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Events; 2005-05-12; WNY; Annual AME Conference

Bethel A.M.E. Church

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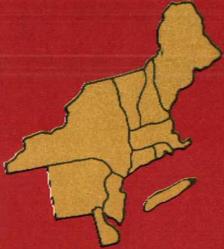
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**First Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church**



Bermuda
Delaware
New Jersey
New England
New York
Western New York
Philadelphia

The 9th Session
of the

*Western New York
Annual Conference*

May 12 -15, 2005

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209

DISTRICT THEME:

“Walking Worthy of the Calling with which We are Called”

Ephesians 4:1

The Reverend Richard A. Stenhouse, Host Pastor
The Reverend James E. F. Lawrence, Host Presiding Elder
Mother Mary Ann Norris, Episcopal Supervisor
The Right Reverend Richard F. Norris, Presiding Bishop

Our Episcopal Team



Bishop Richard Franklin Norris
Mother Mary A. Norris

Pre-Conference Activities

Tuesday, May 10, 2005

Evangelists - All Day

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

*The Western New York Annual Conference
Women's Missionary Society's Annual Day*

7:30 A.M.

Annual Meeting

12 Noon - WORSHIP SERVICE

Missionary Sermon

1:00 P.M. - Recess

2:00 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

Business Meeting

7:30 P.M.

Missionary Involvement Night

Western New York Annual Conference

Thursday, May 12, 2005

9:30 A.M.

Devotions: Conference Evangelists

10:00 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Annual Sermon - The Rev. Angelo S. Dawson

Order of Service

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2005

The Reverend James E.F. Lawrence
Worship Leader

ORGAN PRELUDE ...

INTROIT ...

* PROCESSIONAL AME Hymn No. 519
"The Church's One Foundation"

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the word.
From heaven He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder Men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed:
Yet saints their watch are keeping, Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

'Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with Thee.

* DOXOLOGY AME Hymn No. 64
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP The Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse

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

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

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

**Those that be planted in the house of the Lord,
shall flourish in the courts of our God.**

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. Lord, I
have loved thy habitation, the place where thy
honor dwelleth.

**For the Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth
keep silence before Him.**

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation
of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord,
my strength and my redeemer.

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

- * HYMN OF PRAISE The Rev. Faye B. Taylor
"And Are We Yet Alive" - AME Hymn No. 304

And are we yet alive, And see each other's face?
 Glory and praise to Jesus give For His redeeming grace.

Preserved by power divine To full salvation here,
 Again in Jesus' praise we join, And in His sight appear.

What troubles have we seen, What conflicts have we passed,
 Fightings without, and fears within, Since we assembled last.

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

Then let us make our boast Of His redeeming power,
 Which saves us to the uttermost, Till we can sin no more.

Let us take up the cross Till we the crown obtain;
 And gladly reckon all things loss, So we may Jesus gain.

INVOCATION The Rev. Pedro A. Castro, Jr.

CHORAL RESPONSE AME Hymn No. 460
"More Love to Thee, O Christ"

More love to Thee, O Christ, More love to Thee!
 Hear Thou the prayer I make On bended knee;
 This is my earnest plea: More love, O Christ, To Thee,
 More love to Thee, More love to Thee!

- ** WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Bethel AME Church Choir

SCRIPTURE ...

Old Testament The Rev. Ella Brandon
 The Epistle The Rev. Marlowe V. Washington
 New Testament The Rev. Robert Reynolds

- * PREFACE TO THE DECALOGUE AME Hymn No. 69
"From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

- * THE DECALOGUE The Rev. Edward Sm

- * GLORIA PATRI "Glory Be To The Father"

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

- ** WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Bethel AME Church Choir

GIFTS FOR MISSIONS The Rev. Felix G. Delato

- ** WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Bethel AME Church Choir

- * THE LITANY The Rev. Jocelyn K. H

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, the provider of every good and perfect gift, we call to remembrance Thy loving kindness and Thy tender mercy, and with grateful hearts we lift up our voices in praise and thanks to Thee.

We praise and thank Thee, O God.

For all the gifts which Thou hast so richly bestowed upon us: the air we breathe, the water we drink, the earth we inhabit,

We praise and thank Thee, O God.

For all the comforts of life and for the beauty and bounty of the world,

We praise and thank Thee, O God.

For the work we are able to do and the truths we are able to learn,

We praise and thank Thee, O God.

For our hopes, our aspirations and our yearnings
for what is right and good,

We praise and thank Thee, O God.

For the gift of Thy Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus
Christ and all the helps and hopes that are ours,

We praise and thank Thee, O God.

For Your ownership of all things and our
responsibility for those entrusted to our care,

We praise and thank Thee, O God. Amen.

** WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Bethel AME Church Choir

PRESENTATION OF
THE BISHOP The Rev. James E. F. Lawrence

PRESENTATION OF
THE PREACHER Bishop Richard F. Norris

** SERMONIC HYMN The Rev. George L. Larkins, III
"O Thou in Whose Presence" - AME Hymn No. 83

O Thou, in whose presence my souls takes delight,
On whom in affliction I call,
My comfort by day and my song in the night,
My hope, my salvation, my all!

Where dost Thou, dear Shepherd, resort with Thy sheep,
To feed them in pastures of love?
Say, why in the valley of death should I weep,
Or alone in this wilderness rove?

O why should I wander, an alien from Thee,
Or cry in the desert for bread?
Thy foes will rejoice when my sorrows they see,
And smile at the tears I have shed.

Dear Shepherd, I hear, and will follow Thy call;
I know the sweet sound of Thy voice.
Restore and defend me, for Thou art my all,
And in Thee I will ever rejoice. Amen.

** THE SERMON The Rev. Angelo S. Dawson

** INVITATION TO
CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP The Rev. William Cobb, Jr
"Just As I Am" - AME Hymn No. 257

** THE OFFERING ...

* THE OFFERTORY PRAYER ...

** INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS Bishop Richard F. Norris

** THE ANNOUNCEMENTS Bishop Richard F. Norris

COMMUNION HYMN AME Hymn No. 255
"There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood"

SERVICE OF COMMUNION Bishop Richard F. Norris
Chief Celebrant

*Assisted By
Presiding Elders of the Conference and
Visiting Presiding Elders*

HYMN OF FELLOWSHIP AME Hymn No. 525
"What A Fellowship"

* DOXOLOGY ...

* BENEDICTION The Rev. Angelo S. Dawson

* Stand
** Let The People Enter

Thursday, May 12, 2005
The Afternoon and Evening Schedule

- 1:00 P.M. Recess
- 2:45 P.M. Devotions:
 Department of Evangelism
- 3:00 P.M. Business Session
- 5:30 P.M. Recess
- 7:30 P.M. Lay Organization
 and Commitment Service

Friday, May 13, 2005
Morning Schedule

- 8:00 A.M. Devotions:
 The Department of Evangelism
- 8:15 A.M. Conference Institute
- 9:15 A.M. Business Session
- 12 Noon Hour of Power

Order of Service

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2005
 HOUR OF POWER

The Rev. Pedro A. Castro, Jr., Worship Leader

* DOXOLOGY AME 6:
"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

* CALL TO WORSHIP The Rev. Troy C.

From the rising of the sun unto the going down
 Of the same, the Lord's name be praised.

**The hour cometh and now is, when the true worshippers
 Shall worship the Lord in spirit and in truth.**

We have come into the presence of the Lord with
 Singing, thanksgiving and praise.

Let us all worship and praise the Lord together.

** HYMN OF PRAISE The Rev. Ann H. P. ii
"Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove"
AME Hymn No. 191

Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove, With all Thy quickening powers
 Kindle a flame of sacred love In these cold hearts of ours.

Look how we grovel here below, fond of these earthly toys;
 Our souls, how heavily they go, To reach eternal joys.

In vain we tune our formal songs, In vain we strive to rise;
 Hosannas languish on our tongues, And our devotion dies.

Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove, With all Thy quickening powers
 Come, shed abroad a Savior's love, And that shall kindle ours.

INVOCATION The Rev. Eleanor Dawson

Friday, May 13, 2005
Afternoon Schedule

- 1:00 P.M. Recess
- 2:45 P.M. Devotions:
The Department of Evangelism
- 3:00 P.M. Business Session
- 5:30 P.M. Recess
- 7:30 P.M. YOUTH NIGHT
Under the Sponsorship of
The Department of Christian
Education

Saturday, May 14, 2005

- 8:30 A.M. **YPD ANNUAL MEETING**
VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED
- Devotions:
The Department of Evangelism
- 9:00 A.M. Business Session
- 9:30 A.M. Memorial Service
- 10:00 A.M. Ordination Service

Sunday, May 15, 2005

9:00 A.M.

The Church at Study

Church-School will be held at all member churches. The Conference Church-School Superintendent, however, will conduct a model Church-School at the seat of the Annual Conference. All superintendents are expected to be present for this "once a year" experience.

CHURCH-SCHOOL
Brother Joe Thomas

Background Scripture:

Galatians 3: 19-4:7

Printed Text:

Galatians 3:19-29; 4:4-7

Golden Text:

Galatians 4:4-6

Golden Text:

When the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Galatians 4:4-6

10:00 A.M.

CLOSING AND COMMISSIONING SERVICE

Closing and Commissioning Service

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2005
10:00 A.M.

The Reverend James E.F. Lawrence
Worship Leader

ORGAN PRELUDE ...

