

REFLECTOR

First District

WMS MAGAZINE

February 2019



WMS
LEADERSHIP

FOUNDER'S
DAY 2019
EDITION

Founder's Day 2019



Missionaries: Restoring Our Legacy

Rev. Dr. Jessica Kendall Ingram

Episcopal Supervisor

***“And he said to the people of Israel,
“When your Children ask their fathers in time to come,
“What do these stones mean?’ then you shall let your children know, “Israel
passed over this Jordan on dry ground.”***

Joshua 4:21-22

Founder's Day in the African Methodist Episcopal Church affords the opportunity of revisiting our rich history. We take the time to not only remember our Founder's Richard Allen and the early leaders of our Zion; both males and females, but we must also embrace the history of the Women's Missionary Society.

The soon to be published **Encyclopedia of African Methodism** edited by our own Bishop Gregory G. M. Ingram, dedicates a section to the history of the Women's Missionary Society. In one section it states, *“Soon after the founding of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1787, Sarah Bass Allen, the second wife of Bishop Richard Allen, was moved by the shabby appearance of some ministers as they came to conference to report on their labors. She secured homespun, called ladies and provided more adequate apparel”*. These and similar activities led Richard Allen to organize the women into the Dorcas Society in 1824. After a few years this organization became inactive. Again, Sarah Allen endeavoring to meet the needs of this struggling church organized the

Daughters of the Conference in 1827. Approximately forty-seven years later, Rev. B. T. Tanner sent a letter to the Bishop's wives basically stating the need for organized missionary work. After much prayer and thoughtful consideration, Bishop James A. Shorter issued the call and the first meeting was held at the home of Rev. J. A. Handy on 16th Street near M in Washington D.C. on May 8, 1874. Among those in attendance were Mesdames Mary Campbell, Maria Shorter, C.M. Burley, L. Brown and Harriet Wayman. Mrs. Mary A. Campbell was elected president and Mrs. C. M. Burley, wife of the first Financial Secretary of the A.M.E. Church, was elected secretary. On May 21, 1874 at Mother Bethel A.M. E. Church in Philadelphia, PA, the Women's Parent Mite Missionary Society was organized. It was resolved that such a society should be formed in every local church. These women sponsored work in Haiti, Santa Domingo, West Africa, Barbados, Virgin Islands, Trinidad, Jamaica and the British West Indies. Home missions were the core and support of mission preachers, mission churches and schools. As the

work continued, women in certain geographic areas felt isolated. As a result, in 1886 the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the A.M.E Church was organized. Eventually, the decision was made to unite the two organizations and in 1944 two strong auxiliaries of the AME Church became the Women's Missionary Society. And the rest is history! Thus, for more than 200 years the legacy of the WMS has been one of women working to make a difference in the lives of people all over the world. And the work continues. We now boast missionary societies on four continents with a membership of more than 100,000 women and many mission initiatives have been developed in all 20 of our districts.

Our theme for this year in the First District is "**The Year of Restoration.**" For the month of February our focus is, "**Restoring our Legacy.**" This is our challenge. As missionaries, we have a history that is filled with acts and deeds toward the "*least of these.*" Our history is one where our purpose was not just to have meetings, fundraisers, luncheons and annual days. The early missionaries were clear on their purpose and it was to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. They did so at great sacrifice. Our challenge in this 21st century is to restore our legacy. We must restore our legacy of touching lives and making a difference. We must restore our legacy of not putting limits on the work of missions. We must restore our legacy of putting people first and not programs. We must restore our legacy of working together for a common

cause and not being separated by non-essential issues.

My missionary sisters, as we celebrate this 2019 Founder's Day, let us make a commitment to restore our mission as missionaries, who "*are called to strengthen our faith and sent to continue the ministry of Jesus Christ by service and witness in the world.*"

Determined to Restore our Legacy,



Rev. Jessica



Words from our Episcopal President



To Bishop Gregory G.M. Ingram and Rev. Dr. Jessica Kendall Ingram, Presiding Elders, Pastors, and Missionaries serving on all levels.

What a wonderful God we serve. I greet you with the love and joy of Jesus. I am blessed to serve Him as the President of this marvelous 1st Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society.

This edition of the Reflector will highlight the work God has allowed us to do over the past several months through the Women's Missionary Society and the Young People's Division.

The articles in the Founders Day Edition of the **Reflector** shows that each Conference Branch WMS (**Bermuda, New England, Western New York, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Philadelphia**) is doing the ministry of Jesus Christ in their churches, communities, and in the world. Each **Conference WMS** continues their unique outreach programs to assist God's people in need. I thank each **Local and Conference Branch President** for all you do. God is pleased because you are helping the least, lost, and left behind by extending yourselves beyond the local and community efforts through **Project Possible** and **Partners in Missions**.

The Ruth Henderson Hugh LE 2019 was a powerful spiritual weekend. The pictures will give a just a small glimpse of how the Preachers, Teachers, Musicians, and Psalmist enhanced our lives as we were being **Restored for God's Glory**.

Last but not least, I thank **Sister Nicole Griffith Smith, Philippa Olofintuyi, and The WMS Tech Team** for putting together this communication. I pray that you will reflect on how good God has been as you read this edition of the Reflector.

Blessed and Restored,
President Pat



"I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad".

