

S O U V E N I R J O U R N A L



**139<sup>th</sup>** *Session of*



**THE MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

FOURTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OAK GROVE  
AFRICAN  
METHODIST  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

AUGUST 13 -16, 2025

HOST CHURCH  
OAK GROVE AME CHURCH  
REV. CINDY RUDOLPH, SENIOR PASTOR

REV. DR. H. MICHAEL LEMMONS, HOST PRESIDING ELDER  
REV. LARRY J. BELL CO-HOST PRESIDING ELDER  
MRS. JENNIFER DIXON WRIGHT, EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR  
RT. REV. FREDERICK A. WRIGHT, SR.,  
PRESIDING PRELATE FOURTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT





*Fourth Episcopal District of the*  
**AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
BISHOP FREDERICK ALAN WRIGHT, SR., PRESIDING PRELATE  
**CONFERENCES: CANADIAN • CHICAGO • ILLINOIS • INDIA • INDIANA • MICHIGAN**

### THE BISHOP'S GREETINGS

To the Fabulous Fourth Episcopal District, I bring you greetings from the Episcopal Team of Supervisor Jennifer Dixon Wright and Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr. With great anticipation we are delighted to begin another series of Annual Conferences throughout the 4<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District.

I also greet you with a message that resonates deeply within the hallowed halls of faith, a message woven into the very fabric of our history: **Think Possible!** For generations, our pulpits have been more than just a place of worship; they have been beacons of hope, fortresses of resilience and incubators of dreams. When the world told us “no,” our preachers, our spiritual ancestors, stood tall and declared, **“Yes, through Christ, all things are possible!”**

Look at our legacy! From the brush harbors to magnificent cathedrals, from the whispered prayers in secret to the thundering pronouncements from the mountaintop, our journey has been a testament in the audacious belief in the impossible.

But the work, Beloved, is far from over. We stand at a critical juncture, facing new challenges that demand we once again tap into that wellspring of “*Think Possible.*” Remember the words of Philippians 4:13: “*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*” In other words, there are no limits to what we can achieve, no ceiling to the “good” we can bring forth.

So, as we lead our churches and communities, I urge us to rekindle the flame of **“Think Possible.”** Let it ignite our sermons, inspire our outreach, and transform our vision. Let us once again be the vanguards of possibility, leading our people into a future overflowing with God’s grace, promise and boundless potential.

May God continue to bless you and your sacred work.

Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr.

Bishop Richard Allen House • 4448 S. Michigan Avenue • Chicago, IL 60653  
Phone: (773) 955-9825 • Fax: (773) 955-9840 • Web: [ame4th.org](http://ame4th.org)



# *Welcome*

To Bishop Frederick Alan Wright, Sr., Presiding Prelate, Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor, Presiding Elder H. Michael Lemmons and Lady Anita Lemmons, Presiding Elder Larry Bell and Rev. DaNita Bell, and the members of the 139th session of The Michigan Annual Conference, I greet you with Jesus' joy.

Annual Conference is such an exciting gathering. Clergy and Lay alike are able to gather together as we celebrate our accomplishments and give an account of our stewardship before our Bishop and Episcopal Supervisor. We congratulate our Episcopal leadership team, as well as our Elders, all Pastors, Spouses, Clergy, Lay, and Component Leaders. The faithful service given by the members of the Michigan Annual Conference is truly a blessing to the Kingdom of God.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the staff of Oak Grove, led by our Church Administrator, Jacqueline Lawson, for the painstaking effort they put forth in creating a wonderful souvenir journal, which we pray will be a blessing to you as you read it.

We likewise offer special thanks to our sponsors and all who contributed to the success of our Annual Conference. In addition, we give God praise for the Oak Grove ministries and organizations, many of which you will find pictured in this journal. Their faithful dedication to the ministry and witness of Oak Grove has made a tremendous impact.

As you peruse this journal, we pray you will be blessed as you behold all God is doing in the midst of the Michigan Annual Conference.

To God be the glory, great things He has done!

In Christ,  
Pastor Cindy Rudolph



**First Lady Anita and I would like to welcome Bishop Frederick A. Wright and Supervisor Jennifer Dixon Wright to the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of the Michigan Annual Conference.**

**We greet Presiding Elder Larry and Consultant DaNita Bell, as well as our host pastor Reverend Cindy Rudolph and First Gentleman Dr. Lawrence Rudolph with Jesus joy! We look forward to the blessings God has in store as the great Oak Grove serves as our host.**

**One of the blessings of being able to gather this year is just that – we are able to gather! Praise God for that blessing.**

**We pray God’s blessings upon the pastors, the delegates and the people who will gather for this year’s annual conference. Let’s worship the Lord and may we discover new ways to serve the Lord so that the church can keep moving forward. God bless and know that the God we serve is still in the blessing business!**

*Presiding Elder H. Michael and First Lady Anita R. Lemmons*



### South District Churches

Oak Grove - Rev. Cindy Rudolph  
St. Stephen - Dr. Darryl Williams  
Bethel – Rev. Ernest Ni’A  
St. Paul - Rev. Tammy Harris-Banks  
Vernon Chapel - Rev. Sharinese Jackson  
Smith Chapel, Inkster - Rev. Twylla Tarver  
Saunders Memorial - Rev. Cherida Gary  
Mount Zion - Battle Creek - Rev. Christina Dennis  
St. Luke, Highland Park - Rev. Eric Tucker  
Union Memorial, Benton Harbor - Rev. Fred D. Madden  
Allen Chapel, Kalamazoo - Rev. Millard Southern

Trinity- Rev. Karen Goodson  
Franklin, Niles - Rev. Saundria Wilson  
Grant Chapel, Three Rivers - Rev. Daisy Lipsey  
Baber Memorial - Rev. Michael Collins  
Immanuel Grace - Rev. Alfred Baylor  
Pleasant Valley, Belleville - Rev. Kevin Crosby  
Lewis Chapel, Albion - Rev. Gabrielle Avery  
Parks Memorial, Romulus - Rev. Helen Criglar  
Bethel, Adrian - Rev. Sharrice Autry  
Mitcham Chapel, Royal Oak, - Rev. Keeley Lucas  
St. Andrew - Dr. Debra Thompson



# WELCOME TO THE 139TH SESSION OF THE MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE!



Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus!

Blessings and Welcome to our Episcopal Leadership,  
Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr and Supervisor Jennifer Dixon Wright!

To retired Bishop G.M. Ingram and retired Supervisor, Rev. Dr Jessica Ingram

To retired Supervisor, Mother Beverly Thomas

To the visiting Bishops, General and Connectional officers of  
the A.M.E. Church

To Host Presiding Elder, Rev. Dr. H. Michael Lemmons, and Lady Anita  
Lemmons of the Soaring South District, Michigan Conference

To the visiting Presiding Elders

To the Host Pastor and Family: Rev. Cindy Rudolph, Dr. Lawrence Rudolph,  
and McKenna, and the officers and members of Oak Grove AME Church.

