



Fountain of Hope African Methodist Episcopal Church
"The Friendliest Church in the Valley"

Organization and Planning Meeting

2020-2021

"THINK BIG"

Isaiah 54:1-10 MSG; St Luke 12:22-32 MSG



Rev. Gregory Keith McLeod I., Senior Pastor
Mrs. Savalla Nicole McLeod, First Lady
Bishop Clement W. Fugh, Presiding Prelate
Mrs. Alexia Butler Fugh, Episcopal Supervisor
Rev. Roosevelt Lindsey Jr., Presiding Elder
Dr. Kaye Lindsey, First Lady LA South/LV District

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This booklet represents a layout of our Church's work for Conference Year 2020-2021. While this booklet is not exhaustive of our plan, it provides an overview of our organization for this conference year. Please consider it for reflection and support.

Our focus for this conference year's work in the Church is **"Think Big."** This will allow us to form some **BHAGS (BIG HAIRY AUDACIOUS GOALS)**. Our working motto shall continue to be: **"MOVING FROM OVERCOMING TO BECOMING."** Often, we cannot **BECOME** what God would have us be, because we are so busy trying to **OVERCOME** the trials, tribulations and turbulence experienced in our lives. Our goal is that **ALL** persons that enter the doors of The Fountain will **BECOME** what God's desire is for our lives. Therefore, we **MUST** align ourselves with the vision of our Presiding Prelate, Bishop Clement W. Fugh, by focusing on the theme for this Quadrennial; **"THINK BIG!"**

Bishop Fugh shares with us a profound statement by Robert Browning. Browning said, **"man's reach must exceed his grasp. Or what is heaven for?"** Therefore, The Fresco by Michelangelo entitled, The Creation of Adam, served as the cover for the program booklet for the 2020 Series of Annual Conferences of the Fifth Episcopal District. The cover depicts Adam, newly created, reposed upon the Earth, weak barely able to raise his hand to receive the touch by the hand of God, the source of life and vitality. Without that touch Adam remains one with the dust from which he was molded, but with that touch Adam becomes a living soul!

Humanity, represented in Adam, desires a touch by the finger of God, and thereby rises from the mundane to the high calling of our destiny. According to Robert Browning, it is that illusive touch just beyond our reach that keeps us striving. The scriptures that serve as the foundation of our work are found in Isaiah 54:1-10 and St. Luke 12:22-32 (MSG). I would encourage you to read them in your leisure.

Beloved, the logo for this theme is a **star**, the color is **sky blue**, the song is **Impossible Dream**. If you have set your sights on a goal that you feel is attainable, given your gifts and grace and resources – you don't need any help – then the course on which you have set is **NOT** of God!

"A man's (a woman's) reach must exceed his (her) grasp. Or what is a heaven for?"

Prayer will be our foundation and the main part of our work together. Every member is asked to pray daily for the work of the church. Little prayer little power, no prayer no power, much prayer much power. Prayer is the key, but our faith unlocks the door.

The Bible teaches that we are to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, in obedience to the word of God, as leaders of the Church, we shall commit to attending Christian Growth Study Sessions (i.e. Church School and/or Bible Study) weekly.

We look forward to growing the kingdom here at “The Fountain”. Our Hope is that this booklet will serve as an administrative and educational resource guide for our church membership. Perhaps, COVID-19 may have stopped us from physically meeting, but I’m happy to report; “the doors of the church are STILL open!” **LET’S THINK BIG!** Let’s reach for the moon, but if by chance in our reaching we should fail, let’s fall somewhere among the **STARS!**

THINKING BIG,

Gregory Keith McLeod I.
Senior Pastor

VISION 20/21

Excellence
In Ministry

Effectiveness
In Ministry

Efficient
In Ministry

By

Exalting the Savior
Engaging the Service
Equipping the Saints
Evangelizing the Sinner
Enlisting the Servant

THROUGH

Worship Instruction Fellowship Evangelism

W.I.F.E.

Habakkuk 2:2-3 (KJV)

v.2) And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

v.3) For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall not speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

(TBD), Administrative Assistant

Savalla T. McLeod, First Lady, Administrative Assistant to the Senior Pastor

SUPPORT STAFF

Brother David Jones, Pastor's Armor Bearer

First Lady's Armor Bearer (TBD)

MINISTERIAL STAFF

Rev. Gregory Keith McLeod I., Senior Pastor

Retired Presiding Elder Shermella Garrett, Minister of Women's Ministry

Rev. Dr. Viola Patterson, Minister of Congregational Care

Rev. Shaun Ball, Minister of Men's Ministry

Rev. Jaci Black, Minister of Christian Education

Evangelist Janet Gloyd, Minister of Evangelism

Rev. Brian Reese, Minister of Social Media

Rev. Pamela Tucker, Associate Minister

Rev. Wendell Mann, Associate Minister

Rev. James Gibson, Associate Minister

Sister Stephanie E. Smith, Youth/Young Adult Ministry Coordinator

STEWARD BOARD

Dr. Sharon Cogan, Pro Tem

Sister Bonnie Edwards, Emeritus

Brother Leroy Caffey, Emeritus

Sister Margie Lawson, Emeritus

Sister Beatrice Osorio, Emeritus

Sister Teaner Corbett

Sister Karen Engram

Sister Georgia Foggy

Brother Dean Ishman

Sister Maria Kincaid

Brother Arthur Martin

Sister Verone Nelson

Sister DeMadeline Rice

Brother Fred Trawick

Sister Shannan Gloyd Verly

Sister Sharon Y Wright

Sister Shirley Wright

JUNIOR STEWARD

Sister Brittany Bell

TRUSTEE BOARD

Brother Stanley Allen, Pro Tem
Sister Carlotta James, Emeritus
Brother Willard Smith, Jr. Emeritus

Brother Robert Booker
Sister Ann Cunningham
Brother Leon Davis
Brother Daniel Holland

Brother Dorsey Jones
Dr. Sandra Mack
Brother Dane Watson
Brother Charles Woods

STEWARDESS BOARD

Sister Levernis Myles, President
Sister Inil Swann-Cooks, Vice-President

Sister Mattie Allen
Sister Renee Carthen
Sister Bettye Gale, Treasurer

Sister Fredda Jones
Sister Carol McDuffie-Harris, Chaplain
Sister Carol Love

COMMISSIONS

Each Commission should follow its' respective guidelines as stated in the Doctrine and Discipline of the AME Church. Each chairperson should appoint at least six other persons who are in good and regular standing with the church and are committed to the service of the Lord. All commissions are encouraged to meet monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly.