* PROCESSIONAL AME Hymn No. 5E
"God of Our Fathers"

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay,
Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase,
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way;
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

* DOXOLOGY AME Hymn No. 647
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP The Rev. Richard A. Stenhous

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

**For a day in thy courts is better than a thou-
sand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house
of my God than to dwell in the tents of wicked-
ness.**

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

**Those that be planted in the house of the Lord,
shall flourish in the courts of our God.**

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. Lord, I
have loved thy habitation, the place where thy honor
dwelleth.

**For the Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth
keep silence before Him.**

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of
my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my
strength and my redeemer.

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

** HYMN OF PRAISE The Rev. Jocelyn K. Hart
"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"
AME Hymn No. 1

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

Closing and Commissioning Service

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2005
10:00 A.M.

The Reverend James E.F. Lawrence
Worship Leader

ORGAN PRELUDE ...

* PROCESSIONAL AME Hymn No. 56
"God of Our Fathers"

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay,
Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase,
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way;
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

* DOXOLOGY AME Hymn No. 647
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP The Rev. Richard A. Stenhou

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

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

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

**Those that be planted in the house of the Lord,
shall flourish in the courts of our God.**

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. Lord, I
have loved thy habitation, the place where thy honor
dwelleth.

**For the Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth
keep silence before Him.**

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of
my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my
strength and my redeemer.

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

** HYMN OF PRAISE The Rev. Jocelyn K. Hai
"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"
AME Hymn No. 1

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread thro' all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy name.

He speaks and listening to His voice,
New life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
The humble poor, believe.

Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb,
Your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Savior come;
And leap, ye lame, for joy.

INVOCATION The Rev. Edward Sma

CHORAL RESPONSE AME Hymn No. 18
"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

** WORSHIP
THROUGH MUSIC The Annual Conference Cho

SCRIPTURE LESSONS ...
The Old Testament The Rev. William Cobb, J
The Epistle The Rev. Robert Reynold
The New Testament The Rev. Faye Banks Taylc

* PREFACE TO
THE DECALOGUE AME Hymn No. 6
"From All that Dwell Below the Skies"

From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator's praise arise;
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land by every tongue.

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

* DECALOGUE (Summary) The Rev. Angelo S. Dawson

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

* GLORIA PATRI "Glory Be To The Father"

** WORSHIP
THROUGH MUSIC The Annual Conference Choir

GIFTS FOR MISSIONS The Rev. Marlowe V. Washington

** WORSHIP
THROUGH MUSIC The Annual Conference Choir

PRESENTATION OF
THE BISHOP The Rev. James E. F. Lawrence

** SERMONIC HYMN The Rev. Ella Brandon
"I've A Message From the Lord"
AME Hymn No. 215

I've a message from the Lord, Hallelujah!
The message unto you I'll give;
'Tis recorded in His word, Hallelujah!
It is only that you "look and live."

Refrain:

*"Look and live," my brother, live,
Look to Jesus now and live;
'Tis recorded in His word, Hallelujah!
It is only that you "look and live."*

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

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

SERMON Bishop Richard F. Norr
Presiding Prelate, First Episcopal Distri
African Methodist Episcopal Churr

** INVITATION TO
CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP Bishop Richard F. Norr

THE OFFERING ...

* OFFERTORY PRAYER ...

INTRODUCTION
OF VISITORS Bishop Richard F. Norr

** SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS AND
OTHER BUSINESS ...

** ANNOUNCEMENTS Bishop Richard F. Norr

THE COMMISSIONING Bishop Richard F. Norri

THE CHARGE AME Hymn No. 24
"A Charge To Keep I Have"

A charge to keep I have, A God to Glorify,
A never dying soul to save And fit it for the sky.

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

Help me to watch and pray, And on Thyselr rely
Assured, if I my trust betray, I shall forever die. Amen.

THE GIVING OF
CERTIFICATES TO CONFERENCE OFFICERS ...

THE HYMN OF COMMISSION..... AME Hymn No. 220
"Go Preach My Gospel"

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

"I'll make My great commission known,
And ye shall prove My gospel true
By all the works that I have done
And all the wonders ye shall do."

"Go, heal the sick; go, raise the dead;
Go, cast out devils in My name;
Nor let My prophets be afraid,
Though Greeks reproach and Jews blaspheme."

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

PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE ...

** THE READING OF
APPOINTMENTS Bishop Richard F. Norris

* THE CLOSING HYMN AME Hymn No. 45
"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

God be with you till we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

*(Refrain) Till we meet, till we meet,
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;
Till we meet, till we meet;
God be with you till we meet again.*

* DOXOLOGY ...

* BENEDICTION Bishop Richard F. No

* Stand

** Let the People Enter