

**Northwest Sons of Allen Conference  
Conference Packet**

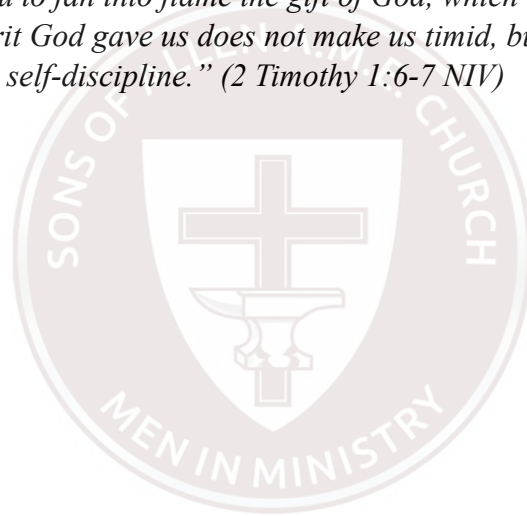
**January 25th, 2025**  
**St. Luke AME Church - Fultondale**  
*3112 New Castle Road*  
*Birmingham, Alabama 35217*  
*10:00 am - 1:00 pm CST*

*Theme*

*“Igniting Faith, Empowering Legacy”*

**Scripture:**

*“For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline.” (2 Timothy 1:6-7 NIV)*



*Birmingham-Florence-Tuscaloosa District Coordinator, Bro. Jeremy Joseph*

*West Birmingham-Ensley-Greensboro Coordinator, Bro. Ben Colston*

*South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer Coordinator, Bro. Frank Dubose*

*Northwest Conference Coordinator, Bro. Jeremy B. Joseph*

*9th Episcopal District Coordinators,*

*Brother Terry Jones and Brother Robert Turner*

*Host Pastor, Rev. Devonta Anderson*

*Birmingham-Florence-Tuscaloosa District Presiding Elder, The Rev. Dwight Dillard*

*West Birmingham-Ensley-Greensboro District Presiding Elder, The Rev. Gloria Hall,*

*South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer District Presiding Elder, The Rev. Bruce Hunter*

*9th Episcopal District Supervisor, Sis. Deana Young McAllister*

*Presiding Prelate 9th Episcopal District, The Right Reverend Julius McAllister Jr.*

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**Sons of Allen Business Meeting Agenda  
January 25, 2025**

**1. Call to Order**

- Presiding officer opens the meeting

**2. Opening Devotion**

- **Prayer**
- **Scripture Reading**

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

- Motion to approve the proposed agenda

**4. Appointment of Temporary Recording Secretary**

- Bro. Bill Graves

**5. Appointment of Nominating Committee Chair and Nominating Committee** (No less than three (3) and No more than five members (5)) only those who do not want to hold elected office should serve on the nominating committee

- Bro. Hodges Washington (Chair)

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- Announcement by chair for the upcoming election (April 5, 2025)

**5. Election of Interim Officers and Board Directors (until April 5th, 2025)**

- Offices to be filled suggestions:
  - **President:** Bro. Jeremy Joseph
  - **Vice President:** Rev. Kerry Braudus
  - **Corresponding Secretary:** Rev. Devonte Anderson
  - **Recording Secretary:** Bro. Bill Graves
  - **Treasurer:** Bro. Rodney Davidson

**6. Review and/or Approval of Governance Documents**

- **Articles of Incorporation (501c3) Northwest Sons of Allen**  
*Approval of Articles of Incorporation*

- **Connectional Sons of Allen Constitution**

*Review*

- **The Appointment of the Constitution and Bylaws Chair and Committee Members** (No less than three (3) and No more than five members (5))

- Rev. Steve Brown, Chair

- Bro. Simpson Berry

- Bro. James Bonner

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- **Northwest Conference Sons of Allen Constitution (1st Draft, Based on Connectional Constitution)**

- **The Appointment of the Budget and Finance Chair and Committee Members** (No less than three (3) and No more than five members (5))

- **Bro. Rodney Davidson**

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(Initial Setup of CashApp, tracking expenses and implementing Internal Controls)

## **8. Men of Valor Conference Registration**

- Discussion and updates on registration process

Registration for Youth (18 years old or younger) is Free

Hotel Information

- Northwest Conference Registration Handout review

- The election of three (3) delegates to the Men of Valor Conference

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○ Theoretically, each presiding elder district is to send two delegates and the Northwest conference is to send three with a total of nine (9) representatives.

### **9. Calendar Review**

○ Review and finalize upcoming events and key dates.

### **10. Mini Workshops**

○ **How to Start a Sons of Allen Unit**

○ **Sons of Allen Programming**

### **11. Announcements**

### **11. Closing Prayer**

**12. Sons of Allen Benediction** - *May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; the Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and the God of our founder, Richard Allen, bless, strengthen and empower us to serve the present age as Christian men empowered by the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

### **12. Adjournment**

# ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

## NORTHWEST CONFERENCE SONS OF ALLEN

### Article I: Name

The name of the corporation is **Northwest Conference Sons of Allen**.

