

158TH SESSION OF THE
PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA
ANNUAL CONFERENCE



A TRANSFORMATIVE MINISTRY

SEPTEMBER 10-13, 2025

BISHOP STAFFORD J.N. WICKER, PRESIDING PRELATE
REV. DR. CONSTANCE BELIN WICKER, SUPERVISOR OF MISSIONS

REV. BARRY SPENCER, HOST PASTOR
BETHEL AME CHURCH • PITTSBURGH, PA
2720 WEBSTER AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA 15219
REV. DR. DALE SNYDER, PASTOR



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REV. DR. CONSTANCE BELIN WICKER
SUPERVISOR OF MISSIONS

BISHOP STAFFORD J.N. WICKER
PRESIDING BISHOP



2025 PLANNING MEETING

ALLEN TEMPLE AME CHURCH • CINCINNATI, OH
HOST PASTOR: REV. ALPHONSE ALLEN

OCT. 30 - NOV. 1
SAVE THE
DATES

3RDDISTRICTAME.COM

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA

Annual CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Day	Time	Event
Saturday	10:00 AM – 11:45 AM	Young People and Children's Division (YPD) & Lay Organization Meeting
	12:00 PM – 1:15 PM	YPD Worship
	1:15 PM – 2:15 PM	Lunch
	2:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC) Meeting
	5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	RAYAC Worship
Sunday	8:45 AM – 9:45 AM	Annual Conference Church school – zoom
	4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Debutante Masters Ceremony (DMC)
	6:00 PM	AME3 Prayer Call
Monday	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM	Literary Reports – Zoom: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Health Commission Report • The Evangelism Report • The State of the Church Report • The State of the Country Report • The Social & Political Action Report • The Community Development Report • The Economic Development Report • The Church Growth Report • The Christian Stewardship Report • The Faith and Technology Report • The Ministry to Children Youth and Young Adults • The State of the State Report (*New) ~ Pennsylvania ~ Ohio ~ West Virginia
Wednesday WMS Schedule	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Business Session I
	11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Break
	12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch
	1:30 PM – 4:00 PM	Business Session II
	4:00 PM – 5:45 PM	Dinner
	6:00 PM – 7:45 PM	Night in White (WMS Annual Report to be read)
Thursday	8:00 AM	Devotion (Board of Examiners)
	8:30 AM – 9:45 AM	The Conference Roll Call / Conference Organization
	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Opening Worship
	12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch Break
	1:30 PM – 5:30 PM	Business Session I
	5:30 PM – 6:45 PM	Dinner Break
	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Wilberforce University Choir Concert & Lay Night (Lay Organization Annual Report to be read)
Friday	8:00 AM – 8:15 AM	Devotion (Board of Examiners)
	8:15 AM – 11:30 AM	Business Session II
	11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Break
	12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Noon Day Worship - Women in Ministry (WIM Annual Report to be read)
	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch Break
	2:15 PM – 5:30 PM	Business Session III
	5:30 PM – 6:45 PM	Dinner Break
	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Evening Worship - Sons of Allen (Sons of Allen Annual Report to be read)
Saturday	8:00 AM – 11:45 AM	Business Session IV(MSWAWO Meeting & Annual Report to be read)
	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Closing Worship and Commissioning Service

Bishop's Bio

Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker holds an esteemed position in the African Methodist Episcopal Church as the 137th elected and consecrated Bishop. His leadership, and ministerial impact alongside Supervisor Constance Belin Wicker, is distinguished by his strong advocacy for social justice, economic empowerment, and commitment to professional development.

Bishop Wicker's journey in the ministry began with an education rooted in faith and service. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from Wilberforce University, followed by a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Divinity from Turner Theological Seminary. His doctoral research was focused on engaging local A.M.E. Church congregations with HIV/AIDS education and prevention, illustrating his dedication to community service and health awareness.

Upon his graduation in 1982, Bishop Wicker received his first pastoral appointment at Turner Chapel A.M.E. Church in Roseland, LA, from Bishop Donald George Kenneth Ming. His leadership was marked by growth and development, with a new church being constructed under his guidance. In 1985, Bishop Wicker married the love of his life, Constance Belin of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. From there, their ministerial journey included assignments in Georgia, where he led the congregations of the Toombsboro Circuit, Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church in Mansfield, and Mt. Carmel A.M.E. Church in Atlanta. At each stop, then Pastor Wicker demonstrated a commitment to financial stewardship and congregational growth, helping to eliminate debt, increase membership, and enhance facilities.