Psalm 34: 1-2



WIN WITH WANDA *Again*

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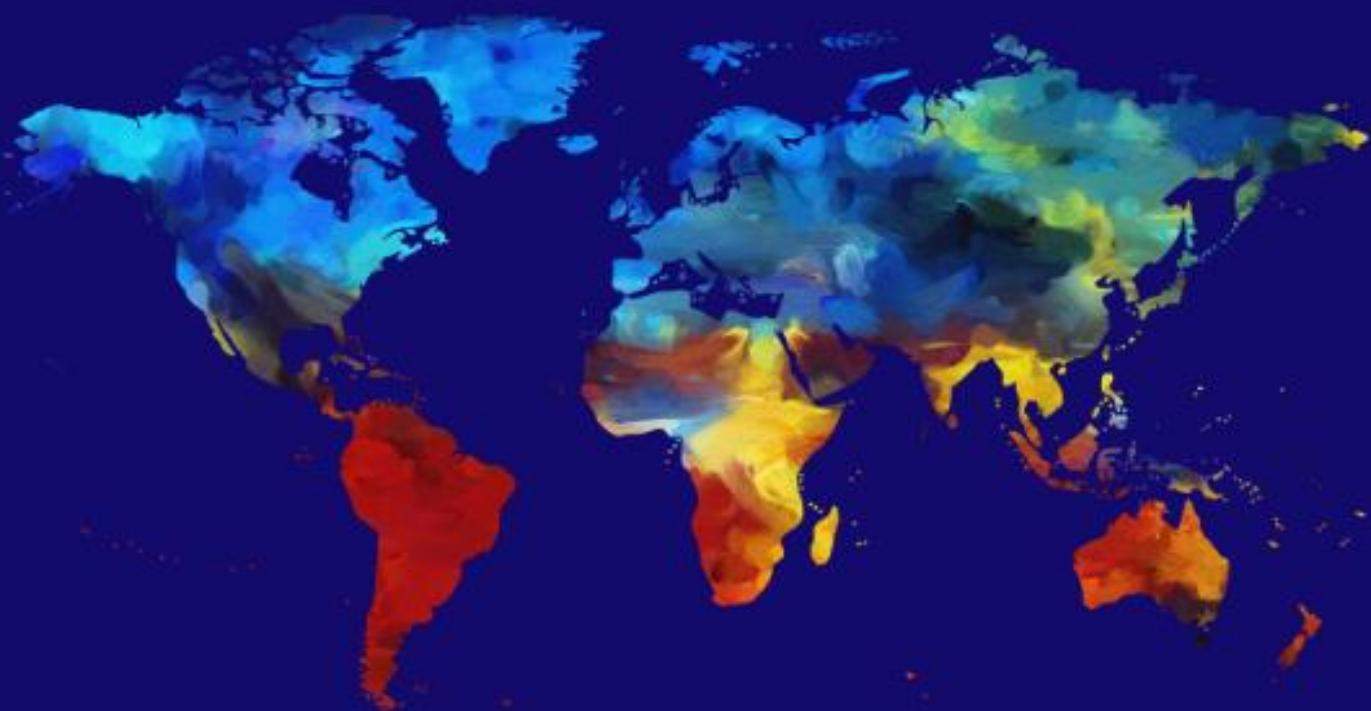
Light Refreshments Following Concert

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT (215) 879-8588

MARCH 2019

First Episcopal District WMS

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The Right Rev. Gregory G.M. Ingram, Presiding Prelate
Rev. Dr. Jessica Kendall Ingram, Episcopal Supervisor
Sister Patricia Nira Smith, Episcopal President
Sister Ashley McBride, Episcopal Third Vice President

Bermuda Conference Branch

The Missionaries of Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church have once again shown their commitment to reaching outside the walls of the Church and assisting those in the community.

As part of the Society's outreach program, the Missionaries hosted a free pre-Thanksgiving feast on Thursday, 15th November. Some 94 persons from the community enjoyed the sumptuous dinner; this was an increase over the 82 persons who attended last year. Those who were catered to were not just members of the Church but included persons from the wider community as well.



In order to get some idea of exactly how many they were catering for, members of the Missionary Society handed out free tickets to those whom they felt might benefit from the effort. The sick and the shut-in, who are sometimes inadvertently overlooked, were included as well.

The delicious menu featured turkey, ham, macaroni and cheese, peas and rice, mixed vegetables and candied yams. Dessert was a choice of apple upside down cake or gingerbread. Naturally, the meal would not have been complete without the much-loved home-made rolls prepared by Sis. Gloria

Woods. Although the Missionary Society had offered dinners in the past, there had been a lull for a few years until last year when the Missionaries decided to once again make the dinner a part of their outreach effort.

The feedback from attendees indicated that they were most appreciative, very grateful and very thankful. Feedback from the Missionaries indicated that they were thankful that they were able to serve others in such a meaningful way. Special thanks go to all Missionaries who worked so hard to make this event such a special one. In doing so, they truly showed the love of Christ!

On The Go Breakfast Program

The Bermuda Conference has supported the Coalition for the Protection of Children's School Breakfast Program for many years with an annual donation. These students receive breakfast at school during the school term. We recognized that these students have needs while they are not in school. We initiated a program that would assist these students with their nutritional needs during the school breaks. Twenty '**On the Go**' breakfast bags packed with non-perishable breakfast items and a \$25 certificate for perishable food was given to twenty students from two of our Primary Schools. The students were chosen by the school counsellors and thus the identity of the families was protected. This was well received and will be done during each school break.

