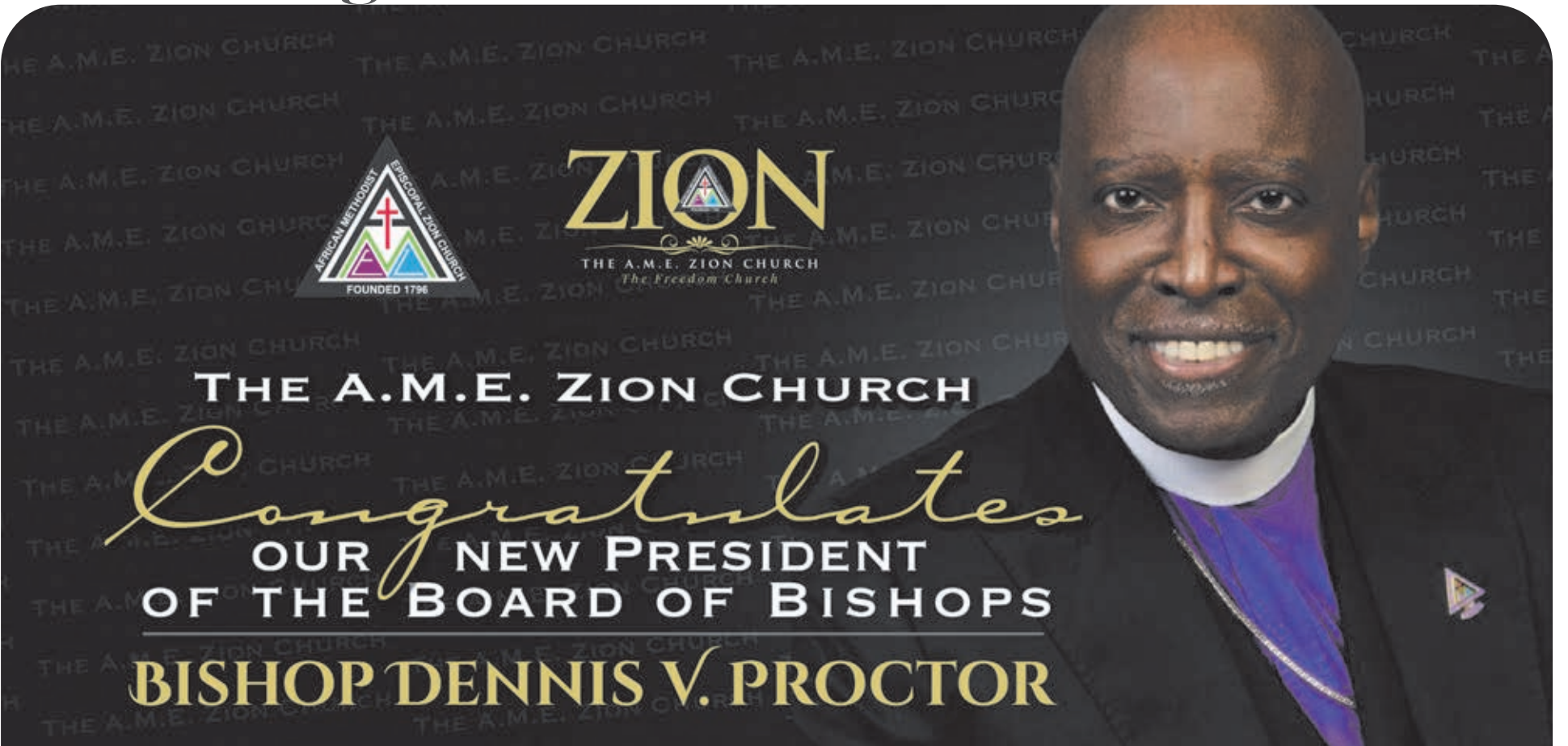


# THE STAR OF ZION

AUGUST | VOL 146 No. 8 | STAROFZION.ORG | THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

## Proctor Shows Promise As President With Progressive Moves In The Northeast!



Scholar, advocate, activist, and priest are just a few words to describe the new President of the Board of Bishops. While Bishop Proctor is no stranger to the post, this tenure one may anticipate bold, transformative, and steadfast leadership as he has displayed before and most recently; necessary moves for the good of the Kingdom.

A native of Buffalo, New York, and a graduate of the Syracuse, New York public school system, he received his Bachelor of Arts (Summa Cum Laude) from Livingstone College, Master of Arts in Pastoral Care and Counseling from Ashland Theological Seminary, a Clinical Pastoral Ex-

perience Diploma from Western Reserve Psychiatric Habilitation Center, a Juris Doctor from The Ohio State University College of Law, and a Doctor of Ministry (Samuel D. Proctor/Otis Moss Fellow) from the United Theological Seminary. He was inducted into Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia. He was honored by his Alma Mater to receive the Doctor of Divinity from Hood Theological Seminary and Livingstone College. He was a featured lecturer at the prestigious Hampton University, Hampton Minister's Conference. He was appointed by the University to be the Conference Historian, be-

coming the first Methodist to serve as an officer in the organization's history. In addition, one of his sermons is published in the book of "Outstanding Black Sermons Volume 4" Judson Press, and a contributing author in "Doing Church Vol.2" New Seasons Press.

He has served as a Fellow to Study the Presidency of the United States, a North Carolina Legislative Intern, North Carolina Institute of Political Leadership Fellow, Clerk for the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Lt. Governor of American Bar Association Law Student Division, President

Continues... next page



St. Stephen A.M.E. Zion Church  
Rev. Quavon Newton



5th Avenue A.M.E. Zion Church  
Rev. Arthur Holloway




St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church  
Rev. Kevin D. Coakley



Rush Temple A.M.E. Zion Church  
Rev. Xavier E. Hunter





**THE STAR OF ZION**  
Official Voice of The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

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Being guided by the core values of truth, faith, and love, the Star seeks to raise the consciousness of readers with news that is current, relevant, and dependable.

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October 2022 Issue..... September 15, 2022  
November 2022 Issue..... October 15, 2022  
December 2022 Issue ..... November 15, 2022  
January 2023 Issue..... December 15, 2022

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of The Ohio State University Black Graduate and Professional Student Caucus.

He is the Founding President of the Congress of National Black Churches, Baltimore Affiliate. He served on his denomination's Connectional Budget Board, Overseas Missions Board and co-authored Christians Under Construction.

In Atlanta, Georgia, during the 48th Quadrennial Session of the A.M.E. Zion General Conference, the Rev. Dr. Dennis V. Proctor was elected by the world church and consecrated the 97th Bishop in succession of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

In reference to progressive moves- Bishop Proctor is known for his willingness to bring young pastors to the forefront. The most recent examples of this are the eye catching moves he made in his latest series of Annual Conferences. New Jersey Conference, New England Conference, and Western New York Conference may now all boast new pastoral leadership. The Rev. Kevin Coakley is now the new pastor of the St. Luke A.M.E. Zion in Buffalo, NY and Presiding Elder of the Buffalo District. He succeeds Rev. Arthur Holloway who is now Pastor of Fifth Avenue A.M.E. Zion Church in Troy, NY. His predecessor, Rev. Xavier Hunter succeeds Rev. Quavon Newton at the Rush Temple A.M.E. Zion Church in Queens, NY. Rev. Newton is now the proud pastor of the St. Stephen A.M.E. Zion Church in Asbury Park, NJ.



**JERICHO A.M.E. ZION CHURCH SHOWS APPRECIATION TO ELDEST MEMBERS**

The pastor and members of Jericho A.M.E. Zion Church praise God for the longevity of its members, some having reached the ages of 100-108. Shown in the photo are the eldest members of the church, Mrs. Ethel L. Vinson, 94 and Mr. James Holt, 93. Mrs. Vinson is a Deaconess and Usher. Mr. Holt, former Preacher's Steward, sings in the choir weekly. They have faithfully rendered over 150 years of combined service to the church. Shown with these honored members are Rev. George J. Garrison, pastor and Rev. Dorothy Thomas. Jericho is on the East Montgomery District of the Central Alabama Conference. Bishop George D. Crenshaw is Presiding Prelate of the AL-FL Episcopal District.

**CORRECTION NOTICE**

*The July Issue of the Star of Zion mistakenly credited the wrong author of the "Excellence in Ministry" Article for Little Rock A.M.E. Zion Church. The correct author of this article is Mrs. Gloria Joyner Johnson.*



# “Alabama Florida Episcopal District 2022 Men Of Zion Retreat”

## *Special to the Star*

The Alabama-Florida Episcopal District Men of Zion gathered for their first in-person retreat since 2019 on the sacred campus of Lomax-Hannon College in Greenville, AL on June 3-4, 2022, under the leadership of Rev. Larry Jacobs, Episcopal Director. We were blessed by the presence of our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. George D. Crenshaw, during the entire retreat. Friday’s activities included registration by Rev. Alonza Crenshaw, MOZ Treasurer starting at 4:00 PM. From 5:30 – 6:30 PM: Welcome/Prayer by Rev. Jacobs and greetings by Bishop Crenshaw. Rev. Sanford Davis, AFED Project 100 Coordinator addressed the attendees on “Your Right To Vote”. Rev. Dr. Jamal Finkley coordinated the Youth Basketball Tournament held at Dunbar Center in Greenville followed by an Ice Cream Social. On Saturday, following breakfast and the devotional period, MOZ officers present were introduced: Rev. Anthony Thames-2nd Vice President; and Rev. Alonza Crenshaw, Treasurer. Bishop Crenshaw greeted retreat attendees. Chief Justin Lovvorn and officers of the Greenville, Alabama Police Department presented a session on Law Enforcement Relations with youth and African Americans.

Keynote speakers for the retreat were Mr. Kelvin Brickhouse, COO and Mr. Darrick Baylis, Chief Logistic Officer of MRaine Industries, LLC, the producer of Eleven86 Real Artesian Water. The Men of Zion were blessed by their testimony of the part God played in their lives to grow their company. Deep in the small town of Autaugaville, Alabama lies a confined aquifer that holds Eleven86 Real Artesian Water. Untouched by man for hundreds of years, being filtered by rock and sand, has produced some of the purest water on Earth. They tapped into this aquifer to provide the freshest, purest, most delicious water. By not adding any fillers or additives they were able to give the best water ever tasted. After being turned down by 18 banks, they were finally able to secure a loan from Maxwell Federal Credit Union in Montgomery to finish building and equipping their 225,000-square foot bottling plant. The water is sold in stores throughout the Eastern US, including Piggly Wiggly, Rouses, Food Depot, and can be ordered online through their website. Following the presentation, they distributed bottled water to those in attendance.

The Rev. Elisha Knight Memorial Horseshoe Tournament was coordinated by Bro. Jeffery Wells, Florida Conference MOZ Director. Men competed for the championship trophy which was awarded during the awards ceremony.

Other events held included the Wild-Game Cookoff hosted by Rev. Anthony Thames, the MOZ South AL Conference Director. Attendees were invited to sample the delicious smoked entrées prepared (Deer, Turkey, Raccoon, Possum, and Squirrel). The champion chef walked away with the \$100 grand prize. The wild game went well with the fish-fry prepared by the caterer, 2 Cooks Catering.

The AFED/MOZ would like to especially thank Rev. Dr. Mark Hawkins for his assistance in getting the campus ready for the retreat. The retreat wrapped up with closing remarks from Rev. Jacobs and Bishop Crenshaw followed by prayer.





# The West Central N.C. Conference



*Mrs. Alice Steele-Robinson, Conference Reporter*  
*Photos Courtesy of Ms. Cynthia Brown*

Greensboro, NC – On June 2-4, 2022 at the Sheraton Four Season-Koury Convention Center, Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr., the 96th Bishop in the line of succession Presiding Prelate and Mrs. Camille Cullom Starnes, Missionary Supervisor convened the 112th Session of the West Central North Carolina Annual Conference of The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church using as our focus motto: “Holiness Unto the Lord!!!!”

Thursday morning, The Reverend Dr. Lisa Caldwell, Conference Director of Evangelism, presided for the highly spirited Communion Service and The Reverend Dr. William M. Jordan III, Presiding Elder of the Wadesboro-Monroe District, delivered an electrifying sermonic message, “The Holy Ghost Power” from Acts 2:1-4. He reminded us that we cannot accomplish anything without the Holy Ghost Power and we cannot get the Holy Ghost Power until we are saved. The Wadesboro-Monroe District Choir blessed our spirits with selections during the Service.

The Service of Holy Communion followed with Bishop Starnes as Chief Celebrant and Con-celebrants The Reverend Dr. Kevin W. McGill, Sr., Presiding Elder Concord District; The Reverend Dr. Michael E. Ellis, Presiding Elder Greensboro District; The Reverend Michael J. Massey, Sr., Presiding Elder Rockingham District; and The Reverend Dr. William M. Jordan, Presiding Elder Wadesboro-Monroe District. Mr. Shipp Washington, organist of Trinity A.M.E. Zion Church, provide sacred music as the worshippers communed.

Bishop Starnes declared the 112th Session of the West Central North Carolina Conference open to conduct business. While operating in the spirit of holiness and excellence, the essential conference boards and committees were established to facilitate efficiency and a continuing spirit of “Holiness Unto the Lord” throughout the three-day conference. The Reverend Robin H. Stitt was elected secretary and Mrs. Denetter Barbour as assistant secretary.

