

**189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Communion Service
Tuesday, May 22, 2018**

The 189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference began at 7:00 p.m. with the conference singing “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”, as the Conference Evangelist, Pastors, Presiding Elders and the Right Reverend Louis Hunter, Sr. and Bishop W. Darin Moore, Presiding Prelate of the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal District processed into the sanctuary. The Rev. Dr. Myrtle Bowen, Presiding Elder of the Harrisburg District served as the Worship Leader following the program as printed. The Rev. Ida Ositelu, Dr. Timothy Freeman, Rev. Beverly Taylor, Rev. Samuel Whittaker, Dr. David McClendon, Rev. Jonathan Counts, and Rev. Andre Greene served as program participants. The Union Wesley Men’s Choir along with the Scotland Men’s Choir rendered musical selections.

The Ministry of Kindness offering was received by the Rev. Andree Greene in the amount of _____ after which, the Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, Presiding Elder of the Baltimore District presented Bishop W. Darin Moore who graciously greeted the Conference and acknowledged the presence of Bishop Louis Hunter, Sr. the Missionary Supervisors Mrs. Devieta C. Moore, Mrs. Georgia M. Thompson, and Mrs. Lula G. Williams; General Officers, Presiding Elders, Pastors and Laity of every rank and file within the bounds of the conference.

Bishop Moore presented the Communion Preacher in the personage of the Rev. Dr. Adrian V. Nelson, Pastor of the Scotland AME Zion Church to proclaim the Communion Message. The Scotland Choir sang the sermonic selection. The Rev. Adrian V. Nelson thanked Bishop Moore for the opportunity to share, his Presiding Elder and others who have supported him. He especially acknowledged the Scotland Church his family, children and wife for their love and support.

Sermon Title: Wash Your Feet Before You Eat

Text: John 13:1-12

Rev. Dr. Adrian V. Nelson highlighted three points:

1. Hospitality transforming in to Holy Service - people’s feet get dusty on this journey of life; we’ve got to be willing to wash feet
2. Ritual does not always have to be routine
3. It’s not about ritual...it’s about relationship

Rev. Adrian V. Nelson extended the Invitation to Christian Discipleship and opened the Altar for prayer. The Invitational hymn was “Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross”. The Rev. Dr. David McClendon gave the offering appeal and prayer.

**188th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Communion Service
(continued)**

Bishop Moore acknowledged all the guests sharing with the Conference:

Rev. Dr. T.K. Venable	Rev. Dr. Lorenza Meekins	Rev. Lloyd Griffin
Rev. Bristol Elliott	Rev. Christopher Eason	Rev. Joseph Whitney

Bishop Moore asked the Rev. T.K. Venable from the Petersburg District of the Virginia Conference to greet the Conference.

Holy Communion was received with Bishop W. Darin Moore serving as the Chief Celebrant with Bishop Louis Hunter, Sr. assisting. The Presiding Elders served as Con-celebrants. The service of Communion concluded with the singing of “It is Well”. Bishop W. Darin Moore declaring that the 189th Session of the Grande Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference open for all business that shall come before it. At 10:38 p.m. with the Rev. Dr. Adrian V. Nelson, pronouncing the benediction.

Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, Secretary

Rev. Dr. Tina Nelson, Assistant Secretary

**189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Wednesday Morning
Wednesday, May 23, 2018**

The Wednesday Morning Session began with devotion led by the Rev. Scot C. Moore. Following devotion Bishop W. Darin Moore presented Bishop Louis Hunter, Sr, (Retired). The Rev. Gracher Selby presented on Evangelism and the work of the ministry in the church.

Bishop Moore called for the various Committee reports:

The Rules Committee – Rev. Mark A. Thomas presented the report. A motion to adopt the Rules Committee report was made by Rev. Thomas Sweatt, seconded by Dr. Christopher Zacharias. Unreadiness expressed by Sis. Patricia Griffin. The motion carried.

Credentials Committee – Dr. Wilmer Frazier called each District representative who in turn called the names of the delegates and alternates from their respective districts. A motion was made by Dr. Wilmer Frazier seconded by Dr. Alvin T. Durant. The motion carried.

The Nominations Committee – Rev. Scot C. Moore offered the recommendations for conference personnel. A motion to receive the report was offered by Rev. Damon Carver, seconded by Dr. Christopher Zacharias. The motion carried.

