123rd Session Of The
South Annual Conference

Oct. 7th - 11th, 2013

The Right Reverend Adam Jerfferson Richardson, Jr. - Presiding Prelate
Dr. Connie Speights Richardson - Episcopal Supervisor
The Reverend John L. Bodison - Host Presiding Elder - Central District
Mrs. Joretta Bodison - Host District Consultant
The Reverend Vincent F. Mitchell, Associate Presiding Elder - North District
The Reverend Henry E. Green, Jr., Associate Presiding Elder - South District
The Reverend Michael K. Bouie - Host Pastor
Lady Tamira V. Bouie - Host First Lady

17800 NW 25th Ave. Miami Gardens, FL 33056
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ELEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

SOUTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“Intentional About Ministry – Generation to Generation”

The Opening Service

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Seven O’clock in the Evening

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.
Presiding Prelate

Mrs. Connie Speights Richardson
Episcopal Supervisor

Convening with
Mt. Hermon African Methodist Episcopal Church
Miami Gardens, Florida

The Rev. Michael K. Bouie
Host Pastor

The Rev. John L. Bodison
Host Presiding Elder

The Rev. Vincent F. Mitchell
Associate Presiding Elder

The Rev. Henry E. Green, Jr.
Associate Presiding Elder
The Opening Service
Presiding Elder John L. Bodison, Presiding

The Great Processional (#62 AMECH)
God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient Church’s story; bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom; grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn Thy Christ assail His ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom; grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure Thy children’s warring madness; bend our pride to Thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom; grant us courage, lest we miss Thy kingdom’s goal ....

Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces in the fight to set us free.
Grant us wisdom; grant us courage, that we fail not man nor Thee ....!

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the search for Thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom; grant us courage, serving Thee whom we adore...
(Words by Harry Emerson Fosdick; Tune by John Hughes)

The Doxology
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
The Rev. Michael K. Bouie
Minister: I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet
shall stand within your gates, O Jerusalem. (Psalm 122:1)
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 to dwell in the tents of wickedness. (Ps. 84:10)

Minister: Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek your good. (Ps. 122:9)
People: Those that be planted in the house of the Lord, shall flourish in the courts of our God.
(Psalm 92:13)

Minister: Blessed are they that dwell in Your house. Lord, I have loved Your habitation, the place where
Your honor dwells. (Psalm 26:8)
People: For the Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him. (Habakkuk 2:20)

Minister: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O
Lord, my strength and my Redeemer. (Ps. 19:14)
People: O sing unto the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise
unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises. (Psalm 98:1, 4)
The Hymn of Praise  
(#304 AMEC, St. Thomas)  
The Rev. Melvin E. Hymes

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 fears within, since we assembled last.

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

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 reckon all things loss, so we may Jesus gain.

(Words by Charles Wesley; Tune by Aaron Williams)

The Preface to Prayer  
(#361 AMECH)  
The Rev. Jimmie L. Williams III

There are some things; I may not know there are some places I can’t go,  
But I am sure of this one thing that God is real for I can feel Him deep within.

Refrain
Yes, God is real, real in my soul. Yes, God is real for He has washed and made me whole;  
His love for me is like pure gold. Yes, God is real for I can feel Him in my soul.

(Words and Music by Kenneth Morris)

The Prayer of Invocation  
The Rev. Jimmie L. Williams III

The Choral Response
Thank You, Lord, Thank You, Lord, Thank You, Lord,  
I just want to thank You, Lord.
You’ve been so good, been so good; You’ve been so good,  
I just want to thank You, Lord.

The Worship through Music  
The South Conference Choir

“God and God Alone”

The Scripture Readings

The Psalter  
Psalm 137  
The Rev. Milton Broomfield

The Epistle  
II Timothy 1:1-14  
The Rev. Willie J. Cook

The Gospel (All Standing)  
Luke 17:5-10  
The Rev. Robert Jackson III

The Introit to the Decalogue  
(#69 AMECH)

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.
Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord, Eternal truth attends Thy word;  
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no more.

(Isaac Watts)
The Decalogue (Abridged)  
Leader:  
God spoke all these words: I am God, your God, who brought you out of a life of slavery. No other gods, only ME. No carved gods of any size, shape, or form of anything whatever, whether of things that fly or walk or swim. Don’t bow down to them and don’t serve them because I am God, your God, and I’m a most jealous God, punishing the children for any sins their parents pass on to them to the third, and yes, even to the fourth generation of those who hate me. But I’m unswervingly loyal to the thousands who love me and keep my commandments. No using the name of God in curses or silly banter; God won’t put up with the irreverent use of God’s name. Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Honor your father and mother so that you’ll live a long time in the land that God is giving you. No murder. No adultery. No stealing. No lies about your neighbor. Don’t set your heart on anything that belongs to your neighbor.

People:  
LORD, have mercy upon us, and write these laws upon our hearts.
Nearer, my god to Thee, nearer to Thee!
E’en though it be a cross that raiseth me;
Still all my song shall be, nearer my God to Thee;
Nearer my God to Thee, nearer to Thee.

Leader:  
Hear what Christ, our Savior, says: Love the Lord God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy. And here is the second: ‘Love others as well as you love yourself.’ There is no other commandment that ranks with these.” *(Message Bible, Mark 12:30-31)*

The Gloria Patri  
(#626 AMECH)  
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.  
*(Henry W. Greatorex)*

The Benevolent Offering  
The Rev. Clayton Hodges

The Litany  
Leader:  
I affirm the victorious life extolled in the Christian gospel. I have experienced days of overcoming, of surprises that made my face light up – when I thought: “too good to be true” and drawing happy faces in my notes; and of triumphs that involved “goodness and mercy following me.” But there are also days on my journey that I feel tired, worn, weary and defeated. When I am burdened

People:  
The love of Christ encourages me.

Leader:  
When I acknowledged that Christ was Lord and declared “I am saved,” and "I am called," I felt whole, affirmed, connected, reconciled, re-born and liberated. It was a mountain-top experience! Back in the valley, it took me a while to learn that my liberty was not a license to yield to my base desires, to do as I pleased. The almost daily challenges are still many – deep-seated anger and my inability to forgive, the gross and sometimes obscene accumulation of things (sometimes more than I can afford), a fight against laziness, of thinking of myself more highly than I ought, of the proclivity to look for love in all the wrong places, and the excessive consumption of food and drink. Thank God for grace. When I am tempted and yielding

People:  
The love of Christ constrains me.
Leader: I’ve been known to sing and hum “I won’t Complain” as I consider that my good days really do outweigh my bad days. But when I’m having a bad day, it’s really bad. When I am preparing to throw in the towel

People: The love of Christ reminds me that God’s grace is sufficient.

