



# 2023 MID-YEAR MEETING

## *The Power of Prayer*

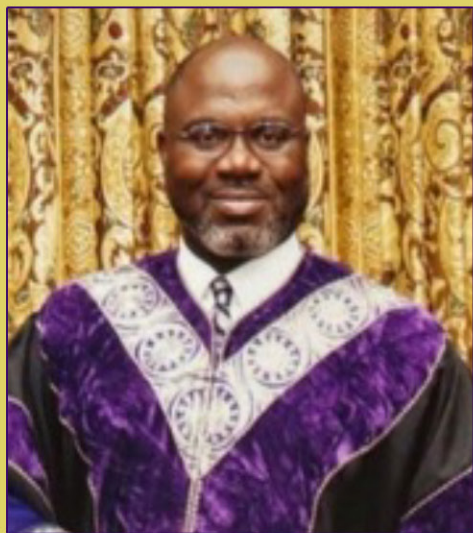
PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

THE EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE  
FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2023 · 6:30 PM

DANIEL PAYNE COMMUNITY PLAZA | 1500 DANIEL PAYNE DRIVE | BIRMINGHAM, AL 35214

*The Evening Worship Service Preacher:*

BISHOP DAVID R. DANIELS, JR.



BISHOP HARRY L. SEAWRIGHT, PRESIDING PRELATE  
REV. SHERITA MOON SEAWRIGHT, EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR

**NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT OF THE  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
2023 Mid-Year Convocation

*The Evening Worship Service*

Friday, March 31, 2023 – 6:30 p.m.

*Reverend Dr. Jacquelyn Denson, Worship Leader  
Presiding Elder of the Montgomery-Selma District*

**THE DOXOLOGY**

*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 GLORIA HALL**

*Presiding Elder, West Birmingham-Ensley-  
Greensboro District  
President, Council of Presiding Elders*

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 HYMN OF PRAISE**

**REVEREND DWIGHT E. DILLARD, SR.**  
*Presiding Elder,  
Birmingham-Florence-Tuscaloosa District*

**Hymn #91  
How Great the Wisdom**

How great the wisdom, power, and grace,  
Which in redemption shine!  
The heavenly host with joy confess  
The work is all divine.  
The work is all divine.  
The work is all divine.

Before His feet they cast their crowns,  
Those crowns which Jesus gave,  
And, with ten thousand tongues,  
Proclaim His power to save.  
Proclaim His power to save.  
Proclaim His power to save.

They tell the triumphs of His cross,  
The sufferings which He bore;  
How low He stooped, how high He rose,  
And rose to stoop no more.  
And rose to stoop no more.  
And rose to stoop no more.

O let them still their voices raise,  
And still their song renew;  
Salvation well deserves the praise  
Of men, and angels, too.  
Of men, and angels, too.  
Of men, and angels, too.  
Amen.

**THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**REVEREND CHARLES LEWIS**  
*Presiding Elder, Mobile District*

**THE CHORAL RESPONSE**

**“Let the Church Say Amen”**  
Let the church say, Amen. Let the church say, Amen.  
God has spoken, so let the church say, Amen.

**THE WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC**

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS**

THE OLD TESTAMENT  
I Kings 17:17-24

**REVEREND DR. FREDERICK D. SHERROD, III**  
*Presiding Elder, Dothan-Eufaula District*

THE EPISTLE  
Philippians 2:5-11

**REVEREND DR. LETITIA WATFORD**  
*Presiding Elder, Tuskegee District*

THE GOSPEL  
John 12:1-11

**REVEREND BRUCE HUNTER**  
*Presiding Elder, South Birmingham-  
Huntsville-Bessemer District*

**THE DECALOGUE (SUMMARY)**

**REVEREND JOHNNY RUTLEDGE**  
*Presiding Elder,  
Phenix City 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 first and great 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 WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC**