Thursday afternoon, the Lay Council Scholarship Luncheon was held with Mrs. Janice Holt, District President/Greensboro District, presiding. The Reverend Dr. Vergel L. Lattimore, President and Professor of Pastoral Psychology and Counseling, Hood Theological Seminary, Salisbury, NC, delivered a spirit-

filled and profound message challenging us to do *Holy Work, on Holy Ground, because we are Holy People*. Mrs. Betty Evans, Concord District Lay President and Presiding Elder Dr. Kevin McGill, Sr. provided closure for the luncheon via collecting donations for the annual S.O. Jones Memorial Scholarship Fund which provides financial assistance to West Central North Carolina members who would attend Livingstone College, Hood Theological Seminary or Clinton College.

The afternoon session convened with The Episcopal Address delivered by Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr. which was delivered enthusiastically and received with exuberance by the conference. He began by acknowledging his special “Honeybun”, stating he and Mrs. Starnes are honored to be the Episcopal Leaders of the Piedmont Episcopal District and follow in the footsteps of such legends as the Battles and Walkers. Yet, they hope to build on their legacies in a manner that will please God and honor them. He noted, in the ten months since his appointment, we have held a Vision Casting Retreat and implemented some things from the retreat with the goal of implementing more things in the future. The annual conference has been reduced from 6 to 3 days, he reduced the offering amounts and financial askings and appointments will be read on the third day at the Closing Service on Saturday. He then focused on the Denominational Theme, *The Freedom Church – A Movement Empowered by the Holy Spirit: Strengthening Our Fellowships, Serving our Flock, Sharing Our Faith, and Serving Our Future*. Bishop Starnes stated, John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Movement, said as Methodist, we have the form of godliness and are seeking its power. Our form of godliness is our godly methods, such as the appointed means of grace through which we can exercise ourselves unto godliness. Our form of godliness is our kingdom-advancing structures, such as class meetings, leaders’ meetings, quarterly conferences, district conferences, and annual conferences. Our form of godliness is our biblically based tradition. We have the form of godliness, but are seeking the power that makes us godly and makes us fit for the Master’s use. He focused on this year’s sub-theme, “Serving our Flock through the Leadership We Provide” from I Peter 5. He challenged the Freedom Church to become engaged in promoting freedom, justice, voter registration, economic and political empowerment. Our motto should be holiness as found in 2 Timothy 3:5-6. All who belong





# Meets For Its 112th Annual Conference



to God are special utensils for honorable use, righteous living, joy and peace. We must turn away from evil, keep ourselves pure, and learn what to run from-what to run after-who to run with. We must live as God's obedient people for the Freedom Church is a movement empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will empower us to love people genuinely; and as the love of God is perfected in us, He will enable us to love others the way that Christ loves us.

The afternoon business session of the conference convened and Presiding Elders presented truncated annual reports. The reports were received with appropriate accolades from a pastor and a lay person on each district. The Lay Hour followed with Ms. Minnie McRae, Conference President, presenting her annual report, which was followed by an alternative Covid-19 stoling ceremony.

The Christian Education Night featured the Reverend Dr. Reginald Boyd, Jr., Reeves Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, Concord District, presiding. The Conference Director, The Reverend Dr. Bernice Bennett of the Rockingham District presented a comprehensive report of activities on the four districts and led the annual Stoling Ceremony. The Reverend Dr. Tracii Miller, Pastor of Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church, Asheboro, Greensboro District was the preacher, using Ephesians 4:10-11 as the text, her subject was *God Has Placed You In A Strategic Position*. Points of emphasis were: 1) He will do the appointing; 2) You Should Walk the Walk, and 3) Walk in unity. She stated, "When we think of the Freedom Church, we need to go back to our roots, before we can spiritually make a difference, we need the Holy Ghost power! We should be working together as a flock. Look at yourself to see where God has strategically placed you!" The Conference was blessed with joyful choral selections offered by the Wesley Chapel Choir.

Friday Morning began with the Conference and District Prayer Coordinators Reverend Dr. Lisa Caldwell, Mrs. Renee Ellis and Reverend Alla Mitchell, Greensboro District; Reverend Diane McLaughlin, Rockingham District; and Reverend Marvin Pearson, Wadesboro-Monroe District, lead us to the throne of grace.

The Annual Missionary Convocation of the Women's Home

and Overseas Missionary Society began using the theme "Transformative Service" with Dr. Edna Adams-Fulton, Greensboro District President, leading the devotion. Mrs. Thomasina Spencer, President/Wadesboro-Monroe District presented the Missionary Supervisor, Sister Camille Cullom Starnes who led us in "The Moments of Sharing" which included a spirited discussion of *Transformative Service*. Sister Starnes's anointed leadership style exemplified her gift of biblical based teaching and her caring spirit for winning "The World for Christ". Sister Starnes shared her heart's desire is to please God and that the missionaries in Piedmont Episcopal District will become holy for it is time for holy work and holy people to walk on holy ground, spirit-filled and anointed. We were enlightened and blessed from annual reports given by the District Presidents: Dr. Edna Adams-Fulton, Greensboro; Mrs. Thomasina Spencer, Wadesboro-Monroe; Ms. Selenia Hinson, Concord; and Ms. Patricia McCoy, Rockingham. In preparation for the 30th WH&OMS Quadrennial Convention in New Orleans, information was shared and the Convention Jingle was introduced. Mrs. Brendetta Scott/ Concord District was elected as the annual conference delegate with The Reverend Robin Stitt / Concord District as alternate. Presentations were made by District Presidents to Sister Camille Starnes and present and past Connectional officers Mrs. Alice Steele-Robinson and Dr. Joy L. Kennedy. Visiting candidates for WH&OMS Connectional Offices were recognized – Mrs. April Davis, Connectional Superintendent of the Buds of Promise Society and Miss Karlise Small, Connectional Coordinator of YAMS.

The Memorial Moment /The Report of the Necrology Committee followed and was led by Reverend Cynthia Ransom/ Greensboro District and the Necrology Committee. Mrs. JoAnn Gresham reported for the Concord District, Mr. Preston Waddell for the Rockingham District, and Ms. Denetter Barbour for the Wadesboro-Monroe District.

The Annual Home Missions Luncheon featured Mrs. Eddena McLean Collins as Mistress of Ceremony and the Crowning of the West Central North Carolina Conference Home Mission 2022 Queen – Little Miss Sophia Anderson by Sister Camille Cullom Starnes and Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr. Little Miss Anderson is the daughter of the Reverend Dr. Haven and Mrs. Quanda Anderson of Marvin A.M.E. Zion Church, Wadesboro-Monroe District. The Home Mission funds provide financial as-





# Blue Ridge Holds 132nd Session

By Ms. Ruth L. Thompson, Reporter

The 132nd Session of the Blue Ridge Annual Conference was held May 26-28 2022 at the scenic and picturesque DWCRC in Black Mountain, North Carolina. Bishop Darryl Bruster Starnes presided. Missionary Supervisor was Sister Camille Starnes. Presiding Elders were Rev. Dr. J. Ruth Davis (Host) and Rev. Herbert Grant.

This was Bishop Starnes first statewide annual conference since his appointment to the Piedmont Episcopal District.

The conference opened on Thursday with the Communion Service. In his opening remarks to the conference, Bishop Starnes said, “the key to this conference is our prayers. In every worship service, worship God from your heart, give heartfelt praise to God. Pray for souls. We want to make this annual conference a means of grace”. Each day began with breakout sessions with prayers being prayed by the prayer coordinators.

The conference observed moments of silence in memory of the late Bishop Bonnie Hines. The center chair was also draped.

A dynamic and thought-provoking Communion message was delivered by Rev. Reginald Coffey, pastor of the St. John A.M.E. Zion Church, Rutherfordton, North Carolina. Rev. Coffey spoke on, “Defeat is not an Option” (1st. Cor. 15:57).

Thursday afternoon the Lay Council Scholarship luncheon was held. The speaker for the occasion was the Reverend Dr. Vergel Lattimore, President and Professor of Pastoral Psychology and Counseling at Hood theological Seminary. Dr. Lattimore delivered a most challenging, inspirational and motivating message on “Get Out of Bed” (Isiah 6:1-2, Matthew 5:14). He challenged his listeners to “Get up and turn on the light; turn on the light when you find someone lonely and distressed. Turn on the light as you rise and shine and give God the glory”.

Thursday afternoon Bishop Starnes delivered his Episcopal Address to the conference. The Bishop opened with Realities of our present age. He spoke of issues confronting us such as the escalating hate crimes, discrimination and the taking of innocent lives. His focus was on Holiness. He stated that John Wesley said “as ministers our motto should be Holiness unto the Lord”. Bishop Starnes said, “Holiness has always been God’s plan for His people. Scriptural holiness is both vertical and horizontal. The vertical dimension is loving God, pursuing His holiness and serving His kingdom but the horizontal dimension is loving people, treating them fairly and meeting their needs. Scriptural holiness is both outward and inward. Outward holiness is purifying ourselves from all that contaminates our bodies such as sexual immorality, fighting, killings, substance abuse, etc. Inward holiness



is purifying ourselves from all that contaminates our spirits such a lust, anger, bitterness, hate, envy, jealousy, greed, pride, etc. Bishop Starnes concluded his challenging message by requesting the Spirit of the living God to fall afresh on the delegation like it fell on Samson, David and Zerubbabel, as it fell on the day of Pentecost like it fell on Jesus”.

Thursday evening the Educational Service as held. The message was delivered by Rev. William Eric Staley (Conference Director of Christian Education). Rev. Staley gave a challenging and motivating message on, “A Stumbling Stone” (Romans 9:25-33).

Friday was Missionary Day. Missionary Supervisor, Sister Camille Starnes presided. Ms. Rosetta Ferguson was elected delegate to the Quadrennial Convention.

Friday afternoon the Home Missions Luncheon and Queen contest was held. The 2022 Blue Ridge Queen was Mrs. Rosetta Thompson of Goode’s Temple A.M.E. Zion Church, Strawberry Plains, TN. Pastor is Rev. Herbert Grant.

Friday evening Rev. Dr. J. Ruth Davis, Presiding Elder of the Hendersonville District delivered a powerful and moving message on “After This” (1st Peter 5:10)

Saturday was Christian Education Day. The theme was “Serving the Flock”. Following the prayers workshop sessions were held. The youth were in charge of the devotional service. A most powerful and moving youth appropriate message was delivered by Rev. Gregory Washington-Gerald. His topic was “God of the Underdog” (Judges 11:1-8;29-33).

Saturday afternoon the charge was given by Bishop Starnes. His focal point was Steadfast Leadership. He said, “most leaders do well until they face difficulties. The church needs steadfast leaders. Bishop Starnes listed the requirements for steadfast leadership as:

1. Steadfast leadership is about resisting the devil. We should not run from him but must make him run from us.

2. Steadfast leadership is about being steadfast in our faith. When we are steadfast in our faith, we can overcome the world; we can crucify our sinful nature, we can please God.

3. Steadfast leadership is about suffering for Christ.

4. Steadfast leadership is about being fortified by God. We will suffer for Christ but it will only last for a little while. When we are fortified by God, He will restore us so we get back everything we lost plus more. He will support us so we can endure whatever the devil throws”.

Those in attendance enjoyed tremendous preaching and good fellowship during the week. The 132nd closed with the reading of appointments and the benediction by Bishop Starnes. The next annual conference will be May 17-20, 2023.



# North Charlotte District Retirees Celebrated

By G. Joyner Johnson, Reporter  
A. Cody and Olivia Stinson, Photographers

CHARLOTTE, NC – During the Covid 19 pandemic when church doors were closed and/or partially opened, ministry and meetings led by ordained clergy and lay leaders continued usually virtually. As such, during the 2020-2022 district conferences three clergy and eight lay leaders retired from their leadership positions totaling nearly 237 years of service.

Rev. Dr. Wardell Henderson, Presiding Elder expressed his desire to celebrate these leaders as their leadership further elevated the Kingdom in the local churches, the district and Zion in general. On Sunday, July 10, 2022, this occasion was hosted by Little Rock AME Zion Church, Rev. Dr. Dwayne A. Walker, Pastor as the members of the North Charlotte District, families and friends of the retirees gathered for this celebration.

Rev. Ellison L. Bowman was celebrated for 41 years of service as a pastor including 30 years as the North Charlotte District Treasurer.

Rev. Steven M. Howard retired after serving 29 years as a pastor on the North Charlotte District.

Rev. Dora E. Dubose-Barringer was celebrated for 29 years of service as the District President of Evangelism and 10 years of service as the District President of Home Missions.

The members of the North Charlotte District Executive Board of the WH&OMS retired as follows: (They entertained with their adaptation of the Diana Ross hit “I’m Coming Out.”) Mrs. Linda H. Bowman served 18 years as the District Parent Body President. Mrs. Tujuana Springs served 18 years as the District Young Adult Missionary Society (YAMS) Coordinator.

Mrs. Peggy C. Johnson served 18 years as the District Secretary of Youth. Dr. Janice Sloan served 16 years of service as the District Secretary of Bureau of Supply. Mrs. Deborah Howard served 21 years as the District Life Members Chairperson.

For community service, Mrs. Almerth Hoyle, a member of Greenville Memorial for approximately 50 years, retired from her service of 25 as the District Director of Girl Scouts and Ms. Cozzie Watkins retired after 22 years of service as the District Faith Community Nurse.