Leader: Oil gushing from the bottom of the Gulf’s floor a mile deep, siphoning crude belonging to another age, goop slapping against the beach and shoreline, leaving in its wake an overwhelmed ecosystem – birds that no longer fly, fish and crustaceans and mollusks unfit for consumption, pristine beauty faded, jobs lost and people suffer. In sundry places around the globe (including right here at home), children are hungry and cry for bread, and others are throwing bread away. When I am filled with righteous indignation

People: The love of Christ causes me to care and to act.

Leader: Earthquakes by the baker’s dozen, tornados swirl and neighborhoods vanish; flash floods ravage, ethnic violence stuns, terrorists are still lurking – all of these come with a death toll; sables rattling, war drums beating, flag-draped caskets; drunk drivers driving – in too much of a stupor to be fazed; text-messengers messaging while driving, sending a note that just couldn’t wait, and somebody’s loved one pays the price in pain, suffering and death. When I am distressed

People: The love of Christ lifts, comforts, and reminds me there is something I can do.

Leader: When I am lost, sick, confused, or discouraged

People: The love of Christ saves me, heals me, sustains me and calls me to prayer.

(A litany by Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.)

The Worship Through Music
The South Conference Choir

The Presentation of the Bishop
Presiding Elder Henry E. Green, Jr.

The Presentation of the Preacher
Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.

The Sermonic Hymn (#433 AMECH) The Rev. Geraldine W. Miller

How firm a foundation, Ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word.
What more can He say than to you He hath said -
To you who to Jesus for refuge have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dismayed
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand
Upheld by My gracious, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go
The rivers of sorrow shall not thee overflow.
For I will be with thee thy troubles to bless
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.
"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flame shall not harm thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

"E’en down to old age all My people shall prove  
My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
And when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they still in My bosom be borne.

"The soul that on Jesus doth lean for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to His foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

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<td>All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.</td>
<td>(Ludwig van Beethoven)</td>
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<td>I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. The third day He arose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty: from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.</td>
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South Annual Conference

“Intentional About Ministry – Generation to Generation”

The Ecumenical Service

Wednesday, October 9, 2013

Eleven-thirty O’clock in the Morning

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.
Presiding Prelate

Mrs. Connie Speights Richardson
Episcopal Supervisor, WMS

Convening with
Mt. Hermon African Methodist Episcopal Church
Miami Gardens, Florida

The Rev. Michael K. Bouie
Host Pastor

The Rev. John L. Bodison
Host Presiding Elder

The Rev. Vincent F. Mitchell
Associate Presiding Elder

The Rev. Henry E. Green, Jr.
Associate Presiding Elder
The Ecumenical Service
The Reverend Curtis Randolph, Presiding

The Doxology
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
The Rev. Mildred Roscoe
Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live.
People: I will sing praises to my God all my life long.
Leader: O magnify the Lord with me, let us exalt God’s name together.
People: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

The Opening Hymn
(#58 AMEC) The Rev. Isaac F. Mitchell, II
O Magnify the Lord with me, ye people of His choice,
Let all to whom He lendeth breath now in His name rejoice;
For love’s blест revelation, for rest from condemnation,
For uttermost salvation to Him give thanks.
Refrain
Let all the people praise Thee, Let all the people praise Thee!
Let all the people praise Thy name forever and forever more!
(Forever more, O Lord)
Let all the people praise Thee, Let all the people praise Thee!
Let all the people praise Thy name forever and forever more....

O praise Him for His holiness, His wisdom and His grace;
Sing praises for the precious blood which ransomed all our race;
In tenderness He sought us, from depths of sin He brought us,
The way of life then taught us, To Him give thanks.

Had I a thousand tongues to sing, the half could ne’er be told
Of love so rich, so full and free, of blessings manifold;
Of grace that faileth never, peace flowing like a river,
From God the glorious Giver, to Him give thanks.
(Words and Music by Leila N. Morris)

The Prayer of Invocation
The Rev. Conrad Jenkins

The Choral Response
Jesus, I’ll never forget what You’ve done for me!
Jesus, I’ll never forget how You set me free!
Jesus, I’ll never forget how You brought me out!
Jesus, I’ll never forget; no never!

How can I forget what You’ve done for me?
How can I forget how You set me free?
How can I forget how You brought me out?
Jesus, I’ll never forget; no never!

The Worship Through Music
The Reading of Scripture
The Hebrew Scriptures
The New Testament
The Rev. Samuel Sullivan
The Rev. George A. Hardy

The Presentation of the Preacher
Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.

The Sermonic Hymn
(#226 AMECH)
The Rev. Dallasteen J. Yates

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers toils and snares, I have already come;
’Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine;
But God who calls me here below will be forever mine.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

(John Newton stanzas 1-5; stanza 6, anonymous)

The Sermon
The Rev. Dr. Walter T. Richardson
Pastor Emeritus, Sweet Home Baptist Church
Perrine, Florida

The Invitation to Discipleship
The Rev. Melvin Payne, Jr.

I’ll say yes, Lord, yes to Your will and to your way.
I’ll say yes, Lord, yes I will trust You and obey.
When Your Spirit speaks to me, with my whole heart I’ll agree;
And my answer will be yes, Lord, yes.

Lord, I give You all the glory for what You’ve done for me.
You fill my life until I overflow.
All I have is Yours to use any way You choose;
You’re the Lord of lords, so how can I say no?
(Lyrics by Shirley Caesar)

The Worship in Giving
The Conference Stewardship Committee

The Announcements
The Rev. James Watson, Sr.

