

JULY 27

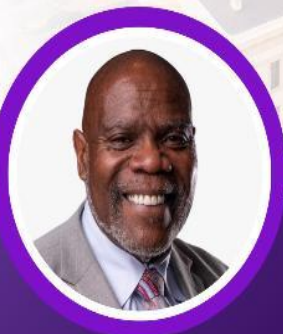


JULY 29

S.E. MISSOURI, ILLINOIS & WISCONSIN REGION

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025

**"A STRATEGIC CHURCH: EXPERIENCING SPIRITUAL GROWTH, WHILE ENGAGING IN SOCIAL JUSTICE"**



**REV. R. MCDUFFIE**  
HOST PASTOR  
LANE TAB. CME-STL



**DR. J. FINKLEY**  
HOST PRESIDING ELDER  
ST. LOUIS DISTRICT



**DR. T. WASHINGTON**  
PRESIDING ELDER  
MILWAUKEE DISTRICT



**REV. W.F. DOCKERY**  
PRESIDING ELDER  
CHICAGO DISTRICT



**BISHOP SYLVESTER WILLIAMS SR.**

**PRESIDING PRELATE | 3D**

## HOST HOTEL

**RENAISSANCE STL AIRPORT**  
9801 NATURAL BRIDGE ROAD  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, USA, 63134  
314-429-1100

**ROOM RATE: \$129**  
**CODE:** Third Episcopal District

## HOST CHURCH

**LANE TAB. CME CHURCH**  
910 N. NEWSTEAD AVE.  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63108  
314-533-0534



[THIRDDISTRICTCME.ORG](http://THIRDDISTRICTCME.ORG)

**BOOTS ON THE GROUND BANQUET**  
JULY 27TH @ 6:30PM



**RENAISSANCE STL AIRPORT**

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***SE MISSOURI, ILLINOIS & WISCONSIN REGION***  
***Sunday, July 27, 2025***  
***THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE***

**Theme: “A Strategic Church: Experiencing Spiritual Growth, While  
Engaging in Social Justice”**  
**Micah 6:8, NIV, and Amos 5:24, NIV**

**6:30 P.M.**

**Annual Conference Banquet**  
**(BOOTS ON THE GROUND CLASSIC WESTERN BANQUET)**

**Master of Ceremony:                      Rev. and Mrs. Richard S. McDuffie**  
**Lane Tabernacle CME Church**

**Renaissance STL Airport**  
**9801 Natural Bridge Road**  
**St. Louis, Missouri 63134**

**In lieu of Communion Offering, Please purchase Banquet Tickets (\$100)**  
**(See your Elders for tickets)**

**Communion**

**Chief Celebrant:**

**Bishop Sylvester Williams, Sr.**

**Soloist**

**Homily:**

**Dr. Joseph Gordon, Pastor, Carter Temple, Chicago**

**Sharing of the Elements:**

**Presiding Elder, Dr. Janci Finkley, St. Louis District**

# **2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE BANQUET/COMMUNION**

**July 27, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.**

***SE MISSOURI, ILLINOIS & WISCONSIN REGION***

**(BOOTS ON THE GROUND CLASSIC WESTERN BANQUET)**

Prelude

Call to Celebration

Introduction of Celebration Leaders      Rev. Renee T. Johnson, Pastor, Murchison Tabernacle

Celebration Leaders:

Rev. and Mrs. Richard McDuffie

Introduction of Dias and Guests

Prayer

Min. Camille Stafford

Scripture

Rev. Carrell K. Cargle, Retired, Chicago District

Welcome/Occasion

Sis. Ruth Collins

Celebration Music

Dinner Grace

Rev. David Green, Pastor  
Gregg Chapel CME Church

**DINNER IS SERVED**

Celebration Music

**COMMUNION**

Soloist:

Sis. Lillian Curlett

Homily:

Dr. Joseph Gordon, Pastor  
Carter Temple CME Church

Sharing of the Elements:

Presiding Elder, Dr. Janci Finkley  
St. Louis District

Chief Celebrant:

Bishop Sylvester Williams, Sr.

