

African Methodist Episcopal Church
146th West Tennessee Annual Conference
Christian Education Report

To: Bishop Jeffrey Nathaniel Leath, Supervisor Susan J. Leath and the 146th Session of the West Tennessee Annual Conference:

We have endeavored to shape the hearts and minds of our congregations according to the precepts of God. In this season our efforts have been met with national, local, and sometimes personal crises that challenged our labors, dysregulating the work. Programming was interrupted as we paused to regather our bearings and remember that all things are possible to them that believe. Even as we encountered impasses from within and without, we are blessed to offer this report on behalf of the West TN Department of Christian Education.

The West Tennessee Department of Christian Education continues to strive for excellence in reaching and maintaining our goals. We aim to increase collaboration among congregations, support the development of Church School Teachers, and to assemble resources that support Christian growth. While many of the activities that would have taken place were put on hold this conference year, other opportunities to further our goals are noted:

We updated the contact information of local Christian Education Directors and Church School Superintendents. In reaching out we found our churches and teachers diligently carrying on with their teaching and even embracing the Virtual lessons provided by the AME Church School.

This year we conducted a Youth/Young Adult workshop on Internet Exploitation and Human Trafficking. This was practical training at its best, speaking to our young people on a real and relevant issue.

We supported our first AMEC Virtual Graduation Ceremony, encouraging pastors and congregations to identify graduates and working to compile information for the actual event. We are pleased to note that West TN was well represented.

We served as planners and presenters for the 13th District's first Virtual Learning Academy. To God be the Glory!

And, we are especially pleased to offer to the district a series of Public Service Announcements on COVID- 19, recorded by the clergy and lay of the South Memphis District. These short clips provide tips on staying well during the coronavirus pandemic. We are especially indebted to Bishop Leath for his participation and support.

Bishop Leath, we end this conference year with new skills, new tools, and new perspectives on what it takes to serve God's people. Challenge has not crushed our spirits. It has instead, caused us to innovate- to explore new ways and means for enriching God's people.

Thank you to the teachers and leaders of West Tennessee for persevering in the work. Thank you, Bishop, for the opportunity to serve.

In Christ: The Reverends Agnes Henderson, Clay Holliday, Sr., Sabrina Transou, Hilda Taylor and Evangelist Gail Jennings.