



Dr. Tyrone T. Davis
General Secretary
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“From Where I Sit ...”
**Does Your Church Need
A “New” Office Copier?**

If this is a question that has been asked or is being asked in your church family, you may be pleased to know that a ready answer can be found within our own denomination. After several years of planning, research and negotiations, the General Board of Personnel Services consummated an agreement with Konica Minolta Business Solutions (KMBS) to offer to CME congregations the opportunity to purchase an office copier at one of the lowest prices available. Additionally these churches will receive through the General Board of Personnel Services a rebate on their purchase as a part of this economic development initiative.

Endorsed by the College of Bishops, both individually and collectively, this offer will be introduced during the summer months via a mail campaign followed by subsequent phone inquiries to determine interest. Specifically identified models will be suggested to certain congregations based on membership and other factors although the final selection will be determined by the congregation.

Participating on this project with the staff of the General Board of Personnel Services and heading up the team for Konica Minolta is Mr. Barrett Watson, National Account Representative, who successfully completed the negotiations for the national agreement. Several factors influenced the decision to enter into the agreement with Konica Minolta Business Solutions which included an evaluation of the technological enhancements of the Konica Minolta products, an assessment of the record for repair and maintenance, a comparison of cost, and an important consideration for ease of use. Having had the opportunity to use their products at several of our Annual Convocations, our 2006 General Conference and most recently our 2011 General Connectional Board meeting in Memphis has provided an onsite opportunity to evaluate dependability and durability.

After several years of revamping and redesigning the existing programs of the General Board of Personnel Services, this project represents the first of a new wave of economic development initiatives intended to secure either lower cost for CME participation or a return for participation to CME Churches. Economic development initiatives are authorized per ¶1034.7 §3 of the Discipline of the CME Church. As I stated in the introductory letter for the mail campaign, *“Let’s face it! We are already buying office copiers for use in our churches; why not purchase your next copier from a top rated company that has already been vetted by our experience, research and review.”*



In this day and time of economic and financial challenges and where every dollar counts, having a head start procuring office copier equipment and the opportunity to receive a rebate by participating in a national program should prove to be a great assistance to any of our congregations seeking to make a purchase. Or at least that is the way it looks to me ... *“From*

Where I Sit “

Next month's article – Improving Your Fire & Casualty Insurance Plan