



PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION OUR VOICES

Volume 7 - #3 December 2015

This newsletter and additional pictures can also be viewed at
www.philadelphiaconferencelay.org

Anita Hanna Matthews, Editor – Director of Public Relations

Annual Retreat of the Philadelphia Conference Lay Organization

Hosted by Mt. Tabor African Methodist Episcopal Church
961-71 N. 7th Street, Philadelphia, PA

Reverend Albert Johnson, Pastor
Sister Juanita Bryant, Local Lay President

By: Anita Hanna Matthews, PCLO Dir. of Public Relations

OCTOBER 17, 2015 We can never overemphasize nor should we ever underestimate the spiritual benefits, the blessings and the necessity of breaking away from “business as usual” in order to spiritually reflect upon our purpose and our destiny as organized laity in the A.M.E. Church.

Thus, once again, the Philadelphia Conference Lay Organization held their **Annual Lay Retreat**, which rendered spiritual renewal through a powerful sermon delivered by the Rev. Albert Johnson, Pastor of Mt. Tabor A.M.E. Church, Phila. The theme for the Retreat was **Transforming Your Mind: Intellectually, Spiritually, Healthfully** (Romans 12:1-2).

The refreshing fellowship through a delicious and abundant lunch, prepared by the cordial Culinary Staff of Mt. Tabor, satisfied our physical needs; and a **calming exercise session** led by our Director of Lay Activities, Sister Shirley Moore–Harris (Mt. Pisgah) added to this well organized and much needed Retreat.

Sister Juanita Bryant (Mt. Tabor’s local lay president) served as Worship Leader, Sister Rosalie Jackson (Morris Brown) offered prayer, Bro. James Slaughter (Jones Tabernacle) read the scripture, and Sis. Ann Howard (Mt. Tabor) introduced the messenger, the Reverend Albert Johnson, Pastor. Praise songs stimulated us during the service.

The Reverend Albert Johnson delivered an empowering message referenced from *Romans 12: 1-8* that he entitled, **“Determined To Do Better.”**

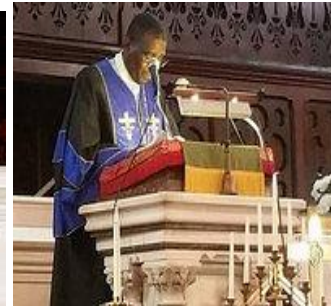
Pastor Johnson stated that: **“The questioning challenge for laity and for all humankind is, can we take an honest inventory of ourselves instead of finding fault in others - - for we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God. We must realize that we are saved by the grace of God, we are connected to each other, and we need each other to survive.”** He also reminded us, **“not to conform to the worldly ways of the world, and to daily ask ourselves, will my behavior by what I say and do cause things to move forward, or am I a stumbling block to others?”**

The Facilitator for the **Wellness and Wholeness** workshop was Sis. Brenda Shelton, (Mother Bethel), who serves as a facilitator for numerous programs throughout the AME Church and in the Philadelphia area. She has created a living legacy when it comes to delivering enlightening information on maintaining alert minds, a healthy bodies, and optimistic spirits.

Following closing remarks by Conference Lay President Sister Cheryl Hammond Hopewell, we gleefully sang the Lay Benediction – feeling blessed, refreshed, and looking forward to next year’s Retreat.



Worship Leader Sis. Juanita Bryant, Local Lay President



The Preacher of the Hour Rev. Albert Johnson, Pastor



Rev. Albert Johnson, Pastor-Mt. Tabor; Sis. Shirley Moore-Harris, PCLO Dir. of Lay Activities; Workshop Facilitator Sis. Brenda Shelton; South District Presiding Elder Rev. Jocelyn Hart; and PCLO President, Sis. Cheryl Hammond Hopewell



**PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION
ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON**

October 3, 2015

By: Anita Hanna Matthews, PCLO Dir. of Public Relations

**CONGRATULATIONS
Brother Walter C. Jeffers
Lay Person of the Year
for the Philadelphia Conference**



Walter C. Jeffers, Lay Connectional Director of Public Relations of the AME Church (*center*) was chosen as the **Lay Person of the Year for the Philadelphia Conference Lay Organization.**

Brother Walter was on center stage at the well-attended Annual Awards Luncheon. Along with a plethora of accolades and congratulations, our Conference Lay President Cheryl Hammond Hopewell presented him with a prestigious plaque which commemorating Bro. Walter's valued lay ministries to our Conference and service to the A.M.E. Church.