The Secretariat called the Conference Roll recording those present and absent. Bishop Moore acknowledged the Bishops of the Conference, Bishop Marshall H. Strickland, Bishop Warren M. Brown, and Bishop Dennis V. Proctor. Bishop Moore asked the following actions be taken:

Baltimore District –

- Rev. Nelson Allen be located.
- Rev. Gwanda Wallace be located. A Motion was made by Dr. Frances Toni Draper, seconded by Dr. Christopher Zacharias. The motion passed
- Rev. Clarence Jackson needs to request an official position from the Virginia Conference and within the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference. PE Huggins is to send correspondence to the Virginia Conference Secretary that he is a member of that Conference and Cc the Bishop. Bishop Moore stressed the importance of being accountable to the requirements of ordained ministry and leaving honorably if necessary.
- Rev. Mariatu Kargbo has requested to be located. Rev. Adrian V. Nelson made the motion, it was seconded by Chuck Williams. The motion carried.
- Bro. George Lucey has requested to be remanded back to the local church level. Bishop noting his being on trial dropped him from the roll.
- Bro. David Manley also on trial at the recommendation of his pastor was also dropped.

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Harrisburg District –

- Rev. Melvin Thomas has asked to be Honorably Withdrawn and sent his credentials into the office.
- Rev. Daisy Woodard was omitted from the roll, the secretariat apologized and made the necessary corrections.

Philadelphia/ Eastern Shore

- Rev. Anthony Easton is requesting to be retired.
- Rev. Charles Collier is requesting to be located. Bishop advised Rev. Collier to make a written request and submit it to the secretary and Bishop. Rev. Leon Copeland made the motion, seconded by Rev. Jeffrey Ruffin. The motion carried.
- Rev. Henry Koffa was dropped after a motion was made by Dr. Evalina Huggins, seconded by Dr. Paul Hoggard. The motion carried
- Rev. Nancy Hawes has requested retirement and the conference is awaiting that written request.
- Sis. Veronica Oney's name was omitted and the was corrected.

Washington District

- Rev. Thea Webster Wells at the request of PE Colbert was dropped from the roll
- Rev. Sybil Felton shall continue with an active status until she and the Bishop have had an opportunity to discuss her situation further.
- Rev. Cedric Stroud and Rev. Keen Newsome were both present

Northern Virginia

- Rev. Quincy Ponder a retired minister was not listed on the Superannuated list.

Time and Place of the Next Annual Conference

2019 and 2020 will be held at the Bethesda North Marriott

Checkup meetings

September 8, 2018 at St. James (Allentown)
December 8, 2018 (Cyber Checkup)
March 9, 2019 at St. Paul (Salisbury)

**189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
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Realignment Proposal

Rev. Dr. Adrian Nelson presented a proposed re-districting of the churches within the Philadelphia and Baltimore through a power point presentation. Bishop Moore asked that persons given serious consideration to the proposal and vote it up or down. He also expressed that as the Bishop he could just make the change but sincerely desires the support and participation of the conference. The motion was made by Rev. Mark Thomas to adopt the report, seconded by Rev. Alyce Walker Johnson. Unreadiness' expressed by Rev. Alanna Thomas, Dr. Darrell Gaskins, and Sis. Patricia Griffin. The motion carried.

**Noon Day Worship
Wednesday, May 23, 2018**

Rev. Patrick Barrett led the conference in worship. Bishop W. Darin Moore introduced the preacher the Rev. Dr. Nicole Johnson Douglas as the noonday preacher. Rev. Douglas stood to proclaim the word using the text: Ezekiel 37:1-14 utilizing the subject: *"I've Got to Shift: #Revived in a Dead Situation"*. Rev. Johnson noted when the shift happens:

1. Relevant Ministry Happens.
2. There are restored relationships
3. There is revealed Glory
4. When a shift happens there is Radical Praise

Bishop Moore giving way to time restraints, appealed to the conference to introspectively look at themselves and determine how it is that we might shift. Several announcements were made by the secretariat. Bishop Moore encouraged persons to attend the Lay Council luncheon. The offering was received as persons exited the sanctuary.

The benediction was given at 1:45 p.m.

**EPISCOPAL ADDRESS
Bishop W. Darin Moore, Presiding Prelate
Wednesday, May 23, 2018**

The Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference reconvened for the Episcopal Address at 3:00 p.m. The conference sang together the hymn "I am Thine O Lord".

Bishop Hunter recognized the presence of Bishop Dennis V. Proctor and introduced Bishop W. Darin Moore. Bishop W. Darin Moore, the Presiding Prelate of the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal District brought greetings and proceeded to share a spirited and prophetic Episcopal Address.

