

Minutes of the 36th Annual Convention of the 9th Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society
Bishop Harry L. Seawright, Presiding Prelate
Reverend Sherita Moon Seawright, Episcopal WMS Supervisor
Mrs. Susie Bonner, Episcopal WMS President

ZOOM VIRTUAL PLATFORM
Saturday, December 5, 2020

Quadrennial Theme: "God's Commision, Our Mission, Our Calling"
Matthew 28: 18-20

9th District Theme: "Gauging the Needs, Giving the Best and Growing the Harvest"

- Pre-meeting greeting from Sister Bonner at 8:51 a.m. Rev. Eugene Johnson led us in a word of prayer.
- An Angel Tree Video was shown, which showed the history and meaning behind the yearly project.
- Sister Bonner called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
- Devotion was lead by Sister Lue Ellen McCrary. Protocal was established and greetings were given to everyone. Our song was Joy to World, followed by Scripture which came from Luke 7: 7-11. Sister McCrary concluded the devotion with a reading entitled "The Christmas Story."
- Tanner Turner Memorial Service was conducted by Sister Tamara Giles, 9th District 3rd Vice President. Sister Dianne Battle then spot-lighted a very special WMS member in that of Sister Ethel J. Taylor who transitioned from labor to reward. Sister Taylor was our oldest member at 104 years of age. Sister Taylor had been a long time member of the WMS. She was an educator as well as a musician. There were three resolutions read: Sister Thomasine Jackson NWAC President, Rev. Royster of Jones Chapel, Fairfield and Sister Joyce O'Neal, 9th District Corresponding Secretary. Sister Dianne Battle read a thank you note from the family. Supervisor Seawright greeted us and shared some thoughts and fond memories of the time she spent with Sister Taylor. She will be missed as well as the other sisters.
- Musical Selection: The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, "My Help Cometh from the Lord"

BUSINESS SESSION

- Welcome was given by Mattie Frizzell, Host Conference President in the Alabama River Region.
- Presiding Elder, Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Denson also welcomed us.
- Greetings came from the following:
 - 1) Deborah Weatherspoon, Episcopal YPD Director
 - 2) Dr. Monica Dillihunt, Connectional WMS Historiographer/Statistician
 - 3) Dr. Deborah Taylor King Connectional WMS President
 - 4) The Reverend Sherita Moon Seawright, Episcopal WMS Supervisor
 - 5) The Right Reverend Harry Lee Seawright, Presiding Prelate
- Introduction of New Officers:

First Vice President: Sister Adrienne Rowland
Second Vice President: Sister Mary W. Porter
Third Vice President: Sister Sharon Massingale
Recording Secretary: Sister Evelyn Beasley
Ass. Recording Secretary: Sister Jackie Carter
Corresponding Secretary: Sister Joyce O'Neal
Treasurer: Sister Brenda Clayton
PME Director: Sister Rosemary Range
Historiographer/Statistician: Sister Yvonne Kelley
Worship Leader: Sister Lue Ellen McCrary
Parliamentarian: Sister Cynthia Underwood-Thomas
Member At Large: Sister Denise S. Woolridge

Newly Appointed Officers:

Editor: Sister Dianne H. Battle
Warriors On The Wall: Sister Betty Seals West
Registrar: Sister Valerie Wright

• Reports:

First Vice President – (Adrienne Rowland) NO Report on Social Action Commission

Second Vice President (Sister Mary Porter) projects accomplished...

Special thanks to everyone that assisted me in preparation of this report

1. Dr. Seuss (reading)
2. Headstart Program
3. Let's go Red in February (heart month)
4. Bridging the Gap (good health)
5. Back to Basics (tutoring for students)
6. Graduates 2020
7. YPD and the College Tours
8. Women's History Month

Second Vice President (immediate past Sister Tamara Giles) Membership and Recruitment Commission, projects accomplished...

