Third Midwest Annual Conference

LAY WITNESS SERVICE

Of the

African Methodist Episcopal Church

Friday, September 3, 2010
7:00 p.m.
Hyatt Regency Wichita
400 West Waterman, Wichita, Kansas

Theme:

"Building on Our Global Legacy of Christ-Centered Leadership and Training"

Mark 16:15 - Ephesians 4:11-13

Rt. Reverend Theodore Larry Kirkland, Presiding Bishop
Reverend Donna F. Roberson, Co-Host Presiding Elder, Kansas City North District
Reverend Steven A. Cousin, Co-Host Presiding Elder, Kansas City South District
Reverend Anthony S. Steele, Host Pastor, Saint Paul AME Church, Wichita, Ks.

Dr. Willie C. Glover, Connectional Lay President
Brother Harold Shields, Fifth District Lay President
Brother Donald P. Jones, Jr., Midwest Conference Lay President
Brother Marvin Stone, Host Lay President, Saint. Paul AME Church, Wichita, Ks.
LAY WITNESS SERVICE

Friday, September 3, 2010
7:00 p.m.

Worship Leader: ......................................................... Brother Donald Bratton, Jr.
                   First Vice President-MWCLO

Prelude.......................................................................................Conference Musicians

Processional.............Life Members, Conference Officers, Fifth District Officers and Advisors

Introt:  “The Lord is in His Holy Temple”

Doxology:  “Praise God from Whom all Blessing Flow”

Call to Worship: ..........................................................Brother Marvin Stone
                   Host Lay President

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall
         stand within your gates, O Jerusalem.

People: For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a Doorkeeper in the house of
         my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness

Leader: Because of the house of the Lord, our God, I will seek your good.

People: Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the Courts of our God.

Leader: Blessed are they that dwell in your house, Lord, I have loved your habitation, the place
         where your honor dwells.

People: For the Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him.

Leader: Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your
         sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

People: O sing unto the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise unto
         the Lord all the earth, sing praises.

Opening Hymn: ......................LAYMEN’S HYMN........................................Brother Donald Bratton

LAYMEN’S SONG Hymn No. 582

[ Tune: Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah]

Laymen now have thus assembled, in thy Blessed Name O God, Guide us in our true endeavor;
light the pathway that we trod; Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause, give us strength to
ever labor for thy cause.
We are branded one in union, to fulfill Thy just command. May we be thy true disciples, holding on to Thy mighty hand. Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love, give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love.

As we walk this Christian Journey, Let us keep our armor bright, Let our works be pure and holy that we stand within Thy sight. Laymen soldiers, strong in unity and love. Laymen soldiers, strong in unity and love.

May we stand before thine altar, pleading Lord to work for Thee, In the vineyard, in the pastures, let us Lord Thy pilgrims be. Let us lift the cross forever to the skies. Let us lift the cross forever to the skies. Amen

Invocation ......................................................... Brother Timothy Goff
Chaplain-MWCLO

Scripture .......................................................... Sister Katherine Mc Craney
Third Vice President-MWCLO

Lay Litany .......................................................... Sister Shirley Faucett
Grant Chapel AME, Wichita, Lay President

Leader Oh Lord, who has established humankind in families and nations, binding us by ties of race and ancestry, and enriching us with common possessions and traditions, unite us in gratitude and loyalty to Thee.

People We beseech Thee, O’ Lord

Leader For the African Methodist Episcopal Church and its leaders - Broaden their Vision, strengthen their minds, bodies and spirit, and give them hearts of interpretation, fervor and zeal in proclaiming the gospel of truth.

People We beseech Thee, O’ Lord

Leader For the Laity, weave Your Way through our jangled thoughts, interrupt our preoccupied schedules and routines, manifest Your love within us, that we may demonstrate that love so that the lives we touch will sense a purpose that makes life significant and the God of Life, good.

People We beseech Thee, O’ Lord

Leader For the increase of social sympathy among us, growing indignation against blatant wrong doing and oppression, our discontent with needless suffering and chronic diseases.

