

The Fifth Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church



140th SESSION
DESERT MOUNTAIN
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Reverend
Arnold Jackson**
Host
Mount Moriah - Maricopa

**Reverend
Sheriolyn Curry Hodge**
Presiding Elder
Mountain Valley District

**Rt. Reverend
Francine A. Brookins, Esq.**
Presiding Prelate
Fifth Episcopal District

**Reverend
Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MPH**
Episcopal Supervisor of Missions
Fifth Episcopal District

**Reverend
Benjamin Thomas, Sr., DMin**
Co-Host
Historic Tanner - Phoenix



**REVEREND
ARNOLD L. JACKSON**

DMAC Host Pastor

Mt. Moriah Community A.M.E. Church
Maricopa, AZ



**REVEREND
SHERIOLYN CURRY HODGE**

Presiding Elder

Mountain Valley District
Desert Mountain Conference



**REVEREND DR.
BENJAMIN N. THOMAS SR.**

DMAC Co-Host Pastor

Historic Tanner A.M.E. Church
Maricopa, AZ

A Welcome to the 140th Session of the Desert Mountain Annual Conference

*To the Right Reverend Francine A. Brookins, Esq., Presiding Prelate;
Supervisor, Reverend Miriam Burnett, MD, MPH;
our beloved Pastors, Delegates, Members, and Friends
of the 140th Session of the Desert Mountain Conference —*

Grace and peace to you in the matchless name of Jesus Christ!

It is with a heart full of joy that I welcome you to this 140th Session of our Desert Mountain Conference. We are twenty-one churches across five states, but we come together this week with one purpose — to lift up Jesus, so that the world might know a saving, liberating, reconciling God. That has always been our calling, and it remains the thread that ties every congregation in our district together, no matter the miles between us.

I want to pause, before we do anything else, to say thank you. Thank you to our pastors, who have shepherded their flocks with faithfulness through seasons both easy and hard. Thank you to our congregations, who have shown up — for worship, for service, for one another — and who have kept the doors of the church open as a light in their communities. Your witness has not gone unnoticed. In neighborhoods across five states, people know the AME Church by what you have done: the meals served, the prayers prayed over hospital beds, the children mentored, the families held together, the hope offered when there was little else to offer. That is faithful witness. That is community impact. And it is the fruit of ministries who have chosen, again and again, to say yes to God.



Over this past conference year, I have watched something beautiful take shape among us — a collaboration and camaraderie that I believe is a genuine work of the Holy Spirit. Pastors calling pastors just to check in. Churches partnering with churches on ministry initiatives bigger than any one of us could carry alone. A district that is beginning to feel less like twenty-one separate congregations and more like one family, pulling in the same direction, for the same King. That spirit of connection is sacred, and I pray we continue to nurture it long after this session ends.

None of what we have accomplished together would be possible without your faithful stewardship — of your time, your resources, and the sacred trust God has placed in your hands. You have managed what you've been given with integrity, and you have done it while somehow, by the grace of God, holding on to your joy. Ministry is not always easy. The demands are real, the seasons are long, and yet you have kept singing, kept serving, kept smiling through it all. That joy is a testimony in itself, and it is a gift to all of us who serve alongside you.

I also want to take a moment to honor the hands and hearts behind the scenes of this session. To our Host, Reverend Arnold Jackson and Co-Host, Reverend Dr. Benjamin Thomas, Sr.; to our Administrative Manager, Dr. Linda Garrett; to every Committee Chair; and to each volunteer who gave their time, their talent, and their days, evenings, and weekends to make this gathering possible — thank you. From the very first planning meeting to this moment, your posture has been the same: “No problem. How can I serve you?” That spirit of servanthood is rare, and it is precious. You did not seek recognition; you simply got to work, trusting that the details you handled quietly would become the moments the rest of us would remember. Every registration processed, every room prepared, every detail tended to with excellence — that was worship, offered in service to this Body. We see you, we honor you, and we thank God for you.

So as we gather for this 140th Session, my prayer is that you would find rest here, renewal here, and reconnection here — with God, with one another, and with the calling that first set your heart on fire for ministry. May this week strengthen you for the road ahead and remind you that you do not walk it alone.

On behalf of our DMAC Host and Co-Host, Reverend Arnold Jackson and Reverend Dr. Benjamin Thomas Sr., and on my own behalf as your Presiding Elder — welcome home. We are honored to serve alongside you, and we are believing God for a session marked by His presence, His power, and His glory.

With love and gratitude for each of you,

Reverend Sherielyn Curry Hodge

Presiding Elder, Mountain Valley District
Desert Mountain Conference | ***21 Churches. 5 States. 1 Purpose.***





Annual Conference Schedule August 25-29, 2026

8/25/26 | TUESDAY

2:00 p.m.WMS Registration, Credentialing, and Mission Project

8/26/26 | WEDNESDAY

7:15 a.m. Login for Virtual Participation

8:00 a.m. WMS Convention / WIM Convention

11:00 a.m. Bishop meets with:

Presiding Elder

Finance Committee

Board of Examiners

Pastors & Congregation Reps (*as needed*)

12:00 Noon WMS / WIM Lunch Break

2:00 p.m.WMS Convention | WIM Convention

2:00 p.m. Bishop meets with:

Pastors & Congregation Reps (*as needed*)

2:00 p.m. - 6 p.m.DMAC Registration

7:00 p.m. WMS Night in White

9:00 p.m.Committee and Component Meetings

8/27/26 | THURSDAY

6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. DMAC Breakfast

6:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.DMAC Registration

7:15 a.m. Login for Virtual Participation

8:30a.m. Devotion – Board of Examiners

9:00 a.m.Conference Institute – A.M.E Freedom Summer

10:00 a.m. Business Session I

Roll Call

Conference Organization

Election of Secretarial Staff

Election of Finance Committee



Election of Conference Trustees
Election of Judiciary Committee
Appoint Ministerial Efficiency Committee
Appointment of Marshals & Set the Conference Bar
Presiding Elder Summary Report
Board of Examiners Report
Pastor's Annual Reports (*Virtual and In-person*)