To the Michigan Conference Pastors, Clergy, Delegates, Laity, Missionaries,  
Youth, and all stakeholders of the Michigan Annual Conference

To the visiting Pastors, Clergy, and Laity

“And are we yet alive to see each other face?  
Glory and praise to Jesus give for His redeeming grace!”

We the members of the Notable North District of the Michigan Annual  
Conference are honored and blessed to welcome each you.  
We are praying God’s blessings upon the proceedings and deliberations of this  
historic Annual Conference.

With Jesus Joy!

Presiding Elder Larry James Bell and Consultant, Rev. DaNita Bell

SENATOR ELISSA SLOTKIN  
MICHIGAN



UNITED STATES SENATE  
Washington, D.C. 20510

July 7, 2025

Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr.  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor  
c/o Oak Grove AME Church  
19801 Cherrylawn  
Detroit, MI 48221

Dear Bishop Wright and Episcopal Supervisor Wright:

It is an honor to recognize you and the assembly of The 139<sup>th</sup> Session of The Michigan Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Your stalwart dedication to service in your community truly exemplifies that all things are possible through belief. Thank you for all that you do to uplift your neighbors and further the principle of social justice.

Your strong values of leadership and faith are recognized and appreciated across the state of Michigan. I would be remiss if I did not thank Rev. Cindy Rudolph for her continuing work on the local level.

Thank you again for all that you do!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elissa Slotkin', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Elissa Slotkin  
United States Senator



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

GARLIN GILCHRIST II  
LT. GOVERNOR

July 9, 2025

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the state of Michigan, I'd like to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church hosted by Oak Grove AME Church.

Whether you are a faith leader or a member of your church community, this event is a valuable opportunity to collaborate on furthering your shared goals of equality, freedom, and positive change. I wish you all the best as you participate and work to address pressing social issues while empowering communities through faith-based initiatives.

I would also like to extend my deepest recognition to all those involved in the planning and preparation of this event. I have no doubt that this conference will continue to display the dedication, insight, talent of AME churches across Michigan. I also extend my gratitude and best wishes to Bishop Frederick Alan Wright & Supervisor Jennifer Dixon Wright. Thank you for your service to Michigan and your community.

Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gretchen Whitmer".

Gretchen Whitmer  
Governor of Michigan



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
JOCELYN BENSON, SECRETARY OF STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
LANSING

August 13, 2025

Dear Bishop Frederick Alan Wright and Supervisor Jennifer Dixon Wright,

It is with great pride that I write to congratulate Oak Grove AME Church on hosting the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of the Michigan Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Representing over 50 congregations and serving over 5,000 members in Michigan, the AME Church serves as a beacon of faith, service, and community in Michigan and across the country.

The AME Church has long been a place of welcome and service. It has also been instrumental in the fight for and protection of democracy. From post-Civil War America, to the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, to encouraging voter registration and standing up against voter suppression efforts today, the AME Church has encouraged congregants and communities to “think possible” for years. In doing so, AME Church leaders and congregants have rightly held our nation accountable to its constitutional promise of one person, one vote.

Oak Grove AME Church has epitomized this type of faith in action since its inception - when the congregation grew too large to accommodate the space they were using, church members joined together in a labor of love to build the church’s first structure themselves. Since then, Oak Grove AME Church has grown to become a pillar of Detroit’s faith community. Now, Oak Grove adds this momentous conference to its list of achievements and contributions.

Congratulations again on hosting the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of the Michigan Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, on over 100 years of service in Detroit, and to the many more to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jocelyn Benson".

Jocelyn Benson  
Michigan Secretary of State



5TH DISTRICT  
STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 30014  
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**REGINA WEISS**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-0844  
FAX: (517) 373-5711  
ReginaWeiss@house.mi.gov

Rt. Rev. Frederick A. Wright, Sr.  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wight  
c/o Oak Grove AME Church  
19801 Cherrylawn  
Detroit, MI 48221

Dear Bishop Wright and Episcopal Supervisor Wright:

To you and the participants in The 39th Session of The Michigan Annual Conference, I am honored to extend my sincere congratulations to Oak Grove AME Church on hosting the 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. This is a momentous achievement and a proud occasion for your congregation and the surrounding community.

This milestone reflects the African Methodist Episcopal Church's longstanding dedication to leadership, service, and community empowerment across our great state. The work that you do every day—through worship, advocacy, and outreach—strengthens neighborhoods, uplifts individuals, and brings people together in meaningful and lasting ways.

I applaud the Michigan Annual Conference and the entire Oak Grove community for your ongoing commitment, partnership, and positive impact. I wish you all the best for a successful and inspiring conference.

With much appreciation,



Warren C. Evans  
Wayne County Executive

July 14, 2025

Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr and Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor  
c/o Oak Grove AME Church  
19801 Cherrylawn  
Detroit, MI 48221

Welcome:



On behalf of the residents of Wayne County, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you and the entire congregation at Oak Grove AME church as you host the 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Your continued commitment to faith, service, and community leadership inspires countless individuals. Rev. Rudolph, we are grateful for your steadfast presence and the positive impact you have made in the lives of so many in the region.

May this conference be a time of renewal, fellowship, and powerful ministry as you gather to celebrate, reflect, and look ahead.

With appreciation and respect,

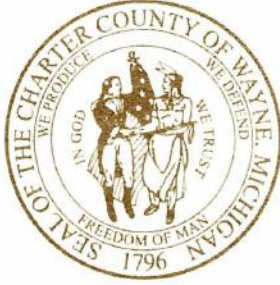
Sincerely,

Warren C. Evans  
County Executive

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

500 GRISWOLD, DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226 – (313)224-0286 – [www.waynecountymi.gov](http://www.waynecountymi.gov)





## Office of the County Clerk

Cathy M. Garrett  
Wayne County Clerk

IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF

*The 139<sup>th</sup> Session*

*Michigan Annual Conference of the  
African Methodist Episcopal Church*

August 13 – 16, 2025

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend greetings to everyone gathered for the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of the Michigan Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The leadership of our churches plays a vital role in shaping the spiritual and social fabric of our city and county. The African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church stands as a powerful example of the positive impact that faith-based outreach can have on communities throughout Michigan. The longevity of this fine religious institution is a testament to the dedicated service to its members and to all those who benefit from its ministries.

I want to give a special acknowledgment to Oak Grove AME Church, along with their esteemed pastor, Rev. Cindy Rudolph, for hosting this year's conference. Oak Grove is a longstanding pillar of our community and a dedicated partner in service.

Congratulations and best wishes for a successful, uplifting conference that inspires minds, opens hearts, and strengthens resolve.

