



**The Bureau of Evangelism**  
**African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**  
P. O. Box 217258  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28221-7258

**DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE 2002**  
**“Initiating Converts into a Christ-Centered Church”**

Please note the Spiritual Emphasis Week 2003 Information on the last page!



**INITIATING CONVERTS INTO  
A CHRIST-CENTERED CHURCH**

**Decision Day  
Observance 2002**

*October 27, 2002*

*African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church*



**THE BUREAU OF EVANGELISM**  
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
**DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE 2002**



**October 27, 2002**

**Theme:**  
**Initiating Converts into a Christ-Centered Church**

The Book of Discipline of the A.M.E. Zion Church directs that every Sunday Church School shall emphasize "Decision Day" annually in the month of October. It further directs that each Sunday Church School should undertake an evangelistic quota for active membership. In the recent past the Decision Day Observance has also been an opportunity for the local churches to share financial gifts in support of the Bureau of Evangelism. While financial gifts will be welcomed during this observance, the Bureau is placing its greatest emphasis upon decisions for Christ.

The Evangelistic theme for this quadrennium is "Making Christian Disciples: A Mandate from Christ." The theme for Decision Day 2002 is *Initiating Converts into a Christ-Centered Church*. Last year our theme centered on evangelism as the first major step in fulfilling Christ's mandate and we stressed the importance of aggressively taking the good news of Jesus Christ to people from every walk of life. This year we are stressing the importance of initiating those who make decisions for Christ into a local church where they can be nurtured to maturity in Christ. A significant part of fulfilling the Great Commission is that of *baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*. [Matthew 28:19] Baptism signifies our divinely appointed responsibility of initiating and assimilating converts into a Christ-Centered Church. A Christ-Centered Church is one that places disciple making at the heart of the church and keeps it there. It makes disciple making the church's priority and passion, both in principle and in practice. A healthy and loving local church is the nurturing environment in which disciples are made.

The Annual Decision Day Observance is generally held the fourth Sunday in October. However, it may be observed any time during October or even in November, if it is convenient for the local church. During the harvest season, the constituents of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church pause to celebrate the harvest of souls (conversions, new members, re-dedications) gathered during the previous twelve months, as well as those entering the ministry or any form of Christian service. Forms have been provided in order to assist churches in the reporting process.



**THE BUREAU OF EVANGELISM**  
**African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**  
**DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE 2002**



**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 (Nov. 2001 - Oct. 2002)</u>
Conversions	_____	_____
Re-dedications	_____	_____
New Members	_____	_____
The Ministry	_____	_____
Christian Service	_____	_____

Send to:  
**The Bureau of Evangelism**  
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 Telephone: (704) 599-4630 Ext. 323  
 Fax: (704) 688-2547

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Organ Prelude

The Processional Hymn: *We Have Come into This House & Gathered in His Name*

The Call to Worship

Leader: Christ Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross.  
People: So that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness.  
Leader By His wounds you have been healed.  
All: We were going astray like sheep, but now we have returned to the shepherd:

The Invocation

The Hymn of Praise: #380 *O Zion, Haste, Thy Mission High Fulfilling*

The Responsive Reading: page 76 (*1 John 2:24-25, 28-29; 3:1-2*)

The Apostles' Creed: #705

The Gloria Patria: #703

The Lesson from the Holy Scriptures: Acts 2:37-47

The Call to Prayer: #474 *Thou My Everlasting Portion*

The Pastoral Prayer

The Choral Selection

The Ministry of Kindness Offering

The Announcements

The Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

The Hymn of Preparation: #433 *I Am Thine, O Lord*

The Preaching of the Gospel

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Hymn of Invitation: #408 *Come to Jesus*

The Recessional Hymn: #287 *Take the Name of Jesus With You*

The Benediction

**(Hymns and Responsive Readings are taken from the Bicentennial Hymnal of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church)**

### The Sinner's Prayer

Lord Jesus, I confess that I am a sinner. I turn from my sins and my righteousness, and I turn to you. I believe that You died for my sins and rose from the dead for my justification. I place my trust in You as my personal Savior, and I receive You into my heart as Lord and Master of my life. Help me to follow You as I accept your free gift of eternal life. Amen.

(Please use the appropriate forms to report the number and the nature of the decision made for Christ. These should include any conversions, re-dedications, new members, and those answering the call to the gospel ministry or Christian service.) Send all correspondence to:

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# THE BUREAU OF EVANGELISM

*African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church*

## The Official Staff

**The Rev. Dr. Darryl B. Starnes, Sr., Director**

The Rev. Dr. J. Wardell Henderson, Assistant to the Director

Ms. Edna M. Dumas, Administrative Assistant

Ms. Leondras Davis, Volunteer Assistant

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# DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE 2002

Sponsored by

**The Bureau of Evangelism**  
*African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church*

Theme:

**“Initiating Converts into a Christ-Centered Church”**



***EVANGELISM AROUND THE WORLD***

Sunday, October 27, 2002



# Spiritual Emphasis Week

JANUARY 5-11, 2003



**“A Week of Prayer, Praise, and Proclamation”**

Sponsored by

**THE BUREAU OF EVANGELISM**  
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
Charlotte, North Carolina

**Dr. Darryl B. Starnes, Sr., Director**

Spiritual Emphasis Week offers an opportunity for each local church to begin the year on a high spiritual note. The entire membership should be encouraged to participate as the church gathers Sunday through Friday for prayer, praise, and proclamation of the word. This annual event should climax with the clergy and laity of the Presiding Elder District coming together for a special service on Saturday. The suggested theme and daily sub-themes for Spiritual Emphasis Week 2002 are as follows:

**THEME: “*Revisiting Christ’s Lasts Lessons*”**

SCRIPTURE: John 13-17

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>
Sunday	Jan. 5, 2003	<b>The Lessons on Leadership</b>	John 13:1-17
Monday	Jan. 6, 2003	<b>The Lessons on Obedience</b>	John 14:15-24
Tuesday	Jan. 7, 2003	<b>The Lessons on Fruit-Bearing</b>	John 15:1-17
Wednesday	Jan. 8, 2003	<b>The Lessons on Persecution</b>	John 15:18-16:4
Thursday	Jan. 9, 2003	<b>The Lessons on the Holy Spirit</b>	John 16:5-15
Friday	Jan. 10, 2003	<b>The Lessons on Sanctification</b>	John 17:6-19
Saturday	Jan. 11, 2003	<b>The Lessons on Unity</b>	John 17:20-26