



# MISSIONS FORWARD

[www.9thepiscopaldistrictwms.org](http://www.9thepiscopaldistrictwms.org)

The Official Newsletter of the 9th Episcopal District WMS

**August 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.*



Wow! Where did the time go? 2024 seemed so far away!

At our first official gathering I promised to do my best. I asked you to respect me and promised to respect you. I asked you to work with me. Thank you for doing your part.

You supported your local church's activities and Annual and District Conferences. We fell short with fundraising; yet God provided. Your presence at Connectional WMS and YPD events increased my joy. I appreciate the many sacrifices to you made for missions.

God blessed me to join an *active* Episcopal WMS and YPD. Through existing programs your commitment allowed God's love to shine brighter. Accepting challenges and stepping into the unfamiliar paid big dividends from the following new initiatives:

- The Extensive Christmas Giveaway
- Back to Basics
- Adding a Women's Conference to the Annual Meeting
- A Week of Service and Love
- Young Adult Missionaries Retreat

Thank you to:

- Episcopal President Sherryl Whiting
- Episcopal YPD Director Debra Scott Weatherspoon
- Episcopal YPD President Joshua Williams
- Immediate Past Episcopal President Susie Bonner
- Immediate Past Episcopal YPD Director Djuana Duncombe-Paden
- Immediate Past YPD Episcopal President Kierra Giles
- All Past and Current WMS and YPD Officers, Members, and Associate Members at All Levels Who Served from 2016-2024

Thank you, Bishop Seawright, for granting me the privilege of serving as Episcopal Supervisor for the Ninth Episcopal District. I appreciate your love and support. Shari, Matthew, and Cameron, thank you for your encouragement in this journey.

Ninth District, our time together proved to be a good ride! Since you were the first Episcopal District for which I served as Episcopal Supervisor, you taught me major parts of my role. With your help, guidance, instruction, and support, we made a positive difference.

As I serve in another place, you will remain in my heart.

God is faithful!

Rev. Sherita



**Greetings,**

**Thank you for all that you do to move Missions Forward in the 9th Episcopal District!**

**The “Week of Service and Love” and the YAM’s Retreat were awesome! We have an Educational Seminar as well as other programs coming and we encourage you to participate and support.**

**As we move forward, how can we say thanks to The Seawrights’ for ALL they have done for the Ninth Episcopal District? We are going to miss them and we pray God’s blessings upon them!**

**We extend our deepest gratitude for the remarkable dedication and selfless service they have shown in their Christian ministry. The Seawrights’ unwavering commitment to helping others and sharing the teachings of Christ have made a profound impact on our community. The countless hours they have devoted, the prayers they have offered, and the guidance they have provided have all been a beacon of hope and inspiration.**

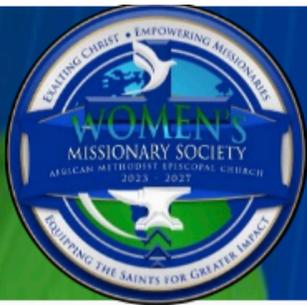
**Their actions exemplify the true spirit of Christian love and compassion. It is evident that they serve not for recognition, but out of a genuine desire to make a difference in the lives of those around them. Their kindness and generosity reflect the heart of Christ and encourage all of us to strive for greater faith and compassion in our own lives.**

**Thank you once again for your incredible service and for being a living testament to the power of faith. Your work is a blessing to many and serves as a reminder of the profound impact one can have through their commitment to Christian values. May you continue to be uplifted and strengthened in your journey, knowing that your efforts and leadership are deeply appreciated and cherished.**

**Blessings and Love,**

**Sherryl Whiting  
God First, Missions Forward, Love Unconditionally**

***“Lend a Hand, Lift Others Up, and Link Communities”***



# Connectional Women's Missionary Society

## African Methodist Episcopal Church

1134 11th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20001

202-371-8886  
[www.WMS-AMEC.org](http://www.WMS-AMEC.org)

*Bishop Michael L. Mitchell*  
Chair, Global Witness & Ministry

*Deborah Taylor King*  
Connectional WMS President

*Rev. Dr. John F. Green*  
Executive Director, Global Witness & Ministry

July 31, 2024

Our Democracy Matters!!

*"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." - Micah 6:8*

We, the members of the Women's Missionary Society of the African Methodist Episcopal Church are saddened to learn of President Biden's decision to decline the nomination for reelection as President. We appreciate President Biden's hard work leading this country, creating jobs, expanding healthcare for all, passing gun safety laws, and student loan relief, along with appointing the first African American woman to the Supreme Court among just a few accomplishments. Thank you for your commitment to advancing justice for all.

We must stand firm to protect our rights and our democracy. We have the power to defeat Project 2025 and the opponent. We stand in unity with the Council of Bishops in supporting President Biden's endorsement of Vice President Kamala Harris as the Democratic nominee. This endorsement is the path forward for our country. We are ready to mobilize, educate, and vote for a strong democracy.