12:00 Noon Hour of Power – WIM in Charge

1:00 p.m. Lunch Break

2:30 p.m. Business Session II

Pastor's Annual Reports (*Continued*)

Conference Committee Reports

7:00 p.m. Opening Worship Service

8/28/26 | FRIDAY

6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. DMAC Breakfast

7:15 a.m. Login for Virtual Participation

8:30 a.m. Devotion – Mindful Movements (WMS & WIM)

9:00 a.m. Conference Institute – A.M.E. Freedom Summer | Part II

11:00 a.m. Business Session III

Unfinished Business

Disciplinary Questions

Retirement Liturgy

Memorials

12:00 Noon Conference Institute – I AM A.M.E. | Dr. Belin

2:00 p.m. Adjourn for Lunch

6:00 p.m. Lay Witness Night

8/29/26 | SATURDAY

7:15 a.m. Login for Virtual Participation

8:00 a.m. Church School/Bible Study

9:00 a.m. Closing Business Session

10:00 a.m. Closing Worship Service

Service of Word, Ordination, Holy Communion and Commissioning Service

12:00 Noon YPD Convention @ Historic Tanner



Information for Giving to the Desert Mountain Annual Conference

ZELLE: dmc-finance-com

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**Check: Make checks payable to:
Desert Mountain Conference**

Or Scan QR codes on screen or from image below

MISSION POSSIBLE

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Make checks payable to: Desert Mountain Conference

REIMAGINE
RELATIONSHIP
RENOVATE
REPAIR
REBUILD

The Fifth Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church

Desert Mountain Conference
Women's Missionary Society



NIGHT IN WHITE

Rise Up to a Justice Seeking Faith

Isaiah 1:17 | Judges 5:2-3; 7-9

Linda Annoyo
Desert Mountain Conference Women's Missionary Society President

**Reverend
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Desert Mountain Conference
Women's Missionary Society

NIGHT IN WHITE

Rise Up to a Justice Seeking Faith

Isaiah 1:17 | Judges 5:2-3; 7-9

Wednesday, August 26, 2026
@ 7pm

Presiding

Mrs. Brenda Cornick
Conference 1st Vice President



Processional.....WMS Leadership, Officers, and Members

Rev. Miriam Burnett, MD, MPH, *Supervisor of Missions*

Mrs. Charlotte Ned, *Episcopal WMS President*

Mrs. Linda Arroyo, *Conference WMS President*

Connectional, District, & Conference Officers, Life Members, Missionaries

Welcome | The Occasion | Musical SelectionMrs. Brenda Cornick | *Conference 1st Vice President*

Invocation.....Cheryl Franklin | *Worship Director*

Choral ResponseTanner Ensemble

ScriptureCynthia Utsey | *Recording Secretary*

Choral SelectionTanner Ensemble

New Members Pinning | Cleo B. Love and YAMS

OfferingZerrie Waters | *Treasurer*

Choral SelectionTanner Ensemble

Introduction of the Preacher.....Rev. Angela Miller

Choral SelectionTanner Ensemble

Preached WordRev. Chief Jeri Williams
Associate Minister | Historic Tanner A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ



Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Announcements **DMAC Host & Co-Host**

Rev. Arnold Jackson | *DMAC Host Pastor*
Pastor | Mt. Moriah Community A.M.E. Church | Maricopa, AZ

Rev. Dr. Benjamin N. Thomas Sr. | *DMAC Co-Host Pastor*
Pastor | Historic Tanner A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ

Closing Remarks

Mrs. Linda Arroyo | *Conference WMS President*
Mrs. Charlotte Ned | *Episcopal WMS President*
Rev. Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MPH | *Episcopal Supervisor of Missions*
Bishop Francine A. Brookins, Esq. | *Presiding Prelate*

Missionary Benediction

***“In the name of the Triune God,
may the spirit of Christian Missions enter every heart,
this we ask in Jesus’ name.”
Amen.***





I Am on the Battlefield for My Lord

Hymn 390

Refrain

**I am on the battlefield for my Lord,
I'm on the battlefield for my Lord;
And I promised Him that I would serve Him until I die,
I'm on the battlefield for my Lord.**

I was alone and idle, I was a sinner, too;
I heard a voice from heaven say there is work to do.
I took the Master's hand, and I joined the Christian band;
I'm on the battlefield for my Lord.

Refrain

I left my friends and kindred, bound for the Promised Land,
the grace of God upon me, the Bible in my hand.
In distant lands I trod, crying sinner come to God;
I'm on the battlefield for my Lord.

Refrain

Now when I met my Savior, I met Him with a smile;
He healed my wounded spirit, and owned me as His child.
Around the throne of grace, he appoints my soul a place.
I am on the battlefield for my Lord.

Refrain



The Fifth Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church

**Desert Mountain Conference
Women In Ministry**



HOUR of POWER

**Reverend
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**Reverend
Benjamin Thomas, Sr., DMin**
Co-Host
Historic Tanner - Phoenix



Desert Mountain Conference
Women In Ministry

HOUR OF POWER

Thursday, August 27, 2026
@ 12noon

Presiding

Rev. Angela Miller
Historic Tanner A.M.E. Church



Call to Worship.....**Rev. Tonya Taylor** | *Pastor | Harbert Chapel A.M.E. Church | Flagstaff, AZ*
Prayer **Rev. TaRachel B. Goodman** | *5th District 3rd Vice-President*
Scripture **Rev. Dr. Juanita Allen** | *Mt. Moriah Community A.M.E. Church | Maricopa, AZ*
Musical Selection **Desert Mountain Conference Choir**
Offering **DMAC Finance Committee**
Introduction of the Preacher.....**Rev. Angela Miller** | *Historic Tanner A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ*
Sermonic Selection **Desert Mountain Conference Choir**
Sermon..... **Rev. Towanda Connelly** | *Pastor | Wesley United Methodist Church | Phoenix, AZ*
Invitation to Christian Discipleship **Rev. Dr. Geleta Smith** | *5th District WIM 1st Vice-President*
Remarks.....