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSONS

Commission on Christian Education
Commission on Membership and Evangelism
Commission on Missions and Welfare
Commission on Public Relations

Sister Carol McDuffie-Harris
Evangelist Janet Gloyd
Sister Joyce Schuler
Evangelist Janet Gloyd

COMMISSION ON STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

Rev. Gregory McLeod, Chairman
Brother Leroy Caffey, Vice Chairman (Steward Emeritus)
Dr. Sharon Cogan, Secretary (Steward)
Sister Verone Nelson, Treasurer (Steward)
Brother Stanley Allen, Assistant Treasurer (Trustee)
Sister Shannan Gloyd Verly (At Large)
Sister Maria Kincaid (At Large)
Sister Grace Thomas, Assistant Financial Secretary (At Large)
Brother Dorsey Jones, (Trustee)
Brother Charles Woods, (Trustee)

COMMISSION ON HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Sister DeMadeline Rice, Chairman
Brother Stanley Allen, Vice Chairman
Evangelist Janet Gloyd, Secretary

CONNECTIONAL SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Dr. Bettye J. Allen Women's Missionary Society

Sister Joyce Schuler, President
Sister Janet Gloyd, 1st Vice President, Commission on Christian Social Action
Sister Carol McDuffie Harris, 2nd Vice President,
Commission on Mission Education & Interpretation
Sister Jackie Hester, 3rd Vice President,
Commission on Membership & Recruitment

Recording/Assistant Correspondence Secretary
Correspondence/Assistant Recording Secretary
Treasurer
Young People's Division (YPD Director)
Parliamentarian
Devotional Leader
Promotion and Missionary Education Director
Historiographer/Statistician
Sargent-At-Arms
Member-At-Large

Dr. Sharon Cogan
Sister Ann Cunningham
Sister Verone Nelson
First Lady Savalla McLeod
Dr. Sandra Mack
Sister Clara Davis
Sister Carol McDuffie-Harris
Sister Beatrice Osorio
Sister Georgia Foggy
Sister DeMadeline Rice

Young People's Division (YPD)

First Lady Savalla McLeod

President	Brother Jeremiah McLeod
Vice President	Sister Jonae Dixon
Recorder	Brother JaQuieze Holland
Treasurer	Brother Gregory McLeod II
Chaplain	Sister Breanna Ball
Activity Coordinator	Sister Jeus Holland
Sargent at Arms	Brother Christian Taylor

Lay Organization

Sister Bobbye Henderson, President
Brother Arthur Martin, Vice President

Recording Secretary	Dr. Sandra Mack
Director of Lay Activities	Brother Danny Mack
Treasurer	Sister Ann Cunningham
Financial Secretary	Sister Teaner Corbett
Historiographer	Vacant
Chaplain	Brother Dorsey Jones
Assistant Chaplain	Sister Clara Davis

Sons of Allen

Brother Dean Ishman, President
Brother Charles Woods, Vice President

Recording Secretary	Brother Stan Allen
Assistant Recording Secretary	Brother Brian Wright
Chaplain	Brother Leon Davis

CHURCH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Brother Leon Davis, Superintendent
Evangelist Janet Gloyd, Assistant Superintendent
Sister Shirley Wright, Secretary
Brother Lawrence Griffin, Assistant Secretary
Brother Lawrence Griffin, Sound/Technical
Sister Marietta Griffin, Sound/Technical

CHURCH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT cont

Teachers

Sister Marie Ball
Rev. Jaci Black
Sister Clara Davis
Rev. James Gibson
Evangelist Janet Gloyd

Brother Daniel Holland
Sister Carol McDuffie-Harris
Rev. Dr. Viola Patterson
Sister Stephanie Smith
Sister Debbie Staten

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Brother Austin Patterson, Minister of Music
Sister Belinda Ball, Director of Voices of Hope
Brother Shawn Johnson, Percussionist

Praise & Worship Team

Sister D'Juana Jones, Coordinator

Voices of Hope Choir

Sister Dawn Woods, President
Sister Joyce Schuler, Vice President
Sister Teaner Corbett, Secretary
Sister Ann Cunningham, Treasurer
Brother Lawrence Griffin, Chaplain
Sister Marrietta Griffin, Correspondence Secretary

Men's Choir

Brother William Celestine, Sr., President
Brother Albert Carpenter, Vice President
Brother Dane Watson, Interim Treasurer
Brother Lawrence Griffin, Secretary
Rev. Shaun Ball, Chaplain

Youth Choir

Choir Director, TBD
President, TBD
Sister Jeus Holland, Vice President
Brother Jeremiah McLeod-Tanner, Secretary
Brother Gregory McLeod II, Chaplin/Treasurer
Brother JaQuieze Holland, Sargent at Arms

Liturgical Dancers
Sister LaShelle LeLewis

CLASS LEADERS COUNCIL

Brother Dean Ishman, President
Sister Beatrice Osorio, Vice President, Class 7

Sister Bobbye Henderson, Recording Secretary, Class 4
Sister Jackie Hester, Treasurer, Class 11
Sister Karen Engram, Assistant Secretary, Class 2
Sister Gail Cordon, Financial Secretary, Class 12
Brother Leon Davis, Chaplain, Class 8

Fredda Jones, Class 1	Carol McDuffie Harris, Class 9
Hazel Jones, Class 3	Dawn Woods, Class 10
Stephanie Smith, Class 5, Youth	Ann Cunningham, Class 13
Vacant Class 5, Youth	Dane Watson, Class 14
Linda Grant, Class 6	Rev. James Gibson, Class 15

MINISTRIES

I am expecting full involvement of all ministries. Chairpersons have been appointed to ensure consistency in our ministries. All chairpersons should implement a sound plan and time schedule for each ministry; when the ministry is to meet, the purpose of the ministry, how to increase membership and be biblically based. All persons joining the church will be encouraged to participate in at least one ministry. This will assist in moving each member from being a spectator to being a participator. All ministries must be compatible with the beliefs, values, and philosophy of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Fund raising activities, i.e., car washes, rummage sales, bake sales, etc. is allowed with the approval of the Senior Pastor. Pastor McLeod will try to find time to meet with each of these ministries at least once this conference year. Any person interested in starting a ministry should contact Senior Pastor through the Church Office. The following represents my appointments for the ministries for this conference year 2018 - 2019:

Academy/ Scholarship

Sister Linda Grant, Director

Vice President, TBD
Sister Joyce Schuler, Secretary
Brother Charles Woods, Treasurer

USHER BOARD

Adult Ushers

Sister Edith Celestine, President
Sister Ann Cunningham, Vice President

Sister Mary Ghee, Secretary	Sister Jackie Hester, Captain
Sister Gail Cordon, Chaplain	Sister Gloria Taylor, Asst. Captain
Sister Bessie Sergeant, Treasurer	Brother Charles Woods, Sergeant at Arms/Parliamentarian
Brother Darryl Baldwin, Asst. Greeter	Brother Leroy Caffey, Asst. Treasurer/Greeter

Youth Ushers

Brother William Celestine, Sr., Coordinator
Brother Gregory McLeod, President
Sister Jeus Holland, Vice President
Brother Jeremiah McLeod-Tanner, Secretary
Brother JaQuieze Holland, Sargent of Arms
Brother Carrington Prescott, Captain

