



ANNUAL CONFERENCE S E R I E S

THE MINUTES *of* DAY 1

145TH SESSION OF THE
COLUMBIA SOUTH CAROLINA
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THE
Best IS YET TO *Come*

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., Presiding Prelate of the Seventh Episcopal District; **Mrs. Phyllis N. Green**, Episcopal Supervisor; **Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman** of the Columbia District; **Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson** of the Lancaster District; and **Presiding Elder M. Charmaine Ragin-Merrick** of the Newberry District; Conference, Area and Local Leadership on all levels; Pastors, Clergy and Lay people of the 145th Session of the Columbia South Carolina Annual Conference.

MINUTES OF THE 145TH SESSION OF THE COLUMBIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE Thursday, SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 OPENING SESSION AND OPENING WORSHIP

The opening of the Columbia Annual Conference began with praise and worship by members of the Board of Examiners. The opening worship song of the conference was "Better Days are Coming."

Bishop thanked the Board of Examiners candidates for leading devotion. He acknowledged that this is the first conference where the conference was put into the hands of the Bishop after devotion.

At 8:04am, the 145th Session of the Columbia Annual Conference, under the leadership of the 125th Elected and Consecrated Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr. and Mrs. Phyllis N. Green, Episcopal Supervisor, was called to order for the opening Business Session at Pine Grove A.M.E. Church in Columbia, South Carolina.

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., encouraged us to "please" be mindful of time because we will be testing every morning. He admonished us to make an extra effort to get here early so we can get tested and move into the sanctuary because the sooner you get in the sanctuary, the sooner we can start.

We are now back to meeting in person, Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr. asked that we respectfully keep our mask on and cover our nose and mouth during the conference. He stated that we can shake hands or fist bump, if you are comfortable.

He is willing to take pictures and remove his mask. He jokingly said he will reduce the cost this year. He encouraged us to relax because we are going to have a wonderful time as we take care of the business of the church and we are going to do it calmly and easily.

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., called for the Presiding Elders to present the proposed organization of the Conference.

Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman presented the following report:

President of the Conference	Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr.
Secretarial Staff	Reverend Steven Evans, Secretary
	Reverend Chaunte Rogers, Assistant Secretary
	Reverend Valarie Walker, Assistant Secretary
	Reverend Wanda Y. Rapley, Assistant Secretary
Statistician	Reverend Tobie Pollock

The motion to approve the said names for President, Secretary and Statistician was made by **Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman** and Seconded by **Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson**. The motion was carried.

Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman presented the following report:
 Finance Committee.....Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson, Treasurer

Presiding Rosalyn Coleman	Brother Larry Thompson
Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson	Brother Bob Gardner
Reverend Caesar Richburg	Brother Alton Cobb
Reverend Kenneth Taylor	Sister Eunice Miller
Reverend James Dennis, III	Sister Barbara Means
Reverend Carey Grady	
Reverend Deborah Scotland	
Reverend Stanley Flower	
Reverend Mary Glisson	
Reverend Phillip Washington	
Reverend Rodella Rivers	
Reverend James Vant	
Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman	
Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson	
Presiding Elder M. Charmaine Ragin Merrick	

The motion to approve the Finance Committee Report was made by **Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg** and seconded by **Presiding Elder M. Charmaine Ragin Merrick**. The motion was carried.

Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson presented the following report:

Ministerial Efficiency	Reverend Kenneth Taylor, Chair
Reverend Tobie Pollock	Reverend Carey A. Grady,
Reverend Rhudene Toomer	Reverend James Johnson

The motion to approve the Ministerial Efficiency Committee was made by **Rev. Dr. Caesar Richburg** and seconded by **Presiding Rosalyn Coleman**. The motion was carried.

Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson presented the following report:

Judicial Committee.....Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson, Chair

Rev. Samuel McPherson, PE
Rev. Mary Glisson
Rev. Steven Evans

Rev. Elaine Eskew
Rev. Phillip Washington
Rev. Sherry Highbaugh

The motion to approve the Judicial Committee was made by **Presiding Elder M. Charmaine Ragin Merrick** and seconded by **Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman**. The motion was carried.