Rev. Sherielyn Curry-Hodge | *Presiding Elder | Mountain Valley District | Desert Mountain Conference*

Rev. Dr. Karen Anderson | *5th Episcopal District WIM President*
Presiding Elder | Bay Valley District | California Conference

Bishop Francie A. Brookins, Esq. | *Presiding Prelate | 5th Episcopal District | A.M.E. Church*

Benediction **Rev. Sharon Avril** | *Pastor | Owen Chapel A.M.E. Church | Alamogordo, NM*



Women In Ministry Preacher

Rev. Towanda N. T. Connelly

Pastor

*Wesley United Methodist Church
Phoenix, AZ*

Rev. Towanda is a native of Philadelphia and believes in enthusiastically preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ by encouraging people's hearts and igniting a fire-filled passion for serving Christ. Her favorite scripture comes from Nehemiah 8:10. When the people were down, the prophet Ezra reminded them, "The JOY of the Lord is your strength."

Towanda is the Senior Pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church in Phoenix, Arizona's only historically African American United Methodist congregation. She also serves as the Chaplain for the United Methodist Black Clergy Women, providing spiritual leadership, encouragement, and pastoral care to clergywomen across the connection. In both roles, she is committed to fostering spiritual growth, authentic community, and transformational leadership rooted in the love of Jesus Christ.

In 2021, Towanda retired from an almost three-decade career in social work as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Her career spanned foster care, forensics, and school social work, prompting her to obtain additional Home and School Visitor certification. Throughout her professional journey, God placed Towanda in various settings where she ministered to the brokenhearted, impacting lives with the love of God while addressing practical needs. That same year, 2021, Towanda entered full-time ministry.

In addition to her pastoral leadership, Rev. Towanda has been instrumental in the expansion and growth of the Wesley Resiliency Center at Wesley United Methodist Church. The Center serves as a beacon of hope and a hub for healing, offering vital services such as cooling during Arizona's extreme heat, support for unhoused neighbors, emergency response coordination, and partnerships with local organizations. Grounded in the belief that ministry must address the whole person—body, mind, and spirit—the Wesley Resiliency Center embodies Towanda's heart for justice, compassion, and community transformation. It is a living expression of the church's vision: **Love in Action. Faith in Community.**



Towanda's belief in the boundless reach of God's Word is unwavering. She completed a dual-degree program, earning a Master of Social Work from Widener University and a Master of Divinity from Palmer Theological Seminary. Her Bachelor of Social Work from Eastern University laid the foundation for her professional career. Her commitment to spreading God's Word led her to spend a year in Oakland, California, as an urban missionary with the Mission Year program, a testament to her belief in the limitless potential of faith.

Towanda N.T. Connelly's life is a testament to the power of the Holy Spirit. She lives by example, encouraging others to realize their full potential in Jesus Christ. Her unique approach to ministry inspires people to discover and walk boldly in their God-given purpose. Her more than two decades of teaching, mentoring, counseling, and preaching are infused with humor, warmth, transparency, strength, and deep faith in God, serving as a beacon of hope for many.

She previously served as the youth pastor of First Korean Baptist Church of Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, where she encouraged young people in the Word of the Lord. She also served for nearly a decade as a youth minister at New Covenant Church of Philadelphia. While at New Covenant, Towanda actively participated in the Ministry of the Arts, ministering through tambourine and percussion. She has also served in pastoral capacities at New Vision United Methodist Church, St. Daniel's United Methodist Church, Emmanuel United Methodist Church, and Morrisville United Methodist Church. God continues to use her to bring people together, developing, restoring, and cultivating relationships through love for the glory of God.

Towanda is a joyful and active participant in the advancement and development of people in God's name. She considers it both a privilege and an indescribable joy to serve the local church and the wider body of Christ through witness, service, leadership, and advocacy. Whether serving a local congregation, leading community initiatives, or supporting clergywomen in her chaplaincy role, she remains committed to embodying Christ's love and justice. Towanda's mantra, inspired by Maya Angelou, reflects her ministry philosophy: "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."

Faithful in all things of God, she married the incredible Mr. Lawton Connelly Jr. in 2017 and, in 2018, moved to Arizona to be with him, where he operates his law practice. Both natives of Philadelphia met in their youth, reconnected in maturity, and married. They are grateful for God's provision, which has strengthened their relationship through itinerant appointments and purposeful seasons of living apart. With frequent visits, shared adventures, and travels around the world, their love continues to deepen as they joyfully live together under the same roof for "a couple of forevers." Hallelujah!

Towanda finds confidence and strength in the scriptures, particularly **Philippians 1:6**:

"Being confident of this very thing, that
He who has begun a good work in you will
complete it until the day of Jesus Christ."

PERIOD!



The Fifth Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church

140th SESSION

of the
Desert Mountain Annual Conference



OPENING

WORSHIP SERVICE

**Reverend
Arnold Jackson**
Host
Mount Moriah - Maricopa

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**Reverend
Benjamin Thomas, Sr., DMin**
Co-Host
Historic Tanner - Phoenix



140th Session of the Desert Mountain Annual Conference

OPENING WORSHIP SERVICE

*Thursday, August 27, 2026
@ 7pm*

Worship Leader

The Reverend Allison Cannady-Smith
Shorter Community A.M.E. Church | Denver, CO

Music Director

Shaylan Richardson

The Prelude

The Processional

Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymn 25

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty;
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty;
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!



The Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**The Call to Worship The Reverend Michael Permillion | *Pastor
Campbell Chapel A.M.E. Church | Denver, CO***

Leader: People of God, we gather to worship the One who says: “I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.”

People: Lord, open our eyes to you and to our neighbors. We believe the mission is possible.

