

Minutes of the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the 9<sup>th</sup> 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 4, 2021

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

*9<sup>th</sup> District Theme: "Gauging the Needs, Giving the Best and Growing the Harvest"*

Meeting began at 8:00 a.m. We were greeted by Sister Susie Bonner and protocol was established.

Devotion was led by Sister Lue Ellen McCrary. Our 1<sup>st</sup> song was Joy to World.

Invocation: Sister Hattie Nathan, Northeast Conference

Old Testament (Exodus: 34:5-7) Sister Joyce O'Neal, Al River Region

New Testament (Revelation 21:3) Sister Florence Deeds,

Soloist: Sister Claudia Anderson, Southeast Conference

Word of the Day: Sister Linda Williams Nored

The Tanner/Turner Memorial Service was led by Sister Sharon Massingale: 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District. A powerpoint presentation was shown with all WMS sisters who have gone on to be with the Lord. The Presentation was titled "We Can Only Imagine." It was truly powerful and well put together.

President Bonner declared the Ninth Episcopal District of the Women's Missionary Society, and the 37<sup>th</sup> Session of the Annual WMS Convention to be called to order.

## BUSINESS SESSION

The agenda and the minutes have already been approved.

The welcome was given by Elaine Burton, First Vice Pres. Northeast Conference, on behalf of Northeast Conference President Sister Stephanie Bender, followed by Rev. Dr. Laticia Watford, and then Rev. Johnny Rutledge, Presiding Elders.

We were greeted from the following:

- 1) Dr. Monica Dillihunt, Connectional WMS Historiographer/Statistician
- 2) Sister Deborah Weatherspoon, Ninth Episcopal YPD Director
- 3) Sister Kierra Giles, Ninth Episcopal YPD President
- 4) The Reverend Sherita Moon Seawright, Episcopal WMS Supervisor
- 5) The Right Reverend Harry Lee Seawright, Presiding Prelate

#### Introduction of New Officers 2021-2022:

First Vice President: Sister Adrienne Rowland

Second Vice President: Sister Mary Wells-Porter

Third Vice President: Dr. Sharon Massingale

Recording Secretary: Sister Evelyn Beasley

Financial 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 Bettye Seals West

Registrar: Sister Valerie Wright

Ann Clemons: Voter Registration

President Bonner is asking all Vice Presidents to submit your 2022 commission plan of action along with a quarterly commission meeting date before January 15<sup>th</sup> 2022.

#### **Workshop**

Facilitator (Sister Mary Wells-Porter) Presenter (Sister Coretta Collins)

#### **Women's Health Matters**

##### Top Five Women's Health Threats:

- 1) Heart Disease 2) Cancer 3) Respiratory Disease 4) Stroke 5) Alzheimer's

President Bonner also request that Sister Weatherspoon, please submit her plans and dates for meetings. In your plans please develop some sort of transition to RAYAC as suggested by Elder Jacqueline Denson.

#### REPORTS

First Vice President – (Adrienne Rowland) Christian Social Action Commission

1. Journey Bags were donated and purchased for children currently in the Foster Care System.
2. Sponsored a vaccination clinic
3. Provided school children over 300 backpacks filled school supplies
4. Provided toiletry items for the women incarcerated at the Tutwiler Women's Prison
5. Assisted in providing over 200 Angel Tree children whose parents are incarcerated with items for Christmas

Second Vice President – (Mary Wells-Porter) Education and Interpretation Commission

Is your child in need of tutoring or just want to brush up on their skills in Math and Reading? Go on line @ WMS.org, select Back 2 Basics, click on student

application and register today. It's easy! What do have to lose? It's FREEEEEEEE!!!  
Third Vice President – (Sharon Massingale) Membership and Recruitment Commission  
We set out to recruit new members, reclaim inactive members and retain current members. This is how we achieved our goals:

- 1) In May we put on our purple to support Lupus.
- 2) In August we had a relaxing virtual retreat that was attended by more than 55 members from across the state.
- 3) September was the month for all YAM's. They assisted in their church service while dressed in white tops, blue jeans and leopard shoes.
- 4) November will include our male associates in our tailgate event

YPD Preisident (Kierra Giles) projects accomplished... (see video)

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)

To God Be the GLORY!!! He's been soooo good to us in an age when so many people have been going through difficult times. He has allowed us to serve Him in this present age. Thank you to everyone for all the work you've done as well as the support you've given. A special thank you to Bishop Seawright for the appointment – for the opportunity to serve God through the church. It's been AMAZING!!!