### Article II: Principal Office

The principal office of the corporation is located at:

1500 Daniel Payne Dr.  
Birmingham, Alabama 35214

### Article III: Purpose

This corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and/or scientific purposes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The specific purpose of the Northwest Conference Sons of Allen is to:

- Lead men to an acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- Organize men into units at the local church, presiding elder district, and Annual Conference levels.
- Empower men to meet needs in Evangelism, Stewardship, and Christian living.
- Teach men the history, doctrine, and polity of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, with a focus on the life and mission of Richard Allen.
- Encourage and support outreach, youth ministries, and community service.

The Corporation operates specifically at the **Conference, Presiding Elder District, and Local Unit levels** of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Corporation shall not engage in activities that do not further these exempt purposes.

### Article IV: Membership

Membership is open to all men in the congregations and communities of African Methodist Episcopal Churches within the Ninth Episcopal District's Northwest Conference as defined by the 2021 edition of the Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

#### Organizational Levels of Membership:

1. **Local Unit:** Established in each African Methodist Episcopal Church.
2. **Presiding Elder District Chapter:** Organized across local church units under the leadership of a presiding elder.

3. **Annual Conference Organization:** Coordinating presiding elder chapters within the Northwest Conference.

**Article V: Board of Directors**

**Section 1. Composition**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the following individuals, each of whom shall serve as a director:

<b>Position</b>
President
Vice President
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer

**Section 2. Authority**

The Board of Directors shall govern and manage the affairs of the Corporation in accordance with its mission and Bylaws.

**Section 3. Terms of Service**

Directors shall serve for a term of four (4) years and may be reelected.

**Article VI: Dissolution**

Upon dissolution of the Corporation, any remaining assets shall be distributed to further charitable and religious purposes consistent with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

# BYLAWS

## OF

### NORTHWEST CONFERENCE SONS OF ALLEN

#### ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

##### Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be the **Northwest Conference Sons of Allen**.

##### Section 2. Purpose

The purpose of the Corporation shall be to:

- Promote Christian leadership and service among men in the Northwest Conference.
- Support programs and ministries at the Local Unit, Presiding Elder District, and Annual Conference levels.

#### ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

##### Section 1. Eligibility

Membership is open to all men in the congregations and communities of African Methodist Episcopal Churches within the Northwest Conference.

##### Section 2. Organizational Levels

1. **Local Unit:** A group established in each African Methodist Episcopal Church.
2. **Presiding Elder District Chapter:** A Chapter encompassing local units under the direction of the presiding elder.
3. **Annual Conference:** The organization overseeing presiding elder district chapters in the Northwest Conference.

#### ARTICLE III: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

##### Section 1. Members

The Board of Directors for the Corporation shall be:

Position
President (Chairman of the Board)
Vice President
Recording Secretary



Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer

**Section 2. Duties of the Board**

- Oversee the operations and programs of the Corporation.
- Approve policies, budgets, and major decisions.
- Ensure adherence to the Corporation’s mission and legal compliance.

**ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

**Section 1. Officers by Level**

- **Local Unit:** President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer.
- **Presiding Elder District Chapter:** President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer.
- **Annual Conference:** President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer.

**Section 2. Election and Term**

- Officers shall be elected for four-year terms at their respective levels.
- Vacancies may be filled by appointment or special election as provided by the Board of Directors.

**Section 3. Duties of Officers**

- **President:** Leads meetings and oversees organizational activities.
- **Vice President:** Assists the President and serves in his absence.
- **Recording Secretary:** Maintains meeting minutes and records.
- **Corresponding Secretary:** Handles official communications for an organization
- **Treasurer:** Manages finances and prepares financial reports.

**ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 1. Composition**

The Executive Committee at each level shall include the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

**Section 2. Responsibilities**

- Oversee programs and activities between meetings.
- Coordinate events and ensure alignment with organizational objectives.
- Manage finances and approve budgets.

## **ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS**

### **Section 1. Regular Meetings**

- Local Units: Monthly meetings to plan and review activities.
- Presiding Elder District Chapters: Quarterly meetings to coordinate between units.
- Annual Conference: An Annual Meeting to review progress and set goals.

### **Section 2. Special Meetings**

Special meetings may be called by the President or Executive Committee at any level.

### **Section 3. Quorum**

A quorum shall consist of a majority of members present and voting at any regular or special meeting.

## **ARTICLE VII: FINANCES**

### **Section 1. Fiscal Responsibility**

- The Treasurer shall manage funds at each level.
- Financial records shall be maintained and subject to an annual review.

### **Section 2. Budget Approval**

The Executive Committee at each level shall approve annual budgets.

## **ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present and voting at any regular meeting, provided notice of the proposed amendment is given at least 30 days in advance.

## **ARTICLE IX: DISSOLUTION**

Upon dissolution, all remaining assets shall be distributed for charitable purposes consistent with the organization's mission and Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

## **CERTIFICATION**

These Bylaws were adopted by the Northwest Conference Sons of Allen on the 25th day of January, 2025.

