

GOD FIRST HOLY CONVOCATION

DIVINE Church DIFFERENTLY

ENGAGE • ENCOUNTER • EMBRACE

CONVOCATION GUIDE



Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.
Presiding Bishop, Seventh Episcopal District

Mrs. Phyllis N. Green
Episcopal Supervisor

A wooden pulpit is centered in the foreground, set against a background of a vibrant, multi-colored stained glass window. The window features abstract patterns in shades of blue, yellow, green, and red. A dark purple horizontal bar is positioned at the bottom of the image, containing the text 'INSIDE This GUIDE' in white.

INSIDE *This* **GUIDE**

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Seventh Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church

God Our Father • Christ Our Redeemer
The Holy Spirit Our Comforter • Humankind Our Family

2017

GOD FIRST

HOLY CONVOCATION AND THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

The Reverend Merritt Graves, Host Pastor

The Reverend Remus Harper, Host Presiding Elder

*"Seek
ye first the
Kingdom of God,
and his righteousness; and
all these things shall be added unto
you." Matthew 6:33*

THEME:

**Doing Church
Differently: E3**

*"God did this so that they would
seek him and perhaps reach out
for him and find him, though he
is not far from any one of us."
Acts 17:27 NIV*

March 29 - April 1, 2017

FLORENCE CIVIC CENTER

3300 Radio Drive

Florence, South Carolina 29501

PRESIDING ELDER COUNCIL

OF THE SEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

Palmetto Annual Conference

The Reverend Dr. Juenarrl Keith

Mt. Pleasant District

The Reverend Dr. Allen W. Parrott

Kingstree District

The Reverend Dr. Sandy W. Drayton

Georgetown District

Northeast Annual Conference

The Reverend Dr. James S. Cooper

Sumter District

The Reverend Remus Harper

Florence-Dillon District

The Reverend Dr. William Smith, Jr.

Marion District

Columbia Annual Conference

The Reverend Rosalyn G. Coleman

Columbia District

The Reverend Joseph Postell

Lancaster District

The Reverend Dr. M. Charmaine Ragin Merrick

Newberry District

South Carolina Annual Conference

The Reverend Dr. Norvel Goff, Sr.

Edisto District

The Reverend Malachi L. Duncan

Charleston District

The Reverend Joseph A. Darby

Beaufort District

Piedmont Annual Conference

The Reverend Judy M. Richardson

Greenville District

The Reverend Samuel L. McPherson

Abbeville-Greenwood District

Central Annual Conference

The Reverend Dr. Charles Young

Orangeburg District

The Reverend Eddie Gaston, Jr.

Manning District

The Reverend Phillip Anderson

Wateree District

SEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT INSTITUTIONS

Allen University
Ernest McNealy, PhD
 Interim President

Dickerson Seminary
The Reverend Dr. Eric S. C. Manning
 Dean

Reid House of Christian Services
 TBA

CONNECTIONAL OFFICERS

OF THE SEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

The Reverend Dr. George Flowers

Executive Director
Global Witness and Ministry

The Reverend Dr. Garland Pierce

Executive Director
Department of Christian Education

Mrs. Lula Shaw Cleckley

President, CONN-M-SWAWO

Mrs. Tanya Harper

Recording Secretary, WMS

Ms. Sylvia Blake

Member-At-Large, WMS

The Reverend Eduardo Curry

Member, Judicial Council

Mr. George Brown

Connectional President, Sons of Allen

Mrs. Gloria DeVeaux-Cobb

Recording Secretary, Lay Organization

Mr. Norman L. Deas

Advisor to the President,
Lay Organization

Mr. Wayne Singleton

Treasurer, Music and
Christian Arts Ministry

The Reverend Myron Hill

Parliamentarian, Music and
Christian Arts Ministry

EPISCOPAL DISTRICT OFFICERS

OF THE SEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

The Reverend Dr. Allen W. Parrott

President, Presiding Elder's Council

Mr. Roger Cleckley

President, Lay Organization

Mrs. Sandra Anderson

President, Women's Missionary Society (WMS)

Dr. Ila McFadden

Director, Young People's Division (YPD)

Mr. C. Rashon Murray

President, Young People's Division (YPD)

Mrs. Anna M. Keith

President, Ministers Spouses, Widows and Widowers
Organization + Kids (MSWAWO + PKs)

The Reverend Dr. Allen W. Parrott

Chairman, Christian Education Board

The Reverend Dr. Juenarri Keith

Dean, Christian Education Department

Ms. Andrea White

District Commissioner, Debutantes-Masters
Commission (DMC)

Mr. Monroe Miller

President, Sons of Allen

The Reverend James Brown

President, Richard Allen Young
Adult Council (RAYAC)

The Reverend Jeannine Smalls

President, Women in Ministry (WIM)

The Reverend Carey Grady

Dean, State Board of Examiners

The Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg

Chair, State Board of Examiners

Attorney Kay Hightower

Director, Social Action



GREETINGS FROM THE **BISHOP**

As we embark upon a new direction for ministry in the 7th Episcopal District, I want to share my vision with you for the God First Holy Convocation and why we are gathered.

What is the God First Holy Convocation?

The God First Holy Convocation is not your average *Mid-Year Convocation*. It has a different structure and mission. The Convocation is not the meeting where the various components or auxiliaries meet and give reports. The God First Holy Convocation creates a different experience.

This gathering is a Clergy and Lay Leadership Conference, which offer opportunities for spiritual development and growth for the entire Kingdom of God. The learning experience is designed to provide tools for personal Christian enhancement. The entire Convocation is fast paced and high spirited. Every worship experience, plenary session, and breakout session has been developed to expose you to new ideas and fresh perspectives on how to do “Church Differently” and how to walk in your Spiritual Authority to be effective Disciples in the Kingdom.

This year’s theme, “**Doing Church Differently: E3**”, focuses on Engaging, Encountering and Embracing the mandates of the mission of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. We are encouraged to Engage in Social Justice, Encounter the Holy Spirit and Embrace new ways to share the ancient story of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the 21st Century.

To implement the goals of the Convocation we have invited some of the best influencers within the kingdom of God. You will hear from inspiring preachers such as Bishop Paul S. Morton, Dr. Jasper Williams, Dr. Lance Watson, Dr. William Watley, Dr. Wanda Frazier-Parker, Bishop John R. Bryant, Dr. Grainger and Dr. Jo Ann Browning and Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd. Also, we will learn from some of the greatest minds in the Kingdom in our many breakout sessions designed for every ministry leader and member. Finally, with these great personalities, gospel recording artists, Myron Butler, Kathy Taylor and Rev. John P. Kee and the New Life Choir, we will share in this Kingdom Explosive three-day Convocation.

It is my hope and prayer that you experience the God First Holy Convocation with an open-mind. Encourage yourself to be present, on time, and engaged in every session. Allow God’s spirit to revive you so that you can leave Florence ready to move higher in ministry.

