

To:

Bishop Vashti M. McKenzie, *President*
Bishop Gregory G. M. Ingram, *1st Vice President*
Bishop Wilfred J. Messiah, *2nd Vice President*
Bishop Paul J. M. Kawimbe, *3rd Vice President*
Bishop Reginald T. Jackson, *Council of Bishops President*
Bishop McKinley Young, *Senior Bishop*
Dr. Richard Allen Lewis, *Treasurer/CFO*
Rev. Dr. Jeffery B. Cooper, *General Secretary/CIO*

Actions Taken after the report was given by Rev. Dr. Erika Crawford, Connectional President Women in Ministry:

After a moment of reflection and devotion by Commission Chair Bishop Anne Henning Byfield roll call and introductions were completed followed by the report of Women in Ministry.

After discussion, the following recommendation was received and approved:

- 1) We recommend that that the Commission as well as the General Board recommit itself to the recommendations that have been previously received and agreed upon by this body. Which include the following:

Year	Request/Recommendation	Status
2015	That for the remainder of the Annual Conferences [in the 2012-2016 quadrennial], the Annual Conferences be intentional with respect to parity and equity in the election of women as ministerial delegates.	Not Accomplished Clergywomen represented less than 20% of the 2016-2020 Ministerial Delegation
2017	That the General Board empower each WIM Commission Member to complete an introspective analysis of its Episcopal District's key leadership positions regarding female clergy and report same to the commission within 90 days.	Ongoing We continue to be challenged in receiving information regarding women in key leadership positions
2016	That the General Board urge our elected officials and government agencies to retain and enact legislation and policies that protect women against all forms of misogyny, violence and discrimination.	Ongoing We are unable to determine if General Board members followed through on this request.
2016	That the General Board recognize March as International Women's History Month and strongly encourage local churches to recognize and celebrate the work of women in our Zion.	Ongoing AME/WIM continues to work and push for every local church to celebrate the theological, social, historical, and cultural significance of women but needs greater support from the General Church
2015	Local Elders comprise approximately 60% of all women in ministry. We recommend that: 1) women who meet the age requirement be encouraged to pursue the itinerant track 2) local ministers and persons who serve as supply pastors, who are pastoring a congregation a year or more, should receive full benefits.	(1) Ongoing We are unable to measure how many women have been encouraged to pursue itinerant orders vs. local clergywomen (2) Not Accomplished

2014	That AME WIM be included in the agenda of the Annual Conference and make a report to the Annual Conference on the activities of AME/WIM, inclusive of the Report Card and Census Data at the seat of the Annual Conference.	Ongoing Some Episcopal Districts have adjusted Annual Conference schedules to include AMEWIM along with the other component annual days Many Annual Conference still do not call for the report on Women In Ministry
2012	That the AME Church, through its Bishops and Presiding Elders, be intentional in considering the educational background and experience of all clergy, particularly women, as they make Pastoral assignments and recommendations for persons to serve: in the delegation to the General Conference; on the General Board; and on District and Annual Conference Committees such as Board of Examiners, Board of Trustees, Ministerial Efficiency & Judiciary & Finance committees. (Presently, women clergy are underrepresented in leadership.)	Ongoing Clergywomen continue to be underrepresented in every key ministerial leadership office in the AME Church
2012	That the AME Church, through its Bishops and Presiding Elders, be intentional about including women in ministry as worship participants, workshop presenters, teachers and trainers at Episcopal District, Annual Conference, Presiding Elder District conferences and events.	Ongoing Clergywomen continue to be underrepresented
2017	That the General Board empower the Commission Members to encourage WIM leadership at the Presiding Elder District and Conference Coordinators level to work in collaboration with their respective Presiding Elders to prepare and provide workshops and training to assist congregations in fulfilling the church's intentional commitment to gender justice and equality.	Pending AME/WIM continues to look forward to an opportunity to meet with the Presiding Elders Council
2014	That the AME Church be intentional about electing women for Episcopal Service in 2016 and appointing women to positions of leadership (in the delegation of the General Conference; on the General Board; and on District and Annual Conference Committees such as Board of Examiners, Board of Trustees, Ministerial Efficiency & Judiciary and Finance Committees).	Completed One clergy was elected to the Episcopacy in 2016 – The Right Reverend E. Anne Henning Byfield Ongoing We continue to be challenged with access to information, thus are unable measure the number local clergywomen vs itinerant clergywomen

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Dr. Erika D. Crawford,
Connectional President

The Commission requests that these recommendations be adopted by the General Board.

Commendations were given to President Crawford and the Executive Board, and the Commission Chair, Bishop Henning Byfield.

Roll Call:

Chairperson: Bishop Anne Henning Byfield (Present)

Commission Members:

- 1st District: Rev. Jocelyn Lovelace (Present)
- 2nd District: Presiding Elder Ernest Montague (Present)
- 3rd District: Ms. Kimberly Brooks (Present)
- 4th District: Ms. Betty Tuggle (Present)
- 5th District: Presiding Elder Fran Cary – Vice-Chair (Present)
- 6th District: Rev. Jonetta Prater (Present)
- 7th District: Ms. Vergie Tennison (Absent)
- 8th District: Ms. Darlene Gordon (Present)
- 9th District: Rev. Rodney Smith (Present)
- 10th District: Miss Kendra Hill-Daughton (Present)
- 11th District: Bro. Charlie Nichols (Present)
- 12th District: Rev. Marcelle Fields (Excused)
- 13th District: Rev. Troy Thomas (Present)
- 14th District: Rev. Margaret Fadehan (Excused)
- 15th District: Bro. Theodore Messiah (Present)
- 16th District: Rev. Carlos Perkins (Present)
- 17th District: Rev. Moses Achola (Present)
- 18th District: Ms. Beatrice Mutokoa (Excused)
- 19th District: Sis. Thumekile Mthanti (Excused)
- 20th District: Rev. Deborah Manyoba (Present)

Special Guests: Rev. Dr. Jessica Kendall Ingram (1st District Supervisor), Rev. Dr. Jamie Coleman-Williams, and Rev. Dr. Jackie Grant

Humbly Submitted,
Miss Kendra Hill-Daughton
Secretary, Women in Ministry Commission

Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield
Chair, Women in Ministry

Attachments:

- 1) Connectional WIM Membership
- 2) Connectional WIM Statistical Report