

September 20, 2026

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PASTORAL OBSERVATIONS

1. 1st Check-Up Meeting: Bishop Brian R. Thompson, Sr., will hold the 1st Check-Up Meeting for the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference on Saturday, September 19, 2026. The meeting will be hosted jointly by Clinton and Scotland AME Zion Churches, at the Inter-Denominational Church of God, [19201 Woodfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20879](#). Those amendable should be present for 9 am departmental meetings, or by 10 am for the start of the Check-Up Meeting.

2. Green Valley Day Celebration: Thanks to the Lomax Young Adult Choir for their participation in the Green Valley Day celebration, Saturday, September 19th.

3. Christian Education Sunday: On Sunday, September 20, 2026, we will observe Christian Education Sunday. This year's connectional Christian Education Sunday/Month theme is: "Strong Ministries. Strong Churches." **Our guest preacher will be Rev. Dr. Michelle Searles, who develops the Vacation Bible School curriculum for the AME Zion Church and leads the administration of the CED's Nurturing Children grant from the Lilly Foundation. She is a member of Contee AME Zion Church.**

Christian Education Department Certificates: Certificates will be available for those who completed the 2026 Summer School Program. Thanks to each of you for your dedication to this endeavor during the summer. The Lomax Christian Education Department

4. World Communion Sunday: In observance of World Communion Sunday, October 4, 2026, Lomax and St. Michael's Episcopal Church will worship together as we have previously. Members of St. Michael's will worship at Lomax at 11 am. **Members of Lomax are asked to make a special effort to worship at St. Michael's at 9:30 am, especially given how supportive and financially generous St. Michael's has been with respect to Lomax's Food Pantry Ministry.**

5. 160th Anniversary Observance:

- **Anniversary Choir:** A sign-up form (<https://bit.ly/AnniversaryChoir>) has been created so you can sign up to sing in the 160th Homecoming Choir. Rehearsals will be on Saturday morning and Thursday evenings. Music will be provided to choir members prior to the first rehearsal on September 26th. The Thursday rehearsals will be October 1st and the 8th. Please plan to be a part of this choir and *lift your voices in praise* during this upcoming historic event. — Bro. Jelani Caldwell, Director

- **Anniversary Banquet:** Tickets are available for the Anniversary Banquet which will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2026, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Waterford Event Center, [6715 Commerce Street, Springfield, Virginia](#). The cost of the tickets is \$75 per person. For additional information and/or ticket purchases please contact Ruthy Brown, Debra Byrd or Brenda Cox.
- **Anniversary Pledges:** A pledge card is attached for you to make a pledge to support this historic Lomax celebration.
- **Anniversary T-shirts:** The Anniversary Committee has created T-shirts to celebrate Lomax's 160th Anniversary. Photos of the T-shirts, which include the Anniversary theme "***Faithful, Grateful and Purposeful - The Legacy Continues***," are attached. T-shirts are being sold for **\$15.00 per shirt** with all proceeds go to support the Anniversary budget. T-shirts can be ordered through Sis Lavonne (stewartlr54@gmail.com; 703-568- 8456.) Please advise of your color preference (purple or gold) and size. Payments for the T-shirts can be made through your church envelope or the Givelify app. **Please place your T-shirt orders on/or before September 20th.** Thanks for your support. — The 160th Homecoming Committee
- **Cemetery Remembrance Gathering: AME Zion Church Cemetery Remembrance event:** Have you ever wondered who started Lomax A.M.E. Zion Church, why was this church placed at this particular location, who is buried in the church cemetery, when was the cemetery closed for burials. Well, don't wonder anymore, come out to the Lomax AME Zion Church Cemetery event and obtain answers to these questions. Perhaps you have family ancestors buried there, what is their connection to you? Now would be a great time to reconnect with your ancestors, to remember and honor them.
- Please invite your family to join us on Saturday, September 26, from 11am – 1pm at Lomax AME Zion Church's Memorial Cemetery program, where we will share interesting facts about the church and past members. We have an engaging program planned which includes a fun scavenger hunt, along with being able to start your family tree and/or give your own oral history about your loved ones. Of course, light refreshments will be served. Can't wait to share with you on this momentous occasion. Mrs. LaVonne Stewart

6. Sunday School: Each Sunday, Sunday School participation is possible in-person and via Zoom. 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

7. Sunday Worship Service: Please invite someone to worship with us this Sunday at 11 am. Sunday's bulletin is 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/>.

8. Intercessory Prayer: Intercessory Prayer will meet this Tuesday, September 22nd. Following is the Zoom information to participate in the session that will be begin at 6:30 a.m.:

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

Meeting ID: 860 2858 0752

Dial-In Information: 301-715-8592

9. W.H.O.M.S. Life Members Update: The Washington District will host a Life Members Stooling ceremony, Saturday, September 26, 2026 beginning at 11:00 a.m. at Union Wesley AME Zion Church, [1860 Michigan Ave, NE Washington, DC](#). If you were unable to attend Annual Conference earlier this year this is your opportunity to stoled and/or pinned during this celebratory service. The attire for women is white and men may wear dark suits with white shirts. Don't forget to bring your stole/pin. Carolyn Blackmon, Lomax Life Members Chairman

10. Lay Council: Have you secured your 160th Anniversary Legacy Banquet Ticket yet? If not, see Sister Byrd, Sister Ruthy or Sister Cox after Sunday Service.

- Lay Council: Plan to attend and support as many 160th Anniversary & Homecoming Events as possible. SEE THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
- Membership: Membership Campaign to officially kick off on Connectional Lay Day. More info in October.
- Education/Interests of the Kingdom: See flyers or click on links.
- We The People: A Community Rising—NAACP 79th Freedom Fund Banquet is 10/17/26. Let me know if you are interested in attending. ~Sister Byrd
- DCGD - "Diving Deeper into the Book of Discipline", each Monday night via Zoom. Let us know if you'd like the link.

- Arlington Historical Society (AHS), the Memorializing the Enslaved (MEA) in Arlington Project and the Center for Local History - Offering a FREE Genealogy Workshop in November. See attached and posted information to register!

11. Volunteer Opportunities: Are you looking for meaningful ways to stay engaged and give back to your community? You can make a significant difference in the lives of older adults who need assistance getting to their doctor's appointments or grocery store. The Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church's team of volunteers is looking for you to ensure seniors have access to the vital healthcare services they need..There are volunteer roles available other than driving to assist our seniors. Contact SCMAFC.org or call at 703.506.2199 if you are available to volunteer.

12. Health Unit Information: This week's focus is: Sickle **Cell Disease**. Flyer is attached.