

Moving beyond
the walls forces us
to become global
in our thinking,
in our mission,
in our ministry,
and in our
witness.

We are a church of
many believers
with diverse
needs; we are....

*"Laity Sowing
Seeds Beyond the
Walls:
An Agenda of
Ministry and
Service"*



QUADRENNIAL FOCUS

The Council of Bishops of the
Connectional African Methodist Episcopal
Church is providing additional leadership
via declaring the focus for the
Quadrennial 2008 - 2012.

The yearly themes are as follows:

2008 - 2009

"Influence"

"To act justly, and to love mercy and
to walk humble with your God."

Micah 6:8b NIV

2009 - 2010

"Inheritance"

"A good man leaves an inheritance for
his children's children."

Proverbs 13: 22

2010 - 2011

"Integrity"

"...if you walk before me in integrity of
heart and uprightness...."

I Kings 9:4

2011 - 2012

"Innovation"

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it
spring up; do you not perceive it?"

Isaiah 43: 19

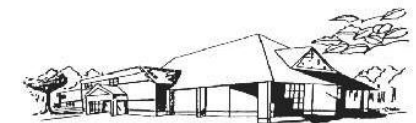
DuPage AME Church

LOUIS A. GARLAND LAY ORGANIZATION

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The **LAY ORGANIZATION** trains lay members in the history, traditions and principles of the church, fosters respect and support for its leaders, encourages support of the total program of the local church and promotes the systematic study of the Discipline, organic laws and structure of the AME Church and the Holy Bible.

The Lay Organization is made up of the laity of the church. The laity is/are members of the church who is/are not of the clergy.

The main objectives of the Lay Organization are:

- † To instill in the membership of the church a great love and appreciation of the history, tradition and principles of African Methodism.
- † To keep forever alive the memory of Richard Allen, our illustrious founder.
- † To advocate respect and loyalty at all times to constituted authority and leadership.
- † To encourage, stimulate and educate the laity of the church in the history, development and organic laws of African Methodism.
- † To foster a systematic and regular study of the Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- † To promote the spread of personal evangelism and provide training in Christian stewardship.



The Lay Hymn

*Laymen now have thus assembled,
in Thy blessed name, O God.
Guide us in our true endeavor,
light the pathway that we trod;
Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause,
Give us strength to ever labor for Thy cause.*

*We are banded one in union,
to fulfill Thy just command.
May we be Thy true disciples,
holding to Thy mighty hand;
Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love,
Give us blessings from the fountain of Thy love.*

*As we walk this Christian journey,
let us keep our armor bright.
Let our words be pure and holy,
that we stand within Thy sight.
Laymen Soldiers, strong in unity and love,
Laymen Soldiers, strong in unity and love.*

*May we stand before Thine Altar,
pledging, Lord, to work for Thee.
In the Vineyard, in the pastures,
Let us, Lord, Thy Pilgrims be:
Let us lift the Cross forever to the skies,
Let us lift the Cross forever to the skies.
Amen.*

Words: Francis A. Walton
Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872

*"If anyone speaks, they should do it as
one speaking the very words of God.
If anyone serves, they should do it
with the strength God provides,
so that in all things God may be
praised through Jesus Christ.*

*To Him be the glory and the power for
ever and ever. Amen."*

I Peter 4:11



THE LAY BENEDICTION

*May God bless us with the
true spirit of Christianity,
That we may live together,
not as man over man,
but as Lay persons working with God.
Amen.*