



MISSIONS FORWARD

www.9thepiscopaldistrictwms.org

The Official Newsletter of the 9th Episcopal District WMS
October 2024

Ms. Sherryl Stovall Whiting, Episcopal President
Mrs. Deana Young McAllister, Episcopal Supervisor
Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Jr., 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.*



Greetings Missionaries,

I greet you in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We have completed the Alabama River Region, the Northwest and the Southeast Annual Conferences and they have all been wonderful. Bishop and I are feeling the love. We have met so many new people who are eager to serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Many thanks to you all who have offered well wishes, encouraging words, and your fervent prayers. As we approach the Northeast Conference this weekend, our work continues here in the amazing Ninth Episcopal District. We are looking forward to hearing about the exciting missions work and meeting the marvelous people in this Conference.

As I draft this communication, I am reminded of what I have heard and learned thus far. It is important for me to remind myself and others that we must always be on the battlefield for others. Through our missions work we can and will do God's work His Way.

Thank you, Alabama River Region Conference for the reminder that we do not have much longer until the upcoming election, in fact, NOT LONG. In the Northwest Conference we learned that our message will always be the same, Jesus Christ today and forever. However, we are compelled to find new methods to bring Jesus to the masses. Lastly, in the Southeast Conference, we heard with out a shadow of doubt that it is time to make church great again; we are stronger together. All of which tie back to our theme for the Ninth District that "The Work is all Divine."

In the spirit of Missions,

Supervisor Deana McAllister





Greetings,

Thank you 9th Episcopal District for ALL that you do to support Missions!

In all our endeavors, it is essential to prioritize our relationship with God. When we place Him at the center of our lives, our actions become guided by His wisdom and love. This commitment allows us to approach our mission with humility and strength, recognizing that it is not our work, but His work through us. By seeking His guidance through prayer and scripture, we equip ourselves to face the challenges of missionary work with faith and resilience.

As we move forward in our mission, let us remember that each step we take is an opportunity to make a difference. Whether we are serving locally or globally, we have the privilege of being the hands and feet of Jesus. Our mission is to build bridges of understanding, offer assistance to those in need, and share the transformative power of God's love. With each interaction, we can spread hope and inspire change, always striving to reflect His light in a world that often feels dark.

At the heart of our mission lies the call to love unconditionally. This love transcends barriers, reaching people from all walks of life. It challenges us to see beyond differences and to embrace our shared humanity. As we engage with those we serve, let us remember that every act of kindness, every word of encouragement, and every moment of connection can have a lasting impact. By embodying Christ's love, we invite others to experience the grace that transforms lives.

As we continue missions together, let us commit to putting God First, Moving Missions Forward, and Loving Unconditionally. With open hearts and unwavering faith, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Blessings and Love,

Sherryl Whiting
"The Work Is All Divine"

"Lend a Hand, Lift Others Up, and Link Communities"

As we prepare to go to the Executive Board Meeting in January 2025, we would like to know how many are planning to attend. If you have not completed the poll, Please click on the link below to share your response:

<https://form.jotform.com/242805207147049>

Poll will close Wednesday, October 16, 2024

**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!!

ATTIRE information forthcoming!



WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY
OF THE AME CHURCH

**INTRODUCING OUR
SESQUICENTENNIAL
Collection**


Celebrating
150
YEARS OF
MISSION
AND SERVICE

AVAILABLE ONLY
THROUGH
PRE-ORDERING



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 202-371-8886
Washington, DC 20001 www.WMS-AMEC.org

Bishop Michael L. Mitchell Deborah Taylor King Rev. Dr. John F. Green
Chair, Global Witness & Ministry Connectional WMS President 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



Ninth Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society



ANNUAL CONVENTION

Celebrating
40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Renew Restore Refresh

TROY UNIVERSITY
Lamar Higgins Ballroom
600 University Ave | Troy, AL 36082

DECEMBER
6-7
2024



Please REGISTER with your Conference
Branch President
by November 6, 2024

\$100

December 6, 2024 3:00 pm
December 7, 2024 8:00 am

Looking forward to seeing you!

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

We are preparing for our **40th WMS Convention** to be held in Troy, Alabama, December 6-7, 2024 at Troy University. Please find below the hotel information. You may come in on Thursday or Friday. Please let us know if you have any questions. You may contact Sheila Jackson at 334-372-7191. We are looking forward to seeing each of you!