Sincerely,

Cathy M. Garrett  
Wayne County Clerk





City of Detroit  
Detroit City Council  
Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway  
District 2



August 13, 2025

Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr.  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor  
c/o Oak Grove AME Church  
19801 Cherrylawn  
Detroit, MI 48221

**Greetings,**

As the proud Detroit City Councilmember representing District 2, it is with immense joy and heartfelt welcome that I greet each of you attending the **139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church!**

This important gathering of worship, reflection, and planning brings great meaning to our community, and it is a true blessing to have it take place at **Oak Grove AME Church**—a cherished cornerstone of faith and service in District 2.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church has long stood for faith, justice, and empowerment, and your work continues to uplift lives across Michigan and beyond. I salute your commitment to spiritual leadership and community service.

May this 139th Session be filled with inspiration, unity, and progress. We are proud to have you here in Detroit!

**With gratitude and blessings,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Whitfield Calloway".

**Angela Whitfield Calloway**  
Detroit City Councilmember – District 2



**SOUTH DISTRICT CHICAGO ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

*Best Wishes*

*to our Episcopal Leaders*

**THE RT. REV. FREDERICK A. WRIGHT, SR. AND  
EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR JENNIFER DIXON WRIGHT**



*Congratulations*

to

**THE REV. CINDY RUDOLPH  
and the entire Oak Grove AME Church Congregation  
as you host the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of The Michigan Annual Conference**

*"May God keep you and bless you  
abundantly during this momentous occasion."*

**THE REV. DR. ROBERT E. BRUMFIELD, PRESIDING ELDER  
LADY SHARON BRUMFIELD, DISTRICT CONSULTANT**



Rev. Dr. Dennis Laffoon  
and Rev. Rochelle Laffoon

*Congratulations*

Rev. Cindy Rudolph and the  
Oak Grove AME Church Family for  
hosting the 139th Session of the  
Michigan Annual Conference



**BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Rev. Dr. Dennis E. Laffoon, Pastor

535 Cathay St. • Saginaw, MI 48601 • 989.755.7011 • [bethel-saginaw.org](http://bethel-saginaw.org) • [facebook.com/bethelsaginaw/](https://www.facebook.com/bethelsaginaw/)

**L O V I N G , S H A R I N G , G R O W I N G**

Mark 12:29-31

Hebrews 13:16

2 Peter 3:18

Rev. Mashod A. Evans, Sr., Mrs. Leslie M. Evans,  
the leadership and membership of  
Bethel AME Church, Ann Arbor, . . .



extends commendation and congratulations to our Presiding Prelate,  
Bishop Frederick A. Wright and Mrs. Jennifer D. Wright, Presiding Elders  
and host pastor: The Rev. Cindy Carr Rudolph, Dr. Lawrence Rudolph  
and the Oak Gove AME Church in their hosting of the

**139<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE  
MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

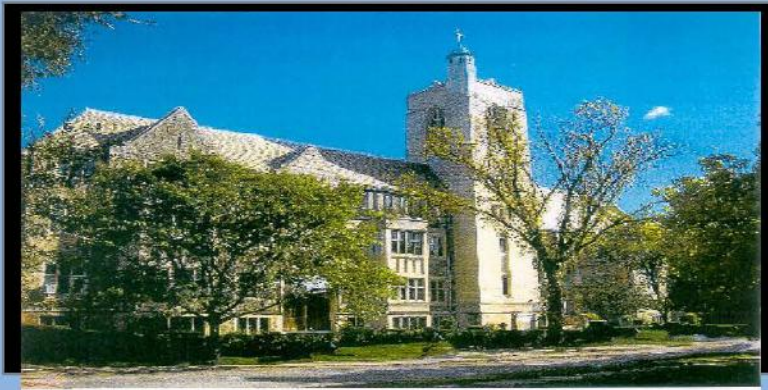
*Greetings and Congratulations*

**139<sup>th</sup> Session  
Of the  
Michigan Annual Conference  
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

August 13-16, 2025

Host Church  
Oak Grove AME Church  
19801 Cherrylawn  
Detroit, Michigan 48221

*The Reverend Dr. Mickarl D. Thomas, Sr.  
and  
First Lady C. Ann Thomas*



**The Historic  
Ebenezer A.M.E. Church**

5151 W. Chicago Boulevard  
Detroit, Michigan 48204  
313-933-6943

[ebename@yahoo.com](mailto:ebename@yahoo.com)

[www.historicebenezeramedetroit.org](http://www.historicebenezeramedetroit.org)

# *Felicitations*

TO  
*BISHOP FREDERICK ALAN WRIGHT*  
and  
*SUPERVISOR JENNIFER DIXON WRIGHT*

*On The*  
*139th Session of The Michigan Annual Conference*  
*And The*  
*128th Session of The Michigan Annual Missionary Convention*

*Host Church*  
*Oak Grove African Methodist Episcopal Church*  
*Rev. Cindy Rudolph, Pastor*



## *We Salute You*

*Historical Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church*  
*5050 Richard Allen Boulevard*  
*Detroit, Michigan 48202*  
*Rev. Ernest J. Ni'A*  
*Interim Pastor*

**Vernon Chapel AME Church Detroit  
wishes  
Oak Grove AME Church  
and Reverend Cindy Rudolph a Success!**

*Congratulations*

**To Bishop Frederick Alan Wright and  
Supervisor Jennifer Dixon Wright  
and to the  
4th Episcopal District of the AME Church**



**Reverend Sharinese Jackson, Pastor  
Reverend Aleta L. Hodge Scales, Local Elder**

The First Community AME Church Family of Grand Rapids welcomes Bishop Frederick Wright, Supervisor Jennifer Dixon Wright, Clergy, Laity and Guests to the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of the Michigan Annual Conference as we “Think Possible” together.



Pastor G, Sis. Myesha and W. Aaron Gholston III

First Things First: Faith, Family and Favor



*Trinity Lansing & Pastor Lila R. Martin  
Congratulates*

*Oak Grove and Rev. Cindy Rudolph  
on hosting the 139th session of the Michigan Annual Conference*

*Presiding Prelate The Right Rev. Frederick A. Wright, Sr.  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor*



*Come Experience God With Us At Our  
Family Worship Services  
Church School at 9:00am  
Worship at 10:30am*



Rev. Lila Rose Martin, Pastor  
Trinity A.M.E. Church

3500 West Holmes Rd, Lansing, MI 48911

517-882-5722

[www.TAMEC-LANSING.org](http://www.TAMEC-LANSING.org)



A Church for all God's people!

