



13TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
TENNESSEE AND KENTUCKY

**The AME Church**  
*A Social Justice & Liberating Faith*

# 143rd Session of the West Tennessee Annual Conference

---

## God's People Pursuing **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

A CHRISTIAN SEXUAL ETHIC - ISSUES IN INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

**October 5-8, 2017**

**New Tyler AME Church**

3300 Summer Avenue  
Memphis, Tennessee 38122

**Jeffrey N. Leath**  
Presiding Bishop

**Susan J. Leath, MD**  
Supervisor, Women's Missionary Society

**The Reverend Linda F. Thomas-Martin**  
Host Presiding Elder, South Memphis District

**The Reverend C. Robert Finch**  
Associate Presiding Elder, North Memphis District

**The Reverend Darrell K. Scott**  
Host Pastor



5 October 2017

Host Presiding Elder Thomas-Martin, Presiding Elder and Mrs. Finch, Host Pastor Scott, Clergy, Laity and Friends of the 143rd Session of the West Tennessee Annual Conference,

We greet you with the Grace and Peace of Jesus, who sends us to preach justice in the land!

Praise God for the loyal clergy and laity who labor daily for the mission of Christ and the work of the church. For over 143 years God has blessed African Methodism to be a light of dignity and hope.

Thanks to New Tyler for your hospitality. We appreciate your preparations to accommodate this session. Special thanks to Pastor Darrell Scott as he leads and encourages the flock of Christ.

This year our theme is Pursuing Criminal Justice. It is often easy to accuse and convict, without compassion, those who hurt and offend. Without law and order our society will not be conducive to life, liberty and happiness. The cry for criminal justice is an appeal for fairness in the administration of justice and commitment to help restore broken lives as they emerge from institutions of correction. It is also an opportunity to pray for healing and hope for those whose lives have been disrupted by evil and violence.

Give us, TODAY, Lord, our daily provision!

West Tennessee has some great partners who advocate for criminal justice. It is time for more of us to join with them. Let us display our faith in a God who provides. Our discipleship should reflect confidence in God who avenges injustice and delivers hope and peace. Justice is our calling because faith is our foundation. WE trust God!

Dr. Susan joins me in prayer for a wonderful annual conference. Be refreshed in the Holy Spirit. Be empowered by faith to serve the cause of justice with love.

Faithfully,

Jeffrey N. Leath

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA

143rd SESSION of THE WEST TENNESSEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## Thursday – Day One

8:00 am - 5:00 pm    *WMS Annual Day*  
7:30 pm                **OPENING WORSHIP**  
                                 Roll Call to follow Worship

## Friday – Day Two

8:45 am                **Devotions**  
9:00 am                **BUSINESS SESSION I**  
                                 Organization  
                                 Board of Examiners  
                                 PE Report  
                                 **Pastor Reports**

11:30 am              **MEMORIAL SERVICE**  
11:45 am              **MIDDAY DEVOTION**  
12:00 pm              **LUNCH**  
                                 (*Meeting for MSWAWO & WIM*)

2:00 pm                **BUSINESS SESSION II**  
                                 **Pastor Reports**  
                                 **Chaplain Reports**

2:45 pm                **BUSINESS SESSION III**  
                                 **Committee Reports**  
                                 13th District Budget  
                                 13th District Audit  
                                 Conference Trustees  
                                 Treasurer's Report  
                                 Missions, Circuits and Stations  
                                 Pastor & Charge Classification  
                                 Budget Committee  
                                 PE Support

4:15 pm                **BUSINESS SESSION IV**  
                                 Christian Stewardship  
                                 Social Action  
                                 CDMC  
                                 Christian Education  
                                 Church School  
                                 M-SWAWO  
                                 Evangelism  
                                 Lay  
                                 MCAM (Music)  
                                 RAYAC

Sons of Allen  
WIM  
WMS  
YPD

- 5:30 pm **DINNER/BREAK**  
7:00 pm **SERVICE OF RETIREMENT**  
7:30 pm **SPIRITUAL RENEWAL REVIVAL**

**Saturday – Day Three**

- 8:30 am **Devotions & Church School Lesson**  
9:00 am **BUSINESS SESSION V**  
Minutes  
Ministerial Efficiency  
9:30 am **Health & Wellness Committee**  
10:00 am **Literary Committee Reports**  
State of the Country  
State of the Church  
Enrichment Moment  
11:00 am **ORDINATION/COMMUNION**  
*Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield, preaching*  
1:00 pm **Lunch**  
2:30 pm **BUSINESS SESSION VI**  
**District Reports**  
Camp Primm – Simmons  
Believe Report & Presentation  
**Summaries & New Organization**  
Finance Committee  
Elect Conference Trustees  
Appoint District Trustees  
Believe Board Reps  
Statistician's Report  
Ministerial Efficiency  
Ministerial Training  
Disciplinary Questions  
6:30 pm **YPD/RAYAC at St. Andrew**

