



MISSIONS FORWARD

The Official Newsletter of the 9th Episcopal District WMS

February 2024

Ms. Sherryl Stovall Whiting, President

Rev. Sherita Moon Seawright, Supervisor

The Right Reverend Harry Lee Seawright, Presiding Prelate

We are called to strengthen our faith and sent to continue the ministry of Jesus Christ by service and witness in the world.



FROM OUR SUPERVISOR:

Missionaries,

We're already in the second month of the new year. The 9th Episcopal WMS hit the ground with missions on our mind.

At our December 2023 Annual Convention, Sis. Susie Bonner ended 8 years of outstanding leadership. I am grateful for her teaching me the “whats and hows” of serving as an Episcopal Supervisor. Thank you, Sis. Bonner! You left a strong legacy.

On December 2, 2023, Bishop Seawright appointed Sis. Sherryl Whiting to serve as the new 9th District's WMS Episcopal District President. Sis. Whiting hails from the Southeast Alabama Annual Conference and is a member of Cherry Street AME Church in Dothan, Alabama. Most of us know her for leading the 9th District's Debs and Masters Commission. As evidenced in the initial address to the District WMS, President Whiting demonstrated her awareness and commitment to missions. In her first 2 months at the helm, President Whiting met with Conference Presidents and the finance team, and made administrative appointments and decisions. I certainly look forward to continuing partnering with the new president.

As the 9th District presented our report at the 2024 WMS Executive Board and Training Session in Little Rock, Arkansas, God blessed me to stand with Bishop Seawright, President Whiting, Immediate Past President Bonner, 9th District Connectional and District leadership and delegation members. I offer a big “Thank you!” to all missionaries whose work made the report possible and those who attended this Connectional meeting.

After Bishop Seawright re-appointed her, 9th District YPD Director Debra Scott Weatherspoon joined President Whiting, Connectional Communication Secretary Tra'Nyce Jones and Connectional Special Committee Reading and Literacy Chair Kierra Giles in attending the Connectional YPD Executive Board Meeting (also in Little Rock). Connectional Historiographer Monica Dillihunt and Connectional Worship Director Djuana Duncombe Paden.

Since missions never ends, I encourage WMS and YPD members to serve in a way that pleases God and blesses God's people.

Rev. Sherita Moon Seawright, Episcopal WMS Supervisor



FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in the 9th Episcopal District, and it is the Spirit of the Lord.

Thank you, Bishop Seawright and Supervisor Seawright, for this opportunity to serve, trusting me to lead the 9th Episcopal District WMS.

What an awesome task we have before us to grow in faith and to continue Jesus' ministry by serving and witnessing.

As we move forward, thanks for your support of this administration by way of our officers and our programs.

Together Everyone Achieves More!

God has truly blessed the 9th Episcopal District with talented, hard-working Missionaries who are on the battlefield doing the work of Missions!

A special thanks to Sister Susie Bonner, our Immediate Past President, who did a phenomenal job! Also, thank you Sister Hattie Nathan for continuing to support and train! There are big shoes to be filled!

Please share across the District that we appreciate everything done for Missions!

If assistance is needed at any time, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Blessings,
Sherryl Stovall Whiting

"When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat, and when I was thirsty you gave me something to drink. When I was a stranger, you welcomed me, and when I was naked, you gave me clothes to wear. When I was sick, you took care of me, and when I was in jail, you visited me."

Then the ones who pleased the Lord will ask, "When did we give you something to eat or drink? When did we welcome you as a stranger or give you clothes to wear or visit you while you were sick or in jail?"

The king will answer, "Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me."

Matthew 25: 35-40



From 2015-2023, Immediate Past Episcopal District President Susie Bonner led the 9th District WMS and YPD. During those 8 years she started and supported ministries that positively impacted our communities. As president, Sis. Bonner embraced projects that focused on domestic violence, hunger, women's incarceration, and education. Her time in office reflected her commitment to honesty, integrity, strong communication, and efficiency. She focused on timely and informative meeting initiatives that allowed us to grow in missions. One of her strongest gifts was planning well in advance. Sis. Bonner left office with all administrative obligations having been met and all financial records reviewed by a third party with no issues or discrepancies.

Sis. Bonner, thank you for serving us with Kingdom purpose: you remembered and reminded us that we are the church. Please share our gratitude with your husband, Bro. James Bonner, Jr., who drove you all over the State of Alabama. Your legacy remains and forms a strong foundation on which President Sherryl Whiting may continue to move the 9th District's missionaries and YPDers forward.



