



MISSIONS FORWARD

www.9thepiscopaldistrictwms.org

The Official Newsletter of the 9th Episcopal District WMS
February 2026

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, my dear Missionaries,



To God be the glory for the great things He has done! As we enter the month of February, we joyfully celebrate Black History Month—a sacred time to reflect on our rich heritage, enduring faith, and powerful legacy as women of God and members of the Women's Missionary Society. Our history is a testament to resilience, service, and unwavering commitment to Christ and His Church.

I am incredibly proud to share that nearly 40 missionaries, presiding elders and pastors traveled together to Baltimore for the Connectional WMS Executive Board Meeting. What a marvelous experience it was! We were inspired by impactful reports, empowered through learning labs, enlightened by discussions on Black women leading in politics, and renewed through meaningful worship. Truly, it was a blessing to gather, learn, and grow together.

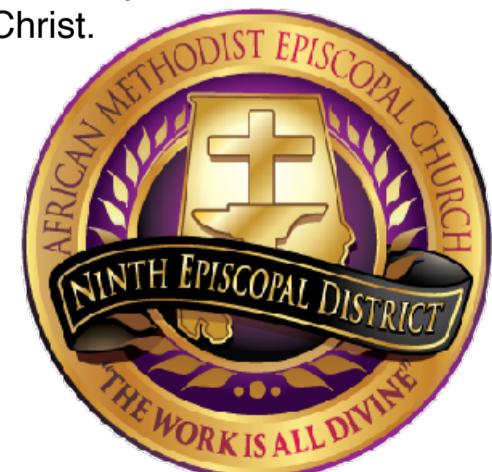
The Ninth Episcopal District remains busy and blessed! We convened our first in-person session of the DYM Leadership Institute in Montgomery on Saturday, February 7, 2026. This was an exciting and meaningful ministry experience, and I am so proud of the vision and commitment behind this work. We have over 30 strong in this inaugural class!

Additionally, our Episcopal District YPD Leadership Training Institute will take place on Saturday, February 28, 2026, at Gaines Chapel AME Church in Phenix City. Registration is available online, and I am eagerly looking forward to meeting our phenomenal young people there. We are prayerfully planning and preparing to receive them with excellence. Please note that our Episcopal District YPD T-shirts will be available for purchase, along with the first selection for our Ninth District Young Readers Book Club, "Sassy Meets the AME Church" by B. A. Johnson, a member of St. John AME Church in Huntsville. Each item is \$20.00.

As we continue to move missions forward, be encouraged—there is a place for each of you in the African Methodist Episcopal Church and in the Women's Missionary Society. Our rich history reminds us that our future is bright when we remain committed to seeking and becoming more like Christ.

With love and gratitude,

Your Supervisor of Missions





Dear Sisters of the Women's Missionary Society,

We thank God for each of you and for the continued faithfulness to the Women's Missionary Society as we move forward in love, service, and advocacy.

As we enter the month of February, we are mindful that this is Heart Health Month. We encourage everyone to take care of the bodies God has blessed us with, schedule those checkups, make healthy choices, and support one another in living well so we can continue to serve effectively.

We also want to lift up our young people! Please make plans to register and support the YPD LTI taking place on **February 28, 2026**, at Gaines Chapel AMEC in Phenix City. Let us show up strong and encourage leadership development, learning, and spiritual growth among our youth.

I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to extend sincere gratitude to the **Deana Young McAllister Leadership Institute** for their phenomenal first session. The excellence, preparation, and commitment demonstrated truly set the tone for impactful leadership development, and we are grateful for the vision and dedication poured into this important work.

Additionally, the Women's Missionary Society calls on everyone to register and attend Advocacy Day at the Capitol on **March 5, 2026**. This is a powerful opportunity for us to raise our voices for justice and equity, as we advocate specifically for Alzheimer's disease awareness, research, funding, and support for caregivers and families. We also strongly encourage each member to send the letter included in this newsletter to your legislator, which addresses Alzheimer's disease advocacy, as an important step in ensuring our voices are heard. Please **wear purple** as we stand united in faith and action.

Let us continue to pray, participate, and press forward together, serving Christ, empowering our communities, and strengthening our church.