When booking for the **Marriott**, use the reservation link below:

[Book your group rate for AME Missionary Conference](#)

You will find the information for your online reservation link below. If you have questions or need help with the link, please do not hesitate to ask. You may contact us at 334-566-0540. We appreciate your business and look forward to a successful event.

Event Summary:

AME Missionary Conference

Start Date: Thursday, December 05, 2024

End Date: Saturday, December 07, 2024

Hotel(s) offering your special group rate:

Courtyard Troy for 145.00 USD per night - Last Day to Book : Tuesday, November 19, 2024

[Book your group rate for AME Missionary Conference](#)

When booking for **Hampton Inn**, please go to the Hilton website and under special rates, group code type in 903.

Hope Gulledge
MCR
103 Troy Plaza Loop
Troy, Alabama 36081

Mobile: +1(334)-372-2139
hgulledge@mcrhotels.com

October 18, 2024

“Wear It Pink Day”

Ms. Ebony Reeves Smith, Episcopal 1st Vice President
Ms. Sherryl Stovall Whiting, Episcopal WMS President
Mrs. Deana Young McAllister, Episcopal Supervisor
Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Jr., Presiding Prelate

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

9th Episcopal District
Women's Missionary Society

Wear Pink
Every Sunday In
October

Send Pictures

EARLY

DETECTION

of Pink Sunday
Observances to

SAVES



LIVES

1stvp9@gmail.com



Did You Know?

Black women still have a 4% lower incidence rate of breast cancer than White women but a 40% higher breast cancer death rate.

Up to about 30% of breast cancers may be preventable with changes in lifestyle.



According to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc.

In 2024, an estimated 310,720 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women in the U.S., as well as 56,500 new cases of non-invasive (in situ) breast cancer.

There are currently over 4 million breast cancer survivors in the United States.

An estimated 42,250 U.S. women will die from breast cancer in 2024.

Risk of breast cancer recurrence depends on the type and staging of the initial breast cancer. Typically, the highest risk of recurrence is during the first few years after treatment and decreases over time.

Black Women:

The average age of Black women diagnosed with breast cancer is 60 years old, compared to an average age of 62 for white women.

Black women are 40% more likely to die from breast cancer than white women.

Black women have the lowest 5-year relative breast cancer survival rate of any racial or ethnic group.

1 in 5 Black women with breast cancer are diagnosed with triple-negative breast cancer, which is harder to treat.

This is higher than any other racial or ethnic group.





September 7, 2024

Dear Conference Presidents,

I greet you in the Name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Please share the instructions and requirements for the submission of the Women's Missionary Society (WMS) letters of intent with members of your conference. The instructions are for persons who aspire to an Episcopal WMS Office, in the Ninth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church. Please note before sending a letter of intent for any said position, it is highly recommended that each person examines herself for qualification purposes as the duties of the positions require a magnitude of voluntary responsibilities.

Please help us reach qualified and willing ladies to serve in leadership roles for each office of the WMS (except for the WMS Episcopal President and Episcopal Director of the Young People's and Children's Division). These positions, however, are appointed by the Presiding Bishop of the Ninth Episcopal District, Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Jr. No person shall be permitted to hold more than one (1) elected or appointed office beyond the Local Level or to hold the same office more than two (2) consecutive quadrennials, or eight (8) years.

The available WMS positions are "First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Recording Secretary, Assistant Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, PME Director, Historiographer-Statistician, Worship Director, Parliamentarian, and Member-at-Large (age 18-40)." Additional information is available in the 2020-2024 Constitution & Bylaws of the Women's Missionary Society and the Young People's and Children's Division of the AME Church. The election will be held on **December 7, 2024**.

- **November 1, 2024**, is the deadline date to submit letters of intent with the original signature of the Pastor, Conference President, and the Local Church WMS President.
- Email all letters to the WMS Nominating Chairperson, with a copy (cc) to the Episcopal WMS President, and Episcopal WMS Supervisor. Mail hard copies for record-keeping to the Nominating Committee Chair, signed by the Pastor, Local and Conference Presidents.