(See Episcopal Address). Bishop Moore first lovingly remembered the passing of Rev. Dr. Lewis M. Anthony, Rev. Dr. Kathryn G. Brown, and Rev. Dr. Allie Harper. Bishop Moore began his Address discussing America's Origin Sin of racism. Focusing on the Quadrennial Theme "*The Freedom Church: Refocusing on Our Purpose, Renewing Our Practices, Retooling Our People, Reaching our Potential*", Bishop Moore stated that while the seeds of vitality and renewal are taking root in our churches, many are immobilized by challenges. Bishop Moore stated that Zion has a strong framework with a rich legacy, but to reach higher heights we must review our practices that are no longer effective, and he provided suggestions for our consideration. To foster healthy ministers and growing churches, Bishop Moore made the following suggestions:

1. Challenge every Presiding Elder District to plant one new church during the next Conference year.
2. Develop a conference Pastoral Care Ministry that offers resources and counseling services to assist pastors and their families to navigate the unique challenges of ministry.
3. Establish to the Dr. Lewis Anthony Ministry Scholars – this program will seek applications throughout the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal District from ministers forty and under who will receive scholarship assistance, be assigned a ministry mentor, and who will become participants in selected ecumenical events.

Bishop Hunter made remarks commending and thanking Bishop Moore for his provocative message. Rev. Mark Thomas moved to receive the Episcopal Address on behalf of the Conference. Rev. Reginal Chandler seconded. Unreadinesses were expressed by:

Rev. Timothy Freeman
Rev. Dr. Alvin T. Durant
Mrs. Katherine Burrell
Rev. Paul Hoggard
Rev. Sylvia Lewis
Rev. Milton Williams, Jr.
Rev. Francine Ferguson
Rev. Alyce Walker-Johnson
Rev. David Elliott
Rev. Patrick Barrett
Rev. Dr. Clarence Cross

Presiding Elder Monica Hargrove presented Bishop Moore with a gift on behalf of the Presiding Elders Council of the Philadelphia & Baltimore Conference.

The Motion passed.

Bishop Moore called upon Bishop Proctor who brought greetings to the Conference.

Bishop Dennis V. Proctor called for the Great Offering of \$200.

**189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Presiding Elder Reports
Wednesday, May 23, 2017**

Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins of the Baltimore District presented her report electronically. A motion to receive her report was made by the Rev. Scot C. Moore, seconded by Mr. Thomas “Chuck” Williams. Unreadiness was offered by the Rev. Leslie Davis-Barnett who presented the Presiding Elder an expression of love. The motion carried. Dr. Huggins offered expressions of gratitude to the District.

Bishop Moore called for greetings to be extended from Dr. Pernissa Seals from the Balm in Gilead. Dr. Seals advised that free health care information can be provided on the website, balmingilead.org. Bishop Moore encouraged the Conference to take advantage of the free health care information and share it with our congregations.

Bishop Moore then thanked Mrs. Katherine Burrell for her leadership in the Lay Council and encouraged conference attendees to attend the lunch and learn series.

Rev. Dr. William E. Kelly of the Philadelphia-Eastern Shore District presented his report electronically. A motion to receive his “historic” report was made by the Rev. Damon Carver, seconded by the Rev. Jeffrey Ruffin. Unreadiness was offered by the Rev. David McClendon who presented the Presiding Elder and Mrs. Kelly an expression of love. The Rev. Ingrid Gant presented a love gift to Mrs. Kelly from the Ministers & Spouses Association. The motion carried. Dr. Kelly offered expressions of gratitude to the District.

Bishop Moore called for greetings from the Virginia Conference Visitors – Rev. Dr. Sadler, Presiding Elder Kenneth Crowder, and Presiding Elder Dennison. Bishop Moore recognized additional visitors - Dr. D. Darwin Little, Rev. Todd French, Rev. Lawrence Spand, Rev. Dr. Dennis Haggray.

Bishop Proctor pronounced the Benediction at 5:49pm.

**Evening Ecumenical Service and Annual Sermon
Wednesday, May 23, 2018**

The evening worship service began with praise and worship at 7:24pm. Presiding Elder Williams Kelly presided over of the service. The program proceeded as printed. The program participants included: Rev. Brenda Clark, Rev. Dr. Winston Gooden, and Rev. Thomas Tucker.

Remarks were delivered by Dr. Vergel L. Lattimore, President of Hood Theological Seminary and Mr. Jim Winkler, General Secretary, National Council of Churches USA.

Bishop Moore thanked Dr. Vergel Lattimore for his leadership at Hood Theological Seminary and he thanked the conference for their financial support of the seminary. Bishop Moore also thanked Dr. Jim Winkler for his work for justice and love.

Bishop Moore thanked Dr. Vernon Shannon for his work on behalf of the Conference, and his partner Mrs. Mildred Shannon. Bishop urged that we sign up or renew our membership in the NAACP, stay engaged, register to vote, and turn out to vote in November.

Bishop Moore asked Mr. Ramone Shelton to introduce the evening musical guest, Charles Butler and Trinity.

The Annual Sermon was preached by The Rev. Dr. Christopher L. Zacharias from 2 Kings 19:1-7, entitled “The Strength to Finish”. Dr. Zacharias preached that we have “yets” to get past. But many of us are losing the strength to get through. He encouraged us

1. When you need strength to finish God will give you strength against yourself.
2. Don't let your laments to God abort God's destiny for you.

