



**AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
15<sup>TH</sup> EPISCOPAL DISTRICT**

GOD OUR FATHER – CHRIST OUR REDEEMER – HOLY SPIRIT OUR COMFORTER – HUMANKIND OUR FAMILY

**NAMIBIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION**



**LAY WITNESS SERVICE**

**“LIVING A GLOBAL MINISTRY THAT TRANSFORMS,  
TRANSCENDS AND LIBERATES”**

Chair Lay Commission	:	Rt. Rev. Stafford JN Wicker, Bishop
Connectional Lay President	:	Br. Matikane Abednego Makiti
Episcopal Lay President	:	Br. Chris Mzwake Qwane
Conference Lay President	:	Br. Elwin  Gariseb
PE District Lay President	:	
Local Lay President	:	

Presiding Prelate	:	Rt. Rev. Sylvester Scott Beaman
Host Presiding Elder	:	Pastor
Host Pastor	:	



**Worship leader: CHAPLAIN: BR. AUGUST BLOODSTAAN**

**Prelude:** Organist /Musicians

**Procession:** Officers

**Doxology & Call to Worship:**

**“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.**

**The Lay Litany:**

**Leader:** The Lay organization needs bold, and forward-thinking disciples who are unafraid to grow, study, lean and stand up for what is right and just in the life of our Zion.

**People:** O Lord, gather us together as the Lay Organization, intertwine our hearts and unite us in purpose for service and action.

**Leader:** The Lay organization is dedicated to the education of the church in its entirety. It is our bounden duty to teach and to learn, to care and to share, to be accountable to authority and to take authority within the scope of the law.

**People:** O Lord help us to understand that the Lay Organization goes beyond simply being a member, it is a commitment to excellence in service.

**Leader:** The Lay Organization holds as its guiding principle a love for the history and lessons of the Church founded in a blacksmith shop and grounded in the struggle for equality for all. We know and honor denominational rituals which are steeped in the rich liturgy of our Zion.

**People:** O Lord, remind us that the Lay organization goes beyond just knowing, it is a commitment to know and tell the AME story.

**Leader:** The Lay Organisation is alive, aware and astute about the issues facing our church and our society at large. We rally against injustice, we stand up in times of need and we fight back with our vote and our voice to defend, support or advocate for those who are less fortunate or unable to do so.

**People:** The Lay organization stands as a sanctuary for all who will come beneath its wings to learn and be taught, to teach and be trained, to nurture and lead others, to be bound by and honor African Methodism and the laws, doctrine, history and legacy thereof. It is a haven for those who are not ashamed in this present generation and for generations to come.

**All:** O Lord, bless our membership and stewardship in the Lay Organization and move us from membership to discipleship in or quest for excellence in service so that we will be able to know and tell our AME story with our educated voices. We remain ever Laymen Soldiers who are strong in unity and love.

**Opening Hymn: Br. Charles L. Pieter, Episcopal 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President,**

**1** 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.

**2** We are banded one in union,  
to fulfill Thy just command.  
May we be Thy true disciples,  
holding to Thy mighty hand;  
Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love,  
Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love.

**3** As we walk this Christian journey,  
let us keep our armor bright.  
Let our words be pure and holy,  
that we stand within Thy sight.  
Laymen Soldiers, strong in unity and love,  
Laymen Soldiers, strong in unity and love.

**4** May we stand before Thine Altar,  
pledging, 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.

**The Invocation:** .....

**Prayer Response:** Sweet hour of Prayer

**Welcoming Remarks:** .....

**Ministry of Music:** Brass band and Organists

**Award:** Sr. Sarafina Petersen

**Scripture readings:** Old Testament.....  
New Testament.....  
Epistles.....

**Presentation of the Preacher:** .....

**Sermonic Hymn:** ND. 329 O.D. AMEH 267 BH

**1** I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,  
And it told Thy love to me;  
But I long to rise in the arms of faith,  
And be closer drawn to Thee.

**Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,  
To the cross where Thou hast died;  
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,  
To Thy precious, bleeding side.**

- 2 Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord,  
By the pow'r of grace divine;  
Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,  
And my will be lost in Thine.
- 3 O the pure delight of a single hour  
That before Thy throne I spend,  
When I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God,  
I commune as friend with friend!
- 4 There are depths of love that I yet may know  
Ere Thee face to face I see;  
There are heights of joy that I yet may reach  
Ere I rest in peace with Thee.

### ***The Spoken Word – Rev. Leslie Leukes***

**Worship Giving – President (NAC District Presidents)**

**Notices**                                      President and Local Pastor

## **THE LAY BENEDECTION**

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.

Amen