



NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

THE NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Encouraging, Empowering & Enabling the People of God

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Bishop Harry L. Seawright, Presiding Prelate | Reverend Sherita M. Seawright, WMS Episcopal Supervisor

March 26, 2020

Dear Beloved 9th Episcopal District,

My prayers continue to be with all of you and your families as we face the global pandemic of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Your fervent prayers are needed at this time as this virus has hit home and two of our pastors have been diagnosed with Coronavirus. Please ensure you are following the advice of the CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html> and your state and local health professionals. If you believe or know that you have come in contact with anyone confirmed to have COVID-19, be sure to self-quarantine for 15 days and notify everyone with whom you have had contact, particularly your members. I encourage you to visit the AMEC International Health Commission website at www.amechealth.org for vital information and resources.

I am getting excellent reports on the use of technology and other innovative means of carrying out worship, bible study, fellowship, prayer lines and online giving. I also want to continue to encourage you to give to the food pantries across the district, participate by supporting to stock the food pantries, assisting churches that are preparing food to give away--especially for children and others who are vulnerable. Please remember to also call and check on our elderly and shut-ins.

Please remember to join our daily prayer line calls at 8:00 am CDT daily at 712-770-4616, code 825522# and the 9:00 pm CDT prayer line call at 712-770-5505, code 975086#.

Yesterday I also released a message of hope on Facebook Live, the link for viewing is: <https://www.facebook.com/harry.seawright.37/videos/246599160069058/>

Hopefully, by now you have received notice that the Mid-Year Convocation originally scheduled for next week has been cancelled. The Quadrennial Gala has been postponed until a later date. Additionally, AME Church leadership will meet with officials in Orlando on tomorrow, Friday, March 27th to discuss what is in the best interest for the General Conference scheduled in July.

As always, we will put our trust in God, remain prayerful, and be vigilant about taking care of ourselves, our families, and our congregations.

Because of Christ, I am,

Bishop Harry L. Seawright
President, Council of Bishops of the
AME Church and
Presiding Prelate of the 9th Episcopal District