As each honoree was presented, a brief overview of their labors was given by a presenter. On behalf of Mrs. Henderson, himself and the North Charlotte District, Presiding Elder Henderson presented each with a certificate of appreciation and a gift of love. He thanked them for their hard work over the years and assured them that they were loved and appreciated.

Thanks were given to Ms. Jackie Stinson, Co-Chairperson and Mistress of Ceremonies, the members of the Retiree Program Committee, the presenters, the artistic renderings of poetry, dance and song, the District Choir and Ushers as well as Dr. Walker and the members of Little Rock Church

WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS! Thank you for your labor for our Lord!





# R.H. BOYD PUBLISHING CO. HOST



## *Empowering Forward-thinking Leaders for Today and Tomorrow*

*By Debra Chappelle-Polk, Zion Spotlight Editor, The Star of Zion*

On June 15, 2022, I traveled to Nashville, Tennessee to attend The R.H. Boyd Publishing Co.'s Vision Leadership Conference in conjunction with the 116th annual session of The National Baptist Congress. The two-day conference officially opened on June 16th at the Grand Sheraton Hotel located in downtown Nashville. The theme, "Building Legacies Through Leadership," was lifted from Psalm 145:4: ***One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.***

By way of background, The R.H. Boyd Publishing Company was founded in 1896 by Dr. Richard Henry Boyd. It is one of the oldest Black institutions in the country that creates and distributes Christian, historic, and educational resources and literature. It also hosts leadership training and community-oriented events. In 1906, Dr. Boyd founded the National Baptist Congress, a consortium of churches and organizations focusing on Christian education and leadership. In 2020, these institutions combined efforts to host the Vision Conference.

Dr. LaDonna Boyd is the fifth-generation president/CEO of R.H.

Boyd Publishing and is committed to educating, training, teaching, and amplifying God's Word through excellence in Christian education resources and leadership training. The conference was dedicated to her father, the late Dr. T.B. Boyd, III, who transitioned in May 2022.

The Welcome Service was held on Thursday, June 16th. Dr. LaDonna Boyd thanked everyone for their participation and support. She gave a brief overview of the schedule of events, "our team has been preparing for this event for many months." She said she hoped everyone would have a good time, "there are so many sites to see and things to enjoy in the city."

The conference sessions were developed by the National Baptist Congress (pastors and laity) and covered a wide range of topics: "Building Legacies" focused on financial literacy and growth strategies. The "Community Leadership and Development" session focused on building strong communities by tapping into financial resources and educating the community on the importance of voting especially in today's political climate. Lifestyle sessions included: "What I would tell my younger self?" The Couples/Relationships session discussed maintaining traditional relationships in modern times. The three-part adult liturgical dance course examined dance theory, the theological and historical origins of religious dance. The session on Music Leadership Ministry examined the importance of music in the worship

service and was designed to instruct music ministers and leaders on how to incorporate music and liturgy.

The Women of Faith worship service and seminar was led by Rev. Olivia M. Cloud and Dr. Heather E. Burton. The seminar addressed the negative myths often associated with the label, "strong Black women," and if such a label can cause women to compromise their mental, physical and spiritual health. Participants discussed how it was possible to maintain a healthy balance and be effective in their homes, communities and churches. Rev. Cloud has been actively engaged in the ministry of Christian and inspirational publishing since 1987 and has been a gender pioneer in the workplace. Heather E. Burton, PhD, is founder and CEO of Crimson Heights Ministries, Inc., a 501(c)3 geared toward the holistic development of women. She is author of "Crimson Heights" and "I'm Single, So What?" *A Woman's Journey to Spiritual Contentment.*

The Youth Ministry sessions included dance, as well as age-appropriate courses on the relevance of God's word. There was also a course entitled "Super Money Kids – Saving, Spending and Sharing."

Virtual courses were curated by the Baptist Northern Seminary and included Theology of the Black Church; Preaching as a Narrative; Leadership in Urban Churches and Black Health Matters.

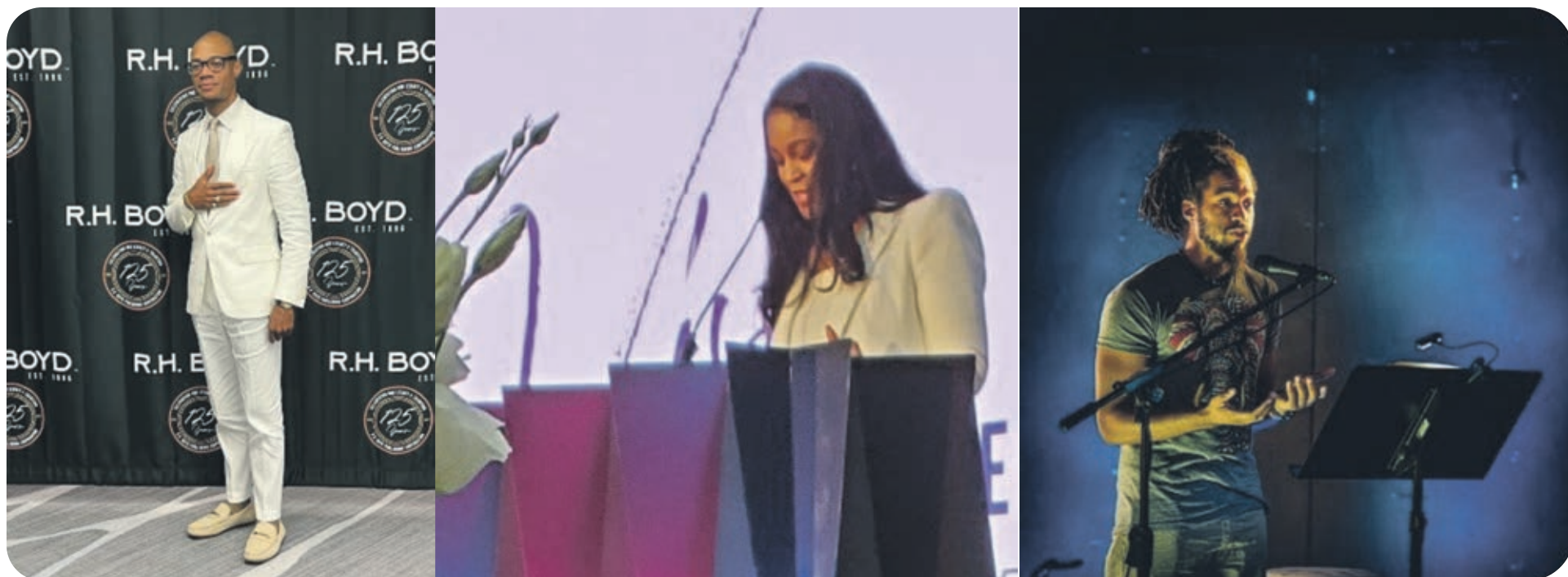
Rev. Dr. Malcolm J. Byrd, Senior Pastor at Mother A.M.E. Zion and fellow Trustee Board member, Sis. M. Denise Niles also attended the conference. Rev. Byrd said he was looking forward with great anticipation to the Vision Conference. "My affiliation with the Boyd Publishing Company and friendship with the Boyd family goes back decades. In fact, in 2019, Mother Zion presented Dr. LaDonna Boyd with the Madame C.J. Walker Award during our Church Anniversary Service."

Rev. Byrd attended the Faith Leaders Luncheon co-sponsored by The Barna Group, a leading research organization focused on the intersection of faith and culture. There was a panel discussion on the state of the Black Church and intergenerational leadership post-pandemic. Information was disseminated and recommendations were set forth regarding strategies to increase church attendance and enhance the worship service, *et.al.*, in today's society.

In 2020, The Barna Group conducted a study, The State of the Church 2020. The study examined the spiritual and religious trends that determine how the American lifestyle connects with church commitments and attendance. The study also included a survey among "churched" and unchurched" individuals of all



# VISION LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



ages, female, male, non-binary, and revealed the top-five trends that show how the church is doing in the U.S. today. Rev. Byrd said, “I intend to study the report with a view toward implementing some of the growth strategies and other initiatives at Mother Zion.”

Breonus M. Mitchell, Sr., Pastor of Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church in Nashville, TN served as the Vision Conference Host Pastor. The Mount Gilead choir and young people’s dance ministry graced the assembly on Thursday, June 16th.

The R.H. Boyd Black-Tie Legacy Ball was held on Friday night, June 17th, during which the recipients of the 2022 R.H. Boyd Awards were announced: Dr. James E.K. Hildreth, President of Meharry Medical College (Humanitarian); Charlane Oliver and Tequila Johnson, The Equity Alliance (Service). Dr. T.B. Boyd, III (posthumously) received the Excellence Award.

One of the “perks” of the conference was a free-of-charge tour of the National Museum of African-American Music (NMAAM) - ONE NATION UNDER A GROOVE. Before leaving Nashville, I visited the museum which officially opened in January 2021. The 56,000-square-foot institution is the only museum dedicated to educating, preserving and celebrating more than 50 music genres and styles that were created, influenced, and/or inspired by African Americans, including spirituals, blues, jazz, gospel, R&B, and hip hop. There are six distinct galleries of artifacts, objects, memorabilia, clothing, and state-of-the-art technology designed to share a different narrative and a unique perspective on African American music and history. Visitors can literally dance their way through the galleries listening to the Supremes, Ike & Tina Turner, Alicia Keys, Beyonce and Jay-Z and other artists. Pictures and bios of renowned artists from Thomas Dorsey to Mahalia Jackson to Paul Robeson, to Sam Cook are displayed.

Author H.H. Leonard was also at the museum for a book-signing of her bestselling novel, *“Rosa Parks Beyond the Bus: Life, Lessons and Leadership.”*

The museum also provides space for live performances. On the day of my tour, I spoke with Saran Thompson, a/k/a S-Wrap, a spoken word artist who had a showcase gallery. S-Wrap, a native of Bristol, Pennsylvania, was introduced to freestyle rapping by a childhood friend. Shortly after discovering battle rap, he began freestyling and battling at every opportunity. Throughout middle school and high school, he continued to pursue these artistic outlets until challenged by a friend on the authenticity of the content in his lyrics. This “was a pivotal time; a moment of self-realization and narrow moving.” Saran decided he had two choices. “I could either live the life I rap, or rap the

life I live.” After various negative experiences related to drugs and gangs, S-Wrap decided to quit rapping altogether.

Another huge turning point came in 2010. While pursuing a degree in audio engineering at Middle Tennessee State University, Saran accepted Jesus Christ. He read the verse in Proverbs 18:21 that talked about the power of speaking life or death within every word and action. Saran had witnessed the power of positive music and lyrics and decided that in order to continue to give positivity through his art, he had to give up battle rapping.

S-Wrap said he now uses his art to inspire people to pursue passions by Speaking Life in all his work, whether the spoken word, rapping, or production, and is able to reinforce authenticity and integrity in society and its culture. He aims to embody the phrase Ex-Nihilio, creating something from nothing, all through art. S.L.A.P. [Speaking Life And Positivity]

*(Visit S-Wrap @s-wrapmusic.com)*

The conference closed with the Praise & Laugh Comedy Show-Juneteenth Weekend Edition. It was hosted by comedian Karlton Humes at Cumberland Park in downtown Nashville.

As stated above, the conference attendees were predominately Baptist ministers and congregants, however, Dr. LaDonna Boyd and the Vision team are to be applauded for “envisioning” a conference that offered something for everyone – of every denomination. The sessions covered a broad spectrum of interests, including financial literacy discussions for youth and adults, women’s empowerment, and youth ministries. It also provided helpful tools for ministers to take back to their home churches, as well as access to the Seminary Now Urban Leadership Program at Northern Seminary.

Nashville, a/k/a The Music City is undergoing major infrastructure and urban renewal projects. As many know, Nashville is home to Tennessee State University and Meharry Medical College, the first college for African-American medical students. Fisk University, founded in 1876, sits on 40 acres in close proximity to downtown Nashville. And of course, the famed Grand Ole Opry calls Nashville home.

*For more information on the R.H. Boyd Publishing Co., please visit the website [www.rhboyd.com](http://www.rhboyd.com)*





# Livingstone College Approved To Offer First Master's Degree In History Of The College

*Graduate program paves way for 'Livingstone University'*

**By Kimberly Harrington,**  
*Director of Public Relations, Livingstone College*

**SALISBURY** – Livingstone College President Dr. Jimmy R. Jenkins, Sr., has announced that for the first time in the college's history, Livingstone will offer graduate programs as it positions itself to transition to university status.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) approved Livingstone College's membership at Level III to offer the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program. The announcement was made at the SACSCOC Board of Trustees' June meeting.

To earn approval to initiate degrees at a more advanced degree level, an institution must complete a Level Change Application demonstrating compliance with various policy and procedure standards contained in the SACSCOC "Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement."

SACSCOC's approval of the application ensures that for the first time in the history of the college, Livingstone will offer its inaugural graduate degree program – the MBA – beginning January 1, 2023.

The graduate business degree is specifically designed for students and professionals who desire to advance their careers in business, excel as business executives or become successful entrepreneurs. Upon completion of the MBA program, students will have increased their business knowledge; grown their professional network; and boosted their career and salary prospects.

"We are excited about the elevation of this institution to a Level III category. SACSCOC's approval paves the way for Livingstone College to officially transition to Livingstone University," said Livingstone President Dr. Jimmy R. Jenkins, Sr. "The new name would mark a significant milestone in the evolution of the 143-year-old institution's history, reflecting the expansion of its purview of academic offerings."