Bishop Wicker's tenure at Antioch A.M.E. Church in Decatur, GA, marked a significant turning point in his career. Under his leadership, the church congregation expanded significantly, and the church campus in Stone Mountain became the largest A.M.E. church acquisition at the time.

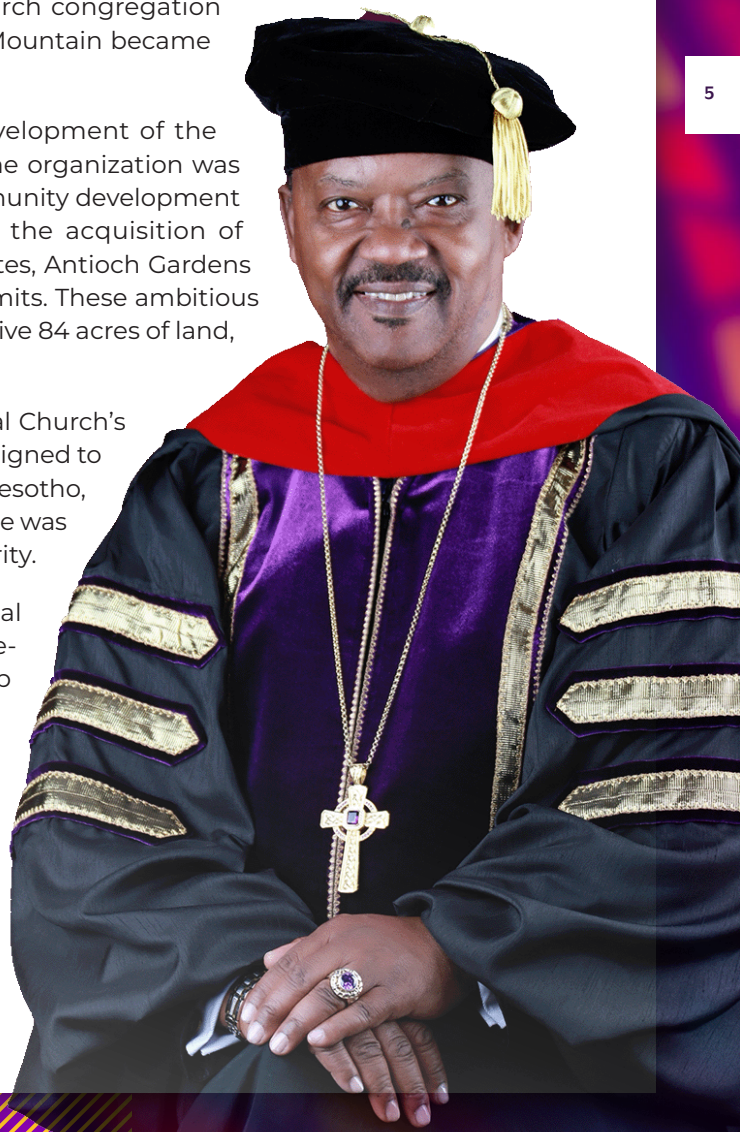
Bishop's vision for community upliftment led to the development of the Antioch Community Development Corporation in 1998. The organization was formed with the objective of fostering economic and community development in Georgia. Bishop Wicker's strategic leadership led to the acquisition of additional lands, the establishment of Antioch Manor Estates, Antioch Gardens and Villas, and plans for the development of Antioch Summits. These ambitious projects have increased the church's portfolio to an impressive 84 acres of land, valued at \$48 million.

During the 50th Session of the African Methodist Episcopal Church's General Conference, Bishop and Supervisor Wicker were assigned to lead the 18th Episcopal District, which included Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, and Swaziland. Their five-year tenure in this role was characterized by extraordinary energy, empathy, and integrity.

In 2021, the Wicker team went on to serve the 8th Episcopal District comprising of Louisiana and Mississippi. In their three-year tenure, the district became debt-free under Bishop Wicker's 8Cs Model Ministry.

On August 28th, 2024, during the 52nd Session of the African Methodist Episcopal Church's General Conference, Bishop and Supervisor Wicker were assigned to the 3rd Episcopal District. Bishop now serves as Chancellor of Wilberforce University and Chair of the Board of Trustees for Payne Theological Seminary.

Together, they are the proud parents of two daughters, Valencia M. Wicker and Lauren M. Wicker.





The Greeting from the President of the Presiding Elders' Council

Rev. Dr. James H. Harris, Sr.

To our Presiding Bishop, Stafford J. N. Wicker and Supervisor Rev. Dr. Constance Belin Wicker, and to all of the Pastors, Clergy, Delegates and friends, as we look forward to the "Shift" God has in his plans for us.

