

**2018-2020  
Pittsburgh  
Conference Lay Officers**

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† **Lay Activities Dir** †  
*Khary Nettles*

† **Young Adult Rep.** †  
*Reneicia Frazier*

† **Advisors**  
*Annie Mae Davis  
Bert C. Ogden, John  
Ford, Andre Nelson*

† **President  
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Bert C. Ogden,  
Sharon Banks*

*"May God bless  
us with the true spirit of  
Christianity; that we  
may live together, not as  
man over man, but as  
lay persons working  
with God?"*



**The "Powerful" Pittsburgh-West Virginia  
Conference Lay Organization of the  
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

152nd Session Pittsburgh-West Virginia  
Annual Conference President Lay Report  
Tuesday, September 17, 2019



“And what does the Lord require of you to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God” Micah 6:8

To: Bishop Frank Madison Reid III  
Mrs. Marlaa Mashon Hall Reid, Episcopal Supervisor  
Rev. Dr. Eric L. Brown, Host Presiding Elder  
Rev. Alton Dillard, Associate Presiding Elder  
Rev. James H. McLemore, Associate Presiding Elder  
Rev. Dr. James H. Harris, Host Pastor  
Dr. Valerie Gary Bell, President, Connectional Lay Organization  
Ms. Ametta Reaves, Director of Lay Activities, Connectional Lay Organization  
Ms. Jamesha Williams, YAR Connectional Lay Organization  
Mr. Mark Mayo President, Third District Lay  
Ms. Kimberly Gordon Brooks, Director of Lay Activities Third District Lay  
Ms. Erin Youngue, YAR, Third District Lay  
Mr. Vernon D. Kelly, Conference President  
Mr. Khary Nettles, Director of Lay Activities  
Ms. Reneicia Frazier, YAR  
Mrs. Sonya Nelson, Host Local Lay President  
Delegates, Clergy, Officers, Local Presidents and Members

I greet you in the saving name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. On Saturday, September 9, 2018 we thank President Mark Mayo of the Third District Lay in attending our annual meeting and conducting our elections. The newly elected 2018-2020 officers are Vernon D. Kelly, President, Sonya Nelson, First Vice President, Ruth Smith, Second Vice President, Rosa Moore, Third Vice President, Twyla Glasgow, Recording Secretary, Valorie Bryd, Assistant Recording Secretary, Barbara Lyles, Corresponding Secretary, Erin Youngue, Treasurer, Linda West, Historiographer, Khary Nettles, Director of Lay Activities, Richard Gray, Public Relations. The appointed officers from the President are Andre Nelson, Parliamentarian, Bryant Messiah, Chaplain and Reneicia Frazier, Young Adult Representative.

On September 12, 2018 our Lay Night was in high spirits with a strong Presiding Elder Rev. Alton Dillard who preached a powerful WORD. I would like to thank President Mark Mayo and the entire Pittsburgh-West Virginia Conference Lay Organization officers and members for a successful program. I thank the clergy for their awesome support, love, kindness and communication. We opened our conference year with a quarterly meeting Saturday, October 20, 2018 at Bethel, Pittsburgh thanks to Rev. Dr. Erwin McIntosh and local lay president Rosa Moore, as we highlighted our strategic planning of meetings, committee chairs, programs, workshops, events and projects.

Thanks to Rev. Dr. Eric L. Brown, Presiding Elder and many clergy for their love and support at the meeting. We have completed our elections of delegates and ready to serve for the Connectional Lay 36th Biennial; the following eight elected delegates in this order: by virtue of office Vernon D. Kelly, Khary Nettles, Reneicia Frazier, the remaining five are Barbara Lyles, Sonya Nelson, Richard Gray, Twyla Glasgow and Rosa Moore. Our chair Ester Jones and cochair Bert Ogden have introduced the new Raymond R. Davis Scholarship and according to their report many have responded.

Opening the year 2019 Third District Winter Retreat, we thank Presiding Elder Brown of his enlightening edification of a powerful Bible Study and thanks to Elders Alton Dillard, James McLemore and Rev. Dr. James Harris for their love and support. As lay and clergy we united with powerful relationships to enhance our leadership. In the month of January with heavy hearts we truly missed our great leader Bishop McKinley Young of his love, kindness and support as he has gone on with the Lord's golden gates of heaven and as we continue to pray for the past Episcopal Supervisor Dr. Dorothy Jackson Young. In the month of February we welcome the newly appointed Bishop Frank Madison Reid and Episcopal Supervisor Mrs. Marlaa Mashon Hall Reid into the 3<sup>rd</sup> Episcopal District. Our Director of Lay Activities, Khary Nettles has presented outstanding workshops through the year on Evangelism, Leadership, Stewardship and a review workshop on Electoral College to the General Conference. We have asked every church to celebrate our Founder Richard Allen's 259<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a Stay at Home Tea in February thanks to chair Barbara Lyles. In March we exercise evangelism of our Lay Witness Sundays thanks to chair Twyla Glasgow; **information** was distributed with a speaker list to all churches and many local lay have completed the program. .