Audio/Sound

Brother Danny Mack

Benevolence Committee

Sister Dawn Woods, Chairperson
Sister Verone Nelson, Assistant Chairperson
Brother Martin Bauchman
Sister Georgia Foggy
Sister Muriel Blackman
Sister Lasurer Laverette

Bereavement Committee

Brother Leroy Caffey, President

Breakfast with the Brothers

Brother Willard Smith, Jr., Coordinator

Culinary Ministry

Sister Annora Holland, Director
Sister Ann Cunningham, Assistant Director

Flower Guild

Sister Fredda Jones

GAP Ministry

Sister Clara Davis, President

Hospitality

Sister Linda Grant

Pew Rally

Sister Georgia Foggy

Photography

Sister Beatrice Osorio, Director
Brother Rodney Smith, Director
Brother Jeremiah McLeod-Tanner, Assistant-in-Training

Public Relations

Evangelist Janet Gloyd

Stephen Ministry

Sister Mary Ghee, President
Sister Lasurer Leverette, Vice President

Sister Muriel Blackburn, Secretary

Sister Shirley Wright, Chaplain

Sister Carlotta James, Asst. Secretary

Brother Arthur Martin, Chaplain

Tree of Life
Sister Beatrice Osorio

THINKING BIG
HERE WE GROW...

The following represents areas of focus that will be under the radar for
2020/2021.

Spiritual BHAGS (Big Hairy Audacious Goals)

BHAG 1. Becoming an 100% Tithing Church

BHAG 2. FOH Corporate Fast (Daniel Fast January 2021)

BHAG 3. Intentional focus on Evangelism

BHAG 4. 40 New Members to unite with FOH

BHAG 5. FOH Revival (Hosted by Stewards, Trustees and Auxiliaries/
Ministries)

BHAG 6. FOH Youth Revival (1-3 day event)

BHAG 7. Increase in Church School/Bible Study attendance by 25%

BHAG 8. Increase Morning Worship Attendance (Standing Room Only)

BHAG 9. Increase in Music Department (Spiritually & Numerically)

BHAG 10. Focus on getting all FOH Members engaged in Service (Heart
& Hand)

BHAG 11. Complete read of “Five Star Church” (All Boards, Auxiliaries
and Ministries)

BHAG 12. Keep Ministries Exciting

BHAG 13. Everything done with a Spirit of Excellence (Unity, Love, Respect and Following Protocol)

BHAG 14. Consistency in Children & Youth Church

Physical BHAGS (Big Hairy Audacious Goals)

BHAG 1. \$425,000.00 Total Raised this Year

BHAG 2. \$40,000.00 in Reserve Account

BHAG 3. Developmental Plan with Bobby Sisk

BHAG 4. Campus Improvements/Renovations, (Public Address System, Projection Screens etc.)

BHAG 5. FOH Cruise (All Members) After disinfection!!!

BHAG 6. Safety & Security Drills (Periodically)

BHAG 7. Improve our Social Media

THE FOUNTAIN AT WORK

BREAKFAST WITH THE BROTHERS	Every Monday Golden Corral, 1445 W. Sunset Henderson 89014	10:30 am
CHURCH SCHOOL	Every 3 rd Wednesday	5:00 pm
CLASS LEADERS	Every 4 th Monday	6:00 pm
LAY	Every 2 nd Monday	5:00 pm
MINISTERIAL STAFF	Every 2nd Saturday	10:00 am
NEW MEMBERS CLASS	2 nd , 3 rd , and 4 th Sunday	9:00 am
OFFICIAL BOARD	Every 2 nd Thursday	6:00 pm
SONS OF ALLEN	Every 1 st Friday	3:00 pm
STEWARDESSES	Saturday before the 1st Sunday	9:00 am
STEWARDS	Every 1 st Thursday	4:30 pm
TRUSTEES	Every 1 st Tuesday	6:30 pm
USHERS	Every 1 st Saturday	10:00 am
WOMEN AT THE FOUNTAIN BIBLE STUDY	Tuesdays	6:00 pm
WOMEN AT THE FOUNTAIN CALL	Wednesdays 712-432-6333, 286219#	6:16 am
WMS	Every 4th Saturday	11:00 am
YPD	Every 4 th Saturday	12:00 noon
NOONTIME BIBLE STUDY	Wednesdays	12:00 noon

EVENING BIBLE STUDY	Wednesdays	6:00 pm
CHOIRS: Voices of Hope Men's Youth WMS	Service Schedule 1 st and 3 rd Sunday 2 nd Sunday 4 th Sunday 5 th Sunday	12:30 pm Saturday Before Service

**PLEASE CHECK TO ENSURE YOUR MINISTRIES'
MEETING TIME IS CORRECT**

“CHURCH ETIQUETTE”

OBJECTIVE: To enhance spiritual growth through church etiquette as it relates to the AME Church in general, Fountain of Hope AME Church in particular. This will serve as the policies and procedures for 'The Fountain'.

Etiquette is defined as a set of rules of behavior. It covers the whole field of human relations. Church etiquette then, is the set of rules governing behavior in the church. Our study today shall focus on church etiquette as it is applicable here at The Fountain.

POINTERS ON CHURCH ETIQUETTE

1. Baptism

- a. Is a sign of profession and a mark of difference whereby Christians are distinguished from Non-Christians. It is an outward sign of inward regeneration.
- b. We baptize children because they are members of the Kingdom of God. All children should be baptized as early as possible. We regard all children who have been baptized as being in a visible covenant relation to God as Preparatory Members under the special care and supervision of the church, and they shall be so reported.
- c. All baptized children should be enrolled in the Church School and remain there until the age of accountability (knowing right from wrong), when they are urged to accept Christ as their personal Savior.
- d. Children should not be presented to the Church as converts unless they have been duly questioned by the minister and found that he/she is truly accountable and

accepts Christ as his/her personal Savior. The recommended age for accountability is twelve (12) years.

- e. A girl may have two godmothers and one godfather, and a boy may have two godfathers and one godmother.
- f. Baptisms by immersion are by appointment only. Special baptisms can be done upon request and prior arrangements.

This sacrament is celebrated on the Third (3rd) Sunday of each month during the 10:30 am worship service.

Scripture Reference:

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the son, and of the Holy Ghost.

St. Matthew 28:19

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 2:38

2. The Holy Communion

- a. The Lord's Supper is a sign of the love that Christians have one for another. We celebrate this sacrament as a memorial of our redemption by Jesus' death. The bread is symbolic of his body and the juice, of his blood.
- b. We believe that the scriptures require each believer to judge him/herself to determine their worthiness of this sacrament ("Ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, "etc.).
- c. Here at The Fountain, we have the Ministerial Staff that will serve the elements to you. Your hands should be free; therefore, ladies should leave their purses in the pew. The ushers will assist with infants. You should follow the direction of the ushers to approach the altar.
- d. **Upon reaching the altar railing, you should listen attentively to the minister in charge; kneeling when he/she instructs, eating the bread when he/she instructs, drinking the juice when he/she instructs and returning to your seat when he/she instructs.**
- e. **Worshippers should not walk or talk, unnecessarily, while the sacrament of communion is being administered.**

We administer the sacrament of Communion on the First Sunday of every month at the 10:30 worship service.