**Jeremy Bernard Joseph**  
President

**Bill Graves**  
Secretary

## SONS OF ALLEN: THE CONNECTIONAL MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

### **PREAMBLE**

To create a ministry for men, both clergy and lay, which will seek to address the needs for distinctive ministries to men, who are faced with spiritual, social, political and psychological challenges, to equip men to follow the example of Andrew (St John 1: 41-42) who brought Peter to Jesus; to encourage men to emulate the resolute and redemptive spirit of Richard Allen, our revered, ancestral patriarch who in negotiating for his freedom with slave master Stokely Sturgis, negotiated freedom for his unnamed brother as well; to encourage men to implement ministries modeled by our founder, Richard Allen as he sought to meet needs in his community, the following Constitution is hereby adopted:

### **CONSTITUTION**

#### **ARTICLE I – NAME**

There shall be an organization called the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

This organization shall be answerable to the Commission of Christian Education of the AME Church. It shall be accountable to the General Board and shall report and interpret its activities to the Board.

#### **ARTICLE II – THE PURPOSE**

- The purpose of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall be:
- a. to lead men to an acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
  - b. to organize men into units and empower them to meet men's needs in such areas as Evangelism and Stewardship.
  - c. to teach the men of our denomination the history, doctrine and polity of our denomination with focus on the life, mission and ministry of our ancestral father, Richard Allen.
  - d. to teach the men to witness their faith in daily living, such as in the workplace, the community, and the home.
  - e. to encourage men to engage in outreach and service as a part of Christian servanthood.
  - f. to seek resources and support of men as husbands and fathers.
  - g. to empower men to serve as role models to young men and to develop youth ministries such as scouting ministries, in local units.
  - h. to encourage men to share in ecumenical relations.

#### **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall consist of all men in the congregations and communities. A unit of the Sons of Allen shall be established in each African Methodist Episcopal Church, presiding elder district, Annual Conference, and episcopal district, and shall be organized in accordance with this Constitution.

The organization in the local church shall be known as a unit; in the presiding elder district, it shall be known as a Chapter; on the Annual Conference level, it shall be known as a Conference; and on the episcopal district level, it shall be known as a District.

Each unit shall elect annually a delegate to the Annual meeting of the Chapter; each Chapter shall elect two (2) delegates to the Annual meeting of the Conference; each Conference shall elect annually three (3) delegates to the Annual meeting of the District; and

each District shall elect quadrennially seven (7) delegates to the Quadrennial meeting of the Connectional organization.

#### **ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

The officers shall be President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer, all of whom shall be at least 18 years old, male, clergy or lay members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. They shall be elected for a term of four (4) years by the Connectional Christian Education Congress of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, having been nominated by a committee on Nominations, named by the Executive Committee. The duties of the officers shall be such as ordinarily pertain to their respective offices.

#### **ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. The Executive Committee, in the interim of the General meeting, shall be responsible for:

- a. The affairs of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church;
- b. The Quadrennial meeting of the organization;
- c. The Connectional program of activities; and
- d. The filling of vacancies in any office.

#### **ARTICLE VI – DISTRICT COORDINATOR**

The presiding bishop of each District shall appoint a District Coordinator of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The District Coordinator shall work with the bishop and Conference representatives to establish an episcopal district program and to identify special projects. Each Annual Conference shall have a Conference Coordinator appointed by the presiding bishop. Presiding elders shall appoint a Coordinator for the Chapter in their District who will supervise the work of the Chapters and confirm new members.

#### **ARTICLE VII – SCOPE OF WORK**

The work of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall be promoted through four (4) committees:

- a. Membership
- b. Programs
- c. Projects
- d. Publicity

There shall also be six (6) Commissions:

- a. Commission on Christian Fellowship
- b. Commission on Christian Service
- c. Commission on Christian Training
- d. Commission on Devotional Life
- e. Commission on Prison Ministry
- f. Commission on Youth Ministries

The President shall appoint a Chairperson for each of the Commissions. On the Connectional Level, these Commissions shall be encouraged and given guidance in the formation and work of Local, District, Conference, Chapter, and Unit organizations. The

Commissions shall recommend activities through which the purpose of the organization may be realized and the work of the Sons of Allen on all levels encouraged.

#### **ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS**

The Quadrennial meeting of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall convene quadrennially at the time and place of the last meeting of the Council of Bishops in the year prior to the meeting of the forthcoming General Conference. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee. At the Quadrennial meeting, the work of the quadrennium shall be reported, officers elected as required, and other business transacted.

#### **ARTICLE IX – OFFICIAL HYMN**

The Official Hymn of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall be “The Hymn for the Sons of Allen,” with the text and tune composed by Bishop Frederick Hilborn Talbot, D.Min., 90th Bishop/Chief Pastor. (See Part XVIII, Section XVIII, B-3 for text and music)

#### **ARTICLE X – OFFICIAL ATTIRE**

The official attire for the Sons of Allen shall be a maroon blazer with the official insignia on the left upper pocket, gray slacks, white shirt and the AME shield on the tie. Appropriate variations may be employed.

#### **ARTICLE XI – CONNECTIONAL RELATIONSHIP**

The President of the Connectional Sons of Allen organization shall be a Connectional Officer.

#### **ARTICLE XII – FINANCES**

The method of financing the meetings and the work of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall be determined by the organization, upon recommendations of the Executive Committee.