Delaware Conference Branch

Mass Meeting 2018

SHINE THE SPOTLIGHT, SHINE THE SPOTLIGHT, SHINE THE SPOTLIGHT! That was the clarion call heard throughout the Delaware Conference WMS. President Wanda M. Hunt, PME Director Sister Carrie M. Daniel and her supportive team conducted Pray, Planned and Presented Delaware's Annual Mass Meeting on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at Asbury, AME Church, Chester, PA; Officers and members of the Fannie J. Coppin WMS, Linda Warren, President extended warm greetings to First Episcopal District officers; PME Director, Sister Deborah Washington and 3rd Vice President Sister Ashley McBride. Also present were Immediate Past Philadelphia Conference PME Director, Sister Ressler McCollum, P.E Reverend Richard H. Worthy (*Wilmington District*), P.E. Reverend J. Stanley Justice (*Dover District*), Consultant Darlene Justice (*Dover Area*), Reverend Dr. Stanley Smith, Host Pastor, Missionaries, Life Members, YAMS, Clergy, Advisors, and Community Leaders.

The very informative, captivating, and interesting day focused on the 2018 Study Book Curriculum theme, "Invisible Oppression: A Global Awareness". Valuable resources, engaging presenters and dynamic presentations included "Strengthening Links to Community Services, Blessings in a Bag, Ministry Beyond the White, Organize, Educate, Register, and Vote, Commitment, Membership Campaign, Exercise and Move Forward, and Healthy Heart.

The action-packed day concluded with the recognition of Delaware's 2018 contributing writers. The six outstanding

publications consist of 1 litany, 2 poems, and 3 lessons. The writers are:

Sharon Burton-Young, Byrd's AMEC, Clayton, DE
Carrie Moon Daniel, Trinity, AMEC, Middletown, DE

Angela Hill, Emmanuel AMEC, Hartly, DE
Reverend Dr. Jacquita Wright-Henderson, Bethel, AMEC, Wilmington.

The Delaware Conference WMS is dedicated to shining the spotlight on Invisible Oppression. We are committed to a "*Ministry Beyond the White*" by



making a difference in the lives of others.

The Delaware Conference Branch Women's Missionary Society continues to be excited to serve as we Minister Beyond the White.

Another Chance, Standing with our Sisters - September 2018 along with the entire First District we had an opportunity to honor our Project Possible Coordinator, Sister Janet Bordley (*Mt. Plymouth AMEC*). In addition to serving as Coordinator, she also serves as Conference Treasurer and is very active on all levels. She is a member of Mt. Plymouth AMEC, where she is a member of the Edith E. Scott WMS. Sister Cheryl Bratcher is her Local President and Reverend Tamika Cobb Ali is her Pastor.

In addition to Sister Bordley, we celebrated and are proud of our **2018 WMS Scholarship Recipient Miss Riana Miller**, who received the highest award given. She is a member of Mt. Zion, Ellendale where Reverend Sonja Ayers is her Pastor and Sister Rosalie Macklin is her Local YPD Director.

All Hail the Queen - We celebrate our newly crowned Queen, Sister Rosalind Parker a faithful member of the Louisa Waston Women’s Missionary Society of Bethel AMEC. Sis. Linda Needam serves as her Local President and Reverend Ronniere Robinson is her Pastor. Sister Needam and Sister Hazel Hare served as her Ladies in Waiting and Prince Graysen Ellis was her Escort. July 2018 during the District Queen’s Contest Queen Parker represented the conference with style, poise and dignity.

Delaware Conference YPD

On November 17, 2018, the Delaware Conference hosted their Learning Institute at Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church in Ellendale Delaware. Our focus was on “Mental Health Awareness”. We had two presenters for our youth, Mrs. Tasha



Turay, M.Ed, Lead School Counselor in the Caesar Rodney School District and Mrs. Tesha Quail, LPCMH, NBCC, Licensed Psychotherapist.

They spoke to the youth in regarding the benefits of therapy and recognizing Teenage Suicide Signs. The youth had an opportunity to speak in a classroom setting as well as one on one. The Directors and Advisors worked together with Ms. Wanda Hunt, De. Conference

WMS President and Ms. Sebrena Taylor, De. Conference YPD Director on getting to know your YPD Handbook, parliamentary rules and procedures. We had a wonderful turnout of Youth and Adults.

On Wednesday, December 19, 2018, the Delaware Conference YPD 3rd Vice President, Priscilla Snell, along with the Conference Director, Sebrena Taylor and Alison Taylor, local Director at Dickerson Chapel, delivered boxes of toys to the Pediatric Floor of Nanticoke Memorial Hospital. They were met by the hospital staff, nurses from the Pediatric Floor, Renee Morris, Nanticoke Health Foundation Executive Director and Robert Monaghan the Director of the Pediatric Floor. This year’s toy drive was dedicated in the memory of Director Taylor’s 22-month-old niece Aliyah Christine Simms who was a patient at Nanticoke Hospital.

Can we say we have a celebrity amongst us? The Delaware Conference 1st Vice President, Paul Pinkett was a part of the Morehouse-Spelman Christmas Carol Concert that was televised on Thursday, December 22, 2018.



We are looking forward to serving the Delaware Conference in 2019! There is no telling what God can Do!

