



**9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District**  
**African Methodist Episcopal Church**  
**Sons of Allen**

**Men of Valor Virtual Worship Service**

**October 10, 2020**

**Robert L. Turner, Co-Coordinator**

**Terry L. Jones, Sr., Co-Coordinator**

**Bishop Harry L. Seawright, Presiding Prelate**



**Theme: During Injustice, It's time to pray!**

**Scripture: Ecclesiastes 5:8 If you see in a province the oppression of the poor and the violation of justice and righteousness, do not be amazed at the matter, for the high official is watched by a higher, and there are yet higher ones over them. ESV**

**Greetings, “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all things shall be added unto you.” Matthew 6:33. It is with great joy and excitement that Brother Terry Jones Sr. and I extend greetings to all as we celebrate another year of work through the ministry of God known as the Sons of Allen. In the words of the famed author, Charles Dickens in his Tale of Two Cities, he states; ‘these are the best of times and these are the worst of times’. Yes, it is the best of times because we know, despite the numerous problems that may exist all around us, God is still in charge and he is indeed still blessing us daily, but my brothers and sisters, these are also some of the worst of times if we choose to sit back and do nothing to improve this world in which we live. We will not attempt to list all of the atrocities of the world, but we have the assurance that regardless of the situations that exist all around us, God has not given us the spirit of fear. God is calling for strong, bold brothers and sisters to work to make this world a better place. We must renew our faith and trust in God, rely upon the strength that He has given to each of us and accept the duty that we as Christians must undertake if we are to succeed in this fight. Remember, the only hands God has are our hands. We must rise up to the challenge to make this world a better place to live in our lifetime. May God bless us.**

**Brothers Robert L. Turner and Terry L. Jones Sr., Coordinators of the Ninth Episcopal District Sons of Allen**

**Alabama River Region  
Annual Conference  
Montgomery-Selma District**

**Presiding Elder Jacquelyn L. Denson  
District Coordinator Kenneth Strong**

Gregory Palmer is the first born of six to Mrs. Thelma M. Palmer and the late Mr. Granger Palmer. Greg is a native of Autaugaville, Alabama, Autauga county. He was educated in the Autauga county public school system. After graduating in 1979, he studied business administration at Auburn university in Montgomery and later Troy University at Montgomery. Greg served his country in the United states Air Force Reserve for eight years at Maxwell AFB, AL in the 908th tactical airlift group/25 mobile Ariel port squadron. This journey would take him to several stateside and overseas areas. Greg is retired from Rheem water heaters Division as a customer service Professional.



Greg is a member of the Greater Saint Joseph AME church and considers himself a career officer who loves to serve. He has served on both the steward and trustee boards, all choirs, and President of the Usher board. He currently serves on the Steward board, male chorus, Sunday school teacher, local lay organization and Director of Christian Education. Even though he is single, he is a family man who spends quality time with family, friends and God-children. He also loves to travel, cook and entertain.

Samuel Maddox Caver born April 12, 2007. He's an only child being raised by his Mom, Tiffany Caver, his aunt, Melinda Mims and his grandmother, Brenda Mims. Samuel is a very intelligent young man. He's a member of the Junior Beta Club and Prattville Junior High Football team. He made the AB honor roll for 2019-2020 school year. He loves Sports with his favorite being football, and he most definitely loves his video games. His favorite subjects are Science and Social Studies...He plans on being an engineer when he grows up.



**Northwest Alabama**

**Annual Conference**

**Birmingham-Florence-Tuscaloosa District**

**Presiding Elder Dwight E. Dillard**

**District Coordinator Jeremy Joseph**

Benny Will Hardin, a Bessemer, Alabama native, is the youngest of four children born to the late Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Ada Hardin. He is the father of two daughters and the grandfather of six. He attended the Dunbar Elementary School and J. S. Abrams High School, graduating in the class of 1970. He grew up in the Jerusalem Baptist Church (Bessemer, Alabama) and attended there, before becoming a member of the Ward Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, (1989) under the pastorate of the late Reverend H. W. Anthony; where he served as a Steward and a member of the Pastor's Aid Board.