CONGRATULATIONS

# Oak Grove

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH - DETROIT

On hosting the 139th Michigan Annual  
Conference of the Fourth Episcopal  
District of A.M.E. Churches



**Q**UINN CHAPEL  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
2101 Lippincott Boulevard ~ Flint, MI 48503  
810-238-5636

**REV. LYNN JACKSON  
PASTOR**



# NEWMAN AME CHURCH



**The Rev. Yolanda Whiten, Pastor**

**We Praise God on the Occasion of the  
139th Session of The  
Michigan Annual Conference!**

**BLESSINGS ON ALL WE DO!**



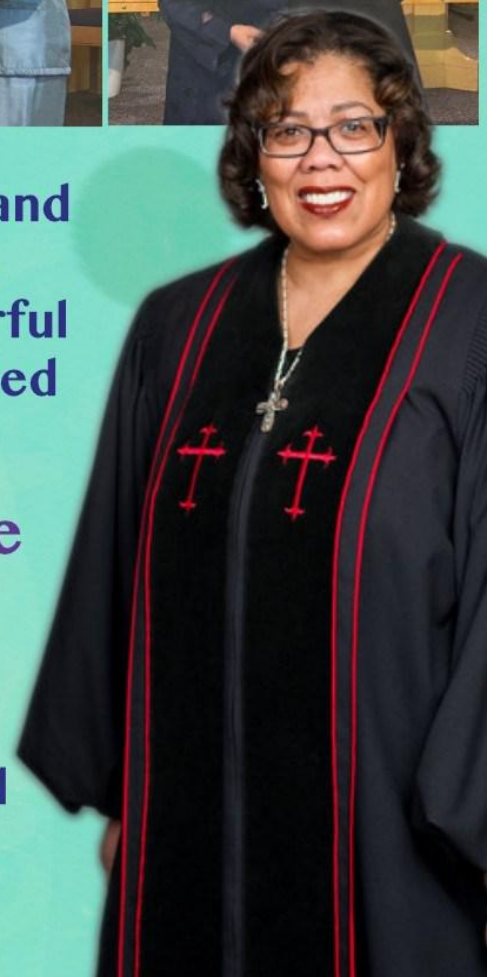
**We thank Bishop Frederick A. Wright and  
Supervisor, Jennifer Dixon Wright,  
Pastor Cindy Rudolph and the wonderful  
people of Oak Grove AME for a blessed  
Annual Conference**

**Pastor Yolanda Whiten and the  
entire Newman AME Family**

**233 Bagley St. ~ Pontiac, MI 48341**

**248-332-2800**

**<https://www.newmanamechurch.org>**





Smith  
Chapel  
AME CHURCH

*Congratulations*  
*Reverend Cindy Rudolph*

**AND THE OAK GROVE AME CHURCH**  
FOR HOSTING THE  
**139TH MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
IT IS OUR PRAYER THAT YOU ARE RICHLY  
REWARDED FOR YOUR SACRIFICE



MUCH LOVE  
SMITH CHAPEL AME CHURCH  
REV. TWYLLA B. TARVER, PASTOR



# Community A.M.E. Church – Ecorse

**Congratulates  
Reverend Cindy Rudolph  
& the Oak Grove AME Church Family  
on hosting the  
139<sup>th</sup> Session of the  
Michigan Annual Conference!**

**Bishop Frederick A. Wright Sr. – Presiding Prelate  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright – Episcopal Supervisor  
Rev. Dr. H. Michael Lemmons, Host Presiding Elder  
Rev. Larry James Bell, Presiding Elder**

**Rev. Lisa Reynolds, Pastor**  
[www.communityamec.org](http://www.communityamec.org)





**SECOND EBENEZER**  
**D E T R O I T**

*An Empowered Church Impacting the World*

*Warm Felicitations to*

**Oak Grove AME Church & Rev. Cindy Rudolph**

as you host the 139th Session of the  
Michigan Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.  
Our highest regard to Bishop Frederick Alan Wright, Presiding Prelate and  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor.

**Bishop Edgar and  
First Lady, Pastor Sheila Vann**

14601 Dequindre Road  
Detroit, Michigan 48212  
(313) 867-4700 o • (313) 867-4799 f  
[www.secondebenezer.org](http://www.secondebenezer.org)



**Blessings and Hugs  
to the  
139<sup>th</sup> Michigan Annual Conference**

*Matthew 5:16 (KJV) " Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good words, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*

*Pastor Jacquelynne D. Burge & the entire Vinson Chapel family*

## Bethel AME Church - Adrian



**MORNING SERVICE**

10:30 AM

Sunday

**CHURCH SCHOOL**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

(After Morning

Service)

**BIBLE STUDY**

6:00 PM

Wednesday (Zoom)

326 E. Butler Street

Adrian, MI 49221

Zoom ID: 5172652924 Password: 517265

"A Church for All People"

Rev. Sharrice L. Autry, Pastor





## *Thank you!*

It has been my honor to serve as General Chairperson of the Planning Committee of the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of the Michigan Annual Conference. Please know that the planning of the conference was definitely a team effort.

I would like to begin by thanking Pastor Rudolph for her guidance and direction. I would also like to thank Rev. André Spivey, JD for his assistance and unwavering support in working with Wayne County Community College District.

To the committee chairs who worked to coordinate the volunteers, thank you! To the volunteers, you are a tremendous group of people to whom God has given the biggest hearts! If you planned, moved, sorted, stacked, packed, or delivered, in a number of different ways, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. This could not have happened without you.

To the Oak Grove Staff...WOW!!! What a group of unselfish people who dedicated hours, lost precious family time, and who did whatever it took to make this happen. I also thank my husband, Duke, for his support during this time.

Each time I enter Oak Grove, I truly reflect on the Bible verse "*I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.*" Psalm 122:1

**Again, thank you!!!**



**Jacqueline D. Lawson**  
**Church Administrator**

**Oak Grove Staff:** Gwendolyn Montgomery, Executive Assistant; Katrina Dunigan, Church Secretary; Jennifer Morris, Church Accountant; Karen Taylor, Financial Analyst; David Wheeler, Facilities Manager; and Wayne Campbell, Hassan Clifton, Richard Nelson Maintenance Team Members.



# GREETINGS AND WELCOME

TO

THE 139TH SESSION OF THE  
MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

— ON BEHALF OF THE —

## OAK GROVE A.M.E. CHURCH MINISTERIAL TEAM



Rev. Roberta Brown  
Rev. Dr. Jennifer Campbell (Not Pictured)  
Rev. Sammie Clay (Not Pictured)  
Rev. Gordon Cooley  
Rev. Dr. Marcus Cylar  
Rev. Millicent DasGupta  
Dr. Pamela Fisher  
Rev. Cloteal Fowler (Not Pictured)  
Rev. Andra Henning  
Rev. Romona Irvin (Not Pictured)  
Bro. Ariel Johnson

Rev. Dr. Bruce Jones  
Rev. Brenda Jones  
Rev. Tunisia Jones  
Rev. Dr. Alice Patterson (Not Pictured)  
Minister Candace Purifoy  
Minister Osborne Purifoy, III  
Rev. Theresa Redden  
Rev. Nansi Rowe (Not Pictured)  
Rev. Nicole Smiley  
Evangelist Denise Wellons-Glover (Not Pictured)  
Rev. Pam Whitesell (Not Pictured)

**Rev. Andre Spivey JD, Executive Minister**

# *The Oak Grove Steward Board*



**proudly commemorates  
The 139th Session of the  
Michigan Annual Conference**



**Join us**  
as we honor tradition, faith, and fellowship in  
this historic celebration of spiritual growth  
and leadership.