Scripture Reference:

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread of which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.
1 Corinthians 10:16-17

3. Order of Worship

- a. We have what is known as a liturgical form of worship service. By this, we mean that there is a prescribed order in which our worship is conducted. (Review the Order of Worship in AMEC Hymnal). **Changes to the worship service are made by the Senior Pastor ONLY; no changes will be made without his consent.**

- b. No worshipper should talk or move about, unnecessarily, while the Invitation to the unsaved and the unchurched is being offered. Ushers should be stationed at the doors at this time.

Worship is Sacred!

Church etiquette is a code of behavior, conduct and courtesy to be observed in the Lord's House ("*Let all things be done properly and in an orderly manner.*") (1 Cor. 14:40-NASB)

- Prepare yourself for worship by praying and praising the Lord before coming to church.
- Come to church every Sunday. Make a concerted effort to attend service every Sunday. **PEOPLE SHOULD NEVER COME TO OUR HOUSE AND WE'RE NOT AT HOME!**
- Arrive at church on time and be prepared to remain until the benediction is announced.
- Dress appropriately. Dress as if you were going to meet Jesus for the very first time. (Don't wear shorts and halters into the service).
- **BRING YOUR BIBLE WITH YOU**, this may include tablets and smartphones. Be prepared to collectively read the Word of God.
- When you reach the doors of the church, begin to know that you are in the presence of the Lord and that you have come to worship.

- When you find your seat, bow your head in reverence to the Almighty God and thank Him for allowing you to come into His house and into His presence one more time. Pray for the service and preacher of the hour.
- If you arrive early and the service has not begun, meditate on His goodness during your meditation; thank Him for how He brought you through the week and how He has protected you.

Don'ts for Sanctuary:

- **Do not walk while:**
The Word of God is being preached
The Scripture is being read
A prayer is being offered
The choir is singing
- Do not walk onto the pulpit to pass notes or messages to the Senior Pastor. Give the message to the Steward of the Day or one of the Ushers.
- Do not occupy a seat with your coat or other possessions. Be courteous and allow someone else to have a seat.
- Do not talk during offering or during the service. If you must whisper, whisper a prayer. The offering is part of worship and Thanksgiving.
- **Do not eat or drink beverages in the sanctuary.**
- Do not throw candy wrappers or put chewing gum on the floor or on the back of the pew.
- Do not leave the service while the Word is being preached. Preaching means that the Word of God is being delivered and God is speaking to you!
- If you know that you must leave early, please do so before the preacher stands behind the holy desk.
- **Please do not leave the service during the Invitation to Christian Discipleship. At this moment, people are making a public confession to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and or to join the church; this is the most crucial component of the service.**
- Do not leave before the benediction is given; but remain and receive God's final blessings.

Do's for the Sanctuary

- Do participate in the service and follow instructions given by the worship leader. When asked to stand and praise the Lord, please stand unless you are incapacitated.
- Do support and encourage the pastor with prayers and audible responses.
- Do introduce yourself to at least one new person each Sunday before leaving the service. By the end of the year, you will know 52 persons.
- Do remember that you have worshipped and now it is time to leave the sanctuary and

serve mankind.

Now, since you are attending church, invite someone else to worship with you. This is a golden opportunity, which will help you lead someone to Christ.

Pray for the Senior Pastor, his family, the leadership of the church and your own family members. Read your Bible daily as commanded by our Savior, Jesus Christ.

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth.”

II Timothy 2:15 KJV

“PRAYER”

OBJECTIVE: To obtain a general understanding of prayer (how, when & where to pray, and what to expect from prayer).

Prayer is communion and fellowship with God. It is the very essence of Christian life. It is one force which sustains us as Christians. It is however, not a monologue where we only ask God for the desires of our heart; but it is a dialogue where we also listen to God as he speaks to us. Let us attempt to answer perhaps the most often asked questions about prayer.

1. How should we pray? – Jesus taught his disciples to approach God with the same intimacy, confidence and trust as a little child talks to his father (Matt. 6:9). The scripture also discourages us of talking to God with any kind of special religious or theological (pious) language (Matt. 6:7). All Christians should be able to express themselves in prayer. Most people do not pray because they are either afraid or they do not know what to say. In praying we are talking to God, we are not just saying words, but are talking to God. We should bring to God’s attention our thanks, petitions (all prayers are petitions) and needs. The elements of a complete prayer are Adoration (love, care, mercy, etc.)..., Confession (of our sins), Thanksgiving, Supplication (prayer for others) and Submission (ask in Jesus’ name).

2. When should we pray? – The scripture admonishes us to pray continually (without ceasing) 1 Thess. 5:17. God is the kind of father that we can go to at any time. Because we can pray at any time, the tendency is to pray at no time. It is therefore well to have a fixed time to pray (Dan. 6:10). Much prayer...much power, little prayer...little power, and no prayer...no power.

3. Where should we pray? – The Hebrews at one time believed that prayers were neither effective nor valid unless they were prayed in the Temple and subsequently the Synagogue. The answer however, to the question is that we should pray any/everywhere. There are certain places where we feel closer to God than others, but the scripture tells us that God does not dwell in temples made by hands (Acts 7:48). Therefore, we can commune with God any and everywhere.

4. Why should we pray? – There are many people who think of prayer almost entirely

in terms of asking God for things. Prayer should never be a monologue but a dialogue. Prayer is at least as much listening to God as it is talking to God. In all our prayers there should be a time of silence in which we listen as God speaks to us.

5. What can we expect from prayer? – There are two basic facts we should always remember about prayer. Prayer is not an escape; prayer is the way to conquest. It does not always deliver one from terrible situations but it enables one to face and to master them. So often we pray for deliverance from a problem, to be saved from a disaster, to be spared from sorrow, or to be healed from sickness. More often than not, the answer to our prayer is that we are given the strength to endure (Matt. 26:42)

PRAYERS

For the Day

Dear God, in the work of this day, make me decent, orderly, useful, appreciative, courageous and kind. Let me not waken myself by anger; cheapen myself by boasting, or playing the fool by lying. Give me to remember that there are others in the world besides myself, and that they are men like unto myself. Teach me to observe the rules of the game; to come through defeat with strengthened courage and out of victory with gratitude and humility. Let me not be unmindful of the great value of friend and for both are much of my own making. For my own sake and for the sake of my loved ones and associates, keep me wholesome and cheerful. But if the devil of error should grip me when mentally disturbed, grant me the good sense to go quietly along until the impulse to act or speak unkindly shall have passed. And at the end of each day, bring me to my bed with the knowledge that greed and malice and envy and hatred have played a lesser part in my thinking; that my weariness is the result alone of well-doing. Amen.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.
Psalm 51:10

Lord help us to live every day as we will wish we had when we come to die. Amen.