On behalf of the Presiding Elders' Council of the Third Episcopal District, we celebrate God's love and Joy. Our Bishop has a great vision of ministry within the Third Episcopal District. I urge each and every one of you to accept this new vision for our beloved AME3.

"For it does not yet appear what we shall be."

Enjoy these moments of celebration at each of our Annual Conferences. If each of us prays for a successful and joyous Annual Conference, just watch how the Lord will bless all that we accomplish in His Name.

Again, God bless us all as we endeavor to do the Lord's will in Christian Ministry. To God be the glory. Let the Church say, "Amen!"

"CELEBRATE THE SHIFT"

Greetings from Greater Allen AMEC

Grace and Peace,

It is with profound joy and gratitude that I, along with the officers and members of Greater Allen African Methodist Episcopal Church, welcome you to the 158th Session of the Pittsburgh-West Virginia Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

We are deeply honored to serve as the host church for this historic gathering, which continues the rich legacy of faith, service, and witness that has guided our beloved Zion for many years. This sacred occasion is a time for renewal, reflection, and recommitment to the work of ministry that God has entrusted to our hands.



To our Presiding Prelate Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker, Episcopal Supervisor Reverend Dr. Constance Belin Wicker, our Episcopal leadership, Presiding Elders, Pastors, Delegates, Members and Guests, we extend to you the warmest hospitality. May you find in our fellowship both spiritual refreshment and encouragement for the journey ahead. It is our prayer that this session will strengthen our collective mission of Serving, Spreading and Creating a Transformative Ministry by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

On behalf of our church family, welcome to this 158th Annual Conference. May the Lord bless our time together and empower us to continue pressing forward in faith.

Yours in Christ.

Rev. Barrett H. Spencer M. Div.

Host Pastor

Greater Allen African Methodist Episcopal Church
Pittsburgh, PA

Greeting from Bethel AMEC

Beloved in Christ,

On behalf of my wife, First Lady Carmelita Snyder, and the entire Bethel AME Church family, it is with great joy and gratitude that I welcome you to the 158th Session of the Pittsburgh-West Virginia Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Bethel is honored to co-host this sacred gathering where we come together in worship, fellowship, and holy conferencing.



We are blessed by the leadership of Presiding Prelate Bishop Stafford J. N. Wicker and Episcopal Supervisor Rev. Dr. Constance Wicker. Their wisdom and faith strengthen us as we move forward in ministry and mission.

For over two centuries, Bethel has stood as a beacon of faith and resilience in the city of Pittsburgh. As the oldest African American church west of the Alleghenies, our story reminds us that God's faithfulness endures from generation to generation. It is only fitting that we open our doors and hearts to you for this historic session of our beloved Connection.

This conference is more than an annual meeting; it is a sacred time to reflect, discern God's leading, and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that hold us together as one body in Christ. May we leave this place renewed in spirit and empowered to serve God's people with courage and vision.

Welcome to Pittsburgh. Welcome to Bethel. Welcome to the 158th Session of our Annual Conference.

In Christ's Service,

Rev. Dr. Dale B. Snyder, Sr.

Pastor, Bethel AME Church – Pittsburgh, PA

BISHOPS OF THE AME CHURCH

BISHOP	ASSIGNMENT	RETIREMENT YEAR
Bishop Wilfred J. Messiah	19th Episcopal District	2028
Bishop Paul J.M. Kawimbe	14th Episcopal District	2036
Bishop James L. Davis	7th Episcopal District	2028
Bishop David R. Daniels, Jr.	Ecumenical Officer/Endorsing Agent	2032
Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.	1st Episcopal District	2036
Bishop Jeffery N. Leath, Sr.	16th Episcopal District	2032
Bishop Reginald T. Jackson	2nd Episcopal District	2028
Bishop Harry L. Seawright	13th Episcopal District	2032
Bishop Michael L. Mitchell	6th Episcopal District	2036
Bishop Ronnie E. Brailsford	10th Episcopal District	2032
Bishop Stafford J. N. Wicker	3rd Episcopal District	2036
Bishop Silvester S. Beaman	12th Episcopal District	2036
Bishop Marvin C. Zanders II	11th Episcopal District	2040
Bishop Francine A. Brookins	5th Episcopal District	2048
Bishop Frederick A. Wright	4th Episcopal District	2032
Bishop Erika D. Crawford	8th Episcopal District	2048
Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Jr.	9th Episcopal District	2044
Bishop Vernon R. Byrd, Jr.	17th Episcopal District	2032
Bishop Henry A. Belin III	15th Episcopal District	2040
Bishop Jeffrey B. Cooper II	18th Episcopal District	2032
Bishop Gregory V. Eason	20th Episcopal District	2036
Bishop E. Earl Mccloud, Jr.	Located	2028

