



MISSIONS FORWARD

www.9thepiscopaldistrictwms.org

**The Official Newsletter of the 9th Episcopal District WMS
October 2025**

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 in the Matchless Name of our Wonderful Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

We thank God for each of you and for the great ways you continue to move missions forward in the Ninth Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society. Your dedication and service are making an impact, and we celebrate the fruit of your labor in this conference year.

We are well into our series of Annual Conferences, with only one remaining—the Southwest. We are excited to join you soon, to fellowship, and to learn more about the amazing missions work being done across our district. Truly, the Ninth is on the move for Christ!

Please also stay tuned to the Ninth District Book Club—new titles will be released shortly for both our young people and adults, and we can't wait to grow and learn together through this shared reading journey.

The Deana Young McAllister Leadership Institute is also pressing forward with power! We give thanks to God for our 29 participants who are eager to learn and grow in leadership. A special note of appreciation goes to our two faithful Deans, Sisters Hattie Nathan and Susie Bonner, for their wisdom, guidance, and commitment.

As you read through this newsletter, please have your calendars nearby. There are so many upcoming activities and or events and we need and want YOU to be a part of them! Please meet me there!!

Finally, let us remain steadfast in doing God's work in a more excellent way—by faithfully “minding our missionary business.” Together, with God's help, we will continue to serve with excellence and purpose.

With love and gratitude,

Supervisor





Greeting to the 9th Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society

Grace and peace to each of you, my sisters in Christ. As we gather once more under the banner of *God first, missions forward, and love unconditionally*, we give thanks for the opportunity to serve together in excellence. The Lord continues to favor our work and strengthen our hands for the mission He has entrusted to us. Every prayer, every visit, every act of kindness—none of it is in vain, for the work is all divine.

As we prepare for our upcoming State WMS Convention, I want to encourage full participation from every conference, local society, and individual member. These gatherings are more than meetings—they are moments of renewal, learning, and unity. Registration is not just a formality; it is a commitment to keep our mission alive and vibrant. Let's show up with hearts open, ready to receive and ready to serve.

October reminds us of the importance of *Breast Cancer Awareness*. We stand in solidarity with survivors, honor the memory of those we've lost, and encourage every woman to prioritize her health. Early detection saves lives, and education empowers communities. As missionaries, we can use our platforms to spread awareness, promote screenings, and uplift those walking this journey with faith and courage.

We also celebrate and spotlight our **Young People's Division (YPD)**—the heartbeat of our future. Their energy, creativity, and commitment to service inspire us all. Let us continue to mentor, encourage, and support them as they grow in leadership and spiritual maturity. The YPD reminds us that missions have no age limit; their voices and actions carry God's love into new generations.

As we continue to move forward with excellence, may we do so with joy and gratitude. The call to serve is sacred, and together we carry the light of Christ into every corner of our communities. Let us keep pressing onward—hand in hand, heart to heart—knowing that *when God is first, everything else falls into divine order*.

In Christ's love and service,

Sherryl Whiting

Sherryl Whiting, Episcopal WMS President

“God First, Missions Forward, Love Unconditionally”



Greetings in the Joy of Jesus to the Ninth Episcopal District Family,

I pray that all is well with each of you. As we continue moving faithfully through this series of Annual Conferences, I am pleased to share important information regarding our **Ninth Episcopal District Planning Meeting**. This year our gathering will be held at the Renaissance Hotel and Spa in Montgomery, Alabama, beginning on Thursday, November 20, and concluding on Saturday, November 22, 2025. Saint Paul AME Church will serve as our host where the Reverend Dr. Agnes Lover is the pastor. The room rate is \$169.00 a night and the link is below.

Book your group rate for AME Church 9th Episcopal District Conference November 2025

I strongly encourage you to arrive and check in at the hotel no later than **Wednesday evening, November 19th**. This will allow us to begin our first day of sessions on Thursday morning with me and the Supervisor with our Ninth Episcopal District gathering followed immediately by our component meetings starting promptly at 10:00 a.m. Early arrival will ensure that we move forward with excellence. The deadline to reserve your room is **Wednesday, October 29th**. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. We are expecting a capacity crowd. Our Evening Glory Worship Service will begin at 6:09 in the evening.