Jenkins plans to notify SACSCOC of the institution's name change from college to university. In doing so, he will work with key stakeholders of the campus community to strategically plan the shift to university status.

Dr. Kelli V. Randall, Livingstone's vice president for Academic Affairs and SACSCOC accreditation liaison; along with Laverne Macon-Jamison, director of Assessment, Institutional Effectiveness and Research; Dr. R.D. Sharma, dean of the George E. Battle Jr. Business School; and Business Department faculty worked together on the Herculean task to submit the Level Change Application on behalf of the college.

The extensive work on the level change application began on the heels of the college's decennial reaffirmation process, in which Livingstone was reaffirmed through 2031 without any recommendations.

After the implementation of the MBA program, the college plans to submit a prospectus for a master's degree in Sport Management, and endeavors to expand its offerings as it develops a School of Graduate Studies.

The new MBA program is officially enrolling students for the Spring 2023 semester. Interested students can apply and get more information by calling the Office of Admissions at (704) 216-6001. The first cohort of MBA graduates will receive their degrees during the May 2024 commencement.

The MBA program will be offered on the main campus of Livingstone College at 701 W. Monroe Street Salisbury, NC. Instruction will be a 100 percent traditional face-to-face format. To accommodate family responsibilities and employment, graduate students will have the flexibility to take classes during the evenings (Monday through Thursday) with some classes also being offered on Saturday. The MBA is a 36-credit hour degree program. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA to meet graduation requirements.

Graduating seniors who majored in Business Administration have expressed interest in continuing their graduate studies at Livingstone College, Randall said. The MBA program is also designed to attract older working adults who have already earned a degree in business, accounting, finance or another closely-related field.

The addition of the MBA degree to Livingstone's roster of program offerings aligns with the college's mission to provide "quality instruction, academic and student success." Moreover, the MBA program will play a key role in advancing the first goal of the college's 2021-2026 Strategic Plan: "Implement academic excellence and global education programs that reflect learning in a holistic environment."

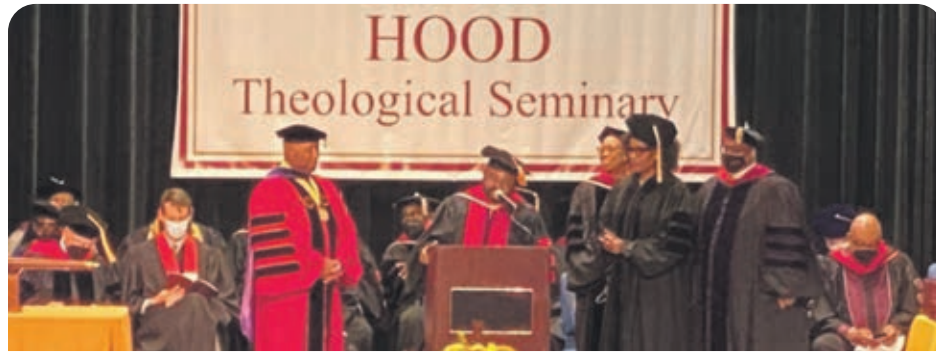
Jenkins said he is proud of the determination and acumen of the SACSCOC liaison team in completing this history-making endeavor. Initiated and approved under Jenkins' leadership, this new status will add to the legacy of Jenkins, who announced his retirement in February effective upon the naming of his successor by the Board of Trustees.

SACSCOC is the regional body for the accreditation of degree-granting higher education institutions in the southern states. Livingstone College is accredited SACSCOC to award certificates, associate, baccalaureate and master's degrees.



# Hood Theological Seminary Celebrates Its Twenty First Commencement

Hood Theological Seminary celebrated its twenty first commencement on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at Varick Auditorium on the campus of Livingstone College. Family and friends gathered to support the 2022 graduating class of Hood Theological Seminary. The day was met with excitement, support, and enthusiasm for the graduates' futures. Reverends Lara Musser Gritter and Josh Musser Gritter, Co-Senior Pastors of First Presbyterian Church of Salisbury, North Carolina were the 2022 Commencement Speakers.



In their address, Reverends Lara Musser Gritter and Josh Musser Gritter discussed the joys, triumphs, hardships, and difficulties ministry offers. They stated that "...with God's help, the graduates completed their degrees during this time of uncertainty..." As Rev. Lara Musser Gritter stated "Well done good and faithful servants." She also stated that "You will find God's power when you are humble, you will find God's power when you are open, and you will find God's power when you are weak...Our final charge to you is this, love the Lord your God, with all your heart, mind, and strength. Make your love of God be like an oak tree, planted by streams of water. May its roots grasp deeply into the earth to ground you, and may its branches move out thickly and widely to shade you...You are the imperfect in-

strument that God is delighted to work through." Rev. Josh Musser Gritter also stated "Show the love of Jesus to all people...Preach the word of God in season and out. Teach faithfully watching over your people. Guide them in faith and instruction. Nourish them in wisdom, strengthen them

to glorify God. Celebrate their encounters with God, as if they were your own." Rev. Lara Musser Gritter stated: "Your calling for all its difficulty, let it be a source of joy. Whatever the future holds, remember that God is your beginning and your end. God will show up."

The Doctor of Humane Letters was awarded to Reverend Dr. Robert Milton Lewis, Carla Maxwell Ray, and Gregory M. Alcorn. The highlight of the graduation service was the conferring of six Doctor of Ministry degrees and fifteen Master of Divinity degrees.

Hood Theological Seminary is a graduate and professional school sponsored by the A.M.E. Zion Church and approved by the University Senate of The United Methodist Church. Its student body, faculty and staff currently comprise persons from many different denominations. Hood's mission is to prepare women and men for bold and creative leadership for the Christian church for a diverse world.



Mellon  
Foundation

## Grants \$650,000 To Jackson State University



Jackson State University's Margaret Walker Center has been awarded a **\$650,000 grant** from the Mellon Foundation to help expand its capacity, enterprise and programming and that of the COFO Civil Rights Education Center.

"This significant investment in the Margaret Walker Center reveals that JSU and the Mellon Foundation share a common ground, and that is enhancing the lives of students and those in the surrounding communities by helping to provide opportunities and experiences that foster learning and stimulate intellectual thought," said **Jackson State President Thomas K. Hudson, J.D.** "We appreciate the foundation's ongoing support of the great work being done at our institution."

The MWC landed a \$450,000 grant from the Foundation in 2019, which was the springboard for the Center's capacity building. This latest award will further bolster activities started three years ago, including the extension of the MWC Mellon Oral Historian position, filled by **Alissa Rae Funderburk**; the hiring of a MWC Mellon Visiting Scholar; graduate assistantships; and proceeds for the 50th anniversary convening of the Phillis Wheatley Poetry Festival in November 2023.

"We are so excited that the Mellon Foundation has renewed its support of the Margaret Walker Center for another three years through its Higher Learning program. This funding has already been transformational for our work and promises an even brighter future for the Center and Jackson State," said **Robert Luckett, Ph.D., director of the Margaret Walker Center and professor of history.**

The Foundation's generosity has aided the MWC with producing an array of projects and collaborations, including the development and digitization of oral history collections, giving

future generations access to information about distinct communities and cultures. The MWC has been able to forge new partnerships with groups such as the LGBTQ Fund of Mississippi and the Invisible Histories Project, expand the Gibbs-Green 50th Commemoration Oral History Collection, and establish the Visiting Scholar and Graduate Assistant program. Soon, the COFO Center will boast its own oral history booth for recording interviews.

Funderburk, who oversees close to 1,000 interviews and the digitization of the Center's research collection, said she was excited and humbled to hear news of this latest grant.

"Not only because it confirmed that I would be able to stay on at JSU as the Oral Historian for the Margaret Walker Center, but also because the news gave me a great sense of excitement for what we would be able to do in the next three years towards preserving Black history and stories," said Funderburk, who holds a bachelor's in anthropology and a master's in oral history from Columbia University.

"As an oral historian, my goal has always been to highlight the roles that Black people have played in American history in a way that brings those stories to life. But the thing I enjoy most about the work I do at the MWC is being able to educate others on the power of deep listening by guiding them in doing oral history themselves," she said.

Funderburk adds that the grant will allow her to collect and preserve Black oral histories and teach students both here and around the country how to conduct them in their communities.

For more information, contact [rachel.d.james-terry@jsums.edu](mailto:rachel.d.james-terry@jsums.edu) or the Margaret Walker Center: [mwa@jsums.edu](mailto:mwa@jsums.edu).



# The Godfather Of HBCUs: It's A Love Thing

*Livingstone's President Jenkins honored at gala, receives key to the city*

*By Dr. Da'Tarvia Parrish,  
Special to the Star of Zion*

Livingstone College celebrated the retirement of its 12th and second longest serving president, Dr. Jimmy R. Jenkins, Sr., on Saturday, June 25, 2022, at the City of Salisbury's West End Plaza Event Center.

The featured entertainment, R&B group The Whispers, began their performance by singing a favorite hit, "It's A Love Thing," that appropriately summed up the occasion. As the legacy of President Jenkins will forever be in the hearts of many and shape generations for years to come, those present celebrated Jenkins and his service at the helm of college administration for 16 years at Livingstone and 38 years total in high education.

Jenkins was consistently acknowledged as an impactful and compassionate leader whose influential relationships warranted endearing and fruitful partnerships and programs. A visionary groundbreaker, Jenkins is duly noted as a champion of ethnic equity in the educational arena.

David Linton of Jazz 91.9 WCLK and a former student of Jenkins served as the Master of Ceremonies. The program opened with Dr. Nilous Avery II, pastor of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, providing the invocation. Dr. Anthony Davis, Livingstone's senior vice president of Institutional Advancement and chief operating officer, gave the Statement of Occasion.



Music professor at Livingstone, Teresa Moore-Mitchell, rendered an operatic grace.

As guests dined, digital wishes were presented on large video screens from presidents of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association member institutions; US Congressman Ted Budd of the 13th District of North Carolina; and former Livingstone College Bridge students.

After a meal of Chilean sea bass and lamb chop lollipops, the program convened with reflections from Livingstone College Board of Trustee members Bishop George Washington Carver Walker, Sr., and Bishop Kenneth Monroe. Upon the board's decision to hire Jenkins, Bishop Walker referenced the playwright August Wilson and the importance of backstories. He stated, "With his (Jenkins) tremendous success at Elizabeth City State University and Edward Waters College, we knew he was an experienced captain. He has come and done a tremendous job for the college and for that we are eternally grateful."

Bishop Monroe expressed similar remarks denoting Jenkins as "a man of devotion and dedication," who has made great deposits. "Everyone wants your job, but everyone cannot fulfill your job. Stay focus. Serve faithfully. Stand firm on the principles of your faith."

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## NAZARENE A. M. E. ZION CHURCH DONATES SNACKS FOR SUMMER SCHOOL STUDENT

*Submitted by Carolyn M. Jacobs*

Citronelle, AL Nazarene AMEZ Church WHOMS under the leadership of Mrs. Barbara Knight supported the Jackson District WHOMS "Meeting Without Walls" Missionary Mass Meeting Community Service Project by donating snacks for the 40 summer school students enrolled at our adopted school, Rosa A. Lott Middle School. The contribution was well received by the principal and staff. The generous donation will provide snacks for the entire summer school session, July 5-28, 2022. Rosa A. Lott Middle School is named in honor of Rosa A. Lott, who was a member of Nazarene A. M. E. Zion Church, born in Citronelle, Alabama in 1904 where she spent most of her life. After graduating from high school, she continued her formal education at Alabama State Teachers College. Not only was she a great educator, but she was also a renowned humanitarian. Because of her love for and commitment to young people, she saw the need for a high school for black students in the Citronelle area. With the support of the community, she used her own money to travel on the Gulf Transport Bus month after month to the Mobile County School Board pleading for a high school for black students in Citronelle. It was largely through her untiring efforts that the Citronelle Consolidated School was built in 1949. She served as principal until her death in 1952. The



Photo: (l-r): Mrs. Barbara Knight, WHOMS President; Mrs. Donna McCree, Supply Secretary; Dr. Jason Golden, Principal of Rosa A. LoS Middle School; Mrs. Quincy McCree and Mrs. Carolyn Jacobs, WHOMS Members.

school was renamed Rosa A. Lott High School in 1958 in honor and memory of her. In 1969, due to the integration of Mobile County Public Schools, Rosa A. Lott High School became Rosa A. Lott Elementary School serving grades 1st through 5th. In 2000, the school became Rosa A. Lott Middle School serving grades 6th through 8th. Rev. Larry Jacobs serves as Pastor of Nazarene AMEZC. Mrs. Gwendolyn S. Smith serves as President of the Jackson District WHOMS, and Mrs. Laurena Crenshaw is Missionary Supervisor.



# Praying For The Commonwealth

By Dr. Ronald Nathan, World Politics Editor, The Star Of Zion

I found myself on Monday 27 June, in a prayer meeting with a difference. I joined just under a hundred other Christians from across the world praying for this inter-governmental organization called the Commonwealth of Nations. The Commonwealth as it is known, is an association of nations mostly connected to the British Empire. This inter-governmental organization has 56 member countries. Formerly constituted in 1949, it is united by a Commonwealth Charter that has certain shared values, that of democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

The online prayer meeting was organised to coincide with the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting (CHOGM) which takes place every two years. The 26th CHOGM met in Kigali, Rwanda in June this year alongside, the Commonwealth Youth Forum, the Commonwealth Women's Forum and the Com-



monwealth People's Forum.