Presiding Elder M. Charmaine Ragin Merrick presented the following report:

Triers of AppealsReverend M. Charmaine Ragin Merrick, P.E. Chair
Reverend Rodella Burns Reverend Wanda Y. Rapley
Reverend Eric Dent Reverend John Lewis

The motion to approve the Triers of Appeals was made by **Presiding Elder M. Charmaine Ragin Merrick** and seconded by **Reverend Cassius Barclay**. The motion was carried.

Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman presented the following report:

Conference Trustees Bishop Samuel L Green, Sr. Chair
Presiding Elder Rosalyn Grant Coleman Reverend Jannie Collier
Presiding Elder Samuel L. McPherson Reverend Steven Evans
Presiding Elder M. Charmaine Merrick Brother Larry Thompson
Reverend Caesar Richburg Brother Allen Etheredge
Reverend Debora G. Scotland Brother Walter Nathaniel, Sr.
Reverend Carey Grady Brother Walter Savage
Reverend James F. Johnson Brother Edison Dupree
Reverend Wallace Preston Sister Dorothy Wilson
Reverend Leonard Simmons Sister Joann Grant
Reverend Stanley Flowers Sister Loretta Thomas
Reverend James W. Dennis III
Reverend Michael Harp
Reverend Ertha Bowman
Reverend Mary Glisson
Reverend Dante' Kenly

The motion to approve the Conference Trustees was made by **Presiding Elder M. Charmaine Ragin Merrick** and seconded by **Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman**. The motion was carried.

Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson presented the following report:

Marshalls

Reverend James Johnson	Reverend Richard McKnight
Reverend John Lewis	Reverend Sonya Lybrand
Reverend Michael Hill	Reverend Teresa Clark
Reverend Larry Clark	Reverend Isaac Booker
Reverend G. Bernard Davis	Reverend Timothy Taylor
Reverend Gregory Williams	Sister Maryann Wright
Reverend John G. Davis	

The motion to approve the Conference Marshalls was made by **Presiding Elder McPherson** and seconded by **Rev. Dr. Elaine Eskew**. The motion was carried.

Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman recommended that this entire sanctuary and the internet serve as the boundaries of the Conference. There was a general consensus. Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman also recommended that Conference booklet be used as a general guide for the Annual Conference.

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., then called for the Board of Examiners.

The Report for the Class on Admissions

Rev. Dr. Maxine Sumpter, Dean of the Board greeted the conference. Rev. Yvonne Feaster, Registrar of the Columbia Annual Conference Board of Examiners, began reading the reports.

We have examined these Licentiates as per Discipline, and respectfully recommend the following:

1. William E. Richburg be admitted on trial and advanced to Class on First Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders.
2. Melba Streeter be admitted on trial and advanced to Class on First Year Studies in pursuit of Local Orders.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. Dante' Kenly** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg** to admit William E. Richburg and on trial in the pursuit of Itinerant Orders. Motion was carried.

Motion was made by **Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Stanley Flowers** to admit Melba Streeter on trial in the pursuit of Itinerant Orders. Motion was carried.

The Board recommends that William E. Richburg is returned and starts back at the Second Year Course of Studies.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg** and seconded **Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman** for William E. Richburg to return to the Columbia Annual Conference Board of Examiners and start back at the Second Year of Course Studies. Motion carried.

The report for The Class on First Year Studies: Local Orders

We have examined these Licentiates as per Discipline, and respectfully recommend the following:

1. Cynthia Roberts to remain on the Class on First Year Studies in pursuit of Local Orders.
2. Leroy Pearson be advanced to the Class on Second Year Studies in pursuit of Local Orders.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. Tobie Pollock** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Dante' Kenly** for Cynthia Roberts to remain on the Class on First Year Studies to pursue Local Orders. Motion was carried

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. Tobie Pollock** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Dante' Kenly** for Leroy Pearson to be advanced to the Class on Second Year Studies in pursuit of Local Orders.

