# COLUMBIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

## The Church Is The Grand Central Station



THEME "Love in Action: Serving, Supporting, and Strengthening Our Community" March 14 -15, 2025

### African Methodist Episcopal Church The Columbia District Conference

### District Motto The Church as the Central Station

#### THEME

#### "Love in Action: Serving, Supporting, and Strengthening Our Community"

This theme highlights the church's role in providing practical help, emotional support, and spiritual encouragement to those in need. It emphasizes that faith is not just about words but about **action**, **service**, **and care** for others.

#### **Theme Scripture:**

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind." – 2 Timothy 1:7

### Turner Memorial AME Church 1122 Monticello Street West Columbia, South Carolina 29169

Bishop James Levert Davis Presiding Bishop Mother Arelis Davis Episcopal Supervisor

Reverend Rosalyn Grant Coleman Presiding Elder Ms. Jacquelyn Woods Area Consultant Reverend Kenneth Taylor Host Pastor Thursday, March 13, 2025 6:00 P.M. Budget Committee (Virtual)

Friday, March 14, 2025

6:00 P.M. Committee on Ministerial Orders

7:00 P.M. Friday Night Live Worship Focus: Tell The Story – Rev. Cole Weathers

Saturday, March 15, 2025

8:45 A.M. Praise & Worship

9:00 A.M. Business Session Committee on Ministerial Orders Budget Committee

9:30 A.M. Session One "Red, Black & Green Power" Rev. Dr. Maxine Sumpter, Facilitator

10:30 A.M. Session Two "Faith in Motion: Resources for a Thriving Community" Rev. Betty Wannamaker

11:15 A.M. Component Meetings Superintendents and CED WMS YPD Lay Organization Minister Spouses WIM MSAWWO DMC

11:45 A.M. Preparing for Worship

12:00noon The Sending Celebration

1:00 P.M. LUNCH

### Order of Worship Rev. Kenneth Taylor, Worship Leader Friday, March 14, 2025

PRAISE CELEBRATION ..... Evangelists, Exhorters, Lay Speakers

#### THE CALL TO WORSHIP: ..... Rev. Chaunte' Rogers

**Leader:** Brothers and sisters, we gather today in the spirit of love. A love that moves us beyond words, a love that compels us to serve, to support, and to strengthen our community. It is the love of Christ that calls us to action!

**Congregation:** We are here, ready to answer the call, with hearts open and hands ready to serve.

**Leader:** God's love is not passive; it is active. It calls us to lift one another, to bear each other's burdens, and to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this world.

**Congregation:** We will serve with gladness, support with strength, and strengthen with kindness.

**Leader:** Let us worship God today, not just in song, but in the actions that will strengthen this community and reflect the heart of God's love.

**All:** We are ready, Lord! Use us to be a living testimony of Your love in action. Let us worship in spirit and in truth. Amen.

THE OPENING SONG ...... Rev. Dr. Debora Scotland "There's Not a Friend"

THE INVOCATION Rev. Rodella B. Rivers
THE RESPONSE Choir & Congregation
THE SCRIPTURE
Psalm 42:1-11 Rev. Dr. Tobie Pollock 1 John 3:18-20 Rev. Theodore Green
THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC Turner Memorial AME Church Choir
THE OFFERING Revs: Bobby Cox, James Vant, Kenneth Taylor, Debora Scotland, Rodella Rivers, Tobie Pollock, Eunice Miller, Allen Etheredge
(Benevolence & General)
THE ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Teresa Clark
THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC Bethel AME Church Choir
THE MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT Revs: Cole Weathers, Marion Reeves, Ertha Bowman "Tell The Story"
THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER PE Rosalyn Coleman
THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC Bethel AME Church Choir
THE MESSAGE Rev. Bobby Cox, Jr.
THE INVITATIONAL
THE APOSTLES CREED
THE DOXOLOGY
THE BENEDICTION Rev. Cox