Nominating Committee Chair
Mrs. Cattie Epps
5 Godwin Court
Phenix City, AL 36869
cattieepps@yahoo.com

Episcopal WMS President
Ms. Sherryl Whiting
801 DuBois Street
Dothan, AL 36303
srs@comcast.net

Episcopal WMS Supervisor
Mrs. Deana McAllister
3588 Mossy Creek Lane
Tallahassee, FL 32311
Supervisordeymcallister@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Cattie Epps
Nominating Committee Chairperson

VOTE November 5, 2024

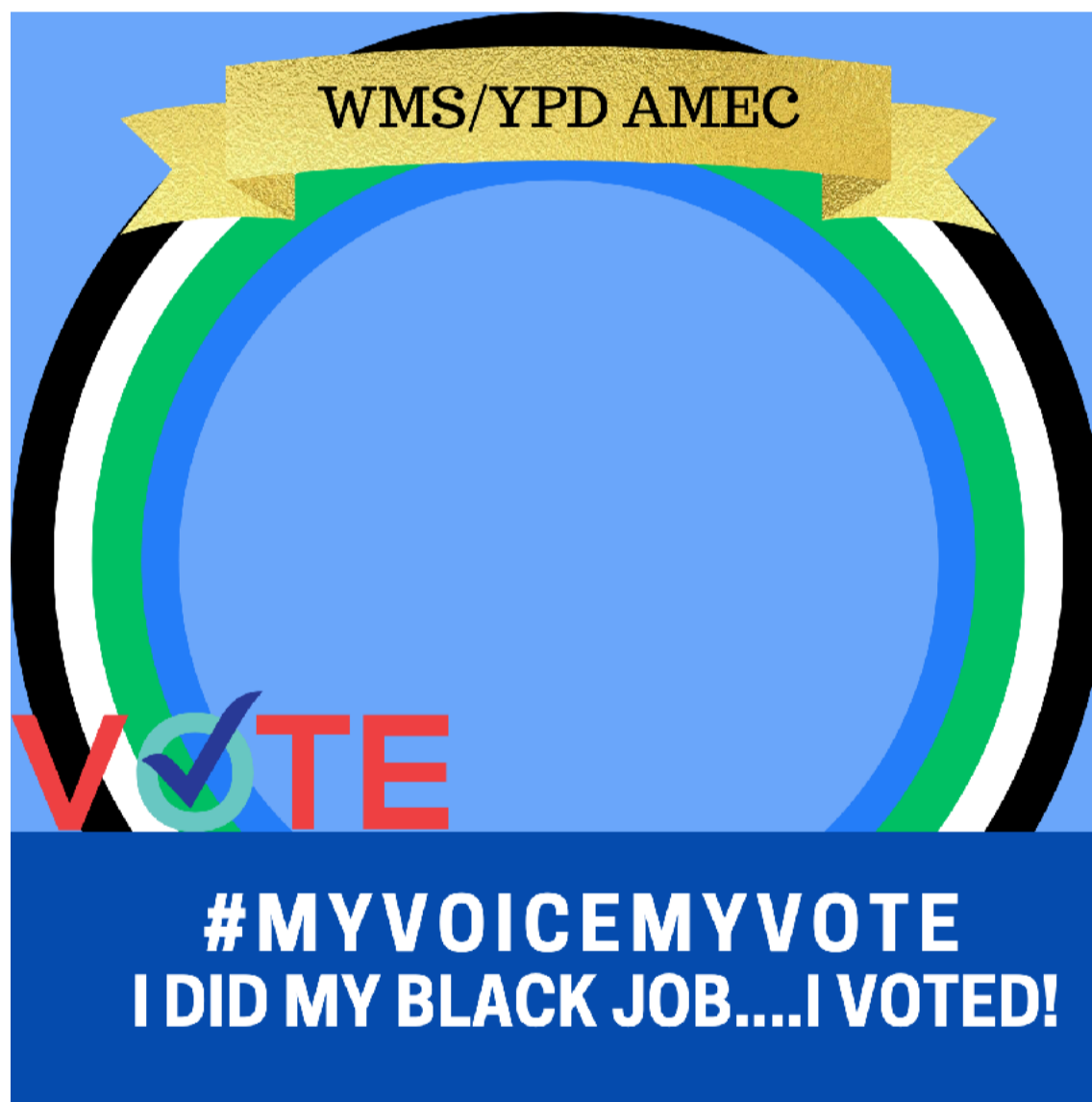
Once you **VOTE**, please post your **VOTING** picture in the frame below.

Tag (Lisa Johnson-Whigham) and use **#MYVOICEMYVOTE - 9**

There is going to be a prize for the District with the greatest number of Missionaries and YPDers who post their voting pictures.

