

African Methodist Episcopal Church
143rd West Tennessee Annual Conference
Christian Education Report

To Bishop Jeffrey N. Leath and the 143rd session of the West Tennessee Annual Conference:

We have endeavored to shape the spirits, souls, and minds of our congregations according the precepts of God. Our work has gone forth as follows:

Under the guidance of Christian Education Director, Rev. Agnes Henderson, the South Memphis District Church School was held on June 9th and 10th at Saint Andrew AME Church. Hosted by Rev. Byron Moore, the wonderful theme for the occasion was "Grow and Glow for Jesus." Matthew 5:16 provided the foundational reference for our learning. The captivating Bible Bowl served as the culminating event for the convention, as youth scholars representing their churches, made evident the power of studying to show themselves approved.

In advance of the Church School convention, a South Memphis District Retreat and Health Fair was held on April 7th and 8th at Wright's Chapel AME Church. Hosted by Rev. Errol Thomas, more than a dozen vendors were present with offerings of food, entertainment, and ideas for holistic wellness.

Under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Verlie Horton, the North Memphis District Church School was held June 1st through 3rd at Mount Olive AME Church, in Millington. The exciting theme for this three day event was "Super God! Super Me! Super Possibility! Go and Glow for God!" First John 4:4 provided the foundational support for this gathering. Hosted by Rev. Gregory McCollins, the convention aimed to help participants recognize the greatness of their innate, God given powers, and learn to use their powers for good. The convention closed as the North Memphis District parishioners enjoyed a picnic with food, fellowship and fun.

In February, the Department of Christian Education was honored with the opportunity to plan the District Founder's Day Celebration. The resulting program, "Voices of Our Lives" gave rise to fresh perspective on the founding of our church and the motivation and passion of Richard Allen. In July, we continued our work, traveling to Bowling Green, Kentucky, supporting the 13th District Learning Academy with planning, participants, and teachers from West Tennessee.

While the whole of our labors as a department are not detailed in this brief, we pray God's blessings upon the offering that have been given and look forward to exciting new movements in Christian Education. As a goal, we look forward to more unified labor and the implementation of best practices in teaching Christ.

Humbly Submitted: The Reverends Hilda Taylor, Patsy Brown, Agnes Henderson, and Dr. Verlie Horton