#### **ARTICLE XIII – BYLAWS**

The Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church may adopt Bylaws consistent with the Constitution. The Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting thereof, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given at a previous regular meeting or in writing for all local organizations.

#### **ARTICLE XIV – AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution can be amended with two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at the Connectional Christian Education Congress during a meeting of Sons of Allen and ratified by the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

#### **ARTICLE XV – SONS OF ALLEN BENEDICTION**

May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; the Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and the God of our founder, Richard Allen, bless, strengthen and empower us to serve the present age as Christian men empowered by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SONS OF ALLEN: THE Northwest Conference Sons of Allen MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**PREAMBLE**

To create a ministry for men, both clergy and lay, which will seek to address the needs for distinctive ministries to men, who are faced with spiritual, social, political and psychological challenges, to equip men to follow the example of Andrew (St John 1: 41-42) who brought Peter to Jesus; to encourage men to emulate the resolute and redemptive spirit of Richard Allen, our revered, ancestral patriarch who in negotiating for his freedom with slave master Stokely Sturgis, negotiated freedom for his unnamed brother as well; to encourage men to implement ministries modeled by our founder, Richard Allen as he sought to meet needs in his community, the following Constitution is hereby adopted:

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

There shall be an organization called the Northwest Conference Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

It shall be accountable to the presiding bishop of the Ninth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and shall report and interpret its activities at the call of the said bishop.

**ARTICLE II – THE PURPOSE**

- The purpose of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall be:
- a. to lead men to an acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
  - b. to organize men into units and empower them to meet men's needs in such areas as Evangelism and Stewardship.
  - c. to teach the men of our denomination the history, doctrine and polity of our denomination with focus on the life, mission and ministry of our ancestral father, Richard Allen.
  - d. to teach the men to witness their faith in daily living, such as in the workplace, the community, and the home.
  - e. to encourage men to engage in outreach and service as a part of Christian servanthood.
  - f. to seek resources and support of men as husbands and fathers.
  - g. to empower men to serve as role models to young men and to develop youth ministries such as scouting ministries, in local units.
  - h. to encourage men to share in ecumenical relations.

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall consist of all men in the congregations and communities within the Northwest Conference of the 9th Episcopal District as described in the 2021 Book of Doctrine and Discipline of the AME Church. A unit of the Sons of Allen shall be established in each African Methodist Episcopal Church, presiding elder district, and shall be organized in accordance with this Constitution, the Ninth Episcopal District Sons of Allen Constitution and the Connectional Sons of Allen Constitution. The organization in the local church shall be known as a unit; in the presiding elder district, it shall be known as a Chapter.

Each unit shall elect annually a delegate to the Annual meeting of the Chapter; each Chapter shall elect two (2) delegates to the Annual meeting of the Conference; each Conference shall elect annually three (3) delegates to the Annual meeting of the District.

## **ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

The officers shall be President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer, all of whom shall be at least 18 years old, male, clergy or lay members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. They shall be elected for a term of four (4) years, having been nominated by a committee on Nominations, named by the Executive Committee. The duties of the officers shall be such as ordinarily pertain to their respective offices.

## **ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and all Coordinators of Sons of Allen Chapters within the Northwest Conference. The Executive Executive Committee, in the interim of conference meetings, shall be responsible for:

- a. The affairs of the Ninth Episcopal District Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church;
- b. The Quadrennial meeting of the organization;
- c. The Connectional program of activities; and
- d. The filling of vacancies in any office.

## **ARTICLE VI – CONFERENCE COORDINATOR**

The Northwest Sons of Allen shall have a Conference Coordinator appointed by the presiding bishop. Presiding elders shall appoint a Coordinator for the Chapter in their District who will supervise the work of the Chapters and confirm new members.

## **ARTICLE VII – SCOPE OF WORK**

The work of the Northwest Conference Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall be promoted through four (4) committees:

- a. Membership
- b. Programs
- c. Projects
- d. Publicity

There shall also be six (6) Commissions:

- a. Commission on Christian Fellowship
- b. Commission on Christian Service
- c. Commission on Christian Training
- d. Commission on Devotional Life
- e. Commission on Prison Ministry
- f. Commission on Youth Ministries

The President shall appoint a Chairperson for each of the Committees and Commissions. The Commissions shall recommend activities through which the purpose of the organization may be realized and the work of the Sons of Allen on all levels encouraged.

## **ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS**

The Annual meeting of the Northwest Conference Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall be called the Brothers of the Flame Conference. The Brothers of the Flame Conference shall convene annually at the time and place decided by the executive



committee. The Northwest conference Sons of Allen shall meet a minimum of two (2) times during the year inclusive of the Brothers of the Flame conference. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee. At the annual meeting, the work of the year shall be reported, officers elected as required, and other business transacted.

#### **ARTICLE IX – OFFICIAL HYMN**

The Official Hymn of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall be “The Hymn for the Sons of Allen,” with the text and tune composed by Bishop Frederick Hilborn Talbot, D.Min., 90th Bishop/Chief Pastor. (See Part XVIII, Section XVIII, B-3 for text and music)

#### **ARTICLE X – OFFICIAL ATTIRE**

The official attire for the Sons of Allen shall be a maroon blazer with the official insignia on the left upper pocket, gray slacks, white shirt and the AME shield on the tie. Appropriate variations may be employed.