The British monarch, Queen Elizabeth II is the head of the Commonwealth. She was represented in Rwanda by Prince Charles. The theme for CHOGM 2022 was 'Delivering a Common Future: Connecting, Innovating, Transforming'. One of the major showcase of the Commonwealth is the Commonwealth Games scheduled for the

Birmingham, England, 28 July - 8 August 2022.

The CHOGM's agenda addressed issues ranging from trade to health to climate change, however the matter of reparations kept popping its head up at the Commonwealth Youth Forum as it did on our online prayer meeting. If there is one principle that the Christian bible teaches us is that intergovernmental cooperation cannot avoid issues of justice even if they share common values. As we continued in prayer we asked God to transform the Commonwealth into an agency whose policies, programmes and projects will be guided by righteousness, truth and justice.

.....Continued

Bishop George E. Battle Jr. was also present to show his firm support and appreciation of President Jenkins.

North Carolina Government officials included Mayor of Salisbury Karen Alexander; Rowan County Commissioner chair Greg Edds; Mayor of Elizabeth City Kirk Rivers; and 12th District US Congresswoman Dr. Alma Adams.

Mayor Alexander read a Proclamation of Appreciation on behalf of Salisbury City Council and the 423 city employees while presenting Jenkins the Key to the City. Edds lauded the communication skills of Jenkins while presenting him with a commissioner's pin and making him an Honorary Rowan County Commissioner. Adams named Jenkins "The Godfather of HBCUs," acknowledging his contributions to higher education and more specifically, his efforts on the HBCU Future Act, granting \$255 million to HBCUs.

Dr. A. Hope Williams, president of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU), reflected on the president's work among North Carolina's 36 college presidents within NCICU, and his leadership and mentorship in higher education, particularly through the COVID-19 pandemic. Already a recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine in 2010, Williams applauded Jenkins for his work in leading the way in securing funding for NC institutions of higher learning on both the federal and state level and read a letter from Gov. Roy Cooper in his absence.

Other tributes included remarks from the following: Justin Wade, 93rd SGA president of Livingstone; Dr. Haywood Strickland, former president of Wiley College; Dr. David Swinton, president emeritus of Benedict College; Rev. Dr. Reginald Kitt of the Tau Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated; Daniel Thompson of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina; Amelia Rhodes of the Delta Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated; and Marvin Moore,



principal of Salisbury High School.

Jenkins family members added to the recognition with songs and words of appreciation.

Nicholas Perkins, president and CEO of Perkins Management, pledged \$700K through a video announcement, making it a one-million-dollar fundraising event for the Drs. Jimmy R. and Faleese Moore Jenkins Endowed Bridge Program, the Jenkins' signature legacy. The Bridge Program was implemented by Jenkins when he became 12th president of Livingstone College in 2006. The program is inspired by his unwavering belief; all students can learn when placed in the proper environment, and to give students a chance at a college education who might not otherwise have one.

President Jenkins graciously thanked everyone for the evening and left the audience with a few of his popular quotes such as, "Education is the surest vehicle for upward mobility." Dr. Falesse Moore Jenkins said for the last 38 years, her husband has always

been 20 years ahead of his time.

Bishop Darryl Starnes provided the benediction while giving thanks for the gift of leadership, manifested in President Jenkins. The event concluded with a live and lightning concert by The Whispers.

*The Star of Zion Communications Department recognizes President Jenkins has shown steadfast leadership, driving attention and resources for the equitable distribution of education in African American communities. He has worked diligently to sustain and uplift HBCUs through change and storm in countless ways; and at Livingstone, he's expanded and updated the college's missions and infrastructure, while fostering cooperation across disciplines to address complex issues. Livingstone College could not have asked for a better, wiser, more thoughtful, dedicated, experienced, and humane leader. Congratulations President Jenkins on the next exciting chapter of your service.*





# WWJE

## (What Would Jesus Eat)?

*By Mr. Daman De Leon, Health and Wellness Editor, The Star Of Zion*



During the mid-to-late 1990s there was a common commercial catchphrase that was marketed throughout the country: WWJD. “WWJD” are the initials for “What would Jesus do?”. It was a very interesting phenom, to say the least, and as usual, it was used for the commercial marketing agenda to increase the commerce of selling merchandise. It is one aspect of what I call “Commercial Christianity”.

However as entertaining and catchy as this seasonal gimmick was, it has its prolific purposes. Needless to say it can be thought-provoking when there is genuine conviction, and so I’d like to create an umbrella of imagination with this article: “WWJE” (What would Jesus eat)?

Almost half of U.S. adults, or 46%, have a poor-quality diet, with too little fish, whole grains, fruits, vegetables, nuts and beans, and too much salt, sugar-sweetened beverages and processed meats. Additional research shows U.S. kids are doing even worse: More than half, or 56%, have a poor diet. The typical American diet is too high in calories, saturated fat, sodium, and added sugars, and does not have enough fruits, vegetables, whole grains, calcium, and fiber. With an obesity rate of 90%, Tonga is one of the world's unhealthiest countries and boasts an average diet that is high in saturated fat. Although free-range meats are available, most meat comes in a tin and is packed with sodium.

African-Americans, specifically those who live in low-income neighborhoods of lower socio-economic status, have less access to quality foods and sufficient healthcare. According to a report on the state of obesity, approximately 47.8 percent of African-Americans are obese compared to 32.6 percent of Whites. In order to access how culture influences have effected the African-American diet, it is necessary to look briefly at the history of African-Americans in the United States. Different types of foods caused by the cultural fusion of the English settlers, native Americans, and African slaves was the basics of Southern cuisine.

The African slaves learned how to fry, boil, and roast dishes using pork, pork fat, corn, sweet potatoes, and local green leafy vegetables which were the styles of cooking used by the British, French, Americans, and Spanish. The Africans slaves brought black-eyed peas, rice, yams, okra and watermelon from their country. A lot of the foods that Black Americans eat today are influenced by the dominant American culture. Most of us believe that by eating healthy we are giving up part of our culture and are more reluctant to giving up the soul food. We want to be good hostesses, and social graces prevent guests from asking for healthier foods. Many friends and relatives are resistant to eating healthier types of soul food because they feel that it will not taste as good. Let me assure you that it will. I eliminated Pork from my diet many years ago, along with a significant reduction in Red-Meat consumption (yep, that Sirloin Steak), and moderation of social drinking. Smoking (of any kind) is one of the worst things you can do to the human body.

*We as humans only have one body, and we are to be good stewards.* 1 Corinthians 10:31

Since the typical soul food diet involves large amounts of meat, fat, and sugar, there is a large risk of health related illnesses such as obesity, heart disease, and stroke resulting from eating this type of diet. African-Americans typically choose foods such as fried chicken, barbecued ribs, baked macaroni and cheese, sugary fruit drinks, and sweets such as sweet potato pie, which are typical soul food meals. In his article, “Exercise and Good Diet Play a Major Role in Longevity of Most African-Americans,” Donald Scott (1999), writes about the health problems that plague minority groups. Many ethnic groups have higher incidences of diabetes, hypertension, cancer, and heart disease when compared to the white population. Another study published in The Journal





of Behavioral Medicine found that 35 percent of all cancer deaths in the U.S may be attributed to dietary factors. Education is also key to helping African-Americans eat a more healthy diet. Many African-Americans receive their nutritional information from television and radio. They also tend to receive nutritional information from their doctors. It has also been reported that many Black Americans have problems understanding nutrition guidelines. According to Dixon (1997), "Media focused on African-American audiences have much credibility, particularly if the sources are people of color" (p. 3B). If churches and other organizations held seminars to encourage healthier eating habits, it would help the community to make healthier choices. It would also help to teach more adults about their African ancestors and how they ate, since they ate much more differently than African-Americans do today. With this knowledge, they wouldn't have to feel like they were giving up their culture. In a study titled "Cultural Aspects of African-American Eating Patterns" (Airhihenbuwa & Kumanyika, 1996), it was found that many African-Americans did not know the origins of soul food and were under the assumption that foods such as sweet potatoes and chicken originated in Africa. The study also found that many Black Americans feel that soul food is unhealthy and that the food should be modified so that it would contain less saturated fat and salt. It is possible to pass down healthier cooking methods to future generations of African-Americans (Airhihenbuwa & Kumanyika, 1996).

So what was the diet that Yeshua (Jesus) ate?  
Well, Jesus essentially ate a Mediterranean diet rich in whole grains, fish, fruit and vegetables and with modest amounts of olive oil, meat and wine. Raised in a Jewish household, he would've adhered to the Kosher Dietary Laws of his culture.  
Moderation is key!!

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# STILL BREAKING RECORDS – AT 95



## Long-time church member hits the track

Clara P. Satterfield, a Deaconess at the Jones Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church in Columbia, South Carolina, traveled to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to participate in the track and field competitions at the National Senior Games. Deaconess Satterfield walked 1500 meters, ran 50 meters, and ran the final leg of the 4 x 100 relay, winning Gold Medals in all three events and setting two new National Senior Games records. At age 95, Satterfield was the only participant in her age group and set the record in the 1500 Power Walk. In the 50-meter race, she finished first, ahead of runners aged 91-98, and set a speed record for her age group, at 16.44 seconds. For the relay, she was chosen for the final leg because of her speed. Her teammates were 91, 91, and 93.

Deaconess Satterfield is new to running, but is a long-time member of the A.M.E. Zion Church. In 1955, she was a founding member of St. Paul's A.M.E. Zion Church in Spring Valley, New York, where she served on its Trustee Board and as the church's organist. Wherever she moved after she left Spring Val-

ley, she sought out and immediately became active in a church. In Monrovia, California, she joined Shiloh A.M.E. Zion Church and was consecrated as a Deaconess there in 2003. While there, she became a life member of WHOM, CED, and the Lay Council. She served a term as President of the Lay Council for the Southwest Rocky Mountain Conference of the church. When she moved to Columbia, South Carolina, Satterfield joined Jones Memorial A.M.E. Zion church where she continues to serve as a Deaconess and is a member of The Daughters of Varick, in addition to WHOM, CED, and the Lay Council.

Satterfield attended the National Senior Games in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with her daughter in 2019 and enjoyed the camaraderie and uplifting spirit. She decided to participate in the games and began intensive practice once she moved to South Carolina. Satterfield earlier won gold medals in the Power Walk and in horseshoes at the Georgia Senior Games in October 2021.



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The Freedom Church





West Central NC Conference ...continued from page 5

sistance to address the needs of churches in the West Central North Carolina Conference.

Business of the Annual Conference resumed with conference committee reports from Ministerial Advancement and Board of Examiners, The Reverend Dr. Daran H. Mitchell, Chairperson/Dean; Holy Orders, The Reverend Dr. Michael E. Ellis, Chair.

Three active pastors were granted the state of retirement. They were The Reverend Dr. Janice Ingram, Rockingham District; Reverend Raymond Mitchell (requested by his spouse, Reverend Alla Mitchell, Greensboro District; and Reverend Harold O. Robinson, Rockingham District. Words of accolades were offered by clergy and lay to each retiree. Disciplinary Questions and Passing of Characters concluded the afternoon session.

Sister Camille Starnes presided over the annual Missionary Service. She introduced the congregation to one of her favorite songs “Shout to the Lord”. The Roll Call for the Life Members Stoling Ceremony was presented by each District Chairman: Mrs. JoAnn H. Gresham, Concord; Ms. Vernice M. Coley, Greensboro; Mrs. Bertha K. Hardin, Rockingham; and Mrs. Jacqueline Pittman-Stitt, Wadesboro-Monroe. The Missionary Sermon was delivered by The Reverend Robin H. Stitt, Pastor of Rocky Mount A.M.E. Zion Church, Ansonville, NC, Concord District. Reverend Stitt delivered a soul-penetrating message entitled, “Be Real or Get Real”, taken from Romans 12:9-10. She reminded us to be real believers and used the acronym: **R=Remember** ‘who’ you are in Christ, **E=Enjoy** ‘serving’ others with your gifts, **A=Affirm** the need for an ‘authentic’ community, and **L=Learn** to ‘supernaturally’ respond to evil. The Concord District Choir lifted our spirits in song during the service.

Saturday began with the Conference and District Prayer Coordinators which was followed by the Christian Education Assembly using the theme, “Serving the Flock”. Christian Education Workshops were led by Ms. Nikisha Leake, Concord District; Dr. Rosa Purcell, Greensboro District; The Reverend Dr. Bernice Bennett, Rockingham District; The Reverend Montressa

Boulevard, Wadesboro-Monroe District. Leading activities were: Children - Ms. Robin Simons-Blount, Greensboro District; Youth- Ms. Pamela Ford and Ms. Olivette Forrest, Concord District; Young Adult- Attorney Tiffany Wilson, Wadesboro-Monroe; Adults – Ms. Wanda Talbert and Mrs. Bertha Hardin, Rockingham District; and Clergy – Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr.