The Benediction
The Rev. Walter T. Richardson
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ELEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

South Annual Conference

“Intentional About Ministry – Generation to Generation”

The Sons of Allen
“Mighty Men of Valor”
Men’s Night Celebration

Wednesday, October 9, 2013

Seven O’clock in the Evening

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.
Presiding Prelate

Mrs. Connie Speights Richardson
Episcopal Supervisor, WMS

Convening with
Mt. Hermon African Methodist Episcopal Church
Miami Gardens, Florida

The Rev. Michael K. Bouie
Host Pastor

The Rev. John L. Bodison
Host Presiding Elder

The Rev. Vincent F. Mitchell
Associate Presiding Elder

The Rev. Henry E. Green, Jr.
Associate Presiding Elder
The Sons of Allen Men’s Night Celebration
The Order of Worship
Brother Daniel Wilcox, Presiding

The Doxology
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
Bro. James Palmer

The Hymn of Praise
Rise up, O men of God! Have done with lesser things.
Give heart and mind and soul and strength to serve the King of kings.
Rise up, O men of God! The kingdom tarries long.
Bring in the day of brotherhood and end the night of wrong.
Rise up, O men of God! The church for you doth wait,
Her strength unequal to her task; rise up, and make her great!
Lift high the cross of Christ! Tread where his feet have trod.
As brothers of the Son of Man, rise up, O men of God!
(Words by William P. Merrill, Tune by William H. Walter)

The Prayer of Invocation
Bro. Bobby Laster

The Worship Through Music
The Men’s Choir

The Reading of the Holy Scripture
The Hebrew Scriptures Judges 6:11-16 The Rev. Carl Wallace

The Summary of the Decalogue
Bro. Anthony Brown
And he said to Him, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all
your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like unto it, you shall love your
neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and
the prophets.

The Offering for Nehemiah Ministry
Bro. Devondre Duncan

The Presentation of the Preacher
Presiding Elder John L. Bodison

The Sermonic Hymn
I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice, and it told Thy love to me;
But I long to rise in the arms of faith, and be closer drawn to Thee.
Refrain
Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross where Thou has died;
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to Thy precious, bleeding side.

Consecrate me now to Thy service Lord, by the power of grace divine;
Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope, and my will be lost in Thine.

O the pure delight of a single hour that before Thy throne I spend,
When I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God, I commune as friend with friend!

There are depths of love that I cannot know till I cross the narrow sea;
There are heights of joy that I may not reach till I rest in peace with Thee.

(Words by Fanny J. Crosby, Tune by William H. Doane)

The Sermon
The Rev. Vensen Ambeau

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship
(#215 AMECH) The Rev. Nathaniel Robinson III

I’ve a message from the Lord, hallelujah! This message unto you I’ll give,
’Tis recorded in His word, hallelujah! It is only that you “look and live.”

Refrain
“Look and live,” my brother, live, Look to Jesus now, and live;
’Tis recorded in His word, hallelujah! It is only that you “look and live.”

I’ve a message full of love, hallelujah! A message, O my friend, for you,
’Tis a message from above, hallelujah! Jesus said it, and I know ’tis true.

Life is offered unto you, hallelujah! Eternal life thy soul shall have,
If you’ll only look to Him, hallelujah! Look to Jesus who alone can save.

I will tell you how I came, hallelujah! To Jesus when He made me whole—
’Twas believing on His name, hallelujah! I trusted and He saved my soul.

(Words and Tune by William A. Ogden)

The Worship of Giving
The Conference Stewardship Committee

The Presentation of the SOA Coordinator
The Rev. Eddie Lake

The Presentation of the SOA Scholarship Awardee
The Rev. Kenneth Irby

The Presentation of the Bishop
Brother Antonio Williams

The Presentation of Special Awards
Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson, Jr.

Businessman of the Year
Extraordinary Community Service
Bro. Irby McKnight

The Announcements

The Benediction
The Rev. Vensen Ambeau
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ELEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

South Annual Conference

“Intentional About Ministry – Generation to Generation”

The Service of Ordination
Superannuation of Preachers and
Holy Communion

Thursday, October 10, 2013
Eleven-thirty O’clock in the Morning

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.
Presiding Prelate

Mrs. Connie Speights Richardson
Episcopal Supervisor, WMS

Convening with
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The Rev. Michael K. Bouie
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The Rev. Vincent F. Mitchell
Associate Presiding Elder

The Rev. Henry E. Green, Jr.
Associate Presiding Elder
The Order of Service
The Rev. Willie J. Cook, Presiding

The Processional
(#328, Total Praise Hymnal)
Order my steps in Your word, dear Lord, Lead me guide me, every day.
Send Your anointing, Father, I pray. Order my steps in Your word.
Please, order my steps in Your word.

Humbly I ask Thee, teach me Your will. While You are working, help me be still.
Though Satan is busy, god is real! Order my steps in Your word.
Please, order my steps in Your word.

Bridle my tongue, let my words edify, Let the words of my mouth be acceptable in Thy sight.
Take charge of my thoughts, both day and night. Order my steps in Your word.
Please, order my steps in Your word.

I want to walk worthy, my calling to fulfill. Please order my steps, Lord,
And I’ll do Your blessed will, the word is ever changing, but You are still the same.
If You order my steps, I’ll praise Your name!
(Words and Tune by Glenn E. Burleigh)

The Doxology
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
Presiding Elder John L. Bodison
Leader: Awesome God, Holy and Reverend is Your name! We praise You for Your glorious and mighty acts in Creation, Salvation, and Liberation.
People: In Creation, You made us; in Salvation, You saved us; in Liberation You delivered us.

Leader: Awesome God, we worship and adore You for Your gracious call upon our lives through Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ: in Your Church, in the world; in the ministry of proclamation, pastoral care, and the myriad means of outreach – that the world may know Jesus and be reconciled to You.
People: To ministry You have called us, and into the world You have sent us – to be Your ambassadors of love, liberation, reconciliation and empowerment for Your people. Our soul shouts, Thank You! Holy and Reverend is Your name!
(A Call to Worship by Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.)

The Opening Hymn
(#555 AAHH) Presiding Elder Henry E. Green, Jr.

It may be in the valley, where countless dangers hide;
It may be in the sunshine, where I in peace abide;
But this one thing I know – If it be dark or fair,
If Jesus is with me, I’ll go anywhere!

Refrain
If Jesus goes with me, I’ll go, anywhere!
’Tis Heaven to me, Where-e’er I may be if He is there.
I count it a privilege here, His cross to bear.
If Jesus goes with me, I’ll go – anywhere!
But if it be my portion to bear my cross at home;
While others bear their burdens beyond the billow’s foam,
I’ll prove my faith in Him – Confess His judgments fair,
If Jesus goes with me, I’ll go anywhere!

It is not mine to question, the judgments of my Lord;
It is but mine to follow the leadings of His word;
But if I go or stay, or whether here or there,
I’ll be with my Savior, Content anywhere!

(C. Austin Miles)

The Prayer of Invocation

Almighty God, favor us with Your holy presence in this historic and sacred moment. Your word declares that through Your divine providence You have appointed diverse orders of ministers in Your Church. For such an occasion we have assembled. Behold these Your servants, now called to this most sacred and Holy Office. Replenish them so with the truth of Your doctrine and adorn them with the innocence of life, that they may faithfully serve You, and through Your Holy Spirit, edify Your Church, in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

The Choral Response

I love You. I love You. I love You Lord, today
Because You care for me in such a special way.
And yes I praise You. I lift You up. I magnify Your name. That’s why my heart is filled with praise.