#### **ARTICLE XI – CONFERENCE RELATIONSHIP**

The Coordinator of the Northwest Sons of Allen District Sons of Allen organization shall be a member of the Northwest Annual Conference.

#### **ARTICLE XII – FINANCES**

The method of financing the meetings and the work of the Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church shall be determined by the organization, upon recommendations of the treasurer.

#### **ARTICLE XIII – BYLAWS**

The Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church may adopt Bylaws consistent with the Constitution. The Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Northwest Conference Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting thereof, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given at a previous regular meeting or in writing for all local organizations.

#### **ARTICLE XIV – AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution can be amended with two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at any Northwest Sons of Allen conference meeting during any business session. Amendments are out-of-order if they directly conflict with the Connectional of 9th Episcopal Districts Sons of Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church’s constitution and bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE XV – SONS OF ALLEN BENEDICTION**

May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; the Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and the God of our founder, Richard Allen, bless, strengthen and empower us to serve the present age as Christian men empowered by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Men of Valor Conference Registration Form

Johns Chapel AME Church, 605 Geneva Highway, Enterprise, AL 36330

### Northwest Conference - Sons of Allen

Registration Fee: 18 years old and under free | Above 18 years old \$45 | Onsite registration \$50

- **Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(First, Last)
- **Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please provide a valid email address)
- **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mobile (Preferred or Home Number)
- **Local Church:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Full Name of Church)
- **Name of Pastor:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Pastor's Full Name)

#### District Information

(Please select your Presiding Elder's District)

- **Presiding Elder's District:**
  - Birmingham-Florence-Tuscaloosa District
  - West Birmingham-Ensley-Greensboro District
  - South Birmingham-Huntsville-Bessemer District

#### Conference Information

- **Conference:** Northwest Conference
- **Are you registering as an Adult or Youth?**
  - Adult
  - Youth

#### Payment Information

- **Method of Payment:**
  - Cash
  - Check (make checks payable to 9th District Sons of Allen)
  - CashApp - \$KennethWashingtonSOA  
(Please provide your CashApp handle \_\_\_\_\_)
  - PayPal - [kwashingsoa@gmail.com](mailto:kwashingsoa@gmail.com) (Please provide your CashApp handle)

#### Emergency Contact Information

- **Emergency Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Full Name)
- **Relationship to You:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g., Spouse, Parent, Friend)
- **Emergency Contact Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mobile or Home Number)

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(MM/DD/YYYY)

## Men of Valor Conference - Hotel Information

We have secured discounted room rates at two nearby hotels for attendees of the **Men of Valor Conference** in Enterprise, Alabama. Please see the details below to reserve your room.

### Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott

- **Room Rate:** \$133.10 (including tax)
- **Room Type:** King Room or Double Queen Room
- **Rooms Reserved:** 25 rooms available
- **Hotel Address:**  
650 Glover Avenue, Enterprise, AL 36330
- **Phone Number:** (334) 393-4333

### Hampton Inn

- **Room Rate:** \$133.10 (including tax)
- **Room Type:** King Room or Double Queen Room
- **Rooms Reserved:** 25 rooms available
- **Hotel Address:**  
6 N. Pointe Blvd., Enterprise, AL 36330
- **Phone Number:** (334) 347-4192

### Reservation Information

- **Deadline to Book:** Please reserve your room as soon as possible. Rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **Booking Process:**  
Contact the hotel directly at the provided phone numbers to book your room. Be sure to mention the **Men of Valor Conference** to receive the special rate.

### Important Notes

- Both hotels are conveniently located near the conference venue.
- Rooms are limited, so early booking is encouraged.
- Rates are subject to availability and may change after the room block is filled.

## Proposed Calendar

**January 25, 2025** – Northwest SOA Conference Meeting at St. Luke AME Church, 4195 24th Ave. N, Fultondale, AL 35068

**February 8-9, 2025** – Episcopal District Founder’s Day Worship and Symposium (Details and address to be provided by the district)

**February 12, 2025** – Founder’s Day of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (Observance and activities as per church guidelines)

**March 21-22, 2025** – 9th District Sons of Allen Men of Valor at Johns Chapel AME Church, 605 Geneva Highway, Enterprise, AL 36330

**April 5, 2025** – Northwest SOA Conference Meeting (Exact location to be confirmed)

**April 17-19, 2025** – 9th District Midyear Planning Meeting (Details and address to be provided by the district)

**April 25-26, 2025** – CLO Executive Board Meeting (Virtual, Zoom link or virtual platform details to be provided)

**June 30 - July 3, 2025** – Christian Education Congress (Details and address to be provided by the connectional office)

**July 5, 2025** – Northwest SOA Conference Meeting (Exact location to be confirmed)

**July 7-11, 2025** – Connectional Lay Biennial in Atlanta, Georgia (Venue details to be provided)

**September 10-12, 2025** – Northwest Alabama Annual Conference at Bryant Chapel AME Church, 205 20th Ave. N, Bessemer, AL 35020

**September 11, 2025** – Northwest Conference Breakfast (Exact location and details, possibly with WIM, to be confirmed)

**October 4, 2025** – Northwest SOA Conference Meeting (Exact location to be confirmed)

**November 20-22, 2025** – 9th Episcopal District Planning Meeting (Details and address to be provided by the district)

## Mini-Workshop I

### Starting a Sons of Allen Unit: A Step-by-Step Guide with Robert's Rules Procedures

#### 1. Appointment of Coordinator(s)

- The **pastor** appoints a **coordinator** for the Sons of Allen unit. The coordinator's role is to facilitate the formation, recruitment, and organization of the unit.