1. Mtg. held in Mobile AL, December 6th 2019 Young Adult meeting.
2. January 2020 went to Connectional WMS in Houston TX.
3. Plans were made for a District Retreat for all WMS, hosted by the YAMS
4. Sole to Soul
5. October is Breast Cancer Month (Wear Pink)
6. October is Domestic Violence Month (Wear Purple)
7. Congrats to the New Life Members

YPD President (Kierra Giles) projects accomplished...

1. Food Drive Across the District
2. Game Night
3. Self Denial Competition
4. Voter Registration
5. Souper Bowl of Caring
6. Prayer Call, Bible Study and Virtual Workshop Services
7. YPD Week (show our love for the YPD)
8. Social Injustice in our Society

Ninth District President (Susie Bonner)

1. Conference Presidents summary of projects

2. Appointed Officers reports
3. Membership
4. Young Adult Missionaries (YAM)
5. Valiant Cross Academy for 7th and 8th grade boys, Montgomery Al
6. Compassionate Care Project
7. WMS Go Red Awareness (America Heart Association)
8. Breast Cancer Initiative
9. YPD Leadership Training Institute

Also provided instructions:

- Secretaries to review and approve the minutes
- All Vice Presidents to schedule commission meeting and develop a plan of action for the new year by January 15, 2021 and submit to the President and Supervisor

Compassionate Care Project (Adrienne Rowland)

United Methodist Children's Home, Montgomery Al
 (children who suffer from neglect, abuse and/or abandonment)
 Mary Ellen's Heart (Transitional Home for women and children)

Announcements (Joyce O'Neal)

1. January 28th – January 30th 2021 Connectional WMS Executive Meeting

Registration began November 30th and closes Jan 15th (Virtual Platform)

The schedule is forthcoming. Registration is \$130.00.

2. Thank you from Connectional President Deborah Taylor-King
3. Thank you from Sister Betty Williams
4. Appreciation from Sister Shirley Patterson Allen Chapel A.M.E., Woodlawn
5. Thank you for the honorarium and the Christmas Gift from Supervisor Seawright
6. Thank you from Deloris Bussey

- Report from the registrar: (Valerie Wright)

ARR-29	SEA-34	SWA-38	Total 246
NWA-98	NEA-47		

Workshops (Sister Mary W. Porter, Second Vice President)

- Mental Health: (Dr. Antonio Williams, Exec. Director of B'ham Metro Treatment Center)
- Substance Use Disorder: (Ms. Pamela Butler, Coor. of Recovery Resources)
- Mental Illness: (Ms. Audrey Trippe, Wings Across Alabama)
- Covid -19 Update: (Dr. Latesha Elope, Ass. Professor of Infectious Disease, UAB)

Presentation of Awards: President Susie Bonner
 Supervisor Sherita M. Seawright

HOUR OF POWER

Musical Selection: Virtual Choir

Prayer: Sister Lue Ellen McCrary, 9th District Worship Leader
Scripture: Matthew 9:37-38 Sister Rosemary Lamar, SWAC WMS President
Introduction of the Speaker: Sister Susie Bonner, 9th District WMS President
Musical Selection: Total Praise

Guest Speaker: Dr. Deborah Taylor King, Connectional WMS President

- Dr. King brought her message from Matthew 9:37-38 (Laborers are few.)
- Do you see the potential harvest?
- Building the kingdom should be our highest priority.
- God is commissioning us for 2021
- Here I am Lord, send me.

Remarks:

Ninth District President, Susie Bonner
Connectional WMS President, Deborah Taylor King
Ninth Episcopal Supervisor, The Rev. Sherita Moon Seawright
Presiding Prelate: The Right Reverend Harry L. Seawright

MISSIONARY BENEDICTION

Meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

Evelyn Beasley, Episcopal WMS Recording Secretary
Susie Bonner, Episcopal WMS President
Rev. Sherita Seawright, Episcopal WMS Supervisor