Leader: Our churches stand in the middle of neighborhoods you love. Yet, we confess that we often
feel afraid of our neighbors, unsure of their stories and unsure of ourselves.

People: Lord, open our eyes to you and to our neighbors. We believe the mission is possible.

Leader: The needs around us feel too big; the brokenness feels too deep.
We feel too small, too tired, too powerless to make a difference.

People: Lord, open our eyes to you and to our neighbors. We believe the mission is possible.

Leader: But you, O God, are greater than our fear. You are already at work
on our streets, in our schools, in our homes, and in every heart.

People: Lord, open our eyes to you and to our neighbors. We believe the mission is possible.

Leader: Jesus, you promised that when we care for “the least of these,” we meet you face to face.
As we worship, teach us to trust your power more than our fear.

ALL: Lord, open our eyes to you and to our neighbors. We believe the mission is possible. Amen.

**Opening Hymn.....The Reverend Sharon Avril | *Pastor
Owen Chapel A.M.E. Church | Alamogordo, NM***

Are We Yet Alive

Hymn 304

And are we yet alive, and see each other’s face?
Glory and thanks to Jesus give for His almighty grace.

Preserved by power divine to full salvation here,
again in Jesus’ praise we join, and in His sight appear.





What troubles have we seen, what mighty conflicts past,
fightings without, and fears within, since we assembled last!

But out of all the Lord hath brought us by His love;
and still He doth His help afford, and hides our life above.

The Invocation **The Reverend Margaret Graham** | *Pastor*
First A.M.E. Church | Pueblo, CO

The Choral Response

Ministry in Music **Desert Mountain Conference Choir**

Scripture Readings

Old Testament **The Reverend Eric Taylor** | *Pastor*
Murph Community A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ

The Epistle **The Reverend Dr. Hilton McClendon** | *Pastor*
Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church | Cheyenne, WY

The Gospel **The Reverend Dr. Geleta Smith** | *Pastor*
The Word of God A.M.E. Church | Rio Rancho, NM

Summary of the Decalogue **The Reverend LeSean Tarkington** | *Pastor*
Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ

From All That Dwells

From all that dwells below the skies,
Let thy creator's praise arise,
Let thy redeemer's name be sung,
Through every land by every tongue.

Minister: He said to them, you shall love the Lord thy God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind.
This is the greatest and first commandment.
And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Ministry in Dance **Bro. Martel Rudd & Desert Mountain Conference Praise Dancers**





Benevolent Offering **DMAC Finance Committee**

Welcome & Presentations **Sis. Amira Levingston & Shnelle Stewart**
Mt. Moriah Community A.M.E. Church | Maricopa, AZ
Historic Tanner A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ

Ministry in Music **Desert Mountain Conference Choir**

Offering **DMAC Finance Committee**

The Offertory Response
All Things Come of Thee

All things come of Thee, O Lord;
And of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

Introduction of the Bishop **The Reverend Sheriolyn Curry-Hodge | Presiding Elder**
Mountain Valley District | Desert Mountain Conference

Introduction of the Preacher **The Right Reverend Francine A. Brookins, Esq. | Presiding Prelate**
5th Episcopal District | A.M.E. Church

The Sermonic Selection **Desert Mountain Conference Choir**

The Annual Sermon **The Reverend Arnold L. Jackson | Pastor**
Mt. Moriah Community A.M.E. Church | Maricopa, AZ

Invitation to Christian Discipleship **The Reverend Daryell Jackson | Pastor**
Historic Trinity A.M.E. Church | Salt Lake City, UT

Announcements **Mt. Moriah Community A.M.E. Church | Host Church**

The Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Benediction **The Reverend Arnold L. Jackson | Pastor**
Mt. Moriah Community A.M.E. Church | Maricopa, AZ





The Annual Sermon Preacher

Rev. Arnold L. Jackson

Pastor

*Mt. Moriah Community A.M.E. Church
Maricopa, AZ*

In all circumstances, Rev. Jackson places his faith and trust in God by humbly following the wisdom provided in Proverbs 3:5-6:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and he shall direct your paths.”

On October 30, 2012, the path led to Maricopa, AZ in order to pastor Mt. Moriah Community African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church in worship rental sites. Since that time, the Lord has allowed Mt. Moriah to purchase 1.25 acres of undeveloped land, build a Phase 1 sanctuary that was dedicated and occupied on January 25, 2020 and paid off during December 2024. Phase 2 architectural plans have been developed and approved for a multi-purpose church school/fellowship hall, kitchen, office, and expansion to the sanctuary. Additionally, God opened a path to municipal government where Rev. Jackson, until 2019, coordinated the City of Maricopa Age-Friendly initiative, one of nine pilots in the state of Arizona designated to connect people 60 years plus with people of all ages.

Just before coming to Mt. Moriah, Rev. Jackson served as an Associate Minister at Historic Tanner Chapel A.M.E. Church and Tanner Community Development Corporation | TCDC, a Phoenix faith-based 501 (c) (3) nonprofit, outreach ministry. He served as the Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of TCDC for thirteen years. Prior to helping build TCDC, Rev. Jackson spent 27 years with Honeywell International, an advanced technology and manufacturing company where he served in a number of capacities including sales, service, marketing, business development, national and vice president/general management.

In addition to serving as a pastor and associate minister, Rev. Jackson has served in men's ministries, on steward boards, trustee boards and building committee assignments throughout several cities, including Phoenix, AZ, Cleveland, OH, Minneapolis, MN and Toledo, OH. Jackson currently serves as a member of the Board of Examiners, Board of Trustees, and Ministerial Efficiency Committee - Desert Mountain Annual





Conference; and a member of the Advisory Council of Pinal-Gila Council for Senior Citizens, Area Agency on Aging, Region V. He's also a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. As a committed builder and servant leader, Rev. Jackson's paths of religion, government, community and corporate business have converged into a unique blend of service for God.

