

Register TODAY for the 43rd Annual

RUTH HENDERSON HUGHES
LEARNING EXPERIENCE / 2020

Women's Conference
Called to Make
a Difference



FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2020

HERSHEY
Lodge

325 UNIVERSITY DRIVE | HERSHEY, PA 17033

**BEGIN THE NEW YEAR AT THIS LIFE-ALTERING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
AND EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE!**

Mrs. Patricia Nira Smith – WMS District President
Rev. Dr. Jessica Kendall Ingram – Episcopal Supervisor
Bishop Gregory G. M. Ingram – Presiding Prelate

SPONSORED BY THE FIRST EPISCOPAL DISTRICT WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY – AMEC

For Women Called To Make A Difference



But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And of some have compassion, making a difference. Jude 20-22 KJV

It is a blessing from God for me to welcome you to LE 2020! I thank God for Bishop Ingram and Rev. Jessica for this wonderful opportunity to be part of the planning for this great spiritual experience.

"We are called to strengthen our faith and sent to continue the ministry of Jesus Christ by service and witness in the world". This is our directive to do God's work.

Since Learning Experience 2013 the 1st Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society has been on a journey to prepare our hearts, souls and minds through excellent preaching and teaching. The workshops have engaged and empowered us. The preaching has filled our souls with God's witness so we can serve God's people with love and the boldness of Him who sent us. Now, we should be confident in knowing it is up to us to make a positive impact in this world because we know *"no weapon formed against us will prosper"*.

This year's Learning Experience is designed to reinforce what we have gleaned from the previous years. We should have the confidence to speak up and be active in our churches, communities, schools and the world because we are the witnesses of God's grace, mercy and justice. We have been called to make a difference wherever we go!

I found a song on YouTube with these words:

**Go make a difference;
we can make a difference in the world.**

We are the salt of the earth; called to make the people see the love of God in you and me.

*We are the light of the earth **not to be hidden**, but be seen! Go make a difference in the world!*

We are the hands of Christ reaching out to those in need; the face of God for all to see,

*We are the spirit of hope; we are the voice of peace. **Go make a difference in the world!***

So, let your love shine on; let it shine for all to see. And the spirit of Christ will be with us as we go.

We are called to make a difference in the world!

As we go into this world understanding our calling; remember, God did not give us the spirit of fear, God will never leave us when we are doing His work, and that we are more than conquerors in Jesus the Christ

My thanks to every committee chairperson, presenter, and the office staff for being committed to making this a weekend concentrated on power and praise. I give a special thanks to Rev Jessica for her leadership and creativity. May God continue to pour out His blessings upon each of you.

Making a Difference in God's World,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia N. Smith".

Sister Patricia N. Smith
President, WMS – 1st Episcopal District

For Women Called To Make A Difference



Greetings My Sisters,

I greet you with
the Joy of Jesus!

With mixed emotions, I extend to you this invitation to join me and hundreds of women at the Forty-Third (43rd) Ruth Henderson Hughes Learning Experience Women's Conference. On one hand, I am extremely excited about the weekend of January 17-19, 2020, that will undoubtedly change your life. This is bittersweet, as I can't wait to gather with women of faith, courage and strength at the Hershey Lodge, who will be blessed by experienced anointed preachers, powerful worship services, inspirational and informative workshops and sharing with sisters. However, on the other hand, there is a sense of sadness as this will be my last women's conference. For the past forty years God has given me the privilege of convening women together for spiritual renewal. But to everything there is a season. I am certain given my decades of experience in facilitating women's conferences, this one will be the very best!

From the brochure, you will see that we are tremendously blessed that some of the most anointed and gifted preachers and teachers in the country will share in this Learning Experience. They each bring a wealth of knowledge and are more than able and willing to share with the conference attendees. These are women who speak not from theory but from experience. They have extensive expertise in their assigned workshops. We continue in our tradition of providing specially designed workshops for our young adults. Additionally,

the Saturday luncheon will be planned by the young adults as well as various special activities for this age group. Not only will you be blessed through the worship services, workshops, but also by a guest Psalmist, Praise Team and Liturgical Dancers.

Everything that you need to register for the Learning Experience Women's Conference is provided in this brochure. Our theme is *"Called to Make a Difference."* It is our prayer that this Learning Experience will equip you with all that you need to make a difference in all areas of your life for God's glory. One final request, please don't come alone! Share this information with other women, encourage them to attend and let's be blessed together.