Engage, Encounter and Embrace

Bishop Sam
Presiding Bishop, Seventh Episcopal District



GENERAL INFORMATION

PARKING

- Please use the West and South Parking Lot and enter through the box office doors each day.
- Parking attendants will be present to direct and guide all vehicles as they enter and exit the parking lot.

BUILDING LOGISTICS

- Restrooms are located on every floor of the Civic Center. Signage will be posted so that you may find the lavatory.

ACCESSING PRESENTATION MATERIALS

- All session materials will be uploaded to the Sched account and will be made available during the Convocation to attendees.
- A comprehensive packet will be downloadable from the AME 7th website post-Convocation

ONLINE GIVING

There are three options for online giving during the God First Convocation.

1. Text **AME7** to **206-859-9405** to setup your Subsplash account for first time and begin giving throughout the Convocation.
2. Download the AME 7th App and give directly using our mobile platform
3. Give directly on the website by visiting [AME7.church](https://ame7.church)

INTERNET

The venue is equipped with hi-speed internet to ensure that we have an interactive and digital conference.

ONLINE STREAMING

All worship services and plenary sessions will be live streamed to the world. Viewers can access streaming video via the AME 7th website and app.

EMERGENCY

Local police and EMT representatives will be on-site to provide safety and emergency assistance as needed.

SPECIAL FRIDAY NIGHT ADVISORY

Security Checks/Wanding & Pre-Screening will be done prior to the 7:00 PM Service on Friday Evening due to the high-level of attendance at the concert.



SOCIAL MEDIA

- Take pictures and post on your social media accounts.
- Use the official hashtag **#GodFirst17** on all of your posts.

CONVOCATION SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2017

11:00AM

Orientation A

Location: Arena

3:00PM

Orientation B & Choir Rehearsal

Location: Arena

7:07PM

Opening Worship Service

Bishop Paul S. Morton, Preaching

Founder, The Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship
Senior Pastor, Changing a Generation FGBC, Atlanta, GA

Kathy Taylor, Psalmist

Location: Arena

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017

8:07AM

Morning Glory Worship Service

Rev. Dr. Grainger Browning, Preaching

Pastor, Ebenezer AME Church, Fort Washington, MD
Location: Arena

9:30AM

Morning Plenary Session

Dr. Samuel Chand

Leadership Consultant, Dr. Samuel R. Chand Ministries
Location: Arena

11:00AM

Morning Breakout Sessions

Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount

Arnett Chapel AME Church, Chicago, IL

Session: With Head and Heart: Equipping Christian Educators for Today's World

Location: Concourse A

The face of Christian Education is constantly changing. How do we effectively prepare for ministry with aging congregations? Strategies that may have worked 10 years ago may not be as effective today. Christian Education for children, youth, and adults in our challenging world must evolve in order to effectively minister to the needs of our parishioners. This session will help Christian Educators think of different and more effective ways to engage Christian Education. Suggested for clergy, missionaries, Christian educators, stewards.

Rev. Dr. Trina Armstrong

Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care and Theology
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL

Session: Is There A Balm in Gilead? Encountering Healing and Wholeness from Church Distress

Location: Concourse B

The worst hurt often is encountered in spaces of worship. This session is designed to help participants encounter self-care, spiritual, and healing practices that will help them overcome church related distress. Suggested for clergy, stewards, missionaries, class leaders.

Dr. Samuel R. Chand

Leadership Consultant, Dr. Samuel R. Chand Ministries

Session: Who's Holding Your Ladder?

Location: Arena

Learn practical leadership tips for ministry development from one of the top consultants and gurus in the world. Pastors will gain insight on how to develop as a leader and how to master the challenges of leading teams for success.

CONVOCATION SCHEDULE

Myron Butler

National Recording Artist, Dallas, TX

Session: Ministry Leadership through Music (for Ministers of Music, Musicians, Worship Leaders)

Special Time: 10am-11:30am

Location: Mt. Zion AME Church

Learn how to lead your local music ministry effectively using best practices designed to grow and develop all stakeholders (choirs, praise teams, bands) for worship on Sunday mornings.

12:30PM

Mid-Day Worship Service

Rev. Dr. William D. Watley

Pastor, St. Philip AME Church, Atlanta, GA

Location: Arena

1:30PM

Lunch and Learn A (for Pastors)

Pre-Registration Required

Dr. Samuel R. Chand

Leadership Consultant, Dr. Samuel R. Chand Ministries

Location: Pee Dee/Waccamaw

3:30PM

Afternoon Breakout Sessions

Rev. James Wesley Dennis III

Director of Ministries, 7th Episcopal District

Session: Equip: P.O.W.E.R.

Location: Pee Dee/Waccamaw

Although there is much excitement about *Going to the Next Level*, getting to the next level requires **P.O.W.E.R.** Participates in this workshop will encounter five key Biblical elements that will help take their church ministries to the next level. Suggested for clergy and lay leaders.

Dr. Grainger and Dr. JoAnn Browning

Ebenezer AME Church, Fort Washington, MD

Session: Stir Up the Gifts: Recognizing, Developing, and Cultivating Spiritual Gifts

Location: Arena

Every Christian is equipped with Spiritual Gifts designed to empower, encourage, and enriched their local church and community. However, if neglected, those spiritual gifts run the risk of coming close to extinction, rendering the Christian ineffective and unqualified for ministry. In this workshop, participants will learn how to recognize, develop, and cultivate their spiritual gifts for ministry in their local church and community.

Suggested for all

Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount

Arnett Chapel AME Church, Chicago, IL

Session: With Head and Heart: Equipping Christian Educators for Today's World

Location: Concourse B

The face of Christian Education is constantly changing. How do we effectively prepare for ministry with aging congregations? Strategies that may have worked 10 years ago may not be as effective today. Christian Education for children, youth, and adults in our challenging world must evolve in order to effectively minister to the needs of our parishioners. This session will help Christian Educators think of different and more effective ways to engage Christian Education. Suggested for Christian educators, ministry leaders, clergy.

Rev. Dr. Trina Armstrong

Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care and Theology
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL

Session: Is There A Balm in Gilead? Encountering Healing and Wholeness from Church Distress

Location: Santee

The worst hurt often is encountered in spaces of worship. This session is designed to help participants encounter self-care, spiritual, and healing practices that will help them overcome church related distress. Suggested for clergy, stewards, missionaries, class leaders.

Schedule continued on next page...

CONVOCATION SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017

3:30PM

Afternoon Breakout Sessions (...continued)

Rev. Dawn Wright

Impact UMC, Atlanta, GA

Session: Worship by Design: Developing Meaningful, Exciting, Passionate, and Relevant Worship Services

Location: Concourse A

Whether you prefer a traditional or contemporary worship service, excellence matters. Explore creative ways to enhance your worship service that will draw others to Christ. Suggested for clergy, media ministry staff, worship team, stewards, trustees.