The report for The Class on Second Year Studies

We have examined these Licentiates as per Discipline, and respectfully recommend the following:

1. Jonique Smalls-Comrie be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders and elected and ordained as an Itinerant Deacon.
2. Gary Julius Alphonso Dent be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders and elected ordained as an Itinerant Deacon.
3. Benjamin Pratt be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders and elected and ordained as an Itinerant Deacon.
4. Vonda Donyale Gallman remain on the Class on Second Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders.
5. Sarah Roberson be granted her formal request to change her relationship with the Board from Itinerant to Local Order for Shiloh AME Church, Prosperity, SC Newberry District. The Board has received a letter from her local church requesting the change. The Board further recommends that Sarah Roberson enroll in the Certificate in Theology program at Dickerson-Green Theological Seminary and be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies in pursuit of Local orders and elected and ordained as a Local Deacon.

Motion was made by **Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman** and seconded by **Rev. Jannie Collier** for Jonique Smalls-Comrie, be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders and be elected and ordained as an Itinerant Deacon. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. George Hicks** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Elaine Eskew** for Gary Julius Alphonso Dent be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders and be elected and ordained as an Itinerant Deacon. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Reverend Rhudene Toomer** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Mary Glisson** for Benjamin Pratt to be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders and be elected and ordained as an Itinerant Deacon. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Presiding Elder Ragin Merrick** and seconded by **Reverend Rhudene Toomer** for Vonda Donyale Gallman be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders and be elected and ordained as an Itinerant Deacon. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. Mary Glisson** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Dante Kenly** for Sarah Roberson to change her relationship the Board from Itinerant to Local Orders in the Columbia Annual Conference be granted and that she enrolls in the Certificate in Theology Program at Dickerson-Green Theological Seminary and be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies in pursuit of Local orders and elected and ordained as a Local Deacon. Motion carried.

The report for The Class on Third Year Studies

We have examined these Licentiates as per Discipline and respectfully recommend the following:

1. Marilyn Eichelberger Dorley be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies to pursue Local Orders and elected and ordained as a Local Deacon for Pine Grove AME Church, Peak, SC, in the Columbia District.
2. Elton Otto Spain be advanced to the Class on Second Year Studies to pursue Local Orders and elected and ordained as a Local Deacon for Pine Grove AME Church, Columbia, SC, on the Newberry District.
3. The Columbia, South Carolina Annual Conference Board of Examiners recommends that Licentiate McKeve Kinard Shelton be released from the Columbia Annual Conference Board of Examiners per her request and return to her local church.
4. The Columbia, South Carolina Board of Examiners recommends that Sarah Roberson, per her request, change her relationship with the Columbia Conference Board of Examiners from Itinerant to Local Orders.

Motion was made by **Reverend Cary Grady** and seconded by **Reverend Larry Clark** for Marilyn Eichelberger Dorley be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies to pursue

Local Orders and elected and ordained as a Local Deacon for Pine Grove AME Church, Peak, SC, in the Columbia District. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Reverend Cary Grady** and seconded by **Reverend James Wesley Dennis, III** that Elton Otto Spain be advanced to the Class on Third Year Studies to pursue Local Orders and elected and ordained as a Local Deacon for Pine Grove AME Church, Peak, SC, in the Newberry District. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Reverend Cary Grady** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Dante' Kenly** that McKeve Kinard Shelton be released from the Columbia Annual Conference Board of Examiners per her request and returned to her local church. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg** to change the relationship of Sarah Roberson with the Columbia Conference Board of Examiners from Itinerant to Local Orders. Motion carried.

The report for The Class on Third Year Studies

We have examined these Reverends as per Discipline and respectfully recommend the following:

1. Reverend Steven Dowling be advanced to Class on Fourth Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders.
2. Reverend Dr. Hakim J. Lucas be advanced to Class on Fourth Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. Stanley Flowers** and seconded by **Rev. Dr. Caesar Richburg** for Reverend Steven Dowling and Reverend Dr. Hakim J. Lucas be advanced to Class on Fourth Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders. Motion carried.

Bishop paused the Conference so Mother Grady could enter and would not have to stand in the narthex.

Third Year Studies: Local Orders

Reverend Joyce Brown be advanced to the Class of Fourth Year Studies in pursuit of Local Orders.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. Stanley Flowers** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Tobie Pollock** for Reverend Joyce Brown be advanced to Class on Fourth Year Studies in pursuit of Itinerant Orders. Motion carried.