He later moved to Birmingham and then became a member of the St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church (downtown). At St. John AMEC, he currently serves as a Steward and a member of the Sons of Allen. He was employed by Alabama Power Company for thirty-nine years, retiring in 2013. He currently serves on the Ninth Episcopal District "Transportation Team". However, during the pandemic, he spends time collecting and delivering food/vegetable boxes to needy and shut-in families. His favorite song is "Touch Me, Lord", Favorite Bible Verse is Proverbs 3:5-6.



I am Isaiah Roberts of Saint John AME Church in Birmingham, Alabama, and I serve as a Co-Teacher for the Teen and Children's Church. Growing up in the church, not growing up in the spirit, surely led me to where I am today. God's grace kept me, those years in which I was not walking in his ways. Thus now, and for many years now, God has set me on the right path. Though not easy, with various trials and tribulations along the way. But which has ultimately strengthened me, trying to be all that God has called me to be. I am currently a Screen Writer, where I plan to use my creations to reach out to many, to show the truth. Outside of Screenwriting, I love teaching Teens/Young Adults about God, in hopes to save or bring them from darkness, and into the light. That they not need to take the path I took, where acceptance was King. I am grateful for this nomination and will continue to serve the Lord.

"The Lord God is my rock, He is the hope of my salvation. My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand."



**Northwest Alabama  
Annual Conference  
South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer  
District**

**Presiding Elder Bruce W. Hunter  
District Coordinator Frank Dubose**

Thomas E. Jackson is a product of Jefferson County, whose roots are in Bessemer, Alabama. Tom, a “Tuskegee Man” graduated from Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University) with a full ride band scholarship, majoring in Business Administration. The youngest son of an A.M.E. Pastor, the late Reverend J. L. Jackson, he developed a passion for church and community. His passion benefited him tremendously throughout his professional career. His passion of church and community development resulted in being chosen to implement the first Minority Outreach Program with Southtrust Bank. He was lead Banker in arranging a loan for \$380,000 to Daniel Payne College to payoff the College’s mortgage. During the early 1990’s, he was promoted to Group Vice President for the Corporate side overseeing the loan portfolio for church lending throughout the Southeastern United States. Tom is thankful for the opportunity to work with the 9th District AME Church as Chairman of the Capital Campaign Program. He is responsible, in part, for fundraising and revenue producing strategies... which will result in the long-term financial stability of the Campus. He serves on the board of trustees for the Daniel Payne Legacy Village Foundation. He proudly serves on the Steward Board of Allen Temple A.M.E. Church, Bessemer, Alabama. His hobbies are gardening, collecting art and playing the trumpet. Tom and his wife Annese reside in Hoover, Alabama. They have three adult children and one grandchild.



Jamar Lovett Knight is a member of Handy Chapel AME Church located in Gadsden, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Betty Robinson, pastor. Jamar loves the Lord and people. He is the young adult Sunday school teacher, serves on the Evangelist team, musician, RAYAC and Sons of Allen.

He studied at Gadsden State Community College, went to Gadsden City high school. He is the husband of Lu'Mae Shoropshire Knight, father of Zariah Knight and the son of Mashika Robinson Minter, Gregory Knight, Jr. and Darrell Minter, oldest brother and mentor of Derence, Daquan and Chasity.