**Sunday – Closing Day**

- 3:00 pm **RESOLUTION**  
**CLOSING WORSHIP SERVICE**  
Appointments

# WEST TENNESSEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE PASTORS & DELEGATES

## NORTH MEMPHIS DISTRICT

### **Church**

St. James, Memphis  
Gr. Payne Chapel, Memphis  
Providence, Memphis  
Mt. Sinai, Arlington  
Quinn Chapel, Paris  
Greenwood, Memphis  
Avery Chapel, Memphis  
Brown's Chapel, Union City  
Greer Chapel, Memphis  
St. Mark, Munford  
St. John, Memphis  
Mt. Herman, Millington  
Mt. Olive, Millington  
Williams Chapel, Millington  
St. Paul, South Fulton  
Chainbreakers, Memphis  
Salters Chapel, Dyersburg  
Allen Chapel, Paris  
St. Paul, Memphis  
Christ Tabernacle, Memphis

### **Pastors** (The Reverend)

Walter R. Henry  
Quinten L. Smith  
Kirk Ridley  
David Yancy, II  
Dr. John Dandridge  
Anthony T. Branch  
Lula Martin-Sanderson  
Clay A. Holliday, Sr.  
Colleen P. Gibson  
Dr. Dave L. Adams, Sr.  
Ivy Hudson Courtez  
Dr. Janie Dowdy-Dandridge  
G. L. McCollins, Sr.  
John Hall  
Anthony Hodges  
Br. Clay A. Holliday, Jr.  
George Turks, Jr.  
Clonia Hayes Young  
Linda Evans  
Dr. Verlie Horton

### **Delegates**

Tyria Jeff  
Sheila Tolbert  
Remell Rogers  
Bish Thomas, III  
Freddie Williams  
Schevonda Hunt  
Michael G. Floyd  
Ardell Maddox  
Michael Pegues  
Wilma McCoy  
Carrie Wellington  
Mary R. Jones  
Addison McFarland  
Lewis Hurd  
Joyce Weeks  
Reshun Green  
Courtney Mason  
Jasper Bruce  
Edward Williamson  
Beverly Sterling

## SOUTH MEMPHIS DISTRICT

### **Church**

St. Andrew, Memphis  
New Tyler, Memphis  
Ward Chapel, Memphis  
New Allen, Memphis  
New Greater Bethel, Jackson  
Mt. Zion, Memphis  
Noah Chapel, Millington  
Bethel, Memphis  
Wilson Chapel, Memphis  
White's Chapel, Memphis  
Galilee, Memphis  
New Lewis Chapel, Lexington  
Wright's Chapel, Arlington  
Saltillo Circuit, Morris Chapel  
Freedman Ch., Decaturville  
Spring Chapel, Grand Junction  
St. Mark, Parson

### **Pastors** (The Reverend)

Dr. Byron C. Moore  
Darrell K. Scott  
Eric J. Knowles  
Agnes Henderson  
Sabrina Transou  
Stanley T. Richardson  
Kelvin Robinson  
Barbara Green  
Garry Fair  
Hilda Taylor  
Perry Herman  
Bobby Carter  
Dr. Errol Thomas  
Marlon O. Barrentine, Sr.  
John Moore  
Amanda Speed  
Jerry Epperson

### **Delegates**

Shirley Johnson  
Mondella Woods  
Margaret McClaurin  
Roxie P. Ball  
Dr. Pamela Murray  
Pauline Guyton  
Rita Nelson  
Josephine Myrick  
Johnny Dotson  
William McIntyre  
Esther Thornton  
Linda Pettigrew  
Leon Lynn  
Peggy Lowery  
Robbie White  
Samuel Herring  
Gloria Epperson

# **West Tennessee Annual Conference Committees**

## **PUBLIC WORSHIP**

Bishop Jeffrey N. Leath, Presiding Elders Linda Thomas-Martin and C. Robert Finch, Rev. Darrell K. Scott