Retired BISHOPS OF THE AME CHURCH

*Bishop Frank Curtis Cummings (95th)
 Bishop Philip Robert Cousin, Sr. (96th)
 Bishop John Richard Bryant (106th)
 *Bishop Robert Vaughn Webster (110th)
 Bishop Theodore Larry Kirkland (114th)
 Bishop Adam J. Richardson Jr. (115th)
 Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie (117th)
 Bishop Gregory G. M. Ingram (118th)

Bishop Preston Warren Williams II (119th)
 *Bishop Carolyn Tyler Guidry (122nd)
 Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Sr. (129th)
 Bishop John Franklin White (130th)
 Bishop Clement W. Fugh (131st)
 *Bishop E. Anne Henning-Byfield (135th)
 Bishop Frank Madison Reid III (138th)
 (*Deceased)



GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE AME CHURCH

Reverend Dr. Roderick D. Belin

President/Publisher, Sunday School Union

Dr. John Thomas III

Editor, The Christian Recorder

Reverend Dr. Marcellus A. Norris

Executive Director, Church Growth and Development

Reverend Tyronda Burgess

General Secretary/Chief Information Officer

Reverend Dr. Mark Tyler

Historiographer/Executive Director, Department of Research and Scholarship

Reverend Dr. Garland F. Pierce

Executive Director, Department of Christian Education

Reverend Dr. John F. Green

Executive Director, Global Witness and Ministry

Dr. Marcus T. Henderson, Sr.

Treasurer/CFO, AME Finance Department

Reverend Brian A. Blackwell

Executive Director, Department of Retirement Service

Retired GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE AME CHURCH

Dr. Paulette Coleman

Dr. Kenneth H. Hill

Rev. Dennis C. Dickerson, Ph.D.

Dr. Daryl B. Ingram

Dr. Johnny Barbour Jr.

Dr. Calvin Sydnor III

Dr. Richard Allen Lewis

Dr. George F. Flowers

Dr. James C. Wade

Rev. Dr. Teresa L. Fry Brown

Rev. Dr. James F. Miller



CONNECTIONAL OFFICERS OF THE AME CHURCH

Mrs. Deborah Taylor-King, President

Women's Missionary Society

Rev. Leodis Strong, President

Connectional Council

Mrs. Jacqueline Dupont-Walker, Consultant

Social Action Commission

Ms. Anita M. Brannon, President

CONN-M-SWAWO+PK's

Mrs. Ora L. Easley, Administrator

Clergy Family Information Center

Mr. Jeremy D. Satterwhite, President

Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYA C)

Mrs. Lyndajo A. Jones Watson, Administrator

Christian Debutante-Master

Judge Tania E. Wright, President

Judicial Council

Attorney Douglass P. Selby

AME Church General Counsel

Rev. Michele Goodloe, President

Presiding Elder's Council

Rev. Maurice Wright, Director

Music and Christian Arts Ministry

Mrs. Richelle Fry Skinner, Connectional Director

Young People's Division-WMS

Matikane Abednego Makiti, President

Connectional Lay Organization

Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem, M.Div., RDN

Executive Director, Health Commission

Rev. Miriam J. Burnett, M.D., M.Div., MPH

Medical Director, Health Commission

Ms. Joyce Johnson, Connectional President

Young People's Division - WMS

Rev. Dr. Joy Gallmon, President

Women in Ministry

Chaplain G. Dianne Lewis, President

AME Church Chaplains Association

Mr. Monroe Miller, President

Sons of Allen

Mr. Robert Nicolas, Executive Director

AME SADA (Service and Development Agency)

Mrs. Robin Porter Smith, Chair

Fellowship of Church Educators

Rev. Dr. Missiouri McPhee, Director

Association of African Methodist Episcopal Scouts, Boy Scouts

Ms. Michele L. Neal, Director

Association of African Methodist Episcopal Scouts, Girl Scouts



AME3 PRESIDING ELDERS

▶ NORTH OHIO

Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. Wesley Reid
Cleveland District

Presiding Elder Louise V. Jackson, D.Min
Youngstown District

▶ OHIO-SOUTH OHIO

Presiding Elder Betty W. Holley, Ph.D.
Dayton District

Presiding Elder LaCreta Rutledge Clark, Ph.D.
Cincinnati District

Presiding Elder Aimee Anderson, D.Min
Columbus District

▶ PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA

Presiding Elder Timothy Storms, D.Min
South Pennsylvania District

Presiding Elder Rev. Alton Dillard
West Virginia District

Presiding Elder James Harris, D.Min
Allegheny-Scranton District

CONNECTIONAL OFFICERS OF AME3

Dr. Derek Anderson

Judge, The African Methodist Episcopal Church's Judicial Council

Rev. Dr. Mila Cooper

1st Vice President for The Connectional Women in Ministry

Presiding Elder Betty W. Holley, Ph.D.