Fourth Year Studies: Itinerant Orders

1. Reverend Teresa Galloway Clark be elected and ordained an Itinerant Elder.
2. Reverend Dr. Cassandra Sligh-Conway be elected and ordained an Itinerant Elder.

3. Reverend Stepheny Pratt be elected and ordained an Itinerant Elder.
4. Reverend Timothy Taylor be elected and ordained an Itinerant Elder.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. George Hicks** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Maxine Sumpter** for Reverend Teresa Galloway Clark be elected and ordained an Itinerant Elder. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. George Hicks** and seconded by **Reverend Yvonne Feaster** that Reverend Dr. Cassandra Sligh-Conway be elected and ordained an Itinerant Elder and released from the board. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. Elaine Eskew** and seconded by **Reverend Larry Clark** that Reverend Timothy Taylor be elected and ordained an Itinerant Elder and be released from the Board. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Reverend Yvonne Feaster** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Maxine Sumpter** that Reverend Timothy Taylor be elected and ordained an Itinerant Elder and be released from the Board. Motion carried.

Fourth Year Studies Local Orders

Reverend Joyce Brown be elected and ordained a Local Elder for Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church, West Columbia, SC of Columbia District.

Motion was made by **Reverend Dr. Dante' Kenly** and seconded by **Reverend Jannie Collier**.

Bishop dismissed the Board until this afternoon, then called for the Ministerial Efficiency Committee.

Reverend Kenneth Taylor offered the (Preliminary) **Ministerial Efficiency Committee Report**.

The Ministerial Efficiency Committee met regarding Reverend Theodore Green's unprofessional and unbecoming behavior. He was informed in a meeting that after review of documents it was determined that he presented unprofessional behavior as defined in Part 8 Section 138, item 128 of the Book of Discipline that speaks to rules of a pastor. The Committee recommends that Reverend Theodor Green receives professional counseling regarding his behavior and be located for one year.

Motion was made by **Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg** that the recommendation of the committee locate Theodore Green for one year for unprofessional and unbecoming behavior.

Reverend Theodore Green shared his thoughts on the matter claiming he did not present unprofessional and unbecoming behavior. Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr. asked him to bring the text messages to put them in context and meet with Committee.

The Ministerial Efficiency Committee can determine if they will change the recommendation. He asked the Committee to come back this afternoon with a supplemental report. Bishop Green dismissed Reverend Theodore Green and the Ministerial Efficiency Committee until this afternoon.

At approximately 9:30am, Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr., transitioned and allowed candidates to greet the Conference prior to worship.

Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr., presented Reverend Dr. Erica Crawford, a candidate for episcopal service and allowed her the opportunity to greet the conference. Bishop said he prays for her as she pursues her aspirations.

Reverend Dr. Barbara Chisolm, a candidate for bishop also greeted the Conference. Bishop again said his prayers are with her as she pursues her aspirations.

Patricia Mikell, a candidate for South Carolina Superintendent of Education, greeted the Conference and shared her platform.

Bishop called the Presiding Elder's Summary Reports.

The Presiding Elder Summary Reports are as follows:

Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman presented the report for the Columbia District:
Total brought to Conference: \$ 133,359.00

Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson presented the report for the Lancaster District:
Total brought to Conference: \$ 131,285.00

Presiding Elder Charmaine Merrick presented the report for the Newberry District:
Total brought to Conference: \$ 135,892.83

Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman reported that 100% of the Columbia District pastors completed the required trainings. She thanked bishop for the opportunity Bishop Green said it's a joy to work with Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman and he appreciates her professionalism. He asked the members of the Columbia District to stand, he thanked them, and Reverend Kenneth Taylor led the Columbia District in the song "This Joy That I Have".

Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson thanked Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr. for the opportunity to serve and do ministry they haven't done before. Bishop Green thanked him, acknowledged his hard work and asked for members of the Lancaster District to stand. He thanked them for the work they do for the Kingdom of God. Reverend Leonard Simmons led the celebration song.

Presiding Elder M. Charmaine Ragin Merrick thanked bishop for the opportunity to serve. Bishop Green thanked her for her service and her passion for ministry and meeting the needs of the people in the community. He asked for members of the

Newberry District to stand and thanked them for their work. Reverend Kenneth McFadden led the District in two celebration songs: "Tell Me What More Can I Do" and "I Am Redeemed".