On Friday night at 6:09 p.m., we will be blessed by the preaching of the **125th elected and consecrated Bishop of the AME Church, Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr., Presiding Prelate of the First Episcopal District**. We are anticipating a mighty move of God through the Word.

On Saturday morning, our Ordination Service will take place, with the dynamic preaching of the **115th elected and consecrated Bishop in the life of our reformation, Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson, Jr.**, who will proclaim God's word for our ordination worship service. At the closing of this meeting pastoral appointments will be given as well across our state.

This gathering is expected to draw a major crowd as we celebrate our second planning meeting together. Let us come prepared with hearts and minds open knowing that **The Best is Yet to Come!** .

We remain committed to **Always Moving** forward with **Excellence** while united in faith and purpose. I look forward to seeing each of you at the remaining Annual Conferences and at our Planning Meeting in November.

In His Name because of Christ and Calvary,

Julius H. McAllister, Jr.

Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Jr.
Ninth Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church



October

2025

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
						NE YPD Annual Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		NE WMS Annual Day	Northeast Alabama Annual Conference			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	WMS Finance Meeting 7p cst YPD EB Meeting 8p cst	PME Dialogue 7pm cst WMS Convention Meeting 8p cst	Leadership Institute Meeting 7:30pm cst	WMS Video Meeting 7:30pm cst		SW YPD Annual Day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Wear Pink		SW WMS Annual Day	Southwest Alabama Annual Conference			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
						B2B Virtual Tutoring Every Tuesday 5:30p cst

Please support the Southwest Annual Conference “YPD Annual Day” and the “WMS Night In White”!





Save the Date

DECEMBER 12-13, 2025

THE ANNUAL WMS Convention

“Women of Faith, Leading with Vision and Purpose”

Habakkuk 2:2 NLT

Location: St. Paul AME Church, Smithfield, AL

Registration: \$100

Please register through your Conference WMS President.

**Please mark your calendar and plan to
join us for a powerful time of
fellowship, worship, and service!**

**Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Jr.
will bring the word on Friday night!**





Please plan to attend this meeting!

We are looking at the possibility of a bus.

*If you are interested, please contact **Hattie Nathan 706-615-9791***

The attire for the meeting:

The day that we read our report, black of your choice with our District Flower.



In addition, we are getting a District Sweater that must be ordered by November 8, 2025.



Both of these items can be ordered from the 9th District Store.

*To order, go to 9thepiscopaldistrictwms.org click on the **green banner** at the top.*

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your Conference President or Sherryl Whiting 334-796-0154.



36th ANNUAL NGO CONFERENCE

EMPOWERING GRASSROOTS MOVEMENTS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

ALL THE BELIEVERS WERE ONE IN HEART AND MIND.
NO ONE CLAIMED THAT ANY OF THEIR POSSESSIONS WAS THEIR
OWN, BUT THEY SHARED EVERYTHING THEY HAD.
-Acts 4:32 (NIV)

FIGHT TODAY
FOR A BETTER
TOMORROW

October
18th
2025

9:30AM EST
8:30AM CST
6:30AM PT
3:30PM ET
1-Day Virtual Conference

Register Today!



Local Passion. GLOBAL impact!

Bishop Silvester S. Beaman
COMMISSION CHAIR, GLOBAL WITNESS & MINISTRY

Dr. Deborah Taylor King
CONNECTIONAL WMS AMEC PRESIDENT

Ms. Brittini A. Peters
UN NGO ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Shawn M. Ross
UN NGO MAIN REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Tanisha Thomas
UN NGO ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE





NATIONAL BLACK VOTER DAY TOOLKIT

THE ISSUE:

The 2025 elections are underway, the 2026 midterm elections are fast approaching, and attempts at voter suppression are in effect. This includes:

- Efforts to gerrymander and dilute voting districts in Texas, a move that other states including Missouri, Indiana, and more are attempting to do. Many Southern states are heavily gerrymandered already. However, this is a multiregional effort to undermine voting through gerrymandering.
- An effort by the current administration to target mail in ballots
- An effort by the DOJ to breach state voting systems
- Two Supreme Court cases that could further erode the Voting Rights Act

These efforts will significantly impact voters, especially Black voters who are disproportionately impacted by these efforts to suppress the vote.

THE ASK:

September 18th is National Black Voter Day and we want you to make your voices heard. We are asking you to call your elected officials and encourage them to protect voting. This includes calling for the passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. We are also asking you to take to social media and voice your support for voting protection. We want to continue to champion voting rights.

We are also asking you to continue to elevate this message beyond September 18th. As we go into 2026 we must continue to ramp up our efforts to protect voting rights. Make your voices heard!



HOW TO SUPPORT:



Either send a letter (see the template below) or call your Congressional Members' office (see the phone script below) to elevate the importance of protecting our voting rights.

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?:

Ninth Episcopal District

Women's Missionary Society



PINK

OUT SUNDAY

10/19/2025

PLEASE WEAR PINK TO CHURCH FOR
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Thank you!

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

Please share pictures!

1stvp9@gmail.com

Please indicate your Church and Conference



Save the Date



Annual Julia Tutwiler Prison Donation

11.20.25

More Information Is Forthcoming. Donation will occur
during Planning Meeting.



Igniting Faith and Identity -Catalyze

Tuesday, October 14, 2025 | 7pm



Sis. Kenesia Cade
SWAC 1st Vice-President

PLEASE JOIN!

Ms. Sherryl S. Whiting, Episcopal WMS President
Mrs. Deana Young McAllister, Episcopal WMS Supervisor
Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Jr., Presiding Prelate

Zoom Meeting ID: 830 6582 4364
Passcode: 273380

Are You a Quilt Maker?

**Share your knowledge and
talent with the 9th
Episcopal District Women's
Missionary Society.**

Text, Email or Call

Mary Wells-Porter

WMS Episcopal Second VP

205-344-3358

mwpl200@gmail.com

NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BACK 2 BASICS

Tutorial Program

Tuesday Only

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS
TUTORS
NEEDED!

**WE NEED
YOU!**



WHY VOLUNTEER?

- Make a lasting impact in a child's life
- Support education in your community
- Earn volunteer hours (if applicable)
- Be part of a meaningful initiative

Let's get back to the basics and move forward together one student at a time.

