

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
THE DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Decision Day 2021



The Bureau Church Growth and Development
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
 www.ameziondevelopment.org



The Book of Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church directs that every Sunday Church School shall emphasize “Decision Day” annually, and also undertake an evangelistic quota for active membership in the church school (p. 280).

The Annual Decision Day Observance is generally held the fourth Sunday in October. However, it may be observed any time in October or even in November if it is best convenient for the local Church. During the harvest season, the constituents of the A.M.E. Zion Church pause to celebrate the harvest of souls (*conversions, new members, re-dedications*) gathered during the previous 12 months, as well as those entering the ministry or any form of Christian service. Forms are provided to assist Churches in the reporting process.

Also, the Decision Day Observance has been an opportunity for local Churches to share financial gifts in support of the Bureau of Church Growth and Development. Whereas financial gifts are appreciated, needed, and welcomed throughout the year; the Department is placing its greatest emphasis upon making disciples for Christ!

The Department is keeping in stride with the Quadrennial Connectional Theme “*The Freedom Church - A Movement Empowered by Holy Spirit: Strengthening our Fellowship, Serving our Flock, Sharing our Faith, and Securing our Future.*” Our focal theme for this year is, “**Serving our Flock.**” Serving others is the epitome of the ministry of Christ. The Scripture says, “*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many*” (Mark 10:45). Serving others is the process by which we impart Christ’s unconditional love, undeserved grace, and unmerited mercy to a broken and lost world; as we seek to edify the Church. The Apostle Peter said, “*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms*” (1 Peter 4:10).

This challenging and continuous season of Covid-19, social unrest, political partisanship, voting suppression laws, etc., provide many opportunities for the Church to resolve to remedy these ills by encouraging others to make a “Decision” to accept and follow Christ.

In His Service,
Rev. Dr. Eleazar Morrisweather, Executive Director



DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE 2021

Report Form

Church _____ Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
 Pastor in charge _____ Phone _____ Fax _____
 Presiding Elder _____ P. E. District _____
 Presiding Bishop _____ Annual Conference _____
 Episcopal District _____
 Date of Event(s) _____
 Description _____

REPORT OF DECISIONS

<u>Type of Decisions Made</u>	<u>During Decision Day Observance(s)</u>	<u>During the Year (Oct. 2021 - Nov. 2022)</u>
Conversions	_____	_____
Re-dedications	_____	_____
New Members	_____	_____
Called to Preach	_____	_____
#. of Special Services	_____	_____
Make Financial gifts to: The Bureau of Evangelism		\$ _____

Send to: **The Bureau of Church Growth & Development**
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 P.O. Box 217258
 Charlotte, N.C. 28221-7258
 Telephone: (704) 599-4630 Ext. 2174 Fax: (704) 688-2547

Pondering the Quadrennial Theme through Philippians 2:1-11

"If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross!

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Quadrennial Theme: The Freedom Church - A Movement Empowered by the Holy Spirit: Strengthening our Fellowship, **Serving our Flock**, Sharing our Faith, and Securing our Future."

Serving our Flock by being united with Christ (2:1)

Serving our Flock with by being having the mind of Christ (2:2)

Serving our Flock with the humility of Christ (2:3)

Serving our Flock with the same interests for others as for ourselves (2:4)

Serving our Flock by having the attitude of Christ (2:5)

Serving our Flock by being a servant like Christ (2:6-7)

Serving our Flock by being obedient like Christ (2:8)