



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

## **Empowered by the Presence of the Holy Spirit!**

Please note the Spiritual Emphasis Week 2011 Information on the last page!

**Theme:**

**Maximizing the Mission by Managing the Ministry**

**“Empowered by the Presence of the Holy Spirit”**



**Decision Day**  
**Observance 2010**

*October 24, 2010*

*The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church*



## DECISION DAY OBSERVANCE

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church



October 24, 2010

**Theme: Maximizing the Mission by Managing the Ministry**

**“Empowered by the Presence of the Holy Spirit”**

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 - Empowered by the Presence of the Holy Spirit!”** We are highlighting the idea that the power of the Holy Spirit enables Christians to live as Children of God. (Gal. 4:6-7; Rom. 8:14-16) The influence of the Spirit’s presence is clearly and powerful proclaimed in Paul’s letter to the Galatians. After warning the Galatians against the legalism taught by some religious leaders, Paul assured the Galatians that Christians are not slaves to religious rules, but neither are they slaves to immoral practices. The presence of the Holy Spirit enables and empowers Christians to live as God desires. Jesus has set Christians free and they are to stay free, but they are to use their freedom to live as God intended, which is to live a life of love. (v.13, 14)

Based on the teaching of Galatians 5, Paul admonishes the Galatians and us to live by the Spirit (v.16); to be led by the Spirit (v.18); and to keep in step with the Spirit (v.25). These phrases simply means that we need to intentionally rely on the Holy Spirit’s presence and power for our daily walk. This deliberate reliance on the Spirit is necessary because of our two opposing natures. Paul discusses the obvious tension between the two natures, the flesh and the spirit in detail then he helps us to understand that we are either living by the Spirit’s power and presence or gratifying the sinful nature. The only way to overcome the pull of the sin nature is to choose to live by the Spirit; be led by the Spirit; and to allow the Spirit to produce its fruit in our lives.

The Galatians 5 passage encourages us to allow the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to be demonstrated in our lives through the choices we make. Here are some suggestions about how to do this. Choose to: (1) Acknowledge your total reliance on the Spirit (2); Ask God for the Spirit’s fullness (3); Maintain a strong connection between the Spirit and His Word (4); Believe that the Spirit has power to vanquish your sins and bad habits and finally, (5) Do that which the Spirit stirs up in you to do. (Adapted from Authentic Spirituality by Josh Moody)

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. 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 2010**  
**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. 2009 - Oct. 2010)</u>
Conversions	_____	_____
Re-dedications	_____	_____
New Members	_____	_____
The Preaching Ministry	_____	_____
Christian Service	_____	_____
Financial gift for the Bureau of Evangelism		\$ _____

Send to:

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