My heart, my mind, my soul belong to You. You paid the price for me way back on Calvary.
And yes I praise You. I lift You up. I magnify Your name. That’s why my heart is filled with praise.

(William F. Hubbard)

The Worship through Music

Likewise must the Deacons be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a Deacon, being found blameless. Let the Deacons be the mate of one spouse, ruling their children and their own homes well. For they that have used the office of a Deacon well will purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus. Even so must their spouses be grave, not slanderers, but sober, faithful in all things.

Let the elders that rule be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the word and doctrine.

See that you walk circumspectly not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is; giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; submitting yourselves to one another in the fear of God.

Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
The Preface to the Decalogue

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 shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like unto it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend 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.

The Worship in Giving

The Conference Stewardship Committee

The Presentation of the Bishop

Presiding Elder Vincent F. Mitchell

The Presentation of the Preacher

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.

The Sermonic Hymn

O Zion haste, thy mission high fulfilling,
To tell to all the world that God is Light.
That He who made all nations is not willing
One soul should perish, lost in shades of night.

Refrain

Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace;
Tidings of Jesus, Redemption and release.

Behold how many thousands still are lying,
Bound in the darksome prison house of sin,
With none to tell them of the Savior’s dying,
Or of the life He died for them to win.

Proclaim to every people, tongue, and nation
That God, in whom they live and move, is Love;
Tell how He stooped to save His lost creation,
And died on earth that we might live above.

Give of thy children, to bear the message glorious;
Give of thy wealth to speed them on their way;
Pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious;
And all your spending Jesus will repay.

(Mary A. Thomson)

The Ordination Sermon

Bishop Sarah Frances Davis
Sixteenth Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church
The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

“Lord, I'm available to You”  The Rev. Dr. Anthony Reed

You gave me my hands to reach out to man
To show him Your love and Your perfect plan
You gave me my ears, I can hear Your voice so clear,
I can hear the cries of sinners
But can I wipe away their tears?

Chorus
Lord, I'm available to You
My will I give to You
I'll do what You say do,
Use me Lord to show someone the way
And enable time to say,
My storage is empty and I am available to You

You gave me my voice to speak Your word,
To sing all Your praises to those who never heard;
But with my eye I can see
A need for more availability
I've seen the hearts that have been broken,
So many people to be free.

Now I'm giving back to You
All the tools You have to me
My hands, my ears, my voice, my eyes,
So You can use them as You please
I have emptied out my cup
So that you can fill it up
Now I'm free, I just want to be more available to You

(Words and Tune by Rev. Milton Brunson)

The Liturgy for the Ordination of Deacons

The Elder: The Rev. Eddie Lake

Bishop Richardson, we present this person to be admitted Itinerant Deacon.

Bishop: Take heed that the person whom you present to us be apt and meet, by their godly conversation, to exercise their ministry duly to the honor of God and the edifying of the Church.

The Elder: I have inquired concerning her, and also examined her, and think her so to be.

The Name of the Elected Itinerant Deacon
Denise Smith Blue

Bishop: Members of the South Conference, if there be any of you who know any impediment or crime in any of these persons presented to be ordained Itinerant Deacons for which they ought not
to be admitted to this office, do come forth in the name of God and show what the crime or impediment is.

Do you trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Spirit to take upon you the Office of the Ministry in the Church of Christ, to serve God for the promotion of His glory, and the edifying of God’s people?

The Ordinands:  I trust so.

Bishop: Do you unfeignedly believe all the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

The Ordinands: I do believe them.

Bishop: Will you diligently read and expound the same to the people whom you shall be appointed to serve?

The Ordinands: I will.

Bishop: It appertains to the office of a Deacon to assist the Elder in Divine Service. And especially when the elder administers the Holy Communion, to help in the distribution thereof and to read and expound the Holy Scriptures; to instruct the youths, and in the absence of the Elder, to baptize. And furthermore, it is the office of the Deacon to search for the sick, poor, and impotent, that they may be visited and relieved. Will you do this gladly and willingly?

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

Bishop: Will you frame and fashion your own life and the lives of your families according to the doctrine of Christ and to make both yourselves and them, as much as in you lies, wholesome examples of the flock of Christ?

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

Bishop: Will you reverently obey them to whom the charge and government over you is committed, following with a glad mind and will their godly admonition?

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

The Act of Diaconate Ordination

Bishop: Take thou authority to execute the office of an Itinerant Deacon in the Church of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

The Congregation: Amen.

Bishop: Take thou authority to read the Scriptures, and to preach the same in the Church of God.

The Congregation: Amen.

The Elder: Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning, and you yourselves like unto those who wait for their Lord, when He will return from the wedding; that when He comes and knocks,
they may open unto Him immediately. Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when He comes shall find watching.

Verily I say unto you that He shall gird Himself, and make them sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if He shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants.

**The Liturgy for the Ordination of Elders**

The Elder: The Rev. Willie J. Cook

Bishop Richardson, we present unto you these persons to be admitted Itinerant Elders.

Bishop: Take heed that the person whom you present to us be apt and meet, by his godly conversation, to exercise his ministry duly to the honor of God and the edifying of the Church.

The Elder: We have inquired concerning him, and also examined him, and think him so to be.

**The Name of Elected Itinerant Elders**

The Reverend Carl Wallace

Bishop: Members of the South Conference, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, this day to ordain Elder, for after due examination we find not the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if there be any of you who know any impediment or crime in any of them, for which they ought not be received into this holy ministry, do come forth in the name of God and show what the crime or impediment is.

You have heard, as well in your private examinations as in the exhortation which was just made to you, and in the writings of the Apostles, of what dignity and of what great importance this office is, whereunto you are now called. And now again we exhort you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that you remember how high a dignity and to how weighty an office you are called; that is to say to be messengers, watchers, and stewards of the Lord, to teach and to admonish, to feed and provide for the Lord’s family, to seek for Christ’s sheep that are dispersed abroad, and of His children who are in the midst of this evil world, that they may be saved through Christ forever.

The Elder: The Rev. Eddy J. Moise

Have always, therefore, printed in your remembrance what great treasure is committed to your charge. For, they are the sheep of Christ which He bought with His death, and for whom He shed His blood. The church and congregation, whom you must serve, are His Spouse, and His Body.