Bishop Moore called for greetings from guests of the New Jersey Conference: Rev. Dorothy Patterson, Rev. Melanie Miller, Rev. Nicole Harris, Ms. Brittany Williams, Ms. Gayle Hill, and Mr. Nathaniel Briggs.

Bishop Moore announced that the *Dr. Lewis Anthony Ministry Scholars Program* annual scholarships will be provided for those under 40 years old going to seminary. Bishop Moore solicited partners to pledge money towards the scholarship fund, both individuals and churches. He advised that this will NOT be an assessment on the churches, it is strictly volunteer. Money to be collected at the 1st Check Up meeting. Pledge forms are available.

Bishop Moore called for the John Wesley Choir sang the closing selection and the benediction was pronounced by Dr. Zachariah at 10:10pm.

Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, Secretary

Rev. Dr. Tina Nelson, Assistant Secretary

**189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Thursday Morning Bible Study – Rev. Jonathan Counts
Thursday, May 24, 2018**

The Wednesday Morning Session began with praise and worship at 9:00am. Following devotion Bishop Louis Hunter presented Rev. Jonathan Counts. Rev. Counts taught/preached from John 15:1-17 – Kingdom Principals for Fruitful Living. The bible study reflected on v. 5 and what it

means to us. “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you abide in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” Rev. Counts challenged that we need to focus on the “Kingdom” not Zion, and he reminded us that fruitful living consists of developing intimate fellowship with God and intentional fruit bearing.

**189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Thursday Morning Business
Thursday, May 24, 2018**

Following the morning Bible Study, Bishop Hunter called for the continuation of the Presiding Elder Reports.

Rev. Dr. Monica J. Hargrove presented her report electronically. Rev. Ingrid Gant made a motion to receive her report and Rev. Wanda Polite and Rev. Anna Benjamin Cooper seconded. Rev. Samuel Whittaker offered Unreadiness and an expression of love was provided to Dr. Hargrove. The motion carried.

Rev. Dr. Myrtle Bowen presented her report electronically. Rev. Darryl Taylor made a motion to receive her report and Rev. Cynthia Summers seconded. Rev. Thomas Sweatt offered Unreadiness and an expression of love was provided to Dr. Bowen. The motion carried.

Rev. Dr. Rita J. Colbert presented her report electronically. A motion to receive her report was made by the Rev. David Elliott, seconded by the Rev. Andre Green. Rev. Dr. Christopher Zacharias offered Unreadiness and an expression of love was provided to Dr. Colbert. The motion carried.

Bishop Moore thanked Bishop Hunter for presiding over the morning sessions.

Bishop Moore called for Pastors Reports, asking each pastor to provide a praise report and prayer request, in the following order:

Baltimore District
Northern Virginia District
Philadelphia Eastern Shore District
Washington District
Northern Virginia District
Harrisburg District

Bishop Moore acknowledged visitors from the Virginia Conference.

Bishop Moore called for the acceptance of the reports of the Pastors of the Philadelphia & Baltimore Conference. The motion to accept the reports was made by Rev. Ray Douglas, Jr., seconded by Rev. Samuel Whittaker. The motion passed. Bishop Moore thanked the pastors for all their works during the Conference year.

Noonday Worship
Thursday, May 24, 2018

Bishop Moore for called for the Praise and Worship team to lead us into worship at 12:20pm.

Bishop Moore introduced the preacher of the hour, The Rev. Sandra Reed. Rev. Reed preached from 1 Peter 5:1-7, from the subject “Godly Instructions for a Fresh Start”.

1. You need to be encouraged.
2. You need to be guided.
3. You need to do the work God has given you.
4. You need to be under authority.
5. You need to be humble before God.
6. You need to cast all your cares onto God.

Bishop Moore recognized Rev. Span from Ohio, and President of the United Theological Seminary. Bishop Moore encouraged ministers to pursue degrees from accredited Methodist seminaries.

Rev. Sandra Reed dismissed us from the morning session with the Benediction at 1:37pm.

School of the Prophets
Thursday Afternoon
Thursday, May 25, 2017

The afternoon session began at 2:28pm with Praise & Worship.

Bishop Moore called for the Rev. Brian Thompson of Simon Temple, AME Zion Church (Fayetteville, NC) to greet the Conference.

Thereafter, Bishop Moore introduced the teacher of the School of the Prophets, Rev. Dr. Kevin W Cosby Pastor, St. Stephen Baptist Church, President of Simmons College (Louisville, KY)

The focus of Dr. Cosby’s teaching was “*The Prophetic Role the Church Must Play in the Era of Trump.*” There are three responsibilities of the historic black church: 1) Spiritual Formation, 2) Group Empowerment, and 3) Social Justice. Dr. Cosby’s teaching focused on the 3rd prong, social justice, coming from Luke 19:1-10.