## **Order Of Worship** Saturday, March 15, 2025 Reverend Schrendria Robinson, Worship Leader

Praise & Worship Evangelists, Exhorters, Lay Speakers
The Doxology
The Call To Worship Rev. Deidrick Smith
The Hymn Rev. Lynda Jones Hymn #221 – How To Reach The Masses
The Prayer Rev. Gaylen Dion Richmond
The Scripture Rev. Michelle Simpkins Luke 6:46-49
The Ministry of Music Turner Memorial AME Church Choir
The Offering Finance Committee
The Announcements Rev. Kayla Eskew
The Introduction of the Messenger
The Ministry of Music Turner Memorial AME Church Choir
The Message Seawright
The Invitational Rev. Dr. Maxine Sumpter
The Sending Ceremony

**The Sending Ceremony** 

#### Scripture: The Great Commission (Matthew 28: 16-20) ...... Rev. Janie Collier Song of Surrender ...... "Lord I'm Available To You" ..... Litany for the Sending ...... Rev. Dr. Tobie Pollock

Leader: We applaud the desire of these persons to take the gospel of Christ out into the community, world and across some cultural boundaries.

#### All: We support this valuable and needed ministry.

Leader: The Lord himself has commanded us to go into all the world. "Beyond the Walls" to teach, preach and baptize in his name. THIS DAY of sending forth is a step toward fulfilling that Great Commission.

## <u>The People:</u> We will pray that they will be filled, empowered and guided by the Holy Spirit.

Leader: The people to whom they go will have many spiritual, emotional, physical and psychological needs, they will need much strength.

#### **The People:** We pray God's strength for the Journey ahead.

Leader: Whether Columbia or Cape Town; Lexington or Liberia, they have answered the call to serve. There will be many challenges on this journey, but we are led by the greatest of all shepherds.

<u>The People:</u> We support through words of encouragement, financial contribution, program participation and prayers, God's Mandate for them to go "Beyond the Walls" to fulfill the Gospel plan.

ELDER: So let us begin today as we pray this prayer together:

God, the One who reveals and calls us to teach the gospel, give us the wisdom, courage, and strength to embody evangelism. When we feel that we don't know how to share the gospel, help us see that there is grace in saying "I don't know," and that we need not be embarrassed about not knowing. Help us see that sometimes it is in the not knowing that we actually come to learn and know. Give us strength to embrace this part of what it means to be a Christian. Some of us are timid because our own faith stories are painful, difficult journeys. Yet, in the middle of these difficulties, many of us have experienced tremendous revelations. These revelations have given us peace and new ways of seeing and of being. Bless us to know and sense those moments that are opportunities. Help us know how to approach people about the gospel in empathy, that we may know what it means to walk in their shoes. Help us to be gracious with every person, never condescending, mean, frightened, or arrogant. Anoint us with the spirit of pastoral teaching. As we learn to share our story with another searching soul, we will all better come to know you and fully experience your grace. Amen.

### Litany for Commissioning

ELDER: In the Great Commission given in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus tells us to go and make disciples (Matt. 28:19). **RESPONSE: I accept the challenge to Seek** 

ELDER: In his Gospel, Mark reports that Jesus told us to go and tell the good news to everyone, everywhere (Mark 16:15). **RESPONSE: I accept the challenge to Speak** 

ELDER: Jesus tells us in the Gospel of Luke that He is sending forth the promise of God with us (Luke 24:49). **RESPONSE: I accept the challenge to go forth and Share** 

ELDER: Jesus tells us in the Gospel of John, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you to go." And, "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 15:16; 20-21). **RESPONSE: I accept the challenge to Serve** 

ELDER: Jesus Christ has promised to always be with you.

**RESPONSE:** We thank Jesus for this promise. Strengthened by the awareness of Jesus in us and working through us, we offer ourselves to God's purposes and accept this call.

ELDER: Having made this declaration, I encourage you to go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Comfort the afflicted. Be patient with all but make no peace with oppression. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Now may the blessings of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always: Let the people of God say AMEN!

#### **<u>Closing Song: "Go"</u>**

Go ye therefore and teach all nations, go, go, go Go ye therefore and teach all nations, go, go, go Baptizing them in the Name of the Father The Son and Holy Ghost, go, go, go

If you love Me, really love Me, feed My sheep If you love Me, really love Me, feed My sheep And Lo, I'll be with You forever and ever Until the end of the world, go, go, go

The Benediction