

Honor & Tribute to Bishop & Supervisor Kirkland



**BUILDING MEN  
IS BETTER THAN**

**MENDING  
BOYS**



The Cathedral @ St. Paul AME Church, St. Louis, MO

The Mother Church of The 5th Episcopal District

The 161<sup>st</sup> Session

OF THE

The MISSOURI ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
PASTOR'S REPORT 2014 - 2015



The Cathedral @

St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church

1260 Hamilton Ave, St. Louis, MO 63112 314-385-8900

Web: [www.pastorbooker.net](http://www.pastorbooker.net) Email: [stpaulcathedral@att.net](mailto:stpaulcathedral@att.net)

Bishop T. Larry Kirkland  
Presiding Bishop

Mrs. Mary L. Kirkland  
Episcopal Supervisor

Sis. Vivienne Anderson  
Former Episcopal Supervisor

Rev. Edmond Lowe  
Presiding Elder

Rev. Spencer Lamar Booker  
Pastor

Rev. W. Bartalette Finney  
Presiding Elder

Mrs. Gail G. Booker  
Connectional First Lady

Steward Louise Welch  
Delegate

Steward Benjamin Edwards  
Alternate Delegate

Church Schedule

Sunday Radio Ministry (1600AM)	8:30a.m.
Sunday Church School/Roundtable	9:00a.m.
Sunday Worship	10:00a.m.
Tuesday SAM Bible Hour	12:00 noon
Wednesday W.O.W.	5:30p.m.
Wednesday Worship & Praise	6:30p.m.
Thursday Ministry of Music	6:30p.m.
Friday Sophia's Project	7:00p.m.
Saturday Intercessory Prayer Line	8:00a.m.
(530) 881-1300 Access Code 762574#	
Saturday St. Paul Saturdays	8:00a.m.

"The Church Networking to meet the needs of all people through Jesus Christ our Lord"

# Honor & Tribute to Bishop & Supervisor Kirkland

## The Pastor's Words



Greetings to Bishop T. Larry Kirkland, Supervisor Kirkland, Presiding Elder Edmond Lowe, Presiding Elder W. Bartalette Finney, Pastors, Ministers, Delegates, Members and Visitors of The 161st Missouri Annual Conference.

Words cannot express my gratitude to God for the great things that have taken place in the 2014 - 2015 Conference Year. God has showered his blessings upon us in immeasurable ways around The Cathedral @ St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Our theme for this Conference year was "So we built the wall...for the People had a mind to work" Building for the Future Today " *Nehemiah 4:6*

Our overall goal was to rebuild the spiritual cavity of the people of God through Worship, Study and Prayer. We had dynamic

preaching throughout the conference year that shared the Word of God. We established three additional ministries; The Senior Adult Ministry (SAMS), The Women Armed for Christian Services (WACS), and the Rehoboth New Life Team (AA NA). As a result of our weekly Spirit filled worship celebrations, radio ministry, Bible Classes, Social Action, and Prayer Line, over 50 souls were added to the Kingdom of God with an average weekly attendance of 175 parishioners.

After much discussion and strategies for stewardship accountability, we are renovating the Mother Church of the 5th Episcopal District, the oldest AME Church established west of the Mississippi River, beginning in November. Our partnership with Cass Bank will allow us to renovate our Sanctuary with new flooring, carpet, fresh Paint, and new pew pads. We also will renovate the Fellowship Hall, install new windows, tuck point where needed, and pressure wash the exterior of the building. We are updating the electrical system which will allow us to upgrade our technology with hi-tech computers and HD monitors for worship. We are investing an approximately \$150,000.00 or more in our place of worship. Our renovations are expected to be completed by Easter 2016. To God Be the Glory!

**Moment of Personal Privilege:** A Special thanks to you Bishop Kirkland and Supervisor Kirkland, the 5th Episcopal District and the Wonderful people of St. Paul for your support for the 4 years we fought the Denver Municipality for the Murder of Marvin Louis Booker by five Denver Sheriffs. On behalf of My Mother Roxey Booker-Walton, and family we are eternally grateful for your prayers, tweets, support and for allowing me time off to fight for my Brother's Civil Rights. We prevailed by the Grace and Mercy of a God of social justice.

Finally, a special thanks to you Bishop Kirkland for your invitation to become a part of the 5th Episcopal District and for the opportunity to serve the next best Church in the Connection, The Cathedral @ St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church, St. Louis, Missouri.

Lady Booker and The Boys join me by expressing our gratitude to Bishop and Supervisor Kirkland, Former Supervisor Anderson, Presiding Elder Lowe, The Missouri Conference and the parishioners of TheCathedral@St.Paul for another great year of Christian services.