Reconciliation for Whites means Blacks hanging out with them in White controlled space. Diversity for Whites means Blacks diverting their resources away from the Black church and the Black community into White space. This requires a prophetic response from the Black church:

- Step 1 – **Review** the financial disparity between Whites and Blacks in this country
- Step 2 – **Repentance** of the injustice and reverse the effects of what was done
- Step 3 – **Reparations** for the damage done

Then we can come together with true reconciliation.

Bishop Moore responded to the powerful message that the “Freedom Church” must stand boldly and prophetically for the White church to acknowledge the sin of racism.

Bishop Moore called for the Delegates Reports and asked each Delegate to give one praise report and one prayer request. The Districts were called in the following order:

Baltimore District
Northern Virginia District
Philadelphia Eastern Shore District
Washington District
Harrisburg District

Bishop Moore called for a motion to receive the Delegates Reports. Rev. Dr. Wilmer T. Frazier motioned, and Rev. Jeffrey Ruffin seconded. Motion passed.

Bishop Moore called for greetings from visitors from the Virginia Conference – Rev. Dr. Kenneth Arrington, Rev. Samuel Warren, Rev. Betty Bradley, and Rev. Wilmer Williams.

Presiding Elder William Kelly blessed the food and pronounce the Benediction at 5:24pm.

**Christian Education Worship Service
Thursday Night
Thursday, May 24, 2018**

The service began at 7:10pm with praise and worship.

The Rev. Alyce Walker-Johnson served as the Worship Leader for the evening. The program proceeded as printed. The program participants were: Ms. Jennifer ??, and Ms. Ariana Armstrong, Mrs. Rhema Murdock.

Rev. Alyce Walker-Johnson introduced a powerful and dynamic video Tribute to The Rev. Dr. Kathryn G. Brown. Following the tribute the Liturgical Dancers of Judah Temple ministering in dance.

Bishop Moore recognized all Presiding Elders, including visiting Presiding Elder from the Newport News District.

Bishop Moore introduced the preacher of the evening, Rev. Dr. Kevin W. Cosby. We were blessed by the music ministry of Chris House from Newport News, Virginia.

The evening message was “The Outer Darkness” taken from Matt 25:14-30, and Matt 27:45. Success is not being the best, it is being you best. Maximize the best person God created you to be. Blow some holy ghost imagination into your one gift. To succeed you need:

1. Imagination
2. Motivation
3. Aspirations
4. Liberation

Jesus is in the Outer Darkness waiting just in case you get thrown into the outer darkness.

Bishop Moore introduced the Conference Director of Christian Education, Ms. Stephanie Perry, to give her report. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas “Chuck” Williams to receive her report, and it was seconded by Mrs. Yvonne Smith. Unreadiness was offered by Rev. Delmar Lytle and the CED Directors presented love gifts to Ms. Perry. Motion passed.

Bishop Moore recognized Ms. Ashley Charles, Episcopal Co-Director of Christian Education, and the Virginia Conference Director of Christian Education, Rev. Dr. Sandy Hutchinson.

Due to the lateness of the hour, the stoling ceremony was abbreviated. Bishop Moore called upon Bishop Hunter to pray the prayer of consecration of the stoles for those persons being stoled.

Bishop Moore called for greetings from guests offering themselves as candidates for CED Offices – Sis. Ruthie King (OH Conference) Candidate for President of A.C.E. and Rev Taisha Harding (Central NC Conference) Candidate for First Vice President of A.C.E. Bishop Moore then called for greeting from Philadelphia & Baltimore Conference members offering themselves as candidates for CED Offices – Ms. Rachel Means, Candidate for Recording Secretary, V.C.Y.C., Mr. Eric Smith, II, Candidate for President of A.C.E., and Sis. Darlene Counts, Candidate for the Y.A.C.M. Steering Committee.

Bishop Moore again announced the creation of the Dr. Lewis Anthony Ministry Scholars Program. Pledge forms are available.

Bishop Moore called upon the Missionary Supervisor, Mrs. Devita C. Moore, to bring greetings. Mrs. Moore announced the WHOMS services for tomorrow.

Bishop Moore announced that Bishop Louis Hunter will be the preacher for tomorrow night. Bishop Moore also announced that there will be a mandatory meeting of all Ministers tomorrow morning at 10:00am in Salon E. Roll call will be taken by District.

Bishop Moore recognized visitors Rev. Logan (VA Conference) and Rev. William King (OH Conference) and the Presiding Elder of the Newport New Conference Rev. Dr. Vincent Jones and his wife Rev. Dr. Martina Jones.

One verse sung of *And They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*”.

Rev. Dr. Vincent Jones pronounced the Benediction at 10:47pm.

