August 4, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PASTORAL OBSERVATIONS

1. 52nd General Conference Overview: The 52nd General Conference of the AME Zion Church was held August 24-28, 2024. J. Hayes McLendon, a member of the 668 delegate General Conference delegation, has prepared an unofficial overview of General Conference highlights. This is not an official document. It is nonetheless provided below as a wonderful overview of General Conference highlights.

2. Lomax Virtual VBS 2024: Lomax will have its annual Vacation Bible Study session this Tuesday, August 6 - Thursday, August 8, 2024. Classes will be held virtually. This year's VBS Theme: Breaker Rock Beach - God's Rock-Solid Truth in a World of Shifting Sands. See the attached lesson materials Adults/Young Adults, Youth and Children We will have our in-person Close-out at Lomax on Friday, August 9th with a light dinner served beginning at 6:30pm. Young Adults are planning a Kickball Game at Drew Elementary starting at 7:30pm. All are welcome. ZOOM information will be sent separately. For questions, contact: Sis. Veronica Riley, 703-989-4929 veronicajriley2210@gmail.com or Sis. Tiffany Jones 202-424-4731 jonestr@cua.edu. A flyer is attached.

Please Register at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lomax-vacation-bible-school-registration-tickets-965333808407

3. Lomax Newsletter: It's the beginning of a new conference year, and the Lomax Newsletter is being revived. To make it a success and relevant to the congregation, the editors will need your assistance. You can start now sending us your articles of interest and any other information you would like to share with your Lomax family. **Submissions should be sent to: lomaxamezmessenger@gmail.com.** We look forward to receiving the good news that you would like to share. Looking forward to hearing from you. Peace & Blessings, The Editors

4. Sunday School: Sunday School is held via Zoom each Sunday. Presently, on 1st and 3rd Sundays, you may also participate in Sunday School in-person from the Boardroom. Sunday School begins at 9:30 am. Following is Zoom participation information:

Join via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89311232668

Meeting ID: 893 1123 2668

Dial-In Information: 301-715-8592 or 1-646-931-3860

Meeting ID: 893 1123 2268

5. Sunday Worship: On Sunday, we will welcome Presiding Elder and Mrs. Durant. Presiding Elder Durant will be preaching at Pastor Nelson's request, who is under the weather. Please join us this Sunday at 11 am and invite someone to worship with us this Sunday. Sunday's bulletin and the Prayer List are attached. Virtual worship may be accessed as follows: Lomax's Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/lomaxamezionchurch/ or website using the Lomax Live tab at https://www.lomaxchurchva.com/lomax-live/.

6. Intercessory Prayer: Intercessory Prayer takes place each Tuesday at 6:30 am. Here is the Zoom information to participate this week:

Join via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86028580752

Meeting ID: 860 2858 0752

Dial-In Information: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 860 2858 0752

7. Bible Study: Due to Vacation Bible Study, we will not have Bible Study this week.

8. Health Ministry: August's focus is on the benefits of watermelon. A flyer is attached.

9. Community Back-to-School Events: Lomax will be supporting two back-to-school community outreach events this year. We thank Sis. Stephanie Gaskill and Lomax's Steward Board and Sis. Wilma Newby and Lomax's WH&OMS for coordinating Lomax's participation in both events. Your help is specifically needed as it relates to the Drew Elementary School Back-to-School event. Please see below:

- **NAACP & Arlington Coalition of Black Clergy Back-to-School Backpack Blessing Event:** The NAACP and the Arlington Coalition of Black Clergy, of which Lomax is a part, will be having a Back-to-School Backpack Blessing Event. It is being held at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Saturday, August 17, 2024, **at 12:00 p.m.** (**Please note the new start time).** As requested, Lomax will be using funds from the central treasury to provide 500 boxes of crayons and 500 ink pens that will be placed in the 500 backpacks to be given away. A flyer is attached.

- **Drew Elementary School Back-to-School Event and Supply Drive:** The Drew Elementary Back-to-School Event will also be Saturday, August 17, 2024, from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. **Members of Lomax are asked to help a child start the school year ready to succeed! A donation of $25.00 will outfit a child with a new backpack and basic school supplies. Please make your check payable to Lomax Church and indicate "School Supplies" on your offering envelope, or make a donation through Givelify adding a donation note, by NO LATER THAN August 2, 2024.** Contact Stephanie Gaskill or Tommy Baugh if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your support. Lomax wishes to thank the Roseboro family for supporting this effort by agreeing to donate 30 backpacks through the Aaron Attaway Foundation.

10. Lay Council/TELL SOMEBODY: The Lay Council is looking for individuals to lead or serve on the following committees for conference year 2024-2025: Nominating, Membership, Directory, Lay Academy, Lay Day, and Holiday Food Drive. Willing workers can contact Sister Debra Byrd. May you be continuously blessed by your faith and service. *"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and He shall direct thy paths." ~Proverbs 3:6*

Join, renew, or become a Life Member! Regular membership is $10.00; Life membership is $125.00+$50.00 for the stole

11. Volunteering and Serving the Green Valley Community: The Green Valley Community has several opportunities for engaging. CARE, Inc. is offering programs for youth this summer. They partner with them in the operation of a Community Garden and 4-H Afterschool programs.