Be Blessed,

*Rev. Spencer Lamar Booker*

The Mother Church of The 5th Episcopal District

The 161st Session of The Missouri Annual Conference

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TWENTY-FIVE AND ALIVE

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The Mother Church of The 5th Episcopal District

# Honor & Tribute to Bishop & Supervisor Kirkland

October 9, 2015

## ST. PAUL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH DELEGATE'S ANNUAL REPORT

To: The Right Reverend T. Larry Kirkland, Presiding Bishop, Mrs. Mary L. Kirkland, Episcopal Supervisor, WMS, Mrs. Vivienne Anderson- Retired Episcopal Supervisor, WMS, Reverend Edmund Lowe, Sr. Host Presiding Elder, Rev. W. Bartalette Finney, Sr. Co-Host Presiding Elder, Rev. Spencer Lamar Booker, Host Pastor, Pastors, Clergy Delegates and all my Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we, the members of St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church, the oldest AME Church west of the Mississippi River, under the leadership of our dynamic Pastor, the Rev. Spencer Lamar Booker, are delighted to make our second Annual report..

Pastor Booker has continued to lift us up with his sermons through the words of our Savior. Sometimes his sermons and the spirit are so high, we leave our sanctuary without dismissing as we would say the "AME" way. We are "Networking" to meet the needs of the people throughout our community and surrounding areas. We have had several individuals to join our congregation through the media of our radio ministry. We feel God returned Pastor Booker to us for a purpose and that purpose is being fulfilled.

Throughout the year we have had some dynamic programs. Starting in December a Christmas Dinner Theater featuring Lady Eneazer M. Layne & Mr. Austin A. Layne, Jr. in concert. Following our concert, we were blessed with a "3-day Soul stirring Winter Revival" with the Rev. Derrick Meanes, Rev. Charles Pennington, and Rev. Steven Shepard. In January, we celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday weekend by having a combined worship service with Manchester United Methodist Church. In February, we celebrated our 174th Church Anniversary. Our Special Guest speaker as **Bishop Clement W. Fugh**. During Holy Week we had a revival featuring Rev. Darlene Smith, Rev. Shelia Rivers-, Ret. Elder, Rev. C. Jessel Strong, and Rev. Dr. Roger Richardson. On Easter Sunday we were blessed with the presence of **Retired Bishop Frank C. Cummings** as our speaker. Bishop Cummings and Pastor Booker along with our Stewardesses held a "Dedication of Communion Vestures ceremony". Our entire chancel area and altar was adorned in white cloth for communion as we dedicated ourselves to the service of the Almighty God. We had a peaceful, prayer walk in the community in support of the "Michael Brown's case" and St. Paul also participated in the Missouri Conference Prayer Walk April 11, 2015. As we walked and drove through the neighborhoods, several residents from the communities joined us on our journey. The Commission on Social Action has been very busy working with organizations in the area for a better community. On May 2nd, The Minnie Ross Simms WMS and YPD honored our former First Lady Mrs. Ernestyne Brown, of the St. Louis/Cape Girardeau District, at the Crystal Luncheon, May 31st, Men's Day celebration with Special Guest Rev. Rodney Francis and his Male Chorus from Washington Tabernacle Baptist Church. June 28th Women's Day celebration, Keynote Speaker: **Lady Gail Booker**, First Lady of St. Paul. Come to Jesus Weekend June 5-7 featured our annual Tent Revival. St. Paul hosted the Missouri Conference Lay Organization weekend Workshop and Worship Service June 13-14 Special Guest Bishop Clement W. Fugh, Presiding prelate, 14th Episcopal District. The New Members/Discipleship classes convened from April through September 2015, twenty-five persons attended the classes. In August at the 4th Quarterly Conference we were blessed to have two ministers to join the ministerial staff, Rev. Dr. Ralph Crabbe and Rev. Hugh Smith. And to end this fantastic year, on Sunday October 5 we were blessed with the presence of our presiding prelate, **Bishop T. Larry Kirkland and our Episcopal Supervisor, Mrs. Mary L. Kirkland.**

There is still work to be done and we feel we can accomplish this with the help of God and Pastor Booker as our leader. **Therefore, we are prayerfully asking that Pastor Spencer Lamar Booker along with Lady Gail Booker, Daeryl and Nicholas Lamar are returned to St. Paul AME Church in St. Louis, Missouri for the 2015-2016 conference year.**

**TO GOD Be THE GLORY!**

Prayerfully submitted,  
Steward Louise S. Welch, Delegate  
Steward Atty. Benjamin Edwards, Alternate Delegate

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### St. Paul AME Church

#### Social Action Commission Report

October 9, 2015

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter". For too long we at St. Paul have been silent about "things" happening in & around our church. It was not until the Right Reverend T. Larry Kirkland, Bishop of the 5th Episcopal District appointed Reverend Spencer Lamar Booker to St. Paul at the 159th Missouri Annual Conference that we found our voice again.