**The 189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Missionary Prayer Breakfast
Friday, May 25, 2018**

The Missionary Prayer breakfast began at 8:08a.m. with Mrs. Barbara H. Hendricks serving as the Worship Leader. The Missionaries followed the program as printed. Persons participating on the program were: Reachell Chambers, Barbara Murray, Melva Wright, and Ms. Rachel Means. The program proceeded as printed. Missionary Supervisor Mrs. Davita C. Moore introduced the Meditation Speaker, Mrs. Georgia M. Thompson, Former Missionary Supervisor, Mid Atlantic II Episcopal District. Mrs. Thompson's message was focused on the WH&OMS theme: "The Great Commission – A Global Outreach: Personal Commitment". Mrs. Thompson spoke from Matthew 28:19. She reminded us that the Missions mandate given by Jesus requires a personal commitment, and she asked us whether we carry out the mandate, or just give lip service to it. She declared to us that the greatest way for us to give glory to God is to declare the gospel, which requires us to have a deep love for others and an intense loyalty to Jesus Christ.

Missionary Supervisor Moore led us in concluding the prayer breakfast with reciting the Missionary Benediction at 10:01am.

**The 189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Missionary Convocation
Mrs. Devieta C. Moore, Missionary Supervisor Presiding**

The Missionary Convocation began at 10:28 a.m. with Sis. Sharon Hassan, WHOMS President of the Baltimore District presiding. Sis. Kimber Eubanks sang "Alabaster Box", followed by the reading of Matthew 28:16-28 by Sis. Marilyn Rollings. The prayer was offered by Sis. Joy Foster. Sis. Sharon Hassan, presented the Missionary Supervisor of the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal District, Mrs. Devieta C. Moore, who then introduced the speaker, Former Missionary Supervisor, Mrs. Ingrid Hunter. Mrs. Hunter's message focused on the fourth component of the Quadrennial theme, Personal Commitment. She referenced the Naomi and Ruth story and their commitment to each other. She remarked that personal commitment starts with us but does not stop with us, and asked the question, "What does your personal commitment look like?"

District President reports were presented by Department:

Parent Body, YAMS, Youth Missionary Society, Buds, Supply, Life Members, Wellness-Health Coordinators, Mission Education, NCNW, World Federation, and Bread For Life

A motion to receive the reports was made by Mrs. Barbara Griffin, and seconded by Mrs. Mildred Shannon. Motion passed.

Offering was collected after the reports, and Rev. Lula Williams blessed the offering.

The District Presidents presented expressions of appreciation to the following persons:

Missionary Supervisor Devita C. Moore, Rev. Lula Williams, Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. Ingrid Hunter, Charlotte Umoja, Barbara Shaw, Gladys Felton, Renee Pullen, Sandra Crowder, and Mrs. Georgia Thompson. Mrs. Moore presented expressions of thanks and appreciation to each District President for their work during this conference year.

Elections were held for Delegates to the 2019 Missionary Convention to be held in Orlando, FL. Mrs. Rhonda Means made a motion for Mrs. Delores Steele to serve as the Delegate, and for Mrs. Dorothy McWhite to serve as Alternate Delegate. Mrs. Mildred Shannon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Supervisor Moore recognized visitors. The following person are offering themselves as a Candidates:

Joann Monroe for General Secretary for Supply

Sandra Crowder for International President of WHOMS

Antoinette Joyner for General Secretary Bureau of Supply

Melva Wright for General Secretary Youth Missionary Society

The Convocation dismissed with the Missionary Benediction at 12:19pm.

Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, Secretary

Rev. Dr. Tina Nelson, Assistant Secretary

**The 189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Noon Day Worship
Friday, May 25, 2018**

Worship service began with praise and worship at 12:37pm.

The Rev. Eddie Scarborough, Jr. opened the Necrology Service. The Rev. Mary Johnson read the scripture, John 14:26-27, and prayer was lifted by The Rev. Ernie T. Moore. A memorial video slide presentation was shown with the names of all those who were admitted this past Conference year into the Great Heavenly Annual Conference.

Bishop Moore called upon The Rev. Milton Williams, Jr. to lift a prayer, after which “*He’s Sweet I Know*” was sung by the congregation. Bishop Moore announced the preacher of the hour, The Rev. Marlon E. Carter.

Rev. Carter preached from Luke 5:17- 20 from the sermon title “It’s in the House”. His points were: 1. Don’t focus on your situation. Get it before the Lord. 2. Consider the location. Establish the presence of God in the midst of the house. 3. Wait on God to change your situation.

Bishop Moore called for Rev. Carter to pronounce the Benediction at 1:49pm.

**The 189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Afternoon Business Session
Friday, May 25, 2018**

The session began with praise & worship at 3:06pm.