**THE PRESENTATION OF  
BISHOP HARRY L. SEAWRIGHT**

**REVEREND DR. WILLIE E. MARSHALL**  
*Presiding Elder,  
Ozark-Troy District*

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE PREACHER**

**BISHOP HARRY L. SEAWRIGHT**  
*Presiding Prelate of the  
Ninth Episcopal District*

**THE WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC**

**THE SERMON**

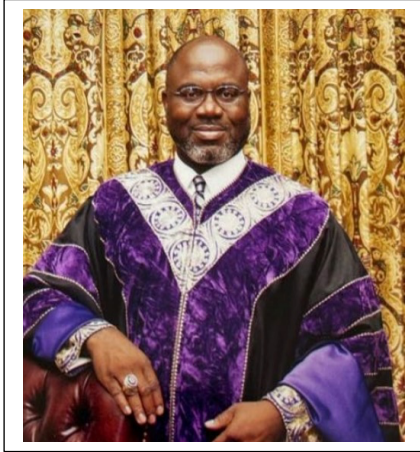
**BISHOP DAVID R. DANIELS, JR.**  
*Presiding Prelate of the  
Seventeenth Episcopal District  
of the African Methodist Episcopal Church*

**THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

**REVEREND ANTONIO THOMAS**  
*Presiding Elder,  
Camden District*

**THE BENEDICTION**





***Bishop David R. Daniels, Jr.***  
*Presiding Prelate*  
*Seventeenth Episcopal District*  
*of the African Methodist Episcopal Church*

Bishop David R. Daniels, Jr. was elected the 124th Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church on July 5, 2004, in Indianapolis, Indiana. This was a history-making event in the life of the AME Church as he was the first West African to be elected as Bishop in the AME Church. To God be the glory!

Bishop Daniels was assigned to the 17<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District on July 10, 2021 as the presiding prelate, where he and his wife, Supervisor Irene M. Daniels, Jr. are serving.

Prior to the 17<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District, Bishop Daniels was the Bishop of the 15<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District, where he was assigned in 2012. He served two terms in the 15<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District which consists of South Africa, Namibia, and Angola. Bishop Daniels has done great work in the 15<sup>th</sup>. Churches that had left the connection in 2010, through lengthy legal litigations and the grace of God, are now back in the connection.

Bishop Daniels' first assignment was in the 14<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District which includes Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ghana, Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, and Togo/Benin, where he served two terms 2004- 2008, 2008- 2012. Bishop Daniels believes that God has him where he is because God placed him where he was.

Bishop David R. Daniels, Jr. is the eighth, but oldest living child of the late Mr. David Daniels, Sr. and the late Mrs. Condami Sepa Topoe Daniels. Bishop Daniels was born on May 21, 1957, in River Cess Territory, Grand Bassa County, now River Cess County, the Republic of Liberia, West Africa, in a small village called Topoe Town. He spent his formative years in school in Liberia.

He received the call to preach in 1974 during the pastoral leadership of Rev. Dr. Fred A. Lucas, Jr., then Pastor of Eliza Turner Memorial AME Church, whom Rev. D. R. Daniels, Jr. credits as his Father in the ministry, and under the tutelage of Bishop Frank Madison Reid, Jr.

Bishop Frank Madison Reid, Jr. and his wife, Mrs. Irene B. Reid took young Daniels as their foster son and help to train him. After finishing high school and working a short period, Bishop Daniels moved to Columbia, S. C., where he earned two degrees - The Bachelor of Science Degree, Magna Cum Laude, in Business Administration from Allen University and the Master of Divinity Degree from Lutheran Theological Seminary 1985. The African Methodist Episcopal University (AMEU) in Monrovia, Liberia conferred on him the Doctor of Divinity D.D. Degree (Honorius Causa) in 2002. His Alma Mater, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary and Lenoir-Rhyne University bestowed upon him the Honorary Doctor of Divinity, (Honorius Causa) May 25, 2013, making him the first black graduate receiving this rare honor.

The life of Bishop David R. Daniels, Jr. is full of remarkable acts of love from God to him, and they are continuing to unfold. In February 1989, he was appointed as the Pastor of Eliza Turner Memorial African Methodist Church in Monrovia, Liberia. In May 1989, he founded the Christians United for Peace "CUP" organization. After the civil war broke out, Reverend David R. Daniels, Jr., founder of "CUP", Organization and the Liberian Council of Churches organized a Peace march. This march for peace on June 14, 1990, brought out over 800,000 Liberians. Bishop Daniels, one of major players, had to flee for his life and return to the United States; he stayed in the States for fifteen months. Upon Bishop John R. Bryant's second invitation, he returned to Eliza Turner and led the church from a few hundred members to over a thousand.

