

Connectional Lay Organization of the
African Methodist Episcopal Church
37th Lay Biennial Convention

Rosen Hotel

Orlando, Florida

July 11-12, 2021



Bishop Stafford Joe Nathan Wicker, Commission Chairperson
Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson, Jr., Senior and Host Bishop
Bishop David Rwhynica Daniels, Jr., Host Bishop

Mr. Matikane Abednego Makiti, Connectional Lay President
Ms. Ametta Lorene reaves, Connectional Director of Lay Activities
Ms. Jamesha J, Wiliams, Connectional Lay Young Adult Representative

Mrs. Patricia Wright, Host Lay President
Mr. Mzwake Chris Qwane, Host Lay President

Mrs. Teresa White, Host Director of Lay Activities
Mr. Lorato Lekhobo, Host Director of Lay Activities

Ms. Ashley Blakley, Host Lay Young Adult Representative
Ms. Kesaleboga Mmusi, Host Lay Young Adult Representative

**African Methodist Episcopal Church
Connectional Lay Organization
37th Lay Biennial Convention
Rosen Hotel, Orlando, Florida**

Opening Worship Services

July 11, 2021

The opening worship service of the 37th Lay Organization Convention was called to order by Senior and Host, Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson at 10:47 am EST. Prayer, Bishop Paul Kawimbe, Scripture: Matthew 5:1-9, by Recording Secretary, Doris Bell, music rendered by, MCAM.

District Welcome by Host President, Mrs. Patricia Wright

Greetings were extended newly assigned Commission Chair, Bishop Stafford Joe Nathan Wicker.

The presentation of the preacher of the hour was by Retired Bishop, John Bryant, who then presented Bishop E. Ann Henning Byfield, President of the Council of Bishops, the 135th Elected and Consecrated Bishop in 2016, newly assigned to the 13th Episcopal District.

After singing by the choir, Bishop Henning Byfield preached a soul-searching and exhilarating message from 1 Peter 2:7-9, entitled "Corner Stone, But You Are the Chosen People." The invitation to Christian Discipleship extended by Bishop John White.

Minutes of the

37th Connectional Lay Biennial Convention

July 11, 2021

Business Session I

The 37th Biennial Lay Convention of the Connectional Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church was called to order at 1:00 pm EST, July 11, 2021, by President, Matikane "Abe" Makiti via Zoom.

Devotion – In the absence of Chaplain, Mrs. Alice Belden, the devotion was conducted by 3rd Vice President, Mrs. Lovie Aaron.

Greetings were extended by President, Makitane "Abe" Makiti via Zoom.

Roll Call, Recording Secretary, Doris Bell

Report of the Registration and Credentials Committees

Preliminary Reports - Constitute 1st report –

Registration - Mrs. Faye Walker – as of June 29, 2021- 1,111 (Delegates and Alternates + Observers)

Credentials – Mrs. Faye Conley – as of Friday, July 9, 2021 - 1,040 (911 Orlando and 129 Africa)

Final Credentials Report, July 11, 2021 – Adjusted Total Report 1,205

Districts	Connectional, Episcopal Officers + Conn. YAR	Conference, Presiding Elder + YAR	Local Church	Totals	Adjusted Totals
1	8	30	48	86	109
2	9	26	16	51	67
3	8	17	18	45	54
4	6	26	27	59	58
5	10	54	32	96	105
6	11	43	34	88	131
7	10	62	35	107	128
8	3	15	2	20	24
9	8	33	15	56	61
10	8	31	11	50	57
11	9	58	100	167	188
12	7	24	17	48	54
13	6	22	7	35	44
14	1	12	0	13	13
15	5	20	8	33	33
16	2	2	1	5	5
17	4	0	0	4	4
18	1	4	0	5	5
19	9	27	34	70	70
20	0	0	0	0	0
Canada	0	0	4	4	4

Credentials Committee Recommendations –

1. Registration Committee should use categories for Biennial membership as outlined in Article IV Membership, Section 2 (ratified version).
2. Young Adult Delegates should be separately categorized to ensure compliance with Article IV Membership.
3. Registration information should be provided to the Credentials Committee no later than 5 days prior to the Biennial Convention.
4. Provide names/email addresses (at a minimum) of committee members to Chairperson no later than 30 days prior to the Convention.

5. Provide a template for districts to submit committee members.
 - a. This allows communication of responsibilities prior to the Convention,
 - b. It will allow committee members to work with the District Registration Chairperson in consultation with the District President, to provide numbers for the preliminary credentials report.
6. Finally, the Committee will certify the delegation and provide information as to the number of delegates from each Episcopal District. The information is to be formulated and provided to the Biennial Convention and its appropriate committees. (Two delegates per district). Report received.

Rules Committee – Dr. Dorothy Henderson moved for the adoption of Rules Committee Report. Report approved.