1st Vice-President, The Connectional Presiding Elder's Council

Sonuel Ivery-Smith

Connectional Foundational Board Member, The Women's Missionary Society

Adrienne Morris

Connectional WMS Chief Protocol Commissioner



AME3 OFFICERS

Mr. Jaylen Hocker

President, Young People's Division

Ms. Sheila Floyd

Director, Young People's Division

Presiding Elder James Harris

President, Presiding Elders' Council

Mrs. LaDonna Moore Liggins

President, Women's Missionary Society

Rev. Emma Barnes

President, Women In Ministry

Rev. DeBora Duckett

Director, Board of Christian Education

Rev. Karen Schaeffer, PhD.

Assist. Director, Board of Christian Ed

Rev. Dr. Alphonse Allen, Jr.

Chair, Board of Examiners

Mr. Marvin Harris

President, Episcopal District Lay Organization

Rev. Thomas Fant

President, Sons of Allen

Rev. LaCreta Rutledge Clark, Ph.D.

Social Justice/Prison Ministry

Ms. Erin Youngue

President, District Richard Allen Young Adult Council

Reverend Dr. Constance Belin Wicker

Supervisor of Missions

Rt. Reverend Stafford J.N. Wicker

Presiding Bishop

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA

BETHEL AME CHURCH

Rev. Barry Spencer, *Host Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Dale Snyder, *Pastor*

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

9:30AM	Women's Missionary Society Business Session I
12:00PM	Lunch
1:30PM	Business Session II
6:45PM	Night in White

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

8:00AM	Devotion Board of Examiners
8:15AM	Bishop & Host Presiding Elder Greeting Business Session I
8:20AM	Calling of Annual Conference into Session & Reading of the Agenda
8:25AM	Roll Call – Secretaries of the Conference
9:50AM	The Gathering in Multipurpose Area (All Clergy)
10:00AM	OPENING WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION
12:00PM	LUNCH BREAK 1:30PM-5:30PM Business Session II Administrative Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Board of Examiners (BOE)• Presiding Elder's Summary Report• Finance Committee Report• The Committee on Presiding Elder Support
2:15PM	Reading Minutes from Business Session I
2:30PM	Business Session II Reading of Pastor Reports
5:30PM	Dinner Break
7:00PM &	Wilberforce University Choir Lay Night

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

8:00AM	Devotion Board of Examiners
8:15AM	Reading Minutes from Business Session II
8:30AM	Business Session III Component Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Richard Allen (Brotherhood) Fellowship Finance Report• Ministers' Spouses, Widows and Widowers Plus P.K.'s• Administrative Reports• Ministerial Efficiency• Conference Board of Trustees
9:15AM	Reading of Pastor Reports
11:45AM	Break
12:00PM	Hour of Power (WOMEN IN MINISTRY)
1:00PM	Lunch
2:15PM	Reading of Minutes from Business III
2:30 PM	Business Session IV Reading of Pastor Reports
5:30PM	Dinner
7:00PM	Evening Worship (SONS OF ALLEN)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

8:00AM	Devotion Board of Examiners
8:15AM	• Reading Minutes from Business Session IV
1:30PM-5:30PM	Business Session V <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading of Pastors Reports• Statistical Data Report• Committee Resolution
10:30AM	Memorial Service (Committee on Memorials)
11:30AM	Break
12:00PM	Closing Worship
1:30PM	Finance Committee Report
1:45PM	Closing Commission Service and Reading of Appointments for New Conference Year