Welcome to  
Oak Grove AME Church  
and to the  
139th Session of the Michigan Annual  
Conference

*Oak Grove AME Church, Board of Trustees  
Valerie Lott-Paramore, Pro-Tem*

In the same way, let your light shine before others so that they  
may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.  
Matthew 5:16 NRSV



**Members of the Board of Trustees:**

Pastor Cindy Rudolph, Chair  
Valerie Lott Paramore, Pro Tem  
Willie Barnes  
Esther Brewer-Jones  
Robert Brooks  
Clinton Donaldson \*Emeritus)  
Hon. Lesley Fairrow  
John Golson  
Adonicio Hartley  
Gregory Hines, Sr.

Lecedra Jones  
Larry Knight  
Steven McReynolds  
Dr. Tyloaha Parker  
James Randolph  
Sharon Simpson  
Al Smiley  
Shema Spivey  
Sherry Stamps  
Wendy Williams\*



\*Deceased



# Nancy Marsh Women's Missionary Society



The Right Reverend Frederick Alan Wright, Presiding Prelate  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor  
Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. H. Michael Lemmons  
Presiding Elder Larry J. Bell  
Rev. Cindy Rudolph and  
The 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference

**CONGRATULATIONS, BLESSINGS, AND CONTINUED SUCCESS AS WE CONTINUE TO "THINK POSSIBLE."**

Katrina Dunigan, President



## Members not pictured:

Lady Sharon Brumfield, Myrline Collins, Annette Golson, Nona Harris, Saran Hartley, Margaret Hill, Carolyn James, Lucretia Kiel, Valerie Lott, Patricia Meade, Gladys Moore-Dillard, Sharon Norris, Annette Parker, Janice Simon, Breanna Strickland, Jeanette Sykes, Karen Taylor, Charlene Thomas, Kathleen Wheeler



**YPD Grow,  
Glow, and  
Go for Christ!**

## Congratulations

Bishop Frederick Alan Wright, Presiding Prelate and Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright as we celebrate the 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference.

**May this occasion be filled with joy, reflection, and continued blessings.**



Alicia Reed, YPD Director and Detreisha Jackson, YPD Advisor

*Greetings to All in Attendance*  
**The Lay Organization**

joins with

**Oak Grove African Methodist Episcopal Church Family**

Rev. Cindy Rudolph  
in serving as hosts to the

**139th Session of The Michigan Annual Conference**

Re. Rev. Frederick A. Wright, Sr.  
Presiding Prelate of the Fourth Episcopal District  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright  
Episcopal Supervisor



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THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT AND



DIRECTORS AND INSTRUCTORS

WELCOME YOU TO  
THE 139TH SESSION OF THE  
MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE



**1st Row**

Angela McPherson; Yolanda Sain, Director; William Parker II; Wanda Langford;  
Monica Benford Echols

**2nd Row**

Min. Pamela Fisher, PhD; Melissa Samson; Rev. Roberta Brown; Allura Williams;  
Deborah Fisher

**Not pictured:**

Beverly Astrop, Felicia Langford, Min Candace Purifoy, Min. Osborne Purifoy III,  
William Parker III, Michael Williams, Al Taylor, Maurice Mason, Michael Holmes,  
and Richard McCall



# *Commission on Christian and Social Relations*

welcomes

Bishop Frederick Wright Sr. and  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor  
to Oak Grove AME Church and The 139th Session of  
the Michigan Annual Conference.



# THE OAK GROVE STEWARDESSES BOARD



*Serve the Lord with gladness. Psalm 100:2*

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Patricia Diane Clark, Chaplain

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Emeritus





*The Ministry to Women of Oak Grove AME Church  
welcome Bishop Wright and  
Supervisor Jennifer Dixon Wright*

*Congratulations*

*Oak Grove AME Church as you host  
The 139th Session of the Michigan  
Annual Conference*



**Rev. Dr. Jennifer Blakely Campbell,  
Coordinator  
Rev. Pamela Whitesell, Advisor  
Carla Stamps  
Donyelle Atkins  
Women's Day Co-Chairs 2025**



**Oak Grove AME Church**  
*Master's Men*  
*Ministry*  
welcomes you to  
**The 139th Session of the**  
**Michigan Annual Conference**



Please join us for the  
**39th Annual Largest Fish Fry in Town**  
**Friday, September 19, 2025,**  
**and Saturday, September 20, 2025.**

*And He said unto them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."  
Matthew 4:19 (KJV)*

# The Married Couples Ministry

"He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the Lord."  
Proverbs:18:22 (NRSVA)

## Planning Team



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WILLIAM & SHERDA  
POLK

*"Congratulations Rev. Rudolph and the Oak Grove Family as we host this year's conference."*

# GREETINGS

to the  
Rt. Rev. Frederick A. Wright, Presiding Prelate  
Fourth Episcopal District  
and  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor



Left to Right: Stella Moore, Roslyn Dew, Sharon Bean, Angela McPherson

The Shepherd's Care Ministry  
of Oak Grove AME Church would like to welcome  
everyone to the  
139th Session of The Michigan Annual Conference

Congratulations to  
The African Methodist Episcopal Church  
on your  
139th Session of  
The Michigan Annual Conference



Hosted by Oak Grove AME Church  
Rev. Cindy Rudolph, Host Pastor

Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr., Presiding Prelate  
Fourth Episcopal District

Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor

Rev. Dr. H. Michael Lemmons, Host Presiding Elder, South District

Rev. Larry J. Bell, Co-host Presiding Elder, North District



*For a day in thy courts is better than a  
thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper  
in the house of my God, than to dwell  
in the tents of wickedness.  
Psalm 84:10 (KJV)*

**Oak Grove  
Senior Usher Board**



May God Bless

*The 139th Session of  
The Michigan Annual Conference*

from

"The Doorkeepers"  
of  
Oak Grove AME Church



The Richard & Sarah Allen  
Usher Board

# THE MUSIC MINISTRY OF Oak Grove AME Church

*Psalm 100:1-2 KJV*

*Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye  
lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: Come  
before his presence with singing.*

**WELCOMES YOU WITH LOVE TO  
THE 139<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE**



**MASS CHOIR  
VOICES OF PRAISE AND  
NEW DIMENSION CHOIR**

# Oak Grove AME Adult Church School



Grace and peace for all the saints attending  
The 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference.