Bishop Moore called for the Conference Evangelists to make their reports. Bishop asked each Evangelist to state: 1. Name of Local Church where serving, 2. Current ministry studies, 3. Ministries involved in at the Local Church. A motion to accept the reports was made by Rev. Damon Carver, and seconded by Rev. Thomas Sweatt. Motion passed.

Bishop Moore called for the State of the Church and State of the Country reports. A motion to accept the State of the Church report with thanks was made by Mr. Thomas “Chuck” Williams and seconded by Rev. Carolyn McGee. Several unreadinesses/comments were expressed. Motion passed. A motion to accept the State of the Country report was made by Rev. Timothy Freeman and Rev. Jeffrey Ruffin, seconded. Bishop Moore remarked that church members become educated around the issues. Motion passed.

Bishop Moore called for the Conference Trustees Report. The Rev. Dr. Alvin T. Durant gave the report. A motion to receive the report was made by The Rev. Heath Cheek, seconded by The Rev. Sandra Reed. Motion passed.

Bishop Moore called for the report of the Board of Admissions. The Rev. Leslie Barnett-Davis gave the report.

- **Bro. William Bean** remanded back to District Studies

The following persons were recommended to be Admitted on Trial after submitting documentation of schools and back ground checks being completed. All information to be provided by the 1st Check Up meeting to Rev. Leslie Barnett-Davis or the students will be dropped.

- **Bro. Thomas Nealy**
- **Bro. Brian Thomas Smith**

- **Bro. Anthony Winger**

Bishop Moore inquired of the Presiding Elders if background checks are being completed at the time of Trial sermons. Presiding Elder Rita J. Colbert advised that background checks have been provided to the Episcopal Office. Bishop Moore stated that the Presiding Elders should be given a file that includes all documentation from all students that should follow the candidate through the Annual Conference. Bishop advised that he needs to confirm that all documentation has been received by the 1st Check up meeting and if the documents are not received by the 1st check up meeting the students will be dropped.

A motion to receive the report was made by Rev. Thomas Tucker, and seconded by Rev. Alyce Walker-Johnson. Motion passed.

The following persons were recommended to be Admitted on Credentials. These persons need to provide original copies of their credentials by the 1st Check Up Meeting or they will be dropped.

- **Rev. Dr. Erik Bradford** – Church of God in Christ
- **Sis. Rhema Dawson Murdock** - United Holiness Church of Life
- **Rev. Alistair Frimpong**

Bishop Moore stated that Sis. Rhema Murdock and Bro. Alistair Frimpong must be Admitted on Trial because their churches do not have reciprocity with the AME Zion Church. Bishop Moore further explained from which denominations the AME Zion church is able to receive candidates on credentials.

Bishop Moore emphasized the importance of getting documentation completed and submitted to the District level before coming to request admission to the Annual Conference.

A motion to accept the recommendation to admit Sis. Rhema Murdock and Bro. Alistair Frimpong on Trial was made by Rev. Christopher Zacharias and seconded by Rev. Massah El. Motion passed.

A motion to accept the recommendation to Admit Rev. Dr. Erik Bradford on Credentials was made by Rev. Scot Moore and seconded by Rev. Dr. Alvin T. Durant. Motion passed.

Bishop Moore called for the Conference Examiners report. Rev. Dr. Adrian V. Nelson, II reported.

The following first year students are recommended for advancement to second year studies:

- **Sis. Shirleeta Beck**, Trinity AME Zion Church
- **Sis. Natesha Glenn**, Small Memorial AME Zion Church
- **Sis. Veronica Oney**, Liberating Power AME Zion Church

The following first year students are recommended to be retained in first year studies:

- **Bro. Carlos Benson**, Trinity AME Zion Church
- **Bro. Roderick Josey**, Union Wesley AME Zion Church
- **Bro. George Lucky**, Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church

The following student has withdrawn from Conference Studies:

- **Bro. David Manley**, Judah Temple AME Zion Church

The following second year students are recommended for advancement to third year studies and to the Holy Orders Committee to be considered for election as Deacons:

- **Bro. Larry Fields**, St. Johns (Ross Point) AME Zion Church
- **Sis. Lori Hill**, Oak Grove AME Zion Church
- **Sis. Anita Stevenson**, Oak Grove AME Zion Church

The following third year students are recommended for advancement to fourth year studies:

- **Rev. Jeanette Banks**, Judah Temple AME Zion Church
- **Rev. Beverly Jones**, Patterson-Asbury AME Zion Church
- **Rev. Carolyn McGee**, Freedom Temple AME Zion Church
- **Sis. Quatana Mosby**, Freedom Temple AME Zion Church
- **Rev. Marvin Spriggs**, Grace Memorial AME Zion Church

Sis. Quatana Mosby is recommended to the Holy Orders Committee for ordination as a Deacon as she was placed on trial for one (1) year upon her return and readmission to the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference.