The Installation of the Conference Youth Officers was led by Bishop Starnes and assisted by the Reverend Dr. Raymon Hunt, Director of Christian Education for the Piedmont Episcopal District. The Sermon was brought by The Reverend Brandon Smith, Greater Walls A.M.E. Zion Church, Rockingham District. His subject was: “Too Much at Stake,” from Luke 22:31-32. His major points were: 1) Don’t allow your old person to mess up your new purpose; 2) God will give divine permission for demonic design; and 3) God provides the answer before Satan ever presents the problem. A beautiful selection was given by Mr. Ashton Mitchell of Marvin A.M.E. Zion Church, Wadesboro-Monroe District.

Saturday Afternoon, The Reverend Dr. Daran H. Mitchell, Pastor, Trinity A.M.E. Zion Church, Greensboro District, presided over the Closing Session. The singing of “A Charge to Keep I Have” established our divine purpose and centered our hearts to received the Closing Message by Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr. entitled, “A Movement Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Strengthening our Fellowship, Serving our Flock – Sharing our Faith and Securing Our Future.” The focus scripture was I Peter 5:9-11 – Steadfast Leadership most leaders do well until they face adversity. To be steadfast is to be resolute, unshakable in our faith, and fortified by God. When we are steadfast leaders, not only will we make a difference on this earth, but we will receive eternal rewards in heaven. However, we cannot receive the rewards unless we are saved. The message concluded with an invitation to Christian Discipleship with eleven congregants responding. The Charge and reading of the appointments brought the One Hundred Twelfth Sessions of the West Central North Carolina Conference to a jubilant close praising God as we departed to serve, minister and build up the body of Christ in “Holiness to the Lord !!!!”v

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# Every Woman Should Have A Choice. They Will Not Stop At Roe.



*By Rev. Dr. Allison Lee, Social Justice Editor, The Star Of Zion*

Over the last few months, I have pondered what I would - and even could - say regarding the controversy surrounding the reproductive rights of women on this platform. I have waited to see what official statement would be posted by our denomination. I have followed the news, re-read court documents, and scrolled by many social media posts. I have attempted to process what it means to strip women of every age, faith, socioeconomic status, and circumstance of the right to choose. In a country where: maternity leave is a shell of what it should be and paternity leave is not normalized, Black and Brown children are disproportionately represented in the foster care system, “freedom” is a deluded notion, and women often (though definitely not always) shoulder the responsibility of child-rearing. I am sitting with the reality that the politically charged decision of overturning *Roe v. Wade* which deals with the aftermath left behind by the immediate past President of the United States in his choosing of appointees for Supreme Court Justice. In the dissent, Justices Stephen Breyer, Elena Kagan, and Sonia Sotomayor stated, that the court “...reverses course today for one reason and one reason only: because the composition of this court has changed.” I have and continue to wrestle with the reality that in 2022 – regardless of the fact that 55% of Americans are pro-choice, according to the recently conducted Gallup poll - the highest court in the United States of America has determined that women in this country are not allowed federal protection pertaining to exercising autonomy over their bodies in all ways – specifically regarding reproductive health.

*Every woman should have a choice.  
They will not stop at Roe.*

On June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States officially overturned *Roe v. Wade* - which was the landmark court ruling that for the last almost 50 years has granted the constitutional right to an abortion. This ruling places the power of women’s reproductive rights back into the hands of states which will mean that in some places a pregnancy can be terminated, while in others women would have to carry to full-term. This decision is harmful because outside of the attack on bodily autonomy, the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* is likely to disproportionately affect Black and Brown women with abortions taking place among more than 50% of women of color accord-

ing to research shared by the Kaiser Family Foundation. This will also affect women who live in states with a total ban; they will likely be required to travel for services that they should be able to access within the boundaries of where they live. If states that traditionally fall more to the conservative side continue to completely ban access to abortion, the rights of women within these borders rests entirely upon where they live. Since we know that desperation due to lack of access often overrides safety (and understandably so), what of the women who are without resources to travel to other states, but for reasons that we do not need to know of need to have an abortion anyway? What of doctors who have to choose between possibly losing their license or providing healthcare to a woman in need? In no way does this seem equitable; in fact, we know that it is not. This decision intensifies the healthcare disparity within the United States in a way that many are struggling to see a fix for.

*Every woman should have a choice.  
They will not stop at Roe.*

In addition to all women waking up with one less right than was available on June 23rd, the rollback of *Roe v. Wade* sets a dangerous precedent for what is possibly to come. In the opinion penned by Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito and supported by Justices Clarence Thomas, Amy Coney Barrett, Brett Kavanaugh, and Neil Gorsuch, Alito states,

“The Constitution makes no reference to abortion, and no such right is implicitly protected by any constitutional provision, including the one on which the defenders of *Roe* and *Casey* now chiefly rely — the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.”

If the argument from the Supreme Court of the United States is that the right to an abortion is not one that is included in the Constitution, what does that say about other rights (substantive due process, the national right to contraception, marriage equality) that have since been granted? What of a country bound together with a Supreme Court that is continuously more out of touch with the people whose decisions it greatly affects? What of a people whose country was not founded on the premise of freedom for all and even now in the most technologically advanced age and mentally, physically, and emotionally aware time continues to regress instead of progress?



*Every woman should have a choice.  
They will not stop at Roe.*

In an effort to provide some sort of crisis management in the wake of the Supreme Court's recent decision, President Joseph R. Biden signed an Executive Order on Protecting Access to Reproductive Healthcare Services on July 8, 2022. While it will not reverse the damage caused by the overturn of Roe v. Wade, it is a vital piece when it comes to seeking to mitigate the effects that are already being seen by:


- Expanding access to contraception, access to abortion, and other reproductive services,
- Clarification regarding the right to emergency abortion care,
- Launching of a public awareness initiative to provide up-to-date information regarding reproductive rights and options,
- Seeking to ensure the safety of patients, providers, clinics, and pharmacies,
- Providing legal assistance to people who are \*lawfully seeking abortion, and
- Protection of patient privacy.

This Executive Order is the first step in finding ways to help in light of the recent decision.

*Every woman should have a choice.  
They will not stop at Roe.*

Hear me clear when I say that whether you are pro-life or pro-choice, I did not come to argue. I am clear in my belief that women should have the right to make their own decisions regarding reproductive care. The fact of the matter is that one does not have personally want or agree with something in order to not stand in the way of other people taking part. I could get down into the nuances, one being that I do believe that there should be a limit to the week at which an abortion can be performed, but I did not come to deal with that either. I did come to speak on the detriment associated with women being hindered from making decisions for themselves and doing so safely. I did come to list the 9 states (Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin, and West Virginia) who have completely banned abortion. I did come to note that there are states with trigger laws that are likely to take effect soon. Although the church's role in this is an entirely separate piece, I also came to raise that there are churches and pastors that have been attacked for speaking out about women having the right to choose. Last but not least, I did come to state the importance of paying attention to this ruling being the tipping point for more like it to come.

*Every woman should have a choice.  
They will not stop at Roe.*

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# AN EXCEPTIONAL LIFE LIVED BY AN EXCEPTIONAL PERSON, PUBLIC SERVANT, & LEADER



## REGINALD M. FELTON

*Passes at age of 75*

It was the evening of December 31, 1946. The late Reverend Dr. Carroll M. Felton Jr and Mrs. Gladys M. Felton were preparing for fun and fellowship with close family and friends. There became a change in plans as the call for new birth began to arrive. This child was destined to be the life of all celebrations. Reginald McCoy Felton entered this world on January 1st, 1947 in Washington, DC, the first son of his parents and first grandson of Carroll M. Sr. and Meldia E. Roseman Miller Felton. What a celebration there was with the family and friends, and this began his journey!

The family moved to Knoxville, TN where “Reginald” as he was then and is still addressed by his friends from Tennessee today, attended Beardsley Junior High School and Austin High School. The friendships he developed during those school years remained as strong today as they were then.

Reggie spent summers with his grandmother and cousins in D.C. on Peabody Street and eventually attended Howard University. It was at Howard where he developed lifelong friends and continued his father's legacy by joining the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He always cherished his class while at Howard and continued to be involved when they celebrated the 50th Anniversary.

While attending Howard University, he was dazzled by Dianne L. Marshall and knew soon after that she was the one with whom he wanted to spend the rest of his life. They married in 1969 and to this union God granted them the blessing of a son, Brandon Richard Felton.

After graduating from Howard University, he and Dianne moved to New Orleans, where he completed his tour of duty as a Commissioned Officer in the United States Coast Guard and received his graduate degree from Tulane. Shortly after returning to Washington D.C, he reconnected with the family church, John Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church, under the leadership of the late Bishop Cecil Bishop. Reggie and Dianne then moved to Montgomery County, Maryland, in 1973 where they resided for over thirty years. In November 1974, Reggie Felton became active with his neighborhood citizens association, the Seven-Oaks, Evanswood Citizens Association. Within a few years, Reggie became President and began his journey as a community activist and leader.

Based on his strong organization skills, the County Executive during that time appointed Reggie Felton as the first Chairman

of the Silver Spring Center Citizens Advisory Board, for which he provided leadership to ensure that the remodeled Armory would become a unique community facility for community-based organizations and local businesses.

In 1994, Reggie Felton was elected to the Montgomery County Board of Education. He won re-elections in 1998 and 2002, becoming the first African American to be elected President, and served for three terms. During his time on the Board (1994-2004), the school district continued to improve its quality of educational services for all children, selecting and onboarding superintendents, establishing higher standards, and a more rigorous curriculum for all students. The county received national recognition for its standards under the Board's leadership.

Reggie would later be appointed to the Board of Trustees for Montgomery College (2007-2015) and the University of the District of Columbia (2010-2019), where he was Treasurer and Chairman of multiple committees. With his talent and zest for life and people, Reggie excelled professionally, becoming one of the first African American Senior Executives within the Department of the Navy. He held key positions, including, Director of Civilian Personnel Programs, Director of the Navy Civilian Personnel Center, and Associate Executive for Shore Installation Management. Reggie later became a Capitol Hill lobbyist for the National School Boards Association. He was also Mayor and a Commissioner of Highland Beach, Maryland, a small, incorporated town just outside of Annapolis, Maryland.

In addition to Reggie Felton's civic and professional service, he has been active in many social, educational, and civil rights organizations. Reggie served as Basileus (President) of the Montgomery County Chapter (Mu Nu) of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. During his tenure, he led the George B. Thomas Learning Academy (GBTLA) Saturday School program launch, which is now the longest operating community-based tutorial program in Montgomery County. Reggie also became active with the Montgomery County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), serving as Vice President for Programs and a member of the Board of Directors. As the Chairman of the Annual Freedom Fund Dinner, he set the highest fundraising record to date.

Reggie continued his service to his community later as an officer or member of the Board of Directors of Somerset House II Condominium Association, Beta Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and other social clubs. As of May this year, he remained on the Board of Directors of the Rudolph W. Snowden Memorial Scholarship Fund, the GBTLA Saturday School, and the Van Ness Main Street business district.

He is forever loved by his devoted wife Dianne, mother Gladys M. Felton, and sister Renée Felton Pullen. His greatest joy was his son Brandon, daughter-in-love Brie, and the grandchildren, Grace and Oliver. He always shared a close relationship with his sister-in-law Elizabeth Marshall, and brothers-in-law Gary, Warren, and Donald Marshall. He bragged about his nieces and nephews, his goddaughter Debra Mayfield, and the extended family of cousins that he loved and with whom he shared many laughs with.

Reggie Felton lived life intentionally and without a minute wasted. His combined talents for seeing various perspectives and a passion for service had a broad impact on every community in which he was a part. He enjoyed the journey and always left things better than he found them. We all were blessed to know him.





**Claude Christopher**

*Passes at age of 93*

*Born Into Life October 26, 1929,  
Born Into Eternity May 18, 2022*

The family wishes to acknowledge, with deep appreciation, the many comforting messages, formal attribute, prayers and many other expressions of kindness and concern evidenced at this time. A more formal acknowledgement will be made at a later time. Special Thank You: Carmen Ballentine, Tammy Orr and ALC Hospice. Special Appreciation to Uncle Bishop for your Supernatural Support-Team US! *The family*

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Sad To Announce The Homegoing Of  
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**CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
Jasper Junius McCormick**

*November 4, 1944 June 23, 2022*

Mr. Jasper Junius McCormick, son of the late Ms. Sallie A. McCormick and Mr. John Umstead was born November 4, 1944 in Durham, North Carolina. He entered eternal rest on June 23, 2022 in Brooklyn, New York.

Jasper "Jack", "Mac" McCormick was reared in Durham, North Carolina and attended the Durham Public Schools and was a member of the Hillside High School class of 1963. Shortly thereafter, he moved to Brooklyn, New York and began his life's work. His career mostly included employment at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Pan American and Continental Airlines and Security at Brookdale University Medical Center from which he retired. His love for his profession led to his activism in The Brotherhood of Security Personnel Officers

and Guards International Union. He held many offices including President.

His greatest love was for God, which was expressed through his work in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. He joined St. Mark AMEZ Church in Durham, NC at an early age. When he moved to Brooklyn, he transferred his membership to First AMEZ Church and became a stalwart member. He was a member of Steward #1, a member of the Lay Council and served as President for many years. He also served as the Past President of the Brooklyn District Lay Council and a member of the New York Annual Conference Finance Committee. Jasper was known throughout the "Zion Connection". He was a delegate to every General Conference since 1972. On the Connection, he served on many boards and committees and was always a Marshall at Connectional Meetings. He was most involved with the Connectional Lay Council where he was a life member and served as Chaplin for 8 years and 1st Vice President for 8 years. Also, Jasper was proud to represent Zion at the World Methodist Council in Dublin, Ireland. He received many awards and commendations on all levels of Zion Methodism. Most recently, The International Ministers and Lay Association of the AME Zion Church presented him The Samantha Wormley Lay Leadership Award.