Please join us via Zoom on Sundays from 11:30 AM  
to 1:00 PM for lively and informative discussions on  
the Bible and your walk with Christ.

***Zoom Meeting ID 873 5864 6971      Passcode 871101***

"All scripture is inspired by God and is  
useful for... training in righteousness  
so that everyone who belongs to God  
may be proficient, equipped for every  
good work" —2 Timothy 3:16-17





Young Adult Ministry  
Leadership Team:  
Rev. Dr. Marcus Cylar,  
Coordinator  
David Alexander  
(not pictured)  
Lauren Black  
Cedasha Munson  
Dr. Tyloaha Parker  
Michael Williams



THE YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY OF  
OAK GROVE A.M.E. CHURCH  
WELCOMES YOU  
TO THE **139TH SESSION** OF THE  
**MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

*Thank you to  
Our illustrious Host Pastor Rev. Cindy Rudolph and  
First Gentleman Dr. Lawrence Rudolph,  
Host Presiding Elder H. Michael Lemmons and Lady Anita Lemmons,  
Presiding Elder Larry J. Bell and Consultant Rev. DaNita Bell,  
and Bishop Frederick Alan Wright Sr. and Supervisor Jennifer Dixon Wright  
for your amazing leadership in our church, the Michigan Conference, the 4th  
Episcopal District, and our Zion!*

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# Vessels of Hope Vessels of Grace



welcomes Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr.  
Presiding Prelate  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright,  
Episcopal Supervisor  
and the entire delegation to  
The 139th Session of the  
Michigan Annual Conference



# SHARING



# & CARING MINISTRY



**"Welcome to the  
139th Session of  
The Michigan Annual Conference"**

**"Sharing is caring; the more you  
give, the more love you grow."**



The Senior Dignitaries of Oak Grove AME Church  
celebrate as we host  
The 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference



Photo Senior Day 2025



We celebrate and commend Oak Grove AME Church for hosting  
The 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference with grace,  
excellence, and faithful service.

In alignment with God's Word, you remind us that:

*"Do you not know that your bodies are temples of  
the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?  
You are not your own; you are bought at a price. Therefore, honor  
God with your bodies." — 1 Corinthians 6:19 (NIV)*



Thank you for leading by example and  
creating a space where faith and  
wellness walk hand in hand. May this  
Conference inspire continued focus on  
both spiritual vitality and physical  
well-being, as we build stronger  
communities for the Kingdom.

With Blessings and Gratitude,

Oak Grove AME Church  
Health Commission





# The Urban Ballroom Dance Class

of Oak Grove AME Church



*"Welcomes to the 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference."*



**Classes are the second and fourth Saturdays of the month at 10:30 a.m.**

**"This is an opportunity for praise, exercise, and fellowship."**

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Rev. Cindy Rudolph, Senior Pastor



The Courtesy Ministry Welcomes You to  
The 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference



Left to Right:

Barbara Mention, Cassandra Williams, Hon. Lesley Fairrow, Judy Ellison,  
Cecelia Randolph, Carrie Whitfield, Rev. Cindy Rudolph, Delores Brown,  
Jurlene Hurst, Georgia Crawford-Cambell, Michelle Small,  
Tonda Redding, Karen Slaughter-DuPerry

Members not pictured:

Dr. Sabrina Smith-Campbell, Dr. Patricia Munson, Helen Lee



Oak Grove's  
Youth Usher Board is proud  
to serve the 3rd Sunday of  
each month.

**Welcome to the  
139th Session of the  
Michigan Annual  
Conference**

**"See you Sunday, August 17!"**





is Proud to be a Platinum Sponsor in support of the Oak Grove AME 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference

We are excited to welcome Political Leader, Author, and Entrepreneur, Stacey Abrams, to the RECESS25 stage!



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**Host Church: Oak Grove AME Church**

**Rev. Cindy Rudolph, Host Pastor**

In memory of John Evan and in celebration of his legacy, we are proud to offer our annual scholarship, awarded to support young people in their pursuit of higher education and purpose-driven lives.

Continuing in the same spirit of giving and celebration, the John Evan Cash Foundation is truly honored and deeply blessed to sponsor the tote bags for the 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference.

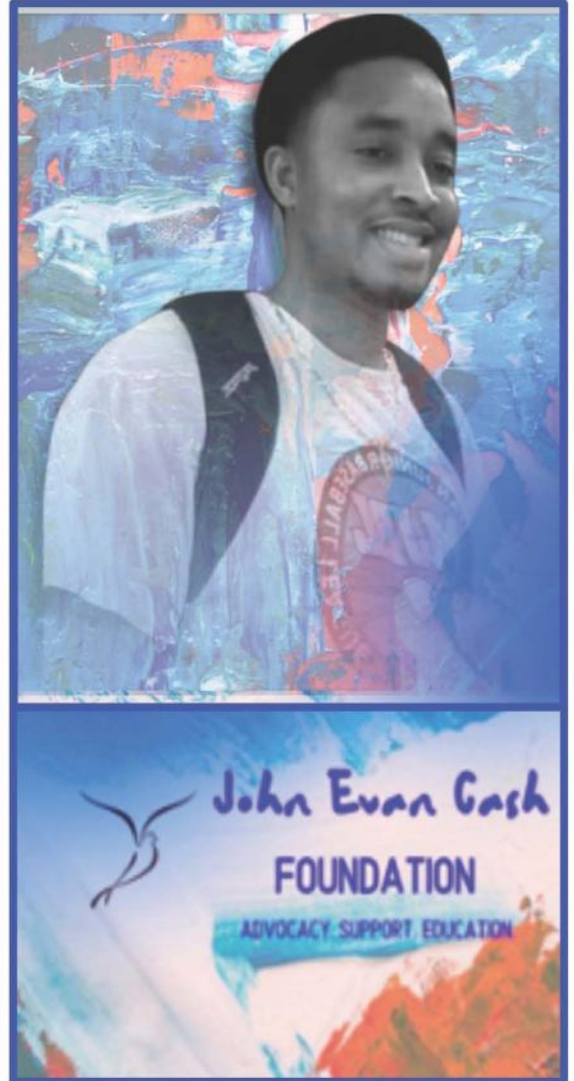
We are proud to partner with the AME Church in its ongoing mission of faith, service, and empowerment. Special thanks to Rev. Cindy Rudolph and Oak Grove AME Church for hosting this sacred gathering.

May this conference be filled with God's presence, vision, and lasting impact.