The kingdom of God is within you.
St. Luke 17:21

Grant me, O Lord the royalty of inward happiness, and the serenity which comes from close to Thee. Daily renew in me the sense of joy, and let the eternal spirit of the Father dwell in my soul and body, filling every corner of my heart with light grace, so that, bearing about with me the infection of a good courage, I may be a diffuser of life, and may meet all ills and cross accidents with gallant and high-hearted courage, giving Thee thanks always for all things. Amen

Let us not be weary in well doing;
For in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.
Galatians 6:9

Help me to resolve in Thy strength, that I will take willingly and sweet-temperedly, as part of Thy loving discipline, all that may come to me today of pain or annoyance, or

crossing of my will, or doing without me. Amen

As thou goest, thy way shall be opened up step by step before thee. Proverbs 4:12
(Hebrew Version)

Lord, be Thou within me, to strengthen me; without me, to keep me, above me, to protect me, beneath me, to uphold me, before me, to direct me, behind me, to keep me from straying, round about me, to defend me. Blessed be Thou, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen

Be still, and know that I am God.
Psalm 46:10

Evening

Watch Thou, dear Lord, with those who wake, or watch or weep tonight, and give Thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend thy sick ones, I Lord; rest Thy weary ones; bless Thy dying ones; soothe Thy suffering ones; pity Thine afflicted ones; and all for Thy love's sake. Amen

Therefore, all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you,
Do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.
St. Matthew 7:12

O Merciful Father, grant me such self-control in my imagination and my memory that my last waking thoughts may strengthen and enable my soul. So renew me inwardly and outwardly that I may be vigorous with spiritual purpose, and may awake with a morning face and a morning heart. Amen

I will lay me down in peace and take my rest;
For Thou, Lord, only makest us to dwell in safety.
Psalm 4:8

Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray thee, Lord, my soul to keep. If I should die before I wake; I pray thee, Lord my soul to take. If I should live for other days, I pray thee, Lord, to guide my ways. Amen

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
Psalm 33:5

"ON STEWARDSHIP - WHY TITHE?"

Give accounting to your income, lest God make your income account to your giving.

Our congregation must continue to emphasize tithing. Tithing helps us with the principle and practice of financial discipline, providing us with a management tool in handling our resources. Tithing also gives us a spiritual benefit—satisfaction in knowing God is pleased, opening new channels of prayer power and closeness with God. Jesus said, **“For where your treasure is, there shall your heart be also.” (Matthew 6:21)**

Stewardship, however, is more than money. It is living our entire lives with a clear vision that all we have and all that we are is a part of His Kingdom. It is living out our entire lives with the knowledge that the kingdom of God is among us, and what we do is important.

Stewardship is:

1. **Time**: We should develop talents and use them. Gifts may vary, but we are not to bury them (**Matthew 25:14-30**). Even with many needs being met by mass production and big government doing what the church used to do, there is still room for individual excellence and growth.
2. **Talent**: We believe there is no such thing as a “bench warmer” or “pew member” in God’s house. Everyone brings something to the table as it relates to working in the church. God has not called us to: Sit, Soak and Soar in the church, but he has called us to work in The Master’s Vineyard. (For Biblical Reference see Matthew 24:14-30)
3. **Treasure**: We must see it in Biblical terms, that is, as one more tool to do God’s will, with a tithe to His church for its works. Thus, God says, **“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.” (Malachi 3:10)**
4. **Testimony**: We believe that we should not sit quiet and cute, but we should spread the Gospel by sharing the Good News. All of us are called to minister, all of us may not be called to the “Preaching Ministry”, but we are responsible for witnessing to others about the goodness of The Lord. How will they hear unless we tell them? (For Biblical Reference see Revelations 12:11)

HOW TO GET THINGS DONE

Altar Flowers

You may contact the Flower Guild to order commemorative floral arrangements for the pulpit for special occasions (e.g., memorials, wedding anniversaries, birthdays and special days on liturgical calendar). Placement will be handled by Sister Fredda Jones and the Flower Guild. **It is important to note that cash payment and the commemorative message MUST be received by the Flower Guild two weeks before the event date.** A receipt will be issued when payment is received.

Baptisms

Baptisms are on 3rd Sundays. All persons to be baptized should contact the Church Office to schedule a telephone meeting with the Senior Pastor, including parents with infants. All baptismal candidates will receive correspondence from the Church Office prior to the scheduled date for baptism. The Church Office will make note of the date that you or your child intends to be baptized and a Baptismal form/certificate will be prepared.

Benevolence Assistance

Emergency assistance is sometimes available to those in need of short-term help. An application should be made to the Chair of our Benevolence Committee, Sister Dawn Woods. Applications can be found in the Church Office. There can only be one request for benevolence aid per family, except in an extreme emergency. There is **a cap of \$400.00** to be granted which may result in only partial assistance. **Assistance will only be given annually.**

All requests are to be directed through the Senior Pastor who in turn will advise the committee. If at all possible, the necessary documentation should accompany the initial request which will expedite the process. **With approval of Pastor McLeod**, the committee will collectively decide the outcome of all requests and their decision is final.

Bulletin/Virtual Announcements

Requested announcements and program participants for worship should be completed and hand delivered or emailed to the Church Office by **Tuesday of each week, no later than 1:00 p.m.** **Please do not phone in your requests/announcements.** Announcements not submitted in a timely fashion and approved by Pastor McLeod will not be announced or placed in the bulletin. **No impromptu announcements are to be made without the approval of Pastor McLeod. (Due to COVID-19 ALL announcements will be virtual via slide show presentation).** Please submit ALL announcements via email to First Lady Savalla at: savallamcleod_foh@att.net **NO later than Tuesday of each**

week, NO CALLS OR TEXTS.

Counseling

Counseling is available free of charge to all members. The Senior Pastor provides a short-term counseling ministry; however, referrals are made to other counseling and psychiatric services when necessary. Please contact the Church Office to make an appointment with the Senior Pastor.

THE SENIOR PASTOR IS NOT A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR.

Death/Funeral Arrangements

To report the death of a church member or of a loved one, please contact the Senior Pastor immediately. If you are unable to reach the Senior Pastor, please call the Church Office and provide as much information as possible. The Senior Pastor or the Church Office will notify the Chairperson of the Bereavement Committee, Brother Leroy Caffey. Please do not set the date and time of the service without consultation and confirmation from the Senior Pastor. The family of the deceased should make an appointment with the Senior Pastor to discuss the order of service for the funeral or memorial service. The order of service used will be standard for the AME Church. However, the costs of printing or copying the funeral/memorial program shall be the responsibility of the family. It is the recommendation of the Senior Pastor that funerals for church members be held at the church. Although funerals at mortuary chapels are convenient for the funeral directors, such funerals actually deprive the family of a significant gathering in the more natural environment of the meeting place of the church. Senior Pastor believes that funerals held at chapels signify that death is an unnatural occurrence, but in the life of a Christian, many significant, natural occasions of life occur within the church building. It is fitting, therefore, that the final event takes place there, as well. Finally, it is Senior Pastor's belief that the funeral service is a worship service and should be held in a worship environment.