Annual CONFERENCE NOTES

1. Presiding Elder Recommendation forms are due two weeks before the Annual Conference opens. Please email all forms to the office of the Bishop at **thirddistrictofficeamechurch@gmail.com**.
2. The due date for submission of all Annual Conference Reports is two weeks prior to the conference opening. Please email all reports to the office of the Bishop at **thirddistrictofficeamechurch@gmail.com**.
3. The Bishop will meet with the Presiding Elders, the Accountant, the Treasurer, and the Administrator at 10:00 AM on the day before the opening of the Annual Conference.
4. The Bishop will meet with the Chair and Secretary of the Committee on Memorials and the Presiding Elders at 11:30 am on the day before the opening of the Annual Conference.
5. The Bishop will meet with the Board of Examiners and Presiding Elders at 1:00 pm the day before the opening of the Annual Conference.
6. The Bishop will meet with the Ministerial Efficiency Chair at 5:00 pm on the day before the opening of the Annual Conference.
7. Opening and Closing offerings will be received at the Annual Conference by the Bishop.
8. Mass Ordination Worship will be conducted at the Planning Meeting for persons approved for Ordination in the 2025 series of Annual Conferences.
9. Ordination Worship: Clergy not directly involved in or not participating in the worship service for ordination will not robe. Persons to be robed during ordination should bring their plain black robes but not WEAR them until placed on them during the ordination worship.
10. For other worship experiences, only the Preacher will wear a robe.
11. The Board of Examiners is responsible for all devotions - a song; the prayer; the scripture before all sessions.
12. Any excuses by a pastor must be approved by the Bishop.
13. Any Lay Delegate excuses are to be submitted by the pastor to the Presiding Elder for approval.



WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Annual Day

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

9:00AM

DEVOTIONS

9:30 AM - 12PM

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY BUSINESS SESSION

Spiritual Moment: [Rev. Dr. Constance Belin Wicker](#), Supervisor

12:30 PM - 2:00PM

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON (TICKETS \$35)

6:45PM - 8:30PM

NIGHT IN WHITE WORSHIP

Preacher: [Rev. Dr Aimee H. Anderson](#)

Presiding Elder, Ohio South Ohio Conference

RECOMMENDED ATTIRE:

**Business Session, Casual White
Night In White, Dressy White**

Mrs. Patricia Jackson, Conference President

Mrs. LaDonna Moore Liggins, Episcopal District President

Rev. Dr. Constance Belin Wicker, Episcopal Supervisor

Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker, Presiding Bishop

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BETHEL AME CHURCH

Rev. Barry Spencer, *Host Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Dale Snyder, *Pastor*

WOMEN IN MINISTRY

HOUR OF POWER

Rev. Yvette Taylor, *Worship Leader*

The Praise and Worship

Annual Conference Choir

THE DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Hymn #647

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.

The Call to Worship

Rev. Georgia Morrow

The Opening Hymn

Rev. Renita Green

The Prayer

Lic. Monica Jackson

The Scripture Readings:

Old Testament

=

Rev. Linda Hughey

New Testament

Rev. Prudence Harris

The Ministry of Music

The Benevolent Offering

Rev. Debra Widget

The Introduction of the Preacher

Rev. Cheryl Ruffin

The Ministry in Music

The Preacher

Pastor Linda Moore

The Invitation to New Life

Rev. Aisha Tate

The Offering

Rev. Debra Smoot

The Announcements

Rev. Aisha Tate

The Remarks

Benediction

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BETHEL AME CHURCH

Rev. Barry Spencer, *Host Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Dale Snyder, *Pastor*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

LAY NIGHT

Khary K. Nettles Worship Leader
Director of Lay Activities • Ebenezer AMEC Aliquippa

The Prayer

Sara Chappell

Chaplain PWVCLO, Wayman AMEC Wheeling

The Scripture Readings:

Old Testament

Stacy V. Williams

Local Lay President - Greater Allen AMEC Pittsburgh

New Testament

Yvonne Murphy

Local Lay Payne Chapel AMEC, Duquesne

Welcome

Dr. Jason Deakings

3rd Vice President, PWVCLO

Introduction of the Choir

Sonya A. Nelson

President, PWVCLO

Choir Concert

Concert Program on page 21

Offering

Bishop Stafford J.N.Wicker

Presiding Prelate

Third Episcopal District Lay Organization Remarks

Sonya A. Nelson – President, PWVCLO

Marvin Harris – President, AME3 Lay Organization

Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker - Presiding Prelate

Lay Benediction

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BETHEL AME CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Dale Snyder, *Pastor*

WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY

CHORUS PROGRAM

Lift Every Voice and Sing.....arr. by Alvin Trotman
Hallelujah from Christ on the Mount of Olives.....Ludwig Von Beethoven
Sanctus from Requiem.....Gabriel Faure
The Word Was God.....Rosephyne Powell
In Bright Mansions.....arr. By Roland Carter
Non Nobis Domine.....Rosephyne Powell
Soon Ah Will Be Done.....arr. By William Dawson
I've Been Buked.....arr. By Hall Johnson
ElijahRock.....arr. By Moses Hogan
Jesus is a Rock.....arr. By Glenn Burleigh
Keep on Singing His Praise.....by Robert Mayes
Take it to the Lord In Prayer.....by Patrick Lundy
Total Praise.....by Richard Smallwood

