



December 19th, 2015

### The Minutes of Ninth District Sons of Allen Planning Meeting December 19th, 2015

The meeting came to order at 9:30am on December 19th, 2015 at by Vice-President Bro. Robert Turner at St. Paul AME Church Mintgomery, Alabama. Officers that were present were President Rev. Dr. John Campbell, Vice President Bro. Robert L. Turner, Secretary Bro. Jeremy Joseph, Corresponding Secretary Bro. Franklin Simmons and Treasurer Bro. Kenneth Washington. Chaplain Bro. Ronald Jones was the only officer not present. Other members present were Bros. Kenneth Strong, Benny Hardin, Ernest Harris, Ivan Watts, Dale Gamble, Freddie Ingram, Billy Burgess, Charles Talley, Keith Robinson, Roland Allen Jr., Stafford Thompson, Terry Jones Sr., Lamar Higgins, Jerome Pernell, Arthur Lott, Michael Mathews, Danny Hocher, and Revs. Richard Patterson, Billy Burton, and Warren Anderson.

The meeting open with Bro. Robert Turner calling the session into order and the singing of Hymn # 112 Jesus, the light of the world. Rev. Dr. John Campbell continued devotion with the reading of Psalm 34:1-9. After the Devotion the host pastor The Rev. Dr. Farroll Duncombe gave the welcome exclaiming that we should unwrapped the gift, which is Jesus The Christ.

After brief introductions by the members former coordinator of the Ninth Episcopal District Sons of Allen and the host Sons of Allen Unit President Lamar Higgins greeted the group and said how proud he was for how far the Sons of Allen in Alabama had come. Bro. Turner thanked the kitchen staff for their hard work.

The meeting continued with the planning for the upcoming Men of Valor Conference. Dr. Thompson had asked the Rev. Dr. Duncombe to do a 45-minute workshop on "**how to dress for success**". It was asked by Bro. Turner if we could get 25-30 young men between the ages of 11-17 to participate in the workshop. Bro. Strong said that last year we did a sponsorship program for the young adults and youth. Bro. Simmons said that there is enough money in the treasury to have registration free for those who are 18 years of age and younger. Bro. Washington said that we have enough money in the treasury to make registration free for those 18 years of age and under. It was agreed by common consent that registration for those 18 and younger would be free.

Further discussion about young black males took place with Rev. Duncombe explaining that the Sons of Allen should have a message for everybody. Bro. Turner reemphasized that our message has to be for everyone. Bro. Turner set a deadline between now and February for two workshops to be geared towards the youth with the specific subject matter being determined by the presenters.

The workshops for the adults started to be discussed with Rev. Burton saying that we as men need to come back to God. With discussion, the title of the first workshop would be "**Man Up**". Bro. Turner then brought up the conference call that was previously held prior to the planning meeting when Rev. White came up with the workshop "**Supporting the pastoral ministry**". It was decided that this would be the basis of the second adult workshop. Bro. Turner then remembered that on that same conference call he had an idea of how we should be more tolerant and less fearful. He also wanted to tie that in to the Bishops theme for this conference year. Out of this the workshop "**Walking in his footsteps: Overcoming Fear**" was generally agreed upon. Rev. Campbell then reflected on the powerful testimony that Bro. Sweeney gave at the previous Men of Valor Conference in 2015. Rev. Anderson then was led by the spirit to the idea of having a testimonial based workshop entitled "**Walking in his Footsteps: True Men of God do listen**".

Bro. Joseph mentioned that it might be a good idea to have a deadline for registration. Bro. Franklin said that a good **deadline would be March 8th, 2016 at \$40 and anything after March 8th, 2016 would be \$45**. He also said that the registration form will be reworked to reflect the free registration for those 18 years of age and younger and that youth still need to fill out a registration form even though it is a no cost registration for head count purposes.

Bro. Turner says that he will invite Dr. Monica Dillinhunt and Mrs. Susie Jones-Bonner the heads of the Koinanias and Missionary Society respectfully to talk about partnerships. Bro. Franklins said that in his conference (Southeast Alabama Annual Conference) they have already partnered with the WMS with the Angel Tree. He said that we might want to make it a district event.

Rev. Dr. Campbell said that one goal is to have a district wide event that all men do on one day. Bro. Joseph said that we should set aside a day to do youth training, Bro. Turner came up with the idea of having a Reconnect Day on Father's Day, but it was ultimately decided that Bro. Terry Jones idea with the endorsement of Rev. Dr. Duncombe to have a **Parking Lot Prayer** day would be initiated. Rev. Duncombe passionately exclaimed that we need to let the community see our faith in action and "There is nothing more powerful then letting men see you pray.". The date for the event was generally agreed to be placed on **June 4th, 2016**.

Bro. Turner graced the food generously supplied by the staff of St. Paul AME Church-Montgomery. Goals were set during lunch including having over 200 pre registered men at the Men of Valor Conference; 80 men from the Northwest and 40 from the remaining four conference of the Ninth Episcopal District. Bro. Franklin also said that directory information should be filled out and turned in by conference coordinators at the upcoming 2016 Men of Valor Conference which will be held at St. James AME Church-Avondale. The meeting came to a close with prayer by Bro. Simmons at 12:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bro. Jeremy B. Joseph  
Recording Secretary,  
9th Episcopal District Sons of Allen