New Members

All new members are required to attend New Members Training Class. These classes are conducted by Sister Bobbye Henderson and her staff on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays at 9:00 am. During this time, the new members are placed on a 90 day probationary period. Upon completion of new members' classes the new members are extended the right hand of fellowship and will be received into full membership. These classes will provide an education to the AME Church, history of FOH, Biblical doctrine, etc.

Office Hours

For your convenience the Church Office is open Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The Executive Administrative Assistant is available each day

for business and to assist you. If you call and no one answers, please leave a detailed message and the Executive Administrative Assistant will return your call.

The nature of the Senior Pastorate demands flexible hours. Persons who desire to see the Senior Pastor about church business are advised to call the office and arrange an appointment. All appointments must be made by the Executive Administrative Assistant. ***The Senior Pastor does not meet on Sundays. This is a day of worship only and no business will be transacted on Sundays.*** The Senior Pastor has a demanding schedule; however, he is never too busy for his members. Therefore, members should always feel free to contact the Senior Pastor at the Church Office about personal concerns.

Sick and Shut-In

If you know of an illness of a member, it is your duty to contact the Church Office and that member's class leader (if known). When calling please provide the member's class leader (if known), the member's name, telephone number, type of illness, location of member (hospital/care facility, room and telephone numbers, particularly when surgery is required), and, if advisable, to list their name in the church bulletin. The Minister of Congregational Care, Rev. Viola Patterson can respond to your needs. The Senior Pastor likes to make all hospital visitations himself. Intercessions for the sick will be made at the worship service on Sundays upon request and at mid-week services. Normally this is done during the Invitation to Christian Discipleship. The Minister of Congregational Care, Rev. Viola Patterson or Brother Dean Ishman will be glad to arrange for private communion in the home, or other facility, of a Fountain of Hope member ***whose sickness or infirmity prevents attendance at regular church services. (DUE TO COVID-19 NO VISITATIONS WILL BE MADE).***

Media Ministry

To purchase a recording of any worship service, go to the Sound Booth located in the rear of the sanctuary after morning services. The cost of the CD is \$5. Please see Brother Danny Mack for more information.

Weddings/Anniversaries

To arrange a wedding, please contact the Church Office and arrange a consultation date with the Senior Pastor. The date and time of the ceremony will be established by the Senior Pastor and couple in accordance with the availability of the facilities. We make every effort to accommodate the desires of the couple when possible and feasible. Members should make advance arrangements through the Church Office for all weddings and pre-marital counseling sessions. The Senior Pastor requires that

at least three (3) sessions of pre-marital counseling are taken before the wedding takes place.

Election Guidelines for Chairpersons of

Election Guidelines for Chairpersons of Commissions, Auxiliaries and Ministries

1. Select Nominating Committee - complete by **Saturday, September 25, 2021**
2. Nominating Committee creates Slate
3. Submit slate to Senior Pastor for approval - complete by **Monday, October 25, 2021**
4. Hold Election
5. Submit election results Church Office - complete by **Monday, November 29, 2021**
6. Submit date request for conference year activities to Church Office for inclusion on the 2019/2020 Church Calendar - complete by **Monday, November 29, 2021.**
7. Submit date request to flower Guild for Annual Days (Optional)



Church Preparation and Response to Potential Pandemics

Rev. Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MDiv, MPH
Medical Director, AME Church International Health Commission
President, Resource And Promotion of Health Alliance, Inc.
February 27, 2020



In order to decrease the spread of infections, one must initiate prevention early.

As members of the AME Church we must work together, follow basic infection control and behavior modification to decrease the spread of illness and disease. Faith is the key that will empower us to become educated and collaborate during these times of concern.

Social Distancing

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines social distancing as “creating ways to increase distance between people in settings where people commonly come into close contact with one another” (<https://www.cdc.gov/nonpharmaceutical-interventions/community/index.html>). Concerns about social distancing are due to our biblical mandate to assemble and fellowship. Leviticus 23:3a call us to assemble: “There are six days when you may work, but the seventh day is a day of sabbath rest, a day of sacred assembly.”

Despite this, there is also biblical mandate to isolate oneself (social distancing) for the benefit of others. Social distancing is described in Leviticus:

a. Lev 13:1-46

- ✦ Lev 13:5 - On the seventh day the priest is to examine him, and if he sees that the sore is unchanged and has not spread in the skin, he is to keep him in isolation another seven days.
- ✦ Lev 13:46 - As long as he has the infection he remains unclean. He must live alone; he must live outside the camp.

b. Lev 14:1-3a

- i. The LORD said to Moses, "These are the regulations for the diseased person at the time of his ceremonial cleansing, when he is brought to the priest: The priest is to go outside the camp and examine him.

Communicable disease outbreaks may require that we distance ourselves from one another. During a viral (Influenza, Coronavirus, Ebola, etc.) outbreak or other potential spread of an airborne (Tuberculosis, etc.) or human to human contagion requires that we seriously consider gathering in a specified location, i.e. church, daycare or school. Our ability to worship, fellowship and visit the sick and shut-in should be considered during these seasons.

So how do we prepare for potential outbreaks:

1) Individual / Household infection control

a. Hand hygiene

- i. application and/or use of hand rubs, gels, foams, or premoistened towelettes with 60%-95% alcohol.
 - ii. wash your hands frequently and thoroughly for at least 20 seconds
- b. Cough etiquette

- i. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough, sneeze, or cough and/or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not into your hands.
 - ii. Put used tissues in the wastebasket.
 - iii. Clean your hands after coughing or sneezing.
 - 1. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or use an 60%-95% alcohol-based hand cleaner.
 - c. Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces and objects
- 2) All individuals who are displaying symptoms should stay home and commit to social distancing for the prescribed duration
 - a. Designate a care provider to help and check on you
- 3) Routinely check your temperature if you feel like you have a fever. Disposable thermometers are very useful in these circumstances.
- 4) Keep up healthy habits that will boost your immune system
 - a. Keep immunizations current
 - b. Eat healthy
 - c. Exercise
 - d. Rest
 - e. Attempt to reduce stress
- 5) Follow the directives of your local public health departments and advisors.
- 6) Monitor the local graphics related to the trend of the outbreak.
- 7) The CDC further recommends the following during an outbreak in your community by taking these additional measures (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/preparing-individualscommunities.html>):
 - a. Personal Protective Measures
 - i. “Keeping away from others who are sick.
 - ii. Limiting face-to-face contact with others as much as possible
 - iii. Consulting with your healthcare provider if you or your household members are at high risk for ...complications
 - iv. Wearing a facemask if advised to do so by your healthcare provider or by a public health official
 - v. Staying home when a household member is sick with respiratory disease symptoms, if instructed to do so by public health officials or a health care provider (Voluntary Home Quarantine)”
 - b. Community Measures. “State and local public health authorities may decide to implement:
 - i. Temporary closures or dismissals of childcare facilities and schools
 - ii. Other social distancing measures that increase the physical space between people, including:
 - 1. Workplace social distancing measures, such as replacing in-person meetings with teleworking
 - 2. Modifying, postponing, or cancelling mass gatherings.

