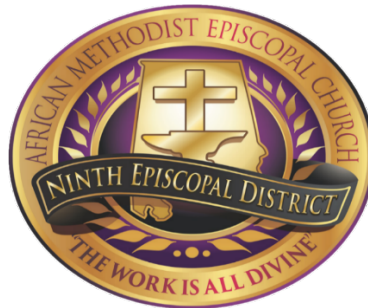


The Planning Meeting
of the
NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

NOVEMBER 19 – 22, 2025
Conference Year Theme:
Always Moving Forward with Excellence
Philippians 3:13-14

Quadrennial Theme:
The Work Is All Divine Romans 8:28



The Opening Worship Service
Friday, November 21, 2025 ~ 6:00 p.m.
Saint Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church
706 E. Patton Avenue | Montgomery, Alabama 36111

Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Jr.
Presiding Prelate

Mrs. Deana Young McAllister
Episcopal Supervisor

Reverend Dr. Jacquelyn L. Denson
Host Presiding Elder

Reverend Dr. Agnes Lover
Host Pastor

The Opening Worship Service

Friday, November 21, 2025

6:30 p.m.

Reverend Dwight E. Dillard, Sr., Worship Leader
Presiding Elder of the Birmingham-Florence-Tuscaloosa District

PRAISE AND WORSHIP **THE PROCESSIONAL**

"Every Praise"

Every praise is to our God
Every word of worship with one accord
Every praise, Every praise
Is to our God

Sing hallelujah, to our God
Glory hallelujah is due our God
Every praise, Every praise
Is to our God

God my savior
God my healer, God my deliverer
Yes, He is, Yes, He is
God my savior
God my healer, God my deliverer
Yes, He is, Yes, He is

THE DOXOLOGY

Hymn #647 [Tune: Old 100]

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend Dr. Jacquelyn L. Denson
Presiding Elder, Montgomery-Selma District

Minister: 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 Your 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.

Minister: 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.

Minister: 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.**

Minister: 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 and sing praises.**

THE OPENING HYMN

Reverend Raymond B. Swafford
Presiding Elder, Tuskegee District

Hymn No. 21

"To God Be the Glory"

To God be the glory, great things He hath done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

THE INVOCATION

Reverend Dr. Letitia Watford
Presiding Elder, Phenix City District

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

"The Goodness of God"

And all my life You have been faithful,
And all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able,
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

THE WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

The Ninth Episcopal District
Conference Choir

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 19

Reverend Dr. Willie Eugene Marshall
Presiding Elder, Ozark-Troy District

THE EPISTLE

James 3:1-12

Reverend Antonio Thomas
Presiding Elder, Camden District

THE GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-38

Reverend Charles Lewis
Presiding Elder, Mobile District

THE PREFACE TO THE DECALOGUE

Hymn #69 [Tune: Woodworth]

"From All That Dwell"

From all that dwell below the skies, let the Creator's praise arise;
Let the Redeemer's name be sung, Through every land by every tongue.

THE DECALOGUE (SUMMARY)

Reverend Dr. Frederick D. Sherrod, III
Presiding Elder, Dothan-Eufaula District

Hear what Christ our Savior says, "You shall love the Lord Your God with all
your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great
and first commandment. The second is like unto it. You shall love your
neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments
hang all the law and the prophets."

THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.

THE MISSION OFFERING

Reverend Brian Blackwell
*Executive Director,
Department of Retirement Services
African Methodist Episcopal Church*

THE PRESENTATION OF THE BISHOP

Reverend Bruce W. Hunter
*Presiding Elder, South Birmingham-
Huntsville-Bessemer District*

THE PRESENTATION

Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Jr.

OF THE PROCLAIMER

*Presiding Prelate,
Ninth Episcopal District*

THE WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

The Ninth Episcopal District
Conference Choir

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.
*Presiding Prelate,
First Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church*

THE INVITATION TO
CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Bishop Green

THE WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

The Committee on Stewardship

THE PRESENTATION
OF THE EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR

Reverend Gloria Hall
*Presiding Elder,
West Birmingham-Ensley-
GREENSBORO DISTRICT*

THE EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR

Supervisor Deana Young McAllister

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reverend Dr. Agnes Lover

THE BENEDICTION

Bishop Green



*Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.
Presiding Prelate,*

*First Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church*

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr. discovered his calling to ministry at a young age, driven by a profound sense of purpose. As the newly appointed presiding prelate of the First Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, he oversees the Bermuda, Delaware, New England, New Jersey, New York, Western New York, and Philadelphia annual conferences. His ministry is rooted in the belief that when we put God first, He will 'Do It Again.'

From 2016 to 2024, Bishop Green led the Seventh Episcopal District of the AME Church (South Carolina) with dynamic leadership, affectionately known as "The Green Effect." He founded the Vision Center, a 218-acre Conference and Retreat Center, fulfilling a long-held dream of providing a comprehensive meeting facility for the AME Church. Bishop Green's ministry is also marked by his innovative and record-breaking conferences and events, designed to reach members of all ages and to support local churches in expanding their ministries.

Bishop Green's legacy is highlighted by his passion for expanding God's kingdom, supporting pastors and local churches, and advocating for justice and equality. He established the Dickerson-Green Theological Seminary, the first and only ATS-accredited African American seminary in South Carolina.

Elected as the 125th bishop in the history of the AME Church, Bishop Green has served faithfully across several districts. He is also the founder of God First Ministries, a platform designed to promote evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.

Despite his many achievements, Bishop Green remains focused on his mission, guided by Matthew 6:33: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."