



Reimagining Church School

Time for a Change During COVID 19

Rev Dr. Jessica Ingram
Episcopal Supervisor



Bishop Gregory G. M. Ingram
Presiding Prelate



Sis. Jeanne Chavious
Superintendent
First Episcopal District

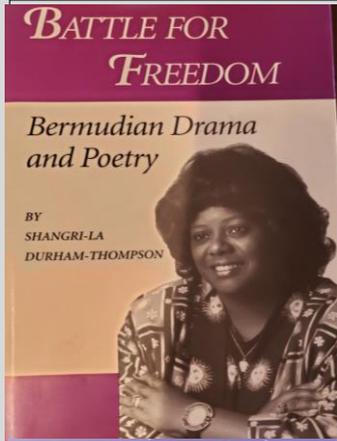
TEACHERS FOR YOUTH

TEACHING JESUS USING TECHNOLOGY & THE ARTS

By Dr. Shangri-La Durham-Thompson
Saturday, October 24, 2020



Allow me to introduce myself through technology and the arts.




 You are invited to the
OFFICIAL OPENING
 of the
55th Annual Primary Schools' ART EXHIBITION
Friday, February 7th, 2020
@ The Bermuda Society of Arts Gallery
City Hall
5:30pm

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
presents
THE 55th ANNUAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS' ART EXHIBITION

Venue: Bermuda Society of Arts Gallery
Theme: Freedom and Social Change
OFFICIAL OPENING: FEBRUARY 7 at 5:30 pm
Opening Hours:
 Monday – Friday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
 Saturday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 pm


THE PRIMARY SCHOOLS' SHOW RUNS FROM FEBRUARY 7 – MARCH 3, 2020.

Our work for God is **MOST** important! We love the church school

And will do our best in this part of God's vineyard.



Psalm 34:11

Come, you children, *listen to me*; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

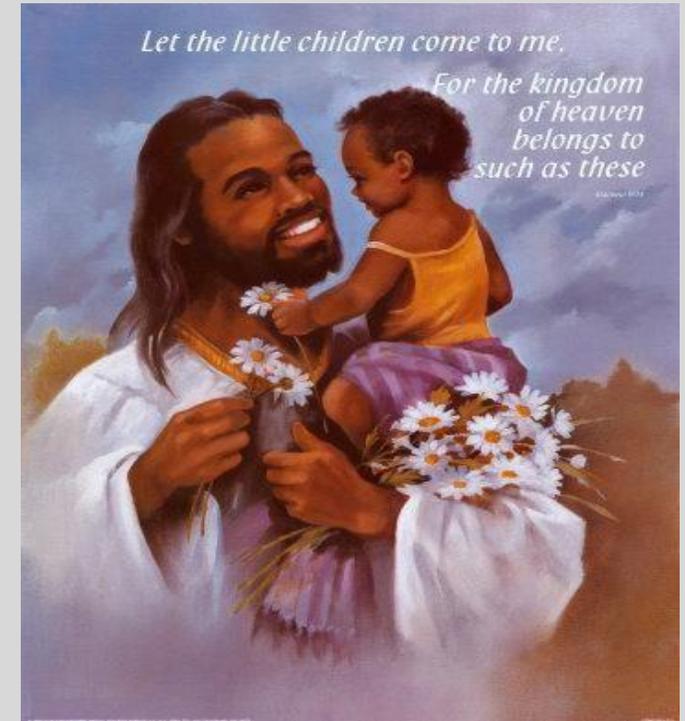
Proverbs 3:1

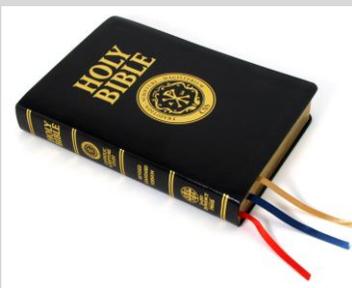
My son, *do not forget my teaching*, but let your heart keep my commandments.

Proverbs 22:6

***Train up a child* in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**

Question: *Has your church school grown over the past 10 years?*





WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

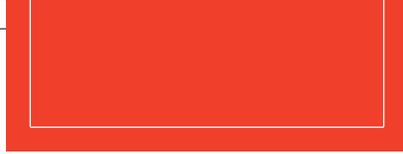
- Follow God's Instructions: Matthew 28 19: Go into all the world and preach my gospel!
- Motivate/Encourage/Inspire and reinforce the importance of our work.
- Reimagine church school using Technology.
- Share ideas using the arts.

The mission of the Church School in the African Methodist Episcopal Church is to teach, train, and nurture adults, young adults, college students, teenagers and children in God's word; preparing them for Christian service by emphasizing Christian principles.

The Church schools shall employ methodologies for effective Christian growth and maximum participation inclusive of creative teaching pedagogues and state of the art learning technologies and multimedia products.