Bro. Walter's testimony can very well be the same as spoken by Isaiah, (Isaiah 6:8) **"Here am I dear Lord, send me!"**

His many versatile and resourceful gifts, talents, and attributes resound and reverberate within the Philadelphia Conference and throughout the Connectional AME Church -- nationally and internationally. No job is too large or too small for him to tackle, accomplish, and complete with noteworthy and extraordinary results. In addition, there seems to be no city, town, state, nor country is too far for him to travel, whether it is for a speaking engagement, a conference session, or a connectional meeting.

We appreciate his willingness to serve, his visions, his concerns, and discernment -- always caring enough to give his very best.

Thank You and Congratulations, Brother Walter, for all lay ministries rendered and for all jobs -- WELL DONE!



**A SHOWER OF SURPRISES!
Sister Cheryl Hammond Hopewell
Philadelphia Conference Lay President**



Cards, flowers, and balloons were plentiful, -- and needless to say, it was surely a surprise which brought both tears of joy from her eyes and smiles upon her face; as the members of lay organizations from the Philadelphia Conference, clergy, family and friends made their presentations to our Conference Lay President, Sister Cheryl Hammond Hopewell, in recognition and appreciation of her tireless and noteworthy service as Conference Lay President.

President Hopewell has entered her **eighth incumbent year** as an extraordinary President of the Philadelphia Conference Lay Organization; and throughout her busy and productive tenure, we have been blessed by her versatile, attentive and faithful service.



President Hopewell has raised the bar when it comes to serving as a Conference President, and we are yet witnessing and benefiting from her many progressive and creative directives and leadership as our President.

Thank You, Madame President and-- May God Continue To Bless You As You Continue To Serve!





CONGRATULATIONS UNSUNG HEROES OF YEAR "2015"

Saturday – October 3, 2015 – 12:00 P.M



By: Anita Hanna Matthews, PCLO Dir. of Public Relations

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES were the order of the day for many faithful laity of the

Philadelphia Conference honored as the **UNsung HEROES** of their local churches at our **ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON**.

Clergy, family and friends who traveled to attend our Annual Awards Luncheon to witness and participate in the celebration of honoring the Unsung Heros from churches from each of our four Presiding Elder Districts. And just who are these "Unsung Heroes? Well, **"these are they"** who render service at their local churches in various lay ministries, such as: Stewards, Trustees, , Stewardesses, Missionaries, Lay Organization Members, Christian Education Leaders, Church School and Vacation Bible School Teachers, Ushers, Musicians, Choir Members, Transportation Committees, Secretaries, Willing Workers and Helping Hands, Sextons, Liturgical Dancers, Praise Teams, Wellness Ministries, etc.and where would we be without these faithful members?

WE, THEREFORE, EXTEND OUR SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO:

Bethel, Ardmore	Roger Mills	Mother Bethel, Phila	Joetta O. Cryer
Bethel, Bryn Mawr	Patsy E. Hill	Mt. Pisgah, Phila.	Barbara A. Kennedy
Bethel, Harrisburg	Gwendolyn A. Stanley	Mt. Tabor, Phila.	Elaine Williamson
Bethel, Reading	Edward Stevenson	Mt. Zion, Norristown	G. Sonny Grimes
Campbell, Frankford	Natoya Travers	New Bethel, Germantown	Alfonzio Jacobs, Sr.
Greater Mt. Olive, Phila.	Betty J. Thompson	New Bethel, Willow Grove	Elaine Stancil
Grimes, Phoenixville	Marcia Etheridge	St. Matthew, Phila.	Francis McBride
Hickman Temple, Phila.	Edward Stokes	St. Paul, Elmwood	Deloris Williamson
Jones Tabernacle, Phila.	Cherie DeBrest	St. Paul, Malvern	Geraldine Boggs
LaMott, Elkins Park	Ola W. Roy	Trinty, Phila.	Virginia Jennings
Metropolitan, Phila.	Frances Green	Tyree, Phila.	Geraldine Jordan
Monumental, Steelton	Kathy Carter Scott	Ward, Phila.	Leroy Nelson
Morris Brown, Phila.	Lawrence Kelly	Waters Memorial, Phila.	Barrett Harvey