With gratitude and faith,

The John Evan Cash Foundation

[www.johnevancashfoundation.org](http://www.johnevancashfoundation.org)



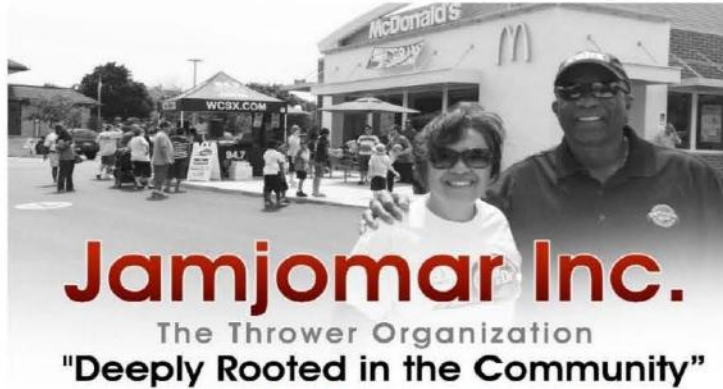
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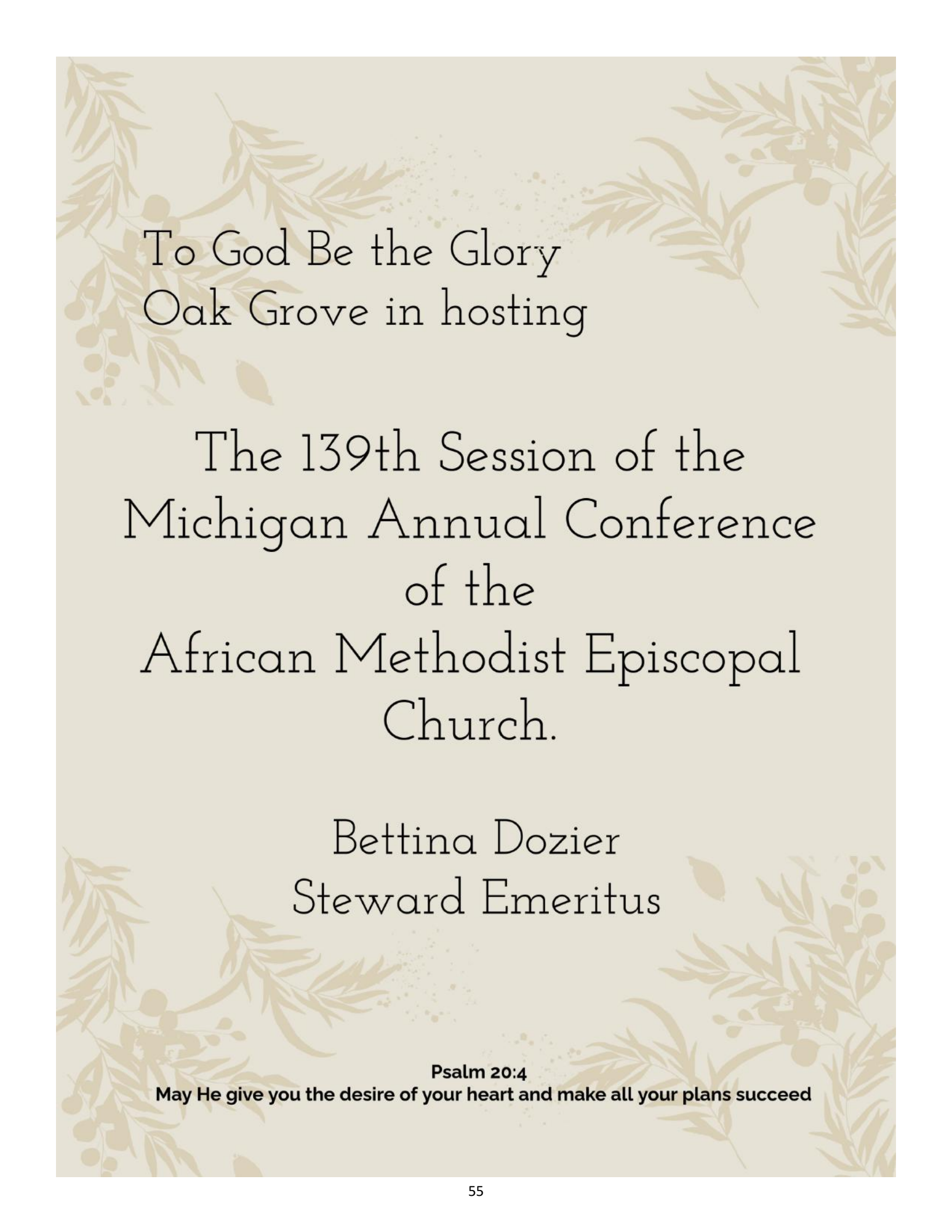


***Congratulations!***

**OAK GROVE AME CHURCH**

**HOST FOR THE 139<sup>TH</sup> SESSION  
OF THE MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**JIM, MARLA & THROWER FAMILY**



To God Be the Glory  
Oak Grove in hosting

The 139th Session of the  
Michigan Annual Conference  
of the  
African Methodist Episcopal  
Church.

Bettina Dozier  
Steward Emeritus

**Psalm 20:4**  
**May He give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed**

*We extend our heartfelt Congratulations to*  
***Oak Grove AME Church***  
*on the occasion of the*  
***139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference***

*We give thanks for your steadfast commitment to faith and continued  
dedication to spiritual growth.*

*A special word of appreciation goes to*

*Pastor Cindy Rudolph,*

*Your ministry is a shining light. We are grateful for the vision and  
excellence you bring to every aspect of service.*

*May God continue to strengthen and sustain you as you lead with grace  
and purpose.*

***Congratulations and Blessings,***  
***Nathan & Dedra Ford***

*"To God be the glory for the great things He has done!"*



*From My Family to My Oak Grove Family*

*Congratulations on a successful hosting of  
The 139th Session of  
The Michigan Annual Conference!!!*

*"In Loving Memory of Derrick Charles Bufford!!!"*



*Angel*

*Branden MS Education, Dr. Blake DDS*

*Casey MBA, MS, Sports Management*

*Dr. Diana PHD*

*Taylor (9), Blair (4), Jabari (4), Bryan (2), Bryce (2) !!!*

# WELCOME

Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr.,  
Presiding Prelate  
Fourth Episcopal District  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright,  
Episcopal Supervisor



**Thank you for your leadership  
of the  
4th Episcopal District.**

We also thank our pastor,  
Rev. Cindy Rudolph. for her  
pastoral leadership.  
God has truly provided a leader for our  
church at a time like this.