## **MEMORIAL**

The Reverends Sabrina Transou, Marlon O. Barrentine, Anthony Hodges, Elizabeth C. Weaver, John Moore, John Hall, Jr., and Amanda Speed, Sisters Beverly Sterling, Tyria Jeff, Remell Rogers and Wilma McCoy, Brothers Bish Thomas, III, Courtney Mason, and Edward Williamson

## **MEDIA/PUBLIC RELATIONS**

The Reverends Lula M. Martin-Sanderson, Kelvin Robinson, and Gregory L. McCollins, Sisters Schevonda Hunt, Roxie P. Ball, Gloria Epperson, Beverly Sterling, and Esther Thornton, Brother Clay A. Holliday, Jr.

## **MISSIONS, CIRCUITS AND STATIONS**

The Reverends Quinten Smith, Amanda Speed, Eric Knowles, Stanley Richardson, and George Turks, Jr., Sisters Roxie Ball, Rita Nelson, Josephine Myrick, Mondella Woods, Margaret McLaurin and Joyce Weeks, Brothers Reshun Green, Michael G. Floyd and Bish Thomas, III

## **CLASSIFICATION OF PASTORS AND CHARGES**

The Reverends Hilda Taylor, Dr. Verlie Horton, Barbara Green, Darrell K. Scott, David Yancy, II, and Sabrina Transou, Sisters Schevonda Hunt, Freddie Williams and Sheila Tolbert, Brothers Michael Pegues and Jasper Bruce

## **BUDGET**

The Reverends Agnes Henderson, Walter Henry, David Yancy, II, and Darrell K. Scott, Sister Shirley Johnson, Brother Dell Turner

## **PRESIDING ELDERS' SUPPORT**

The Reverends Darrell K. Scott, Clay Holliday, Sr., Hilda Taylor, and Barbara Green, Sisters Shirley Johnson and Edwina Buford, Brothers Ardell Maddox and Samuel Herring

## **SOCIAL ACTION**

The Reverends Byron Moore, Colleen Gibson, Perry Herman, David Yancy, II, and Linda Evans, Sisters Joyce Weeks, Esther Thornton, and Mondella Woods, Brothers Ardell Maddox, Lewis Hurd and Samuel Herring

## **COMMITTEE ON STEWARDSHIP AND TITHING**

The Reverends Quinten Smith, Lula Martin-Sanderson, Barbara Green, Ivy Hudson-Courtez, Clonia Hayes-Young, and Stanley T. Richardson, Brothers Leon Lynn, Addison McFarland, William McIntyre, and Johnnie Dotson

## **RESOLUTIONS**

The Reverends Marilyn S. Robinson, Anthony Branch, Dr. John Dandridge, Jerry Epperson, Denise Richardson, and Colleen Gibson, Brother Ardell Maddox, Sisters Tyria Jeff and Shirley Johnson

## **STATE OF THE CHURCH**

The Reverends Dr. Dave Adams, Sr., Lula Martin-Sanderson, Linda Evans, Patsy T. Brown, Agnes Henderson, Bobby Carter, and Darrell K. Scott, Sisters Pauline Guyton, Remell Rogers, Linda Pettigrew, Robbie White, Mary R. Jones, and Gloria Epperson

## **STATE OF THE COUNTRY**

The Reverends Dr. Janie D. Dandridge, Eric Knowles, Dr. Errol Thomas, Jr., Kirk Ridley, Willie M. Williams and Perry Herman, Brothers Addison McFarland and William McIntyre, Sisters Josephine Myrick, Peggy Lowery, and Carrie Wellington, Dr. Pamela Murray

# WEST TENNESSEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE PREACHERS



## **Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield**

Presiding Prelate, 16th Episcopal District AME Church  
Ordination/Communion Preacher

**Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield**, Presiding Prelate of the 16th Episcopal District, is one who dares to **Live, Learn, Lead**, and **Love GOD**. She **lives** a life filled with creativity and passion as a bishop preacher, psalmist, a poet, spoken word artist, strategic consultant, writer, composer, wife, mother and grandmother. She **loves GOD** and encourages others to know and love GOD as well.

As a **leader**, Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield serves as the 135th elected and consecrated Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Currently, she serves as the Bishop of the 16th Episcopal District, where she provides leadership to seven annual conferences in the Caribbean, South America, and Europe.