Myron Butler

National Recording Artist, Dallas, TX

Session: Something to Sing About: Ministry through Music (for Choir Members and Music Ministry Staff)

Special Time: 2:45pm-4:45pm

Location: Mt. Zion AME Church

Explore the message behind the music as we develop an intentional ministry of music for the 7th Episcopal District.

5:00PM

Cultivate: Women's Empowerment Dinner with Rev. Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd

* Limited seats available; Tickets required

Location: Ballroom

7:07PM

Evening Worship Service

Dr. Jasper Williams, Preaching

Pastor, Salem Bible Church, Atlanta, GA

Kathy Taylor, Psalmist

Location: Arena

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017

8:07AM

Morning Glory Worship Service

Rev. Dr. Grainger Browning, Preaching

Pastor, Ebenezer AME Church, Fort Washington, MD

Location: Arena

9:30AM

Morning Plenary Session

Rev. Tony Lee

Pastor, Community of Hope AME Church, Hillcrest Heights, MD

Session: Crying in the Wilderness: Engaging One's Prophetic Voice in the Age of Donald Trump

Location: Arena

With the election of Donald Trump as President of the United States comes the increasing need for strong, fearless prophetic voices proclaiming the justice and love of God. This session is designed to engage prophetic witness in the context of the local church and community. Suggested for all.

CONVOCATION SCHEDULE

10:30AM

Morning Breakout Sessions

Rev. Dr. William Watley

Pastor, Saint Philip AME Church, Atlanta, GA

Session: Preaching With Fire: Effective Preaching for Intergenerational Congregations

Location: Arena

Preaching is an art. Explore ways to perfect the craft of preaching to reach intergenerational congregations.

All Clergy should attend.

Rev. Dawn Wright

Impact UMC, Atlanta, GA

Session: Small Church, Big Ministry: Tools for Dynamic Ministries in a Rural Context

Location: Concourse A

The size of a congregation is no measure for the impact of a congregation. Explore ways to strengthen the local church ministry in rural communities through evangelism, technology, and community empowerment. Suggested for pastors, stewards, trustees, class leaders, ministry leaders.

Rev. Stephen A. Green

National Youth and College Division Director

Session: Do Justice: Foundations for Building a Social Justice Ministry for the Local Church

Location: Santee

Community based social justice witness is critical to the ministry of the AME Church. Explore ways to establish or expand your church's social justice footprint in the community. Suggested for clergy, teachers, advocates, stewards, trustees, class leaders.

Ms. Courtney Herring

Digital Marketing Strategist

Session: #church: Engaging the Congregation Digitally

Location: Waccamaw

Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram straight flexin', where does the church belong? This workshop covers how social media can be used as a necessary tool for evangelism in order to advance gospel ministry. This session is intended for churches interested in learning social media basics. Suggested for clergy, media ministry staff, worship team, stewards, trustees.

Rev. Russell St. Bernard

Reid Temple AME Church, Glen Dale, MD

Session: After the Music Stops: Developing an Effective Youth and Children's Ministry

Location: Pee Dee

Explore ways to reach and retain young people in your ministry through effective Christian education, Christian formation, and leadership development. Suggested for clergy, Christian educators, youth pastors, youth leaders, young adult ministry leaders, stewards.

Myron Butler

National Recording Artist, Dallas, TX

Session: Something to Sing About: Ministry through Music (Choir Rehearsal and Seminar)

Location: Mt. Zion AME

Explore the message behind the music as we develop an intentional ministry of music for the 7th Episcopal District.

12:07PM

Mid-Day Worship Service

Dr. Wanda Frazier-Parker

Co-Pastor, Truth Tabernacle Ministries, Rocky Mount, NC

Location: Arena

1:30PM

Lunch and Learn B (for Pastors)

Pre-Registration Required

Location: Ballroom

Schedule continued on next page....

CONVOCATION SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017

3:30PM

Afternoon Breakout Sessions

Rev. Dr. William Watley

Pastor, Saint Philip AME Church, Atlanta, GA

Session: Preaching With Fire: Effective Preaching for Intergenerational Congregations

Location: Arena

Preaching is an art. Explore ways to perfect the craft of preaching to reach intergenerational congregations. All Clergy should attend.

Rev. Dawn Wright

Impact UMC, Atlanta, GA

Session: Purpose Driven Church: Tools and Practices to Prepare Your Church for Dynamic Ministry

Location: Santee

The effectiveness of a ministry is measured by the productivity of a ministry. Explore ways to ensure that your congregation is effective in its systems and programs to minister to the needs of all people. Suggested for pastors, stewards, trustees, class leaders, ministry leaders.

Rev. Russell St. Bernard

Reid Temple AME Church, Glen Dale, MD

Session: After the Music Stops: Developing an Effective Youth and Children's Ministry

Location: Pee Dee

Explore ways to reach and retain young people in your ministry through effective Christian education, Christian formation, and leadership development. Suggested for clergy, Christian educators, youth pastors, youth leaders, young adult ministry leaders, stewards.

Rev. Stephen A. Green

National Youth and College Division Director

Session: Do Justice: Foundations for Building a Social Justice Ministry for the Local Church

Location: Concourse A

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Myron Butler

National Recording Artist, Dallas, TX

Session: Something to Sing About: Ministry through Music (Choir Rehearsal and Seminar)

Location: Mt. Zion AME

Explore the message behind the music as we develop an intentional ministry of music for the 7th Episcopal District.

7:07PM

Evening Worship Service

Dr. Lance Watson, Preaching

Pastor, St. Paul's Baptist Church, Richmond, VA

God First Concert featuring:

Rev. John P. Kee

Location: Arena

CONVOCATION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2017

8:30AM

Morning Plenary Session

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.

Presiding Bishop, Seventh Episcopal District

Session: Where Do We Go From Here?

Location: Arena

After the conference, now what? Join the conversation to identify practical and tangible ways to equip, empower, and engage your communities and congregation. **All should attend.**

Young Adults (18-24)

Session: Relevant, Not Cool: Engaging Millennials in Ministry

Location: Pee Dee

Millennials at large continue to be the most unchurched demographic. This session will consider ways in which the church can engage millennials into the life and ministries of the church. It will also address what millennials think about the modern church and how millennial presence and leadership can help take our churches to the next level.

Youth (13-17)

Session: Hidden Figures: Engaging Leadership from Behind the Scenes

Location: Waccamaw

Discover the leader within you and explore opportunities to develop your leadership and professional skills through creative and interactive engagement.

10:07AM

Closing Worship

Bishop John R. Bryant

Retired Senior Bishop, AME Church

Location: Arena

FLORENCE CIVIC CENTER

3300 WEST RADIO DRIVE, FLORENCE SC 29501
WWW.FLORENCECIVICCENTER.COM
843.679.9417



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FLORENCE CIVIC CENTER

VIP PARKING LOT

WEST PARKING LOT

SOUTH PARKING

GATE 2

GATE 3

WOODY JONES BLVD.

WOODY JONES BLVD.