The women of the First District Women's Missionary Society, under the leadership of our President, Patricia Nira Smith and our seven (7) conference branch Presidents, Eunice Jones - Bermuda, Edwina Mays - New England, Armour Funderberg - Western New York, Mary Davis - New York, Wilma Robinson - New Jersey, Wanda Hunt - Delaware and Connie Smith - Philadelphia look forward to you joining us. We have done the work. Now all we need is for you to join us!

Called to Make a Difference,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Rev. Jessica".

Rev. Dr. Jessica Kendall Ingram
Episcopal Supervisor

*Called to Make
a Difference*



Presenters, Speakers and Psalmist *For Women Called To Make A Difference*



Rev. Dr. Toni Alvarado
Co-Pastor - Grace Church International
Atlanta, GA



Rev. Dr. Myra Turner Billips
Co-Pastor - North Stelton AME Church
Piscataway, NJ



Rev. Tracey Brown
Founder and Pastor - Ruth Fellowship
Ministries - Plainfield, NJ



Rev. Dr. JoAnn Skaggs Browning
Co-Pastor - Ebenezer AME Church
Fort Washington MD.



Rev. Dr. Sabrina Ellis
Executive Pastor - Pentecostal Church
of Christ - Cleveland, OH



Rev. Dr. Elaine McCollins Flake
Co-Pastor - Greater Allen Cathedral
Jamaica, NY



Rev. Dr. Ann Lightner Fuller
Retired Senior Pastor
Towson, MD



Rev. Conitras Houston
Pastor - Trinity AME Church
Atlanta, GA



Rev. Katrese Kirk
Pastor - Coleman Chapel AME Church
Kenosha, WI



Rev. Eyesha Marable
Director - First Episcopal District Liturgical
Dance Commission



L'Tanya Moore-Copeland
Director of Worship Arts
St. Philip AME Church - Atlanta, GA



Dr. Shirley Cason Reed
9th International President
Women's Missionary Society AME Church



Evangelist Sandra Riley
Associate Pastor - New Life Covenant
Church - Chicago, IL



Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart
Senior Pastor - Christ Baptist Church
Memphis, TN

Schedule of Events

For Women Called To Make A Difference

Friday, January 17, 2020

- 2:30 p.m. **Registration Opens**
No onsite registration
- 3 p.m. **Prayer Room Opens**
Boutique Opens
- 4-5:30 p.m. **"Called to Make a Difference"**
Ministry Development Workshops
- 4:30 p.m. **Liturgical Dance Rehearsal**
- 6 p.m. **Praise Team Rehearsal**
- 6 p.m. **Plated Dinner**
Included in Registration Fee
- 8 p.m. **"Called to Make a Difference" Opening Worship Service**
Attire: White

Saturday, January 18, 2020

Attire for the Day: Bling shirts with blue jeans/black skirts or pants

- 7 a.m. **"Called to Make a Difference" Early Morning Worship Service**
- 8:15 a.m. **Plated Breakfast**
Included in Registration Fee
- 9:30-11 a.m. **"Called to Make a Difference" Workshops Part I**
Seven concurrent workshops including one exclusively for the YAMS



Schedule of Events

For Women Called To Make A Difference

11-11:30 a.m. Break

Please visit the Boutique or the Prayer Room.

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. "Called to Make a Difference" Workshops Part II

Repeat of 9:30 a.m. Workshops

1 p.m. Break

Please visit the Boutique or Prayer Room.

1:30 p.m. "Called to Make to Make a Difference" Young Adult Luncheon

**4 p.m. Young Adult Activity
Liturgical Dance Workshop
Relaxation Time**

6 p.m. Dinner

On your own

7:30 p.m. "Called to Make a Difference" Healing and Deliverance Service

Sunday, January 19, 2020

Attire: Black with Learning Experience Necklace

7:30 a.m. "Called to Make a Difference" Closing Worship Service

Workshop Descriptions *For Women Called To Make A Difference*

Friday, January 17, 2020
4-5:30 p.m.

Difference Making Workshops Professional/Ministry Development Workshops:

F1: Called: To Make a Difference (For Ordained Women Clergy)

When were you called? What were your struggles? What did you have to sacrifice? For what purpose did God call you? Do you feel you are making a difference? How do you handle being different? How do you keep making a difference? These are but a few of the issues, questions that will be addressed by a panel of four seasoned women ministers who have been called by God to make a difference.