**WE PRAY THAT GOD WILL  
RICHLY BLESS  
OAK GROVE AS WE HOST  
THE 139TH SESSION  
OF THE  
MICHIGAN ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE**

**Duke and Jacqueline Lawson**

Esther4:14



**Congratulations to the African Methodist Episcopal Church on your 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference!**

**Hosted by Oak Grove AME Church**

**Rev. Cindy Rudolph, Host Pastor**

Bishop Frederick Alan Wright, Presiding Prelate  
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CEO




# The Men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity



Greet Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr  
and  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright, Episcopal Supervisor.

"Welcome to  
The 139th Session of the Michigan  
Annual Conference."



Welcome to the 139<sup>th</sup> Session  
of the Michigan Annual Conference!  
Rev. Cindy Rudolph-Host Pastor



**The AKAs**

of Oak Grove African Methodist Episcopal  
Church, in Detroit, Michigan

**Soaring In Faith and Service**

“There are no ‘ifs’ among believers. Anything can  
happen.” Mark 9:23 MSG



# Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated

Bishop Frederick A. Wright, Sr.,  
Presiding Prelate  
and  
Mrs. Jennifer Dixon Wright,  
Episcopal Supervisor



The Kappas of Oak Grove  
welcome you to the  
139th Session of the Michigan  
Annual Conference

The Men of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc at  
Oak Grove AME Church, greet you in the name  
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Welcome to the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of the Michigan Annual Conference!



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Azekel Hartley  
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Charles Shannon  
Andre Spivey, II

***For we are laborers together with God:  
You are God's vineyard; you are God's  
building. 1 Corinthians 3:9 (MEV)***



**ΔΣΘ**

# Welcome to The 139th Session of The Michigan Annual Conference from the Oak Grove Sorors of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

*"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ  
Jesus for good works, which God prepared  
beforehand, that we should walk in them."  
Ephesians 2:10 NIV*



Donyale Stephen-Atara  
Drue Bender  
Demetria Bias  
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LyNyck Washington  
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---

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

*Oak Grove African Methodist  
Episcopal Church  
Rev. Cindy Rudolph, Pastor*

**HOST FOR THE 139<sup>TH</sup> SESSION  
MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**



*Congratulations to  
The 139th Session of the Michigan Annual Conference  
Attendees*



1st Row L to R:  
Deborah Fisher, Willeda Langford,  
Theresa Peete, Patricia Dysard,  
Virginia Langford

2nd Row L to R:  
Kenneth Langford, Charles Langford,  
Felicia Langford

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## **JAMES H COLE HOME FOR FUNERALS**

Detroit, Michigan  
A fourth generation, family owned and  
operated home for funeral services

## **JUDSON CENTER**

Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Non-Profit agency with Multiple  
locations offering Foster care and  
adoption services in addition to Holistic  
behavioral health treatment

## **JOHN EVANS CASH FOUNDATION**

Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Mission encompasses a commitment  
to fostering innovations that enhance  
mental well-being for young individuals  
in everyday life and the digital realm.

## **FIRST INDEPENDENCE BANK**

Detroit Michigan; Minneapolis, MN  
A Minority owned Banking and  
Financial Services Company

## **CITY OF DETROIT HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Detroit, Michigan  
Detroit's public health provider for over 100  
years has a mission to address public and  
population health priorities of Detroit  
residents.

## **BISHOP GREGORY G.M. INGRAM (RET.)**

Author

## **LISA D'S POPCRAZE**

Gourmet Popcorn and Gifts

## **PAGES Bookshop**

Detroit, Michigan  
Minority owned Detroit Bookstore offering  
Virtual and in person book sales

## **JAFRA COSMETICS**

Mentory Middleton Consultant offering a wide  
range of skincare products

## **KEY BANK**

Cynitra Oliver, Manager  
1900 E. 8 Mile Rd.; Detroit, MI

## **GRACE JULIANNA FOUNDATION INC/ IROWEL PRAISE FOUNDATION**

African clothing sales raising funds for  
youths in Nigeria

## **ETHEL THURMAN**

Tennessee  
Clerical robes and vestments

## **LOUISIANA OPAL by Sharon Brumfield**

Southfield, MI  
Jewelry

## **ST. MARIE'S HOSPICE**

Southfield, MI  
Mission is to restore honor, dignity and respect  
to end-of-life services. Offering a wide variety  
of both palliative and hospice care services.



# Our Committee Chairs

Rev. Andre Spivey, LaShawn Gary, Phelecia McCall	Worship
Katrina Dunigan, Sharon Simpson, Chery Dabney	“Swag Bag”
Hon. Lesley Fairrow, Carrie Whitfield	Greeters
Katrina Dunigan, Tanya Hines, Jurlene Hurst	Registration
Hugh Hatten, Shema Spivey, Lorri English	Media/Digital
Josephine Henyard	Sponsorships
Jacqueline Lawson, Rogers Foster	Souvenir Journal
Lorri English, Esther Brewer Jones	Decorations
Robert Brooks, William Polk, Al Smiley	Transportation
Rosemary Brewer, William Polk	Ushers
Health Commission	Karen Williams, Dedra Ford
Security	David Wheeler

We were **Blessed** to have 81 people sign up initially in March to serve in different capacities. Since that time others have assisted as well. Your willingness to serve does not go unnoticed.

THANK YOU!!!

*Pastor Cindy*



*You're Invited!!!*



**The Men of**  
**Oak Grove**   
**African Methodist**  
**Episcopal Church**

**39<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**LARGEST  
FISH FRY  
IN TOWN**

**Friday, September 19 – 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.**

**Saturday, September 20 – 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.**

**OAK GROVE**

**African Methodist Episcopal Church**  
**19801 Cherrylawn | Detroit, Michigan | (313) 341-8877**

**Donation \$20.00**

Rev. Cindy Rudolph, Senior Pastor | [www.oakgroveame.org](http://www.oakgroveame.org)

Serving families for over 100 years with dignified and affordable funerals.

# JAMES H. COLE

HOME FOR FUNERALS, INC.  
WWW.JAMESHCOLE.COM

*We Congratulate and Wish Much Success on the  
139<sup>th</sup> Session of the Michigan Annual Conference  
of the African Methodist Episcopal Church!  
May the Lord Continue to Bless You and  
Guide Your Steps in His Word.*

*Karla M. Cole and the Cole Family*  
**Gold Sponsor**

## MAIN CHAPEL

2624 W. Grand Blvd.  
Detroit, Michigan 48208  
313.873.0771  
*Karla M. Cole, Manager*

## NORTHWEST CHAPEL

16100 Schaefer Hwy.  
Detroit, Michigan 48235  
313.835.3997  
*Gail A. Washington, Manager*



James H. Cole, Sr.  
1894-1970



James H. Cole, Jr.  
1928-1991



Karla M. Cole  
Manager



Antonio Green  
Director



Brice Green  
Director

FOUR GENERATIONS OF SERVING METROPOLITAN DETROIT