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., then called for the transfers. They are as follows:

- **Reverend Phillip Washington** from Northeast to Columbia Annual Conference
- **Reverend Dr. Jacqueline Grant-Collier** from Atlanta-North Georgia Annual Conference of the Sixth Episcopal District to the Seventh Episcopal District
- **Reverend Dr. Dennis Broughton, Jr.**, from Central Annual Conference to Columbia Annual Conference
- **Reverend Jose Lozano** from the Central Annual Conference to Columbia Annual Conference

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., allowed Reverend Dr. Jacqueline Grant-Collier an opportunity to greet the conference. He invited her to be the guest lecturer for the Richard Allen lecture series.

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., then asked for the opening worship service participants to go to the robing room and for all other clergy to put on their white robes where they are.

He acknowledged the presence of Dr. John Green. The business session ended at 10:22am.

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., presented Reverend Dr. George Hicks, the preacher of the hour. The choir sang "You Ought to Run and Tell That", creating an atmosphere for preaching before Reverend Dr. George Hicks stood to preach the Annual Conference sermon.

"How Do You Smell to God" 2 Corinthians 2:14-17

¹⁴But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. ¹⁵For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. ¹⁶To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life. And who is equal to such a task? ¹⁷Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, as those sent from God.

Reverend Dr. Hicks reminded us that smelling good physically doesn't matter much to God. It does matter that we smell good spiritually because it is what do for Christ that lasts and will cause God to smile. Reverend Dr. Hicks asked, how do you smell to God according to the life you live and the service you give? Paul didn't give up on his

mission because he wanted to give a sweet smell to God. Everything we do should exude a sweet smell to the nostrils of God.

We then shared in the Holy Communion where Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr. served as the Chief Celebrant. Prior to dismissing, Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr. acknowledged the presence of RichLex 5 school board candidates: Kimberly Snipes, Kevin Scully, and Mike Sutterfield. He also informed the Conference that one of our own, Mary Ann Wright is a candidate for Richland School District 2 School Board.

We were dismissed and asked to return for business at 3:00 p.m.

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., Presiding Prelate of the Seventh Episcopal District; **Mrs. Phyllis N. Green**, Episcopal Supervisor; **Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman** of the Columbia District; **Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson** of the Lancaster District; and **Presiding Elder M. Charmaine Ragin-Merrick** of the Newberry District; Conference, Area and Local Leadership on all levels; Pastors, Clergy and Lay people of the 145th Session of the Columbia South Carolina Annual Conference.

MINUTES OF THE 145TH SESSION OF THE COLUMBIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 MID-AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION

Members of the Board of Examiners led devotion and the Business Session began at 3:12 p.m.

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr. called for the reading of Literary Reports as follows:

Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg offered the **Presiding Elder's Salary/Upkeep Report**.

The motion to approve the report was moved by **Presiding Elder Rosalyn Coleman** and seconded by **Reverend Eric Dent**. The motion carried.

Reverend James Johnson offered the **Deeds, Abstracts and Abandoned Property Report**.

The motion to approve the report was moved by **Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Dante' Kenly**. The motion carried.

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr. requested a copy of all the abandoned properties. He asked for the Conference Trustees to let him know the status of all the abandoned properties during their report. Presiding Elder Coleman said they could get the information before the close of the Conference and asked the Deeds, Abstracts and Abandoned Property committee to share a list of all the properties.

Reverend John Lewis offered the **Classification of Pastors Report**.

The motion to approve the report was moved by **Reverend Dr. Caesar Richburg** and seconded by **Reverend James Wesley Dennis, II**. The motion carried.

Reverend John Davis offered the **Missions, Circuits and Stations Report**.

The motion to approve the report was moved by **Reverend Timothy McKinzie** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Maxine Sumpter**. The motion carried.

Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr., paused and allowed Reverend Dr. Orlando McCauley, a candidate for episcopal service, to greet the conference.

Reverend Kenneth Taylor offered the supplemental **Ministerial Efficiency Report**.