#### 2. Recruitment of Members

- A **minimum of three men** (excluding the pastor) is needed to form a Sons of Allen unit. The pastor may be one of these initial members but cannot hold an office in the local organization. If the pastor is included, the minimum number of members required is four.

#### 3. Electing Officers

- The members of the Sons of Allen unit must elect at least **three officers**:
  - **President**
  - **Recording Secretary**
  - **Treasurer**
- **Robert's Rules of Order**:
  - A **nominating committee** can be appointed or nominations can be taken from the floor.
  - Once nominations are closed, a **motion** to proceed with the election is made.
  - Elections can be conducted by **voice vote**, **show of hands**, or **ballot**, depending on the preference of the assembly.
  - If a vote is contested or more than one candidate is standing for an office, a **ballot vote** is recommended.
  - A majority vote is required to elect officers. In case of a tie, a **re-vote** may be taken.

#### 4. Installation Service

- The members can choose to have an **installation service** led by a Presiding Elder, Conference, or Episcopal District Officer. The service can be scheduled based on the availability of the officers.
- **Robert's Rules of Order**: A motion can be made and seconded to schedule and approve the installation service. A majority vote should suffice to approve this action.

#### 5. Membership Guidelines

- Any male in the community, whether they belong to the AME Church or not, may become a member of the Sons of Allen. **Non-AME members** are categorized as **associate members** and can participate but **cannot hold office**.

## 6. Combining Sons of Allen Units

- **Mutual Agreement:** If there are existing Sons of Allen units in different churches, the **coordinators** and **pastors** must mutually agree to combine the units. A **meeting** should be held with representatives from both churches to discuss the merger.
- **Combining Two or More Churches That Are Currently Separate Units:**  
If two or more churches wish to combine and form a new Sons of Allen unit that previously did not exist, the following steps should be followed:
  - The **coordinators** and **pastors** of each church meet and agree to combine the units.
  - A **joint meeting** of the men from each church should be scheduled to finalize details like officer elections, membership integration, and the name of the new unit. During this meeting, the new unit will be officially proposed and voted on.
  - **Robert's Rules of Order:** A **motion** to combine the units and create a new unit is presented. It is seconded and voted upon by the assembly. A **two-thirds majority** is required for the motion to pass and officially combine the units.
- **New Unit Creation:**
  - If the combination results in the creation of a **brand-new unit** (i.e., a previously non-existent unit), members should decide on the official name for the new unit.
  - The **name** should be submitted to the **corresponding secretary** and **president** for registration, with names assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.
  - **Robert's Rules of Order:** A **motion** is made to approve the name of the new unit, followed by a **second** and a **two-thirds majority vote**.
- **Membership Integration:** All members from the original units will be integrated into the new combined unit. Any **associate members** (non-AME) will maintain their status but will not be allowed to hold office.
- **Naming Ideas:**
  - The new unit's name could reflect the geographic area (e.g., *North Birmingham Sons of Allen*), the names of the combining churches (e.g., *Alpha-Beta Sons of Allen*), or something entirely new that resonates with the shared vision of the combined unit.

## 7. Election of Officers for Combined Units

- **Elections** must occur at either church, with quorums present (more than **50%** of adult male membership at both churches).
- **Coordinators' Role:** The coordinator for each church maintains responsibility for their respective church's reports. The coordinators should report to the Presiding Elder's **Quarterly Conference** for their local station.
- **Robert's Rules of Order:**

- **Elections** should be conducted as per standard procedure, with a motion to open the floor for nominations and a second.
- A **quorum** (majority of members present at both churches) must be present for the elections to be valid.
- If there is a contested election, **ballots** should be distributed and a **majority vote** is required to elect the officers.

## 8. Reporting

- After the elections, the coordinator of each church is responsible for submitting a combined report to the Presiding Elder's Quarterly Conference.
- The report should include the total membership of the new unit, including any associate members. The **coordinators** should sign the report for their respective churches.

## Key Points to Remember:

- **Majority and Two-Thirds Votes:** Ensure that motions requiring approval of officers, names, and merging are done by a majority or two-thirds vote, as appropriate.
- **Nominations and Elections:** Follow proper election procedures with clear nominations, seconding of motions, and transparent voting.
- **Meetings and Quorum:** Always ensure a quorum is present for meetings, elections, and key decisions—whether for combining units or electing officers.
- **Robert's Rules of Order:** Adhering to these parliamentary procedures ensures that the formation and management of the Sons of Allen unit are orderly, transparent, and effective.