The Elder: The Rev. Michael K. Bouie

And if it should happen the same church or any member thereof, do take any hurt or hindrance by reason of your negligence, you know the greatness of the fault, and also the horrible punishment that will ensue. Wherefore consider within yourselves the end of the ministry towards the children of God, towards the Spouse and Body of Christ, and see that you never cease your labor, your care, and diligence until you have done all that lies in you,
according to your bounden duty, to bring all such as are or shall be committed to your charge unto that agreement in the faith, and to that ripeness and perfectness of age in Christ, that there may be no place left among you, either for error in religion or for viciousness in life.

The Elder: The Rev. Milton Broomfield

Forasmuch then as your office is both of so great excellence, and of so great difficulty, you surely see how great care and study you ought to apply yourselves, as neither you yourselves offend, nor be occasion that others offend. Howbeit, you cannot have a mind and will thereunto of yourselves; for that will and ability are given of God alone.

The Elder: The Rev. Hudson Williamson

Therefore you ought, and have need, to pray earnestly for His Holy Spirit. And seeing that you cannot by any other means compass the doing of so weighty a work pertaining to the salvation of humankind, but with doctrine and exhortation taken out of the Holy Scriptures, and with a life agreeable to the same, consider how studious you ought to be in reading and learning the Scriptures and in framing the manners both of yourselves and of them that pertain unto you, according to the rules of the same Scriptures, and for this selfsame cause how you ought to forsake and set aside as much as you may all worldly care and studies.

Bishop: We have good hope that you have all weighed and pondered these things long before now; and that you have clearly determined by God’s grace to give yourselves to this office whereby it has pleased God to call you, so that as much as lies in you, you will apply yourselves wholly to this one thing and draw all your cares and studies this way, and that you will continually pray to God the Father by the mediation of our Savior Jesus Christ, for the Heavenly assistance of the Holy Spirit, that by daily reading and weighing of the Scriptures you may wax riper and stronger in your ministry, and that you may so endeavor yourselves, from time to time, to sanctify the lives of you and yours, and to fashion them after the rule and doctrine of Christ that you may be wholesome and goodly examples and patterns for the people to follow.

And now that this present congregation of Christ here assembled may also understand your minds and wills in these things, and that this your promise may the more move you to do your duties, you shall answer plainly to these things which we, in the name of God and His Church, shall demand of you touching the same.

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

The Ordinand: I do so believe.

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

The Ordinand: I am so persuaded and have determined by God’s grace.

Bishop: Will you then give faithful diligence always so to minister the doctrine and sacraments and discipline of Christ as the Lord has commanded?
The Ordinand:  
I will do so, by the help of the Lord.

Bishop:  
Will you be ready with faithful diligence always to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrine contrary to God's word, and to use both public and private monitions and exhortations, as well to the sick as to the whole within your charge as need shall require and occasion shall be given?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS

Come Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire
And lighten with celestial fire;

Thou the anointing Spirit art
Who doth thy sevenfold gifts impart

Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, light, and fire of love.
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight;

Anoint and cheer our soiled face
With the abundance of Thy grace.
Keep far our foes; give peace at home;
Where Thou art guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And Thee of both to be but one!

That through the ages all along
This may be our endless song;

Praise to Thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Elder:  
Almighty God, Heavenly Father, who of Your infinite love and goodness towards us have given us Your only and most dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redemption by His death and was ascended into heaven, sent abroad into the world His Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Teachers, and Pastors by whose labor and ministry He gathered together a great flock in all parts of the world, to set forth the eternal praise of Your holy name; for these so great benefits of Your eternal goodness, and for that You have vouchsafed to call these Your servants here present to the same office and ministry appointed for the salvation of humankind, we render unto You most hearty thanks.

The Elder:  
We praise and worship You, and we humbly beseech You by the same blessed Son to grant unto all, who either here or elsewhere call upon Your name, that we may continue to show ourselves thankful unto You for these and all Your other benefits, and that we may daily increase and go forward in the knowledge and faith of You and Your Son, by the Holy Spirit. So that as well by these Your ministers as by them over whom they shall be appointed Your ministers and Your holy name may be forever glorified and Your blessed kingdom enlarged through the same, Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in unity of the same Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

The bishop, with seven elders, shall lay their hands severally upon the head of every one that receives

The Order of Elder
The receivers humbly kneeling and the bishop saying:

Bishop:  
The Lord pour upon You the Holy Spirit for the office and work of an Itinerant Elder in the Church of God, now committed unto you by the imposition of our hands. And be a faithful dispenser of the word of God and of His holy sacraments in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Congregation:  
Amen.

Then shall be delivered to each of them, kneeling, the Bible into their hands, saying:

Bishop:  
Take thou authority to preach the word of God and to administer the holy sacraments in the congregation in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
The Congregation: Amen.

The Elder: The Rev. P. Gwen Livatt

Most merciful Father, we beseech You to send upon these Your servants Your heavenly blessings that they may be clothed with righteousness and that the word spoken by their mouths may never be spoken in vain. Grant, also, that they shall deliver out of Your most Holy Word, or agreeably to the same, as the means of our salvation; and that in all our words and deeds may seek Your glory and the increase of Your kingdom through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Service of Holy Communion

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.
Chief Celebrant

The Communion Hymn (#534 AMECH, Manoah)

According to Thy gracious word, in meek humility,
This will I do, my dying Lord, I will remember Thee.

Thy body broken for my sake, my bread from heaven shall be;
Thy testimonial cup I take, and thus remember Thee.

Gethsemane can I forget, or there Thy conflict see,
Thine agony and bloody sweat, and not remember Thee?

When to the cross I turn mine eyes and rest on Calvary,
O Lamb of God, my Sacrifice, I must remember Thee!

Remember Thee, and all Thy pains, and all Thy love to me;
Yea, while a breath, a pulse remains, will I remember Thee!

(James Montgomery, Tune by Henry W. Greatorex)

The Bidding: You that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins and are in love and charity with your neighbor, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in His holy ways; draw near with faith to receive the holy Sacrament, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, in the presence of His church.

The General Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all people, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness which we from time to time most grievously have committed by thought, word, and deed against Your divine Majesty, provoking most justly Your wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us.

Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father for Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake; forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please You in the newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Prayer of Consecration

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of Your tender mercy did give Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, who made thereby His oblation of Himself, once offered, a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and did institute and in His
holy gospel command us to continue a perpetual memory of that His precious death until His coming again; hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech You, and grant that we, receiving these Your creatures of bread and wine, according to Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ’s holy institution, in remembrance of His death and passion, may be partakers of His most blessed body and blood; who in the same night that He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying, “Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you.” Likewise after supper He took the cup and when He had given thanks He gave it to them saying, “All of you drink this, for this is My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins; do this as often as you shall drink it, in remembrance of Me.” Amen.