It was suggested that all other reports should be viewed via website. The suggestion was approved by common consent.

Approval of the Agenda – DOLA, Ametta Reaves – Agenda approved.

Approval of Minutes – Minutes previously approved as sent out.

Bishop E. Earl McCloud, Jr. introduced new Lay Commission Chair, Bishop Stafford Joe Nathan Wicker, 8th Episcopal District.

Wellness Break

Business Session II
2nd Vice President, Attorney Starr Battle, Presiding

DOLA Ametta Reaves presented Dr. Michael Brown of Payne Theological Seminary with regards to the Lay Leadership training and the 1st installment of \$1,160.

It should be noted that the Final Credentials Report number of persons voting to 1,038+1.

It was moved by Ms. Faye Conley and seconded that the report of the Credentials Committee be adopted. Motion carried.

Report of Nominating Committee – Dr. Felicia Commodore

Dr. Commodore shared that Ms. Amanda Johnson, 13th Episcopal District, withdrew her name as a candidate on July 11, 2021.

The following lay officer positions to be voted on:

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
3rd Vice President
Recording Secretary
Assistant Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Historiographer
Chaplain
Young Adult Representative

The Report of the Election Committee was adopted.

Judge Patricia Mayberry shared the process to be followed for the election, namely the voting delegation. The vote should be based on a calculation of 50%+1. Dr. Lenora Brogden-Wyatt moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Ms. Gloria Byrd. Motion carried.

Uncontested Positions:

1st Vice President
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary – Dr. Dorothy Vails-Weber listed on ballot as withdrawn
Young Adult Representative
Historiographer
Chaplain

Bishop Jeffrey N. Leath shared prayer before the election of new officers.

Election Results

President	1st Ballot	2nd Ballot	Results
Matikane Abe Makiti	218	499	Winner
Attorney Starr Battle	179	Withdrew	Withdrew
Ametta Reaves	122	Withdrew	Withdrew
Simeon Rhoden	426	459	
2nd Vice President			
Jerry Turner	409		
Simon Letsko	563		Winner
3rd Vice President			
Lovie Aaron	493		Winner
Janice Stewart	441		
Assistant Recording Sec			
Brenda Holland Curry	716		Winner
Melba Salter	227		
DOLA			
Dr. Paulette Coleman	264		
Patricia Wright	697		Winner
DOPR			
Dianne Battle	626		Winner
Reneicia Frazier	330		

Business Session II closed at 6:00 pm EST by Lay Commission Chair, Bishop Stafford Wicker.

Business Session III July 12, 2021

The 3rd Business Session of the Connectional Lay Organization was called to order by President, Makitane “Abe” Makiti at 10:00 am EST. Musical interlude provided by Mr. Earl Knight, III. President Makiti expressed greetings to those in attendance and asked those requesting time to speak, get into the que for recognition.

Financial Reports – Treasurer, Mrs. Kathy Drayton and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Lyndia Mayo

These reports were distributed. Recap as of March 31, 2021, provided to the Connectional Lay Organization by Independent Auditor, Jeffrey A. Hill, CPA.

Financial Recap:	
Total Proposed Revenue	\$ 594,103
Total Proposed Expenses	\$ 553,290
Net Cash Flow	\$ 40,813

Kathy Drayton moved to receive the report, seconded by Lydia Mayo. Motion carried.

Budget and Finance Report – Cynthia Gordon-Floyd

2021 Biennial Budget vs 2019 Actual

Total Revenue	\$289,000
Total Expenditures	\$218,323
Net Cash Generated	\$ 70,877

Ms. Gordon-Floyd moved the adoption of the report.

CLEDC – Attorney Rita Sinkfield Belin

Attorney Sinkfield Belin shared that she had been charged with this duty, July 18, 2018. A civil law process is in the works and securing a criminal law firm in this matter. However, she was trying to receive non-profit status for the CLEDC. Also, working on how to move forward.

President Makiti thanked Attorney Sinkfield Belin for the report.

Historiographer – Dr. Dorothy Henderson

Dr. Henderson stated that the history of all districts is on the website. She stated that she brought copies of the souvenir journal with her for sale. Cost \$30/150 for hardback copies + \$5 shipping if sent through the mail. Dr. Henderson moved the adoption of the report. Motion carried.

Wellness Break

Plenary Speaker

Introduction of Keynote Speaker – YAR, Jamesha Williams

Ms. Williams introduced The Honorable Tishaura Oneda Jones, Mayor of St. Louis, MO. Her presentation was shared via Zoom.

Special Presentation – 4th Episcopal District – Jerry Turner and Delegation

Welcome to the 4th Episcopal District by President Turner. Come join the 4th Episcopal District in hosting the 38th Lay Biennial Convention, Chicago, Illinois.