## Mini Workshop II

### Men's Ministry Ideas

#### Weekly Activities

##### 1. Men's Bible Study & Prayer Group

- **Purpose:** To lead men in a deeper understanding of Scripture and build their faith.
- **Description:** Host a weekly Bible study that focuses on the life of Richard Allen, evangelism, stewardship, and Christian living. Include prayer time at the beginning and end for spiritual growth and accountability.
- **Scripture Focus:** John 1:41-42 (Andrew bringing Peter to Jesus), and various Scriptures related to the role of men in faith and service.

##### 2. Weekly Accountability Groups

- **Purpose:** Strengthen relationships between men in the congregation and hold each other accountable in their walk with Christ.
- **Description:** Pair men into small groups where they can check in on spiritual growth, encourage each other, and pray together. This can include daily devotionals, life application discussions, and accountability for personal goals.

##### 4. Mentorship and Youth Engagement

- **Purpose:** Empower men to serve as role models to young men.
- **Description:** Set aside weekly time for older men to mentor younger men in the faith, offering guidance on living as a Christian man in the community and at home. This can be done through one-on-one sessions or small group mentorship.

##### 5. Community Outreach Preparation

- **Purpose:** Equip men to serve in the community and witness their faith.
- **Description:** Dedicate one day each week to prepare for a community service project, such as planning a food drive, organizing neighborhood outreach, or preparing materials for evangelism.

#### Monthly Activities

##### 1. Men's Fellowship Meetings

- **Purpose:** Strengthen the bond of brotherhood among men within the church.
- **Description:** Hold a monthly fellowship meeting that includes worship, a guest speaker (could be a fellow brother from the church or community), and a discussion on how men can grow in their faith and leadership. These meetings can



focus on various themes such as stewardship, fatherhood, marriage, or biblical masculinity.

- **Focus Areas:** Evangelism, stewardship, Christian service, and how men can emulate the life and ministry of Richard Allen.

## **2. Men's Prayer Breakfast or Luncheon**

- **Purpose:** Foster fellowship and spiritual connection while addressing practical needs.
- **Description:** Once a week, gather the men for a light breakfast or lunch, followed by prayer and a devotional message. This offers a space for spiritual nourishment and a chance to discuss issues affecting men today, from work to family life.

## **3. Service Projects and Outreach**

- **Purpose:** Empower men to engage in Christian service and meet local needs.
- **Description:** Organize monthly community service projects where the Sons of Allen can collectively serve others. Projects might include assisting with home repairs for the elderly, organizing clothing drives, or participating in food pantries.
- **Example Projects:** Organize clean-up days, partner with local shelters, or support community youth programs.

## **4. Men's Health and Wellness Ministry**

- **Purpose:** Encourage men to maintain their physical, mental, and spiritual health.
- **Description:** Once a month, host a session focusing on health and wellness topics, such as mental health, physical fitness, or healthy living. Invite experts to speak or create an environment where men can share tips on maintaining good health.
- **Potential Topics:** Men's mental health, managing stress, nutrition, and the importance of spiritual well-being.

## **5. Outreach and Evangelism**

- **Purpose:** Equip men to share their faith in daily living, at work, and in their communities.
- **Description:** Conduct evangelism training once a month, equipping the men with tools and strategies to share the gospel. Organize events like community block parties, church events, or door-to-door evangelism to help men practice what they've learned.
- **Evangelism Activities:** Street witnessing, distributing literature, or hosting a "Men's Night" where members invite friends or family to hear the gospel.

## **6. Men's Night Social**

- **Purpose:** Build relationships among the men of the church in a non-formal setting.

- **Description:** Host a monthly fellowship night with games, music, and food to allow men to relax and build friendships. This is an opportunity for men to bond outside of formal ministry settings.
- **Activities:** Sports games, movie nights, or talent shows.

## 7. Youth Ministry Integration

- **Purpose:** Engage young men in the church and encourage them to participate in ministry.
- **Description:** Men in the fellowship can dedicate one Saturday a month to interact with the youth group. This could include mentorship, teaching, or helping with youth events like youth Bible studies, retreats, or recreational activities.
- 

## Quarterly Activities

*(Activities that are done four times a year, typically once every three months)*

### 1. Quarterly Men's Fellowship Retreat

- **Purpose:** Provide a spiritual refreshment and bonding time for men.
- **Description:** A weekend or day-long retreat designed to deepen spiritual lives, strengthen relationships, and address the challenges men face. Activities could include devotionals, team-building exercises, and workshops.
- **Focus:** Personal growth, leadership, and spiritual renewal.
- **Frequency:** Quarterly

### 2. Quarterly Outreach Projects

- **Purpose:** Serve the community through focused service initiatives.
- **Description:** Plan a larger-scale community service event such as a community cleanup, free car wash for the elderly, or a home renovation project for those in need.
- **Frequency:** Quarterly

### 3. Quarterly Leadership Training for Men

- **Purpose:** Equip men with leadership skills both in the church and in the community.
- **Description:** Host leadership training seminars or workshops that focus on spiritual leadership, conflict resolution, communication, and mentoring.
- **Frequency:** Quarterly

### 4. Men's Prayer and Worship Night

- **Purpose:** Provide men with a space to gather for collective prayer and worship.