If churches need to cancel gatherings (worship, Bible studies, Church School, daycares, events, etc.), consider gathering alternatives:

- i. Bible Study - telephonic using class leader system/clusters
- ii. Worship alternatives
 - 1. Web streaming
 - 2. Recording/Taping

3. Teleconferencing
4. Emergency sermons pre-taped for distribution on DVD's
- c. Communicate using timely and pertinent information dissemination
 - i. Pulpit, flyers, bulletin inserts, phone trees
 - ii. Utilize our wonderful Class Leaders system
 - iii. Eliminate unnecessary steps in the notification process by using a Chain of information Dissemination much like a Chain of Command
- 8) Fiscal Management - Develop an alternate means of giving. Remember that operational expenses will continue
 - a. Online, electronic or text giving
 - b. Prepaid postage envelopes
- 9) Partnership Development now not later
 - a. Ecumenical and Interfaith
 - b. Smaller congregations with larger ones
- 10) Border Closings
 - a. Establish a plan to address those who are in other areas (missions) and those who work or travel overseas when and if border closings occur
- 11) Education
 - a. Preparedness – checklists (see resources)
 - i. Prepare for quarantine: essential food, water, medications, and other items as well as a reserve of cash money
 - ii. Develop alternative sources for critical supplies
 - iii. Tele-work; use barrier precautions; monitor family and personal contacts for illness
 - iv. Institute aggressive infection-control practices for family and friends (now and forever)
 - v. Personally advocate for community action, especially a safety net for those unable to protect themselves
 - vi. Educate everyone
 - vii. Tell your doctor about your recent travel and your symptoms **before** you go to the office or emergency room. Advance notice will help your doctor care for you and protect other people who may be in the office.

Church Liturgy, Rituals and Practices - begin modeling now

1) General

- i. Keep hand sanitizer at all entrances to the church and sanctuary.
- ii. Consider making a supply of facemasks available

2) Communion

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church - 2016: Bicentennial Edition (page 92, Duties of the Stewardesses) provides this directive (emphasis added):

“As the washing of hands is both ceremonial and practical, special care should be given to sanitizing the ministers’ hands for serving the Holy Communion. Using soap, warm water should be poured over the hands of the ministers for appropriate washing. Small white towels should be supplied for each minister to dry their hands before administering the sacrament. The common bowl of water must be

avoided. Hand sanitizers or antibacterial agents are acceptable. Stewardesses should practice health-conscious and safety methods in preparing the elements of the Holy Communion consistent with a standard that meets or exceeds local health laws regarding the preparation of food for public consumption.”

Additionally, I offer the following recommendations:

- a. Consider using individual disposable towels for the clergy to dry their hands if the soap and water option is used.
- b. Do not towel dry hand sanitizer.
- c. Have those approaching the communion table use hand sanitizer first. In the aisle used to approach the altar, station an usher or stewardess to dispense hand sanitizer. A free standing dispenser will also serve the same purpose.
- d. Although it saves time,
 - i. the small plates containing communion wafers should not be set out on the chancel rail. This could allow exposure to multiple hands on several wafers.
 - ii. pre-setting communion cups in the communion rail wells should also be avoided.
- e. Never use a common cup unless by administering communion by Intinction

2) **Baptism**

During an outbreak consider avoiding the use of a baptismal pool for the baptism of multiple persons. Continue with the proper sanitizing process before and after the baptism. Baptism by pouring or sprinkling may be the best course during an outbreak.

3) **Rituals and Practices of Prayer**

- a. Do not hold hands. If contact is desired,
 - i. grab the clothed arm or shoulder of the person in front or side of you;
 - ii. touch clothed arm to arm
- b. If using a prayer rug, use a one user individual

4) **Passing the Peace; Greeting the village; Fellowship Moments**

- a. Do not hug or embrace
- b. Do not hold hands. If contact is desired,
 - i. grab the clothed arm or shoulder of the person in front or side of you;
 - ii. touch clothed arm to arm
- b. Use other non-contact means of greeting
 - i. Verbal greeting
 - ii. Waving
 - iii. Placing the hand over the chest while facing the other person
 - iv. Head nod with or without a slight bow

Resources:

World Health Organization

- Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak - <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novelcoronavirus-2019>

- Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) travel advice - <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/travel-advice>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>
- Planning Guidance and Checklists - <https://www.cdc.gov/nonpharmaceutical-interventions/toolsresources/planning-guidance-checklists.html>
- Preparing for the Flu: A Communication Toolkit for Community and Faith-based Organizations - <https://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/faithbased/>
- Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information for Travel - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/travelers/index.html>

Facility Use Form (For Rental Purposes Only)

The following form is to be completed two to four weeks prior to the event and will be reviewed and approved by the Senior Pastor. This will allow the administrative staff time to coordinate with the appropriate ministry/auxiliary, trustees, and others in setting the requested location. The forms can be picked up from the office. Last minute requests, i.e. week of event, will be given to the Senior Pastor for review.

1 Corinthians 14:40 states, “Let all things be done decently and in order.”

FACILITY USE FORM

Date: _____

Ministry/Group: _____

Outside Organization No _____ Yes _____

Activity: _____

Date(s) Requested: _____ **Time(s) Requested:** _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: (Day) _____ **(Evening)** _____

Building/Room(s) to be used: Sanctuary _____ Fellowship Hall _____

Kitchen _____

Outside Caterer: No _____ Yes _____ (additional costs may be incurred)

Meal served: Breakfast _____ Lunch _____ Dinner _____

Inside Caterer: No _____ Yes _____

Meals served: Breakfast _____ Lunch _____ Dinner _____

Classroom _____

Number in Group: _____

Tables: Number needed _____ **Chairs: Number needed** _____

For Office Use Only

Request Approved: Yes _____ No _____ Room Available: Yes _____ No _____

FOH GUIDELINES FOR MINISTRIES TO RECEIVE MONEY

1. The Chairperson should meet with officers of his/her ministry to determine a budget for the year. The budget should be reflective of what's NEEDED to operate the ministry. Include funds to operate the church.
2. The ministry shall submit its budget to the Commission on Stewardship and Finance.
3. Church has priority over ALL funds raised by all ministries (excluding certain grants) to operate the church.
4. Commission on Stewardship and Finance will determine the amount each ministry will receive after a request for funds have been submitted through the CHECK REQUEST FORM.
5. NO funds will be given to any ministry unless a budget has been submitted to the Commission on Stewardship and Finance.
6. The Stewardship and Finance Commission will honor requests for conference requirements.
7. A monthly report will be given on the amount of money raised as well as the projected income.
8. We will try to schedule major fundraisers over the course of the year rather than scheduling most of them near the end of the conference year.
9. We will encourage better summer months giving.
10. The church's budget has increased because of a substantial increase in our conference assessments, the addition of security at a reduced price, and other church obligations.
11. A tithing church would improve our bottom line.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Commission on Stewardship and Finance