Also, please post any **VOTING** events with pictures as well.

Don't forget to encourage all members to make a plan to **VOTE!**



Below you will find the recording link to the webinar “**Strategic Steps to Election Day 2024**”:

https://youtu.be/4JVr5Ppd7_s

Please go to the website below for instructions regarding ensuring we get folk to the polls on November 5, 2024.

Get Out the Vote 2024 - ecoAmerica

“...For there is always light, if only we are brave enough to see it, if only we are brave enough to be it.” ~ Amanda Gorman

9th Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society



**YOUR
HEALTH
IS WEALTH**

DIABETES & YOU



7 PM THU **NOV** 7TH 2024

Meeting ID: 875 2732 9626

Passcode: 657105

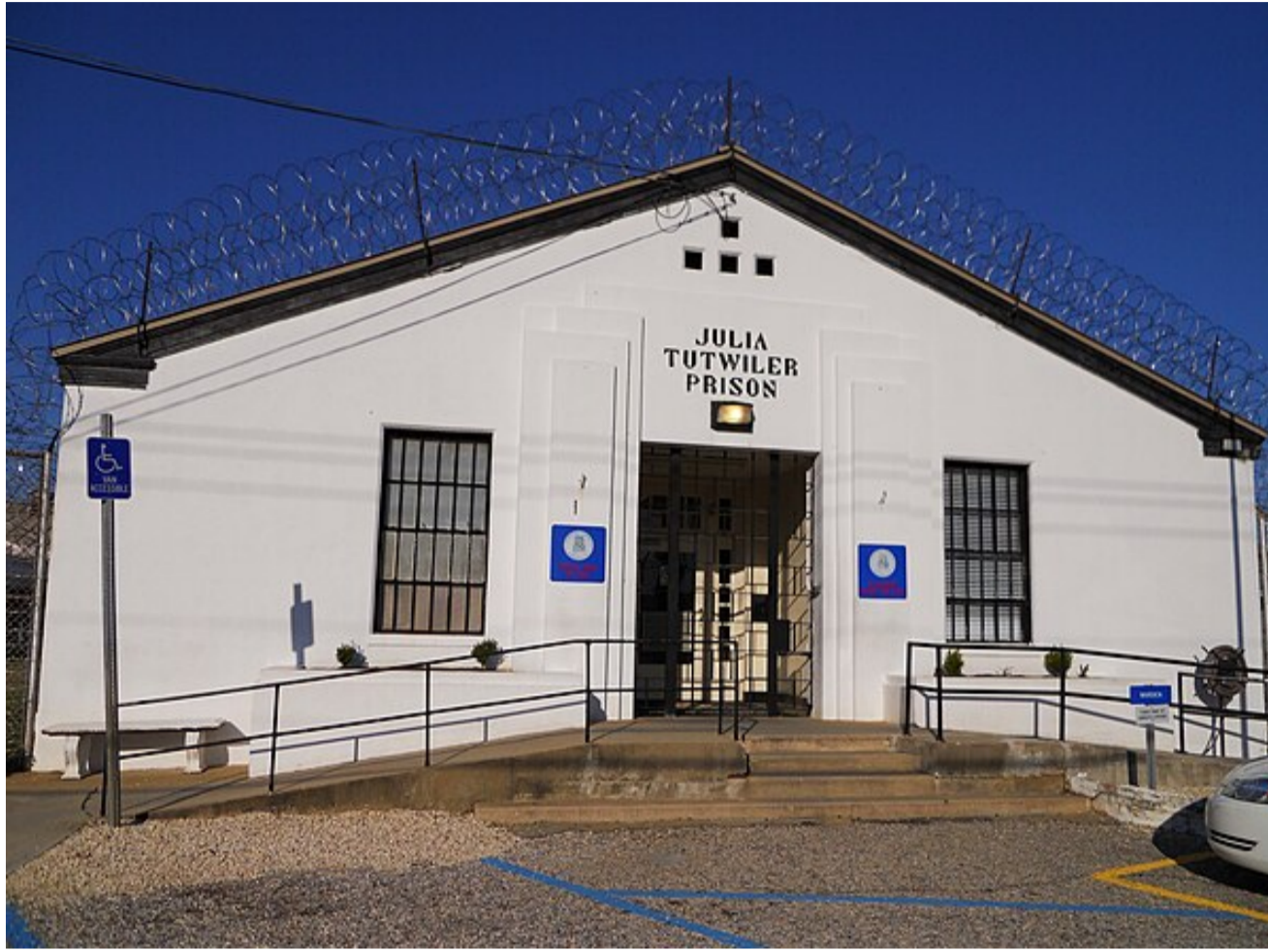
- MS. EBONY REEVES SMITH, EPISCOPAL 1ST VP
- MS. SHERRYL STOVALL WHITING, EPISCOPAL WMS PRESIDENT
- MRS. DEANA YOUNG MCALLISTER, EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR
- BISHOP JULIUS HARRISON MCALLISTER, JR., PRESIDING PRELATE