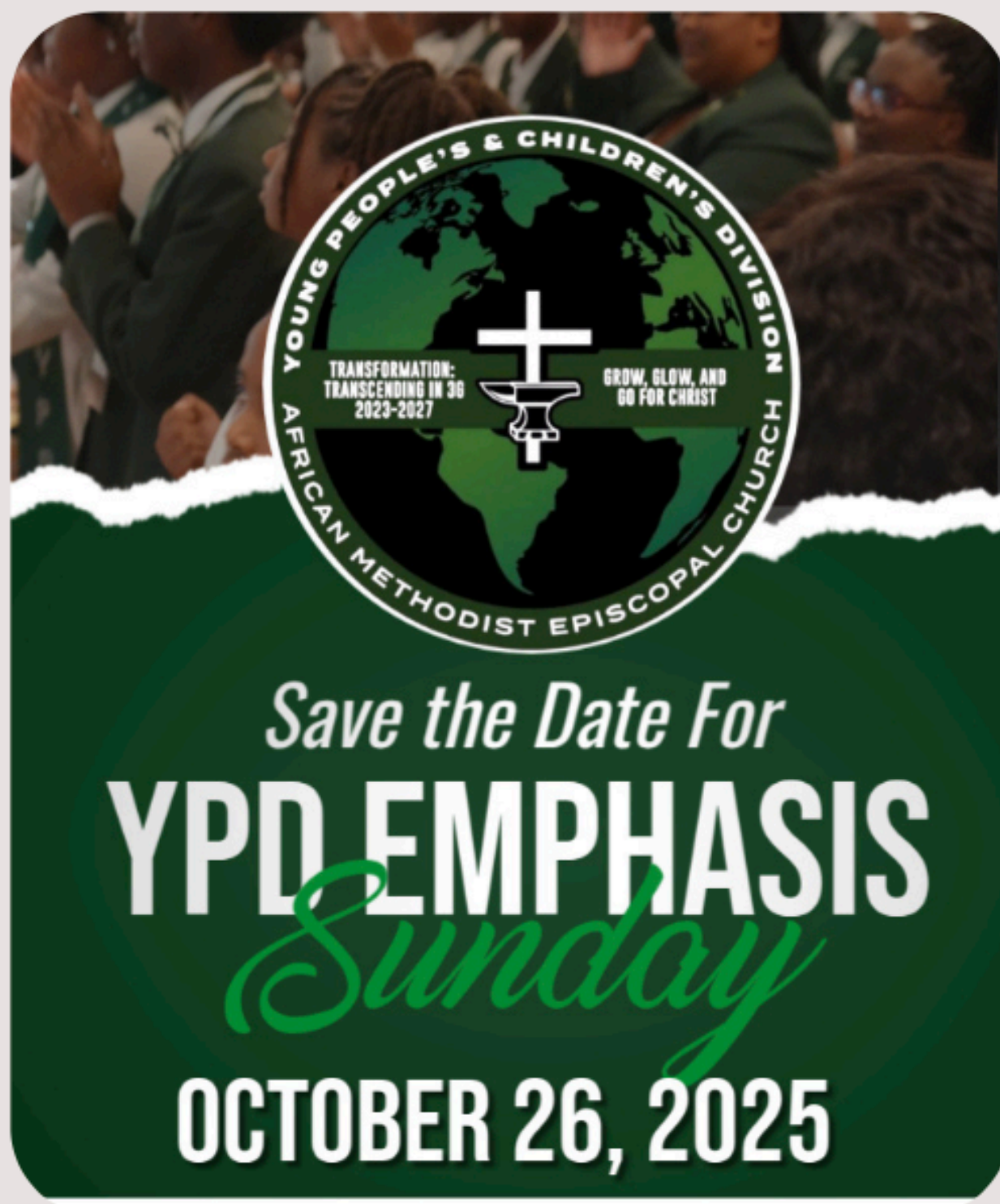
Mary Wells Porter, Chair
(205)344-3358


Debra Scott Weatherspoon, Co-Chair
(251)214-4371

110th YPD Birthday Celebration

110 Years Strong: Celebrating Our Legacy, Embracing Our Future
1915- 2025

For 110 years, the Young People's and Children's Division has been shaping lives and building leaders. This October, the Connectional YPD Executive Board invites you to join us on a journey through our rich history and exciting future. Join us as we celebrate all month long, with a special emphasis on Sunday, October 26, 2025.





110TH BIRTHDAY KICKOFF

Throughout our month-long celebration, we will focus on the YPD motto. Each day will be dedicated to showing how YPD has shaped the lives of young people to Grow, Glow, and Go for Christ. Each day has a focused element/activity for young people to share their story.


GO

Young People, ages 2-26:

Mission in Action Challenge
Choose at least 1 act of service and document it.
"This is how I go for Christ."

OR

Go Testimonies – Short clips answering:
"Where has YPD taken me?" or "How am I going forward with YPD?"



African Methodist Episcopal Church
Women's Missionary Society
Young People's and Children's Division

YPD HISTORY MONTH INITIATIVE

For the first 20 days of October, we will share daily facts and stories highlighting the rich history of our Districts, Local Churches, and members.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE!

Each church is invited to submit :

- Founding dates and first YPD Presidents (District and Local)
- District history trees (conferences, regions, etc.)
- Stories of Bishops who were once YPDers
- Famous YPD alumni
- Old photos, flyers, and documents from your archives

Thank you for helping us celebrate the amazing history of YPD!

Joyce Johnson, Connectional YPD President
Richelle Fry Skinner, Connectional YPD Director

African Methodist Episcopal Church | Women's Missionary Society

Transformation: Transcending in 3G

YPD HISTORY NO MYSTERY!



Did you know?

As has been the custom of the African Methodist Episcopal Church throughout the years, whenever a senior (missionary) group was formed, the next concern was for the children and young people of the church. During an Executive Board meeting in 1912 at Wilberforce University, the Women's Parent Mite Society, currently the **Women's Missionary Society**, began establishing a **Young People's Department**. At the Quadrennial Session in **October 1915**, the Women's Parent Mite Society formally adopted the Young People's Department.

110 years later, under the leadership of the Women's Missionary Society, the **Young People's and Children's Division**, consistently and intentionally facilitates opportunities for children, youth, and young adults, ages 2-26, to **GROW(ing)** their relationships with Christ, **GLOW(ing)** in their personal academic, and professional development, and **GO(ing)** to do the work of missions, **FOR CHRIST!**

YPD
Mission Statement:

As a unified body with Christ - like qualities, we will build a Connectional bond that demonstrates pride through education, communication, and mission work.