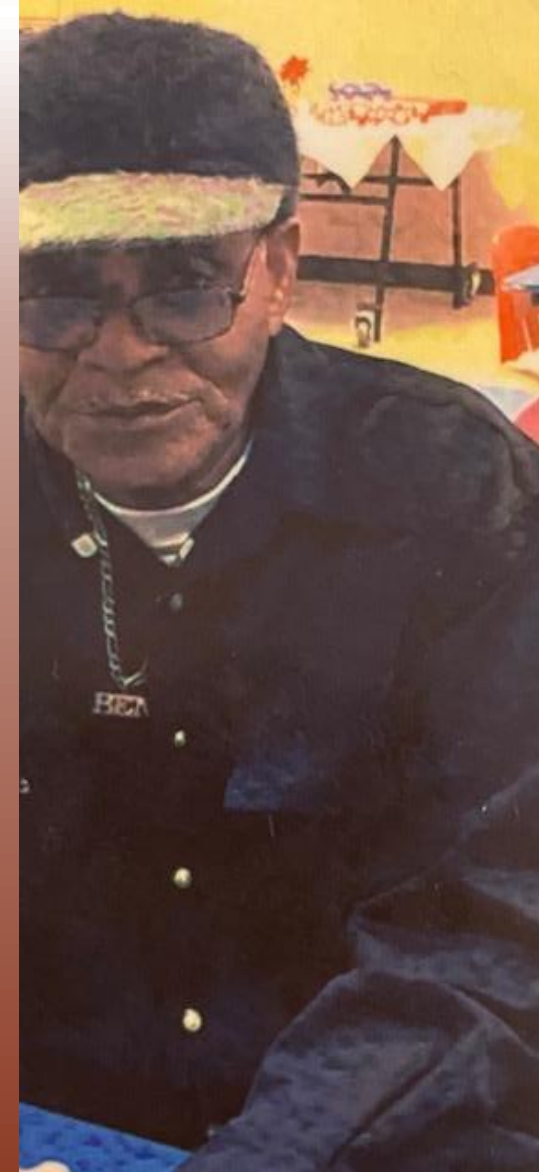
Jamar is a license certified HVAC Tech in the state of Alabama, employed by JSU as a HVAC Technician in Jacksonville, Alabama. Jamar is a hardworking, faithful and committed individual who's passionate about helping those in need.



**Northwest Alabama**  
**West Birmingham-Ensley-Greensboro**  
**District**

**Presiding Elder Gloria Hall**  
**District Coordinator Ben E. Colston**

Mr. Ben Colston is certainly no stranger to our Great Zion the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a true servant. He served and protected our country for over 20 years in the U.S. Army. After retiring from the Army, he returned home to continue serving in the church (Lee Chapel AMEC). He serves as Treasurer, Sunday School Superintendent, and Steward ProTem. His servanthood is not limited to Lee Chapel AMEC. He also serves the Edgewater Community where he lives. He is the President of the Board of Directors of the Edgewater Neighborhood Association and the Director of the Senior Citizen Building. In his love for Christ and others, every Wednesday of the month he is out in the community delivering meals to senior citizens through the Meals on Wheels program. He is never too busy for the youth of the community; he can often be found counseling and providing jobs for them. He opens the designated storm shelter for the Edgewater Community during tornadic weather so that those without shelter can have a safe place from storms. He is a devoted family man and the greatest joy of his life is being married to his wife Pat and serving Christ who gives him the strength and fortitude to do all things.



William Zachary Hamilton, who likes to be called Zack, is a fifth generation AME. Zack has served faithfully as a junior steward and discharges his duty faithfully under the supervision of the Steward Board. He has proven himself to be trustworthy. He serves on the finance committee and pays attention to details and carefully follows all instructions given him. Outside of Lee Chapel, he is a leader also. He is a Junior at Clay Chalkville High School and is a member of the Cougar Marching Band. He is the Assistant Section Leader for the trumpet section. He is compassionate and shows his love for the sick and elderly of our community. He has a grandfather who is paralyzed from a stroke, and Zack never fails in helping to comfort him without being asked. With young men like Zack there is no doubt that the future of our Great Zion will be in capable hands.



**Southeast Alabama  
Annual Conference  
Ozark Troy District**

**Presiding Elder Dr. Willie Eugene Marshall  
District Coordinator Ricky Britt**



Daren Demetrius Wilson, is 54 years young, a proud member of Saint Paul A.M.E. Church in Ozark AL. He says he is very blessed and humbled to be a member of the steward board, currently serving as steward pro-tem. He is also very active in several other roles of the church: Sunday School Assistant Superintendent, President of the Courtney Jenkins Combined Choir, member of the Saint Paul Male Choir, member of the Lay Organization, and the Treasurer of the Finance Committee. He is always very eager to help and assist in any way possible at all levels of the Church.