MRS. TRINETTE STANFORD,
RN, FNP-C, MSN, CDCEs
 CEO/FOUNDER/OWNER
 AT TOTALLY ABOUT DIABETES

Tutwiler Prison Ministry

November 13, 2024



The **Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women** is a prison for women of the [Alabama Department of Corrections](#) (ADOC), located in [Wetumpka, Alabama](#). All female inmates entering ADOC are sent to the receiving unit in Tutwiler. Tutwiler houses Alabama's female [death row](#), which qualifies it for the "maximum security" classification.

ITEMS TO BE DONATED:

Deodorant - ARR

Lotion - NW

Shampoo - SE

Shower Gel - NE

Conditioner - SW

100 each

\$60 for Greeting Cards/Conference

Please see your Conference President

Registration is Open
for
Back-to-Basics



**VIRTUAL
TUTORING
ENROLL NOW**

AREAS OF FOCUS
READING & MATH GRADES 1-5

TUTORING IS FREE



**START DATE
SEPTEMBER 24, 2024
TUESDAY ONLY**



5:30-6:30 P.M.



All registration forms can be found on the 9th Episcopal District WMS website at <http://9thepiscopaldistrictwms.org>. Click Resources, Tutoring, and select Application or scan the QR Code.



Life Member Salute to
MARY WELLS-PORTER



By Supervisor Rev. Sherita Moon Seawright
 9th Episcopal District

In the 9th Episcopal District's Women's Missionary Society (WMS), Life Member Mary Wells-Porter's light shines brightly. Through service and witness, she continues the ministry of Jesus Christ. With a calm demeanor, a heart for helping, encouraging, and supporting God's people, and an undying commitment to excellence, she leads by example.

Wells-Porter received her WMS Life Member designation in 2010. As a current member, past president, and secretary of the Toole-Riggs Missionary Society at St. Mark African Methodist Episcopal Church (AMEC) in Tuscaloosa, AL, she brings "active membership" to life. She made a positive difference for St. Mark and the Polk Mustin Area youth as YPD Director. At the Connectional level in 2023, she offered her gifts as a member of the Scholarship and Constitution and Bylaws committees. Her many local church ministry involvements include Steward (past pro tempore), Choir, Lay Organization, Church School Teacher, and Director of Christian Education. She is a dynamic teacher, speaker, presenter, and organizer.

In the (former) West Alabama Annual Conference, Wells-Porter served as Conference President and Vice President. This missionary gives stellar service as the Episcopal 2nd Vice President. The WMS is proud of her organization of B2B (Back-to-Basics Virtual Tutoring Program). A retired educator, principal, assistant principal, and interim principal, she finds joy in leading a team of volunteer tutors and support staff in serving students in grades K-5 who need instructional assistance in reading and math. Parents and guardians also participate in the learning experience.

For Wells-Porter and her six siblings, Taylorville, AL is home. Through her grandfather and aunt, she belongs to a legacy of AME ministers. Wells-Porter is the widow of Bro. Charlie Porter who was a long-time educator and coach. She pours lots of love on her two stepchildren and four grandchildren.

Wells-Porter is a graduate of Stillman College in Tuscaloosa. She is a life member and Crystal Dove of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

Bishop Harry L. Seawright, Episcopal Supervisor Rev. Sherita Moon Seawright, Episcopal President Susie Bonner, and the 9th Episcopal District WMS proudly salute Life Member Mary Wells-Porter!

CONFERENCE HAPPENINGS!

Annual Conference WMS Conventions

October 19th
Northeast
Nichols Chapel, Phenix City

October 26th
Southwest
Gaines Chapel, Atmore

If you are interested in purchasing a YEARBOOK, please let your PME Director or Conference President know no later than October 28, 2024.

ANGEL TREE information is coming!



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