Business Session IV

During Business Session IV, Outstanding Lay Persons omitted from the 2019 Biennial Report were acknowledged.

**Closing Financial Report –
Offering Raised Total \$34,856**

Installation of Officers – conducted by Lay Commission Chair, Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker

Connectional Organization Newly Elected Officers 2021-2025

President	Makitane “Abe” Makiti
1st Vice President	Dr. Dorothy Henderson
2nd Vice President	Simon Letsoko
3rd Vice President	Lovie Aaron
Recording Secretary	Monique Green
Assistant Recording Secretary	Brenda Holland Curry
Corresponding Secretary	Cheryl Hammond Hopewell
Chaplain	Charlie Nichols
Treasurer	Kathy Drayton
Financia Secretary	Lyndia Mayo
Director of Lay Activities	Patricia Wright
Director of Public Relations	Dianne Battle
Historiographer	William Ayers
Parliamentarian	*Vacant
Young Adult Representative	Jamesha Williams

Former and newly elected officers were acknowledged.

Memorial Tribute - Chaplain, Charlie Nichols

Call to Worship offered by Chaplain Nichols with prayer, Scripture: John 14:1-6. This service was a tribute to those who were no longer with us. Closing Mediation and Lay Benediction 2:06 pm EST.

Mr. Matikane “Abe” Makiti, President
Connectional Lay Organization

Mrs. Doris Bell, Recording Secretary
Connectional Lay Organization

African Methodist Episcopal Church
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July 11-12, 2021

Name	Date 7/11	Date 7/12	
Commission Chair, Bishop Stafford Joe Nathan Wicker.	P	P	
President, Matikane Abednego Makiti	P	P	
1 st Vice President, Simon Letsoko	P	P	
2 nd Vice President, Attorney Starr Battle	P	P	
3 rd Vice President, Lovie Aaron	P	P	
Recording Secretary, Doris M. Bell	P	P	
Assistant Recording Secretary, Brenda H. Curry	E	E	
Corresponding Secretary, Ada Groff	P	P	
Treasurer, Kathy Drayton	P	P	
Financial Secretary, Lyndia Mayo, I	P	P	
Chaplain, Alice Belden	E	E	
Parliamentarian – N/A			
Director of Lay Activities, Ametta L. Reeves	P	P	
Director of Public Relations, Dianne H. Battle	P	P	
Historiographer, Dr. Dorothy Henderson	P	P	
Young Adult Representative, Jamesha Williams	P	P	

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Name	Date 7/11	Date 7/12	
1st District – Cheryl Hammond Hopewell	P	P	
2nd District – Matthew Douglas	P	P	
3rd – Dr. Lenora Brogdon-Wyatt, PhD	P	P	
4th – Jerry Turner	P	P	
5th– Simeon Rhoden/Lamar Rose	P	P	
6th – Michael Brown	P	P	
7th - Keith Britton	P	P	
8th – Patricia Campbell	P	P	
9th – Bernella Knight Rose	P	P	
10 th Dr. Roderick Moore	P	P	
11th – Patricia Wright	P	P	
12th – Dr. Dorothy Henderson	P	P	
13th – Dorothy Ealy	P	P	
14th – Garfield Mason	A	A	
15th – Mzwake “Chris” Qwane	P	P	
16th – Dr. Sheila Henderson	P	P	
17th – Caesar Kalenga	P	P	
18th – Edwin Lehasa	P	P	
19th – Lesiba A Sekoala	P	P	
20th – Qedindala Khumalo	A	A	

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Name	Date 7/11	Date 7/12	
Advisor, Dr. Richard A. Lewis	P	E	
Advisor, John Thomas, III	P	E	
Advisor, Alfred Goliath	E	E	
Advisor, Edith Barclay-Cartledge	P	E	
Advisor, Thelma Kennedy-Malveaux	P	P	
President Emeritus, Dr. Willie C. Glover	E	E	
CLEDC, Attorney Rita Sinkfield-Belin	P	P	
Registrar, Faye Walker	E	P	
Sharon Blaylock, Meeting Planner	P	P	
Music Director, Earl Knight, III	P	P	
AME V-Alert, Jackie DuPont Walker	P	P	
Election Committee, Judge Patricia Mayberry	P	P	
Legislative Chair, Selerya Moore	E	P	
Budget & Finance, Cynthia Gordon-Floyd	P	P	
Constitution & Bylaws, Libertha Mutambo	P	P	
Organizational & Officers Effectiveness, Keith Britton	P	P	
Global Development, Herbert Mngadi	P	P	
Nominating Committee, Dr. Felicia Commodore	P	P	
Audit Committee, Jacqueline Brown	P	P	
Social Action, Reginald McGill	P	P	
Educational Institutions, Dr. Jeffery Norfleet II, EdD	E	E	