F2: Missionary: Got to be Different to Make a Difference

Often when we have been a part of the Women's Missionary Society (WMS), we tend to forget that we need to have an experience that will awaken us to a new personal reality. Longevity in the WMS sometimes causes us to become unaware of our need to change, to be different. Many of us need an "Isaiah in the Temple experience" where we see ourselves as God does and we respond with the words, "I am unclean. I need to be changed. I need to be different so I can make a difference". This workshop is for those missionaries who are honest and will admit that in order to make a difference you must be different.

F3: A Different Kind of Praying: Intercessory Prayer

God has given us the privilege of praying for our wants and desires. However, God also expects us to pray for one another. There is a different approach to this kind of praying. One has to decrease in order to increase their desire to see others be blessed. Intercessory prayer shifts the atmosphere and can change the reality of others. In a world that is so different, our prayer lives must become different. This workshop will help you in exploring your personal prayer life and how it affects your ability to pray for others.



Workshop Descriptions *For Women Called To Make A Difference*

F4: Hoarding: How the “Less is More” Concept Makes a Difference

If there were a contest, would you win for the oldest and largest stack of bulletins/programs/magazines from church conferences or the highest number of conference bags? Have you also hoarded as much church hurt or guilt from failed relationships? Are you holding on to physical issues as well as matters of the heart that need to be released? Unwittingly, we become stuck and can't seem to move out of a particular holding pattern because of this hoarding. This session will explore hoarding and clutter from not only the visible and tangled mess (es) in our environment but also the muddled chaos that stems from within.

F5: Called to Make a Difference in a Different United (Divided) States

These are different times in our country. The political atmosphere is polluted with overt racism, xenophobia, white nationalism, sexism and seeks to unilaterally degrade anyone who is not of the “majority” culture. Jesus was a radical revolutionary, who did not ignore the conditions of His time. His calling was to create a different world. As Christians, as women of faith, we are called to do the same. This workshop will help us to take a serious look at the issues confronting us in these United (Divided) States and provide some practical ways for us to be more civically and socially engaged. This is a critical workshop for all women who desire to be involved at a level beyond their local church.

F6: Real Love Makes the Difference (Young Adults Only)

This workshop will address how to maintain healthy relationships in the 21st Century by recognizing the elements of respect, compromise, support, character discernment and more. Early warning signs of a toxic relationship which is not in God's design for us, will be addressed.

Saturday, January 18, 2020

9:30-11 a.m. and 11:30-1 p.m.

Difference Making Workshops – PARTS I AND II

PART I: 9:30-11 a.m. – WORKSHOPS S1-S6

Choose One (Note: S7A is offered at this time for YAMS only)

PART II: 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. – REPEAT OF WORKSHOPS S1-S6

Choose One (Note: S7B is offered at this time for YAMS only)

Workshop Descriptions *For Women Called To Make A Difference*

S1: Preaching to a Different World

Preaching in the 21st century is unequivocally different from past generations. This is a different time, a different people and there is a different level of expectation in the preaching moment. How do we preach a message in which we are true to the gospel tenets of preaching and yet serve and reach this present age? This workshop will be taught by one who has been preaching for forty years and has experienced the various shifts in the preaching ministry. Best practices and effective strategies for preaching in the 21st century will be shared during this workshop.

S2: Caregivers: The Unsung SHERO Called to Make a Difference

Being a caregiver is an arduous task and the person providing the care can sometimes neglect their own health and wellness in the process. This workshop will discuss the role of a caregiver, the importance of soliciting help from professionals, agencies, or other family members, and the necessity of self-care. The latter is vitally important because no one can serve when his or her vessel is empty.

S3: Grieving our Losses Differently

This workshop explores the journey of grief and loss for individuals who have experienced loss in various ways. Grief and loss is not only experienced in the death of a loved one, but also in the loss of a job, life transitions and the various changes that we experience be it via the aging process or even in the reality of the world in which we live. Grief is a process. This workshop will help participants to recognize the normal reactions to grief and loss and identify the reactions that may require greater interventions. Grieving our losses is natural; however, we must learn different methods for expressing, and processing our grief.

S4: A Different Response to Our Changing Realities: *Know when to hold them, when to fold them and when to walk away.*

Experiences in our lives come for but a season. How many times have we made the mistake of holding on when in fact it was time to move on? When we assume this posture we cause stagnation in our lives and we miss the next move of God. This is especially difficult when we are in a good, comfortable place. This workshop will be taught by one who knew when it was time to walk away. Her response was different but it was necessary in order for her to experience the next move of God in her life. You will learn how to do the same.