Reverend Gregory Keith McLeod, Senior Pastor/Chair

Dr. Sharon Cogan, Steward Pro Tem

Sister Verone Nelson, Steward, Treasurer

Brother Stanley Allen, Trustee Pro Tem, Assistant Treasurer

Brother Charles Woods, Trustee

Brother Dorsey Jones, Trustee

Sister Shannan Gloyd-Verly, Member At- Large

Sister Maria Kincaid, Member At- Large

Sister Shirley Wright, Member At-Large

Sister Grace Thomas, Member At-Large, Assistant Financial Secretary

Brother Leroy Caffey, Steward Emeritus, Member At-Large

**Fountain of Hope
African Methodist Episcopal Church
"The Friendliest Church in the Valley"
Reverend Gregory K. McLeod, Senior Pastor**

CHECK REQUEST

Date: _____ **Member Making Request:** _____

Description of Expenditure: (Please attach documentation that details the estimated dollar value and description of item or service)

Make Check Payable to: _____

Amount: _____ **Date Required:** _____

Authorized by:

(Church Officer or Chair of Auxiliary) **Date:** _____

Senior Pastor **Date:** _____

Treasurer **Date:** _____

PLEASE NOTE: Prior approval by Senior Pastor, Treasurer and Chair of Auxiliary is REQUIRED. NO CHECK WILL BE ISSUED IF PRIOR APPROVALS HAVE NOT BEEN OBTAINED. Thank you.

Office use only

Check Number _____ **Date Paid** _____

Fountain of Hope African Methodist Episcopal Church

PRIVACY NOTICE

MEMBERSHIP/CONTACT INFORMATION

This notice is to inform Fountain of Hope members as to how your personal information is shared with our Boards, ministries and members.

The full member profile (i.e. name, address, phone number, date of birth (month and day), previous church affiliation, record of baptism) is available to the Senior Pastor, ministerial staff, Church Secretary and Class Leaders. Your name, address and phone number is available, *as needed*, to members of Steward Board, Trustee Board, Public Relations Commission and the Commission on Stewardship and Finance.

On occasion, a FOH ministry will request a specific list for their purposes. For example the Sons of Allen may request the list of all male members or the Women's Missionary Society may ask for a list of all female members. Effective immediately, these lists will only contain member names, phone numbers, and the Class Leader name.

From time to time a FOH member will request the contact information for another member. Effective immediately, *only the primary phone number* will be released by the Church Office. If you would NOT like your phone number to be released by the Church Office to another member, please notify the Church Secretary via email (fontofhope@aol.com) or please submit the form below.

PHOTOGRAPHS/FACEBOOK

FOH routinely records the Sunday Worship Service, its members and guests through still photography and video. Some of the pictures and video are posted on our Facebook page. If you would NOT like to have your personal image recorded or posted, please *politely* inform the photographer or videographer. The photographer and/or videographer will do their best to keep you out of the picture. However, when an image of the congregation is taken, we cannot guarantee that your image will not be included when posted on Facebook. This is especially true when special/sacred moments occur during the service and are captured on film.

Privacy Designation; Please place in the Church Secretary's mailbox

Please do NOT release my contact information.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____



2955 East Russell Road Las Vegas, NV 89120
Office: 702 798-3949 Fax: 702 798-7284
Email: fontofhope@aol.com

Stop Strife Before It Starts

Leadership Covenant

Here are the seven points of our leadership covenant. Implementing a similar covenant among our church leadership is one of the best things you could ever do to ensure a healthy, thriving ministry into the future at Fountain of Hope.

- 1. We will pursue honesty, openness and grace in our relationships.**
- 2. We will see that hurts, offenses and differences are reconciled quickly.**
- 3. We will honor and cover one another in word and action.**
- 4. We will not entertain accusations against one another. Stop gossip when it starts.**
- 5. We will hear one another's opinions, honor one another's differences, hold love supreme and wholeheartedly embrace our collective decisions.**
- 6. We will meet together monthly to pray, share, worship, support and pursue accountability.**
- 7. We will remain faithful to intentional, personal evangelism.**

5 Signs of a Healthy Church Leadership Team

“I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.” – 1 Corinthians 1:10

A Healthy Church Is Still Full of Sinful Leaders

Amid all the recent megachurch pastoral resignations, it’s not uncommon for church members and staff to consider the cohesion and health of their own church leadership team. The church is full of sinners that are learning to lean on God for their daily sanctification.

During this process, Satan is trying to make Christians as ineffective for the Gospel as possible, and he often does so by attacking the local church. But here’s the thing: People aren’t more sinful in the 21st century than they were during the early church era. Paul dealt with the same issues in the churches he planted.

However, with the advances in technology that we have seen over the past 100 years, the failings of churches across the world are more exposed. Social media has made sure of it.

But let’s focus on your local church. Whether you’re a member or on staff, look for the following 5 signs to ensure that your church leadership is healthy and thriving. How well do your leaders work together as a team?

Sign #1: They Hang Out Together Outside of Church

Typically, when people spend time together, it’s safe to assume they’re friends. That’s how you want your church leadership team to look at each other. They don’t have to be “besties,” but it’s a positive sign that they want to spend time with each other outside work. Enjoying each other’s company is a sign of a solid bond.

Sign #2: They Are Committed to The Church

In today’s world of constantly looking to “move up” or be promoted, it’s important that everyone on your staff is committed to the current ministry they are serving in. Of course, if a member of your leadership team is being led to look elsewhere, that’s a different story. Christians need to be sensitive to the calling of Christ. The key is they are focused on the task at hand and not just looking for the next big opportunity.

Sign #3: They Spend Time in Prayer Together

Praying is a Christian discipline that many often struggle with. Setting aside time to converse with God while ignoring everything else around you is important, albeit difficult.

But praying together as a team is an added component. Coming together consistently to acknowledge that leading the church cannot be done alone is an important sign that your leadership team has each other's support.

Sign #4: They Approach Disagreements Biblically

Division is the weapon that Satan has at the ready. It destroys families, friendships, and churches. If your church leadership is handling disagreements and arguments properly, you may not even know about it. This is a good thing. It's a sign that they've resolved their conflict so that it doesn't spill over into the sheep they are shepherding.

Sign #5: Their Laughter Is Infectious

You can tell when someone is faking their laugh. It's forced and unauthentic. One of the biggest keys is that fake laughter is not infectious, just like a fake disease can't be passed on to others.

If you notice that your church leadership team truly laughs and jokes together and it makes you want to join in on the action, then you know its authentic. This fifth sign can squash any amount of sin that may be creeping into the congregation. Satan doesn't like it when we laugh at his advances.