Jasper never met a stranger. His outgoing personality led him to develop friendships with many people and he often became acquainted with long lost relatives be-

cause of this. That "Jasper" personality made him the heart of any gathering including: family reunions, class reunions, sporting events, the checker club and the barbershop. He also loved North Carolina Central University and never missed homecoming. Jasper joins in the heavenly realm: his parents, his son, Cecil Stony, siblings and other relatives and many friends. What a time will be had when they all get together.

Jasper" personality made him the heart of any gathering including: family reunions, class reunions, sporting events, the checker club and the barbershop. He also loved North Carolina Central University and never missed homecoming.

Jasper joins in the heavenly realm: his parents, his son, Cecil Stony, siblings and other relatives and many friends. What a time will be had when they all get together.

He leaves to cherish his loving memory: A wife, Rev. Gloria D. McCormick, 2 daughters: Valarie F. McCormick and Marlo A. Alana (Henry) ; 2 step-daughters: Edwina L. Angelettie and Elena L. Angelettie-Hemenes(Ricardo), step-son: Edward J. Angelettie; 2 sisters: Rev. Brenda J. McCormick and Minnie Umstead Harris (Melvin); 2 brothers: Alvin D. McCormick and Wallace Umstead; Grand- Children: Jacob Alana (Natasha), Hasso Alana, Harry Wallace, Matthew Wallace, Jonathon Wallace, Javonna Wallace, Joy Hemenes and Aaliyah Hemenes.; 3 great-grandchildren: Kaiden and Ka'ia Alana and Kyro Lindo; former spouse, Dorothy L. McCormick, nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of other relatives and friends.



# A GLOBAL LEADERSHIP VIEW OF THE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH



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July 6, 2022

Dear Members of the Board of Bishops;

Grace, mercy and peace be multiplied unto each of you. I trust that this communication will find you in good spirit, mind and body.

The scripture says that if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins and cleanse us of all unrighteousness (*1 John 1:9*).

The purpose of this communication is to comply with the demands of the disciplinary committee and to express my sincere apologies for any direct or indirect action on my part which has led to an atmosphere of disharmony. On May 30, 2022, I shared a document with the Board of Bishops, which was intended solely for internal purpose. As a consequence of that document, I wish to retract the following;

1. *It was inappropriate to engage in character attacks and traffic unsubstantiated accusations against any bishop, clergy or lay person.*
2. *It was not proper to broadcast evidence of potential wrongdoings without dealing with it through due process consistent with the Book of Discipline of the A.M.E.Zion Church.*
3. *By being the Episcopate assigned to the Alabama-Florida Episcopal District and thereby having the responsibility of chairperson for the Board of Trustees for Lomax Hannon which is located therein, I take responsibility for trusting others and not properly exercising, monitoring and overseeing closely the finances and funds allocated to Lomax.*
4. *I submit to the Board of Bishops in accepting the sanctions consistent with verifiable proof and our church law that the board may seek to impose.*

Through this communication I wish to apologize to the broader church for any harm done to anyone through the document of May 30, 2022. I ask for your forgiveness. I pray that we can put the past behind us and move on to a realm of peace and unity.

May God bless the Board of Bishops and the A.M.E.Zion Church.

Yours truly,

Seth O. Lartey  
 Presiding Bishop

SOL:jwl

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Theme: The Freedom Church: A Movement Empowered by the Holy Spirit; Serving Our Flock  
 Imagine the possibilities; With God all things are possible  
 Ephesians 3:20





# Official Letter of Reprimand issued to Bishop Seth O. Lartey

**“Whoever heeds discipline shows the way to life, but whoever ignores correction leads others astray.” Proverbs 10:17 NIV**

To Bishop Seth O. Lartey;

This letter of reprimand is issued as a result of your actions that have been deemed by the Board of Bishops to be inappropriate, reflecting significant lapses of judgment, and unbecoming of the high office of the Episcopacy.

During your tenure as the Presiding Bishop of the Alabama-Florida Episcopal District, evidence presented to this Board indicates that funds allocated to Lomax-Hannon were redirected to accounts in the name of various Annual Conferences and the Alabama-Florida Episcopal District. Although you have provided a list of disbursements supporting churches and other activities of the Episcopal District, the funds designated for Lomax-Hannon should have been used only for the benefit of that institution. These activities, whether specifically directed by you or allowed to occur during your administration demonstrate a series of lapses of judgment and the misappropriation of funds. Furthermore, we acknowledge the pain this has caused the faithful people of the Alabama-Florida Episcopal District.

Subsequent to a meeting of the Board of Bishops where you were directly admonished about these matters and steps were proposed to move toward restitution and healing, a meeting during which you indicated that you accepted responsibility and apologized, there was a document publicly released over your signature filled with rumors, gossip, unsubstantiated accusations, and malicious attacks upon persons both

named and unnamed. The publishing of such material, whether intended by you for public distribution or not, is a breach of Christian ethics. We note that you have recently issued a public retraction of the referenced document; however, immeasurable damage has resulted from your actions.

As a consequence of your violations of the responsibilities of your office, both morally and administratively, the following sanctions will be imposed:

1. You are immediately removed as Chair of the Connectional Trustees Administrative Board.
2. You will forfeit your next opportunity to stand for election as President of the Board of Bishops.
3. An amount to be determined by the Board of Bishops for restitution to Lomax-Hannon will be assessed to you personally.

These significant sanctions upon a Bishop in our Church are unprecedented, and yet, we believe are a measured level of discipline commensurate to the infractions. Please note that while it is the heartfelt desire of this Board to balance justice with mercy, moving towards healing, there will be immediate further consequences, if you engage in any activities deemed by this Board and/or an Annual Conference Trial as violation of our Church Law and the sacred vows each of us make as Bishops of The AME Zion Church.

## *The Board of Bishops of The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church*

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DONE THIS THE 18TH DAY OF JULY, 2022



# A Lifestyle Of Giving:

## Dr. Laticia Hill Godette

Written by Dierdre P. Rowson, Entertainment and The Arts Editor, The Star Of Zion

Maybe you know her as the founder of the non-profit that bears her name. Maybe you know her as a mental health professional. Maybe you know her as (former) Adjunct professor of History of Christianity at Hood Theological Seminary. There are many arenas in which you may encounter Dr. Laticia Hill Godette, but in whatever arena that you have the pleasure of meeting her, you will immediately know one thing. She is a giver. She is such a giver that the first time I met her was when she was traveling around North Carolina holding testing clinics, and food giveaways during the early days of the Covid 19 pandemic. I got tested at one of those testing clinics. I'm sure I'm not the only one whose life was saved because of it.

The second time I met Dr. Godette it was very briefly via Zoom. We had made several attempts to interview via Zoom but because of her busy schedule, we were unsuccessful. Being the giver that she is, she offered to come to me. So, on a Monday morning, after a weekend of preaching and giving in New Jersey, she drove to my house in Lillington, North Carolina so that I could interview *her*. She is, above all, a mother concerned about the stability of her kids so she splits her time between New Jersey and North Carolina.

Dr. Godette exited the vehicle immaculately dressed and coiffed as always. She is unapologetically feminine, unapologetically womanists, and unapologetically kind. We went into the backyard where a tent, a table, and two chairs waited for us. We sat, near the vegetable garden and talked with the songs of the birds as our background music. Immediately we felt a kinship with each other. It was genuine and mutual. Before we knew it, we were talking like old friends.

She is passionate about giving, and she is also passionate about mental health, self worth, authenticity and her desire to help people build wealth. She is equally passionate about equity in our society and in the church. Dr. Godette believes that we should not hold people hostage to their past. "Sometimes people make mistakes," she said.

"The church has a way of making people feel like if they're divorced that they are less than. I had to tell a whole lot of women who dealt with that, that the truth is, we made some choices because we got tired of waiting. We got tired of being alone. But when you are single sometime



you feel like you are cursed, then women end up lowering their standards, and we settle. Or we rush to get married so that we won't have to have that pressure of being celibate or the pressure of being judged if we are not. But what I keep telling people is when it's meant to be, no one can stop the plans of God. So don't allow anybody to make you feel bad. And if you are in a toxic situation, get out! Women hear something like, well you married, you got to make it work. I don't believe God intends for us to suffer like that.

Dr. Godette is a trailblazer. She was the first woman to pastor Yorks Memorial in Greenville NC, a First Church. She has the distinction of being the first Woman at the helm of the Camden District of the New Jersey annual Conference. It didn't take me long to discover that there is a reason why she is blazing trails and breaking glass ceilings. She has a true passion for ministry. A true heart for service. "Everybody calls you a trailblazer, but the person who breaks the glass ceiling gets cut," she said.

Dr. Godette has a substantial presence in the secular world as a founder and CEO of EpiMorpheus Consulting Group. She has a unique anointing from God to help clients grow businesses that serve them financially and spiritually. She equips individuals with the tools to grow businesses to and beyond the six-figure mark without hustling, grinding, slaving and begging. She shows individuals how to build businesses that change their bank account and their lives, doing only what God has called them to do. Everything that she does, whether in the church or in the secular world, is characterized by giving. She gives scholarships, she gives, opportunities. She gives hope.

When I asked her what inspired her to be such a giver, I wasn't prepared for the answer.

"Because I had a need," she said. "My mother was 16 when she had me. My father was selling drugs, on drugs. My mother was on drugs. Nobody taught them how to be parents".

Dr. Godette is no stranger to hard times. She was very open in talking about growing up poor in Asbury Park, NJ. She faced the social pitfalls of living in poverty. If you have met her then you know that she at least 6' tall. "Kids used to pick on me because I always had on high waters. All of my clothes were hand me downs."

"Sometimes girls would be waiting on me to jump me after school".

When her father went to prison, her mother

Continues... next page





A Lifetime of Giving ...continued from page 17

could no longer handle the scratching and surviving life that they had been living. Her mother did what daughters do. She went home to her mother. She moved her family to North Carolina. Dr. Godette was 9 years old when they moved to Havelock, NC, her grandmother's home. She talks about the day they arrived.

"I remember sitting in the back seat holding a doll baby. My mother took that doll baby out of my arms and threw it in the trash. She handed me my little brother. This is your baby now."

"I grew up that day.

As the oldest, Dr. Godette was responsible for her younger siblings. She talked about how her life changed when they moved from New Jersey to North Carolina. She told a story of culture shock, of doing without even some of the basics like hygiene products, of being tall but only getting hand-me-downs. Never owning anything new.

Her mother was a strict woman. She held Dr. Godette responsible for the household chores and her siblings while her mother worked. There is no anger when she says this. Dr. Godette knows that her mother did the best she could with what she had. She was young, unskilled and struggling with addiction.

Dr. Godette credits her grandmother for the foundation of her faith. She learned what it meant to serve from her grandmother, not just in church, but in life. This is probably the reason that everything that she does has an element of service to it. She talks about how her grandparents moved to New Jersey for better job opportunities, but moved back to North Carolina to take care of her great-grandfather. Family is important to her.

#### **On marriage**

"My husband and I have been married 29 years. We had to get some marriage counseling. We made an intentional effort to stay married. Anybody can get married, but everybody can't stay married because nobody taught us how to be a husband, how to be a wife".

#### **On Mental Wellness**

That's another thing about the church. We have to stop acting like therapy is a bad thing. We say Jesus will fix it. Yes, Jesus will fix it. He can fix it through medical doctors and through therapists and psychiatrists too. You go to the doctor for your diabetes medication or heart attack, but then when people need (mental/emotional) help we say Jesus will fix it. We have to get rid of that stigma in the black community. I preach Jesus and a therapist. Ask me how I know. I had to go get some. The truth is, I talk to my therapist every week, even when nothing is wrong. It helped me develop into who I am. I found out that sometimes you need somebody that you can let it all out with and have no expectations from you. Because sometimes, you talk to somebody in the church and they will say 'I thought you was the preacher, the presiding elder'. They act like we can't have any issues or be human. We are in this flesh just like everybody else. We have children, grandchildren. We go through

issues, racism, sexism...who's praying for us after we are carrying the weight of everybody else. So, whether anything is wrong or not I talk to my therapist at least once a week. If I can't get on her couch, I'm calling her on the telephone. It is good to get it out without judgement without anybody placing expectations on you. As preachers we have to practice self-care. If you don't, you will end up empty. So many preachers give, give, give, and don't have anything left for themselves.

When I get a seat at the table, I'm gonna make sure I pull another woman in and get her a seat too. It's not just about one woman having a seat at the table. We are in the AME Zion Church. We've been in existence over 200 years. We've only had one woman bishop elected. Now she has transitioned and gone on to glory. So, we have none. When things have been a certain way for a long time, you believe that it's the way it is supposed to be. I believe that every gift that God gave me, has nothing to do with me. God gave it to me to bless the kingdom, it's not even about me. When people ask me how I can give so much I say it came from God, it's not mine, I can't keep it. I'm scared to keep it because it belongs to God. God gave it to me because He can trust me to do what He said with it. "

#### **Just Do The Work**

Presiding Elder Godette's Approach to ministry is "Just do the work!"