707 TOTAL THIS AREA (49 HC)

232 TOTAL THIS AREA



is

WEST RADIO DRIVE

GATE 1

GATE ONE
DROP OFF/PICK UP ONLY



PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY

PEDESTRIAN PATH

LOBBY
ENTRANCE

BALLROOM

CONSTRUCTION
ZONE
NO ACCESS

EAST
PARKING LOT

VEHICLE CENTER
AREA

ROLL UP
DOOR 5
ROLL UP
DOOR 4

LOADING
DOCK

Backstage Parking

PARKING
LOT

FUTURE
GATE 5
ENTRANCE

GATE 4

WOODY JONES BLVD.

WOODY JONES BLVD.



DIVOC Church

DIFFERENTLY

Convocation

WORSHIP SERVICES

OPENING NIGHT WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2017 • 7PM

The Order of Worship

The Reverend Remus Harper, Worship Leader

Presiding Elder, Florence/Dillon District, Northeast Conference

Hallelujah, You're Worthy

The Processional

The Presiding Elders, Clergy, Stewards and Bishops

The Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father,

Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Call to Celebration (page 23)

The Reverend Merritt B. Graves

Pastor, Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church, Florence

The Hymn of Praise | Hymn No. 364

"My Hope is Built" (page 23)

The Reverend Randolph Miller

Pastor, Nichols Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Charleston

The Prayer

The Reverend Rose Goodwater Richardson

Pastor, Holy Trinity African Methodist Episcopal Church, Mt. Pleasant

The Prayer Response

The Choir and Congregation

The Ministry of Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Scripture Lesson (Old Testament)

The Reverend Friendly Gadson

Pastor, Mt. Olive African Methodist Episcopal Church, Sumter

The Scripture Lesson (New Testament)

The Reverend Dr. Eric Manning

Pastor, Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Charleston

The Summary of the Decalogue (page 23)

The Reverend Dr. Eric Manning

Pastor, Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Charleston

The Gift for Missions

The Reverend Ronnie Brown

Pastor, Pine Grove African Methodist Episcopal Church, Manning

The Ministry of Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Stewardship Moment and Offering

The Finance Team

The Introduction of the Preacher

Bishop Samuel L. Green

Presiding Bishop, 7th Episcopal District

Guest Psalmist

Kathy Taylor

National Recording Artist

The Sermon

Bishop Paul S. Morton

Founding Bishop, Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International and Senior Pastor, Changing A Generation FGB Church, Atlanta, GA

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Announcements

The Doxology

The Benediction

Bishop Paul S. Morton

MORNING GLORY

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017 • 8:07AM

The Order of Worship**The Reverend Leondra Stoney, Worship Leader**Pastor, Greater Howard African Methodist Episcopal Church, McClellanville
.....**Praise & Worship**Convocation Praise Team
.....**The Petition to God****The Reverend Danté Kenly**Pastor, St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church, Columbia
.....**The Reading of the Word****The Reverend William Miller**Pastor, Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Conway
.....**The Celebration through Music**Convocation Praise Team
.....**The Presentation to the Preacher****Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.**
.....**The Celebration through Music**Convocation Praise Team
.....**The Celebration of the Preached Word****The Reverend Dr. Jo Ann Browning**Co-Pastor, Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church, Ft. Washington, MD
.....**The Response****The Announcements****The Doxology****The Benediction****The Reverend Dr. Jo Ann Browning**
.....

MID-DAY WORSHIP SERVICE

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017 • 11:07AM

The Order of Worship

The Reverend Dr. William Swinton, Worship Leader

Pastor, Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church, Charleston

Praise & Worship

Convocation Praise Team

The Petition to God

The Reverend Annabelle Robinson

Pastor, Emanuel AME Church, Charleston

The Reading of the Word

The Reverend Clifford Jackson

Pastor, Bethel AME Church, Anderson

The Celebration through Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Presentation to the Preacher

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.

The Celebration through Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Celebration of the Preached Word

The Reverend Dr. William D. Watley

Pastor, St. Phillip African Methodist Episcopal Church, Decatur, GA

The Call to New Life

The Offering

Finance Team

The Announcements

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.

The Doxology

The Benediction

The Reverend Dr. William D. Watley

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017 • 7:07PM

The Order of Worship

The Reverend James Cooper, Worship Leader

Presiding Elder, Sumter District, Northeast Conference

"The Presence of the Lord is Here"

The Processional

The Presiding Elders, Clergy, Trustees and Bishops

The Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father,
Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Call to Celebration (page 24)

The Reverend Wayman Coleman, III

Pastor, Flat Rock African Methodist Episcopal Church, Abbeville

The Hymn of Praise

"I Will Trust in the Lord" (page 24)

The Reverend Malcolm O. Simpson

Pastor, Zion Hill African Methodist Episcopal Church, Pinewood

The Prayer

The Reverend Ralph L. Brown, Jr.

Pastor, Greater Target African Methodist Episcopal Church, Holly Hill

The Prayer Response

The Choir and Congregation

The Ministry of Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Scripture Lessons

The Reverend Robert L. Morris

Pastor, Rock Hill African Methodist Episcopal Church, Vance

The Gift for Missions

The Reverend Vanessa Johnson

Pastor, St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church, Cottageville

The Ministry of Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Stewardship Moment and Offering

The Finance Team

The Introduction of the Preacher

Bishop Samuel L. Green

Presiding Bishop, 7th Episcopal District

Guest Psalmist

Ms. Kathy Taylor

National Recording Artist

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Jasper Williams, Jr.

Senior Pastor, Salem Bible Church, Atlanta, GA

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Announcements

The Doxology

The Benediction

The Reverend Dr. Jasper Williams, Jr.

MORNING GLORY

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017 • 8:07AM

The Order of Worship**The Reverend Benjamin Sims, Worship Leader**

Pastor, St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church, Oatland

Praise & Worship

Convocation Praise Team

The Petition to God**The Reverend Wanda Y. Rapley**

Pastor, Greater Hopewell AME Church, Irmo

The Reading of the Word**The Reverend Barbara A. Nelson**

Pastor, Cumberland African Methodist Episcopal Church, Sampit

The Celebration through Music

The Choir

The Presentation to the Preacher**Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.****The Celebration through Music**

The Choir

The Celebration of the Preached Word**The Reverend Dr. Grainger Browning**

Pastor, Ebenezer AME Church, Ft. Washington, MD

The Announcements**Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.****The Doxology****The Benediction****The Reverend Dr. Grainger Browning**

MID-DAY WORSHIP SERVICE

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017 • 11:07AM

The Order of Worship

The Reverend Myra E. Meggett, Worship Leader

Pastor, Greater Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, James Island

Praise & Worship

Convocation Praise Team

The Petition to God

The Reverend Krystal F. Bryant

Pastor, St. Paul AME Church, Cokesbury

The Reading of the Word

The Reverend Courtney D. Colleton

Pastor, Trinity Historic AME Church, Manning

The Celebration through Music

The Choir

The Presentation to the Preacher

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.