Peace Be Unto You,

Ms. Sebrena G. Taylor, Conference Director

“**MOVING FORWARD**” prayerfully into “**THE YEAR OF RESTORATION**” - We sponsored our first King/Queen Contest on June 23rd and crowned Sis. Vida Culbertson as our Queen, who went on to represent us in the District Queen’s Contest in Dover; partnered with the Ministerial Alliance and attended the “Call to Conscience” Rally in Washington, DC on Sept. 6th; attended the Fall Luncheon on Sept. 22nd along with 6 of our YAMS.



We participated in the NYC-BOCE Replica on Oct. 8th; six of our members attended the Connectional NGO Convention on Oct. 11th-12th; gave support to and attended the District YPD Meeting from Oct. 12th-14th; continue to give on-going support to the **Women’s Opportunity Rehabilitation Center** for our Project Possible: **Women In Need** Program. The Areas and Local Societies continue to visit the sick and shut-ins at home, hospitals and nursing homes; feed and clothe the community; sponsored Back-to-School Drives; hosted a “Pamper Day” for seniors; volunteered at the Harlem Criminal Justice Bldg; participated in the NY State Safe Exchange Domestic Violence Program and sponsored Voter Registration Drives. The YAMS held their first “Meet and Greet” and decided to assist Rev. Brenda Ford, Chaplain at the Nassau County Correctional Center with her “Behind Bars” Prison Ministry. The Commission on Promotion and Missionary Education is planning to start a project called “We’ve Got You Covered”, in which each Local Society will be asked to adopt and become advocates for a school in their Area. We are in the process of planning a Mentoring Program for our YAMS and was honored to have Sis. Pat Smith, our District

President do a workshop for us on “Bridging the Generational Gap” at our Executive Board Mtg on Oct. 17th.

The Brooklyn Area WMS held their 2nd Annual Leadership Luncheon on Sat., November 16th and honored 19 missionaries for 25 or more years of outstanding service in missions.



We sponsored a Lunch and Learn Mentoring Session for our YAMS on Nov. 12th at St. Luke AMEC with 15 YAMS in attendance.



Our Advent “Caring and Sharing” Service was held on December at St. Matthews AMEC, Hollis, NY.

“RESTORED FOR GOD’S GLORY”



Some of our Seniors and YAMS at LE-2019

Cont. on page 11

Western New York Conference Branch

WNYC Mass Meeting, Hosted by St. John AME Church, Niagara Falls, NY



Team Building Workshop



2017-2018 WNYC Queen

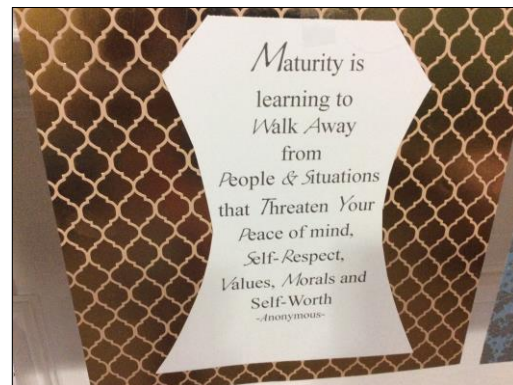


Global Missions Initiative for Africa and Haiti, demonstrating how to make pillow case dresses



Global Missions Initiative for Africa and Haiti, demonstrating how to make pillow case dresses

In August 2018, WNYC Project Possible, H.O.P.E. Enterprise (**Helping Others, Promoting Excellence**) hosted a Summer Empowerment Series on Domestic Violence. This series was hosted at the YWCA in Troy, NY.



Western New York Cont.



Garnet Hicks Wallace WMS hosted a Service Awards Luncheon, at Bethel AME Church, Buffalo, NY on November 24, 2018



New York Cont. from pg. 9

As we “Move Forward Together” in the spirit of our pioneering stalwarts, we will light new candles of hope as we continue to serve and support the programs and projects on all Levels, so that with one heart and one mind we may glorify our Father through the work of Missions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary S. Davis, President



New Jersey Conference Branch

Anna Howard Missionary Society of No. Stelton AME Church Shows Love to Patients in JFK Hartwyck Nursing Home in Edison

On Sunday, December 2, 2018, the Anna Howard Missionary Society and God's Rainbow Choir presented a Holiday Concert and Gift Baskets of Love to patients who were in attendance at their monthly service on the first Sunday of each month at the JFK Hartwyck Nursing



Home in Edison, New Jersey. The service began with prayer and scriptures from the missionaries and evangelists of the Anna Howard Missionary Society. The most enlightening and spiritual holiday concert was presented by God's Rainbow. Once the concert ended, choir members assisted by their parents, choir directors, missionaries and evangelists gave out Gift Baskets of Love from the Anna Howard Missionary Society to the patients who were in attendance. Closing remarks were offered by Sister Linda McNeil, Coordinator of the Monthly

Worship Service and Sister Debra Williams, Second Vice President of the

Anna Howard Missionary Society of North Stelton AME Church.



2018 NJ Conference WMS Mass Meeting Reflection

Renee' M. Bryant, 2nd Vice President of the NJ Conference WMS

The New NJ Conference WMS held its annual Mass Meeting on Saturday, October 6, 2018, hosted by the Rev. Dr. W. Golden Carmen, Sr., Pastor, and host Assistant Pastor Rev. Dr. Mattie A. Carmen in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Missionaries throughout the NJ conference were humbled and honored to do the work of missions in the New Brunswick, Area.

Many missionaries expressed their appreciation for meaningful participation in community service projects.