The 3<sup>rd</sup> District Lay held their Raymond R. Davis Scholarship Awards at Mid-Year March 21<sup>st</sup> thanks to our conference Chair Ester Jones and Co-Chair Bert Ogden in supporting our applicants. We were proud to announce three finalists from the Pittsburgh-West Virginia Conference Onyah Faith Sheely, Payne Chapel, Duquesne, Neriah Tyre' Alexander, St. James, Pittsburgh and Khayla Powell-Boyer of Bethel, Monongahela; scholarships was presented by Third District Lay Chair Dr. Lenora Brogdon Wyatt. Our conference First Vice President Sonya Nelson issued tickets for this banquet and in addition a form was sent out to every church to place an ad. Many came to join us as we honor all the finalists as they seek higher education. During the Mid-Year Convocation March 23<sup>rd</sup> we kindly supported the WMS Quadrennial with a love pledge. Our Quarterly Conference meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup> at Greater St. Paul, Morgantown thanks to Rev. Georgia Morrow and local president Richard Gray; we elected our delegates for the Third District 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lay meeting as follows in this order by virtue of office Vernon Kelly, Khary Nettles, Reneicia Frazier with remaining five Twyla Glasgow, Richard Gray, Linda West, Barbara Lyles and Valorie Bryd. We welcomed all clergy to attend as we explore and improve the lay leadership of the church.

On May 18, 2019 we celebrated our Tenth Anniversary Unsung Hero Awards at the elegant Hilton Garden Inn Suites Southpointe, Canonsburg, PA. Chair Ruth Smith, Co-Chair Barbara Lyles has sent out the packet information and the committee members were in the process of contacting every church. This has been a special event as we honor the present unsung and recognize all the unsung hero back to the year 2010 when it all started thanks to Andre Nelson. During our unsung hero event we have honored 37 dedicated servants of the Lord with an attendance of 395 clergy, lay, family and friend; well done by chair, cochair and committee. The Third District 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lay meeting was host by the North Ohio Conference on June 7-8, 2019 at Grace AME Church, Warren, Ohio. President Mark Mayo led the meeting with reports, bible study, leadership workshops and preparation of delegates for the 36<sup>th</sup> Biennial. Congratulations to Richard Gray and Rev. Buena Dudley Paschall as the chosen Lay Witness Awardees. We welcome Bishop Frank Madison Reid who preached a powerful evening worship service. It was an exciting trip to the Connectional Lay Organization 36<sup>th</sup> Biennial at the beautiful city of Bellevue near Seattle, Washington. President Valerie Gary Bell and Director of Lay Activities, Ametta Reaves provided an excellent meeting with learning lab experience of leadership workshops, legislation, constitution bylaws and many other committee reports. I thank all the delegates for their hard work and representation of our conference and thanks to Reneicia Frazier for coordinating the high tech vision for the Biennial.

Attendance, Meetings, Financial Obligations and Donations

Pittsburgh-WVirginia Annual Conference= Third District Planning Meeting= Presiding Elders Planning Meetings=Presiding Elders Founder's Day=Mid-Year Convocation=Raymond R. Davis Awards=Preisiding Elders Conference and Report Mettings with Lay Reports=Third District 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting=CLO 36<sup>th</sup> Biennial=DONATIONS-Wilberforce U.=Payne Theological Seminary=MSWAWO Scholarship=WMS and YPD Quadrennial and Church Renovations=All Assessments and Lay Travel paid in full. I would like to say thanks to a superb and excellent Executive Board, Chairpersons, Local Presidents and membership of the Powerful Pittsburgh-West Virginia Conference Lay Organization.

THERE MUST BE A SHARED COMMITMENT AMONG THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS; EVERYONE MUST ASSUME BOTH INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR A SUCCESSFUL ORGANIZATION.

Yours in Christ, Stand Blessed

*Vernon D. Kelly, President, Pittsburgh-West Virginia Conference Lay Organization*

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