Rev. Jackson has completed executive development programs with both Harvard Business School and the University of Southern California. He also earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Toledo and a Master of Divinity degree from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Rev. Jackson and his loving wife Dr. Marilyn Jackson are blessed with a blended family of five children and seven grandchildren.





Desert Mountain Conference
Ministry of Dance Director
Martel Rudd
Founder
Young Creative Association

Martel Rudd is a professional performing artist, entrepreneur, and community advocate whose journey from the West Suburbs of Chicago to the stages of Las Vegas is a testament to faith, perseverance, and purpose. A lifelong lover of dance, Rudd discovered his passion early but was steered toward sports growing up. It was not until he enrolled at Southern Illinois University Carbondale — where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Radio-Television in 2012 — that he found his creative home as a member of the dance team Fatal Fusion, eventually serving as both captain and vice president.

Though he began his career pursuing broadcasting, Rudd's heart remained set on performing. In 2015, he left a corporate job in Chicago and drove to Los Angeles with nothing but his belongings and a couch to sleep on. Seven years of auditions, rejections, and hard-won

opportunities followed, sustained by full-time work as a property manager and an unshakable belief in his calling.

In April 2022, that perseverance led to Rudd's breakthrough: joining the original cast of *Awakening* at Wynn Resorts in Las Vegas as a full-time performing artist. There, he has had the privilege of creating alongside industry icons such as Mandy Moore, Michael Curry, Phillip Chbeeb, Nolan Padilla, and Konkrete, and performing alongside some of the industry's most gifted talent.

Beyond the stage, Rudd is a licensed California realtor and the Founder of the Young Creatives Association, a nonprofit dedicated to empowering young people with creative talent through mentorship, resources, and hands-on programming — including three completed creative programs in partnership with Best Buy Teen Tech Centers.

Today, Martel Rudd stands as a living example of what faith and relentless pursuit of purpose can accomplish — a performing artist, entrepreneur, and mentor investing in the next generation of creatives.

The Fifth Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church

Desert Mountain Conference
Lay Organization



LAY WITNESS NIGHT

Joyful Witness, Holy Humor, Humble Hearts

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Host
Mount Moriah - Maricopa

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Fifth Episcopal District

**Reverend
Benjamin Thomas, Sr., DMin**
Co-Host
Historic Tanner - Phoenix



AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
140th Annual Session • Desert Mountain Annual Conference
Fifth Episcopal District



32nd Session of the Desert Mountain Annual Conference Lay Organization
LAY WITNESS NIGHT

“Joyful Witness • Holy Humor • Humble Hearts”

Friday, August 28, 2026 • 6:00 PM
Marriott Phoenix Chandler • Chandler, Arizona

“A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.” — Proverbs 17:22
“Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing.” — Psalm 126:2

ORDER OF PROGRAM

Songs of Praise - Layman Hymn	Desert Mountain Conference Choir
Prayer	Sister Jessica Dudley, Greater Bethel, Lay Organization Secretary
Welcome & Occasion	Sister Mae Fields, Mt. Moriah and Sister Vicki Thomas, Mt. Moriah Lay Organization Treasurer
Song of Joy	Desert Mountain Conference Choir
Holy Humor	Ms. Dazareen McRoberts, Comedienne
Offering	DMAC Finance Committee and Brother DeMon Carey, DMACLO Treasurer
Introduction of the Messenger	Sister Joann Thompson, DMACLO President
Song of Inspiration	Desert Mountain Conference Choir
The Word	Brother Wendell Callaway, 5 th Episcopal District Lay Organization 1 st Vice President
Invitation to Christian Discipleship	Rev. TaRachel Goodman, Sierra Vista Community Church
Song of Celebration	Desert Mountain Conference Choir
Closing Remarks	Sister Joann Thompson, DMACLO President Pastor Arnold Jackson, Host Pastor – Mt. Moriah Community Dr. Benjamin N. Thomas Sr., Co-Host Pastor – Historic Tanner Presiding Elder Sherielyn Curry-Hodge, Mountain Valley District – Desert Mountain Conference Rt. Reverend Francine Brookins. Esq., 5 th Episcopal District Presiding Prelate
Lay Benediction	<i>May God bless us with the true spirit of Christianity. That we may live together, not as man over man, but as lay persons working with God</i>

WE LAUGH because God has brought us through. • **WE SING** because God has given us joy.
WE PRAISE because God has been good. • **WE WITNESS** so others may know the source of our joy.

The Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

Lay Witness Night Speaker

Wendell Callaway

1st Vice President

5th Episcopal District Lay Organization

Wendell Callaway is a dedicated member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church whose commitment to faith, leadership, service, and community engagement is reflected through his involvement at both the local and connectional levels.

Wendell currently serves at Historic Tanner A.M.E. Church, where he is a Steward, a member of the Finance Committee, and an active member of the Tanner Local Lay Organization. His service extends beyond the local church as First Vice President of the Fifth District Lay Organization. He is also a member of the Sons of Allen and serves on the Constitution and By-Laws Committee.



Prior to joining Historic Tanner Chapel, Wendell was an active member of Shorter Community A.M.E. Church in Denver, Colorado, where he served as President and First Vice President of the Lay Organization and as a member of the Steward Board.

In addition to his ministry and leadership service, Wendell is the host of Blue Table Talk, a platform created to encourage meaningful conversations surrounding faith, leadership, community, and issues that impact everyday life.

Wendell earned an Associate Degree in Mass Communications, with an emphasis in Radio and Broadcast Television, from Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri.

He is happily married to Alletta Callaway. Together, they are the proud parents of two children, Wendell IV and Tira, and grandparents to five grandchildren: Akua, Yemenja, Metzili, C'Ameron, and Jazmine.

In his leisure time, Wendell enjoys hiking, exercising, traveling, and golfing. His life and service reflect a continuing commitment to faith, family, leadership, and strengthening the communities he is privileged to serve.