In January, 2014, the new pastor, appointed one of his stewards, Karen Parker Davis to champion the Social Action Commission. This chairperson named six church members to serve on this committee. After we organized, appointed officers & determined roles & goals, we searched community organizations to see where we fit within the community structure. While we were strategizing, Michael Brown was killed and his murder catapulted us into the "Black Lives Matter" movement. We marched in the streets of Ferguson & in our church community led by Pastor & First Lady Booker.

This social justice movement ignited the commission & church to accomplish the following:

- We worked with church member Rev. Ella M. Jones to be the first African American female to win a seat on Ferguson's city council
- We held our annual ecumenical service with Manchester United Methodist Church at St. Paul and together we cleaned a vacant lot behind St. Paul for a "Day On"
- We advocated on behalf of a former church member who was on death row for a stay of execution, by holding a press conference, signing a petition & phoning Governor Jay Nixon to encourage the stay of execution
- We had a local attorney discuss the importance of knowing our rights as a juror & accepting & not "getting out of" juror duty
- We had a dialogue with our neighborhood police captain on ways to better communicate with the police during altercations & foster improved interactions
- We joined the Pulpit to Porches Program with Better Family Life (BFL) & committed to canvas the neighborhood for a full year. This effort is threefold; to get to know our neighbors, inform them of services offered at BFL, & for St. Paul to meet the needs of all people through **Jesus Christ** our Lord
- We hosted a neighborhood resource fair by opening our doors to the community; we interacted with 75 neighborhoods & 10 social service vendors
- We participated in a Peace March & Rally at the Demetrius Johnson Foundation, part II will take place this fall at the O'Fallon Park & Recreation Complex

There are yet many things we want to pursue and the work is listed below.

1. Collaborate with local & other AME churches - ongoing
2. Host quarterly town hall meetings - October & ongoing
3. Sponsor NAACP & voter registration drives - ongoing
4. Partner with Manchester United Methodist Church for diversity awareness programs - November
5. Work with committeemen, state & US representatives for community development initiatives- November
6. Investigate potential grants to support initiatives - ongoing
7. Invite attorney to provide Part II of jury workshop - ASAP
8. Sustain canvassing effort within the neighborhood - ongoing through June

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### MINNIE ROSS SIMMS WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

#### ST. PAUL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

##### ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

We, the members of the Minnie Ross Simms Women's Missionary Society submit the following report of our activities, and projects for the 2014-2015 Conference year:

- ❖ Missouri Conference Prayer Breakfast and Leadership Training
- ❖ Annual pre-Thanksgiving Dinner for the homeless in our community and recipients of our food pantry
- ❖ Giving Tree/Donated clothing and toys to Project Arc/Children Suffering from HIV/Aids
- ❖ Sophia Project for Young Women
- ❖ Annual Christmas Bake Sale
- ❖ Mid-Year Convention in Los Angeles, CA
- ❖ Good Friday Fish Fry to benefit YPD
- ❖ A Crystal Luncheon to honor Former STL/Cape Girardeau First Lady Ernestyne K. Brown
- ❖ Missouri Conference Boulder Shoulder Luncheon
- ❖ WMS Quadrennial Convention in Indianapolis, IN
- ❖ Missouri Conference WMS Annual Day
- ❖ Donated School supplies to children in the congregation and neighborhood
- ❖ Gave financial and physical support to the YPD
- ❖ Prepared and served meals for Worship On Wednesdays
- ❖ Prepared Dinners for bereaved Families
- ❖ Our Redeemer Lives Food Pantry
- ❖ Visited sick and shut-ins weekly and gave assistance to our elderly members
- ❖ Gave assistance to a family who lost belongings in a fire
- ❖ Attended area meetings in Kennett, MO and Columbia, MO
- ❖ Provided supply baskets to college students returning to school

This is a summary of the awesome deeds that are performed by our Missionary Society. We continue to serve our church and the community daily in whatever capacity we can. The Minnie Ross Simms WMS takes mission work very seriously. We strive to be a blessing to the members of St. Paul and to anyone we can help in our community.

*"The depth of our love and gratitude to God is revealed in the fervency and attentiveness with which we serve others."*

SUBMITTED BY

SISTER TONI M. TOBIAS, PRESIDENT

REV. SPENCER LAMAR BOOKER, PASTOR

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