Workshop Descriptions *For Women Called To Make A Difference*

S5: Reset, Restore & Rebuild Your Finances While Making a Difference

Have you ever felt like you hit a brick wall concerning your financial situation? Are you unsure, frustrated and lack focus towards claiming or reclaiming financial freedom? Do you need to hit the reset button and develop a plan to rebuild your credit and restore your confidence with money management? In this workshop we will identify and discuss how you can reclaim your purpose and recognize how to become a good steward and manager of your God given resources and how to incorporate a budget that reflects God's agenda.

S6: Balancing Church Ministries, Marriage & Family: While Making a Difference

Marriage and Ministry can be exciting, inspiring, and exhausting. When you combine the responsibilities of being married and being committed to church ministries, it seems like the perfect recipe for burnout or breakdown...or both. Maintaining the balance between church ministries and family life IS POSSIBLE and, in this workshop, we will explore ways in which you can succeed at achieving balance.

S7A: The Rest Makes the Difference: Replenish Your Body, Mind & Soul (Young Adults Only)

What prevents you from being healthy? The choices you make daily dramatically impact the way you feel mentally, physically, spiritually and emotionally. Often, these choices leave us with the inability to adequately serve others and do effective missions ministry. In this workshop you will learn strategies to help cope with factors that negatively impact your health and spiritual well-being.

S7B: Show Me the Money (Young Adults Only)

Money! Money! Money! It is critical as young women to get our financial houses in order! It is important to take pro-active steps now to make the dollars we earn keep working for us. In this workshop, participants will learn tips on creating a personal financial plan, budgeting and building an investment portfolio.

Saturday - January 18, 2020

4-5:30 p.m.

S8: Liturgical Dance Workshop

This workshop is for women of all ages who want to give God praise through dance. It will make a difference in your walk with the Lord as you learn to use movement to demonstrate how much you love Him.

Registration Information

For Women Called To Make A Difference

Women's Registration Fees
For the Best Price, Register Early!

Early Bird Mail-in Registration Fee: \$185
Early Bird Online Registration Fee: \$191*
Deadline: October 31, 2019

Late Mail-in Registration Fee: \$205
Late Registration Fee Online: \$211*
Deadline: Friday, December 13, 2019 – No Exceptions
*Includes convenience fee.

REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- Admission to all Worship Experiences
- Admission to three Workshops
- Specially designed leather tote bag with embossed logo full of goodies
- Three (3) Full-Plated Meals
- Admission to the *Called to Make a Difference* Luncheon with LE gifts

PLEASE NOTE: Absolutely no registrations will be accepted after the final deadline date. If you plan to register online, you must do so before midnight on either of the above deadline dates to qualify for the related fee. If you plan to mail your registration, it **must be postmarked** by one of the above deadline dates to qualify for the related fee.

ABSOLUTELY NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION



Registration Information

For Women Called To Make A Difference

There are Two Convenient Ways to Register:

1. Register online by going to <http://www.1stdistrictwms.com> and click on the Learning Experience 2020 Tab. Then click on the LE 2020 Registration Button.
2. Complete the Registration Form included in this brochure.
Mail the form, along with a check or money order (no cash) made payable to **"First District WMS – Memo: LE 2020"** to:

**RHH Learning Experience 2020
Called to Make a Difference Women's Conference
First District Headquarters
3801 Market Street, Suite 300
Philadelphia, PA 19104**

PLEASE NOTE: Mailed payments must be postmarked by the stated deadlines to be honored and to qualify for the related fee. Any payment postmarked after the late-registration deadline will be returned to sender.

Cancellation Policy:

1. Registrations that are canceled before December 1, 2019 will receive a 50% refund of the registration fee.
2. No refunds will be given for cancellations on or after December 1, 2019.
Any exceptions must be approved by the Episcopal Supervisor.

Transfer of Registration: The transfer of registrations **will not** be allowed.

If you register, but cannot attend the Conference, you must make arrangements to pick up your Learning Experience 2020 Registration Kit.

Transportation:

- First District missionaries, please contact your conference branch president for information on transportation from your Conference to the Hershey Lodge.
- Out of state guests, the LE 2020 Team will provide transportation from the Harrisburg International Airport for groups of 10 or more. To schedule a pick-up, please contact Ms. Brenda Merrill at 215-662-0506 and request a group transportation form.