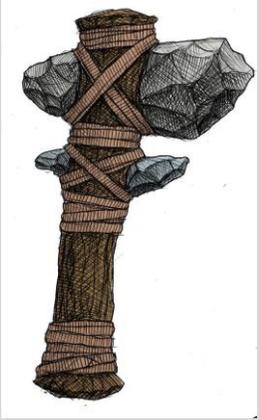
"There is to be a church school in every local church."
Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

1damechurchschool.com



Use of technology
and the arts can help
improve church schools.

So, What is Technology?



Engineering is Elementary **(EIE DEFINITION)**



Technology is used to help us control and adapt to our environments.

The ability of human beings to convert natural resources into tools for use.



Hieroglyphics

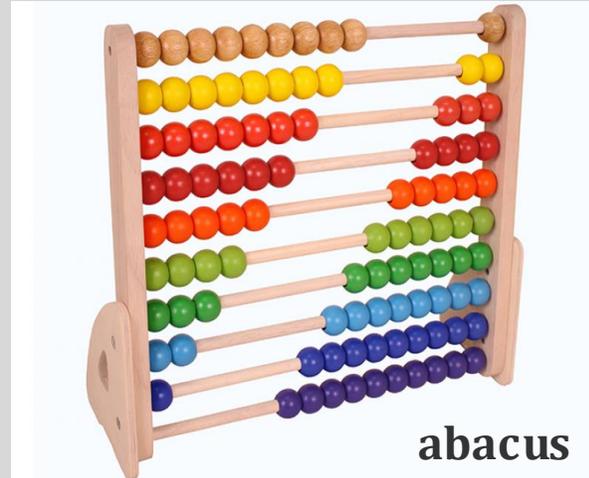
EARLY TECHNOLOGY



Quill pen and pencil

Before pens and pencils were invented, writing was done by carving letters into thin sheets of wax. The very first quill pen was introduced around 700 AD and used feathers from live birds; crows, eagles, geese and turkeys. This evolved into the metal-nibbed pen, followed by the fountain pen, and finally the ballpoint pen. Pencils were invented in 1795, when an officer in Napoleon's army discovered that powdered graphite mixed with clay formed into rods and made a handy writing tool.

**EARLY
TECHNOLOGY
CONTINUED**



Counting and calculating were done with pebbles and twigs.

The abacus made more calculations; addition, subtraction,
multiplication and division possible.

First used by the Greeks around 300 BC, although the abacus we know today
comes from China.



TECHNOLOGY TODAY

3D printing: Offers a solution for the low volume manufacturing of complex parts, as well as fast local production of difficult-to-find products.

Drones: Enable robotic automation with fewer geographical restrictions.

iPad/iPhone/Laptops/Tablets: New communication devices.



Instagram: A place where visual expression photos, videos can inspire others around the world.

amebdachurchschool

WhatsApp: Communication that incorporates voiceovers, typing, pictures, videos, etc.

Facebook; PowerPoint; Zoom; Skype; Youtube; Snapchat; Pinterest

Email

What else do you use?

facebook

Have you used Facebook to teach Bible lessons?

How?



Thumbs up

**How many have conducted a
Technology-Needs Assessment to plan
for church school growth?**

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Faithful Sons and Daughters

Needs Assessment, Pg 7

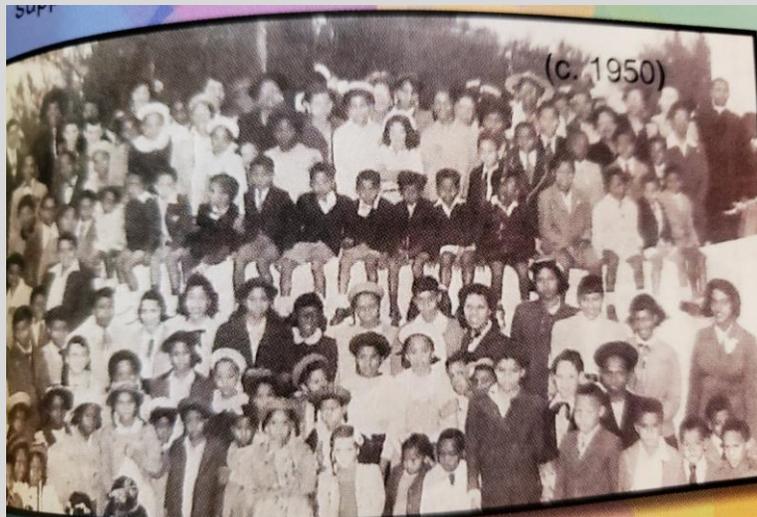
Creatively teach God's word.

Pg 5

SO, LET'S LOOK AT OUR CHURCH SCHOOLS

Let's Reimagine!!

Using technology & the arts.



Let's Reimagine



Church School

Maintain a technology portfolio with activities, training handouts, etc.

Sites with ideas for technology use!