New Jersey Conference Branch

Our day began with First Lady Renee' M. Bryant of St. James AMEC in Hightstown, NJ who presented the meditation and declared, "God is a Restorer of Family." Missionaries learned that despite family betrayal, disappointment, and despair, God could restore the family.

We were honored to have Elder Jackie Phillips, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, and an adjunct professor from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ. She led a compelling discussion about Recovery and Restoration from loss. Numerous missionaries were attentive and fully engaged, and for the first time, several of them shared openly about their past experiences in dealing with the loss of a loved one.

Thanks to Team Leader Phillipa Olofintuyi, the NJ WMS made



Pillow Case Dresses for Supervisor Wicker of the 18th Episcopal District. Many of us were thrilled about making these dresses considering that many had never made any clothing before. The missionaries met several times to

prepare and complete one hundred dresses and other garments. Several people brought their sewing machines and lent their expertise in this effort.

Indeed, we were motivated, because of the positive impact it would take on those



receiving them. Pillowcase dresses provide a sense of relief and hope to the children of Central Africa. The wide-spread

of the Aids disease has had a significant impact, and many young girls are often left orphaned, often becoming primary caretakers for younger siblings. This project was started to show these girls that they are loved and to bring them some joy from a new dress made from a simple pillowcase.



The Rev. Dr. Regena Lynn Thomas, Co-director of the Human Rights and

Community Relations Department of the American Federation of Teachers. She has served in various political positions on the Democratic National Committee including her position as Secretary of State for the state of New Jersey. Rev. Dr. Regena talked about the value of our vote and challenged everyone to become politically active. She emphasized the importance of being informed about issues that impact our communities. She passionately declared that we must vote and hold our leaders accountable if we want to influence change.

Deborah Myers-Davis is a recent retiree from Johnson & Johnson Wellness & Fitness Center where she oversaw several fitness centers. She is an organizer and Neighborhood Captain for Girltrek, which is a groundbreaking National Nonprofit Organization based in



Washington D.C. Their goal is to get ONE MILLION Women walking by 2019. Sis Debbie provided us with some tools and techniques to be healthy. She demonstrated a low impact workout session, which compelled the

missionaries to embrace the moments of active movement.

In addition to learning from various presenters, several missionaries had an opportunity to assemble and distribute care packets to Elijah Promise and provide school supplies to Kilmore Housing Authority led by our Team Leader, Ann Robinson.

After having an exciting morning and engaging with the community, we transitioned into the mid-day worship service. Rev. Dr. Mattie Carmen then preached with Holy Ghost power, sharing The Formula for Restoration. Rev. Dr. Mattie accentuated the importance of putting family values in the church. The missionaries were engaged and excited about trusting God to restore our families. Wilma Robinson, our New Jersey Conference Branch President, was exhilarated about the "Missionaries Restoring Families." Again, she acknowledged, "I am Peacock Proud and Elephant Elated, What another Awesome Mass Meeting!"

Reflection by Team Leader Ann Robinson:

The women and men of the New Jersey Conference, Women's Missionary Society, had the privilege during their annual mass meeting of singing and sharing the love of Jesus with the guest of Elijah's Promise in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Songs were sung, prayers were lifted while testimonials were shared, and tears were shed. The song"

Victory is mine!" had a special meaning for one guest" we sung it in jail because it gave me hope." We sang it, over and over, because of victory indeed was hers.



We supplied these guests with bags containing personal care items and socks, along with literature about Project Possible copies of Our Daily Bread and a Newsletter from Mt. Zion Plainfield.

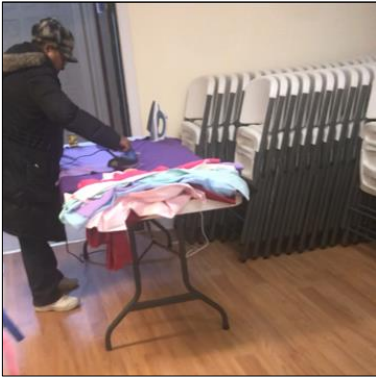
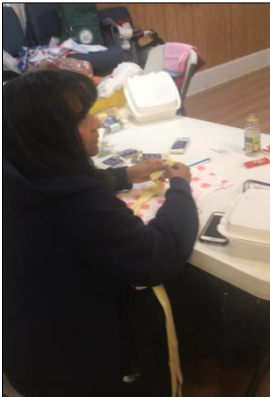
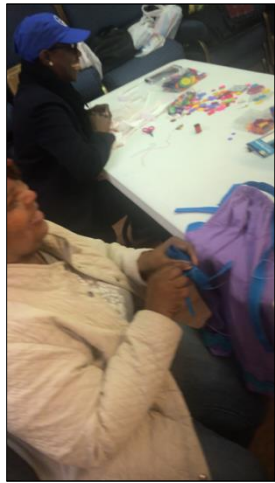
Children were also with their parents, and we supplied each of them with school supplies.

Our next stop was the KILMER Housing project in Edison, New Jersey. We were welcomed by approximately 25 school-aged children and their parents. We sang and laughed, prayed and talked about school handed out school supplies and we learned that the Bible is a" dictionary for church!" Hallelujah!!

Our goal was to be a blessing to God's children, but as God would have it, we were the ones blessed. When you can serve the people of God, go!