*Highlights from the Connectional Executive Board Meeting
January 24-27, 2024
Little Rock, Arkansas*



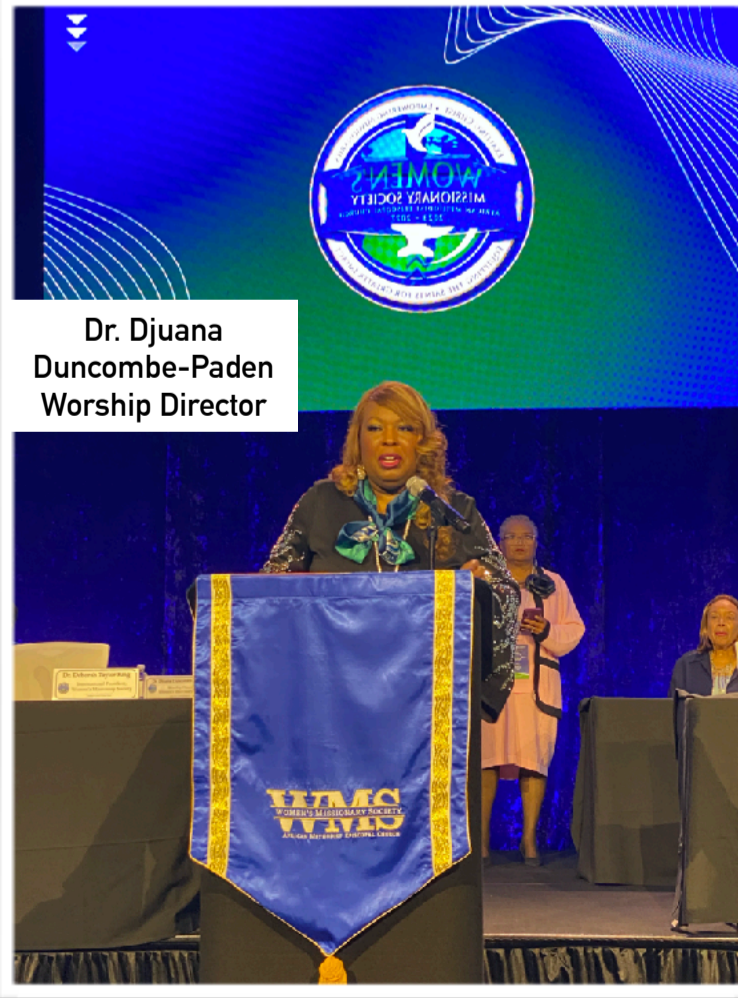
The Service of Word and Sacrament
Bishop Seawright, The Stewardship Responsive Reading
Supervisor Seawright and President Whiting Preparing for Worship
Bishop Michael Mitchell proclaimed "We Need to do Better" Luke 10:37



Dr. Monica Dillihunt
Historiographer



We are extremely proud
of our Connectional
Officers!



Dr. Djuana
Duncombe-Paden
Worship Director



We were pleased to have Dr. William Greenfield, far left, to serve as one of the panelist for “Black Women’s Health and Wellness”

He is a former YPDer and member of Historic Cherry Street A.M.E. Church in Dothan, AL

He is currently a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and Medical Director for Family Health at the Arkansas Department of Health.



PRESIDENTIAL JEWELS LUNCHEON (8 YEARS OF SERVICE)



8-YEAR JEWELS:

Area Chairpersons:

1. Maggie Koroma
2. Melinda Page
3. Sherita Gullatte
4. Evadna Moment
5. Beverly Nobles
6. Mary L. Turner James
7. Lora Porter
8. Sylvia Montgomery

Local Presidents:

1. Constance Jones
2. Carolyn Beasley
3. Dorothy Harrison
4. Eva France
5. Burnice Perry
6. Janice Watts
7. Linda C. Williams
8. Barbara Washington

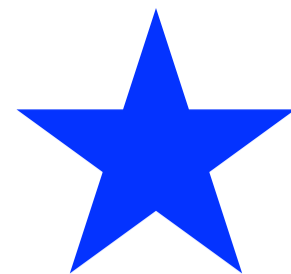
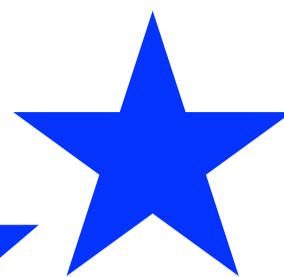
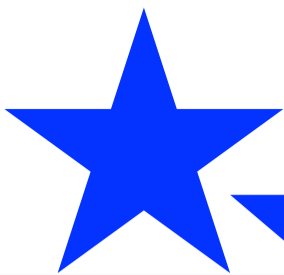


Susie

Bonner served the 9th Episcopal District WMS for 8 stellar years!