Happy Birthday

1915 - 2025

History Source: 2019-2023 YPD Handbook

YPD MOTTO: GROW, GLOW, AND GO FOR CHRIST!

CONFERENCE HAPPENINGS!





ANNUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE 2025



SIXTEENTH SESSION OF

ALABAMA RIVER REGION *Annual Conference*

<p><small>SATURDAY</small> AUG 16 YPD <small>ANNUAL DAY</small></p>	<p><small>TUESDAY</small> AUG 19 WMS <small>ANNUAL DAY</small></p>	<p><small>WENESDAY - FRIDAY</small> AUG 20-22 <small>BUSINESS SESSIONS & WORSHIP SERVICES</small></p>
<p>HOST CHURCH ST. JOHN'S A.M.E. CHURCH <small>807 Madison Avenue // Montgomery, Alabama 36104</small></p>		
<p><small>HOST PASTORS</small> The Reverend Roosevelt & The Reverend Shelia Williams</p>		<p><small>HOST PRESIDING ELDER</small> The Reverend Dr. Jacquelyn L. Densons</p>

NORTHWEST ALABAMA *Annual Conference*

<p><small>SATURDAY</small> SEPT 6 YPD <small>ANNUAL DAY</small></p>	<p><small>TUESDAY</small> SEPT 9 WMS <small>ANNUAL DAY</small></p>	<p><small>WENESDAY - FRIDAY</small> SEPT 10-12 <small>BUSINESS SESSIONS & WORSHIP SERVICES</small></p>
<p>HOST CHURCH BRYANT CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH <small>3125 Spaulding Street SW // Birmingham, Alabama 35221</small></p>		
<p><small>HOST PASTOR</small> The Reverend Damien Littlejohn</p>		<p><small>HOST PRESIDING ELDER</small> The Reverend Gloria A. Hall</p>

SOUTHEAST ALABAMA *Annual Conference*

<p><small>SATURDAY</small> SEPT 20 YPD <small>ANNUAL DAY</small></p>	<p><small>TUESDAY</small> SEPT 23 WMS <small>ANNUAL DAY</small></p>	<p><small>WENESDAY - FRIDAY</small> SEPT 24-26 <small>BUSINESS SESSIONS & WORSHIP SERVICES</small></p>
<p>HOST CHURCH ST. JOHN A.M.E. CHURCH <small>901 Dale Road // Eufaula, Alabama 36027</small></p>		
<p><small>HOST PASTOR</small> The Reverend Carlton Worthen</p>		<p><small>HOST PRESIDING ELDER</small> The Reverend Dr. Frederick D. Sherrod, III</p>

NORTHEAST ALABAMA *Annual Conference*

<p><small>SATURDAY</small> OCT 4 YPD <small>ANNUAL DAY</small></p>	<p><small>TUESDAY</small> OCT 7 WMS <small>ANNUAL DAY</small></p>	<p><small>WENESDAY - FRIDAY</small> OCT 8-10 <small>BUSINESS SESSIONS & WORSHIP SERVICES</small></p>
<p>HOST CHURCH SAINT LUKE A.M.E. CHURCH <small>1308 Auburn Street // Opelika, Alabama 36801</small></p>		
<p><small>HOST PASTOR</small> The Reverend AMonique Summers</p>		<p><small>HOST PRESIDING ELDER</small> The Reverend Raymond B. Swafford</p>

SOUTHWEST ALABAMA *Annual Conference*

<p><small>SATURDAY</small> OCT 18 YPD <small>ANNUAL DAY</small></p>	<p><small>TUESDAY</small> OCT 21 WMS <small>ANNUAL DAY</small></p>	<p><small>WENESDAY - FRIDAY</small> OCT 22-24 <small>BUSINESS SESSIONS & WORSHIP SERVICES</small></p>
<p>HOST CHURCH SAMUEL CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH <small>717 W Prichard Avenue // Prichard, Alabama 36104</small></p>		
<p><small>HOST PASTOR</small> The Reverend Vernon McLeod</p>		<p><small>HOST PRESIDING ELDER</small> The Reverend Charles Lewis</p>