Since her historic appointment on November 13, 2021 as the first woman to serve as a Presiding Elder of the Camden District and in the New Jersey Annual Conference. Dr. Godette has exhibited a progressive, effective and transformative leadership style.

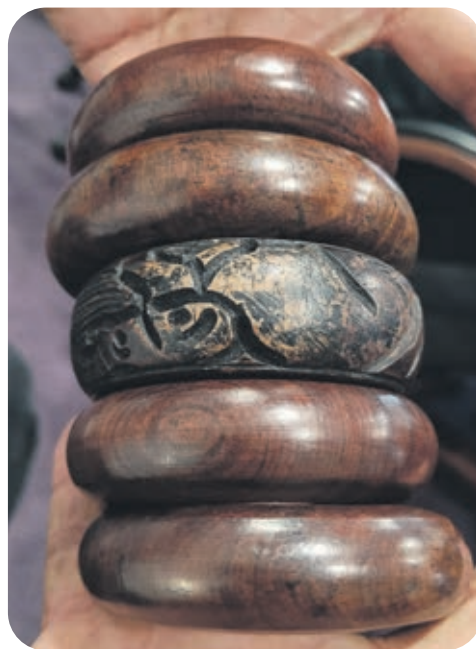
In just seven months, P.E. Godette hired a Technology Specialist for the Camden District to ensure that all twenty-two Churches have the equipment, tools and resources to effectively use technology for evangelism. She has raised over \$176,000 to assist Camden District Churches with technology.

P.E. Godette has a unique skill set that is making a major impact on the Camden District. She implemented a Camden District Prayer Line, which meets every day at 7 A.M. She has also established a Camden District Business Line which meets the last week of every month from 8 A.M. to 9 A.M. and 7 P.M. to 8 P.M. Presiding Elder Godette is teaching the Camden District Churches how to start businesses, nonprofits, write grants and create multiple streams of income.

P.E. Godette believes God has anointed her and given her spiritual gifts and business acumen that will bless the entire A.M.E. Zion Church. Currently, she is fasting and praying with her husband, to seek God's face on when to offer herself as a Candidate for Bishop. She prioritizes being a mother and she doesn't want her youngest daughter to lack in any area.

May God continue to bless the work of her hand. May God speak to her heart according to God's will.





# The DeGraffenreidt Collection

By Rev. Dierdre P. Rowson, Entertainment & The Arts Editor, The Star Of Zion

In the spring of 2021 as we were still in the clutches of Covid-19, a gift of artifacts from the mission field was donated to Hood Theological Seminary. This collection, donated by Dr. Kermit DeGraffenreidt, a 1963 graduate of Hood Seminary. Dr. DeGraffenreidt credits the institution for sparking his interest in missions. He spent six years as a missionary to Africa. In 1980 he was elected General Secretary of Global (Overseas) missions.

“During those fort- two years of serving on the mission field, Dr. Degraffenreidt acquired many works of art. For Dr. Degraffenreidt, these works expressed welcome to the various countries and serve as reminders of the challenges he faced on the mission field. He indicated that many people may never travel to the mission field, and he was motivated to give the artifacts to Hood for display and to help increase an appreciation for the various cultures, craftsmanship and artistic expressions. The countries from which the artifacts come include Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Angola, India, the Bahamas, and South Africa.” (Love, 2021)

Dr. Mary Love, adjunct professor of Christian Education, has developed a class, Faith and Heritage in Cultural Art, which not only presents the collection in a hands-on way, but also provides resources that allow the student to understand the process of the creation of the art, the importance and symbolisms of the art, the cultural significance of the symbols, and how to interpret and make intentional faith connections.

**Per the syllabus, the course objectives are as follows:**

Be able to identify basic features of cultural art, artistic medi-

ums, and the symbolisms therein

Be able to share the meaning/message of the animal used  
 Be able to explain and use the unique characteristics to make faith connections and to facilitate effective learning in educational settings

Be able to assist persons of other cultures develop an appreciation for the gifts from a culture other than their own

Be able to develop teaching tools and/or plans and demonstrate their use through class presentation and final project.

The DeGraffenreidt collection contains 147 pieces. Although the class was and intensive, I only spent a couple of hours, but it was worth the trip. If you are able to take or audit this class it is highly recommended. Sitting in on the class and being enlightened to the characteristics of African art before viewing the collection enriched the experience. Knowing the five basic elements of African art; use of the human figure, luster and luminosity, composed demeanor, youthfulness, symmetry and balance, really enhances appreciation, as a learner is able to touch the piece.

If it was Dr. Degraffenreidt’s wish, that donating this collection would inspire others to brave the mission fields, I would say seeing this collection will certainly create a healthy curiosity at the very least.

Love, D. M. (2021, Spring).

A Gift from Zion's Mission Field. Hood's Herald, p. 13.

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# Misunderstanding About What A Budget Is

By Dr. Dana Stilley, Financial Freedom Editor, The Star Of Zion



Over the past several months the news has been inundated with stories about our countries declining economic outlook, rising prices at the gas station and in the supermarket, and declines in returns on investments in the stock market. To address these issues the Federal Reserve has increased the federal fund rate 3 times this year. The federal fund rate is the interest rate that banks charge each other to lend Federal Reserve funds overnight.

This increase in the federal fund rate directly affects interest rates on credit cards, loans, and some mortgages. Our

households and churches are severely impacted and our quest for financial freedom is challenged as we confront the reality of less discretionary income and the possibility of a decline in giving to our houses of worship. One sure way to stay abreast of these changes in personal or organizational finances is to develop an operational budget and implement a method to consistently monitor actual versus projected income and expenses.

Most recently I have engaged in several conversations about budgets. Often there is a misunderstanding about what a budget is, what should be included or excluded in a budget, and how does one go about designing a budget. Overall, the concept seems to be challenging for many. Simply put, a budget is a tool that helps to determine if the income is sufficient to meet all expenses. It will also serve as an indicator of excess funds that may be saved or invested for use in the future. An easy way to begin the budget development process is to list all operational expenses and the cost associated with same. This can be done on an annual, monthly, or weekly basis. Pay special attention to the small ex-

penditures which are often excluded from a budget, such as a cup of coffee, or a candy bar. When purchased on a regular, consistent basis, the little expenses add up, and should be included in your budget.

Next, begin work on the other side of the budget, and list the streams of income. It is imperative to only include income streams that are accessible to support your operation. For example, if you are having funds automatically withdrawn from your check and deposited into a retirement fund, I suggest that you do not include these items as part of your operational budget. Including funds that are earmarked for retirement or other special purposes falsely inflates the income side of your budget and does not present a clear picture of the funds that you have available to spend.

After the total expenses and total income have been determined, you can begin to assess your true financial picture. If your income exceeds your expenses by a significant margin, you have identified funds that may be set aside for savings or investments toward your financial freedom. If your income only exceeds your expenses by a slim margin, you may wish to re-assess your expenses or determine additional income streams. If your expenses are larger than your income, you may also wish to determine additional income streams and consider adjusting your spending if possible.

The quest for financial freedom takes dedication, discipline, and work. A budget is an excellent tool to facilitate the journey. I encourage every household and house of worship to invest the time to develop and monitor a budget.







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*Looking Back to Move Forward*

## FREE YOUR MIND

*Written by, Dr. Asa G. Hilliard, III • Presented by, Rev. Dr. Sarah Fleming*

We are living in an era when many of the myths and misconceptions that have been an integral part of our primary education are being exposed as blatant distortions of the truth. There are several individuals---whom I regard as my heroes---leading the fight for the *rescue* and *reconstruction* of African history. Two scholars who have profoundly influenced my thinking are Dr. Asa G. Hilliard, III and Dr. Ivan Van Sertima.

Professor Hilliard is an educational Psychologist. He holds the honorable distinction of being a Fuller E. Calloway Professor of Urban Studies at Georgia State University. He is regarded as one of this country's foremost experts on educational testing and evaluation. In recent years, his specialization in the history of the Nile Valley has gained national notoriety.

In 1976, Dr. Hilliard wrote the introduction to *Stolen Legacy*, a book which documents the Greek plagiarism of Egyptian science, philosophy and religion. In the introduction, he discusses the concept of a mental slave as a person totally unaware that his mind is shackled and his capacity for thought is limited by those who control access to knowledge of the past. According to Dr. Hilliard, *a mental slave* is a greater victim of bondage than a physical slave.

One of Dr. Hilliard's ongoing efforts to eradicate *mental slavery* is to push for the development of an Afrocentric curriculum within the public school systems. This concept of *cultural democracy* in education, which includes contributions of all ethnic groups, is spreading like wildfire all throughout the U.S.

Dr. Hilliard also produced a brilliant lecture series entitled, "*Free Your Mind, Return to the Source: African Origin.*" This series thoroughly documents African history and culture from its beginnings in the Nile Valley, to the present. This knowledge has had a great impact on African Americans. We are now freeing our minds and throwing off the shackles of mental slavery and thereby increasing our potential for human development of your personal growth.

It is important to note for clarity that the word consciousness is derived from the Latin words **com**, meaning together, and **scire**, meaning to *know*. Therefore, consciousness means that one is aware of one's own existence, sensations, thoughts and environment.

The Institute of Karmic Guidance sponsors a lecture series lecture series which provides a forum for notable speakers---historians, scholars and psychologists---whose lectures impart a sense of cultural sensitivity which has liberating effect on one's consciousness. This program is appropriately titled *Free Your Mind*, a theme I borrowed from Dr. Hilliard.

One of our most inspirational speakers in the *Free Your Mind* series has been the noted historian, Dr. Ivan Sertima. Dr. Ivan Van Sertima was born in the jungles of Guyana, South America. He was educated in London and the United States, and is currently a professor of African Studies at Rutgers University. Dr. Van Sertima is a literary critic, linguist and anthropologist. This is quite an accomplishment for someone who was told, as a youth, that he didn't have the mental capacity to amount to anything.

Dr. Van Sertima has been honored as a historian of world repute, being appointed by UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization) to the International Commission for Writing the Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind. This appointment is sure to affect the world for generations to come.

Dr. Van Sertima is well-known as the author of *They Came Before Columbus: The African Presence in Ancient America*. This book documents the presence of Africans on the continent of America (approximately 900-600 B.C.) some 2,000 years before the arrival of Columbus. When *They Came Before Columbus* was first released in 1977, it was greeted with a great deal of skepticism. In the 10 years since then, however, the critics have been forced to acknowledge Van Sertima's evidence as factual.

The truth is, not only did Africans travel to America before Columbus, they also knew that the Earth was round. This was hundreds of years before Columbus "proved it." Prior to 1492, Europeans thought that the world was flat and that if one sailed into the west, the ship would surely fall off the planet.

Africans came to this land and they came as merchants, not conquerors or slaves. They established trade with the native inhabitants and provided them with knowledge of pyramid building and the construction of 15-ton stone carvings. Contrast this experience with that of European explorers who discovered new lands and conquered them in the name of European heads of state who financed their expeditions. They showed no regard for human life whatsoever.

Every October 12, this nation celebrates Columbus's discovery of America and no one asks, "How can someone discover a land where people are already living?" To discover something means to uncover something that is already in existence. It is a testimonial to the ignorance of the discoverer, not the discovered.

Congress is currently preparing for the 500-year anniversary of Columbus' *discovery* of America. This celebration will take

Continues... next page



place in 1992 and is sure to rival those held for the founding of America, the signing of the Constitution and the birthday of the Statue of Liberty, all combined. Unfortunately, this celebration will honor a falsehood.

Dr. Van Sertima addressed this concern when he testified before Congress on July 7, 1987. In a presentation entitled *Challenging the Columbus Myth*, Van Sertima presented his evidence and questioned the validity of the use of the word *discovered*. He urged Congress to consider other alternatives. Quoting Van Sertima, "To use the word 'discover' is to insult the Africans who journeyed here long before Columbus, and it ignores the indigenous inhabitants to whom this land once belonged."

We all have been victims of a gross miss-education which has produced various levels of "mental slavery." Through the efforts of men such as Dr. Hilliard and Dr. Van Sertima, we now have an opportunity to free our minds and enjoy a new sense of self-awareness and growth.

We are currently standing on the threshold of an important time in history. We are witnessing a changing of the guard at the repository of history. We are witnessing a changing of the guard at the repository of truth. If we are lucky...maybe our children will inherit a world where the history of mankind will be accurately told, and society will be the better for it.

**Commentary**

Since the *Browder Files* was first published, I have had the opportunity to interact with many people whose teachings have clarified my thinking and helped free my mind. I don't mind saying that I have always looked for people who could aid me in my development as a male and as a person of African ancestry. As my mind became freer, I was able to help free other minds too.

I've learned from many friends and teachers over the years, and one of the most important lessons they've taught me is the inevitability of death. As dear friends have passed out of my life, I've come to understand the value of honoring my ancestors. I now realize that as long as you think of them, and speak their names, they will continue to live in your heart and mind.

Therefore, it is my duty and honor to invite you to familiarize yourself with the life and works of the following ancestors. They may not be very familiar to you but their work has touched the lives of millions throughout the world. In honoring them, we keep their names alive and make it possible for others to know of their wisdom and deeds. Evoke their names in your prayers and ceremonies so they may live forever in the hearts and minds of the generations to come. They are:

**John G. Jackson**  
1907-1993

**Listervelt Middleton**  
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