### ***Compassionate Care Project (Adrienne Rowland)***

Our project this year is the Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women in Wetumpka, Al. We were able to provide toiletry items for over 600 plus women incarcerated at the facility. Our goal was to provide at least one of each item to everyone. To God Be The GLORY we were able to exceed that goal! (see video)

### **Announcements (Joyce O'Neal)**

- 1) Sister Deborah Taylor King (Connectional WMS President) would like to thank the Ninth Epis. Dist. for the wonderful birthday cards and well wishes.
- 2) Sister Massingale (3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President) would like to share the new tailgate date. It has been rescheduled for January 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 @ 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
- 3) Executive Board Registration is now open. The meeting will take place January 19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>
- 4) President Bonner would like to thank the Ninth District for the birthday card and the love donation.

**Report from the Registrar: (Valerie Wright)**

ARR - 30      SEA - 49      SWA - 30      Total 272  
NWA - 110      NEA - 53

**Sister Mary Wells-Porter, Introduction of Speakers**

**Minister Vanessa Pettaway, Spiritual Aspects of Women's Health**

**Key Points:**

- Coaches men and women in the areas of generating wealth, strategic planning, and manifesting dreams and goals,
- (3 John 1) Prospering starts with your soul. It's where you make your decision and where your emotions come from.
- Our spiritual health is directly connected to the reading and feeding on the word of God.
- It's God's word that will deliver and set you free.
- Your blessing is in the word, your healing is in the word. Everything you need is in the word.

**Dr. Andrea M. Fenton, Emergency Medicine, Covid 19 Updates**

**Key Points:**

- Covid 19 is spread through infected respiratory airborne droplets.
- By December of 2020 over 75 million people globally had been infected.
- To date over 780,000 deaths have occurred in America.
- The medical community ask that you get the vaccine, continue to wear your mask as well as social distance, avoid crowds and of course wash your hands.
- In the words of Martin Luther King: We are tied together in the single garment of destiny – caught in an inescapable network of mutuality. Whatever effects one directly effects all indirectly. For some strange reason I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be.

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

**HOOR OF POWER**

Musical Selection: M-Cam

Prayer: Sister Lue Ellen McCrary, 9<sup>th</sup> District Worship Leader

Prayer Response

Scripture: Sister Tamika McGinnis, Saint James Avondale, NWAC, (Mathew 9:37-38)

Introduction of the Speaker: Sister Susie Bonner, 9<sup>th</sup> District WMS President

Musical Selection: M-Cam

**Guest Preacherr: Rev. Dr. Laticia Williams Watford, Presiding Elder, NEAC**

**Key Points:**

- Our Commission, Our Mission and our Calling. What does it mean to us.

- Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations.
- Jesus said I hereby commission you to execute this mission.
- The disciples saw how their teacher lived and thus modeled their lives after Him.
- Never lose sight of your unique callings to serve this present age.
- You have to be called. You're doing the work, even when you are too tired to do the work.

Remarks:

Ninth District President, Susie Bonner

Ninth Episcopal Supervisor, The Rev. Sherita Moon Seawright

Presiding Prelate: The Right Reverend Harry L. Seawright

MISSIONARY BENEDICTION

Evelyn Beasley, Episcopal WMS Recording Secretary

Susie Bonner, Episcopal WMS President

Rev. Sherita Seawright, Episcopal WMS Supervisor