The Sharing of the Elements
(Bishop, Presiding Elders, Board of Examiners, the Ordinands, their families, the congregation)

The Lord’s Prayer

The Blessing

Bishop Sarah Frances Davis

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and your minds in the knowledge and love of God and of His son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

The persons whose names appear in the program for Ordination have been recommended by the Board of Examiners; actual ordination requires the final approval by the Annual Conference and Bishop while in session.
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ELEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

South Annual Conference

“Intentional About Ministry – Generation to Generation”

†

Annual Lay Witness Service
Thursday, October 10, 2013
Seven O’clock in the Evening

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.
Presiding Prelate

Mrs. Connie Speights Richardson
Episcopal Supervisor, WMS

Convening with
Mt. Hermon African Methodist Episcopal Church
Miami Gardens, Florida

The Rev. Michael K. Bouie
Host Pastor

The Rev. John L. Bodison
Host Presiding Elder

The Rev. Vincent F. Mitchell
Associate Presiding Elder
THE REV. HENRY E. GREEN, JR.
ASSOCIATE PRESIDING ELDERS

SOUTH CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION
ANNUAL LAY WITNESS SERVICE
Bro. Jia Ingraham, YAR Worship Leader

The Organ Prelude

The Processional
Officers and Program Participants

The Doxology

The Call to Worship
Bro. Jia Ingraham

Leader: Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt God’s name together.
People: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God’s mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Leader: Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt God’s name together.
People: Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord rescues them from them all.

Leader: Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt God’s name together.
People: The Lord is good, gracious, holy, and mighty. From everlasting to everlasting He is God.

Leader: Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt God’s name together.
People: We will make a joyful noise to the Lord. We will break forth into joyous song and sing praises. God has brought us thus far: as the African Methodist Episcopal Church, as a community of faith, as a people empowered, as a people of hope – and we are glad!

(A Call to Worship by Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson, Jr.)

The Opening Hymn
(Tune, Zion: Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah) Marquis Ivy

Laymen now have thus assembled in Thy blessed name O God
Guide us in our true endeavor, light the pathway that we trod;
Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause.
Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause.

We are banded one in union, to fulfill Thy just command
May we be Thy true disciples, holding to Thy mighty hand.
Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love.
Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love.

As we walk this Christian journey, Let us keep our armor bright,
Let our works be pure and holy that we stand within Thy sight;
Laymen soldiers, strong in unity and love
Laymen soldiers, strong in unity and love.

May we stand before Thine altar, pledging Lord to work for Thee
In the vineyard, in the pastures let us Lord Thy pilgrims be;
Let us lift the cross forever to the skies
Let us lift the cross forever to the skies.

The Invocation

Cynnamon Blash

The Choral Response

# 311 Thy Way, O Lord

Thy way, O Lord not mine; Ty will be done not mine,
Since Thou for me didst bleed, and now doth intercede
Each day I simply plead; thy will be done;
Refrain
Thy will, Thy will be done; Thy will, Thy will be done;
Incline my heart each day to say, “Thy will be done,” Amen.

The Anthem

Festival Piece on “Saint Anne” Choir, Mt. Hermon Miami Gardens

The Scripture

The Lord is My Light Choir

The Preface Hymn to the Decalogue

Choir and Congregation

From Ann That Dwell, Tune: Woodworth No. 258

The Decalogue (Abridged)

Nearer My God to Thee, nearer to Thee!
E’en though it be a cross, that raiseth me.
Still all my song shall be, nearer my God to Thee
Nearer my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

The Gloria Patri (No.7)

Choir and Congregation

The Litany of Commitment

THE LITANY of HISTORY AND PRAISE Sis. Dorothy Reid

Leader: It was at the General Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1912, where the birth of the ‘Organized Lay Movement’ occurred, with Professor Charles H. Johnson of Wilberforce named as the first president.

People: We Praise Thee O Lord, for the founding of the “Laymen’s Missionary Movement.”

Leader: During the 1916 General Conference, the Laymen’s Missionary Movement was reorganized as the Connectional Lay College with Fisk University Professor Carl V. Roman, as president.

People: We Praise Thee O Lord, for the progression of the Connectional Lay College.

Leader: In 1920, the Lay College elected a new president, Mr. Aaron Malone, Poro College millionaire of St. Louis, Missouri, who served until 1924, when Dr. R. R. Williams of Tampa, Florida, was elected.

People: We Praise Thee O Lord, for the caliber of leadership you provided to root and ground the Lay Organization for decades to come.

Leader: The General Conference in 1936, saw the election of Attorney Herbert L. Dudley. Attorney Dudley served for 23 years until 1959, when Mr. J. D. Williams of Kansas City, Missouri, was elected president.
People:  We Praise Thee O Lord, for the stability and constancy of purpose undergirding our Lay Organization.

Leader:  It was at the 19th Biennial Session in 1985, held in Nashville, Tennessee, that the glass ceiling was broken with the election of Dr. Katheryn Brown as the first and to date, only, female president of the Connectional Lay Organization.

People:  We Praise Thee O Lord, for the value of and the courage to embrace diversity.

Leader:  In 1993, Mr. James L. Williams of Jacksonville, Florida, became the president of the Connectional Lay Organization. Mr. Arthur D. Brown of Columbus, Ohio was elected president in 2001, and due to his untimely death, was succeeded by, Mr. Jesse L. Burns of Ocala, Florida, who was subsequently elected at the next biennial session.

People:  We Praise Thee O Lord, for sustaining us through change and loss and arming us with determination and blessing us with favor.

Leader:  In 2009, at the 31st Biennial Session in Little Rock, Arkansas, Dr. Willie C. Glover, Columbus, Ohio, was elected President of the Connectional Lay Organization.

People:  We Praise Thee O Lord for a century of progress built on a foundation of faith. We Praise Thee O Lord for a growing, evolving and strong Connectional Lay Organization building on our Global Legacy of Christ-Centered Leadership and Training.

