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THE REVEREND JOHN W. P. COLLIER, JR.

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the A.M.E. Church's Department of Missions is the Reverend John W. P. Collier, Jr. Mr. Collier was elected to this position by the General Board in Columbus, Ohio in 1960 and re-elected by the General Conference in Dallas, Texas in 1972, and in Atlanta, Ga. in 1976.

Mr. Collier's educational background includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Administration (*magna cum laude*) from Wilberforce University; a Master of Divinity degree from Payne Theological Seminary; completed residence requirements for a Master of Arts degree in Missions and Rural Church at Drew Theological Seminary. He holds an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Wilberforce University.

His pastoral experience includes having served as minister of St. Thomas A.M.E. Church, Westfield, New Jersey; St. Mark's A.M.E. Church, Cranford, New Jersey; The Church of the Holy Trinity (College Church), Wilberforce, Ohio; Bethel A.M.E. Church, Buffalo, New York; Israel Memorial A.M.E. Church, Newark, New Jersey; and A.M.E. Union Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Collier has been a delegate to every A.M.E. General Conference since 1948. His many activities on Church boards and committees have included serving as vice-president of the New Jersey Council of Churches and a member of its General Board, and president of several ministerial groups. He is a member of the Payne Theological Seminary Board of Directors and of its Executive Committee. He attended the World Conference on Methodism in London in 1966. During a 3-year term as Secretary of the Division of Overseas Ministries of the National Council of Churches of Christ, he represented the Division of the World Assembly of the World Council of Christian Education in Lima, Peru in 1971. He attended the World Methodist Council's Consultation on Missions in Mexico City in 1973.

Community activities have included Chairman from 1960-1965 of the Newark Citizens' Committee for Equality in Education. This Committee's action resulted in the successful suit against the Newark Board of Education alleging discrimination in promotional examinations. Mr. Collier was Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Newark Branch N.A.A.C.P. from 1959-61 and is a Subscribing Life Member.

Active in the Civil Rights struggle, Mr. Collier was a member of a group of 18 clergymen who went into the deep South in June, 1961 on the first interfaith, interracial freedom rite. He was leader of the group arrested and jailed in Tallahassee, Florida, because of refusal to abide by unconstitutional, discriminatory laws. He was also a member of the Prayer Pilgrimage to Albany, Georgia, in 1962 in which 75 Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish clergymen and laymen were arrested and jailed as unlawfully assembled disorderly persons.

Since election to his present office, Mr. Collier has visited twenty-five of the twenty-nine countries outside of continental United States where African Methodism supports missionary activity.

Mr. Collier holds memberships in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, N.A.A.C.P., S.C.L.C., Urban League, Masons and National Committee of Black Churchmen. He is married to the former Mrs. Mary Savage of Jefferson City, Mo.