The Fifth Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church

140th SESSION

of the
Desert Mountain Annual Conference



CLOSING

WORSHIP SERVICE

Service of Word, Ordination
Holy Communion & Commissioning

**Reverend
Arnold Jackson**
Host
Mount Moriah - Maricopa

**Reverend
Sheriolyn Curry Hodge**
Presiding Elder
Mountain Valley District

**Rt. Reverend
Francine A. Brookins, Esq.**
Presiding Prelate
Fifth Episcopal District

**Reverend
Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MPH**
Episcopal Supervisor of Missions
Fifth Episcopal District

**Reverend
Benjamin Thomas, Sr., DMin**
Co-Host
Historic Tanner - Phoenix



140th Session of the Desert Mountain Annual Conference

CLOSING WORSHIP SERVICE
Service of Word, Ordination, Holy Communion
and Commissioning Service

Saturday, August 29, 2026
@ 10am

Worship Leader

The Reverend Dr. Benjamin N. Thomas Sr.
Pastor | Historic Tanner A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ

Music Director

Shaylan Richardson

The Processional

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
Hymn 4

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall:
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all;
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go spread your trophies at His feet,
And crown Him Lord of all;
Go spread your trophies at His feet,
And crown Him Lord or all.



Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown him Lord of all;
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all;
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all.
A-men.

The Call to Worship **The Reverend Charles Wright** | *Pastor*
Payne Chapel A.M.E. Church | Colorado Springs, CO

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!

People: We lift every voice and sing for justice, hope, and liberation!

Leader: Let us worship the God of the oppressed — in spirit and in truth — the One who journeys with the weary, strengthens the struggling, and blesses the work of liberation.

People: With faith and hope, we are sent out to serve, to seek justice,
and to build a world rooted in God's love.

Leader: Not by might, nor by power, but by God's spirit.

ALL: Here we are to worship, here we are to let God's praises ring!

Opening Hymn **The Reverend Dr. Vada Southern** | *Pastor*
Embry Chapel A.M.E. Church | Ogden, UT

How to Reach the Masses
Hymn 221

How to reach the masses, those of every birth,
For an answer Jesus gave the key;
"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth,
Will draw all men unto Me."





Refrain:
Lift Him up, Lift Him up,
Still He speaks from eternity:
“And I, if I be lifted up from the earth,
Will draw all men unto Me.”

Oh! the world is hungry for the Living Bread,
Lift the Savior up for them to see;
Trust Him and do not doubt the words that He said,
“I’ll draw all men unto Me.” **[Refrain]**

Don’t exalt the preacher, don’t exalt the pew,
Preach the gospel simple full and free;
Prove Him and you will find that promise is true,
“I’ll draw all men unto Me.” **[Refrain]**

Lift Him up by living as a Christian ought,
Let the world in you the Savior see;
Then all will gladly follow Him who once taught,
“I’ll draw all men unto Me.” **[Refrain]**

The Invocation **The Reverend William Cornick** | *Pastor*
Grant Chapel A.M.E. Church | Albuquerque, NM

The Prayer Response

The General Confession

Minister: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God

People: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all people, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness which we from time to time most grievously have committed by thought, word and deed against Your divine Majesty, provoking most justly Your wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father for Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ’s sake; forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Declaration of Pardon

Minister: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Who of Your great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who turn to You with true repentance and sincere faith; have mercy upon us. Pardon and deliver us from all our sins. Confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.





The Collect **The Reverend Dr. Benjamin N. Thomas Sr. | Pastor**
Historic Tanner A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ

For Elders: Almighty God, giver of all good things, who by the Holy Spirit has appointed diverse orders of ministers in thy church, mercifully behold thy servants now called to the office of Elder(s) and replenish them with the innocent life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this office to the glory of thy name and the edification of thy church, through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle **Dominic Hill | YPD**
Prince Chapel A.M.E. Church | Tucson, AZ

For Elders
Ephesians 4:7-13

But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore, it is said, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.” (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.). And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the equipment of the saints, for the work of ministry, for the building up the body of Christ, until we attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of fullness of Christ.

The Gospel **The Reverend Gerald P. Richard II, Esq. | Pastor**
Prince Chapel A.M.E. Church | Tucson, AZ

For Elders
John 10:1-16

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he





is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

Summary of the Decalogue **The Reverend Brenda Hector** | *Pastor
Jordan Chapel A.M.E. Church | Denver, CO*

From All That Dwells

From all that dwells below the skies,
Let thy creator’s praise arise,
Let thy redeemer’s name be sung,
Through every land by every tongue.

Minister: He said to them, you shall love the Lord thy God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind.
This is the greatest and first commandment.
And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

YPD Offering **DMAC Finance Committee**

Ministry of Music..... **YPD Annual Conference Choir**

Giving as Worship..... **DMAC Finance Committee**

The Presentation of the Bishop **The Reverend Allison Cannady-Smith** | *Pastor
Shorter Community A.M.E. Church | Denver, CO*

The Presentation of the Preacher **The Right Reverend Francine A. Brookins, Esq.** | *Presiding Prelate
5th Episcopal District*

The Sermonic Selection **Desert Mountain Conference Choir**

The Preached Word..... **The Reverend Dr. Roderick Belin** | *A.M.E. Church General Officer
President | Publisher AME Sunday School Union*

Invitation to Christian Discipleship **The Reverend Corey Moore** | *Pastor
Holy Trinity Community A.M.E. Church | Mesa, AZ*





The Consecration of Deaconesses

- Elder:** Reverend Mother in God, I present these holy women to be consecrated Deaconesses.
- Bishop:** Take heed that these women you present be proper persons to perform the work of a Deaconess, and that they be of sober minds, modest in all their ways and possessed of large charity.
- Elder:** They have been examined and are believed to be well qualified to enter upon the sacred duties of Deaconesses.
- Bishop:** It becometh the Deaconess that she shall be pious, chaste, temperate in all things, modest, humble, industrious. and devout, as she is to serve the Church of God and to His praise and glory. Throughout the history of the Church, God has been pleased to call and qualify certain women for the gentle and holy service of ministering to the Church and the ministry. Such women were Deborah, Mary, the Holy Mother, Eunice, Lois, Priscilla, Lydia, and Phoebe. And in the latter days He has been pleased to own and bless the labors of Sister Sarah Gorham and many others. May the Lord bless and acknowledge these persons according as He has blessed the ministration of all holy women. May they withdraw themselves from all worldly cares and vocations and give themselves up entirely to the ministrations of the Church and to suffering humanity.