Hotel Information

For Women Called To Make A Difference

Room Reservations

Limit: Two rooms per person

Cut-Off Date: Thursday, December 26, 2019

Check In: 4:00 p.m. - **Check Out:** 11:00 a.m.

Room Rate

Rate: \$134.00 p/night plus tax – (Single, Double, Triple, Quad)

Two Convenient Ways to Book Your Room:

Online:

Direct Link to LE2020 Custom-built Hotel Website
<https://book.passkey.com/go/2020AME1stdistrictWMS>
(Type, Click, Copy and Paste link into your browser)

Phone:

Toll Free: **1-800-437-7439 (prompt #3)**

To receive discount rate give code:

Learning Experience 2020 or AME 1st District-WMS Conference

For Room Upgrades

Please contact the Hershey Lodge Reservation Office @ 855-729-3108



Special Information *For Women Called To Make A Difference*

Prayer Room

Please allow yourself a few moments for spiritual renewal in the Prayer Room. While communing there with the Lord, every woman who seeks to make a difference will be strengthened.

WMS Boutique

Some very special items designed especially for the LE 2020 (including the Conference scarf) await you at the WMS Boutique. Be ready to purchase!

CDs and DVDs

All worship services and the Called to Make a Difference Young Adult Luncheon will be recorded for purchase. Special pricing will apply when you purchase the entire set of audio or video recordings.

Offerings

Please come prepared to worship through giving during each LE 2020 Women's Conference worship experience. We will accept cash, checks and online via Tithe.ly giving. We thank you in advance for your generous support.

Attendance by Pastors, Ministers and Men

Bishop Ingram is encouraging pastors, ministers and men of the First District to attend the Opening Worship Service at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, January 17, 2020.

For Further Information about LE 2020:
Call 215-662-0506 or
Visit www.1stdistrictwms.com and click on the LE 2020 link.

Registration Form *For Women Called To Make A Difference*

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME:

Title First Middle Last

ADDRESS:

Number Street Apt./Suite P.O. Box

City State/Parish Zip/Postal Code/Country

Home Phone Cell Phone

Email Address

LOCAL CHURCH:

Name City/State/Parish

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Conference Branch P.E. District

CHECK ONE:

☐ WMS Member ☐ WMS Officer (List Position) _____
☐ YAM (18-40) ☐ Pastor ☐ Minister ☐ Other (Please Specify) _____

CHECK APPLICABLE REGISTRATION FEE:

- ☐ Women's Early Bird Registration Fee: \$185, Online: \$191
(Begins 9/27/19 - Deadline 10/31/19)
☐ Women's Late Registration Fee: \$205, Online: \$211
(Begins 11/1/19 - Deadline 12/13/19 – No Exceptions)

Please mail the completed form along with a check or money order (no cash) made payable to
"First District WMS – Memo: LE 2020" to:

**RHH LEARNING EXPERIENCE 2020
CALLED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**
First District Headquarters
3801 Market Street, Suite 300
Philadelphia, PA 19104



Workshop Selections

Workshop Selectionsllled To Make A Difference

Friday, January 17, 2020 - 4-5:30 p.m.

"Called to Make a Difference" Ministry/Professional Development Workshops

OPTIONS: F1 (Ordained Clergy Only) **F2 F3 F4 F5 F6** (For YAMS Only)

First Choice _____ Second Choice _____

Saturday, January 18, 2020 - 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

"Called to Make a Difference" Workshops (Part I)

OPTIONS: S1 S2 S3 S4 S5 S6 S7A (For YAMs Only)

First Choice _____ Second Choice _____

Saturday, January 18, 2020, 11:30-1:00 p.m.

"Called to Make a Difference" Workshops (Part II)

OPTIONS: S1 S2 S3 S4 S5 S6 S7B (For YAMs Only) **S8** (Liturgical Dance)
(4-5:30 p.m.)

First Choice _____ Second Choice _____

Do Not Write Below This Line (For Office Use Only)

Date Form/Payment Received: _____ Received by: _____

Amount Received: \$ _____ Was Correct Amount Remitted? Yes ☐ No ☐

Paid By: Check ☐ Money Order ☐

Bank/Institution: _____ Check/Money Order Number: _____

Recorded By: _____ Registration Number: _____

Online Registration Details: _____

*Called to Make
a Difference*