After meeting with Reverend Theodore Green, they obtained additional documentation to help substantiate the change in recommendation. Their decision is based on the Doctrine and Discipline of the AME Church, Part 8, Section C, page 132, Item 2. The Committee stands firm with their original recommendation that he be located and seek personal counseling based on his unprofessional and unbecoming behavior.

Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr., explained that located means from one annual conference to the next annual conference. If the conference votes to have Rev. Theodore Green located, he will place his ordination papers in the hands of the Conference secretary. His papers will remain with the secretary for one year and he will not be able to perform any priestly duties. He will come back to the Annual Conference next year to either be reinstated or relocated.

The motion to locate Reverend Theodore Green for 2022-2023 conference year was moved by **Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson** and seconded by **Reverend Timothy McKinzie**. The motion carried.

Before the Conference voted, Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green allowed Reverend Theodore Green to address the conference. Reverend Theodore Green asked the Conference to grant him mercy and he apologized for his behavior.

After the motion carried, Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr., lamented a prayer for Reverend Theodore Green and the New Hope congregation.

Reverend Kenneth Taylor offered the Annuity and Investment Report.

Presiding Elder District	Salaries	Total Amount of Annuity Per District
Columbia District	\$617,171.66	\$74,060.60
Lancaster District	\$672,510.41	\$97,217.00
Newberry District	\$669,728.00	\$44,470.40

Name	Amount
Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Hunter	\$3,342.00
Rev. Theodora Green	\$506.00

Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr., referred Reverend Dr. Jeffery Hunter to Ministerial Efficiency.

The motion to approve the report was moved by **Reverend Cassius Barclay** and seconded by **Reverend Dr. Dante' Kenly**. The motion carried.

Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr., shared information on the A.M.E. annuity and the alleged missing funds. The A.M.E. Church has made a commitment to get you 100% of your investment plus interest, minus any fees. No additional assessments will be imposed to make this happen. Departments, programs and schools will take a reduction to refund the plan.

The new retirement plan goes to the 7th Episcopal District. The 7th Episcopal District places the money in a fund account. Wes Path automatically pulls the money from the fund account within 48 hours and deposits into your new annuity account. Every participant will be able to create a login, print statements, view account activities and request a hardship withdrawal online. This new investment option prevents the episcopal district from sending the funds to the A.M.E. Annuity Department.

Bishop Green provided clarity, because there is some correct information and misinformation found online and spoken in the streets. He gave the Conference an opportunity to ask questions. At 4:27 p.m. the Conference transitioned to the Sons of Allen worship service.

**MINUTES OF THE 144TH SESSION OF THE
COLUMBIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2022
SONS OF ALLEN WORSHIP SERVICE**

At 4:34 p.m. the Sons of Allen Worship Service opened with the doxology by the Sons of Allen choir. Reverend Larry Clark presented Reverend Lawrence Pralour. In preparation for the sermon, the choir sang "All of My Help Comes from the Lord". Reverend Pralour preached

"What Must We Do?" 1 Corinthians 16:14

"Let all that you do be done in love."

Reverend Pralour asked, what must we do when tears fall down, and people are worried?

His three points were: Don't let your guard down, Don't let them get the best of you, and Don't stop loving.

Bishop Samuel Lawrence Green, Sr., commended Rev. Pralour on a job well done.

**MINUTES OF THE 145TH SESSION OF THE
COLUMBIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2022
LAY WITNESS NIGHT**

Lay Witness Night began promptly at 7:00 p.m. The Columbia Conference Choir began by singing the Laymen's Hymn. The service shifted when the choir sang "When There's a Praise in the Temple". The Spirit of God brought worshipers to their feet as they sang and praised the Lord.

Presiding Elder Samuel McPherson introduced the preacher, Reverend Wallace Preston. He preached,

“That’s What He’s Done for Me” 1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹²I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. ¹³Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. ¹⁴The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. ¹⁷Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Reverend Preston said we look good in the house tonight, but asked, what did we look like before God? Paul was trying to tell Timothy about the grace of God and the mercy he obtained, considering what he was like before Christ. Reverend Preston said God will make you a show piece, making you a model for Christ.

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr. announced that conference will begin at 9 a.m. Friday morning.

Episcopal Lay President Keith Britton presented Conference Lay President Larry Thompson a check for \$2,000 to continue to do the work he is doing.