1damechurch school.com

Play Bible games. Collect free printables:

<https://biblegamescentral.com/best-bible-games-for-adults>

use Bible Trivia

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=free+bible+games&docid=608003413358675355&mid=5134FF2BAE0F167E5C385134FF2BAE0F167E5C38&view=detail&FO>

RM=VIRE

Bible for Children

Your favorite stories from the Bible. Absolutely free.



<http://BibleForChildren.org>

Chronological Bible stories.

Use Power Point to project stories on a screen or wall.

Print materials for flip charts.

SHORT VIDEO BIBLE CLIPS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SEXLBtuj4o>



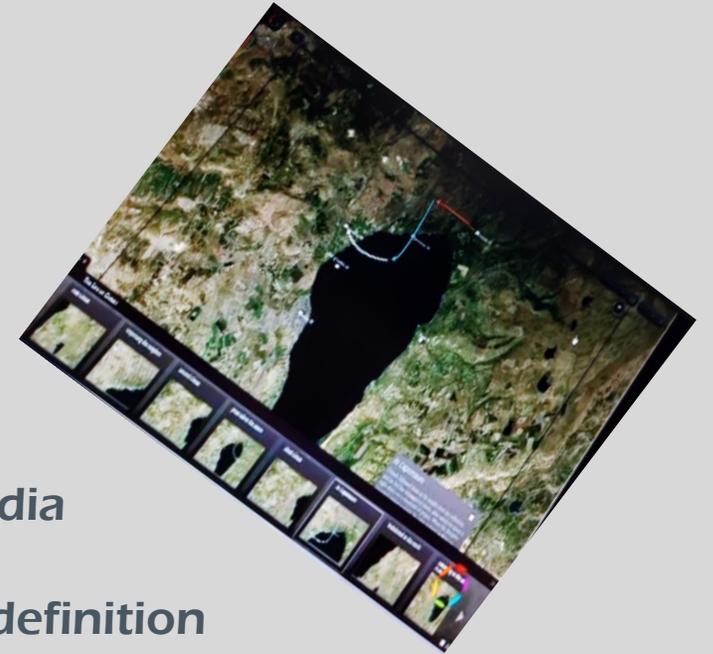
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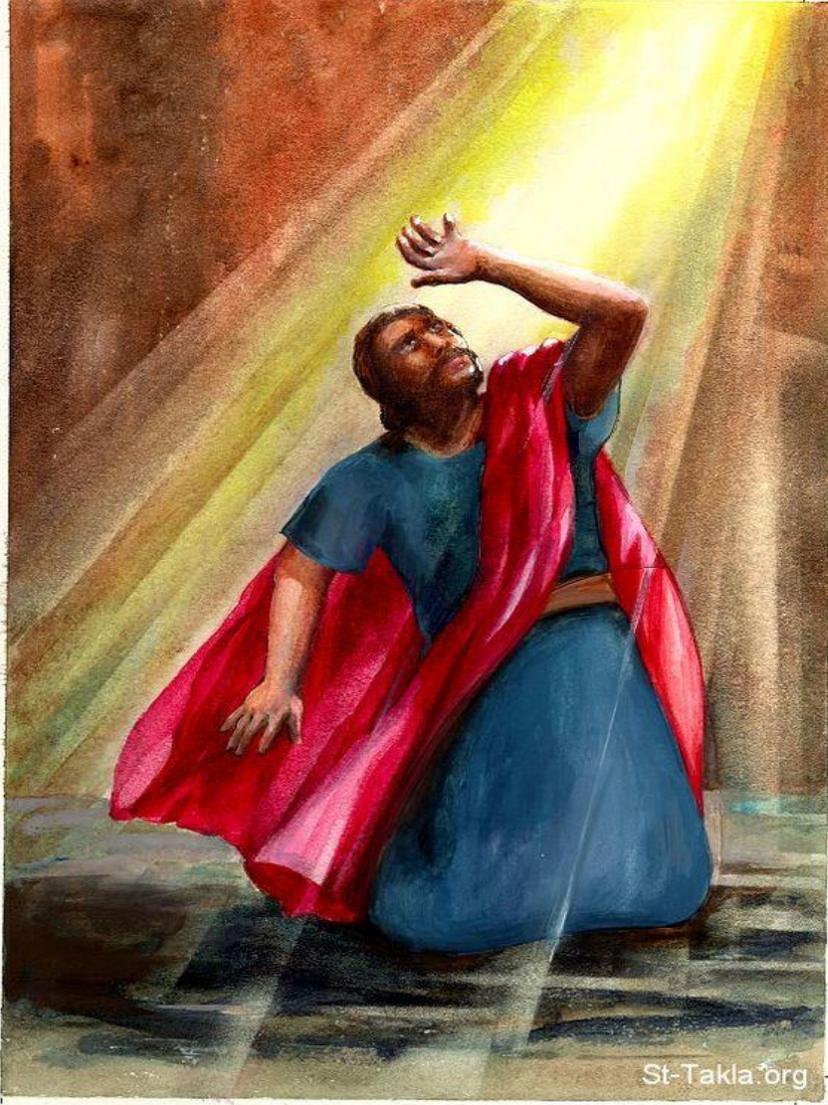