Jacob Leonard attends St. Paul A.M.E Church Ozark, AL. He is a 2020 graduate of Carroll High School in Ozark, AL. He is attending Troy University-Dothan Campus. He attended Outstanding Children of Praise a community service representing his local church. He does community projects for the Lay Organization such as delivering boxes of food to the sick and shut in, and the elderly that are in need during this pandemic period. He is the assistant secretary of the Sunday School, the local YPD President, an usher, and a member of the youth choir. He helps around the church when and where needed, such as serving in the kitchen and outside for fundraisers for YPD, Pastor Aid Committee, the kitchen committee, Lay Organization and the Missionary Society. He is very active in his church community.



**Southeast Alabama  
Annual Conference  
Dothan Eufaula District**

**Presiding Elder Frederick D. Sherrod  
District Coordinator Anthony Cook**

Adolphus Thompson is a very dedicated Christian worker and is the Historic St. Luke A.M.E. Church Stewart Pro Temp and Finance Secretary. Bro. Adolphus Thompson is also the Sunday School Assistant Superintendent. He also works diligently in the Eufaula community. He is very active in the Dothan Eufaula District, Southeast Alabama Conference and 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District. God is truly the head of Brother Adolphus Thompson's life, and is blessing him.



Keeyon Stovall is a 2015 graduate of Emmanuel Christian School. Keeyon is a clinical supervisor at Southeast Health in the behavioral medicine unit. In 2013, Keeyon was selected as the Genteel Beaux by the Les Vingt Socialete Club and attended Alabama A&M University. A member of Parks Chapel, Keeyon manages the sound board, participates in the Y.P.D., sings in the choir, and serves as an usher. He also serves at other levels of our connected Church. When asked his favorite bible verse, Keeyon exclaims Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength."



**Northeast Alabama  
Annual Conference  
Phenix City District**

**Presiding Elder Johnny Rutledge  
District Coordinator Steve Phillips**

Brother James Geddis was born in the state of Georgia and was reared by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Geddis. Brother Geddis is a graduate of Carver High School, Columbus, Georgia. He served in the United States Army in many units where he was an instructor, leadership position, trainer. Brother Geddis also served in Vietnam. He is a veteran, retired from the Army. He is a member of Canaan African Methodist Episcopal Church, Crawford, Alabama. Brother James Geddis is married to Mrs. Sandra and has several children.



Jamias Presley is the 20-year-old son of James and LeKeisha Presley. He was baptized as a toddler and confessed Christ at Mt. Moriah AME Church when he was 16 years old. Jamias serves diligently under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Jo Ann Sumbry. As a member of Mt. Moriah AME Church, he has served in the following capacities: Junior Trustee, Assistant Sunday School Secretary, YPD, Usher, and Youth Choir. He was the NEAC Sons of Allen recipient for Mt. Moriah AMEC in 2017.

He is a well-rounded child of God. He is honored to represent Mt. Moriah AME Church, Cottonton, AL, Phenix City District as the Ninth Episcopal District, Sons of Allen male under 30.

He is a 2018 graduate of Opelika High School. He was also a dual enrollment student at Southern Union Community College. He received an Advanced High School Diploma with Honors maintaining a 3.75+ GPA throughout high school. He is currently a Junior student athlete at Jacksonville State University majoring in Exercise Science and Wellness with hopes of becoming a Physical Therapist. He is a redshirt sophomore on the Jacksonville Gamecocks football team. While at JSU, he has been on the President's and Dean's List and named to the Ohio Valley Conference Commissioner's Honor Roll.