The Postlude

The Wilberforce University Alma Mater

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BETHEL AME CHURCH

Rev. Barry Spencer, *Host Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Dale Snyder, *Pastor*

OPENING WORSHIP

Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. James Harris, Worship Leader

THE PROCESSIONAL

"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"
Hymn #520

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

THE DOXOLOGY

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

THE OPENING HYMN

"And Are We Yet Alive"
Hymn #304

Presiding Elder Louise V. Jackson

And are we yet alive, And see each other's face?
Glory and praise to Jesus give for His redeeming 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 conflicts have we passed,
Fightings without and gears 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.
Then let us make our boast of His redeeming power,
Which saves us to the uttermost, till we can sin no more.
Let us take up the cross till we the crown obtain
And gladly recon all things lost, so we my Jesus gain.

THE OPENING PRAYER

The Rev. Debra Smoot

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BETHEL AME CHURCH

Rev. Barry Spencer, *Host Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Dale Snyder, *Pastor*

OPENING WORSHIP

Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. James Harris, Worship Leader

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

Hymn #192

THE READING OF THE SCRIPTURE

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON.....Jeremiah 29:10-14..... The Rev. John Sylvia

THE EPISTLE LESSON.....1 Peter 2:3-10.....The Rev. Marilyn Fisher

THE GOSPEL LESSON.....St. Matthew 16:13-19 The Rev. Alfred Thompson

THE BENEVOLENT OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Dale Synder

(Offerings Benefits the Third Episcopal District College Assistance Fund)

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BISHOP

Presiding Elder The Rev. Dr. James Harris

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER

The Right Rev. Stafford J.N. Wicker

THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Annual Conference Choir

THE PREACHED WORD

The Rev. Madonna Gray

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BETHEL AME CHURCH

Rev. Barry Spencer, *Host Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Dale Snyder, *Pastor*

OPENING WORSHIP

Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. James Harris, Worship Leader

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

The Rev. Cheryl Ruffin

"Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"

Hymn #272

Pass me not, O gentle Savior, Hear my humble cry;
While on others Thou art calling, Do not pass me by.

Let me at Thy throne of mercy, Find a sweet relief;
Kneeling there in deep contrition, Help my unbelief.

Trusting only in Thy merit, Would I seek Thy face;
Heal my wounded, broken spirit, Save me by Thy grace.

Thou the spring of all my comfort, More than life to me;
Whom have I on earth beside Thee? Whom in heaven but Thee?

(Refrain)

Savior, Savior, Hear my humble cry;
While on others Thou art calling, Do not pass me by.

THE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE

Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Barrett Spencer

THE DOXOLOGY AND BENEDICTION

The Rev. Madonna Gray

158TH SESSION PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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NOTE: *Presiding Elders James H. Harris, Timothy W. Storms, Sr., and Alton B. Dillard, Sr. are ex-officio members of all Committees.*

Board of Examiners: The Reverends: Debra Smoot, Madonna Gray, Cheryl Ruffin, John Sylvia, **Presiding Elders** Alton Dillard, Sr., Timothy Storms, Sr., Dr. James H. Harris, Sr.

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PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BETHEL AME CHURCH

Rev. Barry Spencer, *Host Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Dale Snyder, *Pastor*

CLOSING WORSHIP

Presiding Elder Rev. Alton Dillard, Worship Leader

THE PROCESSIONAL

THE DOXOLOGY

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

THE GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

"Come, We that Love the Lord"

Hymn #520

The Rev. Dale Synder

THE LEADER: I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord!" Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

THE PEOPLE: **For a day in Your court is better than a thousand elsewhere, I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

THE LEADER: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

THE PEOPLE: **They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.**

THE LEADER: O Lord, I love the habitation of Your house, and the place where Your glory dwells.

THE PEOPLE: **But the Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him.**

THE LEADER: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight. Oh Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

TOGETHER: **O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, sing praises!**

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BETHEL AME CHURCH

Rev. Barry Spencer, *Host Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Dale Snyder, *Pastor*

CLOSING WORSHIP

Presiding Elder Rev. Alton Dillard, Worship Leader

THE OPENING HYMN

"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name"

Hymn #5

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

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

3 Sinners whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
The wormwood and the gall,

Go spread your trophies at His feet,
And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,
crown Him Lord of all.