New Jersey Mass Meeting Photos



Philadelphia Conference Branch

Community ... Healthy ... Outreach Bethel AME Church of Ardmore Community Garden

Submitted by
Rev. Carolyn C. Cavaness, Pastor
Sister Vikki Asbury, President - Mary F.
Handy Women's Missionary Society

On March 31, 2018, Holy Saturday, members of Bethel AME Church of Ardmore, PA were joined with neighbors, community partners and friends to launch the Bethel Community Garden. Dedicated on April 22, 2018 by Presiding Elder Charles H. Lett, Sr. we are grateful for the generosity of the Triskeles (Trellis)



Foundation, Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Ardmore Rotary, American Heart Association: Healthy for Life Program - nine raised beds were built on an adjacent lot next to the church. At a time wherein conversations abound about the impact of

food on our diets and overall wellness - the community garden seeks to be a way of bringing people together, providing access to healthier food options and increasing awareness of healthier eating habits and foods. The community garden has also sought to help address the issue of food



insecurity in Lower Merion Township. It was recently shared that approximately 1,000 children (10% of students in the Lower Merion School District) are food insecure in the immediate area.

Nestled in South Ardmore, Bethel AME Church of Ardmore has been a critical part of the Lower Merion/Main Line community for over 120 years. A first in the immediate community, the garden has served as a dawn of a new day in the community. And an active demonstration of how Bethel is seeking to serve as a bridge to a new community that is taking shape in this historic area. The selling point for it all has been how we can use what we must bring people together and to be a blessing.

As of December 31, 2018, the garden has produced over 1,100 pounds of produce. From cabbage, broccoli, kale, cucumbers, tomatoes, eggplant, swiss chard, potatoes and even a sprinkle of onions and string beans in the mix. The summer weather of



consistent rain was a blessing, but it also meant for example that we would have over 60 lbs of yellow eggplant. The reason for yellow and not purple is the weight of the rain inhibited sunlight from hitting the crop. Have no fear! The yellow eggplants didn't go to waste! Rev. Carolyn Cavaness, pastor called the owner of a local catering business about the 60lbs of yellow eggplants and he was happy to have them! You never know how even if something doesn't meet your satisfaction - how it can be a blessing to someone else! One of the many lessons we learned from the garden!

Produce has been donated to a range of organizations: Ardmore Food Pantry, PALM Senior Center, ElderNet, Narberth Community Food Bank, Josie D. Heard AME Church, and neighbors who have just ben captivated by the garden and asked simply, "can I have a green tomato?" We gladly obliged!

We have been blessed by the number of volunteers and community groups who have participated in the garden. Ranging from the branch manager of a local bank, first year students from Haverford College, children from our after school program, Bethel Academy, neighbors, students farmers from Haverford College, high school students from BuildON the volunteer unit of Lower Merion High School, members of the Ardmore Rotary, volunteers corps from Tired Hands the



local brewery, Rev. Lois Wilkinson and members of Shorter AME Church, and even our members. Members

have also been involved - including one Sunday after worship, Rev. Cavaness led the congregation in picking collard greens, which was a sight to behold!

In this the first year, our garden has been blessed to have an automatic irrigation system - which provides water to the beds every other day at 5:00am for 90 minutes, a bounty of volunteers, daily garden caretaker and a multitude of well-wishers and garden watchers! Although this has



been a major undertaking, God has been kind to provide for us every resource needed to help us to be a blessing to others. This has been one of the paramount lessons



of the community garden - God will always make a way and provide you what you need in order to accomplish the mission before you!

With one year under our belt, we are looking forward to launching year two for our garden on Sunday, March 3, 2019! We are blessed that we will be expanding our garden with two (2) vertical gardens, which will certainly add another 300 lbs of produce to our harvest counts! Additionally, garden cooking classes will be in full effect on a weekly basis! We invite if you are ever in the area to stop by and see God's work happening in the garden!

“Your health is your wealth”

To God be the Glory for this opportunity to be a blessing!

More on community gardening visit:

<http://triskelesprograms.org>

<https://phsonline.org>



YOUNG ADULT MISSIONARIES:

God has not Given us a Spirit of Fear
BUT OF POWER, AND OF LOVE, AND OF A SOUND MIND

LEARNING EXPERIENCE 2019

Ashley McBride

Third Vice President, First Episcopal District WMS

So often in life, we allow fear to paralyze us. We find ourselves actively promoting the status quo, being it... doing it... and living it. Despite the constant reminder that we were fearfully and wonderfully made, we regularly accept mediocrity. We become content and do what's easy and expected because there is a level of comfort that comes with repetition and doing things the way they have always been done. As young women who seek to find our place in Missions, many of us fear rejection, and adopt the mindset that our ideas are simply not good enough.

I look back in disappointment over months that I squandered being afraid to dream and incorporate the creative genius of young adult missionaries. Missionaries who paint brilliant masterpieces on canvasses of life in dazzling colors with splashes of glitter. In planning this year's luncheon with Sister Nicole, I too became guilty of just pulling out last year's program with last year's notes preparing to do something similar yet again. Even as I found the courage to do a new thing, I had doubts. I had fears! What if they find the music choices offensive? What if no one participates in the survey? What if the lapel pin is not truly reflective of Ruth Henderson Hughes? What if no one brings a #blackgirlbook? Yet, I was reminded of the words that were once spoken to me by the late Evelyn Gibson Lowery, Civil Rights Leader and Founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference WOMEN, Inc. Mrs. Lowery was my mentor and I would often go to her for sound advice. I remember one day after sharing an idea with her of bringing fifty women together for a prayer breakfast for then Senator Barack Obama she looked at me and said, "Well if that is as big as your vision is!". Twelve years ago, I had come up with a million reasons why big and different were out of the question and here I was planning another year's luncheon repeating history.