(From the pen of P. H. Wright - Eleventh Episcopal District Director of Lay Activities)

The Spiritual  His Name so Sweet, Arr. By Hall Johnson  Choir, Mt. Hermon, Miami Gardens

The Offering  Sis. Sheila Hammond  The Conference Stewardship Committee

The Offertory  All things come of Thee, O’ Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen

The Sermonic Song: Liturgical Dance  Darien Wight

The Sermon in Songs  Focus: Where is your Faith?  Choir, Mt. Hermon, Miami Gardens

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship  Just As I Am

The Offering  The Conference Stewardship Committee

The Offertory  “We Give Thee but Thine Own”  Choir and Congregation

The Presentation of Conference President

Greetings and Remarks  Bro. Richard Simpson

The Presentation of the Lay Hall of Fame Award  Kay Copeland and Willie J. Williams

The Presentation of the Episcopal Lay President  Bro. Richard Simpson

The Presentation of the Bishop  Bro. Charlie Nichols
The Recognition of Attendance Awards

Remarks

Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson, Jr.
Presiding Prelate, 11th Episcopal District

The Announcements

The Doxology, Tune: Duke Street, No 69

The Lay Benediction

“May God bless us with the true spirit of Christianity; that we may live together, not as man over man, but as Lay persons working with God.”

The Recessional

No. 306, King of My Life

Clergy and Program Participants

ELECTED CONFERENCE OFFICERS
(2013-2014)

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
3rd Vice President
Recording Secretary
Assist. Recording Secretary
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Chaplain
Parliamentarian
Historiographer
Director of Lay Activities
Director of Public Relations

Richard Simpson
Sheila Hammond
Willie J. Williams
Jimmie Ingraham
Iva Major
Gwendolyn B. Davis
Evelyn Odom
Joan Harper
Buster McFadden
Howard McKire
Nancy Simms
Evelyn Firlow
Marilyn Smallwood
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ELEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

SOUTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“Intentional About Ministry – Generation to Generation”

The Memorial Service

Friday, October 11, 2013

Eleven-thirty O’clock in the Morning

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.
Presiding Prelate

Mrs. Connie Speights Richardson
Episcopal Supervisor, WMS

Convening with
Mt. Hermon African Methodist Episcopal Church
Miami Gardens, Florida

The Rev. Michael K. Bouie
Host Pastor

The Rev. John L. Bodison
Host Presiding Elder

The Rev. Vincent F. Mitchell
Associate Presiding Elder

The Rev. Henry E. Green, Jr.
Associate Presiding Elder
The Memorial Service

The Opening

(#476 AMECH)
For all the saints who, from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Leader: The Rev. Phillip Johns
Like pilgrims, we travel from time into eternity seeking the heavenly city which our Heavenly Father has promised us. Since last we met, by God’s own will and purpose, God has called from among us our co-laborers and loved-ones who sojourned with us in our families, in ministry and in the life of the church. We believe they were called to a new and larger life. They have gone for a nobler and better clime.

The Song of Hope

(#281 AAHH) The Rev. Lori N. Snell
God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus,
He came to love, heal, and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.
Refrain
Because He lives I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future.
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

The Litany The Rev. Ethel Mitchell
Leader: How vulnerable and fragile we are, O God, and yet how strong You make us through the cross of Your Son.
People: Our faith testifies that “The word became flesh and dwelt among us.” Thus, our grief is God’s grief. Our sorrow is God’s sorrow. God’s strength is our strength.

Leader: We have been baptized into life physical, and baptized into life spiritual. The baptism of both is a baptism of beauty and sorrow, of love and grief, of receiving and letting go, and where there is baptism there is new life.
People: Where there is new life, there is resurrection.

Leader: Where there is resurrection, there is the power of God.
People: Where there is the power of God, there is healing.

Leader: Where there is healing, there is love.
People: Where there is love, there is strength.

Leader: Brothers and Sisters, these are they who have run the race and finished their course this Conference Year. We thank the Lord for their labor and faithful witness. Yet we sorrow not for them, as those who have no hope.

The Roll Call and Tributes The Rev. Ronnie Britton
(The deceased ministers and spouses)
(The deceased lay persons who were delegates at the last Annual Conference)
The Prayer of Thanksgiving
O God, we thank and praise You for the life, love and labor of our deceased co-laborers and loved-ones. We thank You for the good they did, for the lives they touched, for the service they gave to perpetuate Your church and advance the cause of Christ. Yet, we stand in need of You. How vulnerable and fragile we are.

Strengthen us for the journey still before us. Prepare us for the heavenly reunion. We pray in the name of Him who is victorious over death and the grave; even Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

The Song of Triumph and Hope
Sing the wondrous love of Jesus; Sing His mercy and His grace;
In the mansions bright and blessed, He’s prepared for us a place.

Refrain
When we all get to heaven, What a day of rejoicing that will be,
When we all see Jesus, We’ll sing and shout the victory.

Let us then be true and faithful, Trusting, serving, everyday,
Just one glimpse of Him in glory, Will the toils of life repay.

The Benediction
The Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to every generation.

(A Memorial Service: Written by Bishop J. Richardson)
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ELEVENTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

SOUTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“Intentional About Ministry – Generation to Generation”

The Closing Service

Friday, October 11, 2013

Seven O’clock in the Evening

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.
Presiding Prelate

Mrs. Connie Speights Richardson
Episcopal Supervisor, WMS

Convening with
Mt. Hermon African Methodist Episcopal Church
Miami Gardens, Florida

The Rev. Michael K. Bouie
Host Pastor

The Rev. John L. Bodison
Host Presiding Elder

The Rev. Vincent F. Mitchell
Associate Presiding Elder

The Rev. Henry E. Green, Jr.
Associate Presiding Elder
The Closing Service
Presiding Elder Vincent F. Mitchell, Presiding

The Processional
(#129 AMECH)
All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the King of Israel, and David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's Name coming, the King and blessed One.

The company of angels are praising You on high;
And mortals, joined with all things created, make reply.
The people of the Hebrews with palms before You went;
Our praise and prayers and anthems before You we present.

To you before Your passion they sang their hymns of praise;
To You, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
Their praises You accepted, accept the prayers we bring,
Great source of love and goodness, our Savior and our King.
(Words by Theodulf of Orleans; Translated by John M. Neale; Tune by Melchior Teschner)

The Doxology
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
The Rev. Eddy J. Moise, Jr.

Minister: I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within your gates, O Jerusalem.

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

Minister: Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek Your 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 Your house. Lord, I have loved Your habitation, the place where Your honor dwells.

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 Your 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, sing praises.

The Hymn of Praise
(#91 AMECH, Cambridge New)
The Rev. Eddie Lake

How great the wisdom, power and grace Which in redemption shine!
The heavenly host with joy confess, The work is all divine.

Before His feet they cast their crowns Those crowns which Jesus gave –
And with ten thousand thousand tongues Proclaim His power to save.