Each Honoree was presented a prestigious plaque as they posed for a picture along with our Presiding Prelate Bishop Ingram, the honoree's Presiding Elder, and Pastor, our 1st District Lay President Mrs. Mary Mootoo, our Philadelphia Conference Lay President Mrs. Cheryl Hammond Hopewell, and the honorees' local Lay Presidents.

Family and friends also lavished the honorees with bouquets of flowers, balloons, cards, s, and well wishes.



At the podium, 1st District Lay President Mrs. Mary Mootoo bring greetings and congratulations to the Philadelphia Conference and to the Honorees. (Seated) L-R: Mr. Irv & Mrs. Cheryl Hammond Hopewell, and Ms. Marie Butler, Luncheon Chair.

The Program: Luncheon Chair Marie Butler, who accomplished an exquisite fete, also served as the Mistress of Ceremonies and Journal Chair; Earl Knight, III rendered musical preludes and the music throughout the program. After the grand processional of the honorees, we sang the Laymen's Hymn followed by the Invocation and the table blessing by Juanita Bryant. Shirley Moore-Harris established protocol, gave the welcome and the occasion address, which was followed by a musical vocal by Earl Knight, III.

Bon Appetite: We dined in elegance and ambiance, assisted by the gracious hostesses and hosts.

Bishop Gregory G.M. Ingram and Conference Lay President Cheryl Hammond Hopewell made the presentations to the Honorees, followed by remarks from Sis. Margaret Miller, Luncheon Co-Chair; our Conference Lay President Cheryl Hammond Hopewell; First District Lay President Mary Mootoo, and Bishop Gregory G.M. Ingram.and thus, we were able to express our **THANKS** to the laity from our local churches by reminding them that, **"God uses ordinary people, just like you and me, to do His will.**

Following the closing prayer by the Reverend Allan Robinson, Pastor of New Bethel AME Germanton, we sang the Lay Benediction and dismissed.



The Lay Organization of Mt. Pisgah A. M. E. Church
428 N. 41st Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104
Lay Day Brunch



Saturday - October 10, 2015 - 11:00 A.M.

Reverend Jay Broadnax, Pastor
Sister Shirley Moore-Harris, Lay President

By: Cheryll Morris-Davis, Director of Public Relations
Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church, Phila. PA

MEN HIGHLIGHTED AT THE ANNUAL LAY BRUNCH

Setting the Scene: God had blessed us to have beautiful weather – a bright sunny day and comfortable temperature -- to hold our Annual Lay Day Brunch.

Sister Shirley Moore-Harris, our local and dynamic Lay President begins these preparations well in advance, in fact, preparations are underway for October 8, 2016. You have read it right here, save that date on your calendar for next year, Saturday, October 8, 2016 at 11:00 A.M.

The Church School Room took on the appearance of the season’s fall motif, blended with Lay’s colors of “blue” and “white” table clothes and napkins. The table settings were set off with floral arrangements of the vibrant autumn colors of yellows, beiges, burnt oranges with a sprinkling of silk leaves. This theme carried through over the doorway with pumpkins and an autumn arrangement that included a feathered white owl and rooster. There were two important words included in the scene – **“Faith”** and **“Love.”** It was with these two words that the Lay Fellowship gathered for our Annual Lay Brunch fellowship.

Early arrivals were treated to a Continental Breakfast: Tea, Coffee, Juice, croissants, bagels, and mini muffins.