We have come to look at Learning Experience as a weekend of fellowship, learning and love. From our Fascinator Friday with hints of blue, the phenomenal preaching and teaching, the blessing of Rev. Katrese Kirk, to more bodies than seats in the reserved YAM row, to the desire to be Missionaries that give back. I encourage each Young Adult Missionary to trust your mission call, to be courageous and willing to push the LIMITS during Learning Experience Weekend but also in your respective Conference, Area and your local church. When we push the limits, lives will be changed through new experiences and encounters with God. When we push the limits new young adult missionaries will show up. When we push the limits women will serve and give over 300 #blackgirlbooks to promote love and self-worth in the generations of black girl who follow. When we push the limits, God will allow a room of women of all ages to stand to their feet and sing and dance in harmony.

There really aren't words to express my appreciation to the dedicated group of YAMs who were willing to come together over text messages, group chats and conference calls to plan one of the greatest luncheons and weekends ever. For the "dope and lit" Missionaries who defy "woman-made" rules that frown upon the thought that we can be spiritual and laugh until it hurts all in the same space, THANK YOU! To Rev. Jessica and President Pat, thank you for pouring into us and trusting us. I am grateful for each of you who have created space and opportunities for young women to serve and to share our God given gifts.

If you are ever in doubt, know that there is a place for you my Missionary Sisters and the time is now. I hope that you will remember that God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love and of a sound mind!





Learning Experience 2019



#LE2019



Restored for **GOD'S GLORY**



#LE2019



WMS Giving Made Simple Through Tithe.ly

We are excited to announce that the Women's Missionary Society has now adopted a new easy and convenient way for you to give to the WMS Society.

- ✚ Using your Smart Phone simply text **Give** to 1-814-281-8773.
- ✚ Click on the link that will take you to the Tithe.ly app. (Don't worry it is a safe and secure site)
- ✚ Down load the Tithe.ly app.
- ✚ Fill out the information. (One time only)
- ✚ Click on the fund you want to give to.
- ✚ Enter the amount you want to give. You are done.
- ✚ Save the number in your contacts

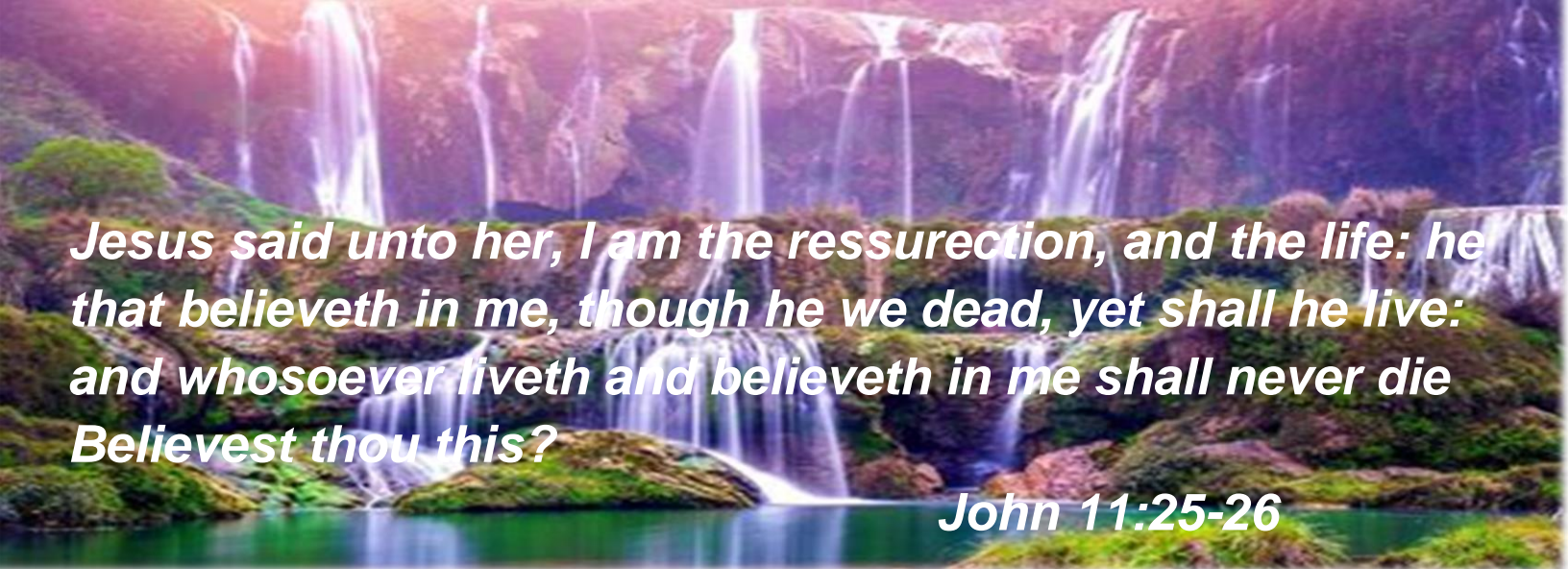
The next time you want to give:

- ✚ Send a message with the amount and the fund name and hit send. (example: \$50.00 Missions) or
- ✚ Text "Give" to the number and it will take you to the Tithe.ly app.
- ✚ Simply choose the fund and amount your giving and you are done.