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

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

THE OPENING PRAYER

The Rev. Linda Moore

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

"Anointing Fall on Me"

Anointing fall on me
Anointing fall on me
Let the power
Of the Holy Ghost
Fall on me
Anointing fall on me

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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CLOSING WORSHIP

Presiding Elder Rev. Alton Dillard, Worship Leader

THE READING OF THE SCRIPTURE

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON..... Ezekiel 37:1-6..... The Rev. David Wade

THE EPISTLE LESSON.....1 Corinthians 13: 1-8a.....The Rev. Lloyd King

THE GOSPEL LESSON.....John 21:15-17The Rev. Aisha Tate

THE INTROIT TO THE DECALOGUE

"From All That Dwells Below the Skies"

Hymn #69

The Rev. Samuel Ware

From all that dwell below the skies, let the creator's praise arise;
Let the Redeemer's name be sung, through every land by every tongue.

THE SUMMARY OF THE DECALOGUE

And he said to him, You should love the Lord your God with all your heart,
And with all your soul and with all your mind.

This is the great and first Commandment.

And the second is like it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

THE GLORIA PATRI

(Softly, with heads bowed)

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, Amen

BENEVOLENT OFFERING

Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BISHOP/PREACHER

Presiding Elder Rev. Alton Dillard

PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BETHEL AME CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Dale Snyder, *Pastor*

CLOSING WORSHIP

Presiding Elder Rev. Alton Dillard, Worship Leader

THE SERMONIC SELECTION

Annual Conference Choir

THE PREACHED WORD

Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker

Presiding Prelate, 3rd Episcopal District

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

The Rev. Yvette Taylor

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

Hymn #321

Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain,
free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain,

(Refrain)

In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,
till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me.

Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me.

Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river.

THE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE

Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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PITTSBURGH-WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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COMMISSIONING SERVICE

Presiding Elder Rev. Alton Dillard, Worship Leader

THE COMMISSIONING

Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker

COMMISSIONING HYMN

"Go Preach My Gospel Says The Lord"

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, Though Greeks reproach, and Jews blaspheme.

"While thus ye follow My commands I'm with you till the world shall end; All power is
trusted in My hands, I can destroy, and can defend."

He spake, and light shone round His head, on a bright cloud to heaven He rode; They to the
farthest nation spread the grace of their ascended God.

THE PRAYER

Presiding Elder Thomas Fant

THE SCRIPTURE

Matthew 10:1-14.....Rev. Debra Smoot

THE READING OF APPOINTMENTS

Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker

THE DOXOLOGY & THE BENEDICTION

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Bishop Stafford Wicker

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS BY THE BISHOP WITH ANSWERS BY THE SECRETARY OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1. Who are the preachers admitted on trial?
2. Who remain on trial?
3. Who are admitted or readmitted to full connection?
4. Who have been elected and ordained deacons?
5. Who have been elected and ordained elders?
6. Who have been located this year?
7. Who have been elected by the General Conference to exercise the Episcopal Office and to superintend the African Methodist Episcopal Church?
8. Who are the supernumerary preachers?
9. Who are the superannuated preachers?
10. Who have been expelled from the Connection by this Conference?
11. Who have withdrawn this year from this Conference and the Connection?
12. Are all the preachers blameless in life and conversation?
13. What members of the Conference have died this year?
14. Have all the preachers subscribed to *The Christian Recorder*, and also to *The A.M.E. Church Review*, *The Voice of Missions*, *The Journal of Christian Education*, *The Secret Chamber* or *The Missionary Magazine*?
15. What preachers are indebted to any of the Departments or the Church publications?
16. Lay Organization:
 - a. Does each station, circuit or mission in this Annual Conference have a Lay Organization?
 - b. If not, which stations, circuits or missions do not have a Lay Organization?
17. Women's Missionary Society
 - a. Does each station, circuit or mission in this Annual Conference have a Women's Missionary Society?
 - b. If not, which stations, circuits or missions do not have a Lay Organization?
18. When shall this Annual Conference next meet?
19. Where shall your next Annual Conference be held?
20. Where are the preachers stationed this year?

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the 158th Session of the Pittsburgh-West Virginia Annual Conference planning committee, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for the generous in-kind contributions and our volunteers.

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Soul Pitt Magazine

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UPMC Department of Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery

West Virginia State University Printing Department

And a Special Thank you to all those who volunteered their time in any capacity.

NOTES/HIGHLIGHTS

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