GLOBIBLE

The app "[Globible](#)" has Bible text and multimedia presentations. It includes maps, 3 1/2 hours of high definition videos, 450 virtual tours, and 2300 photos.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=Globible&&view=detail&mid=F68155403A6788F8A9A7F68155403A6788F8A9A7&&FORM=VDRVSR>



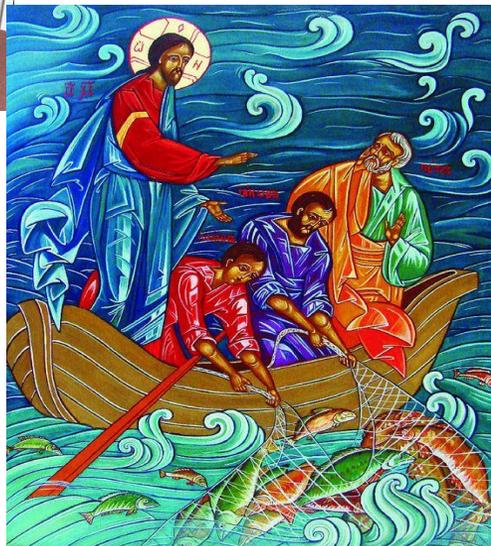
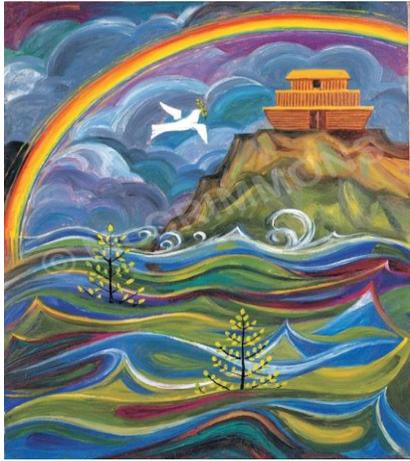
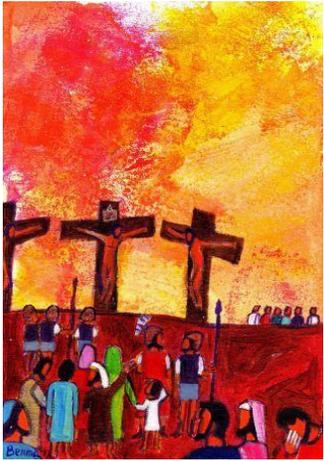


ACTIVITIES USING TECHNOLOGY

**REMEMBER OUR
DEFINITION.**

Paul's
missionary
journey.

- [Use Skype](#) to contact a missionary in another part of the world and have students ask about their missions.



Old School Paper & Pencil.

Use students' artwork and have an art show. Post on Instagram, Pinterest, Facebook.

<https://vimeo.com/4665690>

[35/664cdb3e61](https://vimeo.com/466569035/664cdb3e61)

Virtual Heritage Art Show

<https://vimeo.com/466569035/664cdb3e61>



CREATE A BLOG

Older students: Write a post about a parable.

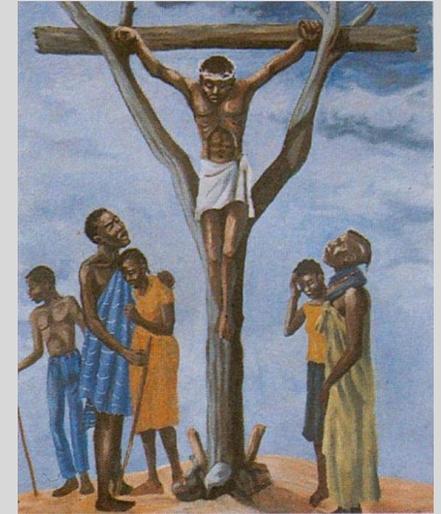
Give practical applications.

Post.

How many bloggers do we have? Thumbs up.



**WRITE &
ENACT A DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE
SKIT OR
PLAY**



Mary, the mother of Jesus, expressing her thoughts as she watches the crucifixion.



Jonah expressing his feelings about being in the belly of a whale.

Video tape the students in costume, using props and post on Youtube.

<https://vimeo.com/436224772> (Spring into the Arts 2020)

Have students:

- Write and record a church announcement to be played on a large screen during church services.
- Create an ad to put in the church bulletin: Use different children each week.
- Create a brochure about your church school and put in prominent places in the community.

Advertise Events



Calendar of Events

Calendar of Events

Superintendents' Meeting: 1st Saturday, St. Paul's.

Teachers' Meetings: 3rd Thursday, Bethel's Multi Purpose Building, 6:00 p.m. (usually)

Joint Church School: 4th Sunday, Bethel's Lecture Hall.

February. Black History Month Breakfast with Guest Speaker

March, Easter Egg Hunt symbolizing New Birth; Conference Church School

April. Family Sunday with Guest Speaker

May, Mothers' Day; Grandparents' Day; Heritage Month

June, Fathers' Day; Church School Convention

July, Promotion Sunday; Visit Matilda Smith Williams Senior Residence;

Summer, Church School & Friends and Family Picnic
Movie Night; Bowling Night; Visits to Seniors

September, Back to School Party

October. Temperance Sunday; Games Night

December, Rev. Philip Knights' Soup Kitchen; Christmas Programme (preparations begin in October)

Please Come

and study with us. There are classes for all ages. You are invited to join us as a student or teacher.

We learn:

The Ten Commandments, Bible verses, the books of the Bible, Bible stories, the Beatitudes, Christians songs, and more, more about Jesus

Our literature: **The Church School Quarterly**
From the A.M.E. Church, Sunday School Union
500, 8th Avenue, South Nashville, Tennessee, 37203

"Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well,
for it is your life." Proverbs 4:13 (NIV)

HURRAH! Bethel won two plaques at this year's Church School Convention; highest attendance at the convention and highest average attendance!



The A.M.E. Church School Benediction

We have come, we have studied, we have learned. So, until our next coming together to study God's word, may His rich blessing reside with you, and may His grace be eternally yours.

Amen.



Bethel A.M.E. Church School

BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH SCHOOL

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Telephone (441) 293-0605 Fax (441) 293-4654
E-mail: bethelame@northrock.bm



Bishop Richard F. Norris, Presiding Prelate, First District
Rev. Malcolm L. Eve, Pastor & Presiding Elder
Rev. D'Wain Wales, Associate Minister
Sis. Laquita Bean, Christian Education Director
Sis. Nadine Lapsley-Dyer, Conference Branch Church School Superintendent

Sis. Dr. Shangri-La Durham-Thompson, Superintendent
Sis. Hilda Romaine, Assistant Superintendent

July, 2009

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

GET THE WORD OUT

2009

Our Church School

The passage of scripture that reminds us to "train up a child in the way he should go" is the foundation of our church school. Here the children learn about the Bible and the stories that help them to appreciate how the Bible impacts our lives. Church school is the training ground that will assist their development into mature, Christian church members who will not be swayed by "every wind and doctrine!" Here our children are encouraged to speak publically as they pray, read the scripture, recite memory verses and they learn to praise God through song. It is in church school that the children also build strong Christian relationships and socialize with others who exhibit Christian principles. Bethel Church School is dedicated to providing a nurturing, loving environment for Christian growth and development... for God is love!

*Sis. Dr. Shangri-La Durham-Thompson
Superintendent*



**Let's spread God's
LOVE!**

Treasurer/Secretary, Sis. Ruth Smith

Activities Coordinator, Sis. Lovette Pemberton

Our Students (regular attendees)

Cradle Roll: Tajer Basden, Dominic Hayward, La Desha Brown, Leroy Lewis Jr. (LJ), Cainan Tucker

Beginners: Asrael Basden, Osei Beach, Sanaa Berkeley, Nasya Burgess, Kymani Matthews, Jade Minors

Primary: Brijette Basden, Sancho Jackson, Makayla Nisbett, Jason Scott, Makayla Tucker, Markesia Wilson

Junior: Beyonce' Berkley, Sasha Griffin, Sergio Griffin, Sage Jackson, Jaseehim West

Intermediate: Yolanda Dyer, Nikari Furbert, Sabrina Matthews, Jevica Lawrence, Matthias Lawrence, Precious Perinchief, Kii Small, Keshun Steed, Letitia Williams

Senior: Fernando Brown, Adriana Murray, Chikira Smith, Janaesha West, Jawonday West

Young Adult: Kennette Burgess, Shan-on Thompson (abroad)

Adult: June Bean, Linda Bean, Norris Burgess, Jasmine Dyer, Albert Fray, Constance Hollis, Myrna Ingram, Eugene Lightbourne, Ghale Smith, Pearl Smith, Yvonne Matthews, Larry Williams

Associate Members: Coolidge Durham 3rd, Gabriella Romaine

Regular Visitors: Shontelle Brangman, M'Laya Crane, Mical, Seth and Josh Hardtman



*We must study to
show ourselves
approved unto God.*

Our Teachers

*Sis. Lynn John, 1-3 Cradle Roll

*Sis. Paula Durham 4-5 Beginners

*Sis. Laquita Bean, 6-8 Primary

*Sis. Sandra Grant, 9-11 Junior

Sis Julietta Basden, 12-14 intermediate

*Sis. Leslie Robinson, 15-18 Senior

Sis. Donna Chandler/, 19-30 Young Adult (to begin September 1st)

Rev. D'Wain Wales/Sis. Myrna Ingram, 31-Up Adult

Substitute Teacher; Bro. Coolidge Durham Jr.