People We beseech Thee, O’ Lord

Leader For our children, shield them from hurt, harm, and danger. Shelter them from abuse, low self-esteem, drugs, pornography, prostitution, and poverty. Help them to aim high, embrace good health, moral principles, respect for life and property, and a desire to serve others.

People We beseech Thee, O’ Lord
Leader  We remember One who had compassion upon the sorrowful, wept with the lonely, healed the sick, took time to assist those in trouble and stirred people up to good works. May we, His followers, not be content to “sit out” our Christian lives on cushioned pews.

People  We beseech Thee, O’ Lord

Leader  O God, make us like our Master---a servant to neighbors, shepherd to the straying, comforter of the sorrowful, protector of the meek and helpless, also, help us to minister to the deep, unuttered yearnings of people’s souls.

All  We beseech Thee, O’ Lord. Hear our prayer

---

Choir Selection: .......................................................... Saint Mark Praise Team
Saint Mark United Methodist Church, Wichita, Ks.  Ms. Ronda Kingwood, Director of Magnification

Welcome and Occasion: .................................................. Sister Barbara Cooper
Recording Secretary-MWCL

Choir Selection: .......................................................... Saint Mark Praise Team

Offering: ........................................................................ Finance Committee
Sister Margaret Riley, Treasurer and Sister Kelly Rhea, Financial Secretary-MWCL

Recognition of New Life Members: ........................................ Sister Sharon Burnett
Director-Public Relations-MWCL

Presentation of Midwest Conference and Fifth District Lay Organization Awards ......................... Sister Dianna Maddix
Second Vice President-MWCL

Presentation of Awards by: Bishop Theodore L. Kirkland, Harold Shields and Donald Jones

Special Dramatic Reading / Word : .......................................................... Ms. Jessica Ware
St. Paul AME Church, Wichita, Ks.

Choir Selection: .......................................................... Saint Mark Praise Team
( Soloist )

Introduction of the Speaker: ................................. Brother Donald P. Jones Jr.
President-MWCL

Choir Selection: .......................................................... Saint Mark Praise Team

Speaker: .......................................................... Brother Harold Shields
Fifth District Lay Organization, President

Invitation to Christian Discipleship: .............................. Sister Phyllis A. Kitchen
Director of Lay Activities-MWCL

Announcements:
Remarks: .................................................................Brother Donald P. Jones Jr.

Introduction of the Bishop: ..................................................Brother Harold Shields

Remarks: ............................................................................Bishop Theodore Larry Kirkland

Lay Benediction:
“May God Bless us with the true spirit of Christianity that we may live together not as man over man, but as Lay persons working with God”

Our Speaker of The Evening

Brother Harold Shields, President
Fifth District Lay Organization

My most significant contribution: I was the author and initiator of legislation adopted by the 1992 General Conference, and printed in the Book of Discipline of the A.M.E. Church. It reads as follows: PART VIII, C,3J. Conferences and Conventions, Election of Delegates, Lay Electoral College, “Each Episcopal District Lay President shall be a member of the General Conference, by virtue of his/her position. He/she shall automatically be included in the number of delegates certified at the electoral college. The District Lay President must be a member in good and regular standing in his/her local church and his/her local Lay Organization.
MIDWEST LAY ORGANIZATION

Donald P. Jones Jr.  President
Donald Bratton, Jr.  1st Vice President
Dianna Maddix  2nd Vice President
Katherine Mc Craney  3rd Vice President
Barbara Cooper
Phyllis Gentry
Sharon Owens-Bradford
Margaret Riley
Kelly Rhea
Timothy Goff
Thelma Williams
Rosie Horn
Phyllis Kitchen
Sharon Burnett

MIDWEST CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION

Outstanding Clergy and Lay Persons of the Year

Outstanding Pastor  Rev. Virgil Gordon Glenn III
Outstanding Presiding Elder  Rev. Steven A. Cousin, Sr.
Outstanding Lay Person  Brother Luegene Hill

We as Lay, Pray that God will bless the Midwest Conference and empower each Lay person to unite that we can forge a new vision, so that God will be glorified.