The Service: Promptly at 11:00 A.M., Sister Shirley urged all persons present to take their seats. Brother Ernest Davis, chaplain of our Local Lay affectionately introduced Brother Keith Arrington as the Worship Leader, and thus our Annual Day began. The Order of Service began with the Doxology, Call to Worship and of course the meaningful and powerful Laymen’s Hymn. Our faithful Sister Barbara A. Kennedy provided the music for this portion of the program. Brother Wendell Haulcy, Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church spiritually lifted the invocation and our voices were raised in the thankful prayer chant of **“Thank You Lord.”** Brother Arrington took a moment to introduce and acknowledged the presence of his loving and supportive mother, Sister Tisha Arrington.

The Men’s Choir of Mt. Pisgah, under the direction of our pastor, Rev. Jay B. Broadnax, sang the rousing hymn **“Call Him Up.”** These faithful men were Brothers Keith Arrington, William Cash, Reggie Claxton, Ernest M. Davis, Wade Fauntleroy, Leroy Foreman, Irvin Hopewell, and Clarence Weeks. You don’t need a telephone to **“Call Him Up.”**

Brother William Mason, Zion A.M.E. Church, read the Scriptures from passages in the Old Testament by the prophet Isaiah, Chapter 31 and the New Testament, the apostle, Matthew, Chapter 28. Thank you for the reader and hearers of the Word of God.

Our one and only Brother Irvin Hopewell, welcomed our special guests and they in turn introduced themselves. Brother Andre Turner, Campbell, A.M.E. Church, Frankford gave a rousing response to the welcome.

Not mentioned as a visitor nor her position with the Philadelphia Conference Lay Organization, we should acknowledge that our past local lay president, Sister Cheryl Hammond Hopewell, was graciously welcoming visitors as they entered the door.

The ever so busy Brother Walter C. Jeffers, Connectional Director of Public Relations, led the Lay Litany. The Litany closes with those grateful words to our Lord, **“We thank you for your goodness in abundance, and for your grace and mercy which are both unceasing.”** We practiced our abundance by being cheerful givers.” Brothers Ernest Davis, Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church and Hosea Jackson, Bethel A.M.E. Church, Bryn Mawr were the participants for the Offering/Offertory.

This year, Mt. Pisgah’s Lay Organization experienced the loss of two dedicated Lay sisters: Sister Eula Clarke, who will be remembered for her stylish hats and her delicious southern peach cobbles and Sister Pauline I. Andrews, whose tenure of service began in 1951 and was the last surviving member of the original Mt. Pisgah Lay. She was a secretary extraordinaire in all ministries and was affiliated **“inside and outside”** of the Church.

(Continued) **“And a little child shall lead”** and lead he did, the youthful, Master Solomon E. Jones, III, was tasked to introduce his father, Brother Solomon E. Jones, II.

Master Jones proudly and skillfully informed us that “his” Dad is an *Essence* bestselling author and award-winning journalist who has been featured nationally on NPR’s Morning Edition, CNN Headline News, and in *Essence* magazine. Also, “his” Dad is currently an award-winning columnist of the Philadelphia Daily News and morning host for 900 WURD Radio in Philadelphia.



(December 20, 2014) Solomon and Son interviewed on “Nightline” regarding the civil unrest in Ferguson, MO.

He is also a blogger and frequent on-air commentator for WHYY. “His” Dad began his writing career for the Philadelphia Tribune in 1993 while living at the Ridge Avenue Shelter. He graduated with a B.A. degree in journalism from Temple University in 1997, and went on to be published in *Essence*, *Newsday*, the Philadelphia Magazine, and the Philadelphia Weekly. “My” Dad’s first novel, “Pipe Dream,” was published in 2001 by Random House and his other novels include “The Bridge,” “Ride or Die,” “Cream,” “Payback,” “The Last Confession,” and “The Gravedigger’s Ball.” His eighth novel, “The Dead Man’s Wife” was published in October 2012 by St. Martin’s Press. Master Jones went on to say, “My Dad and I have more in common than our names. We both appeared on “Nightline” and we both like football. My Dad is funny and I like his jokes. I also like that he helps me with my homework, encourages me and keeps his promises.”

Before hearing a word from on high from Brother Solomon, the Mt. Pisgah’s Men’s Choir rendered another spirit-filled selection.

Our guest speaker, Brother Solomon E. Jones, II, thanked his son for the wonderful introduction. Brother Jones’ prayer request was that he be lifted by the Holy Spirit to infill him with a *Word from on High*. Brother Solomon’s topic was the **“Story of Moses”** and sets the stage. His theme, **“Who Am I?”**

He began with the scripture from Exodus 3:7-11. Moses was tending the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law’s sheep. Moses climbs Mt. Horeb and sees a bush that is on fire but is not consumed by the flames. Moses

is fascinated and goes over to examine this strange sight. The Lord calls him and Moses responds to God’s call. Moses is instructed by God to take off his sandals as he is standing on holy ground. God tells Moses that he has heard the plight of his people and is about to give Moses the assignment to lead the people out of bondage. In verse 11, Moses said to God, “Who am I that should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” “Who am I?” Brother Solomon stated we must ask three questions: (1) Who do I say I am? (2) Who does news say that I am? (3) Who does God say that I am?

The story of Moses cannot be defined by Hollywood but in the Bible. Moses lineage goes back to Adam and moves to Exodus 1:2, a son of Israel from the house of Levi. Brother Solomon has captivated the audience (some had eyes closed, some swaying, and some standing). He moves further into Exodus 1:15-16, the Hebrew story of Midwives in how they disobeyed Pharaoh’s order to kill infant boys because they feared God more. Moving forth to Exodus 2:1-2, a man marries a Levite woman and gives birth to a boy, Moses. Moses lineage is from the Tribe of Levites. Brother Solomon refers to Genesis 15:13-16. God speaks to Abram who is in a deep sleep and tells him that his descendants will be strangers in a foreign country (Egypt) and will be mistreated for 400 years. Brother Solomon tells us about Moses becoming a man and in Acts 7:25, Moses realizes “Who I am” and that God was using him to rescue the Israelites. However, they did not know “Who does God say that (Moses) I am?”

Brother Solomon has us enraptured and tells us because I AM, YOU ARE. Lay People, we must strive for the future and make no excuses. We experienced a “Wake up with WURD.”

After the delivery of this awesome message from Brother Solomon, our pastor, Jay B. Broadnax, gave the invitation for Christian Discipleship. This is a duty Pastor Jay does not take lightly and encourages all that heard the message to become part of the body of Jesus Christ, Jesus Saves.

Brother Gilroy Reid, 1st Vice President of the PCLO and steadfast member of Waters Memorial A.M.E. Church invited persons to become members of the organized Lay. We were blessed that Sisters Jannie Weeks and Christine Patterson accepted the invitation. The Lay Disciples’ endeavors were rededicated by Pastor Jay B. Broadnax with a prayer. There were remarks by Sister Shirley Moore-Harris, Brother Gilroy Reid, and our Pastor Jay B. Broadnax. We closed out this portion of our Annual Day with the singing of the Lay Benediction.

A delightful lunch was served consisting of: baked or fried chicken, rice pilaf, potatoes au gratin, green beans, broccoli and baby carrots, rolls, tossed salad, variety of cakes or pies and juice.

Before closing out the events of this year’s Annual Lay Day, we must acknowledge the presence and support from the Reverends Phyllis Harris, Donna Minor, Marie Patterson, members from Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church and attendees from other Lays. **THANK YOU, ONE and ALL**, that was present.

MONUMENTAL A.M.E. CHURCH

Second and Adams Streets - Steelton, PA 17113

Reverend Tabitha P. Ssonko, Pastor

Sister Anita Hanna Matthews, Local Lay President

Celebrating Our 29th Annual Lay Day

November 15, 2015 Under the loving protection and glorious grace of Almighty God, the laity of Monumental celebrated their **29th Annual Lay Day**, using as their theme, "Laity Fulfilling The Great commission."

Our guests included visitors from three of the Presiding Elder Districts, the West-Mainline, the Philadelphia, and the Harrisburg Districts.

Early morning challenges did not dampen the spirits of those who assembled as the Praise Team led us in praiseful songs.

Serving as the worship Leader was Sister Elberta Joe of St. Paul AME, Waynesboro. Following the Doxology and The Call To Worship, we sang the Hymn of Praise which was the Laymen's Hymn. The Invocation was offered by Bro. Damian Colon, Lay Vice President of Mt. Zion AME, Columbia; The Holy Scriptures was read by Sis. Anna M. Cobb, Lay President of Bethel AME, Harrisburg. The congregants sang the Introit to the Decalogue and recited The Summary of the Decalogue.

A Memorial Tribute in loving memory of Sisters Mamie "Doll" Watson and Ethel Crosson was led by Sis. Alicia Smith Ragland, as Sis. Zaria A. Carter placed flowers in a vase. The Lay Litany was led by Bro. Carl W. Bell, III Lay President of Bethel AME, Carlisle.

Sis. Cassandra Davison and Sis. Regina Hampton of Turner Memorial Baptist Church, Steelton, presented a Liturgical Mime followed by the Welcome extended by Sis. Marcie A. Carter, Vice President of the local Lay Organization followed by pastoral greetings extended by our pastor, the Reverend Tabitha P. Ssonko.

After worshipping through the giving of our tithes and offerings, Sis. Alda Hanna Epps, Interim Director of Lay Activities, introduced our **Guest Messenger, Minister Erica Flagg of Gospel Fellowship Church, Hbg.**

After singing "Everyday Is A Day Of Thanksgiving" Minister Erica Flagg, delivered a powerful sermon entitled, "**Step Back And Get Your Tune-Up**", using the scriptural reference, of *Philippians 1*.

Minister Flagg reminded us "*To be confident in all situations and to thank God for the gifts that He has given to us to use for His service. She also reiterated that Apostle Paul prayed for the Philippians to have good cheer and encouraged them to do the right thing and at all times to know right from wrong; to exhort each other – stay together, gather together and to be connected in worship.*" Minister Flagg also stated, "*We must come out of mediocrity, rise up and embrace the community as we strive to fulfill the great commission of Jesus Christ.*"

Following this electrifying and thought-provoking message, Pastor Ssonko extended the invitation to Christian Discipleship at which time Sis. Sha'nae (youth) came forward and dedicated her life to Christ.

Bro. Andree' Turner, of Campbell AME Phila. and 3rd Vice President of the Philadelphia Conference Lay organization gave the solicitation to unite with the organized Lay. We formed a Unity Circle and Pastor Ssonko led the Rededication to Lay Ministries prayer.

Seated among the guests was Bro. Hosea Jackson, Bethel AME, Bryn Mawr, 2nd Vice President of the Philadelphia Conference Lay Organization and Bro. Irv Hopewell, the husband of our Conference Lay President.

Following encouraging remarks by Conference Lay President Cheryl Hammond Hopewell, our local Lay President Sis. Anita Hanna Matthews and Pastor Ssonko, we sang the

Lay Benediction which ended our **29th Annual Lay Day Service. To God Be The Glory!**



A floral arrangement presentation to Mrs. Cheryl Hammond Hopewell, President of the Philadelphia Conference Lay Organization, in recognition and appreciation of her steadfast service and support to Monumental's

Lay Organization, by Monumental's Interim Director of Lay Activities, Mrs. Alda Hanna Epps.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE

Submitted by: **Cheryll Morris-Davis**
Mt. Pisgah Lay Organization
Director of Public Relations

Sister Pauline I. Andrews



had a smile that could bring warmth to the down hearted and give a word of encouragement to those in need. Sister Pauline was called home to rest from her labors before the sun shone on early, Tuesday morning, September 29, 2015. Her voice has been stilled by death but “A Lady of Mt. Pisgah’s Legacy” will

live on by all that knew her.

Sister Pauline was the youngest child of George and Maude Andrews born February 20, 1925 at Hahnemann Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Her brother, George, was born one year earlier, February 1, 1924. They lived at 3734 Sansom Street in the 1930s.

Her brother, George, would go on to serve in the United States Army during World War II. His last place of residence was Howard, Maryland. He died January 12, 2001 and is buried at Garrison Forest Veterans Cemetery, Owings Mills, Maryland, leaving his sister, Pauline, as the last known surviving member of the immediate Andrews family.

Sister Pauline graduated from West Philadelphia High School around 1943 and joined the “Legacy” of another Mt. Pisgahan, Dr. Ruth Wright Hayre, as an alumna of the “Blue and Orange.” Even after 70 some years as a graduate of her alma mater, she could still sing three verses of her school song. Sister Pauline strove for excellence in education and went on to attend Palmer Business School, The Joseph P. and Rebecca Levitan School of Business Administration, Stayers Business School and Temple University. She learned and was proficient at taking notes in shorthand – the Pittman System, of which is a dying shorthand system today.

Unfortunately, the exact date of Sister Pauline joining Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church is not known due to the records being destroyed in the fire of 1943, but her conversations would take you back to the time when the church was located at 4008-12 Locust Street, which could be during the administrations of Reverends Isaac N. Patterson, II (1930 to 1937) or Edward K. Nichols, Sr. (1937 to 1943).

Sister Pauline loved her church and was a devoted and dedicated member. In the Mt. Pisgah’s Historical Journal (1833 to 1948), it notes that Sister Pauline was the President of the Philadelphia Conference Young People’s Missionary Society; Delegate to the Quadrennial Young People’s Missionary Convention held in New Orleans, La., August 1947; secretary of Mt. Pisgah Church School; Member of the Negro History and Culture Club (*now replaced by the present day Historical Committee*); Junior member of the Sarah Allen Guild of Mt. Pisgah, and a member of the Mt. Pisgah Secretarial Staff. Moving forth to the year of 1951, she answered the call in the organization of the Mt. Pisgah Lay Organization under the administration of Reverend Mansfield E. Jackson (1948 to 1958) and was the former corresponding secretary up to 2010. Sister Andrews was also one of the original members and secretary for the Mt. Pisgah LMP Federal Credit Union. Last but not the least, Sister Pauline was an active and life member of the Women’s Missionary Society and traveled extensively for the A.M.E. Church as an Alternate Delegate, Delegate, and Observer for Conventions and General Conferences. She lived to see seven Philadelphia Annual General Conferences hosted by her beloved Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church.

Sister Pauline would be asked to a participant for some of Mt. Pisgah’s Church School’s special programs and from memory gave long and eloquently spoken recitations. Outside of the beautiful poetic speeches, Sister Pauline had a fantastic memory regarding the A.M.E. and Mt. Pisgah Church History. She remembered those faces and names of Mt. Pisgah’s members of days passed, Rachael A. Thomas and Olive C. Drummond, members of Florida Grant Missionary; Charles E. Bostic, Mt. Pisgah Lay Delegate that was present at the infancy stages of the organization of the Lay in 1912, and of course, Joseph F. Walker, first president of Mt. Pisgah’s Lay Organization. She had the opportunity to meet Attorney Herbert L. Dudley, Connectional President of the Lay Organization when he visited Mt. Pisgah in the late 1940s. If you wanted to know something about Mt. Pisgah, one would go to the one who knows or one would be directed to Sister Pauline. I, the writer of this tribute to Sister Pauline, inquired, “Was Mt. Pisgah always located at the corner of 41st and Spring Garden Streets”? Her response was “no,” it was originally located at 40th and Locust Streets. Mt. Pisgah purchased this church from Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church in 1943. Thus, she launched me into a project of researching Mt. Pisgah’s history. A journey I have been on for the last ten years

but that is another story. Sister Pauline was also a member of Mt. Pisgah's Chancel Choir.

Sister Pauline was an employee of the famous Afro American newspaper established in 1884 by Christopher James Perry, Jr., *The Philadelphia Tribune*. According to a recent article in the Tribune, she held the position as an executive secretary.

A SIDE HISTORICAL NOTE

The former Reeves Presbyterian Memorial, now the present Greater Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church, located on the corner of 50th and Aspen Streets has a stained glass window that was dedicated to the Founder of The Philadelphia Tribune, Mr. Christopher James Perry.

Irv Randolph, managing editor of The Philadelphia Tribune, said Andrews was the epitome of an old-school secretary with perfect enunciation and a stickler for grammar. "I both hated and appreciated it when she would hand me marked-up copies of the paper that she had proofread. She didn't miss a thing," Randolph said. "She did not hold her tongue and would let you know if you fell below her high standards. But she could also be very sweet. In the morning, she would greet you with a big, warm smile. She gave me birthday cards that would include a personal message and a couple of dollars in them like a grandmother or a dear aunt would do. She will be missed."

Sister Pauline's newspaper experience carried over to the church. She at times would have a throw-away camera in her pocketbook and would take a picture of her subject at a moment's notice. I have been her subject on several occasions and shall cherish the developed photos given to me by her. She will also be remembered for a brief note or a card sent in the mail. If it were your birthday, a token gift was enclosed. Speaking of "mail", Sister Pauline was the "Official Postmistress of Mt. Pisgah's Christmas mail." A mailbox was prepared for her and a notice placed in the Church

bulletin that she was on duty to deliver Christmas mail to the Church membership during the Christmas holidays. This monumental feat has not been accomplished to date since she retired as Post Mistress in 2010.



We shall remember and cherish the many memories and special times we shared with "A Lady of Legacy of Mt. Pisgah." As a tribute Sister Pauline, the Mt. Pisgah Church School will be distributing to its

members, Historical Footprints with articles from the *Philadelphia Tribune*, covering the year of her birth, 1925.



THERE IS NO DEATH

Gordon Johnstone

I tell you they have not died, They live and breathe with you;
They walk now here at your side, They tell you things are true.
Why dream of poppied sod, When you can feel their breath,
When flower and soul and God, Knows there is no death!

I tell you they have not died, Their hands clasp yours and mine;
They are now but glorified, They have become divine.
They live! They know! They see! They shout with every breath:
All is Eternal life! There is no death!

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

Cheryl Hammond Hopewell, President

Gilroy Reid, 1 st Vice President	Hosea Jackson, 2 nd Vice President	Andree Turner, 3 rd Vice President
Marion G. Bolton, Recording Secretary	Valerie O. Ward, Asst. Recording Secretary	Wanda Ringgold, Corresponding Secretary
Fern Wesley, Treasurer	Anna M. Cobb, Financial Secretary	Mamie Price, Chaplain
Cynthia Douse, Historiographer	Henry Murray, Parliamentarian	Shirley Moore-Harris, Director of Lay Activities
Anita Hanna Matthews, Director of Public Relations		Earl Knight, III, Young Adult Representative

Walter Jeffers, Connectional Director of Public Relations

The Right Reverend Gregory G. M. Ingram, Presiding Prelate - The Reverend Dr. Jessica K. Ingram, Episcopal Supervisor
The First Episcopal District - African Methodist Episcopal Church

“SHOUT-OUT” KIMBERLY REDDICK

Bethlehem A.M.E. Church - Langhorne, PA



Courtesy of: Bill Fraser / Staff Photographer

LANGHORNE COMPANY MAKING A RED CARPET FOR POPE FRANCIS

The historic Langhorne Carpet Co. is weaving a 75-foot-long runner for Pope Francis' visit to Philadelphia, as well as two other carpets that will be used in the rectory at the Basilica of SS Peter & Paul in Philadelphia.

Ms. Kimberly Reddick,

of Pennel prepares to cut cards last month using a design the company team created for Pope Francis.

For unto us a child is born; unto a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called; Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace”.



Wishing You A Joyous Christmas and A Blessed New Year



from: Anita Hanna Matthews



HEADLINES & DEADLINES



The next publication of “OUR VOICES” newsletter will be published in **MARCH 2016**.

Please e-mail all news articles and pictures to: anitamatt@verizon.net. All information you wish to be published must be received by the editor by FEBRUARY 15, 2016. **PLEASE NOTE:** The editor reserves the right to publish and/or edit articles when deemed necessary. Anita Hanna Matthews, Editor - Director of Public Relations – PCLO