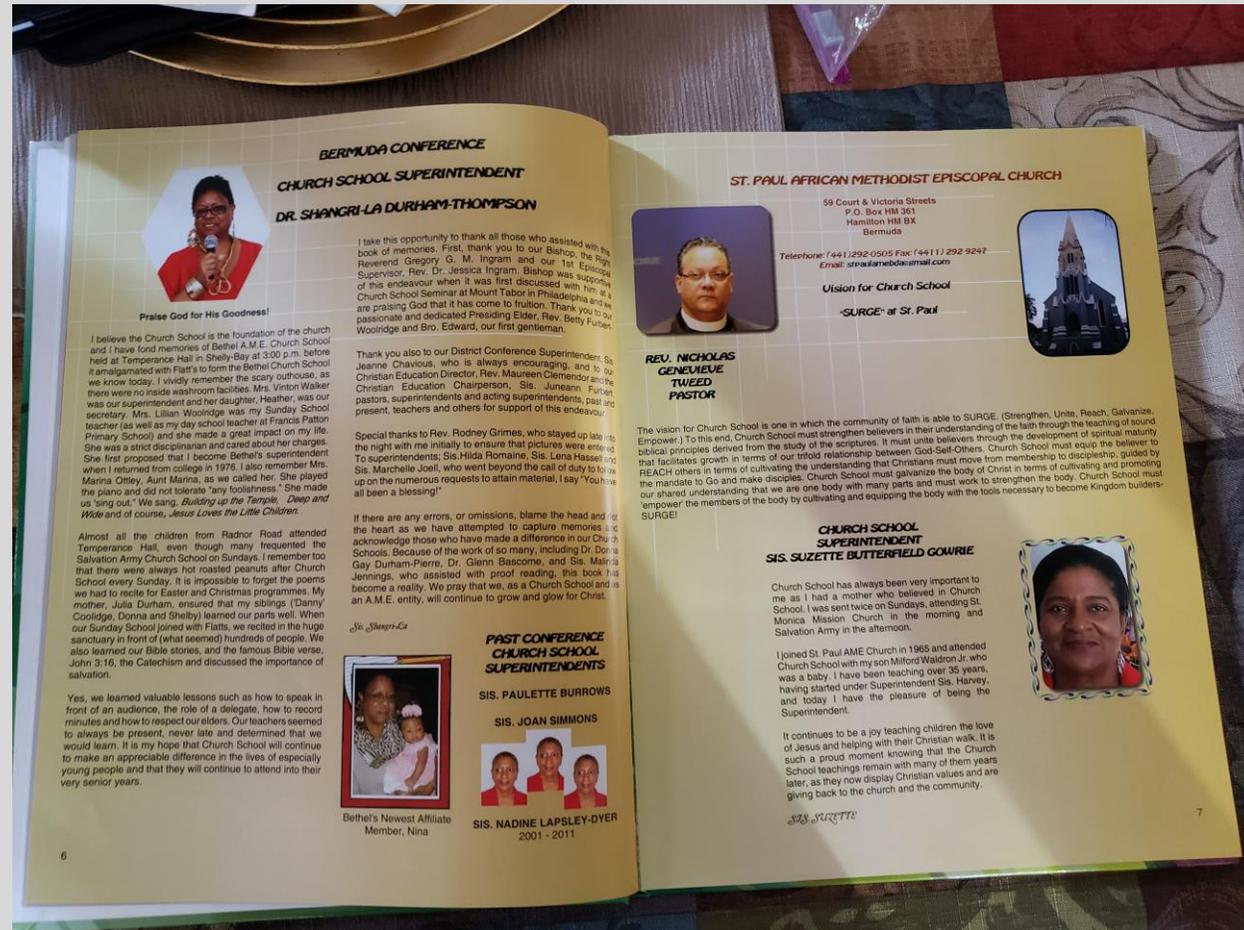
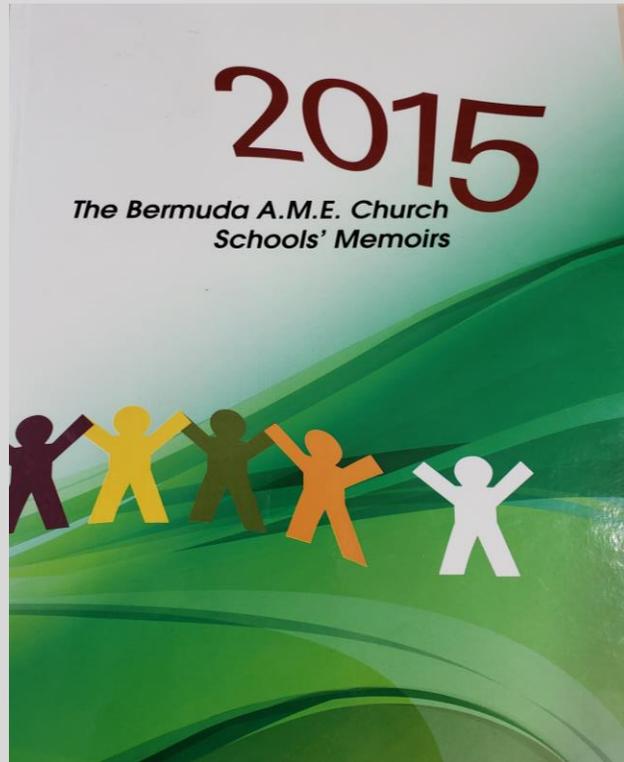
We have dedicated, caring, and conscientious teachers. Many have been serving for over ten years and your superintendent has served since 1976. The teachers (*), superintendent, and assistant participate in the Church School Certification Programme through the A.M.E. Church School Conference.