We must... watch, fight and pray!

Deborah Taylor King  
President

Lisa Whigham Johnson  
Political Action Chair

**"Exalting Christ - Empowering Missionaries - Equipping the Saints for Greater Impact"**  
*"To equip His people for the works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."*  
Ephesians 4:12

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*2025*

**CONNECTIONAL WMS AMEC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AND TRAINING SESSION**

**SAVE-THE-DATE**  
JANUARY 22-25, 2025

Hyatt Regency Garden Grove, Orange County, CA  
REGISTRATION TO OPEN NOVEMBER 1ST  
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

CELEBRATING A SESQUICENTENNIAL

**150 YEARS**  
1874-2024

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE AME CHURCH

**INTRODUCING OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL Collection**

AVAILABLE ONLY THROUGH PRE-ORDERING

*Celebrating*

**150 YEARS OF MISSION AND SERVICE**

**PRE-ORDER YOURS TODAY**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CONNECTIONAL WMS AMEC OFFICE

Connectional Women's Missionary Society  
African Methodist Episcopal Church

1134 11th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20001

202-371-8886  
www.WMS-AMEC.org

Bishop Michael L. Mitchell  
Chair, Global Witness & Ministry

Deborah Taylor King  
Connectional WMS President

Rev. Dr. John F. Green  
Executive Director, Global Witness & Ministry

**INTRODUCING  
WMS AMEC BLING BADGES  
Now Available for Order**

**Dr. Deborah Taylor King**  
International President  
10th Episcopal District - Life Member

**JOIN US FOR OUR**

# **EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2024 | 7PM**

**TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED**

- The Alabama Literacy Act
- Alabama Graduation Requirements
- ACT Test Taking Strategies

**PRESENTERS**



**DR. KIMBERLY WALKER**



**MRS. BRENDA NICHOLAS**



**DR. WYCONDIA WEST**

**HOSTED BY**

**The Ninth Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society  
Commission on Mission Education and Interpretation**

**Mrs. Mary Wells-Porter | WMS Second Vice President**  
**Mrs. Cheryl Robinson-Sutton | WMS Educational Seminar Chairperson**  
**Ms. Sherryl Whiting | WMS Episcopal District President**  
**Reverend Sherita Moon Seawright | WMS Episcopal District Supervisor**  
**Bishop Harry L. Seawright | Presiding Prelate**



**zoom**

**MEETING ID: 842 5877 3318  
PASSCODE: 311 212**



ADOPT-A-SCHOOL \* CLASSROOM



# Celebrate Back-to-School

PLEASE SHARE PICTURES WITH  
THE COMMISSION BY



September 15, 2024  
Email to: [bdavis3010@aol.com](mailto:bdavis3010@aol.com)

Teacher  
Appreciation

9th Episcopal District  
Women's Missionary Society  
Commission on Mission Education  
and Interpretation

Mrs. Mary Wells-Porter, 2nd Vice President

Mrs. Sherryl Whiting, Episcopal President

Rev. Sherita Moon Seawright

Episcopal Supervisor

Bishop Harry L. Seawright, Presiding Prelate

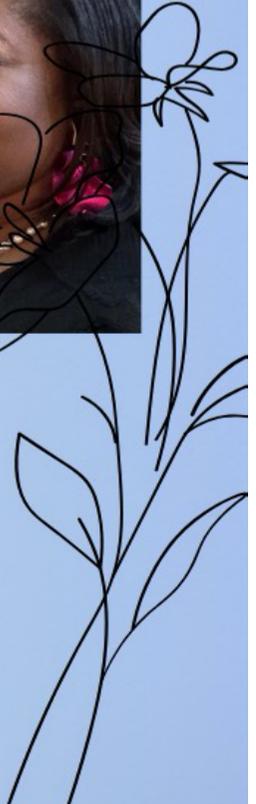


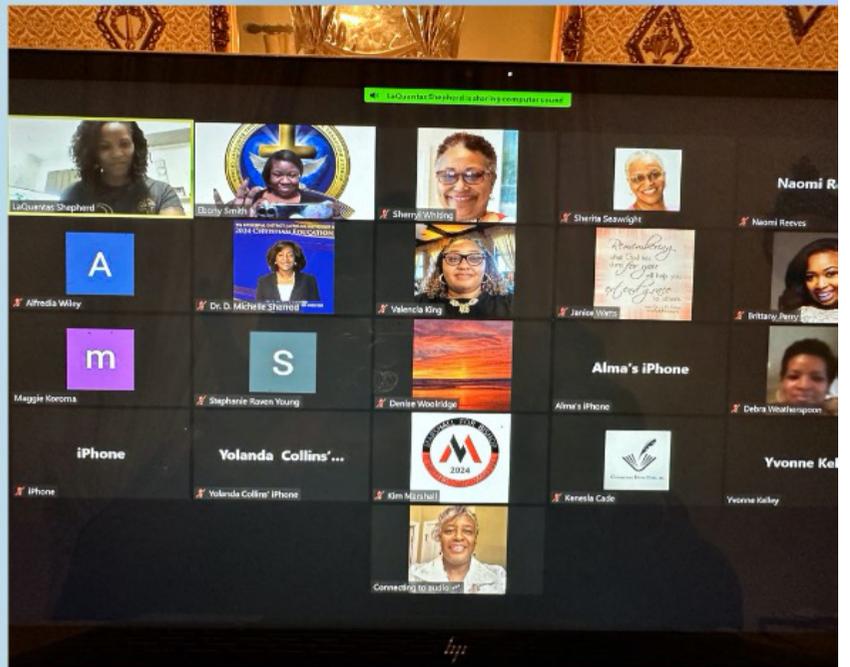
**St. John's and St. Paul (Montgomery)**