Yours in Mission and Service,

Sherryl Whiting

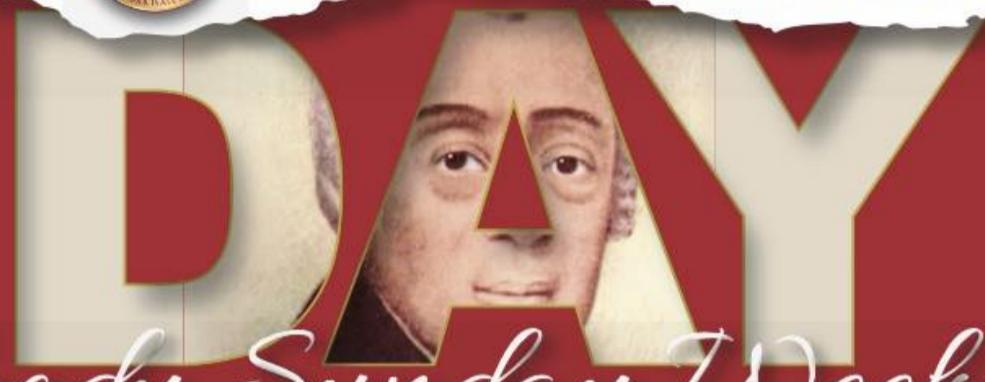
Sherryl Whiting, Episcopal WMS President

"The Work Is All Divine"

Always **M**oving forward with **E**xcellence!

Ninth Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church

FOUNDERS'



Bloody Sunday Weekend

FRIDAY
MARCH 6
SOCIAL JUSTICE
NIGHT

SATURDAY
MARCH 7
FOUNDERS' DAY
PROCLAIMER

SATURDAY
MARCH 7
SYMPOSIUM
LECTURER

SUNDAY
MARCH 8
BLOODY SUNDAY WORSHIP
SERVICE PROCLAIMER

6
PM

10
AM

1
PM

9
AM



DR. JAMAL H. BRYANT
BRYANT
New Birth Missionary Baptist
Church
Atlanta, Georgia



BISHOP FRANK M.
REID III
The 138th Elected and
Consecrated Bishop
African Methodist Episcopal
Church



DR. JOHN
THOMAS III
The Editor of the Christian
Recorder
African Methodist Episcopal
Church



BISHOP JULIUS H.
MCALLISTER, JR.
The 144th Elected and
Consecrated Bishop
African Methodist Episcopal
Church

Brown Chapel AME Church

410 Martin Luther King St
Selma, Alabama 36703

**Friday March 6th through
Sunday March 8th, 2026**

Reverend Dr. Leodis Strong, Host Pastor

Can be seen on the following:

Facebook: 9th Episcopal District AME Church

Website: Ninthdistrictamec.org

EPISCOPAL LEADERS

Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Jr. & Supervisor Deana Y. McAllister



February

2026

Heart Health Month

January						
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	31

March						
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	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	Commission on Administration Meeting 7p cst	5	6
8	9	10	11	Conference President's Meeting 7:30p cst	12	13
YPD Souper Bowl of Caring Offering						14
15	16	17	18	Conference YPD Director's Meeting/Ex Board 6p/7p cst	19	20
WMS Resource Orders Due	WMS Finance Meeting 7p cst	PME Dialogue	DYM LI Cohort Meeting Virtual 7:30 pm		AMEC Global Development Council Meeting Maputo, Mozambique	21
22	23	24	25		26	27
						28
						9th District YPD LTI Gaines Chapel, Phenix City 9:30am cst

B2B Virtual Tutoring
Every Tuesday
5:30p cst



Highlights from the Connectional Executive Board Meeting

Baltimore, Maryland

January 28-31, 2026



*Supervisor McAllister and President Whiting
Report on the work of the
9th Episcopal District*



*Dr. Monica Dillihunt reports as the
Connectional Historiographer-Statistician*



*Dr. D'juana Paden
led the Morning Glory as the
Connectional Worship Director and
Mrs. Rosemary Range
read the scripture and sang*

Look at ALABAMA!

Highlights Continued



*Dr. Sharon Massingale
representing the 3rd Vice-Presidents as they report*



*Mrs. Cheryl Sutton-Robinson
representing the PME Directors
as they report*

*Teamwork
Moves
Missions
Forward!*



*Mrs. Debra Weatherspoon
representing the YPD Directors
as they report*

Look at ALABAMA!

Highlights Continued



*Mrs. Rose Williams-Edwards
representing Missionaries on the Move
where \$100,000 was donated!*



*Mrs. Deana Young McAllister, our song bird representing as
OUR SUPERVISOR during the Supervisor's Breakfast*

Look at ALABAMA!