The A.M.E. Church School Creed

Our Church School must grow and glow and I must help to make it so. Every member a Christian, Every Christian a worker, Every worker trained, A worker that need not be ashamed. This we ask in Jesus name. Amen.

2009

PUBLISH A BOOK ABOUT YOUR CHURCH SCHOOL





DISTRICT CONFERENCE CHURCH SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Sis. Jeanne Chavious

I was raised with my sister by our grandparents, Ruth and Rev. Peter C. Williams, an AME pastor. Our attendance in church, Church School, Bible study, and prayer meeting were mainstays in our lives. When the church doors were open, we were there. I loved church, singing on the choir, and memorizing scriptures. As a little girl would walk around with my little New Testament Bible and proudly read from it. My grandmother would dress us up and my Mother would do our hair to be ready for church on Sunday. My earliest memories of church were of being in Sunday School. We always had snacks and we had to learn to recite for special occasions, Christmas and Easter. Jesus loves me this I know, was the song I sang over and over. When we learned to play the piano, Ruthie and I would perform for "teas" and special programs. I believe this prepared us for all of the school presentations, job interviews, and service in the church today. I also looked forward every summer for VBS, where we got more snacks and had such a good time.

As I got older and on my own, I stopped attending church for a few years, after getting upset with a particular pastor. What rang in my ears were my grandmother's words that Sunday is the Lord's Day and I needed to be in church. *Train up a child in the way that he will go, and when he is old he will not depart from it* Proverbs 22:6.

My son, Justin, needed to be in Sunday School, so I brought him to The Lord and I joined Mt. Tabor AME Church. Bro. E. Larry Lang and my pastor, Rev. Martha Lang, recruited me to work in the Church School. I had found my calling. I attended the City Wide Interdenominational Christian Training Institute, where I received some of the best training I have ever received. I had my Bachelor's Degree and Masters from the University of Pennsylvania, but none of it compared to studying the word of God. Under the tutelage of Rev. Martha Lang, E. Larry Lang, Dr. Earl Jefferson, Ella Parks, Cordelia Sewell, Rev. Mary Moore, and others, the word of God came alive for me. I began to hear God speaking to me from the scriptures. The sermons had more meaning for me and I became convicted to change my way of living. I had always helped others as a social worker, but I now wanted to tell others, especially our young people, about Jesus. This is the greatest help I could give.

My work in the Church School has moved me from being a teacher to Phila. District, to Phila. Conference, to 14th Episcopal District Superintendent. Rev. George Sims, Elder Ogden, and Elder Joseph Patterson were my encouragers and mentors in the Church School such as Jean Adams, Ann White Sims, Eshe Leak, Elder Lett, and Elder Hart.

I believe that the Word of God is our greatest tool for fighting off the enemies of depression, discouragement, disease, drugs, and all that the devil tempts us with. Hopefully, we can begin our journey in the Word as children and continue throughout our lives. The Word has all the answers for our lives and the Word without the Word we cannot defeat the enemy. *In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The word was made flesh and dwelt among us (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the unbegotten of the father, full of grace and truth. John 1.*

The Church School is the foundation ministry of the church, but it is often under valued and under utilized. We do not support the work, parents no longer bring or send their children, teachers are discouraged, pastors have other priorities, and the taught Word is being neglected.

We need the support of the church to 1) fulfill the great commission, 2) make disciples of Christ, and 3) provide the saints with the tools to be successful in this life and 4) prepare for life everlasting.

I love the Church School ministry. God being my help as a student, teacher and superintendent, I will do all I can to advocate for the ministry, the preparation of the teachers, and the growth of the Church School and the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Come join me as Church School workers advocate for this ministry by continuing to study the word, giving our best, and reaching out to clergy, parents, and youth. *I believe that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us* Philippians 4:13



Grandson Michael
Future Superintendent

BERMUDA CONFERENCE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rev. C. Maureen Clemendor

To the Bermuda Conference Church School Superintendent, Dr. Shang-Lia Durham-Thompson and the Local Church School Superintendents, as Conference Christian Education Director it is a pleasure to congratulate you on this undertaking.