You can also access the Tithe.ly app from the WMS Website,

WWW.1stdistrictwms.com





Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

John 11:25-26

*1st Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society
Tanner Turner Memorial*

Bermuda

- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| Sis. Ruth | Dill |
| Sis. Carolyn | Rawlings |
| Sis. Delmar | Smith |
| Sis. Shirley | Seymour |

Delaware

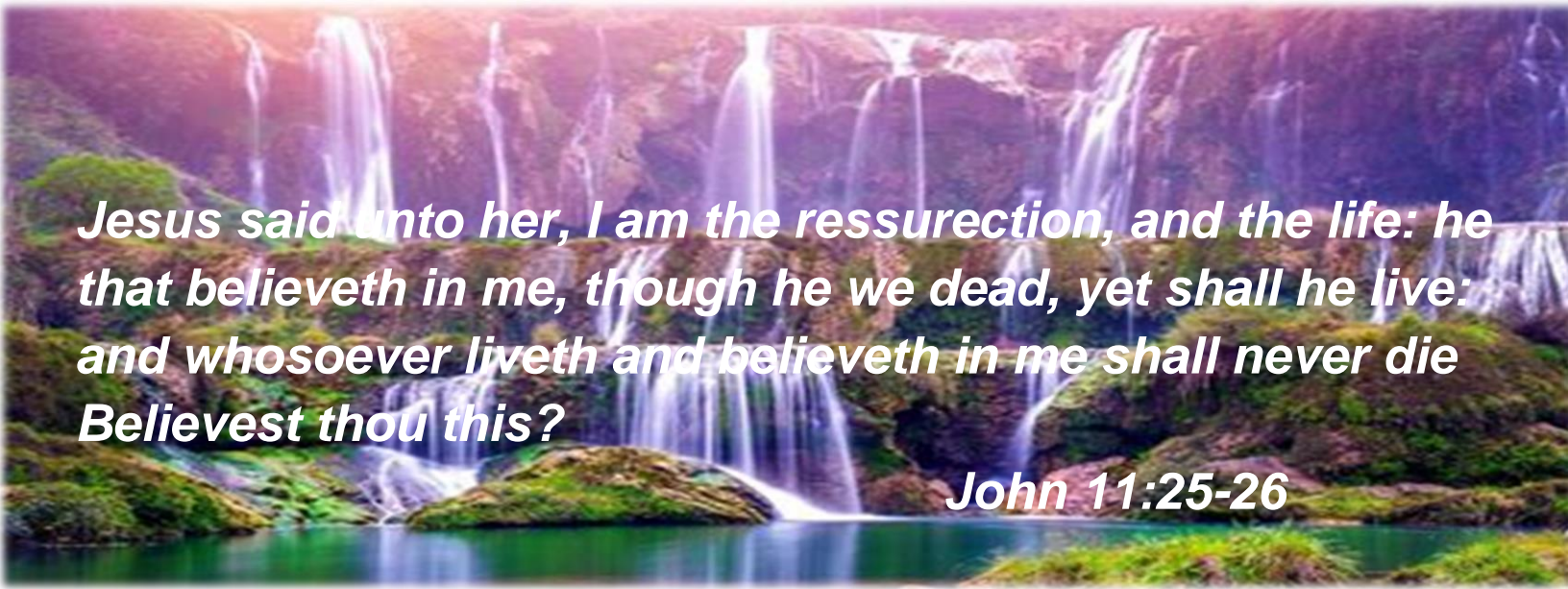
- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| Sis. Judy | McCray |
| Sis. Virginia | Miller |
| Sis. Corinne | Scott |
| Sis. Alice | Williams |
| Sis. Betty | Wisher |

New England

- | | | |
|----------------|----------|-------------|
| Sis. Camille | Bagwell | Life Member |
| Sis. Constance | Chandler | Life Member |

W New York

- | | | |
|----------------|------------|--|
| . | | |
| Sis. Edith M. | Bable | |
| Sis. Mary J. | Evans | |
| Sis. Bettye J. | Hutcherson | |



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John 11:25-26

*1st Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society
Tanner Turner Memorial cont.*

W. New York

Sis. Merlene	Smith
Sis. Cora	Perkins

New York

Sis. Valerie	Ward Barnes
Rev. Ozzie	Edwards
Sis. Thelma	Gertha-Hayes
Sis. Ida	Hunt
Sis. Clothild	Lynette Mason
Sis. Pat	Molyneaux
Evang. Gladys	Nelson
Rev. Carrie	Nobles
Rev. D. Albert	Turk
Sis. Mattie Lee	Williams-Winston

New Jersey

Sis. Louise	Holley
Sis. Bernice	Joyce
Sis. Thelma	Melvin
Sis. Lillie W,	Payne



PLEASE JOIN US AT THE 43RD ANNUAL
Ruth Henderson Hughes
LEARNING EXPERIENCE
Women's Conference
2020

January 17 – 19

January 17 – 19

SAVE THE DATE!

**We have witnessed what it is to be RESTORED for God's Glory!
Join us for another mighty move of God at the final Learning
Experience led by Rev. Dr. Jessica Kendall Ingram**

**HERSHEY LODGE
325 UNIVERSITY DRIVE
HERSHEY, PA 17033**

WWW.FIRSTDISTRICTWMS.COM | #LE2020