Then shall the Bishop inquire of the candidates(s) as follows:

- Bishop:** Have you duly considered the sacredness, the exactions and responsibilities of the office which you have come to enter?
- Answer:** I have considered them all.
- Bishop:** Are you determined to observe all the rules for a Deaconess, give yourself up to such life and duties as these rules require, and keep yourself unspotted from the world, and all its vanities and frivolities?
- Answer:** I am so determined.
- Bishop:** Will you be governed by the Discipline of the A.M.E. Church and subject to the direction given in the discharge of the duties of your office?
- Answer:** I will be so governed.

Then shall the person(s) to be consecrated kneel The Bishop, taking each candidate by the hand, shall shall say to her:

- Bishop:** Be thou consecrated to the office and work of a Deaconess in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Then shall the Sponsor place the bonnet on head of candidate.





The Presentation of Elders

- Elder:** Reverend Mother in God, I present unto you this person/these persons to be ordained Elder(s).
- Bishop:** Take heed that the person who you present unto us be apt and meet, by their godly conversation, to exercise their ministry duly to the honor of God and the edifying of the church.
- Elder:** I have inquired concerning them, and also examined them, and think them so to be.
- Bishop:** Members of the conference, these are they whom we propose, God willing, this day to ordain Elders, for after due examination we find not the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if there be any of you who know any impediment or crime in any of them for the which he ought not be received into this holy ministry let him come forth in the name of God and show what the crime and impediment is.

The Ordination of Elders

- Bishop:** And you have heard, Brethren, of what dignity and how great importance this office is where unto are called. And now, again, we exhort you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you remember into how weighty an office you are called: that is, to be messengers, watchers of the flock, and stewards of the Lord; to teach and to admonish to feed and provide for the Lord's family, to see for Christ's sheep that are dispersed abroad and for his children who are in the midst of this evil world, that they may be saved through Christ forever.

Always remember how great a treasure is committed to your charge. For they are the sheep of Christ which he bought with his death, and for whom he shed his blood. The church and congregation whom you must serve is his spouse, and his body. If it should happen that the congregation, or any member thereof, is hurt or hindered by reason of your negligence, you know the greatness of the fault of the punishment that will ensue. Now therefore, consider the end of the ministry toward the children of God, toward spouse and body of Christ, and see what you never cease your labor, care and diligence until you have done all that you are able to do, for all that are committed to your charge unto that agreement in faith, and to that ripeness and perfectness of age in Christ, that there may be no place left among you either for error in religion, or for viciousness, in life. You cannot accomplish the doing of so weighty a work concerning the salvation of God's people with doctrine and exhortation taken out of the holy scripture, and with a life agreeable to the same, without the spiritual foundation which comes through the reading and study of the scripture, and the framing of your life and the lives of those who especially pertain to you, according to the rules of the same scriptures. For this reason, you must forsake all and set aside as much as you can all wordly care and studies.

We hope that you have weighed and pondered these things with yourselves long before this time, and that you have clearly determined by God's grace to give ourselves to this office whereby it has pleased God to call you, so that as much as lieth in you, you will apply yourselves wholly to this one thing and draw all your cares and studies this way, and that you will continually pray to God the Father by the meditation of our Savior Jesus Christ, for the heavenly assistance of the Holy Ghost, that by daily reading





and weighing of the scriptures you may wax riper and stronger in your ministry, and that you may so endeavor yourselves, from time to time to satisfy the lives of you and yours to fashion them after the rule and doctrine of Christ that you may be wholesome and godly examples and patterns of the people to follow. And now that this present congregation of Christ here assembled may also understand your minds and wills in these things, and that your promise may the more move you to do your duties, you shall answer plainly to these things which we, in the name of God and his church, shall demand of you, touching the same.

Do you think in your heart that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the Order of Elder?

Answer: I do so believe.

Bishop: Are you persuaded that the holy scriptures contain sufficiently all doctrines required of necessity for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? Are you determined out of the said scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach nothing, as required of necessity to salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by scripture?

Answer: I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: Will you be diligent in prayer and in reading of the holy scriptures, and in such studies as help to the knowledge of the same, laying aside the study of the world and the flesh?

Answer: I will endeavor to do so, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: Will you be diligent to frame and fashion yourselves and your families according to the doctrine of Christ and to make both yourselves and them, as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

Answer: I shall apply myself thereto, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: Will you maintain and set forth, as much as lieth in you, sweetness, peace, and love among all Christian people, and especially among them that are or shall be committed to your charge?

Answer: I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: Will you reverently obey your chief ministers unto whom is committed the charge and government over you, following with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions, submitting yourselves to their godly judgements?

Answer: I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

Almighty God, who hath given you this will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same, that he may accomplish his work which he hath begun, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



The Venti Creator Spiritus (Come, Creator Spirit)

Bishop: Come Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire.

Response: And lighten with celestial fire;

Bishop: Thou anointing Spirit are

Response: Who doth thy sevenfold gifts impart

Bishop: Thy blessed unction from above

Response: Is comfort, light, and fire of love.

Bishop: Enable with perpetual light

Response: The dullness of our blinded sight.

Bishop: Anoint and cheer our soiled face.

Response: with the abundance of thy grace.

Bishop: Keep far our foes; give peace at home;

Response: Where thou are guide, no ill can come.

Bishop: Teach us to know the Father Son,

Response: And thee of both to be but one!