Ninth Episcopal District **PLANNING MEETING**

THURSDAY - SATURDAY
NOV 20-22

VENUE
RENAISSANCE HOTEL
Montgomery, Alabama

WMS ANNUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:30 A.M. - 9:30 A.M.	The Pre-Registration/Registration and Breakfast
9:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.	The Moments of Devotion
10:00 A.M. - 10:10 A.M.	The Call to Order/Acceptance of Agenda/Establishment of Protocol
10:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.	The Tanner Turner Memorial Service
10:30 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.	The Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host WMS President Host YPD Director Host Pastor Host Presiding Elder
	The Greetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference WMS President Conference YPD Director
10:45 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.	The Business Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll Call (Episcopal, Super & President, Connectional, Episcopal & Conference Officers and Life Members) Transfers New Members Acceptance of Minutes (send out prior to Annual Conference) Financial Report (include in booklet) Life Membership Waiting List President's Report (written report in booklet) YPD Director's Report (written report in booklet) Registration Committee Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WMS, New Members, Transfers, Observers, Clergy Credential Committee Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WMS, New Members, Transfers Nominating Committee Report Election of Officers (Episcopal President) Installation of Officers (Supervisor)
11:45 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.	Compassionate Care Project (Pillow Ministry)
12:00 P.M. - 12:05 P.M.	Announcements and Recognition of Visitors
12:05 P.M. - 12:15 P.M.	The District Speaks
12:15 P.M. - 12:30 P.M.	Transition to Luncheon
12:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.	Recognition Luncheon
4:30 P.M.	Conference Roll Call (Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Jr.)
7:00 P.M.	The Worship Experience (Night in White) - Pinning of New Members



YPD ANNUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM Registration & Welcome Packet Distribution and Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM - Praise & Worship

- Prayer
- Worship through Dance/Song
- Meditation
 - YPDers

9:30 AM – Monique Gonzalez Memorial Service

9:45 AM - Greetings

- Host WMS President
- Host YPD Director
- Host YPD President
- Host Pastor
- Conference Director
- Conference YPD President

10:00 AM – Breakout Sessions (2.5hrs)

- Mother Sunbeams (2-6) -
- Allen Stars (7-12) –

10:10 AM - Business Session: Call to Order, Adoption of the Agenda, and Establishment of Protocol

- Roll Call (Connectional YPD Officers, Episcopal YPD President, Episcopal YPD Officers (*residing within the conference*), Area YPD Presidents, Conference YPD Officers)
- Reading of the Minutes – YPD Secretary
- Financial Report – YPD Treasurer
- Seating of Delegation (Ages: 13 – 25)
- Reading of Reports
 - Statistical Report
 - Registration Report
 - Credential Report
 - Nomination Report
- Election of Officers

Compassionate Care Project

YPD ANNUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE CONTINUED

11:10 AM - Break/Transition (10 minutes)

11:20 AM – Breakout Session

- **Youth Auxiliary** - *Conflict Resolution*
- **Young Adult** - *Financial Stewardship*
- **Observers** (WMS, Lay, Yams, RAYAC & Ministers)
 - Building a Bridge to the Young People's & Children's Division
 - YPD Outreach Projects with each division of the church

11:50 AM - Break/Transition (10 minutes)

12:00 Noon – Breakout Session

- **Youth Auxiliary** - *The Effects of social media, Cell phones, and gaming on the brain*
- **Young Adult** - *Coping Strategies: Protect Your Mental Health*
- **Observers** (WMS, Lay, Yams, RAYAC & Ministers)
 - Leadership Workshop: "Empowering Young Leaders"
 - Fundraisers (appointing a lead person)

12:30 PM - Snack Break / All YPDers Reconvene to General Body

12:40 PM – YPDers/Observer synopsis of Breakout Session

1:00 PM – Worship Service (Keynote Speaker)

- Opening Song/Hymn
- Prayer
- Scripture Reading
- Song
- Introduction of the Speaker
- Song/Hymn
- Speaker/Messenger
- Call to Discipleship
- Offering (\$10)
- Closing Remarks & Missionary Benediction

2:00 PM – Lunch

Please keep ALL of our
SICK and SHUT-IN
as well as our
BEREAVED FAMILIES



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