In 1992, he organized the now Bryant Theological Seminary, and founded the Frank M. Reid, Jr. Christian School in Monrovia. Under the dynamic Afro-centric visionary leadership of Bishop C. Garnett Henning, Sr., Bishop Daniels played an integral part in organizing AMEU in 1995. He singlehandedly was responsible for securing the Charter of AME University in February 1996. Sadly again, however, in April 1996, because of his stance against the civil war, and threats on his life, he and his family were airlifted to Dakar, Senegal and then, on to the United States. His ministry and faith never waned.

Before his election in July 2004 and return to Liberia as Bishop, he was the Pastor of Turner Memorial AME Church in West Columbia, S. C. The struggling church was deep in debt, and their new pastor, Rev. Daniels organized a "Sacrificial Giving", initiative which got the church out of debt. They were debt free within 16 months. He, then, organized and established the Turner Child Development Center.

In fulfilling his "Call to Make a Positive Difference," some of his major accomplishments in the 14th Episcopal as the Bishop are highlighted:

- 2005 Supervisor Irene M. Daniels' vision and encouragement - - Bishop Daniels and his wife funded scholarships for ministers and their spouses to earn their degrees.
- 2005 - The Episcopal District Headquarters Complex was renovated.
- 2006 - The Episcopal Residence was built, the first since the 1960s.
- As Chair of the Board of Trustees of AMEU with its 212 employees and 3,400 students, in 2006.
- Bishop Daniels completed the Hatcher-Henning-Norris Learning Resources Center - a six story structure made possible with a million-dollar grant from USAID.
- 2006 - Bishop Daniels' endowment vision for AMEU became a reality when Bishop John Hurst Adams and Dr. Dolly D. Adams gave the initial \$25,000, which today is more than \$400,000 of a million-dollar goal.
- Topoe Town School of Excellence, in Bishop Daniels' home village, which has a capacity of 500 to 1000 students with four large buildings with 13 classrooms for Pre-K through 12th Grade.
- November 2009 -- The grand opening of the all-new F. M. Reid Christian School built by Eliza Turner Memorial AME Church was dedicated. Susan Brooks AME Church, Irene B. Reid AME Church and other churches are building schools for the children of Liberia.
- 2010 - The Bryant-Adams-Manning Library, a 3-story, 27,000 square feet structure, was completed and is debt free. Plans are under way for a seven story multi-purpose building.
- May 2010 -- As a result of Bishop Daniels' distinction throughout African Methodism, he was voted President of the Liberia Council of Churches (LCC) and President of the Interreligious Council of Liberia.
- In Kumasi, Ghana, Bishop Daniels has started another AME College. At the Annual Conference in Sierra Leone in February 2011, the people started visualizing with Bishop Daniels a new university for the future of the children of Sierra Leone.

- In March 12, Bishop Daniels provided funds and leadership for the AMEC in Sierra Leone to become economically empowered. They completed the 1st. floor and rented it out to provide funding for the completion of the four-story building. This four-story business center will provide income for the Sierra Leone Annual Conference to help build more churches and provide job opportunities for the members.

Bishop David Rwhynica Daniels, Jr. and Supervisor Irene Moifoi Daniels were assigned to the 15th Episcopal District as the Episcopal Team. They arrived running and making sure the 15th Episcopal takes its rightful place in AME Church connection. Under their dynamic leadership the 15th Episcopal District purchased a one-million-dollar Episcopal Residence in the Constantia, Cape Town, South Africa in 2013. The 15th Episcopal District is now paying their own connectional budget.

Bishop Daniels and the wonderful people of the 15th Episcopal District have worked restlessly to gain all the AME Churches that left the AME Church during the 2010 hostilities. Over 50 new churches were planted and many of them are growing very rapidly. The 15th Episcopal District has fully embraced the Church growth “Vision” of the Daniels Episcopal Team.

Under the Daniels’ spiritual dynamic leadership, the 17<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District is united and experiencing peace. Bishop and Supervisor Irene Moifoi Daniels organized the “Death Burial Insurance for all pastors in 5 Conferences in Zambia. All the pastors and their families are insured.

Bishop Daniels is married to Irene Moifoi Daniels, and they are the proud and loving parents of three daughters, Danica Rwysayma, Davida Renee and Iesha Mardea. His “Call to the ministry” began in 1974 in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa, and this Liberia’s native son returned home in 2004 as “Bishop” David Rwhynica Daniels, Jr. – God has him where he is because he started him where he was Liberia, West Africa.