Pictured with Connectional President, Dr. Deborah Taylor King, left and Connectional 1st VP, Charolett Martin

Pictured from left to right Susie Bonner, Supervisor Seawright, President Whiting and Bishop Seawright



The 9th District Reports

SESSION PART II

SESSION PART II



We donated \$1,000 in gift cards to Watershed Human and Community Development Agency. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Sister Lue Ellen McCrary represented the 9th!

Our delegation with the 4th, 9th, & 10th International Presidents

Handy Simmons Scholarship Recipient Congratulations Greta Sutton \$1,500!



274 donated to the WMS Foundation \$1,370

The campaign continues...

The mission of the WMS Foundation is to provide organizations, groups and persons a place to contribute to the purpose and mission of the AMEC-WMS in the world with a priority interest in the people of the Diaspora in developing areas.

SUPERVISORS' PRAYER BREAKFAST

Rev. Sherita was a member of the SuperVoice Choir
and
the YPDers served as Hostesses!





The YPDers held their Connectional Executive Board Meeting on Saturday, January 27, 2024



Tra'Nyce Jones, Connectional Communications Secretary
Kierra Giles, Connectional Reading & Literacy Chair
Debra Scott Weatherspoon, YPD Director



Left to right
Sherryl Whiting, Debra Weatherspoon, Kierra Giles, Tra'Nyce Jones, Djuana Paden, Monica Dillihunt



Kierra Giles

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH



February
#LOVEISRESPECT

STOP TEEN DATING VIOLENCE BEFORE IT HAPPENS

Let's TALK about it!



42-87% of dating violence occurs on school grounds

1/3	2/3	81%
of high school students have been in an abusive relationship	of teens don't tell or ask for help	of parents believe teen dating violence is NOT an issue



BISHOP MICHAEL L MITCHELL, COMMISSION CHAIR, GLOBAL WITNESS & MINISTRY
DR DEBORAH TAYLOR KING, INTERNATIONAL WMS PRESIDENT
MRS CHAROLETT BIGGS MARTIN, COMMISSION CHAIR, CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

9TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT WMS PRESENTS



YOUR HEALTH IS WEALTH

Care For The Caregiver

Join us as we discuss tips and resources on avoiding Caregiver burnout.

02/29/2024 @ 6pm cst
Zoom ID: 83383721919
Password: 574586



Ms. Ebony Smith, 1st Vice President 9th District WMS
Ms. Sherryl Whiting, President 9th District WMS
Rev. Sherita Moon Seawright, Episcopal Supervisor 9th District
The Right Rev. Harry L. Seawright, Presiding Bishop 9th District



Since 2004, the American Heart Association's signature women's initiative, Go Red for Women, has addressed the awareness and clinical care gaps of women's greatest health threat, cardiovascular disease (CVD). We are prepared to meet the evolving needs of women now, and at every age, every stage and every season of their lives as their trusted, relevant source for credible, equitable health solutions.

Signs and Symptoms of Heart Attack

If you have any of these signs, call 9-1-1 and get to a hospital right away.

1. Uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain in the center of your chest. It lasts more than a few minutes or goes away and comes back.
2. Pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.
3. Shortness of breath with or without chest discomfort.
4. Other signs such as breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.
5. As with men, women's most common heart attack symptom is chest pain or discomfort.

But women are somewhat more likely than men to experience some of the other common symptoms, particularly shortness of breath, nausea/vomiting and back or jaw pain.

[Learn more about Heart Attack in Women & Men](#) >

Signs and Symptoms of Stroke

If you have any of these signs, call 9-1-1 and get to a hospital right away.

1. Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body
2. Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding
3. Sudden trouble seeing or blurred vision in one or both eyes
4. Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
5. Sudden severe headache with no known cause

[Learn the Symptoms of a Stroke in Women & Men](#) >

American Heart Association

2024 Officers

President, Sherryl Whiting
1st VP, Ebony Smith
2nd VP, Mary Porter
3rd VP, Sharon Massingale
Recording Secretary, Evelyn Beasley
Assist. Rec. Secretary, Marge Simmons
Corresponding Secretary, Joyce O'Neal
Treasurer, Catherine Jordan
Financial Secretary, Jackie Carter
PME Director, Arthenia Lewis
Historiographer-Statistician, Mary James
Worship Director, Lue Ellen McCrary
Parliamentarian, Bettye West
Member At Large, Denise Woolridge
YPD Director, Debra Weatherspoon

Upcoming Executive Board Meetings
2025 - Phoenix, Arizona
2026 - Baltimore, Maryland

Quadrennial Convention
2027 - Dallas, Texas

We hope that you will be able to
attend!

GENERAL THEME
Embracing Wholeness in a Pandemic World



Mission Education Curriculum

9th District PME Dialogue
February 17, 2024 at 4pm
Presenter - **Susie Bonner**
Immediate Past President
Zoom Meeting ID: 84427492804
Passcode: 083161

COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION

Members: Supervisor, President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President, Recording Secretary, Assistant Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, YPD Director, PME Director, Historiographer-Statistician, Worship Director, Member-At-Large, Parliamentarian, Conference Presidents, and a Local President from each Conference appointed by the Episcopal President.

BEREAVED FAMILY

Life Member Charlie Lassiter
1/17/2024 🙏🙏🙏

Please keep the family in your prayers!



Please encourage participation and support!

Connectional Young People's and Children's Division

Save the Date!

March 22-24 | Denver, Colorado

LT'24

Omni Interlocken Hotel
Registration Opens January 24th

9TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LTI
LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Young People's & Children's Division
of the Women's Missionary Society

Samuel Chapel AME Church
717 West Prichard Avenue Mobile, AL

JOIN US FOR A GOD EXPERIENCE

- ~ Workshops
- ~ Trainings
- ~ Team Building Activities
- ~ Musical Workshops
- ~ Food
- ~ Fun

SATURDAY
02 MARCH 2024

Deadline for Letter of Intent
January 15th

Ms. Kierra Giles, Episcopal YPD President
Mrs. Debra Scott Weatherspoon, Episcopal YPD Director
Ms. Sherry Whiting, Episcopal WMS President
Rev. Sherita Moon Seawright, Episcopal Supervisor
Rt. Rev. Harry L. Seawright, Presiding Prelate

REGISTRATION \$40
\$30 Allen Stars and Mother Sunbeams

Debra Scott Weatherspoon
YPD Director

Like Us on Facebook
9th District YPD of AMEC

Mr. Jarvis Denman Jr., Connectional YPD 2nd Vice President
Ms. Joyce Johnson, Connectional YPD President
Mrs. Richelle Fry Skinner, Connectional YPD Director
Dr. Deborah Taylor King, Connectional WMS President
Reverend Dr. John Green, Executive Director, Global Witness and Ministry
Bishop Michael L. Mitchell, Chair, Global Witness and Ministry

Breaking Free

Elevating in Christ & Establishing a New "ME"

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
YOUNG PEOPLE'S AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION
CONNECTIONAL SELF-DENIAL PROGRAM 2024

May 7-14, 2024

Self Denial

Kits are available!

Please encourage participation from the Local Church to the Episcopal District!

Souper Bowl of Caring

2/11/2024

Service Project in each Conference

CONFERENCE HAPPENINGS!

Southeast
Sister Martha Roseboro, President

YPD Black History Program
February 10, 2024 10 a.m.
St. Paul AMEC, Ozark, AL

Heart Health Program
February 15, 2024
Health Fair 5 p.m. Program 6 p.m.
Stringer Street AMEC, Dothan, AL



COVID-19


STILL RELEVANT?

"As long as there is a COVID-19 outbreak somewhere in the world, there is going to be something new that emerges."

- Nathan Grubaugh, PhD, an epidemiologist at the Yale School of Public Health

Current Variants - HV.1 & JN.1
Descendants of Omicron
Highly transmissible
Detected by COVID-19 tests

Protect yourself - TEST, ISOLATE, BOOST!



Bishop Michael L Mitchell, Commission Chair, Global Witness & Ministry
Dr Deborah Taylor King, International WMS President
Mrs Charolett Biggs Martin, Commission Chair, Christian Social Action