When I look back over my Sunday School days, I can truly say that I am blessed because of them. As they say, "Back in the day" Sunday School was a natural part of our Sunday activities. In fact my siblings and I, like most youth then, attended neighborhood Sunday Schools in the morning and or afternoon.

I can clearly remember attending, on foot, the Anglican, Pentecostal and AME churches all in one day. We were taught biblical basics such as *The 10 commandments, The Apostles Creed and Psalms*. We participated in programs such as Easter Pageants, Christmas Plays and Vacation Bible School, to name a few. We looked forward to the Annual Sunday School picnics, when the church would hire a bus and the whole church would travel to a beach, at the other end of the island, which to us was an exciting excursion. We would sing songs on the bus and the bus driver would join in the fun. Apart from the swimming, devotions would be held just before eating lunch and everyone enjoyed the watermelon, cake, cookies and ice-cream at the end of the day.

Attending Sunday School was not a chore; we did not have to be coerced; it was as natural as breathing. Not only was it a time when we could be with our friends, but we had loving teachers like Sis. Edith Smith, Sis. Pearl Jones, Sis. Malory and Sis. Tuzo, and I don't forget Sis. Jean White, who had the softest voice that could be heard a mile away. Then there were Sis. Stovell and Superintendent Bro. Carlton Smith with his jovial laugh, both of whom were loving in their instruction, but strict, no one dared not learn their recitations - by heart - oh, the look you would get, such that there was never a repeat of forgetting the lines. Learning the Catechism, Bible stories and verses of scripture, songs, and about our church was amazing. Their methods of teaching made you feel like you could be just like the people you were learning about. You certainly were aware of wrong doings and didn't want to get punished as in Bible days. That's what the 'old folk' called the 'fear of God'.

It was also an honor for the Conference Superintendent to visit. I remember Sis. Inez Kennedy - such a kind lady. She would sing Sunday School songs with us and talk to the students and we felt special that Sis. Kennedy would take the time to visit our Sunday School.

When I look at the Church School today and recognize the challenges in our society, my heart especially aches for our youth. We understand that biblical teaching may not be in many homes and that it falls to the church to go back to basics: teaching of the love of Jesus through the red, yellow, black or white, we are all precious in His sight; that Jesus died for all of us and He wants to forgive us and save us from our sins. I would encourage the Church School to go back to teaching the basics, to do unto others as we would have them do unto us, explain what building up the temple means and what is meant by being fishers of men. These biblical teachings will go a long way to helping heal our homes, churches and community.

I pray that you will continue to teach the Word of God, in season and out of season so that the Church School will grow and glow, and in so doing our church will grow and glow.

Blessings always,

Rev. Maureen C. Clemendor

Bermuda Conference Christian Education Director

**SIS. JUNE ANN FURBERT
CONFERENCE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
CHAIRPERSON**

Sis. June Ann Furbert served as the Christian Education Director at Richard Allen AME Church for over ten years before accepting the position of Chairperson for the Bermuda Conference Christian Education Department, a position she presently holds.

Sis. June Ann enjoys working with Young People and one of her greatest joys is preparing our youth for the Youth of the Year Presentations. In addition, she finds preparing for the Annual Founders Day Program to be another one of her highlights. Sis. June Ann says that Rev. Maureen Clemendor, Director of Christian Education is a real inspiration to her and they work as a team to complete all projects assigned to them.

Sis. June Ann's favorite scripture verse is Phil. 4:13 *I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.*

ST. PAUL A.M.E. CHURCH SCHOOL

ACTIVITIES

Superintendent Sis. Suzanne Butterfield-Gowrie

Assistant Superintendent Sis. Winifred Lightbourne

11

HOW DOES YOUR CHURCH SPREAD THE WORD OF GOD?

Instrumental music

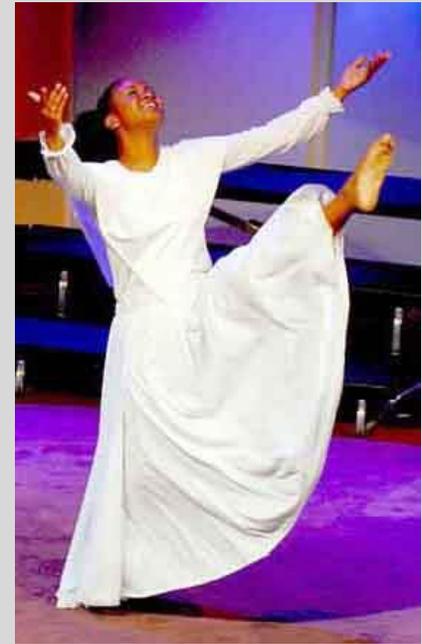


Mime



Delivering Speeches

Poetry/Spoken
Word/Rap



Dance

Talent and art Shows

Stepping

Who are our Tech Geeks?



**What training
opportunities
can you offer?**

Let's continue to work to make our church schools relevant, exciting and engaging.

God Bless as you become better equipped to spread God's word
using the arts and technology.

Thank You!