**Northeast Alabama  
Annual Conference  
Tuskegee District**

**Presiding Elder Letitia W. Watford  
District Coordinator Robert L. Turner**

Bro. Willie Washington was born in Russell County, AL; the son of Ulysses and Heather Washington. He is a graduate of Russell County High School. A long time member of St. John AME Church (Wende), he serves as the Church School Superintendent, Steward and Trustee. Willie has also served the Sons of Allen on the PE District and Conference Levels. He also served as Historiographer and Chaplain for eight years for the Lay Org at Conference level.



My name is Elijah McCray and I am a Christian. I am fifteen years old and I am a tenth- grade student at Booker T. Washington High School located in Tuskegee, Alabama. I was born April 16, 2005 in Montgomery, Alabama. My mother is an educator and my father is a truck driver. I am an honor roll student with a grade point average of 3.83.

In school, my goal is to maintain a grade point average of 3.7 or above. This year, I am unsure of the courses I will take due to the Corona Virus but, my goal is to take advance courses and enroll in classes for Dual Enrollment. Although the pandemic has altered all of our lives, my goal is to continue to academic success. Some extracurricular activities in which I have participated are the following: Verizon Innovative Learning Camp, ACT prep camp, and Agriculture camp directed by Dr. Anthony Kumi.

I have taken courses to enhance my ability and knowledge of technology. Some of the technology courses I have enrolled in during the summer are: Decoding, Microsoft Excel, and 3D Printing. I am a member of Future Business Leaders of America Club. I am also a member of the Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources And Related Sciences program. I am a member at Washington Chapel A.M.E Church in Tuskegee, Alabama. At church, I am a member of the usher board and youth choir. I have been a member of The National Honor Society for four years and I plan to continue until I complete all of my academic endeavors.

In the future, I would like to graduate high school with a 4.0 grade point average. After high school, I would like to attend Florida A&M University majoring in biology. I would also like to graduate college with a bachelors, masters, and doctorate degree. After completing all of my academic achievements my goal is to become a dentist. My plan is to own at least three dentist offices. I would love to see people smile and proud to have a beautiful smile. I believe I will achieve all of my academic goals because God has my back. He hears my prayers and I talk to God every day of my life. My relationship with God keeps me grounded and focused on my current and future goals. I know that God will prevail and as long as I continue to put God first, I will prevail.



**Southwest Alabama  
Annual Conference  
Mobile District**

**Presiding Elder Johnnie Bryant  
District Coordinator Rev. Keith Robinson**

Brother Emerson Robinson Jr. is a dedicated and life long member of St. John AME Church of Kushla, AL, where the Rev. Benjamin Lightner is Pastor. Brother Robinson has served in many capacities of the church, including Steward and Trustee. He is a member of the choir. He is active in the Sons of Allen and the Lay Organization where he recently served at Chaplain for the Mobile District Lay Org. He was also the first captain of color of a tugboat at Warren Gulf. He loves the Church and loves to pray.



Nicholas Elijah Knight was born March 11, 1999. He is the son of Sister Patricia Evans. He is the grandson of Beatrice Burns and the late Wille Burns, Sr. He is the nephew of Reverend Wille Burns, Jr. Nicholas is currently a Senior at the University of Mobile where his major is Government and Law, and his minor is Theological Studies. Nicholas currently serves as the Supply Pastor of Roberts Chapel A.M.E Church, McIntosh, AL. Nicholas is a wonderful leader in the community of McIntosh. Nicholas is the volunteer Ministry Leader with FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) and he established the very first FCA huddle at McIntosh High School. Nicholas' favorite scripture is Matthew Chapter 19 verse 26, and it states, "But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."" Nicholas is a God fearing, Bible reading, word working, and Holy Ghost filled young man of God.



