



The Anvil

A Quarterly Publication of
the St. Paul AME Church
Lay Organization

4th Quarter 2019

*Moving from Church to Ministry - "...for the
people worked with all their heart." -
Nehemiah 4:6*

- Pastor's Message
- Lay Organization News
- YPD
- Golden Jewels
- Upcoming Events
- Lay Member's Spotlight
- Featured Recipe
- Lay Week October 2019
- Message from First Lady Mrs. Hodges



Links:

- St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
www.stpaulamechurchraleighnc.org
- Western North Carolina Lay
Organization <http://wncclay.org/>
- [Link to Sunday Sermons on church
website](#)



Lay Organization Trivia

1. What are the three types of memberships in the AME Church?
2. When and where was the 1st AME General Conference Held?

Answers on last page!

Happy 2nd Anniversary

Reverend Robert L. Hodges and
First Lady Delores Hodges



Rev. Dr. Lee P. Washington, Retired Pastor, Reid Temple AME, Lanham, Md., Guest Speaker for Pastor's 2nd Anniversary. (pictured w/ Lady Anna Washington)

From the desk of Reverend Hodges...



There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. Ecc. 3:1 NIV

As we approach the chilly and beautiful season of this year, let us not forget God's blessings.

As the trees reflect the bold colors, we also should approach God's throne with holy boldness. Asking Him for nothing but thanking Him boldly for everything.

Take a page out of nature's handbook and see how it thrives. Shedding its leaves, the nakedness of winter, then in the warmth of spring it rejuvenates, then summer comes with its fruit, vegetables and seedlings. "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few". Let's be the laborers God needs.

We cannot predict how God works but we can see His hand in nature and He is faithful.

As the seasons come and go, let us give faithfully and receive God's many blessings while we can.

[Lay Organization News](#)

[Click Here](#) to get the latest issue of [The Lay Express](#) and stay informed on important event dates and empowering news for the National AME Lay Organization!

The St. Paul AME Lay Organization is comprised of the laity (non-clergy) of the church. It operates on all levels of the church: local church, conference, district and connectional levels. The local activities include A.M.E. training at monthly meetings, outreach projects of quarterly birthday parties at the Salvation

Army Shelter for women and children and a quarterly food drive for the Alliance of AIDS/HIV Food Pantry.

Current St. Paul AME Lay President is Carol Davenport Scott. All members of St. Paul AME Church are encouraged to become Lay Organization Members. Annual Membership is just \$10. Meetings are usually the 1st Monday of each month, September thru June at 6:30 pm.

[YPD](#)



"Growing,
Glowing
and Going
for Christ"

The YPD performs community service at the Food Bank and delivers food to Seniors. They meet on the second Saturday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Upcoming youth training programs and opportunities for leadership experiences will be held on November 9, December 14 and January 11.

Please contact Mrs. Lola Houston Hager, YPD Director for more information. She can be reached at 704.305.9101 or by

email at lyhousto@yahoo.com



GOLDEN JEWELS

If you are 55 and older, please join the Golden Jewels for fun, food and fellowship from 10:00 am – 12 noon. The Jewels will meet November 6 & 20 and Dec. 4 & 17 at St. Paul. Please contact Vallarie Harper for more information @ 919.789.3366.

Upcoming Events

- **October 30, November 6, 13, & 20th, Wednesdays, 7pm.** Christian Education Series, "Lectures on the 'Holy Spirit'" by Reverend Robert L. Hodges, Sr.
- **November 9 – St. Paul AME Comedy Night with nationally known comedian Terry Tuff & special guest Debra Terry!** Laughter is still the best medicine. Join us for a laugh out loud evening of comedy. 7pm
- **November 16th Youth Finance Reality of Money & Credit Workshop** Grades 7 – 12 Free, Pre-registration required
- **December 31, 2019** Watch Night Service, 10pm

Events subject to change. Visit our Community Billboard for updates.

<https://stpaulamechurch.wildapricot.org/Billboard>

*The Next Anvil will be published in
January 2020*

Please contact Pam Kelly pamkellyrtpnc@gmail.com or Cecilia Johnson cj3227@gmail.com. Submit articles (in MS-Word) and/or event flyers by December 10th!

Lay Member Spotlight

Frank Weldon – *Wood Craftsman*



Mr. Weldon has been a long-time member of St. Paul AME. Though retired, he remains busy! One of his current projects is the restoration of the St. Paul pulpit chairs. While serving as a

Trustee, Mr. Weldon was asked to move some of the Pulpit chairs due to damage and



tear. After seeing that all the chairs needed care, Mr. Weldon decided to volunteer his talents in restoring them all, in as much as possible, to their former luster and strength. "I

believe I was led to do what I'm doing. I love the history, making connection with our past through things that were done for a reason."

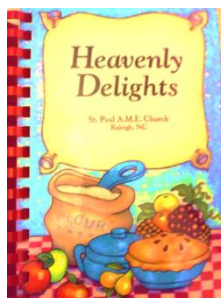
The maker(s) of the chairs and time of manufacture are unknown. "I gather they were probably made around the turn of the twentieth century, based on some of the techniques noted in their construction and the fact that they appear to have been involved in the fire that occurred at St. Paul [in 1909]." Mr. Weldon determined this from the appearance of charring on the wood frames of the chairs.

Mr.



Weldon learned carpentry beginning in high school and has always pursued his love of the craft. When asked whether carpentry remains meaningful in today's mass production economy, he replied, "Yes! Carpentry is the poetry of craftsmanship. It has 'soul', use, and function." When you see his work in restoring the beautiful "nautilus" design of the arm and other features of the St. Paul pulpit chairs, you appreciate exactly what he means! The restoration has not been a solo endeavor and Frank Weldon extends special thanks to fellow St. Paul member, Harry Thompson, who has contributed his talents in wood refinishing to the project.

Featured Recipe from Heavenly Delights by St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh NC



Easy Turkey

Divans pg. 47

This is a great recipe for after Thanksgiving turkey!

- 6 slices turkey or 2 cups cut-up turkey.
- 2 (10 oz.) pkgs. Frozen broccoli spears, cooked and drained
- 6 slices American or cheddar cheese (about 6 oz.)
- 1 (13 ½) can evaporated milk
- 1 (10 ½ oz.) can cream of mushroom soup, condensed
- 1 (3 ½ oz) can French-fried onion rings

Heat oven to 350°. Arrange turkey in ungreased baking dish (11 ½ x 7 ½ x 1 ½). Top with hot broccoli; cover with cheese. Stir together milk and soup, pour over cheese. Bake uncovered for 25 minutes. Sprinkle with onion rings and bake 5 minutes longer. Makes 4 to 6 servings. Enjoy!

Lay Week, October 5-13, 2019



This year's Lay Witness Week began with an uplifting Prayer Breakfast on October 5th, and concluded with "Lay Service Sunday". Our guest speaker was



Bro. Dwight Patterson (5th from left), with the Lay Organization of Greater Bethel, AME Church, Charlotte. His inspiring message was "A Lay Person's Walk" (available on DVD)

Special Year-End Message from our First Lady, Delores Hodges



"Be a Transformer"

We all have an assigned corner of this world that is ours to transform. Our corner includes our lives, our relationships, our homes, our workplaces, our schools and our churches. Every situation we find ourselves in is an opportunity to teach love instead of fear and hate.

What I want you to think about is to name one thing that is within your power to change and change it.

From Reverend and Mrs. Hodges...



Happy Thanksgiving & Merry Christmas to our St. Paul AME Family



Trivia Question Answers:

1. Full, Probationary & Preparatory
2. When: 1816
Where: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania