Elder

Pastor	Classification	Church	Classification
Dr. Ralph E. Johnson	A	St. Peter AME Church, Clarksville	A
Anthony J. Lyle, Sr.	A	Greater Ebenezer AME Church	A
Benessa Sweat	A	Burks Chapel AME Church	A
Jeffery Norfleet, Sr	A	St. Paul AME Church – Oakwood	A
Sherrri Cowley Scott	A	Martin Chapel AME Church,	A
Everett Hobson, Sr.	A	Salter's Chapel AME Church, Waverly	A
James W. Bolen, Sr.	A	St. John AME Church, Paducah	B
Omar'an D. Lee	A	St. John AME Church, Springfield	B
Vivian R. Canty	D	St. James AME Church, Dickson	B
Cedric J. Bailey Sr.	Supply	First AME Church	B
Angela Green	D	St. James AME Church, Mayfield	B
Veronica Dailey	A	St. Luke AME Church, Erin	B
Donna Lorhorn	A	Sulphur Spring AME Church	B
Deshnell Cobbin	A	McGavock Chapel AME Church	B
Frankie Witt	Supply	Mt. Zion AME Church, Charlotte	B
Gloria Lasco	D	St. James AME Church, Pryorsburg	E
Dr. VeRissa C. Williams	Supply	St. Paul AME Church, Ashland City	E
Raymond Corbin	A	Moore's Chapel AME Church	E

Nashville District - Rev. Troy Merritt, Jr., Presiding Elder

Pastor	Classification	Church	Classification
Dr. W. Antoni Sinkfield	A	Payne Chapel AME Church	A
Lisa Hammonds	A	St. John AME Church, Nashville	A
Garrett J. Copeland	A	Kairos- Ebenezer AME Church	A
Frederick L. Jenkins, Sr.	A	Scotts Chapel AME Church	A
Reginald Brock	A	St. Matthew AME Church, Nashville	A
Dr. Barbara Crawford	A	St. Luke AME Church, Gallatin	B
Fred E. Beasley	A	Smith Chapel AME Church	B
Dr. Yvette Tisdale	A	St. Luke AME Church, Nashville	B
Dr. Andre Washington	A	St. Paul AME Church, Nashville	A
Anica L. Howard	A	New Salem AME Church	B
Kenneth Harrell	A	St. Phillip AME Church	B
Nathan Frey	A	St. Peter AME Church, Nashville	A
Dr. W. Antoni Sinkfield	A	St. James AME Church, Nashville	B
Carl E. Watkins, Jr.	D	Green Chapel AME Church	E
Albert Strawther, Jr.	Supply	Howard Chapel AME Church	E
Albert Strawther, Jr.	Supply	Winters Chpl/Mt. Olive Mission	

South District - Rev. Sidney F. Bryant, Presiding Elder

Pastor	Classification	Church	Classification
Walter W. Reid, Jr.	A	Greater Bethel AME Church	A
Dr. Harold M. Love, Jr.	A	Lee Chapel AME Church	A
Dennis D. Lawson	A	St. Paul AME Church, Columbia	A
Jimmie L. Plummer	A	Allen Chapel AME Church	A

Sharon Ogilvie	A	Wayman Chapel AME Church	A
Randall L. Webster	A	Woodfork Chapel AME Church	A
Dr. Trent Ogilvie	A	Bethel Chapel AME Church	A
LaVan Strickland	A	New Webb Grove AME Church	A
Dr. Kenneth Hill	A	Shorter Chapel AME Church, Franklin	A
Chris Grizzard	A	Mullin Chapel AME Church	B
		Jones Chapel AME Church	B
Tylan Orr	Supply	Canaan AME Church	B
Benjamin Sanderfur	Supply	Allen Bethel AME Church	B
Linda Hopkins	D	Claiborne Chapel AME Church	E
Ashley Cox	A	St. Matthew AME Church, Cornersville	B
Dr. Trent Ogilvie	A	Hopewell AME Church	B
Johnny Cummings, Jr.	Supply	Roberts Chapel AME Church	B
Kenneth Odom	Supply	Mt. Zion AME Church, Centerville	E

Based on these classifications noted for 2019, the committee concluded the following:

1. 2 pastors were added or changed between 2019 and 2020.
 - **Dr. Kenneth Harrell** added with Classification A.
 - **Rev. Veronica Dailey** changed Classification from C to A as a result of her Itinerant Elder ordination and completion of MDiv degree.

2. In 4 of the churches, the classification changed in the 2019-2020 conference year.
 - **St. Peter, Nashville** – Changed from B to A (Pastor’s compensation was greater than \$20,000)
 - **St. Luke, Nashville** – Changed from A to B (Pastor’s compensation was less than \$20,000)
 - **St. James, Nashville** – Changed from A to B (Pastor’s compensation was less than \$20,000)
 - **Wayman Chapel, Columbia** – Changed from B to A (Pastor’s compensation was more than \$20,000).