The Celebration through Music

The Choir

The Celebration of the Preached Word

Dr. Wanda Frazier-Parker

Pastor, Truth Tabernacle Ministries, Rocky Mount, NC

The Call to New Life

The Offering

Finance Team

The Announcements

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.

The Doxology

The Benediction

Dr. Wanda Frazier-Parker

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017 • 7:07PM

The Order of Worship

The Reverend Dr. William Smith, Worship Leader
Presiding Elder, Marion District, Northeast Conference

"Better" (by Hezekiah Walker)

The Processional

The Presiding Elders, Clergy, Class Leaders and Bishops

The Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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

The Call to Celebration (page 25)

The Reverend Michael Burgess

Pastor, Singleton Chapel AME Church, North Santee

The Hymn of Praise

"I Call You Holy" (page 25)

The Reverend Dr. Dwayne Bruce

Pastor, Nichols Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Charleston

The Prayer

The Reverend Fredrick A. Wilson

Pastor, Live Oak African Methodist Episcopal Church, Vance

The Prayer Response

The Choir and Congregation

The Ministry of Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Scripture Lessons

The Gift for Missions

The Reverend Robert Stokes

Pastor, Mt. Hor African Methodist Episcopal Church, Edisto Island

The Ministry of Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Stewardship Moment and Offering

The Finance Team

The Introduction of the Preacher

Bishop Samuel L. Green

Presiding Bishop, 7th Episcopal District

The Ministry of Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Sermon

Dr. Lance D. Watson

Senior Pastor, St. Pauls Baptist Church, Richmond, VA

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Announcements

The Doxology

The Benediction

Dr. Lance D. Watson

God First Concert featuring:

John P. Kee

and the New Life Community Choir

9:30PM

CLOSING WORSHIP SERVICE

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2017 • 11:07AM

The Order of Worship

The Reverend Allen W. Parrott, Worship Leader

Presiding Elder, Kingstree District, Palmetto Conference

"Order My Steps"

The Processional

The Presiding Elders, Clergy and Bishops

The Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father,
Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Call to Celebration (page 26)

The Reverend Dr. M. Charmaine Merrick

Presiding Elder, Newberry District, Columbia Conference

The Hymn of Praise

"We're Blessed" (page 26)

The Reverend Samuel L. McPherson

Presiding Elder, Abbeville-Greenwood District, Piedmont Conference

The Prayer

The Reverend Dr. Charles Young

Presiding Elder, Orangeburg District, Central Conference

The Prayer Response

The Choir and Congregation

The Ministry of Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Scripture Lessons (Old Testament)

The Reverend Joseph Darby

Presiding Elder, Beaufort District, South Carolina Conference

The Scripture Lessons (New Testament)

The Reverend Joseph Postell

Presiding Elder, Lancaster District, Columbia Conference

The Gift for Missions

The Reverend Dr. Norvel Goff

Presiding Elder, Edisto District, South Carolina Conference

The Ministry of Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Stewardship Moment and Offering

The Finance Team

The Introduction of the Preacher

Bishop Samuel L. Green

Presiding Bishop, 7th Episcopal District

The Ministry of Music

The Holy Convocation Choir

The Sermon

Bishop John R. Bryant, Retired

The 106th Elected and Consecrated Bishop AME Church

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Announcements

The Doxology

The Benediction

Bishop John R. Bryant

WEDNESDAY MARCH 29, 2017

The Call to Celebration

MINISTER: I was glad when they said unto me: "Let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem."

PEOPLE: For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

MINISTER: Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek thy good.

PEOPLE: Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

MINISTER: Blessed are they that dwell in the house of the Lord, I have loved thy habitation, the place where thy honour dwelleth.

PEOPLE: For the Lord is in His Holy Temple, Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

MINISTER: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart; be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

PEOPLE: O sing unto the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth shall sing His praises.

.....

The Hymn of Praise - Hymn No. 364 "My Hope is Built"

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name. **Refrain**

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, My anchor holds within the veil. **Refrain**

His oath, His covenant, His blood Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. **Refrain**

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found!
Dressed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne! **Refrain**

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

.....

The Summary of the Decalogue

Hear what Christ our Savior saith, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

THE GLORIA PATRI

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017

The Call to Celebration

LEADER: In the midst of a world where people hunger and thirst,

PEOPLE: Come worship a God who feeds the hungry.

LEADER: In the midst of a world where people are abused and oppressed,

PEOPLE: Come worship a God who calls for compassion and justice.

LEADER: In the midst of a world filled with wars and rumor of war,

PEOPLE: Come worship a God who desires nothing less than peace for the world.

LEADER: In the midst of a world where love is not freely shown and forgiveness is hard to find,

ALL: Come worship a God whose grace and love know no end.
.....

The Hymn of Praise - *"I Will Trust in the Lord"*

I will trust in the Lord.

I will trust in the Lord.

I will trust in the Lord until I die

I will trust in the Lord.

I will trust in the Lord.

I will trust in the Lord until I die.

I'm goin' to treat everybody right.

2. I'm goin' to stay on the battlefield.

3. I'm goin' to stay on a bended knee.

4. I'm goin' to watch, fight and pray.
.....

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017

The Call to Celebration

LEADER: Shout for joy! The savior is here.

PEOPLE: Sing with gladness! Our darkness is turned into light.

LEADER: Let every heart prepare a space. Let every home make ready. For a new day has dawned.

PEOPLE: The world has been made new. The savior has been born. Sing with joy!

LEADER: God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

LEADER: In the midst of a world where love is not freely shown and forgiveness is hard to find,

ALL: Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving, and praise.

.....

The Hymn of Praise - "I Call You Holy"

I call you holy, your name is holy.
 You are so holy to me.
 I call you holy, your name is holy.
 Holy you are and holy you'll be.

I call you holy, your name is holy
 You are so holy to me.
 I call you holy, your name is holy.
 Holy you are and holy you'll be
 Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

I call you righteous.

.....

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2017

The Call to Celebration

LEADER: Shout for joy! The savior is here.

PEOPLE: Sing with gladness! Our darkness is turned into light.

LEADER: Let every heart prepare a space. Let every home make ready. For a new day has dawned.

PEOPLE: The world has been made new. The savior has been born. Sing with joy!

LEADER: God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

LEADER: In the midst of a world where love is not freely shown and forgiveness is hard to find,

ALL: Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving, and praise.

.....

The Hymn of Praise - "We're Blessed"

We're blessed in the city
 We're blessed in the field
 We're blessed when we come and when we go
 We cast down every stronghold
 Sickness and poverty must cease
 For the devil is defeated
 We are blessed

Late in the midnight hour
 God's gonna turn it around
 It's gonna work in your favour

We're blessed in the city
 We're blessed in the field
 We're blessed when we come and when we go
 We cast down every stronghold
 Sickness and poverty must cease
 For the devil is defeated
 We are blessed

.....

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Wednesday, March 29, 2017 | Opening Worship Service

Bishop Paul S. Morton, Preacher

Text: _____

Sermon Title: _____

What are the main points or key message of the sermon?