Local WMS work together to **PAY IT FORWARD**- They collected and distributed care packages to residence of the Rosa Parks Senior Apartments in Montgomery. Loving and sharing with the community.

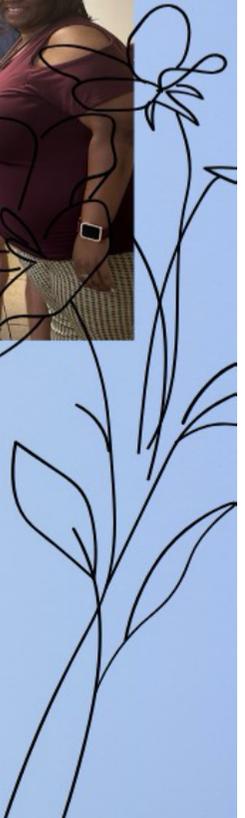


*Week of Service and Love*  
**2024**





# Week of Service and Love 2024



# FELLOWSHIP IS WHAT I DO



Women's  
Missionary  
Society

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Cynthia  
Underwood  
Thomas



omery)  
eir appreciation by recognizing their 1<sup>st</sup>  
as for her outstanding Missionary serv

Calera)  
a garden the  
ere able to "TILL  
are their  
ighbors as a  
service.



Grant Chapel (C  
Local WMS mem  
time to "TILL TH  
garden in Elmore  
also distributed  
senior citizens in

**Pay it Forward** -- We donated requested items for families who were displaced by a fire in Enterprise...including clothing, personal items, etc. Items were collected and dropped off by 1st VP Constance Jones. Photo of items in bags after they were donated. No photo of WMS members available...



hapel (Autaugaville) collected and distrib  
borhood children for the **WMS DAY OF S**



WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?  
(water) Local missionary were blessed t  
in their community and providing food b

# Week of Service and Love 2024





**Pay it Forward** -- We donated requested items for families who were displaced by a fire in Enterprise...including clothing, personal items, etc. Items were collected and dropped off by 1st VP Constance Jones. Photo of items in bags after they were donated. No photo of WMS members available...



Local President Marge Simmons walking during the virtual **Faith, Works and Wellness session** - July 24, 2024 - while in Birmingham babysitting grandson.



# Week of Service and Love 2024





www.reallygreatsite.com

# YAM RETREAT 2024



## Young Adult Missionaries Donated to "Village of Promise"

It is a Family Advancement Center founded in 2011 to address the needs of children and families in distress, high-poverty Northwest Huntsville neighborhoods. The Village of Promise empowers families to break the cycle of poverty using a targeted, multigenerational approach that provides age-based and need-related programming so families can conquer challenges, achieve dreams, and contribute to their community



## Kierra Giles, Connectional YPD Reading & Literacy Chair 9th Episcopal District

***Calling all young people 2-26 to participate in the Connectional YPD R.I.S.E. - Reading Initiative for Scholastic Excellence! **It's not too late to join** this transformative ministry event to reduce the "Summer Slide."***

Summer slide, also known as summer learning loss, is the tendency for students to lose some of the academic skills they've gained during the previous school year over the summer break. This can include a decline in reading ability and other skills.

Please review the flyer and access the R.I.S.E. Tools for Success here, which includes Bookmarks, a Reading Log, and an Active Reader Guide!

**Please submit reading suggestions and questions to:**  
[ConnectionalYPD23@gmail.com!](mailto:ConnectionalYPD23@gmail.com)

## AME Church Authors' Catalog

Are you a member of the AME Church who has published literature for children, youth, and young adults ages 2-26? Great! We need you! We ask that you join the AME Church Authors' Catalog! Please complete the link below to provide your information!

If you have any questions, please send an email to:  
[ConnectionalYPD23@gmail.com!](mailto:ConnectionalYPD23@gmail.com)

[AMEC Authors' Catalog - Submission Form](#)

Please keep ALL of our  
BEREAVED FAMILLIES



in your prayers!



# 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