As a **learner**, she has her Bachelors of Science degree from Wilberforce University, Masters of Divinity degree from Newburgh Theological Seminary; A Masters of Divinity Degree from Payne Theological Seminary, A Doctor of Ministry Degree from Ashland Theological Seminary, and an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from R.R. Wright School of Religion, Johannesburg, South Africa.

She is the former Presiding Elder of the North District Indiana Annual Conference and of the South District. She is the first Presiding Elder who is female in the Fourth Episcopal District and is considered the first woman Presiding Elder in the AME connection whose father was Presiding Elder. She has served as Senior Pastor of three churches, Bethel AME Church, Bloomington, IN, Robinson Community AME Church, Indianapolis, and St. Paul AME Church, Detroit, MI. She is the managing partner of AHB and Associates, a consulting firm to help clients unleash their talents through personal and organizational transformation, and leadership development.





**The Reverend Hilda D. Taylor**

Whites Chapel AME Church, Memphis, Tennessee  
Opening Worship Service Preacher

**The Reverend Hilda D. Taylor** is pastor of White's Chapel AME Church in Memphis, Tennessee. She has also been privileged to serve in pastoral leadership at Avery Chapel AME Church, Memphis, Greenwood AME Church, Millington, and St. Paul AME Church in South Fulton. Presently, she serves as Director of Christian Education for West Tennessee, a member of the West Tennessee Board of Instruction, and an appointee to the West Tennessee Ministerial Efficiency Committee.

An administrator for Bartlett City Schools, Reverend Taylor extends her ministry to nearly 700 students and their families, teachers, and staff members at Appling Middle School. Sometimes referred to as the "School Pastor," she believes firmly that wherever life places you becomes a venue for serving God.

The seventh of eight children, Reverend Taylor was born in Canton, MS. She received her Bachelors Degree from Tougaloo College, Masters from the University of Memphis, and Ed. S. from the same. With a love for scripture, she has thrived in pastoral ministry, preaching with clarity and passion, teaching the love and power of God, and promoting the Christian life by example. Fervent in prayer, she attributes all gifts and graces to God.



**The Reverend Linda Evans**

St. Paul AME Church, Memphis, Tennessee  
Spiritual Renewal Preacher

**The Reverend Linda Ann Key Evans** is the current pastor of St. Paul AME Church in Memphis, the “Wonder on Watkins.” As servant leader, she along with the congregation for the past four years have planted and watered the Frayser community with hands-on ministry to the homeless (Room in the Inn/Restoration House), community evangelism, and summer tutoring in Math and Reading. She serves on the Old Allen Police Station’s B.L.U.E. Communities Board of Ministers.

She is a Special Education teacher in the Shelby County School System, an author (Parlor Talk), and member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Rev. Evans is currently working on a Masters of Theology degree at Campbellsville University.

# PASTOR APPOINTMENTS

## North Memphis District

St. James, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Greater Payne Chapel, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Providence, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Mt. Sinai, Arlington \_\_\_\_\_  
Quinn Chapel, Paris \_\_\_\_\_  
Greenwood, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Avery Chapel, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Brown's Chapel, Union City \_\_\_\_\_  
Greer Chapel, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
St. Mark, Munford \_\_\_\_\_  
St. John, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Mt. Herman, Millington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mt. Olive, Millington \_\_\_\_\_  
Williams Chapel, Millington \_\_\_\_\_  
St. Paul, South Fulton \_\_\_\_\_  
Chainbreakers, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Salters Chapel, Dyersburg \_\_\_\_\_  
Allen Chapel, Paris \_\_\_\_\_  
St. Paul, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Christ Tabernacle, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_

## South Memphis District

St. Andrew, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
New Tyler, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Ward Chapel, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
New Allen, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
New Greater Bethel, Jackson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mt. Zion, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Noah Chapel, Millington \_\_\_\_\_  
Bethel, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Wilson Chapel, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
White's Chapel, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
Galilee, Memphis \_\_\_\_\_  
New Lewis Chapel, Lexington \_\_\_\_\_  
Wright's Chapel, Arlington \_\_\_\_\_  
Saltillo Circuit, Morris Chapel \_\_\_\_\_  
Freedman Chapel, Decaturville \_\_\_\_\_  
Spring Chapel, Grand Junction \_\_\_\_\_  
St. Mark, Parson \_\_\_\_\_



**13th Episcopal District**  
**African Methodist Episcopal Church**  
500 8th Ave South  
Nashville, TN 37203  
615-242-6814  
office@ame13.org  
www.ame13.org