What questions do I have as I hear this sermon?

How can I apply this message to my life?

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Thursday, March 30, 2017 | Morning Glory Worship Service

Rev. Dr. Jo Ann Browning, Preacher

Text: _____

Sermon Title: _____

What are the main points or key message of the sermon?

What questions do I have as I hear this sermon?

How can I apply this message to my life?

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Thursday, March 30, 2017 | Mid-Day Worship Service

Rev. Dr. William Watley, Preacher

Text: _____

Sermon Title: _____

What are the main points or key message of the sermon?

What questions do I have as I hear this sermon?

How can I apply this message to my life?

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Thursday, March 30, 2017 | Evening Worship Service

Rev. Dr. Jasper Williams, Preacher

Text: _____

Sermon Title: _____

What are the main points or key message of the sermon?

What questions do I have as I hear this sermon?

How can I apply this message to my life?

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Friday, March 31, 2017 | Morning Glory Worship Service

Rev. Dr. Grainger Browning, Preacher

Text: _____

Sermon Title: _____

What are the main points or key message of the sermon?

What questions do I have as I hear this sermon?

How can I apply this message to my life?

SERMON REFLECTION

Friday, March 31, 2017 | Mid-Day Worship Service

Dr. Wanda Frazier-Parker, Preacher

Text: _____

Sermon Title: _____

What are the main points or key message of the sermon?

What questions do I have as I hear this sermon?

How can I apply this message to my life?

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Friday, March 31, 2017 | Evening Worship Service

Rev. Dr. Lance Watson, Preacher

Text: _____

Sermon Title: _____

What are the main points or key message of the sermon?

What questions do I have as I hear this sermon?

How can I apply this message to my life?

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Saturday, April 1, 2017 | Closing Worship Service

Bishop John R. Bryant, Preacher

Text: _____

Sermon Title: _____

What are the main points or key message of the sermon?

What questions do I have as I hear this sermon?

How can I apply this message to my life?

THE CHARLESTON AME MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL
14TH
NOON

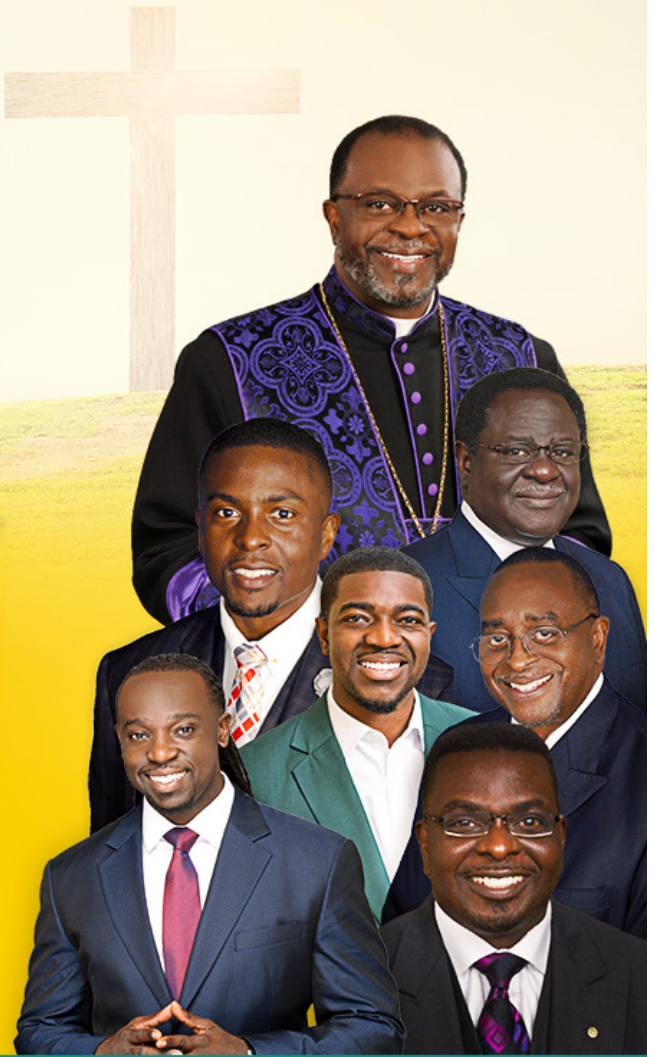
SEVEN

LAST WORDS FROM THE CROSS

THE CHARLESTON CONVENTION CENTER

5000 COLISEUM DRIVE, N. CHARLESTON, SC

REV. RANDOLPH MILLER
ALLIANCE PRESIDENT



FEATURING

BISHOP SAMUEL L. GREEN, SR.
PRESIDING PRELATE

REV. DR. HENRY E. GREEN, JR.
REV. DR. JOHN F. GREEN
REV. DR. DAVID W. GREEN, SR.
REV. HENRY E. GREEN, III
REV. SAMUEL L. GREEN, JR.
REV. STEPHEN A. GREEN



AME7.CHURCH



DIAMOND Church

DIFFERENTLY

Convocation

2017 BIOS

PHOTOS



Bishop Paul S. Morton



Rev. Dr. Grainger Browning, Jr.



Rev. Dr. Jo Ann Browning



Rev. Dr. Jasper Williams



Rev. Dr. Lance D. Watson



Rev. William D. Watley, Ph.D.



Rev. Dr. Wanda Frazier-Parker



Bishop John R. Bryant



Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount



Rev. Dr. Trina Armstrong



Rev. Dawn Wright



Ms. Courtney Herring



Rev. Tony Lee



Rev. Russell "Russ" St. Bernard



Rev. James Wesley Dennis III



Minister Myron Butler



Psalmist Kathy Taylor



Pastor John P. Kee

PREACHERS' BIOS

Bishop Paul S. Morton

Bishop Morton is a gifted and anointed artists, author, and pastor with a clear and distinct voice in the 21st Century. A pastor's pastor, Bishop Morton is the Senior Pastor of the Changing A Generation and is the Founding Presiding Bishop of the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International, one of the fastest growing movements in America. Bishop and his wife, Pastor Debra Morton, are the proud parents of three and the grandparents of six.

The Reverend Dr. Grainger Browning Jr.

Rev. Dr. Grainger Browning, Jr. is the Senior Pastor of Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church of Fort Washington, Maryland. Called to preach in 1979, Reverend Browning was appointed pastor of the Ebenezer A.M.E. Church in 1983 with a membership of 17 and a budget of \$12,000. Under his leadership, the church membership has grown to exceed 8,000 members and a budget of \$8 million, ministering to the spiritual, educational, political, social, economic, health, and recreational needs of the community. Dr. Browning is married to the Reverend Dr. Jo Ann Browning who serves as the Co-Pastor of Ebenezer AME Church. They are the proud parents of two children and grandparents to three grandchildren.

The Reverend Dr. Jo Ann Browning

The Reverend Dr. Jo Ann Browning is Co-Pastor of Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church in Fort Washington, Maryland. Pastor Browning has organized and convened 31 annual women's spiritual retreats attracting thousands from throughout the U.S. and around the world. In 2006, she founded Journey of Faith, LLC which is dedicated to empowering women. She also released her first book, "Our Savior, Our Sisters, Ourselves: Biblical Teachings & Reflections on Women's Relationships" in 2006. The book provides teachings that explore the realities of being a Black woman, wife, mother and minister. It is designed to empower and bless women as they continue on their own journeys of faith. Her second book, "Faithful, Focused and Fearless: Lessons to Fortify Your Future" was released June 2009. In spring 2011, the book was repackaged and re-released by Christian publisher, Creation House and is currently available online at Black Expressions.com. Dr. Browning is married to the Reverend Dr. Grainger Browning and is the proud parents of two children and grandparents to three grandchildren.

The Reverend Dr. Jasper Williams

The Reverend Dr. Jasper Williams is one of the most influential spiritual leaders of this generation. As Senior Pastor of Salem Bible Church- "One Ministry in Two Locations" - , Dr. Williams has helped made, with the God's blessings, Salem one of the key churches in the growing Baptist connection. Called to pastor Salem at the age of 19, Pastor Williams has created several notable social action ministries: a free psychological counseling program, a children's day care center, and the development of a dual-structured senior citizen high-rise. Pastor Williams' most recent endeavor is as the founder of African American Churches Transforming Society (A.A.C.T.S.), a community based organization envisioned to help revitalize churches, strengthen families and rebuild communities through churches working in concert with social and governmental agencies. Pastor Williams is the proud father of two sons, Jasper III and Joseph.

The Reverend Dr. Lance D. Watson

Dr. Lance D. Watson is the Senior Pastor of the Saint Paul's Baptist Church of Richmond, Virginia and chief visionary for its corporate affiliates, Destiny Schools, Charisma Books and Gifts, Saint Paul's Community Foundation, NIA, Inc. of Greater Richmond and Positive Power Media Group. This young, progressive and forward-looking congregation for "People On the Grow" serves as the spiritual home for more than 12,000 persons and supports mission and ministry causes around the globe. Dr. Watson is married to Mrs. Rose Watson and are parents to three children.

The Reverend William D. Watley, Ph.D.

Accomplished writer, preacher, and educator, The Reverend Dr. William D. Watley is the Senior Pastor of the historic Saint Philip African Methodist Episcopal Church in Atlanta, GA. Dr. Watley received his Bachelor of Arts in Theology from St. Louis University and a Master of Divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center. He received a Master of Philosophy and his Doctor of Philosophy in Ethics from Columbia University. He holds a Doctor of Divinity from Payne Theological Seminary, and in addition, completed post-doctoral work at the Ecumenical Institute in Celigny, Switzerland and Harvard's Institute for Education Management.

The Reverend Dr. Wanda Frazier-Parker

Wanda Frazier-Parker is a trusted and influential voice in ministry and leadership. Pursued by churches and corporations to share biblical truth and collaborative leadership principles, she travels extensively throughout the United States and abroad serving women's conferences, facilitating intergenerational leadership seminars and mentoring emerging leaders. A graduate of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary's Doctor of Ministry program with an Effective Ministry to Women emphasis, Dr. Parker organized Synergy Summit, a regional gathering designed for female executives and ministry leaders to collaborate and share successful, career advancement strategies. Professionally, Dr. Parker serves as a leadership trainer for Kellogg Company. A certified John Maxwell coach, trainer, and speaker, Dr. Parker is also the author of 40 Day Health & Wellness Journal.

Bishop John Richard Bryant

Bishop John Bryant is 106th Elected and Consecrated Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

He is the recipient of many honors and awards: including the Ebony Magazine's Honor Roll of Outstanding African American Preachers, and Ebony's list of the 100 Most Influential Black Americans. He has published a collection of sermons entitled, "God Can: Sermons of Encouragement from the Life of Elijah." He and his wife, The Rev. Dr. Cecelia Williams Bryant, have co-authored a new book, "Healing For Wounded Vows." As a bishop, he has inspired a generation of ministry leaders with a global and spiritual mindset.

PRESENTERS' BIOS

The Reverend Dr. Reginald Blount

Dr. Reggie Blount serves on the faculty of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary as Assistant Professor of Formation, Youth and Culture. He teaches in the area of Youth Ministry, Christian Education and Congregational Leadership. He is also Pastor of Arnett Chapel A.M.E. Church in Chicago, IL. He speaks and teaches nationally and internationally helping faith communities envision new and creative ways to minister to, with and on behalf of young people, engage in transformative Christian Education and foster congregational and community renewal. He is a contributor in *"Making God Real for a Next Generation: Ministry with Millennials Born from 1982 to 1999"* (Discipleship Resources, 2003) and *"Educating For Redemptive Community"* (Wipf & Stock, 2015).

The Reverend Dr. Trina Armstrong

Dr. Armstrong is an AME Itinerant Elder and a licensed marriage and family therapist serving in Illinois where she is an Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care and Pastoral Theology at Garret Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston. A mental-health and wellness advocate, Dr. Armstrong is deeply passionate and committed to forming and nurturing healthy and compassionate religious leaders and pastoral care givers who practice life-giving and holistic care in all ministry settings. Dr. Armstrong regularly writes, lectures, and preaches on trauma and healing in African American life. Dr. Armstrong holds a Ph.D. in Practical Theology-Spiritual Care and Counseling from the Claremont School of Theology and is the proud mom to Ariana and a dog name Jireh.

The Reverend Dawn Wright

Rev. Dawn Wright is a woman after own God's heart. Her passion is helping all God's people experience God through different lenses. She recently birthed a ministry called Kaleidoscope. Its purpose is to actively do ministry in a different context. Rev. Dawn Wright believes there are no boundaries in experiencing God. She serves as the Associate Minister at Greater Mount Carmel AME Church, where Rev. James A. Hardaway is the pastor. She currently works for Impact church, as Chief Operating Pastor.

Ms. Courtney Herring

Courtney Herring is a digital marketing strategist and copywriter based in metro ATL. She has spent the last several years serving several nonprofit organizations, socially conscious start-ups and faith-based organizations. Her passion for writing and communicating makes her the perfect fit for partnering with purpose-driven business leaders and organizations, creating effective digital marketing strategies to convince and convert their audiences into valuable, lifelong community members online. In addition to serving clients and partners like Shirley Caesar Outreach Ministries, Black Enterprise, and INROADS, Courtney enjoys facilitating workshops for entrepreneurs, non-profit and faith-based organization leaders to help them make their vision a reality.

The Reverend Tony Lee

Rev. Tony Lee is the founder and Senior Pastor of the Community of Hope A.M.E. Church in Hillcrest Heights, MD. Community of Hope is recognized throughout the region for its innovative ministry, social engagement and community outreach. Community of Hope has gained national recognition for its work around HIV/AIDS, violence prevention, community/police partnerships and educational advocacy. The church's work is also highlighted in the documentary "The Gospel of Healing" and Rev Lee is a contributor in the books "Being a Black Man: At The Corner Of Progress And Peril" and "Reach: 40 Black Men Speak On Living, Loving & Succeeding".