The following third year student is recommending to be retained in third year studies:

- **Rev. Ray Gregg, Sr.**, Union Wesley AME Zion Church

The following fourth year students have successfully completed fourth year studies and are recommended to the Holy Orders Committee to be considered for election as Elders:

- **Rev. Anthony Bellamy**, Judah Temple AME Zion Church
- **Rev. Erica Butler**, Damascus AME Zion Church
- **Rev. Kristina Williams Hall**, Pennsylvania AME Zion Church
- **Rev. Sheverlon Powell**, Harris AME Zion Church

Additionally, fourth year student **Rev. Marlon Carter**, Fawn AME Zion Church, has successfully completed fourth year studies and need not be referred to the Holy Orders Committee as he is already an ordained Elder.

Bishop Moore stated that Bro. Larry Fields is not present and cannot be advanced as no message requesting to be excused were received. If he shows up the committee can come back to present him.

A motion to receive the recommendations was made by Rev. Dr. Alvin T. Durant and seconded by Rev. John Walker, Sr.

The following person were recommended to be Admitted into Full connection.

- Sis. Lori Hill
- Sis. Anita Stevenson
- Sis. Qutanna Brown

Bishop Moore discussed with the candidates the importance of the vow they were making to come into the church and to respect those placed in authority over them, the pastor at the local church. Bishop Moore administered the questions to the candidates.

A motion was made to accept the recommendation by Rev. Thomas Tucker and seconded by Rev. Mark Thomas. Motion passed. The Bishop shook the hands of the Admittants.

Bishop Moore called for the report of the Holy Orders Committee.

The following persons were recommended for Ordination as Deacon:

- Sis. Lori Hill
- Sis. Anita Stevenson
- Sis. Qutanna Brown

A motion was made to accept the recommendation by Rev. Dr. Wilmer T. Frazier and seconded by Rev. McClendon. Motion passed. Bishop Moore stated that the Ordination will take place during the Leadership Training Institute in October 2018.

The following persons were recommended for Ordination as Elder:

- Rev. Anthony Bellamy
- Rev. Erica Butler
- Rev. Kristina Williams Hall
- Rev. Sheverlon Powell

Bishop Moore instructed the candidates to reflect and read, and reread the Elder's Ordination in The Discipline prior to ordination.

A motion to accept the recommendation was made by Presiding Elder Myrtle Bowen and seconded by Rev. Dr. Adrian V. Nelson, II.

Mrs. Yvonne Smith asked Bishop Moore about background checks being completed for all District Officers, CED workers, and all those working with children. Bishop Moore agreed that that should be done, and he stated that he believes that Resolution was passed at the last General Conference.

Rev. Doradeen Johnson closed out the session with prayer at 5:51pm.

**The 189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
MISSIONARY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
Friday, May 25, 2018**

The evening started with praise & worship led by Melissa. The missionaries marched in to “Work it Out” by Tye Tribett. The program proceeded as printed. Program participants included: Shannon Bracey, Tonya Moscoff, Rev. Lula Williams, and the Litany for Women and Missions was led by several persons. The Missionary Stoling Ceremony was conducted by representatives for each District. Bishop Moore offered a prayer of dedication for the stoles and pins. Missionary Supervisor Moore gave The Charge and stoled with the aid of Previous and current missionary supervisors and missionary officers.

Mrs. Moore presented the Bishop Moore. Bishop Moore recognized Presiding Elder and Mrs. Accre from the Allegheny Conference. Bishop Moore presented Bishop Hunter. Kaneisha “NeeCee” Trott led the congregation in worship singing “I Am Persuaded” & “I Call You Holy”

Bishop Hunter preached from Matthew 28:16-20(MSG) with the title, “A Church for the 21st Century”. His points were: the 21st century church needs to look at how we’re doing ministry and not church, and there are some things in the church that are changeless; others are changing:

1. The master doesn’t change
2. The message doesn’t change
3. The mission doesn’t change

Bishop Hunter gave an invitation to Christian discipleship and an invitation to people who discern a calling to ministry on their lives. Bishop declared that there may be church buildings closing and human institutions dying, but that the church of the living God is yet alive.

The following guests to the Conference were recognized:

Rev. Nathaniel Cox, new pastor of Trinity AMEZ in Pittsburgh
Presiding Elder Gerald Acre and his wife
Sister Sandra Crowder, candidate for International President of WH&OMS
Rev. Cheryl James & her husband

Rev. Antoinette Joiner, most recent graduate of Hood

Sister Melva Wright is offering herself as the Youth Secretary for WH&OMS.

The service ended with the congregation reciting the Missionary Benediction at 10:30pm.

Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, Secretary

Rev. Dr. Tina Nelson, Assistant Secretary

**The 189th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore
Noon Day Worship
Saturday, May 26, 2018**

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