**Youth Missionary Society**

**111th Year Anniversary**

**Women’s Home & Overseas Missionary Society**

**“It’s A Love Thing”**

**Saturday, January 14, 2023 -Sunday, January 15, 2023**

**“The Great Commission: #MissionsMatter**

 **Globally Committed to Agape Love**”

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**Prepared by Ms. Melva Polk Wright,**

**Connectional Secretary, Youth Missionary Society**

**Mrs. Sandra B. Crowder, International President**

**Women’s Home & Overseas Missionary Society**

**African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**

Saturday Night Live: the REMIX

When: Saturday, January 14, 2023, 8pmEST

Where: Zoom

Why: Victory Celebration for the Youth Missionary Society

Who: Youth 13-21

 Local and District Secretaries of Youth

 Youth Workers

What: This will be an interactive opportunity to have appropriate sessions for each age group and Secretaries of Youth.

* 13-15
* 16-18
* 19-21
* Secretaries of Youth



Sunday Worship Experience

“It’s A LOVE Thing”

Call to Worship

 “Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you should love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples –when they see the love you have for each other.” John 13:34-35

Opening Selection “We are One” Walt Whitman & The Soul Children of Chicago

Responsive Reading

Leader: Love is patient because it is not concerned to meet its own need. When someone is patient with me, I feel loved.

People: Lord, teach us to show love by being patient.

Leader: Love is kind because it is concerned that the other receives the full love of God into their lives. This is motivated by kindness.

People: Lord, teach us to show love by showing kindness.

Leader: Love is not arrogant or rude because it seeks to build other up, not tear them down.

People: Lord, teach us to show love by seeing others as bearing the delightful image of God.

Leader: Love hopes all things, always anticipating that change can occur and staying open to that possibility in someone’s life who is on the wrong path.

***All****: Love is patient, kind, not arrogant or rude. But love is the hope that we can only find in God. Teach us how to love!*

Affirmation of Faith Led by A Youth

Scripture Reading: John 15:9-15

Speaker #1: New International Version Led by A Youth

**9**“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. **10**If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. **11**I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. **12**My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. **13**Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.  **14**You are my friends if you do what I command. **15**I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

Speaker #2: The Message Led by A Youth

**9-10**“I’ve loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love. If you keep my commands, you’ll remain intimately at home in my love. That’s what I’ve done—kept my Father’s commands and made myself at home in his love.**11-15**“I’ve told you these things for a purpose: that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature. This is my command: Love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to love. Put your life on the line for your friends. You are my friends when you do the things I command you. I’m no longer calling you servants because servants don’t understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I’ve named you friends because I’ve let you in on everything I’ve heard from the Father.

Prayer A Youth

Selection “Love Theory” Kirk Franklin & God’s Property

Spoken Word / Original poetry by Youth about Love 3 Youth

Offertory & Offertory Response Youth

Musical Selection “Oh How I Love You” Zacardi Cortez

Morning Message “It’s A Love Thing ”

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Youth Recommitment Litany

***Youth Leader: As we work with Youth according to their needs, the church community commits itself to be the best examples possible in front of them.***

Congregation: We are working on being our best selves too model for our Youth.

***Youth Leader: Let us teach our Youth to know the love of God and show it daily.***

Youth: We vow to treat of friends with patience and kindness every day.

***Youth Leader: Let us show our Youth that love is from God and love is God.***

Youth: We will work to be loving and supportive in our own homes to our brothers, sisters, mom and dad or whoever takes care of us.

***Youth Leader: Let us remember that our Youth are learning, and we will be right there with them throughout this journey.***

Youth: We will allow ourselves to receive from trusted adults.

***Altogether: We must remember, “It’s A LOVE Thing”.***

Benediction

**History of our Founder**

**Miss Victoria Richardson  (1856-1928)**

Victoria Richardson is remembered in the A.M.E. Zion Church as the fine Christian young woman who founded and organized the Young Women’s Home & Foreign Missionary Society for the purpose of helping youth develop into young Christian Missionaries. A pioneer teacher and librarian at Livingstone College, she wrote the music to the college song. “My Livingstone.”

Miss Richardson was a lover of youth, and she had the innate ability to organize.   Moreover, the idea of service to others and self-improvement permeated her whole being.  The first group she organized was the Temperance League in Concord, NC.  In Salisbury, she also organized the first interdenominational group of youth, who delighted in carrying flowers to the sick and elderly and to the grave of the soldiers in the National Cemetery.

Out of her philosophy for living and the service rendered by the interdenominational group she organized, grew the idea of organizing the young women of the A.M.E. Zion Church into a Young Missionary Society.  In the spring of 1909, the first meeting of the Young Woman’s Missionary Society was held.  As Miss Richardson worked with the young women who were a part of the organization, she aided in their spiritual development and personal improvement.

Miss Richardson’s experience with this local society was so rewarding that she reported its success to the Connectional Council and Executive Board of the Woman’s Home and Foreign Missionary Society in September 1909.  The report was well received and forwarded to the 1912 General Conference being held in Charlotte, North Carolina, which adopted the organization.  This God-inspired achievement stands today as the link between the Buds of Promise Juvenile Missionary Society and the Young Adult Missionary Society.

Let us always remember the contributions of this great Woman of God and Woman of Excellence.

Pioneering Women of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

*Written and Edited by Rev. Dr. Dorothy S. Johnson and Rev. Lula G. Williams*

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**Motto:** “Ambassadors for Christ”

**Colors:** Navy Blue (truth, loyalty) and Gold (heaven, honor)

**Watchword:** Christ for Every Youth, Every Youth for Christ

**Youth Hymn:** “Take My Life and Let it Be”

**Youth Theme Song:** “Give of Your Best to the Master”

**Anniversary:** “Victory Day” is observed on the Sunday nearest January 12th (which is Miss Victoria Richardson’s birthday)

**\*SEND OFFERING TO:**  Mrs. Rosetta Dunham, Executive Director, W.H.&O.M.S. ***through*** your District President.  P.O. Box 26846, Charlotte, NC 28221-6846.  Make checks payable to the W.H.&O.M. Society