Appreciations

Closing Remarks

Benediction

*Monday, July 28, 2025*  
**THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**7:00 A.M. – 8:00 A.M.**      **BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION**  
(Registration is \$100.00 per person)

**Business Session**

**8:00 – 9:00 A.M.**

**Meditation**

**Morning Devotion**

Rev. Dion Broughton, Pastor  
St. Luke CME Church, Champaign, IL

**9:00 – 10:15 A.M.**

- ROLL CALL OF MINISTERS
- ROLL CALL OF LAY DELEGATES
- ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY AND STAFF
- SETTING OF THE BAR OF THE CONFERENCE
- SELECTION OF CONFERENCE ORDERLIES
- ADOPTION OF CONFERENCE PROGRAM
- REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES
- DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS
- THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE OF THE C.M.E. CHURCH, 2022
- SECTION A. CONFERENCE RELATIONS 1-23, PAGES 48-50  
MINISTERIAL EXAMINATION COMMITTEE
- SECTION B. STATISTICS 24-42, PAGES 50-51  
STATISTICIAN
- SECTION C. FINANCE 43-49, PAGES 51  
JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE
- SECTION D. INSURANCE 50, PAGE 51-52
- SECTION E. MISCELLANEOUS 51-53, PAGES 52  
RECORDS CLERK

**10:15 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**

**Church Initiatives**

**3D Strategic Plan - Rev. Zachary Mullens**  
Audio/Visual Pastoral Reports  
**Compelling Preaching – Dr. Joseph Gordon**  
**Bold Money Matters – Dr. Victor Taylor**

**11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**

**Exposition of Theme**

Dr. Themba Mafico  
Distinguished Professor of Old Testament  
President, Mafico Leadership Renewal Institute

**12:30 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

**Lunch**

**2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

**Joint New Birth/Worship Service**

**Led by the Laity**

**Preacher:** Rev. Alphonzo Bowen, Pastor  
Greater New Heights Baptist Church  
Birmingham, AL

**3:30 P.M.– 5:00 P.M.**

**Breakout Sessions**

Ministers, Joint Board of Finance, Ministers' Spouses, Widows & Widowers Department, Economic Development Committee, Stewardesses, Missionaries, Commission on Social Concerns, Lay Ministry, Ministerial Examination Committee, Department of Christian Education, Young Adults, and the Board of Evangelism & Mission

**6:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

**KING AND QUEEN PAGEANT – Board of Christian Education**

Min. Chandra Lee, SE MO, IL & WI Region Director  
Min. Brittney Adams, 3D Director

**8:00 P.M. – 9:30 P.M.**

**Missionary March**

Mrs. Linda Lewis, SE MO, IL & WI Region President

**9:30 P.M.**

**Break-out Sessions (Cont.)/Election of Clergy Delegates**

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***TUESDAY, July 29, 2025***  
***THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE***

**7:00 A.M. – 8:00 A.M.**

**BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION**

(Registration is \$100.00 per person)

**8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.**

**Meditation**

**Morning Devotion**

Rev. Betty Blue, Pastor  
Allen Ebenezer CME Church, Milwaukee, WI

**9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.**

**Business Session**

- REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES
- THE TREASURER'S REPORT – Rev. David Bryant
- ELECTION OF TREASURER
- ELDER'S REPORTS/CHARACTER
- SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE CHRISTIAN INDEX AND THE MISSIONARY MESSENGER
- ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORTS
- PASSING THE BUDGET
- RECEIVING OF LAY PLEDGES

**10:00 A.M – 11:00 A.M.    General Conference Insights**

Rev. Richard McDuffie, Pastor  
Lane Tabernacle, St. Louis, MO

**11:00 – 12:00 P.M.    CELEBRATION OF RETIREMENTS**

Led by MINISTERS' SPOUSES, WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS DEPARTMENT

**RECOGNITION OF RETIREE: Presiding Elder Janci Finkley**  
**RETIREE: Rev. Jeanette Harbin**

**MID DAY WORSHIP**

**Preacher:**

Dr. Paul Brown, Dean  
Phillips School of Theology

**12:00 – 2:00 P.M.**

**Lunch**

**2:00 – 5:00 P.M.**

**Conference Business Session Cont.**  
Election of Lay Delegates

**7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.    THE SERVICE OF ORDINATION/COMMISSIONING**

**WORSHIP LEADERS:            Presiding Elders/Committee on Ministerial Examination**

**THE ORDINATION SERMON:**            Dr. Karen Walker-McClure, Retired  
Presiding Elder, Chicago District

**ORDINATION SERVICE**

**SERVICE OF INSTALLATION OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE OFFICERS**

**READING OF THE PASTORAL APPOINTMENTS**

**CLOSING PRAYER/BENEDICTION**

**THE POSTLUDE**