**Southwest Alabama  
Annual Conference  
Camden District**

**Presiding Elder Charles Lewis**

**District Coordinator Rev. Ladarrell Thames**

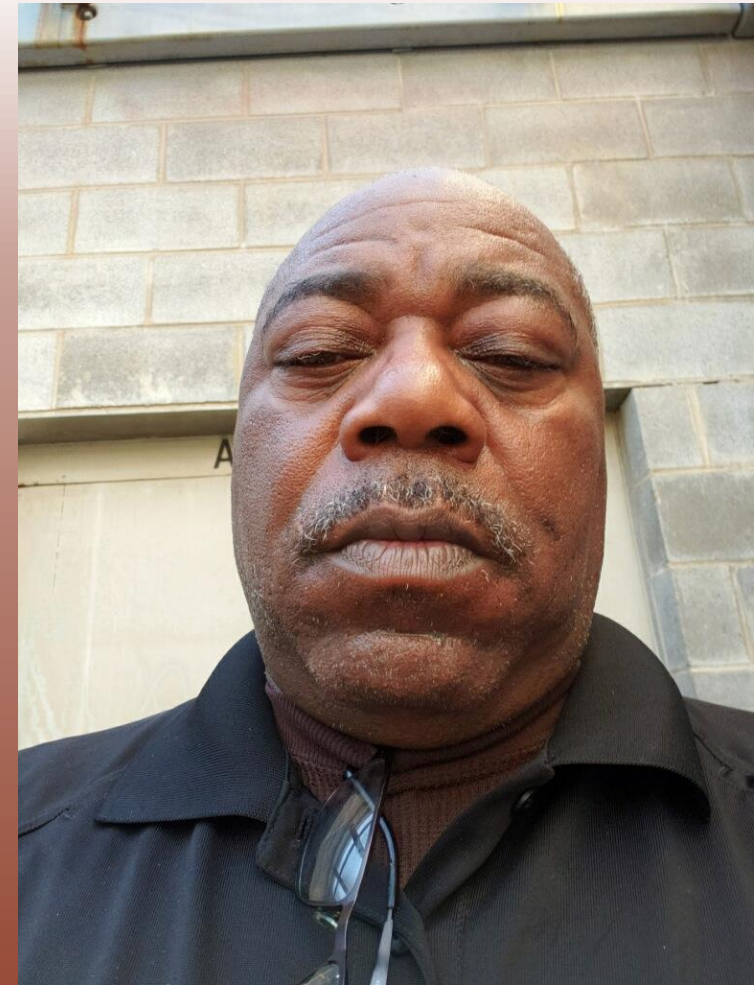
Keith McRae, is 56 years old. He's a loving husband and father of three great children, and a loving grandfather.

Keith is a hard working man, and he is currently employed by AirTec Construction.

He serves as President of the Sons of Allen and on the Trustee Board at Spencer Chapel AME Church, Fulton, AL.

He is a member of Men Making a Difference, Fulton, AL.

He is also a very active member of the Fulton – Dickinson community where he is called on to do whatever is needed.





Caleb Witherspoon is an 18-year-old member of Spencer Chapel A.M.E Church in Mobile, AL and works on the Usher Board.

He attended Thomasville High School in Thomasville, Alabama where his school activities were: Varsity Football, Varsity Wrestling, Varsity Golf, President of Leo Club, and Member of Thomasville Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors.

He is currently enrolled in college at the University of West Alabama in Livingston, Alabama, and working on a Certified B.S. in Athletic Training.



# Conference Coordinators

***The Alabama River Region Conference Sons of Allen Coordinator: Rev. John Campbell***

***The Northeast Alabama Conference Sons of Allen Coordinator: Brother Robert L. Turner***

***The Northwest Alabama Conference Sons of Allen Coordinator: Brother Jeremy Joseph***

***The Southeast Alabama Conference Sons of Allen Coordinator: Brother Franklin Simmons***

***The Southwest Alabama Conference Sons of Allen Coordinator: Brother Terry L. Jones Sr.***

The member of the 9<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church Sons of Allen **THANK** you for sharing in this celebration of our Men of Valor from each Presiding Elder's District. We especially thank Bishop Harry L. Seawright for blessing us with a message from the Lord. We look forward to working in the vineyard at our local churches and beyond. Please help us with our ministry as we help you with yours. Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow!