



The Glove

EASTERN REGION NEWSLETTER



Inside This Issue:

Director's Greeting	Page 1
Eastern Region	Page 2
Maryland	Page 3
Delaware	Page 5
District of Columbia	Page 7
Pennsylvania	Page 17
Virginia	Page 19
Connecticut	Page 24
Massachusetts	Page 25
New York	Page 28

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Director's Greetings

March 2019

"I am the Gate. Anyone who goes through me will be cared for—will freely go in and out, and find pasture. A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better than they ever dreamed of." John 10:9-10 {MSG}

Dear Fellow Doorkeeper:

I greet you in the Precious Name of Our Crucified But Risen Savior, Jesus The Christ!

Once again, as we are in the Lenten Season during our Conference, let's rededicate ourselves to God and to His ushering ministry.

As you reflect on the many trials and tribulations that you have encountered, just remember to keep the Faith. For you can and will endure all. Just keep your eyes on God, not individuals. The Apostle Paul reminds us in Ephesians 6:13 {NASB} "...having done everything, to Stand Firm." Remind yourself—and you especially as a Doorkeeper—that the sole purpose is to serve and give God the glory. For these roadblocks are just preparation steps to a higher plane.

Be encouraged and focus on your blessings, for you are blessed to be a blessing. Just pause, look around, you are BLESSED!

Have a most blessed Resurrection Sunday, but most of all, continue to have a spectacular year in the SON!

Yours In Christ's Service,

Charles J. Brown

Charles J. Brown
National 1st Vice President
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Hurricane Florence Relief Fund

Special thanks to the seven States and several individuals for your contributions to the special Hurricane Florence Relief Fund. Eastern Region Director Charles J. Brown traveled to New Bern, North Carolina on Tuesday, November 20, 2018, to deliver WALMART Gift Cards to Reverend Joan Hopton—the Pastor of Rue Chapel A. M. E. Church. The gift cards were provided to individuals impacted by Hurricane Florence. Because of your generosity, the Region provided cards valued at \$2,400.

Rue Chapel A. M. E. Church is a historic Church that is currently unavailable to be used for services. The Church's Lower Level was inundated with water; thus, mold has to be removed before it can be inhabited once again. In addition, the Church is without electricity and heat.

The Pastor and members of the congregation are very thankful for your thoughtfulness and kindness demonstrated to them. Reverend Hopkins has paid it forward by providing five \$25.00 Gift Cards to Reverend Robert Johnson—the Pastor of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church. After worshipping with them, Reverend Hopton visited the Trent Court Apartments, and gave out additional Gift Cards. The Eastern Region was acknowledged as the providers of the donations. The City is allowing these families to stay until they find a place to live. They have no appliances. Let's keep them lifted up in prayer.

Wishing you God's richest blessings as you continue to bless others in need.

Rue Chapel A. M. E. Church



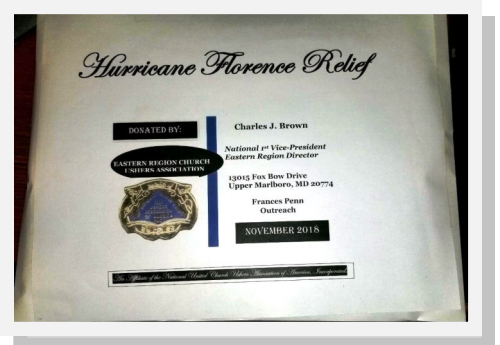
Ms. Sandra Lawson; Eastern Region Director Charles J. Brown; and Reverend Joan Hopton—Pastor



Reverend Joan Hopton presenting Gift Cards to Reverend Robert Johnson—Pastor of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church



Reverend Hopton presenting Gift Cards to residents of Trent Court Apartments





Cynthia Hicks

Maryland

CYNTHIA HICKS—PRESIDENT
GENEVIEVE HALE—CORRESPONDENT

The State of Maryland sponsored our Annual Senior Dinner on December 8, 2018. Over 375 dinners were served to our Seniors, and to a shelter in the Calvert County Unit. A special thank you to Unit President Delores Sewell and the Calvert County Unit for hosting the dinner.

On January 12, 2019, the State celebrated an Open House for our new Headquarters building. We thank Reverend Jesse Young for dedicating the building, and Anne Arundel County Executive Representative for his remarks and presentation of the County Executive Citation. We give thanks to the Board of Trustees for researching and acquiring the building, and for planning the Open House. A special thank you to Ushers Louis Parker—Board Chairman, and Lamar Garrett—Vice Chairman for leading the team in the research.



**Open House
Ribbon Cutting**



Board of Trustees



**County Executive
Citation**



**Junior President –
Maya Tibbs ;
State President –
Cynthia Hicks;
County Executive
Representative
Reverend Jesse
Young**

Organization Day was held on February 3, 2019, in Harford County. Four churches received their sub-charters.

The Anne Arundel County Unit held elections in November 2018, and elected Usher Sherry Blackstone as President and Usher DaèVionna Leonard as Junior President. We congratulated all Elected and Appointed Officers. We congratulate Usher DaèVionna Leonard for being inducted into the National Honor Society.

The Calvert County Unit honored Melvin Sherbert—a local Black businessman—for his outreach efforts in the community and to the Unit.

The Prince George’s Unit welcomed Holy Temple of Praise and Abundant Life Family Fellowship Church to their Unit. They received their sub-charters at the Organization Day Celebration.

Maryland--Continued

The Baltimore Unit held elections on December 7, 2018, and Usher Lamar Garrett was elected President. The Unit welcomed Rising Sun Baptist Church, and Rehoboth Light of the World Church to their Unit. They received their sub-charters at the Organization Day Celebration. We congratulate Usher Gerald A. Hill, Sr. on being honored at the Eastern Region Banquet. Senior Usher Edwinica Merkerson and Junior Usher Athena Queen from the Unit will be honored as Ushers of the Year at our 69th State Convention.

Members of the State are preparing to travel to King of Prussia, Pennsylvania to attend the 62nd Eastern Region Conference.

On April 5-6, 2019, the State will be celebrating our 69th State Convention at Mt. Zion UMC, Magothy, Pasadena, Maryland.

Mary McClenon Alumni Department

We were Bless to give Levite Larry Collick of the Prince George's Unit a gift basket of fruit for Thanksgiving. Thank you, Levite Colette McCorvey Levite. Larry Collick is doing much better. To God be the Glory!

Our Christmas Outreach went to the Baltimore Unit. Ms. Frances' House is a new facility for women and children. They were all given clothing. What a Blessing it is to bless others at Christmas. T hank you, Levite Sylvia L. Graves!



Levite Julia A. Kitchen, Chairman

The Mabel A. Grey Education Committee is collecting new books for their Outreach Project to be presented on Education Night at the Eastern Region Conference.

Sister Ollie Danage, Chairman



Carol C. Norman

Delaware

CAROL C. NORMAN—PRESIDENT
KIMBURLY MURRAY—CORRESPONDENT

“He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy.” Ephesians 4:16 {NLT}

Greetings from the State of Delaware!

November

The ICUA of Delaware Christmas Cheer / Golden Age Banquet was held at Whatcoat United Methodist Church on Saturday—November 17, 2018. Sixteen Ushers were honored with Golden Age certificates.

The ICUA of Delaware participated in the Annual IMAC Thanksgiving Day Service at Bethel A.M.E. Church in Wilmington, Delaware on November 22, 2018.

December

The ICUA of Delaware held its 7th Annual Toy Drive at Union Baptist Church on Saturday—December 15, 2018. Each child was able to select three toys, and a brand new coat along with hat and gloves. They were so excited and appreciative. We were able to bless over 100 children.



January

The ICUA of Delaware participated in the IMAC Martin Luther King Day Celebration. It was held at New Destiny Fellowship Church in Wilmington, Delaware on Sunday—January 20, 2019.

Delaware--Continued

February

The ICUA of Delaware Education Program was held on Saturday—February 9, 2019, at Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1325 Barksdale Road, in Newark, Delaware.

March

The ICUA of Delaware Memorial Weekend was held March 9-10, 2019, at Bethel A.M.E. Church, 602 Walnut Street in Wilmington, Delaware. Reverend Silvester S. Beaman is the Pastor.

- ⇒ Saturday: Ministry in Songs at 7:00 PM; Unit 3 Chorus and John Wesley UM Church Choir
- ⇒ Sunday: Memorial Service at 2:30 PM. Sermon by Reverend Francena Orr—Pastor of Emmanuel A.M.E. Church in Hartley, Delaware

Delaware Delegates traveled to the 62nd Annual Eastern Region Conference at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania on March 29-30, 2019.





District of Columbia



Pansy Bradley-Cooper

PANSY BRADLEY-COOPER—PRESIDENT
ERMA J. MCCRAY—CORRESPONDENT
WRITTEN BY—SANDI DOTSON

“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”
 1 Corinthians 1:10 {KJV}

We bring you greetings on behalf of President Pansy Bradley-Cooper, Vice President Brenda D.C. Gilliam, and Board Chairman Ronald L. Jones. We all hope that you are having an enjoyable year thus far.

In keeping with President Pansy Bradley-Cooper’s goal to recognize a member in each Department / Committee for their outstanding contributions, the Alma Cooper Hawkins Public Relations Department recognized Assistant Director Brenda J. Sellers—from First Baptist Church-Randolph Street in the Northwest Sector of the District—at the September 2018 Business Meeting.

The ICUA held its Pastors’ Appreciation Fellowship on Saturday–September 15, 2018, at Macedonia Community Church—our home away from home—in the Northeast sector of the District of Columbia. This event was the brainchild of President Pansy Bradley-Cooper as a way to pay tribute to our member Pastors, and to show our appreciation to them for allowing their Ushers to be part of the ICUA. The Welcome was given by our Junior Ushers.



There were 28 Pastors in attendance along with their special guests. The Fellowship Hall was elegantly decorated, and filled to capacity. Each Pastor was introduced, and received a special “thank-you” gift from the ICUA. A special Certificate of Appreciation and gift were presented to Elder Alfred H. McCain, Sr.—the Pastor of Macedonia Community Church—for his contributions to the community, and for always opening the doors of his Church to the ICUA. In his words of thanks, Elder McCain stated that the ICUA is his Church, and he loves us. Eastern Region Director and 1st National Vice President Charles J. Brown gave the Occasion for this most auspicious event. Prior to the Benediction that was given by Host Pastor

Elder McCain, Reverend Ronald K. Minor, Sr.—the Pastor of The First Baptist Church of Deanwood in Northeast DC—offered a special prayer for the victims of Hurricane Florence in the Carolinas.

District of Columbia—Continued



Special Presentation to Elder Alfred H. McCain, Sr.—Pastor Macedonia Community Church

The highlight of this event was a “Marching Competition” between member churches. Any Team with their Pastor as a participant received an additional 10 points. There were four Teams participating: First Baptist Church of Highland Park; Hemingway Memorial A. M. E. Church; Miles Memorial C. M. E. Church; and Mount Moriah Baptist Church. Rev. Dr. Henry P. Davis, III—Pastor of First Baptist Church of Highland Park—and Reverend Juliano A. Andujo—Pastor of Miles Memorial C. M. E. Church—were members of their respective Teams. The Gold Medal winner was Miles Memorial C. M. E. Church; the Silver Medal Winner was First Baptist Church of Highland Park; and the Bronze Medal winner was Hemingway Memorial A. M. E. Church. The Team from Mount Moriah Baptist Church received “Honorable Mention” Ribbons. President Pansy Bradley-Cooper was a member of the Team from Miles Memorial, and Eastern Region Director / National 1st Vice President Charles J. Brown was a member of the Hemingway Memorial Team. Certificates of Participation were given to the each Team.

ICUA Pastors’ Appreciation Fellowship— Marching Competition Teams

From Far Left: Mount Moriah Baptist Church; Hemingway Memorial A. M. E. Church {Team includes Eastern Region Director / 1st National Vice President Charles J. Brown}; Miles Memorial C. M. E. Church with Reverend Juliano A. Andujo—Pastor {Team includes ICUA President Pansy Bradley-Cooper; and First Baptist Church of Highland Park with their Pastor Rev. Dr. John H. Jenkins; Board



Miles Memorial C. M. E. Church
Marching Competition Team
With their Pastor—
Reverend Juliano A. Andujo



District of Columbia -- Continued

Members of the ICUA
Pastors' Appreciation Committee



The ICUA celebrated its Combined Anniversary of 106 years for the Senior Department; 50 years for the Young Adult Department; and 92 years for the Junior and Young People's Department with a Musical Concert on Sunday—September 16, 2018, at Maple Springs Baptist Church in Capitol Heights, Maryland. The Officers looked wonderful as they processed into the Sanctuary in various shades of purple. The guest artist was the James Fenimore Cooper Male Chorus from St. John Baptist Church in Columbia, Maryland. Trustee Dwight D. Williams, Sr! was the lead Usher for the Officers during the Offering March. He led the Officers around the Church with an awesome strut. They had to pay close attention as he backed them up, and moved side to side across the front of the Sanctuary. The members of the Membership Services and Outreach Department {MSOD} were the serving Ushers. Their Offering March was led by Rev. Dr. Robin A. Toogood, II—the Pastor of Purity Baptist Church. Dr. Toogood is 6'5" tall, and loves to march. It was truly a sight to behold with all of the Ushers marching in step. Rev. Dr. Keith W. Byrd, Sr.—Pastor of Zion Baptist Church-Northwest—gave the offertory prayer. He told the Ushers to keep marching for the Lord.



Trustee Dwight D. Williams, Sr!
leading the ICUA Officers in the
Offering March Strut

Rev. Dr. Keith W. Byrd, Sr.
Pastor—Zion Baptist Church-Northwest
Giving the Offertory Prayer



District of Columbia—Continued



Rev. Dr. Robin A. Toogood, II—Pastor of Purity Baptist Church—leading the serving Ushers {MSOD} for the Offering March

President Pansy Bradley-Cooper presented her Presidential Awards to the following persons:

Elder Alfred H. McCain, Sr., Trustee Marie Thomas, and Reverend Charles B. Carroll—of Macedonia Community Church—for their continued support of the ICUA, and always opening their doors to us. This is our second home. Trustee Thomas and Reverend Carroll are in charge of the Culinary Ministry at Macedonia, and Elder McCain is the Pastor.

Donna Irick—for her dedication, hard work, and support of ICUA activities.

Trustee Frances S. Penn—For her work with outreach activities in the ICUA, the Eastern Region, NUCUAA, and the community.

Juanita Prophet—Director, Budget and Finance Department—for her hard work and dedication to the ICUA.

Dr. Patricia C. McCrimmon—For her work as Co-Chairman of the Committee to raise funds to assist the District of Columbia with hosting the 2018 Eastern Region Conference.

Mary J. Samuel—For her work as Co-Chairman of the Committee to raise funds to assist the District of Columbia with hosting the 2018 Eastern Region Conference.

Rev. Dr. Keith W. Byrd, Sr.—Pastor of Zion Baptist Church-Northwest—for serving as the Host Pastor of the 61st Eastern Region Conference, and allowing the ICUA to use his Church for the Pre-Memorial Musical and the Memorial Service. Dr. Byrd is one of a kind, and his presence during our Conference will always be remembered. He offered a special prayer over the books that were donated to Leckie Elementary School in the District of Columbia by the Mabel A. Grey Education Committee.

Jean Jalloh—for her diligence in working with the ICUA and Zion Baptist Church-Northwest to facilitate the hosting of the 61st Eastern Region Conference.

Vice President Brenda D. C. Gilliam presented the 2018 Guardian of the Year Award. There were eight submissions, and the competition was fierce. For the first time, there was a tie. The 2018 Guardian of the Year Award was presented to Helon V. Smith {Tenth Street Baptist Church} and Trustee Dwight D. Williams, Sr! {Hemingway Memorial A. M. E. Church}. Congratulations for your dedication to your Guardian churches! Ms. Smith was not in attendance, and received her award at a later date.



During his remarks, Eastern Region Director / National 1st Vice President Charles J. Brown congratulated the ICUA on **106 years** of service to the Lord in the ministry of ushering. He invited St. John Baptist Church—whose Male singing group was the guest Musical Artist—to consider becoming members of the Eastern Region Church Ushers Association and NUCUAA.

District of Columbia -- Continued

Closing remarks and the Benediction were given by Rev. Dr. Jerome {Sam} Tarver—Pastor of Maple Springs Baptist Church. He informed the attendees that he was installed as the Pastor in January of 2018. He served as an Usher for 5 years prior to becoming a Minister, so he knows what the Ushers have to deal with.

Delegates from the District of Columbia traveled to Beltsville, Maryland for the Eastern Region Mid-Year Meeting on Saturday—September 22, 2018. We supported the State of Maryland at their Pre-Memorial Musical on Saturday night, and their Memorial Service on Sunday—September 23, 2018, at Queen’s Chapel A. M. E. Church. The Mabel C. Cooper Chorus sang “Grace,” and were accompanied by our Musician, Evangelist Stevie Henry. The Holy Spirit came into the Sanctuary during their rendition, and the Church—led by the Host Pastor—had a “Praise Break.” The Word was brought by the Host Pastor—Reverend William E. Butler. His Sermon topic was *“Tightening Your Grip—Don’t Quit,”* and the scriptural reference was Hebrews 12:1-2. Reverend Butler began by singing *“My Soul Has Been Anchored In The Lord.”*

On Monday—October 8, 2018, at the ICUA Business Meeting held at First Rising Mount Zion Baptist Church in the Northwest sector of the city, a special presentation was made by the Events Department. The proceeds from the \$25.00 donations for deceased Ushers are given to a charity selected by the Annie B. Bailey Memorial Working Unit. These funds are matched by the ICUA. This year, \$1,350 was donated to the Pancreatic Cancer Network. Ms. Maggie Walsh—the Community Relationship Manager—attended the Business Meeting to accept the donation from President Pansy Bradley-Cooper and the Events Department. Ms. Walsh provided some information on pancreatic cancer, and explained how they work with patients. It is the 3rd leading cause of cancer. Literature was also distributed to the members.



Pictured Left to Right: Assistant Events Department Director Alma J. Edwards; Events Director Eunice B. Wise; President Pansy Bradley-Cooper; Annie B. Bailey Memorial Working Unit Coordinator Angela Walker-Suttles; and Maggie Walsh

On Saturday—October 27, 2018, the Christine M. Green Women’s Day Committee held its Annual “Everyone’s Birthday” Celebration at Mount Ephraim Baptist Church in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The Theme was “Prince and Princess,” with a color scheme of black and white. This is a major event for the Women. The honorees were Mother of the ICUA Elaine S. Flanagan as the Princess, and Father of the ICUA Roy L. Kelly as the Prince. There were crowns for each of them. Honorary President Christine E. Ford was presented a beautiful scarf with her name embroidered on it. We were blessed to have in attendance Honorary President / Eastern Region Director / NUCUAA 1st Vice President Charles J. Brown, and our beautiful 1st Lady—Priscilla Brown. Also in attendance were three of our Honorary Pastors: Rev. Dr. A. C. Michael Durant—Tenth Street Baptist Church in Northwest DC; Reverend L. Nolan Fox—Enon Baptist Church in Northeast DC; and Rev. Dr. Robin A. Toogood, II—Purity Baptist Church in Northeast DC. Dr. Toogood was a participant in the “Parade To Fashion.” Congratulations to Coordinator Druscilla J. Smalls for a job well done!

District of Columbia -- Continued

The 2018-2019 session of the Catherine E. Mills School of Ushering began on Thursday—November 1, 2018. There are two locations again this year: Maya Angelou Public Charter School in the Northeast sector of the city, and a Saturday Class at First Rock Baptist Church in Southeast. The Saturday Class is for Junior Ushers only.

The Technical Print Team—under the auspices of the Board of Trustees—was very busy this year. They completed 33 print jobs. Their work has paid for the Association's Xerox Copier for 2018. Following the 99th NUCUAA Convention, the Technical Print Team received a job request from the NUCUAA Board of Directors—our first on the National Level—to type labels, print and fold letters, affix the labels to envelopes, fold and stuff the letters, and mail them to every Ushers' Ministry President and Pastor in the NUCUAA Organization. There was a total of 1,888 letters. This project was spearheaded by Trustee Sandi Dotson, with assistance from Trustee Erma J. McCray; Trustee Frances S. Penn; Trustee Geraldine V. Washington; Trustee Betsy H. Parrish; Board Chairman Ronald L. Jones; and Eastern Region Director / 1st National Vice President Charles J. Brown. This was a very tedious and time-consuming Project. However, with teamwork, dedication, and commitment, the Team was able to complete this Project in a timely manner. Congratulations were extended to the Technical Print Team for a job well done! Please consider the Technical Print Team for your future printing needs.

The Membership Services and Outreach Department {MSOD}—under the direction of Meleanie R. Lowery—again spearheaded the Arlene L. Robinson Coat Drive that provides new coats to elementary-school children in the District of Columbia and Prince George's County. A total of 103 coats was given to four schools in the District of Columbia: Wheatley Elementary School; Charles Houston Elementary School; H. D. Cook Elementary School; and Burrville Elementary School.

The Randy L. Perrin Men's Day Committee held their Annual Thanksgiving Day Project. Their goal is to donate Thanksgiving meals to individuals and / or families in need. Perishable and non-perishable donations are received from member churches. Along with donations, each Church is asked to submit the name of an individual or family in need. Members of the Committee—along with volunteers from the Association and Junior Ushers—put the baskets together. A total of 35 Thanksgiving baskets were donated this year to include a turkey and other food items.

At the November Business Meeting, the members donated \$500.00 to support the Eastern Region's Hurricane Florence Relief Fund.

The Young Adult Department celebrated their 50th Anniversary—and Leroy Johnson Tag Day—with a Luncheon / Program on Sunday—November 18, 2018. The theme was "Young, Gifted, and Highly Favored: Celebrating 50 Years of Faithfulness," with a scriptural reference of 1 Timothy 4:12-16. This was a unique program that brought together past Young Adult Presidents. The Worship Leader was National Young Adult Counselor Romaine A. Wilkins. Testimonies were heard from Past Young Adult Presidents Leslie Rogers-Brown; E. Bobby Williams; and Minister Bruce D. Hastly, Sr. Additional past Young Adults were recognized. In attendance were Honorary President / Eastern Region Director / 1st National Vice President Charles J. Brown, and his lovely wife—Priscilla. It was good to see so many of the Young Adults who were the backbone of the Department in years past. The current Young Adult Counselor is Roslyn Moore—Past National Young Adult President, and the current Young Adult President is Karisse A. Carmack.



District of Columbia — Continued

On Sunday—December 1, 2018, the Randy L. Perrin Men’s Day Committee and the Christine M. Green Women’s Day Committee held their Annual Men’s and Women’s Day Program at Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Temple Hills, Maryland. The Theme was “Serve the Lord With Gladness,” with a scriptural reference of Psalm 100:2. The program had singing by the ICUA Mabel C. Cooper Chorus, the Mighty Men of Reid, and the Peace Baptist Male Chorus. We were ministered to in dance by Addicted 2 Jesus. What a wonderful celebration! President Pansy Bradley-Cooper presented the “Alma Cooper Hawkins Woman of the Year Award” to Honorary President Christine E. Ford from Mount Jezreel Baptist Church in Silver Spring, Maryland. She has been an Usher for 59 years. She served in many different Departments and Committees before being elected as President in 1993. The Man of the Year was not in attendance, and his award was presented at the ICUA Business Meeting on December 10, 2018. Also in attendance were Young Adult President Karisse A. Carmack; Father of the ICUA Roy L. Kelly, and Honorary President George J. Irick. This event is a fundraising project. Every Usher was asked to donate \$10.00, and all of the names were listed in the program.



President Pansy Bradley-Cooper; Honorary President Christine E. Ford; and Mrs. Ford’s Granddaughter



The Election of Officers for 2019 was held on Monday—December 10, 2018, at Matthews Memorial Baptist Church in the Southeast sector of the city. The slate of Officers presented at the November Business Meeting was unopposed, duly elected, and installed at the December Business Meeting. The Officers were installed by the newly-elected Senior Pastor of Matthews Memorial Baptist Church—Rev. Dr. Joseph D. Turner—who had been the Pastor for 7 months. He also became an Honorary Pastor of the ICUA, receiving his ICUA Pin from Honorary President / Eastern Region Director / 1st National Vice President Charles J. Brown.

President Pansy Bradley-Cooper presented the Archie A. Anderson “Man of the Year” Award to Honorary President Darrell W. Johnson. The presentation was done at this time because Honorary President Johnson was not in attendance at the Men’s and Women’s Day Program held in December. Congratulations are extended to Honorary President Johnson on receiving this most prestigious Award.



On behalf of the Randy L. Perrin Men’s Day Committee, Vice Chairman Clarence O. Dillahunt, Sr. presented a special Certificate of Appreciation to Chairman George J. Irick for his service with the Committee.



The 2018 fundraiser for the Allan A. C. Griffith Alumni Working Unit in the Education and Scholarship Department was a Light Bulb Rally. A donation of \$700.40 was presented to Ms. Patty Gonzalez—Accounts Receivable and Donor Relations Assistant—from Bread For The City. Bread For The City provides legal services, food, clothing, medical, social services, and advocacy

Pictured Left to Right: Alumni Working Unit Coordinator Martha H. to low income residents.
Falkner; Education and Scholarship Department Director Phyllis P. Dorsey; Patty Gonzalez—Bread For The City; and President Pansy Bradley-Cooper

District of Columbia -- Continued



Front Row: Romaine A. Wilkins; Vice President Brenda Gilliam; President Pansy Bradley-Cooper; Board Chairman Ronald L. Jones; Dolores Wallace; Secretary Sandi Dotson;
Back Row: Frances S. Penn; Marie C. Thomas; Geraldine V. Washington; Dwight D. Williams, Sr!; Betsy H. Parrish; Courtenaye R. Nelson; Erma J. McCray
Not Pictured: Vice Chairman Cynthia C. Archie and Myrtle A. Allen

The Board of Trustees culminated a very successful year with a Christmas Fellowship on Friday—December 14, 2018, at the Hecht Warehouse in the Northeast sector of the city. Their invited guests were Roy L. Kelly—Father of the ICUA; Elaine S. Flanagan—Mother of the ICUA; Honorary Presidents Christine E. Ford, Charles J. Brown, Sarah A. Crawley, George J. Irick, and Darrell W. Johnson; Young Adult President Karisse A. Carmack; Junior President Vashone Muse; and our Honorary Trustees—Rev. Dr. Keith W. Byrd, Sr., Elder Alfred H. McCain, and Reverend Larry Phillip McCray. The Board bid farewell to Trustee Frances S. Penn and Trustee Courtenaye R. Nelson as they completed two 6-year terms. New Trustees Eric J. Kirby and Juanita Prophet were welcomed to the Board of Trustees. In December 2018, the Board of Trustees elected the following Officers for 2019: Ronald L. Jones—Board Chairman; Cynthia C. Archie—Vice Chairman; and Sandi Dotson—Secretary.

The Prince George's County Health and Human Services sponsored their Annual Red and Gold Senior Holiday Gala at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt, Maryland on December 11, 2018. Our very own Anna M. Rowe from Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Northwest DC sang the "National Anthem" at this event. As a reminder, Ms. Rowe was the Catherine E. Mills School of Ushering Queen for Class "A" who won 1st Place in the George T. Grier School of Ushering King and Queen Contest at the 99th NUCUAA Convention. Ms. Rowe has the voice of a songbird. Congratulations, Anna, on this prestigious honor! Attendees were asked to donate new unwrapped hats, scarves, mittens, or gloves to help those less fortunate for the holiday season. Our own President—Pansy Bradley-Cooper—was in attendance.



The District of Columbia Ushers answered the call from Eastern Region Director Charles J. Brown to provide support for Federal employees and Contractors affected by the recent furlough. They were asked to donate \$25.00 Gift Cards from Walmart, VISA, Giant, Gas Cards, and cash. There were 38 Ushers who were furloughed. Donations in the amount of \$1,955 were received from our membership, and distributed at our Business Meeting on February 11, 2019. **Thank you!** We are proud of our Ushers for stepping up to the plate to offer assistance to others in need.



On Saturday—December 14, 2018, the Education and Scholarship Department came together to celebrate the Christmas Season with a Fellowship at the Red Lobster Restaurant in Alexandria, Virginia. In attendance were President Pansy Bradley-Cooper; Vice President Brenda Gilliam; Board of Trustees' Chairman Ronald L. Jones; Vice Board of Trustees' Chairman Cynthia C. Archie; Director Phyllis P. Dorsey; and Assistant Director Betty M. Bright—all of whom are Instructors in the Catherine E. Mills School of Ushering, and members of the Department. Board Chairman Jones was the only male in the midst of a bevy of beautiful ladies. They all enjoyed the fellowship.

District of Columbia—Continued

The Christmas Outreach Project for the Education and Scholarship Department was to again bless a family in need who was recommended by one of our members. Sponsored by the Allan A. C. Griffith Alumni Working Unit, they selected a father with 8-year old triplet boys—Sunni, Future, and Petey Demer. Gift selections for the boys were sent to the members in advance for purchasing. A Fellowship was held at the ICUA Headquarters on Saturday—December 22, 2018. The boys were unable to attend, but their father—Petey Demer—was present to accept the wrapped gifts. Each of the boys are Junior Ushers, and they requested the appropriate clothing to serve in. There was food, drink, fun, and gifts. Mr. Demer was extremely happy to receive the many gifts on behalf of his boys. Each child had a Sponsor for a suit, and other items of clothing for their ushering duties.



Shirley Mickel; Assistant Alumni Coordinator Jeannette S. Riddick; Assistant Education and Scholarship Department Director Betty M. Bright; Alumni Coordinator Martha H. Falkner; President Pansy Bradley-Cooper; Petey Demer; Education and Scholarship Department Director Phyllis P. Dorsey; Board Chairman Ronald L. Jones; and Onetia J. Evans at the Alumni Working Unit Christmas Fellowship for the triplets

Our Appointed Officers were to have been installed at the January Business Meeting. However, due to inclement weather, the Business Meeting was canceled. The Installation of Officers took place at the February Business Meeting held at St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church in the Southeast sector of the city. Congratulations to all of our Officers! We are looking forward to great things from each of you this year.

The Annual Re-Dedication Service was held on Sunday—January 20, 2019, at Greater People's Union Baptist Church in the Southeast sector of the city. This was our first program of the year. The theme was "It's A Blessing To Serve The Lord," with a scriptural reference of Deuteronomy 11:13. Music was rendered by the ICUA's Mabel C. Cooper Chorus, and Worship Through Dance was performed by the Consecrated Movement Mime Dancers. Remarks were given by Honorary President / Eastern Region Director / 1st National Vice President Charles J. Brown, and Senior President Pansy Bradley-Cooper. The Preached Word was brought to us by Reverend James L. Dawkins, Sr.—the Pastor. This is where the Ushers re-dedicate their service to the Lord in mind, body, and soul by renewing their love for Him. Pastor Dawkins' scriptural references were Deuteronomy 11:13-14; Isaiah 40:29-30; Proverbs 29:18; John 11:25; and Romans 12:2.

Since our January Business Meeting was canceled due to inclement weather, Presidential Addresses were given by Senior President Pansy Bradley-Cooper; Young Adult President Karisse A. Carmack; and Junior President Vashone Muse at the Vision Planning Meeting at Macedonia Community Church on Saturday—January 26, 2019. Greetings were brought by Elder Alfred H. McCain—the Pastor of Macedonia Community Church. He called up all Federal Government employees, and offered a special prayer for them. One of President Bradley-Cooper's goals for celebrating our 107th Anniversary is a fundraiser featuring "200 Ushers In White." Remarks were given by Honorary President / Eastern Region Director / 1st National Vice President Charles J. Brown; Honorary Presidents Christine E. Ford and George J. Irick; Vice President Brenda Gilliam; Young Adult President Karisse A. Carmack; and Junior Vice President Jeremiah Catoe. Closing Remarks and the Benediction were given by Elder Alfred H. McCain.

District of Columbia -- Continued

President Bradley-Cooper began her Presidential Address by playing the song "I Want Your Glory." Her theme for 2019 is again "The Power of Love and Unity," with a scriptural reference of 1 Corinthians 1:10. Her goals are to increase communication; increase membership in the Senior, Young Adult, and Junior and Young People's Departments; Increase Outreach Projects; hold specialized Workshops; increase the Thanksgiving Basket donations; a Women's Retreat; another Fun and Games Evening; and 200 Ushers In White. In concluding her Address, President Bradley-Cooper asked the members to **"THINK"** before they speak: **T**—Is it True?; **H**—Is it Helpful?; **I**—Is it Inspiring?; **N**—Is it Necessary?; **K**—Is it Kind?

Young Adult President Karisse A. Carmack's theme for 2019 is "Honoring Christ Through Faith and Service," with a scriptural reference of Ephesians 2:8-10. The Department's goals for 2019 are to encourage communication with current and past Young Adults; and to perform one community service activity per quarter. The Department is very small with only seven members, but they are very dedicated and hard-working. Junior President Vashone Muse gave the Address for the Junior and Young People's Department. Their theme for 2019 is "Staying Ignited in the Lord's Name." The Department's goals are to increase membership; and to serve by themselves for two Sermons.

Upcoming Events

- ⇒ Elijah A. Hamilton / William H. Davis National Day Program—March 10, 2019
- ⇒ 107th Memorial Service—March 17, 2019
- ⇒ Catherine E. Mills School of Ushering Graduation—April 6, 2019
- ⇒ Excel Workshop—April 13, 2019 {Beginners and Advanced}
- ⇒ Young Adult Outreach at the Capitol Area Food Bank—April 13, 2019
- ⇒ June D. May Building Fund Prayer Breakfast—April 20, 2019
- ⇒ Rhonda M. Jackson Pre-Mother's Day Luncheon—May 4, 2019
- ⇒ ICUA Open House—May 18, 2019
- ⇒ Alberta T. Leonard "Golden Age Luncheon"—June 1, 2019
- ⇒ Vicie Juran Luncheon / Pageant—June 22, 2019
- ⇒ Family and Friends Day—August 17, 2019
- ⇒ Christine M. Green Women's Day Crab Feast—August 24, 2019
- ⇒ Pre-Anniversary Celebration—September 14, 2019
- ⇒ 107th Anniversary—September 15, 2019
- ⇒ Women's Retreat—September 21, 2019
- ⇒ Allan A. C. Griffith Alumni Luncheon—October 12, 2019
- ⇒ Christine M. Green Women's Day "Everyone's Birthday" Celebration—October 26, 2019





Pennsylvania

Reverend William Clark

REVEREND WILLIAM CLARK—PRESIDENT
GERALDINE THOMAS—CORRESPONDENT

Philadelphia Unit

The Philadelphia Church Ushers and the ICUA of Pennsylvania are saddened at the transition of Sister Vivian P. Williams of AME Union Church where she was a loyal, committed, and dedicated member. Services were held on Saturday—February 16, 2019. She served as Past National Supervisor of the Junior and Young People's Department; Supervisor of the youth of the Philadelphia Church Ushers Association; a member of the Eastern Region Scholarship Committee; and a Vice President of the ICUA of Pennsylvania. She will be missed by all who knew her.



The following churches will be overserving their Annual Day during the month of March:

- ⇒ Mt. Tabor A.M.E. Church—March 3, 2019
- ⇒ Mt. Zion United Methodist Church—March 10, 2019
- ⇒ Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church—March 17, 2019

Pennsylvania's Memorial Service will be held at Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church on Sunday—March 3, 2019, at 2:30 PM.

Congratulations to the honorees at the 62nd Annual Eastern Region Recognition Banquet, especially our own Sister Gloria Johnson!

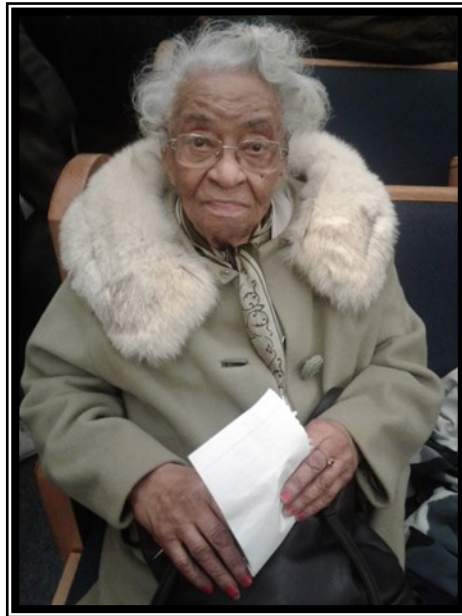
Brother Ralph "Chuckie" Guy thanks everyone for your cards and prayers. Please continue to pray for him.

Pennsylvania-Continued

ICUA of Chester and Vicinity

The ICUA of Chester and Vicinity held its Annual Sermons on Sunday—December 9, 2018, at Community Baptist Church, where Reverend Thaddeus Kirkland is the Pastor. At the Service, we remember our deceased Ushers for the year, and also give out scholarships. For the year 2018, we presented five youth with scholarships. Three \$500.00 scholarships were given by the Association, and two \$400.00 scholarships were given by families “In Memory of Deceased Ushers.” These were the Celeste Leake and the Doris Copeland Memorial Scholarships. We thank the families for their contributions to our youth!

On January 6, 2019, our oldest Usher and Mother of our Association—Sister Annabell Wright—celebrated her **105th** Birthday. Not only is she the oldest Usher, but she is thought to be the oldest resident of the City of Chester. A celebration was held at her beloved Church—St. Peter’s Union African Methodist Episcopal Church—where the Pastor is Reverend Tyrone Gilliam Sr. Sister Wright—who still lives alone—is active in her Church and the Association. Congratulations to Sister Wright!





Jerdleen Boffman

Virginia

JERDLEEN BOFFMAN—PRESIDENT
JANAS HOWARD—CORRESPONDENT
WRITTEN BY—GENA RANDALL

“God planned for us to do good things and to live as he has always wanted us to live. That’s why he sent Christ to make us what we are.” Ephesians 2:10 {CEV}

God planned for us to do good things and to live as he has always wanted us to live. This is why he sent Christ to make us what we are. Ephesians 2:10 (CEV)

To God be the Glory! We made it through another year. Each of us has had some good days and some not so good days, but we made it. Below are some of our highlights since September 2018. Continue to pray for us, and we will continue to pray for you.

September 2018

The Kensey M. Lewis School of Ushering Classes started along with requested individual Church workshops.

On Saturday - September 15, 2018, the ICUA of Virginia, Inc. held its annual Lillian N. Butler Prayer Breakfast in Springfield {District #1}. In addition to the prayers for the Association, our Youth, and the Nation, we honored two ladies who have helped move our Association forward over many years. Sister Jeanette Devins of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church {District #1}, and Sister Mary Lawrence of Shiloh Baptist Church {District #1}. Congratulations to both of these fine ladies!



Jeannette A. Devins



Mary H. Lawrence

Virginia--Continued

Members of our Association were in Beltsville, Maryland on Saturday—September 22, 2018, and Sunday—September 23, 2018, to attend the Eastern Region Mid-Year Meeting, and the ICUA of Maryland Memorial Services. Each person in attendance experienced a blessed weekend.

October

On Saturday—October 13, 2018, our Training and Development Chairman—Dr. Constance (Connie) Bails—and her staff produced a well-attended Seminar on “Being Prepared for Life Changing Events” at the First Baptist Church in Vienna {District #1}.

On Saturday—October 20, 2018, and Sunday—October 21, 2018, members of District #1 spent the weekend in Burgaw, Wilmington, and Atkinson, North Carolina to deliver and distribute care packages to those affected by Hurricane Florence. On Saturday—October 20, 2018, approximately 150 individuals were fed a lunch at the American Legion in Burgaw. On Sunday—October 21, 2018, the Team attended morning Worship Service at Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church in Atkinson. Financial donations were received from members of the Virginia Delegation as well as NUCUAA and Shriner Temple, Salah Al-Din Temple #234, to assist with the trip. A total of 165 adult care packages and 24 children’s care packages were delivered, with an additional 230 packages collected by churches and individuals from Districts #1, #2, #3 and #4. Recipients were surprised and appreciative of the donations and prayers.

November

On Saturday—November 17, 2018, we held our Mid-Year Meeting at New Hope Baptist Church in Chesapeake, Virginia hosted by District #6. Our outreach efforts were to support the Camelot Elementary School in Chesapeake, Virginia with approximately 94 books onsite, and monetary donations used to purchase approximately 25 additional books. The representatives that received our donations were Mr. Robert Sander—Principal, and Ms. Pamela Andrews—Librarian, with each accompanied by their daughters.

December

On December 16, 2018, the Ushers in District #1 sponsored a Christmas Musical with local ministry participants. The program was held at the Herndon Community Center.

Holiday Christmas fellowships were held on: December 7, 2018, in District #1, and December 8, 2018, in District #3. Good food and fun were in abundance at both fellowships.

From December 17, 2018 until February 10, 2019, we went into hibernation with the animals. As the Ushers’ Association, we were on break. However, individual Church ministries were busy as ever with their own Christmas programs; Watch Night Services; Martin Luther King, Jr. Days of Service; and Black History events. When inclement weather reared its head, we spent time with God and family and helped our neighbors. Our Annual Ushers’ Anniversaries started on February 10, 2019. Since we have seven active

Virginia-Continued

Districts—and over 100 churches—across the State, we will not list each Annual Sermon attended. Prayerfully each Service will be blessed by the Holy Spirit, and God will be edified.

March

On Saturday—March 2, 2019, and Sunday—March 3, 2019, some of our members ventured to New Jersey to help the ICUA of New Jersey recognize and honor the angels of their Association.

On Saturday—March 2, 2019, Friday—March 8, 2019, and Saturday—March 9, 2019, District #2 Junior Ushers Gabriella Chichester, Tiana Minor, and Kristeena Kenny {all State Officers}, and Senior Usher Sister Maurita Washington performed for The Afro-American Historical Association {AAHA} of Fauquier County in their Annual Black History Play entitled "**Framed**" directed by Pastor Lemuel Montgomery. The Play was held at the Afro-American Historical Association in The Plains, Virginia. For more information about the Museum, please see www.aahafauquier.org.

The District #3 Ushers held their Elijah Hamilton Tag Day on Saturday—March 9, 2019, at 4:00 PM at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 135 Chapel Green Road in Fredericksburg.

On Saturday—March 23, 2019, the Virginia Memorial Committee sponsored a trip to the Riverside Center for the Performing Arts in Fredericksburg, Virginia for dinner and the play *The Color Purple*.

The Virginia Delegation looks forward to traveling to King of Prussia, Pennsylvania on Friday—March 29, 2019, and Saturday—March 30, 2019, to attend the 62nd Annual Eastern Region Conference. On the evening of Saturday—March 30, 2019, we will join the other Delegates in recognizing our own Cheryl D. Allen along with four other well deserving and long overdue servants at the Johnnie F. Knighton Recognition Banquet. Congratulations to Sisters Gloria Johnson {PA}, Leslie Tatum {MA}, W. Ruth Beckham {NY} and Brother Gerald Hill {MD}.

On Sunday—March 30, 2019, if it is in God's will, we look forward to sharing with the ICUA of Pennsylvania in their Memorial Service.

In the days, weeks, and months ahead, we anticipate participating in many family / Church / community events; and supporting our brothers and sisters in Christ through illnesses, bereavements, marriages, anniversaries, meetings, and conventions. We pray for safe travel for all as we anxiously await NUCUAA's **100th Anniversary** in July. We look forward to this long awaited once in a lifetime occasion, and seeing you all there.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13 {CEB}

Virginia-Continued

Additional Noted Events



The ICUA of Virginia has had its share of grief these past months, but it is with saddened hearts that we share the transition of two of our supportive Pastors. Rev. Dr. Kenny Smith—Pastor Emeritus of the First Baptist Church of Vienna / Interim Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Merrifield {the Homegoing was in November 2018}, and Rev. Dr. Ronald Winters {the Homegoing was in January 2019}.



How does your Church handle the end of Football season? Just about everybody has a favorite team they cheer for—whether it be football, basketball, baseball, soccer, pro-ball, college, high-school, or even little league. Or maybe you desire to be the one who calls the shots at the game. Well, here are two of our churches who represented all sides while holding it down ushering! Both churches are in District #1.

Bethlehem Baptist Church Ushers at their 'Jesus, Jersey and Jeans' Day Sunday—February 3, 2019



Virginia-Continued



Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church Ushers
and Pastor Carl M. Johnson
Jersey Day / Super Bowl Sunday
Sunday—February 3, 2019

Does this cast of characters look familiar? Below is a sample of the folks who celebrated Mardi Gras {Virginia style} with Lawrence Wright on Friday—February 22, 2019. A fun time was had by all. Plan now to join us in 2020 as we plan to do it up big! *Let the Good Times Roll!*



On Saturday—March 16, 2019, at 3:00 PM, the District #2 Ushers observed their Elijah Hamilton Tag Day. The program was held at Promise Land Baptist Church, 242 Gid Brown Hollow Road in Washington, Virginia {Rappahannock County}. Pastor Herbert Johnson delivered the Sermon.



Lucille Lipscomb

Connecticut

LUCILLE LIPSCOMB—PRESIDENT
GEORGE L. JONES—CORRESPONDENT

Greetings Eastern Region Family!

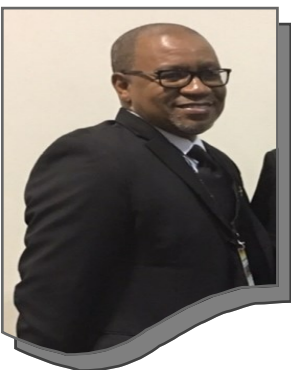
We—the Officers and Members of the CICUA—greet you with Jesus Joy! As we approach the second quarter of 2019, we are pleased to share some of our accomplishments with you. Several members of the CICUA have completed outreach projects within their Church and surrounding communities. The Ushers of Hopewell Baptist Church donated 13 college care packages—valued upwards to \$100 each—to college members of their Church. The Ushers of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church donated gift cards to those serving in the armed forces. The CICUA as a whole donated winter garments to the Mercy House.

On February 16, 2019, the CICUA celebrated its 38th Memorial Weekend with a luncheon at the Adams Mill Restaurant in Manchester, Connecticut. The affair was beautifully attended, and we were blessed to honor four active contributors to our Organization. Sister Diana Gibson served the Organization for many years as Secretary; Sister Charlotte Faucette cooked many meals during our Memorial Weekends; Sister Lynn Johnson has supported numerous CICUA events; and Lady Gwendolyn J. Powell serves as our Education Chairman. We ask that you join the CICUA in saluting these women for their works!



On March 23, 2019, President Lipscomb is planning a Prayer Breakfast to be held after our regular State Meeting. President Lipscomb—being led by the Holy Spirit—decided that we need this fellowship to keep the momentum going. The Lord has blessed the CICUA with new members who are playing active and vital roles.

Congratulations are extended to Brother Clifford Batson, who is the new Chairman of the CICUA's Men's Fellowship. Sisters Harriet Canty and Sadie Murray join Lady Gwendolyn J. Powell as Co-chairmen of the Education Department. Brother Javont de Graffenreidt has been appointed as the CICUA's new Transportation Coordinator. We are confident that these Ushers will excel in their positions.



On a sad note—

We regret to inform you that on January 28, 2019, our very own Brother Ronald Collins received the signal from THE Usher in Charge to join him in eternal rest. Brother Collins served as Men's Fellowship Chairman, Transportation Coordinator, and Co-Reporter of the Doorkeeper. He will be missed, and we ask that you continue to pray for his loved ones as they go through this period of bereavement.

We look forward to seeing everyone at our Regional Conference. Until we meet again, God Be With You!



Willie B. Maxwell

Massachusetts

WILLIE B. MAXWELL—PRESIDENT
DELIA SMITH-DAVIS—CORRESPONDENT

On June 8-9, 2018, we held our 73rd Annual State Convention at Messiah Baptist Church in Brockton, Massachusetts. The Friday and Saturday Sessions were well attended, and the School of Ushering Workshops were very informative. On Saturday afternoon, we hosted a “Colorama” where member churches were assigned a color, and had to display and Biblically describe color meanings. It was very interesting and informative. The theme was “Rainbows Around the Throne.” Minister Victoria Pina rendered words of encouragement that we can apply to our daily lives as good Stewards. We thank God for bringing us through another year to this very moment in time! We also thank Him for our Spiritual Advisor, who keeps us on our toes, and our hearts filled with laughter and joy! The Outreach Committee—headed by Chairman Olene Gerald—raffled off two gift baskets, and reminded us that we are still collecting pull tabs for the Shriners Hospital, and glasses for the Lion’s Club—knowing along the way that “only what you do for Christ will last.”

On Friday—September 7, 2018, Massachusetts Ushers celebrated their 3rd Annual Inaugural Ball at Generations Banquet Hall in Avon, Massachusetts. On this day, State and Unit Officers were installed, and we honored our 2017-2018 Board of Directors:

- ◆ Director Cheryl D. Smith, Chairman—Lily of the Valley Baptist Church
- ◆ Director Adell McMillan, Co-Chairman—St. John Missionary Baptist Church
- ◆ Director Pearl Holder—Columbus Avenue A.M.E. Church
- ◆ Director Waundolyn Melvin-Johnson—Grant A.M.E. Church
- ◆ Director Mary Newsom—Concord Baptist Church
- ◆ Director Mary Odom—Bethel Baptist Church
- ◆ Director Marianne Patterson—Charles Street A.M.E. Church
- ◆ Director Joseph Singer—Messiah Baptist Church
- ◆ Director Kenneth Tabb—New Hope Baptist Church
- ◆ Director Leslie Tatum—Messiah Baptist Church
- ◆ Director Margaret Webster—New Hope Baptist Church

The School of Ushering—under the leadership of Sister Fannie Stewart-Gibbons—commenced six graduates:

- ◆ Beverly Abrain—Concord Baptist Church
- ◆ Barbara Clanton—Concord Baptist Church
- ◆ Catherine Graves—Morning Star Baptist Church
- ◆ Lynn Jones—Morning Star Baptist Church
- ◆ Ollie Rogers—Valedictorian—Concord Baptist Church
- ◆ Edna Tate—Morning Star Baptist Church

Massachusetts-Continued

Reverend Kevin Coakley—Pastor of Columbus Avenue A.M.E. Church and Rush Memorial A.M.E. Church—raised the roof ushering in the Holy Ghost to the evening's event. The topic was "When Everything Points To Jesus," with a scriptural reference of John 6:13-20. The colors of the evening were teal, silver, and white. Congratulations to State President Willie Maxwell, and Banquet Coordinator / Vice President Janice Webster! Once again, by putting God first in all that is done, they managed to coordinate a spirit-filled and well attended Banquet. Praise God for our Spiritual Advisor—Reverend Bettye Craft—who is always and ever so present with the Ushers offering prayers, guidance, and counseling to our members—even providing a weekly Prayer Line. We praise and thank God for her and her spirit daily!

On Saturday—October 27, 2018, the Greater Boston Unit held its Annual Chicken and Pig Feet Dinner sale. There was a storm on this day, but the Lord showed up and showed out anyhow! President Janice Webster and the Officers and Delegates did a great job, and look forward to next year's Dinner sale.

On November 3, 2018, the Mabel A. Grey Foundation Scholarship held its Annual Luncheon at Lantana's in Randolph, Massachusetts. The keynote Speaker was Minister Borders of Morning Star Baptist Church. The message was powerful, and a joyous time was had by all. New Hope Baptist Church reigned 1st Place in the Penny, Nickel, and Dime Contest to further a young person's education. The 2nd Place winner was Twelfth Baptist Church.

On Sunday—December 2, 2018, the Junior and Young People's Department held its 41st Annual Candlelight Service at New Hope Baptist Church. Pastor Kenneth Simms delivered the message with a scriptural text from Mathew 6:33. Pastor Simms truly set our souls on fire with a Word from on high. Hats off to Junior State President Brother John Jackson, Jr.; State Supervisor Sister Leslie Tatum; and the Board Supervisors for a job well done!

On Saturday—December 8, 2018, the New England Ushers' Chorus—under the direction of Brother Thomas Glover—held its Annual Christmas Breakfast at St. John Missionary Baptist Church. The Breakfast was a success, and a great time was had by all. From the Ushers' Chorus family to yours, wishing you a Merry Christmas and remember that "Jesus is the Reason for the Season."

On Saturday—December 14, 2018, the Greater Boston Church Ushers Association held its Annual Day Program at St. John Missionary Baptist Church. They hosted a fashion show with the theme "From Roots to Revelation," where the Ushers modeled African attire, casual wear, and Sunday Morning Best. The Emcee was our very own President Janice Webster, and a great time was had by all.

On Sunday, December 15, 2018, the Greater Boston Church Ushers' Annual Senior Citizens Christmas Party was held at Twelfth Baptist Church, and our very own 1st Vice President Sister Frances Glenn-Chalmers gave the Seniors a treat as she does so wonderfully each year. First Lady Gordon - of St. John Missionary Baptist Church - and Pastor Gordon rendered words of encouragement about going out into our communities and helping those in need. Sing-a-longs, gift-giving, and testimonies were a great part of this day's event. We

Massachusetts-Continued

owe all the hard work to all who make up the Greater Baptist Church Ushers—and especially Sister Ruby Horton, who coordinates this event each year. She works on this event the entire year by visiting the local nursing homes, and establishing a relationship with them that allows management to entrust the Ushers with the care of the residents for the day. Again, hats off to Sister Horton, for she is a prime example of being “My Brother’s Keeper.”

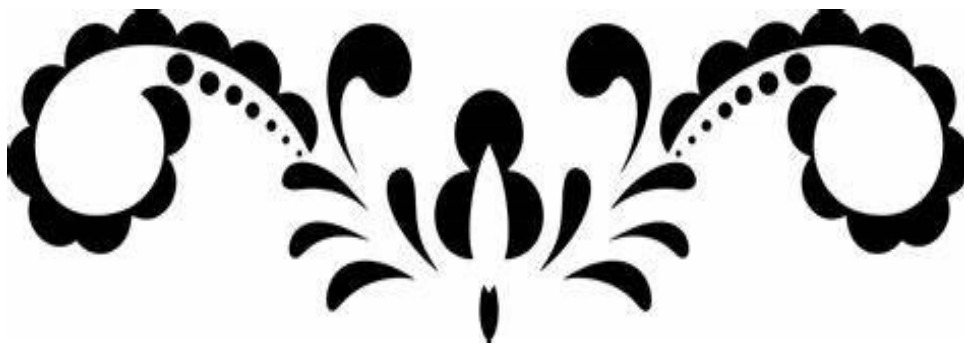
Upcoming Events

March 15, 2019—The Building Fund will be hosting its Biennial Banquet honoring the following Trailblazers:

- ⇒ Brother Walter McDuffy—Concord Baptist Church
- ⇒ Sister Adell McMillan—St. John Missionary Baptist Church
- ⇒ Sister Louise Zimmerman—New Hope Baptist Church

April 13, 2019—The Jeannette Washington First-Time Delegates’ Committee will be hosting its Annual Breakfast at St. John Missionary Baptist Church

May 2019—Junior and Young People’s Annual Graduate Luncheon to be held at St. John Missionary Baptist Church





Delores Pryor

New York

DELORES PRYOR—PRESIDENT
ARVETTA DRUMGOLD—CORRESPONDENT
WRITTEN BY—DR. FLORISTEANE ANTHONY

Special congratulations to the Interdenominational Church Ushers Association of New Jersey on their 54th Memorial Weekend held March 2-3, 2019. New York State President Delores Pryor thanks New York State Junior Supervisor Rashein McDonald for assisting with her travel changes due to cancellation. She would also like to thank Rebecca Boone-Lee's great-niece—Sanaii Paschal—who truly sang from her heart. The Holy Spirit was in her, and was received by all. What joy we felt seeing a participant from the Junior and Young People's Department of New York State contribute to our deceased Ushers. My world is brighter and more beautiful because of You! The weekend was a success, and New Jersey let their light shine.

In January 2019, Buffalo & Vicinity celebrated life with the passing of our beloved 10th State President of the Church Ushers Association of New York State—Oneal Fields. Mr. Fields was a Veteran; President; Usher; Chairman of the Trustee Board; Junior Supervisor; Church Clerk; School of Ushering Instructor; Parliamentarian; and much, much more. Buffalo will continue its celebration of life with the William H. Davis Banquet and Awards Ceremony.

At this year's 62nd Eastern Region Conference held March 29-30, 2019, New York State will be honoring our past State President W. Ruth Beckham, who is one of the Honorees at the Recognition Banquet. The Banquet will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania at 7:00 PM on Saturday—March 30, 2019.

At our upcoming Church Ushers Association of New York State 63rd Convention—May 9-11, 2019—we will be honoring our immediate Past State President, Betty Butler. The Convention will be held at the Hilton Albany Hotel, 40 Lodge Street in Albany, New York 12207. The Reservation Deadline is April 1, 2019. Ms. Butler's colors for the Banquet are shades of blue and cream or off white {no navy blue, please}. See Banquet Ticket Chairman Luretha A. Daniels {Past State President} to purchase tickets. Thank you!

Shiloh Baptist Church of Jamaica will be celebrating the first Anniversary of their Pastor—Rev. Dr. Michael Gittens. The Celebration will be held at Shiloh Baptist Church of Jamaica, 173-70 106th Avenue, Jamaica, New York on March 24, 2019, at 3:30 PM sharp. All are welcome.

We would like to congratulate our very own Nyicia Morgan from Shiloh Baptist Church of Jamaica on her induction into the National Honor Society. She attends Broome Street Academy in New York, New York. She is our Junior and Young People's Department 1st Vice President of the Church Ushers Association of New York State, Inc. She is another young person coming up through the Organization. *"...and a little child shall lead them."* Isaiah 11.6

Congratulations to Olivia M. Jeter—Unit President, Church Ushers Association of Queens & Vicinity, Inc.—on her retirement from the law firm of Mendes & Mount, LLP for over 27 years of faithful service!

Please pray for New York State, Inc. on a whole. Our Past National President—Filmore F. Gregory—is at home resting. Please send him a card, and let him know you are thinking of him. In addition, please send cards to all that know our sick, shut-in, and our bereaved. There are many.