Bishop: That through the ages all along

Response: This may be our endless song:

Bishop: Praise to Thy eternal merit,

Response: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Bishop: Let us pray. Almighty God, Heavenly Father, who of thine infinite love and goodness towards us has goodness towards us hast given us thy only and most dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and the author of everlasting life, who, after He had made perfect our redemption by His death and was ascended into heaven, sent abroad into the world His apostles, prophets, evangelists, teachers, and pastors, by whose labor and ministry He gathered together a great flock in all parts of the world to set forth the eternal praise of thy holy name for these so great benefits of your eternal goodness, and for that thou has vouchsafed to call these your servants here present to the same office and ministry appointed for the salvation of mankind, we render unto thee most hearty thanks. We praise and worship thee, and we humbly beseech thee by the same blessed Son to grant unto all, either here or elsewhere call upon thy name, that we may continue to show ourselves thankful unto thee for these and all thy other benefits, and that we may daily increase and go forward in the knowledge and faith of you and your Son, by the Holy Spirit.

So that as well by these your ministers as by them over whom they shall be appointed thy ministers that they holy name may be forever glorified, and thy blessed kingdom enlarged through the same thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in unity of the same Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.





The Ordinand(s) kneeling as the Bishop and six Elders lay on hands

Bishop: The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Ghost for the office and work of an elder in the church of God, now committed unto thee by the imposition of our hands. And be thou a faithful dispenser of the word of God and of His holy sacraments in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Bible is presented

Bishop: Take thou authority to preach the word of God and to administer the holy sacrament in the Congregation in the name of the Father, and of he Son, and the Holy Ghost. Amen. Amen. Amen.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Communion Hymn

There s a Fountain Filled with Blood

Hymn 255

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Emmanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains,
Lose all their guilty stains,
Lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day;
And there may I, though vile as he,
Wash all my sins away,
Wash all my sins away,
Wash all my sins away;
And there may I, though vile as he,
Wash all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood
Shall never lose its power,
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved, to sin no more,





Be saved, to sin no more,
Be saved, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved, to sin no more.

E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.

Then in a nobler, sweeter song,
I'll sing Thy power to save,
When this poor lisping, stammering tongue
Lies silent in the grave,
Lies silent in the grave,
Lies silent in the grave;
When this poor lisping, stammering tongue
Lies silent in the grave.

The Prayer of Consecration

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father who of your tender mercy did give your only Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, who made there by His oblation of Himself, once offered, a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world: and did institute and in His Holy Gospel command us to continue a perpetual memory of that, His precious death, until His coming again; hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech you, and grant that we receiving these your creatures of bread and wine, according to your Son, Our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of His death and passion may be partakers of His most blessed body and blood, who in the same night that he was betrayed took bread; (1) Here the elder is to take the piece of bread into his hand, and when he had given thanks, he broke it. (2) The Celebrant breaks the bread, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat: this is broken for you. This do in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup. (3) and here to lay his hands upon all vessels containing the wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them saying, "Drink all of it, for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins; do this, as often as you shall drink it, in remembrance of me." Amen.

The Elements Shared

The Lord's Prayer

The Hymn of Fellowship & Celebration



The Resolution Committee Report
The Finance Committee Final Report
The Award and Certificate Presentations

The Reverend Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MPH | *Episcopal Supervisor of Missions*
5th Episcopal District | A.M.E. Church

The Right Reverend Francine A. Brookins, Esq. | *Presiding Prelate*
5th Episcopal District | A.M.E. Church

THE COMMISSIONING SERVICE

The Commissioning Hymn

Go, Preach My Gospel
Hymn 220

Go, preach My Gospel, saith the Lord,
Bid the whole earth My grace receive;
He shall be saved that trusts My word,
He shall be damned that won't believe.

I'll make your great commission known,
And ye shall prove My Gospel true,
By all the works that I have done,
By all the wonders ye shall do.

Go heal the sick, go raise the dead,
Go cast out devils in My name;
Nor let My prophets be afraid.

Teach all the nations My commands;
I'm with you till the world shall end;
All power is trusted to My hands,
I can destroy, and I defend.

He spake, and light shone round His head;
On a bright cloud to Heav'n He rode;
They to the farthest nations spread
The grace of their ascended Lord.





Prayer

Scripture

Matthew 28:18-20 | NRSVUE

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has be given to me.
¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ teaching them to obey everything that I
have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The Reading of the Appointments **The Right Reverend Francine A. Brookins, Esq. |** *Presiding Prelate*
5th Episcopal District | A.M.E. Church

The Doxology & Benediction **The Right Reverend Francine A. Brookins, Esq. |** *Presiding Prelate*
5th Episcopal District | A.M.E. Church

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.





Appointment of Presiding Elder

Mountain Valley District _____

Appointment of Pastors

Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church | Cheyenne, WY _____

Campbell Chapel A.M.E. Church | Denver, CO _____

Embry Chapel A.M.E. Church | Ogden, UT _____

First A.M.E. Church | Pueblo, CO _____

Grant Chapel A.M.E. Church | Albuquerque, NM _____

Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ _____

Harbert Chapel A.M.E. Church | Flagstaff, AZ _____

Howard Chapel A.M.E. Church | Gallup, NM _____

Holy Trinity Community A.M.E. Church | Mesa, AZ _____

Jordan Chapel A.M.E. Church | Denver, CO _____

Mt. Moriah Community A.M.E. Church | Maricopa, AZ _____

Murph Community A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ _____

Owen Chapel A.M.E. Church | Alamagordo, NM _____

Payne Chapel A.M.E. Church | Colorado Springs, CO _____

Prince Chapel A.M.E. Church | Tucson, AZ _____

Sierra Vista Community A.M.E. Church | Sierra Vista, AZ _____

Shorter Community A.M.E. Church | Denver, CO _____

St. Paul A.M.E. Church | Winslow, AZ _____

Historic Tanner A.M.E. Church | Phoenix, AZ _____

Historic Trinity A.M.E. Church | Salt Lake City, UT _____

The Word of God A.M.E. Church | Rio Rancho, NM _____

