



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

Responding to God's Call!

Please note the Spiritual Emphasis Week 2010 Information on the last page!

Theme:
Maximizing the Mission by Managing the Ministry

Responding to God's Call



Decision Day Observance 2009

October 25, 2009

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church



DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church



October 25, 2009

Theme: Maximizing the Mission by Managing the Ministry

“Responding to God’s Call”

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 and needed during this observance, the Bureau is placing its greatest emphasis upon decisions for Christ.

This year’s theme is **“Maximizing the Mission by Managing the Ministry-Responding to God’s Call.”** We are highlighting the idea of Responding to God’s Call. God’s first call is the call of Salvation. The church is to be His agency for announcing to the world the good news of salvation and for compelling all persons to answer God’s universal call. God’s second call is the call to Christian Discipleship. This means that those who respond to the gospel call must follow the call of Christ to Christian Baptism. Believers are baptized into the Body of Christ and into the fellowship of His church where they can be nurtured and taught the commands of Christ. The third call of God is the call to Christian Service. Every Christian is called to serve the Lord in some ministry capacity. Each Christian has been uniquely gifted to supply some needed ministry to the body of Christ. Eph 4:16, “From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.” The Annual Decision Day Observance is generally held the fourth Sunday in October, but may be observed any time during the month or even in the month of November, The A.M.E. Zion Church pauses to celebrate the harvest of souls that God has produced during the previous twelve month. It is also a time to sponsor special evangelistic events or activities that will call attention to the importance of making disciples for Jesus Christ. This year, the emphasis of Decision Day will include conversions, new members, re-dedications, call to preach and call to other forms of Christian ministry.

The Decision Day Observance calls our attention to the discipleship ministry of the church. It reminds us of the need to help our members move from religion and ritual to authentic relationship with God through Jesus Christ. It is a matter of record that many adults in our churches and communities have yet to come to in Christ. According to Bishop Starnes, “while still targeting our youth and children, the Decision Day Observance must broaden its scope in order to reach people of all ages who are in need of making a life-changing decision for Christ. While the Church School will continue to be the vanguard of the observance, Directors of Evangelism at all levels and their respective boards can provide invaluable leadership in creatively planning and implementing the events and activities of the observance.

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
Of
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church



DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE 2009

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. 2008 - Oct. 2009)</u>
Conversions	_____	_____
Re-dedications	_____	_____
New Members	_____	_____
The Preaching Ministry	_____	_____
Christian Service	_____	_____
Financial gift for the Bureau of Evangelism		\$ _____

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