Highlights Continued



Our Conference Presidents being recognized during the President's Luncheon



Look at ALABAMA!



WMS STORE

Yes!

WE ARE

OPEN

Today

CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW TO PURCHASE YOUR ITEMS

Ninth District WMS Store

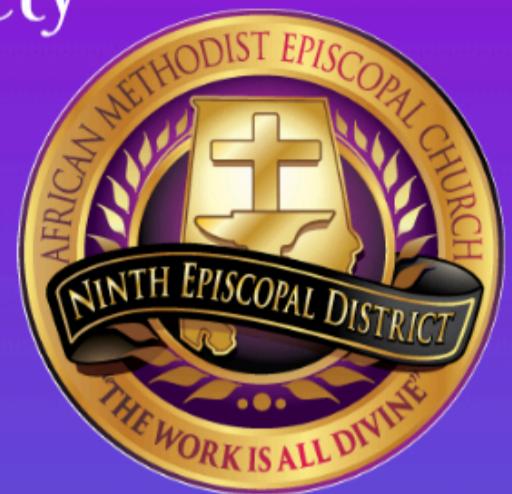


To order, go to 9thepiscopaldistrictwms.org click on the green banner at the top.

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

*Many of you are still saying that you want to order the **Sweater, Cardigan, 9th District Ensemble & Royal Blue Dress**. These items will be a part of our Quadrennial Attire. If you plan to attend Quadrennial or just want the items, the final deadline to place your order is **February 14, 2026.***

Ninth Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society



Advocacy Day at the Capitol Alzheimer's Disease March 5, 2026

Register to participate: <https://alz-al.quorum.us/event/29812/>.

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

Please go to the link above to register!

Let's meet our Legislators and advocate for Alzheimers.

Prior to our going, we want to send letters to let them know we are on our way. Please print the letter on the next page and send before March 5th or you can bring it with you!

WEAR PURPLE!

Ninth Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society

African Methodist Episcopal Church

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



Dear Honorable Members of Congress,

On behalf of the Women's Missionary Society of the Ninth Episcopal District, we write to urge your continued leadership and support in addressing Alzheimer's disease—a growing public health crisis that deeply impacts families, caregivers, and communities throughout the State of Alabama.

As a faith-based organization rooted in Christian service, education, and advocacy, the Women's Missionary Society has long been committed to uplifting vulnerable populations and supporting the health and dignity of individuals across the lifespan. Alzheimer's disease and related dementias touch nearly every congregation and community we serve, disproportionately affecting older adults, women, and communities of color.

Research is critical to advancing prevention strategies, improving early diagnosis, and developing effective treatments and, ultimately, a cure. Continued federal investment in Alzheimer's research is essential to better understand the disease, reduce health disparities, and improve quality of life for those living with dementia and their caregivers.

Education is equally vital. Families, faith communities, and healthcare providers need access to accurate information, training, and resources to recognize early warning signs, reduce stigma, and provide compassionate, informed care. Expanding educational initiatives empowers caregivers and strengthens community-based support systems that are often the first line of care.

Advocacy ensures that the voices of individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers are heard in policy decisions. Support for caregiver assistance programs, workforce development, and community-based services is necessary to reduce the emotional and financial burden placed on families and to ensure equitable access to care across urban and rural areas of Alabama.

We respectfully urge you to support legislation, funding, and policies that prioritize Alzheimer's disease research, education, and advocacy efforts. We stand ready to partner with you in raising awareness, sharing community perspectives, and supporting initiatives that promote dignity, compassion, and hope for all affected by this disease.

Thank you for your service and your commitment to the health and well-being of the people of Alabama. We pray for wisdom and guidance as we work together toward a future free from Alzheimer's disease.

Respectfully submitted,

Women's Missionary Society

Ninth Episcopal District

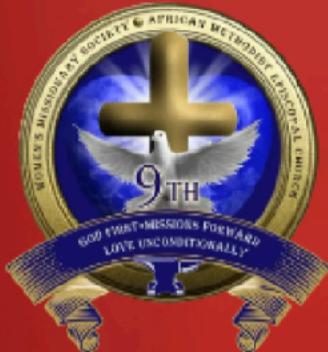
"In mission, education, and Christian service"

GOD FIRST~MISSIONS FORWARD~LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY
Lending A Hand ~ Lifting Others Up ~ Linking Communities

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each if you has received."

1 Peter 4:10 NRSV

Women's Missionary Society Ninth Episcopal District



WEAR RED FOR HEART HEALTH

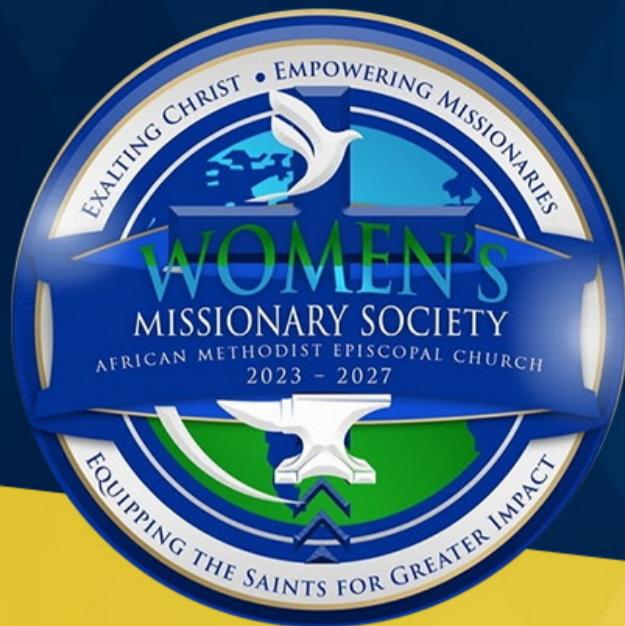
Roughly 60% of Black women (ages 20+) have cardiovascular disease.

CVD causes over 50,000 deaths annually in Black women and is a leading cause of maternal mortality.

Black women have the highest rates globally, with over 58% affected, yet only about 25% have controlled blood pressure.

Please email all pictures of your activities to 1stvp9@gmail.com

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



Building Bridges of Faith and Love **UNITE**

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 | 7pm



Sis. Joyce Tyus

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: 811 0011 2669
Passcode: PME**



9th
Episcopal
District

MONTHLY PME DIALOGUE **GREAT DISCUSSION & FELLOWSHIP** **PLEASE JOIN US!**

Time to Order

WMS

Curriculum Guide

Deadline: February 15, 2026

Cost: \$25

Please see your Conference WMS President

NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

Young People's & Children's Division
of the Women's Missionary Society

9TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE

Grow, Glow & Go for Christ

Gaines Chapel AME Church

911 Dillingham St,
Phenix City, AL 36867

**Saturday,
February 28, 2026**

10:00 AM

Online Registration
Ages
2-12 \$40
13 and up \$50

To Register go to <https://form.jotform.com/9thedwms/registration-form>



- ✓ Self-Denial Focus
- ✓ AI Training
- ✓ Food & Fun
- ✓ Award & Recognitions

9th Episcopal District Leadership Training Institute

AGENDA

February 28, 2026
Gaines Chapel AME Church
911 Dillingham St, Phenix City, AL 36867
(334) 408-1212

Theme: “Unlocked: Surrendered to Rise”

Scripture: “Present your bodies a living sacrifice holy, acceptable unto God, ... and be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.”
Romans 12:1-2 (KJV)

9:00 AM – 10:00AM Registration & Continental Breakfast

10:00 AM - Praise & Worship

10:20 AM – Monique Gonzalez Memorial Service

10:30 AM – Greetings

10:40 AM – Breakout Sessions (2hrs) (11:40 – 12:10 Break – Restroom & Snack Break

10:50 AM - Business Session: (YPD President Jamia Eaves)

12:20 – 1:20 – Observers/ Laity Workshop

12:20 AM – Break Out Session (Self-Denial Focus)

- Musical Expression
- Literary Expression
- Visual Art Expression
- YPD Cares Community Service Project
- Financial Workshop (Region Bank) – Tentative
- AI Artificial Intelligence (Executive Board)

1:20 p.m. – Break / Snacks

2:10 PM – Reconvene to General Body

3:00 PM – Lunch to Go!!





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!

The logo is circular with a blue border. Inside the border, the text "FURTHERING CHRISTIAN & EMPOWERING WOMENHOOD" is at the top and "WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY" is in the center. At the bottom, it says "MATERIAL MISSIONARIES & EDUCATIONAL AGENCY" and "2023-2024". The center of the logo features a white dove flying over a green field with a blue sky in the background.

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