- **Description:** Organize a quarterly night of worship and prayer where the men of the fellowship come together to seek God's presence, share testimonies, and intercede for the church and community.
- **Frequency:** Quarterly

## 5. Father-Son Fellowship Day

- **Purpose:** Strengthen the relationship between fathers and sons and mentor young men.
- **Description:** Hold an event that focuses on bonding activities between fathers and sons. This can include outdoor activities, a father-son panel, or a fun day of games and challenges.
- **Frequency:** Quarterly

## 6. Men's Ministry Financial Planning Session

- **Purpose:** Equip men to manage their finances in a way that honors God.
- **Description:** A workshop or seminar focusing on personal financial management, budgeting, debt elimination, and financial stewardship.
- **Frequency:** Quarterly

## Yearly Activities

### 1. Annual Men's Retreat

- **Purpose:** To provide spiritual renewal and deeper fellowship for men.
- **Description:** Plan a yearly retreat for men to get away from the busyness of life, focus on spiritual growth, and reflect on their personal walk with Christ. This could include outdoor activities, deep Bible study, and team-building exercises.
- **Potential Locations:** Campsites, retreat centers, or a location near nature to encourage reflection and personal renewal.

### 2. Fatherhood and Family Celebration Event

- **Purpose:** Celebrate and honor men as fathers and husbands, empowering them to grow in their roles.
- **Description:** Hold an event once a year, such as a Father's Day banquet or retreat, to honor men's roles as fathers, mentors, and leaders. This could involve guest speakers, discussions on biblical fatherhood, and opportunities to bless fathers within the congregation.
- **Activities:** Family picnics, father-son challenges, or a community gathering that celebrates fathers and father figures.

### 3. Men's Annual Service Day

- **Purpose:** Encourage men to engage in large-scale service projects for the community. (Maybe MLK Day)
- **Description:** Organize a full day of service once a year, where all the Sons of Allen units come together for an extensive community service project. This can involve working in shelters, cleaning public spaces, or offering free services to the elderly or widows in the community.
- **Potential Projects:** Community cleanup, serving at a homeless shelter, or building houses for those in need.

#### **4. Annual Fundraising for Ministry Projects**

- **Purpose:** Raise funds for ongoing ministries and outreach projects.
- **Description:** Organize a fundraising event each year to support the ongoing work of the Sons of Allen. This could be a banquet, silent auction, or community fundraising campaign.
- **Use of Funds:** To support local mission work, outreach programs, and men's initiatives like leadership training or mentorship programs.

#### **5. Annual Men's Day Service**

- **Purpose:** Celebrate the role of men in the church and community.
- **Description:** Host a special service where men of the congregation take the lead. The service can include special music, testimonies, preaching, and prayers led by men. It's a way to celebrate the unique contributions of men in the church while encouraging others to get involved in ministry.

**Worship Service Program**  
**Worship Leader**  
**Bro. Mark Brooks**  
**St. Paul AME Church, Smithfield**  
**Worship Service**

**Doxology** (Hymn No. 647)

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.

**Call to Worship**

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

People: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere, I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Leader: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

People: They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.

Leader: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.

People: But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Leader: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

People: O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, sing praises!

**Hymn of Praise We Praise Thee, O God** (Hymn No. 97)

We praise Thee, O God!  
For the Son of Thy love,  
For Jesus who dies,  
and is now gone above

We praise Thee, O God!  
For the Spirit of light,  
Who has shown us the Savior,  
And scattered our night

***Hallelujah, Thine the glory,  
Hallelujah, amen;  
Hallelujah! Thine the glory,  
Revive us again.***

### **Prayer**

Bro. Jeremy B. Joseph - New Allen Temple AME Church - Harriman Park

Prayer Response

### **Scripture Lesson - 2 Timothy 6-14**

Bro. Bill Graves- St. Paul AME Church - Smithfield

**6** For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. **7** For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. **8** So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. **9** He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, **10** but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. **11** And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. **12** That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

**13** What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. **14** Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

### **From all that Dwell Below the Skies Hymn No. 69**

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.

### **Decalogue Summarized**

And he said to him, 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. And the second is like it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

### **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.

**Offering - Northwest SOA Budget and Finance Committee**

**Hymn of Preparation - *I am Thine, O Lord* (Hymn No. 283)**

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.

Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord,  
By the power grace divine;  
Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,  
And my will be lost in Thine.

*(Refrain)*

***Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord  
To The cross where Thou has died;  
Draw me nearer, nearer Blessed Lord  
To Thy precious, bleeding side.***

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Steve Brown  
Pastor, St. Luke AME Church - Havana

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

**Invitational Hymn - *All to Jesus I Surrender* (Hymn No. 251)**

All to Jesus I surrender,  
All to Him I freely give;  
I will ever love and trust Him,  
In His presence daily live,

All to Jesus I surrender,  
Now I feel the sacred flame,  
O the joy of full salvation!  
Glory, Glory to His name

*(Refrain)*

I surrender All,  
***I surrender All,***  
***All to Thee, my blessed Savior,***  
***I surrender all.***

**Benediction & Blessing of Food**

The Rev. Steve Brown