The Reverend Russell "Russ" St. Bernard

Russell St. Bernard is an anointed, gifted, and passionate preacher of the Gospel and is now the Minister to Youth at Reid Temple AME Church in Maryland. Dedicated to assisting churches and youth ministries in doing ministry more effectively, Rev. Russ founded After The Music Stops LLC, which is a full-service youth ministry resource company with the goal of creating youth ministry resources and tools to assist leaders and parents as they serve their students. Additionally, Rev. Russ has been blessed to create a student and adult curriculum for the Urban Youth Workers Institute's National Youth Ministry conference "Reload." Russell is the proud husband of Erica St. Bernard and the proud father to Karis Olivia St. Bernard.

The Reverend James Wesley Dennis III

James is a millennial scholar, minister, activist, and prophetic voice proclaiming good news to all. Currently, James is an ordained Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church and serves as the Director of Ministries for the 7th Episcopal District. Passionate about building compelling, practical, and efficient ministries, James feels called to helping ministry leaders craft ministries that critically explore the gospel, love radically, resist political and spiritual oppression, and provide holistic care to all. Committed to social justice and the Gospel of Christ, James is dedicated to helping churches create, organize, and maintain significant social justice ministries that organize, educate, and train people for social change.

MUSICAL GUESTS

Minister Myron Butler

One of the most exciting and influential young voices in modern gospel music, Myron Butler is making a name for himself as a singer, songwriter, producer, choir director and as the leader of Myron Butler & Levi, Butler has enjoyed massive gospel radio hits with "Set Me Free" and "Stronger". The success has led to Stellar Awards, Grammy nominations and a reputation as one of the most in-demand men in gospel today.

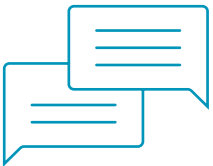
Psalmist Kathy Taylor

Named one of the most enduring voices in Gospel music, Kathy Taylor is an anointed singer, songwriter, producer and executive producer. Kathy began her recording career as a soloist with the legendary James Cleveland's Gospel Music of America and The Mass Choir. She was the featured vocalist on songs such as, "Anticipation", "It's Your Decision", "He Did It" and "I Got My Joy Back". These projects, along with her captivating and live performances have catapulted Kathy into the national spotlight. Through Kathy, God continues to pour out His Spirit. Her dedication to the Body of Christ and limitless love of God places Kathy in a unique position to minister the "Good News" of Jesus Christ.

Pastor John P. Kee

Born the 15th of 16th children, Pastor John P. Kee is one of gospel music's greatest pioneers. Over the course of his professional career that spans three decades, he has written music for Hallmark, Inc., Stephanie Mills, Jonny Lang, The Hawkins Family, Daryl Coley, Billy Preston, Dorinda Clark Cole, Joe Walsh, Rev. James Cleveland, Florida Mass Choir, Mississippi Mass Choir, Vanessa Bell Armstrong, and made History in 1982 as one of the first writers to ever write more than one song for the legendary Dr. James Cleveland's Gospel Music Workshop of America. His music has been featured in film and on television in commercial advertisements and even on Saturday Night Live. His Music catalogue is said to be one of the largest in the world today by an individual Publisher/Writer. Additionally, Pastor Kee has been the full-time pastor of the New Life Fellowship Center. Through non-traditional outreach that transcends the four walled structure, the church's unique approach to ministry has resulted in a rapidly growing, thriving congregation. Pastor Kee's ability to personally relate to the urban lifestyle allows him to reach those who would not typically attend church and further are not welcomed by many assemblies.

GOD FIRST DAILY REFLECTION AND LEARNING GUIDE



God First Holy Convocation Planning Template (Complete prior to the beginning of Day 1)

Instructions: Use this following worksheet to brainstorm your thoughts prior to the Convocation.

FOCUS

What area in your life do you need to develop to strengthen your faith?

How have I grown spiritually over the past year?

What motivates you to attend this conference?

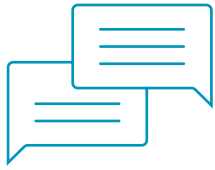
SET

List at least 3 people who you will pray with daily at the God First Convocation.

Identify at least one mantra (Biblical passage, self-written, quote, etc.) that you will recite daily.

GO

How is your soul? Please use this space to jot down your initial thoughts to this question



DAY 1: EQUIP "Strength"

MORNING

Scripture Focus: The Lord is my strength and my defense[a]; he has become my salvation. Psalm 118:14

3 Things I am Grateful for:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Prayer Focus:

3 Things Excite Me:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2 Things I Need Today:

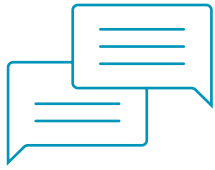
1. _____
2. _____

How Will I Make Sure Those Needs are Met?

EVENING

What did I learn today?

Where am I being challenged?



DAY 2: ENGAGE "BELIEVE GOD"

MORNING

Scripture Focus: Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness. **Genesis 15:6 NIV**

3 Things I am Grateful for:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Prayer Focus:

3 Things Excite Me:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2 Things I Need Today:

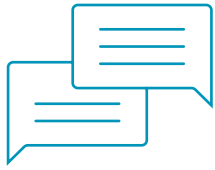
1. _____
2. _____

How Will I Make Sure Those Needs are Met?

EVENING

What did I learn today?

Where am I being challenged?



DAY 3: EMPOWER "Faith Walking"

MORNING

Scripture Focus: Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ. Romans 10:17

3 Things I am Grateful for:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Prayer Focus:

3 Things Excite Me:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2 Things I Need Today:

1. _____
2. _____

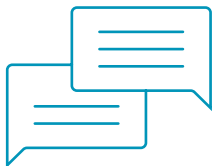
How Will I Make Sure Those Needs are Met?

EVENING

What did I learn today?

Where am I being challenged?

GOD FIRST HOLY CONVOCATION POST-REFLECTION WORKSHEET



Instructions: Use this following worksheet to brainstorm your thoughts prior to the Convocation.

FOCUS

What did you learn?

How do you feel after attending the God First Convocation?

SET

Name one tool that you will practice and use this year (personal, ministry, etc.)

Identify at least 3 other accountability partners who will support you in your spiritual goals over the next year.

GO

How can the tools and strategies learned at the 2017 God First Holy Convocation be used in your personal life and ministry (church, stakeholder, etc.)?

SESSION NOTES

A series of 25 horizontal lines for taking session notes.

SESSION NOTES



7TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

July 10-13, 2017
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA



SAVE THE DATE

November 8-11, 2017

God First Fall Planning Convocation
and Theological Institute



AME7.CHURCH

110 PISGAH CHURCH ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29203
PHONE: 803.935.0500