They tell the triumphs of His cross, The sufferings which He bore;
How low He stooped, how high He rose, And rose to stoop no more.

O let them still their voices raise, And still their songs renew;
Salvation well deserves he praise Of men and angels, too.
(Words by Benjamin Beddome; Tune by John Randall)
The Preface to Prayer

(#356 Total Praise Hymnal)

He’s so real, real in my soul today! He has washed all of my sins away.

Jesus’ love just bubbles over in my soul, in my soul.

(\textit{Words and Tune by Charles H. Nicks})

The Prayer of Invocation and Intercession

The Rev. LaTanya W. Floyd

The Choral Response

(#579 Total Praise Hymnal)

Zion is calling us to a higher place of praise.

Stand upon the mountain and to magnify His name.

To tell all the people in every nation that He reigns.

Zion is calling us to a higher place of praise.

(\textit{Words and Tune by Stephen Hurd})

The Scripture Readings


The Introit to the Decalogue

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.

Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord, Eternal truth attends Thy word;

Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore, Till suns shall rise and set no more.

The Summary of the Decalogue

The Rev. Ronnie Britton

Hear what Christ, our Savior says, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, And to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, Is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen.

The Offering for Nehemiah Ministry

(#166 Total Praise Hymnal)

The Rev. Rogery B. Adams

I just want to praise You forever, and ever, and ever,

For all You've done for me.

Blessings and glory and honor, they all belong to You.

Thank You, Jesus, for blessing me.

(\textit{Words and Tune by Arthur Tannous})

The Special Litany

(\textit{\textit{An Affirmation to Stand}})

The Rev. Dr. Anthony Reed

Leader:

Before we grow numb to violence in our nation and in our neighborhoods, before we succumb to our tendency to forget, before we are numbered among the irrelevant; let us raise our voices to affirm that we stand!
People:
1. We stand in the tradition of a prophetic calling, rooted in sacred scriptures; affirmed in our faith tradition; sustained by grace in our personal walk with God.
2. We stand with families still reeling from the savagery of gun violence, in their bereavement, in their pain, grieving for their children. Mothers’ Days and Birthdays, and Special Days and anticipated Graduation Days are now bathed in Sorrow.
3. We stand to declare: ENOUGH! Too many of our youths have fallen victim to gun violence; too many guns, too many wounded, too many funerals, too much Hope lost, too much Promise buried.
4. We stand against the interpretation of laws that would justify a shooting, a killing -- shielding assailants with a cloak of immunity -- as unconscionable and indefensible.
5. We stand for justice, peace, right and righteousness at a time when apathy endangers our existence, injustice could potentially rule the day, peace is in jeopardy, right is gray, and righteousness is relative.
6. We stand to say we Care -- about the safety of our communities, about violence as the bane of our humanity, about the crippling menace of poverty; about advocating for the voiceless, about ministering to the hurting, about working to make a positive difference.
7. We stand in the power of our great Faith -- in humility, civility and grace -- to Pray, to Act, to Affirm -- that we stand in the tradition of the prophets to make our voices heard.

The Worship through Music
The South Conference Choir

The Presentation of the Preacher
Presiding Elder John L. Bodison

The Sermonic Hymn
(Tune #346 AMECH, Manoah)
The Rev. Charles L. Scott

Talk with us, Lord, Thyself reveal, while here o’er earth we rove;
Speak to our hearts, and let us feel the kindling of Thy love.

With Thee conversing, we forget All time and toil and care;
Labor is rest, and pain is sweet, If Thou, my God, art here.

Here, then, my God, vouchsafe to stay, And bid my heart rejoice;
My bounding heart shall own Thy sway, And echo to Thy voice.

Thou callest me to seek Thy face, ‘Tis all I wish to seek;
To hear the whispers of Thy Grace, And hear Thee only speak.

Let this my every hour employ, Till I Thy Glory see;
Enter into my Master’s joy, And find my heaven in Thee.

(Words by Charles Wesley; Tune by Henry Greatorex)

The Sermon
Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.
Presiding Prelate, Eleventh Episcopal District

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship
Presiding Elder Henry E. Green, Jr.

There’s nothing better than knowing Jesus; He will pick you and turn your life around
You ought to know Him, get to know Him, right now, today, just come.

There’s nothing better than knowing Jesus, He gets sweeter as the days go by,
You ought to know Him, get to know Him, right now, today, just come.
Come on, come on, come on, come on, come on, come on
Right now, today, just come.
(John W. Pace II)

The Stewardship Litany
Leader: Our call to Stewardship as an Act of Worship is historic; it is biblical; it is relevant – to our relationship with Christ, to our spiritual maturity, to the manifold blessings we enjoy.
People: The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof and they that dwell therein. Psalm 24:1
Leader: Therefore, we cheerfully give and gladly affirm:
People: The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the LORD Almighty. Haggai 2:8
Leader: Therefore, we cheerfully give and gladly affirm:
People: All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee. 1 Chronicles 29:14
Leader: Therefore, we cheerfully give and gladly affirm:
People: For the Kingdom is Thine; the Power is Thine; the Glory is Thine; the earth is Thine, the money is Thine, and I am Thine. Through my stewardship, I am closer drawn to Thee.
(A Litany by Bishop Adam J. Richardson)

The Worship in Giving
Conference Stewardship Committee

The Offertory
(#644 AMECH)
All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

The Introduction of Visitors
The Rev. Arthur J. Davis

The Announcements
The Rev. James C. Watson

The Unfinished Annual Conference Business
Report of the Statistician
The Rev. Arthur J. Davis
The Conference Resolution(s)
The Rev. William E. Cooper, Jr.

The Commissioning Service
Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.

The Hymn
(#242 AMECH)
A charge to keep I have, A God to glorify,
A never dying soul to save And fit it for the sky.

To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill;
O may it all my powers engage to do my Master’s will!

Help me to watch and pray, and on Thyself rely
Assured if I my trust betray, I shall forever die. (Charles Wesley)
The Presentation of Certificates to Conference Officers

The Prayer for Guidance

The Reading of the Scripture
Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.
(1 Peter 5:2-3)

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and, lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.“
(Matthew 28:19-20)

The Hymn (¶220 AMECH, Retreat)

“Go preach my gospel,” saith the Lord. “Bid the whole earth my grace receive.
   Explain to them my sacred word; Bid them believe, obey and live.

“I’ll make my great commission known, and ye shall prove my gospel true
   By all the works that I have done and 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, Tho’ some reproach and some 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.
(Words by Isaac Watts, Tune by Thomas Hastings)

The Reading of Appointments

The Doxology