



## Second Annual General Assembly

Liberian Ministers Association of the Delaware Valley, Inc.

Hosted by the  
Faith-Immanuel Lutheran Church  
65 Penn Boulevard, East Lansdowne, PA 19050

Saturday, December 12, 2015

Theme: "Missional Foresight:  
Embracing the Future, Building  
with Focus"



## Liberian Ministers Association of the Delaware Valley Assembly 2015 Agenda

Saturday, December 12, 2015

Registration and Reception

8:30 am to 9: am	<b>Reception/ Registration and Continental Breakfast</b>
9:00 am to 9:30 am	<b>Registration /Roll Call/ Ground Rules/Adoption of Assembly Program/Appointment of Parliamentarian, Committee on Treasurer Report. Committee of President Report ,Complimentary Resolution Committee, Committee on Youth, Women and Echoes from Churches, Reading of 2014 General Assembly Minutes</b>
9:30 am to 10 am	<b>Morning Inspiration</b> Minister Francis Wongbaye Assistant Pastor, United People Church of God
10 am to 11 am	<b>Guest Greetings/ Echoes from Churches/ Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell</b>
11 am to 12 noon	<b>The Board of Directors Message</b> <b>The Youth and Women Desks Report</b> <b>The Treasurer's Report</b> <b>The President's Annual Report</b>
12:pm to 12:30 pm	Lunch Break/ LMADV Reflection
12:30pm- 1:30 pm	<b>Special Presentation</b> <b>Presenter:</b> Hon. Josiah Jokai Former Commissioner, Liberia Election Commission <b>Topic:</b> <i>The Role of US-Based Diaspora Religious Community in Liberia General and Presidential Election 2017</i>
1:30 pm to 2 pm	<b>Committees' Reports:</b> <b>1. Committee on President Report</b> <b>2. Committee of Treasurer Report</b> <b>3. Committee on Youth, Women and Churches Echoes</b>
2pm -3:30pm	<b>Board and Officers Elections</b>
	<b>Closing Ceremony of First Session and preparation for the next session at 4pm</b>

Saturday, December 12, 2015

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

**Fellowship and Empowerment Service**  
**Guest Preacher**  
**Bishop Amos W. Tarpeh**  
**Presiding Prelate, Refuge Baptist Church**  
**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

**Guest Choirs**

Faith-Immanuel Lutheran Church Choir  
Ambassador, Rev. Marron D. Cassell... Guest Soloist

**Special Guests**

- ✚ Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell, 3<sup>rd</sup> District of Philadelphia
- ✚ Hon. Wilmot Kunney, President Union of Liberian Association of America
- ✚ Hon. Christopher Selekpoh, President Liberian Association of Pennsylvania
- ✚ Dr. Eric Edi, President, Coalition of African Communities, AFRICOM
- ✚ Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd, The Mayor's Commission on Faith-Based Initiatives
- ✚ Hon. Stanley Straughter, US Center for Black Cultures and International Understanding
- ✚ Mrs. Portia Kamara, Multicultural Community Family Service
- ✚ Mr. Voffee Jabateh, African Cultural Alliance of North America
- ✚ The African Christian Ministers Association
- ✚ Rev. Joseph Koromah, President, Sierra Leonean Christian Community
- ✚ Dr. Vera Tolbert, Eminent Liberian
- ✚ Hon. Dahn K. Dennis, Eminent Liberian

*Meet the Assembly Officeres,  
Presenters, and Guest of Honor*



**Rev. Dr. Moses Suah-Dennis** is the Chairman of the General Assembly and President of the Liberian Ministers Association of the Delaware Valley, Dr. Dennis pastors the Faith-Immanuel Lutheran Church in East Lansdowne. He holds a Bachelor degree in theology, a masters in Mission Development, and a Doctorate in Ministries from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania. He is married to Helena, a union that is blessed with parental upbringing of Denise and Serena



**Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell** is the Assembly Guest of Honor. Councilwoman Blackwell serves as Councilwoman for the 3<sup>rd</sup> District of Philadelphia and has been one of the most important friends to the Liberian Community. The Councilwoman was instrumental in initiating the formation of the West African Ebola Coalition to respond to the Ebola crisis in Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone. The Ebola Coalition is chaired by the president of the Liberian Ministers Association.



Hon. Christopher Selekpoh is the Assembly Guest of honor and president of the Liberian Association of Pennsylvania. Before this position he served the Liberian Association as its General Secretary. He is a dedicated community servant with records of valuable selfless services to the Liberian community. He is a committed family man and a good Christian.



**Rev. Dr. John K. Jallah** is the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Advisor to the Assembly. Rev. Jallah is the founder of the Agape Senior Citizen Center in Philadelphia and Assistant Pastor at New Fellowship Baptist Church. Rev. Jallah is an educator and senior statesman. Rev. Dr. Jallah is Liberia's Honorary Deputy Consul General to the Consul General of Liberia near Philadelphia.



**Bishop Amos W. Tarpeh** is the Assembly Guest Preacher and former president of the Liberian Ministers Association of the Delaware Valley. He is the founder and presiding prelate of the Refuge Baptist Church in Philadelphia. Bishop Tarpeh is a called church planter, a life that distinguished him in Liberia, Ghana, and here in the United States. He is a product of the Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married to Rev. Janet Tarpeh, a union that is grace with many spiritual and biological children.



**Bro. Josiah F. Joekai** is the Assembly Speaker. He is an Author with more than ten years of professional experience working in the public sector in the areas of education, democracy and governance. He has authored three books and several published articles. He is currently finalizing a Thesis *‘Democratic Elections as a Dimension of Peace and Legitimacy: The case of Liberia’* for a Master of Arts (MA) Degree in Conflict Transformation from the Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation (KAICT) of the University of Liberia. He earned a Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree in Political Science with emphasis on International Relations from the University of Liberia. He’s a self-managed and results-oriented.



Pastor Francis Wongbaye is the Assembly Devotion speaker. He is the Assistant Pastor of the United People Church of God, and the interim Vice President of the newly formed Youth Auxiliary of LMADV. Pastor Wongbaye is usually involve with youth ministries in and out of his church. Pastor Francis Wongbaye holds an Associate degree in Christian Studies and a Bachelor degree in Church Ministry from the Sure Foundation Theological Institute. He is happily married to Mrs. Alicia Wongbaye for five years and they are blessed with a beautiful daughter, Faith Wongbaye



Rev. Zarwolo Gatei is the Assembly Election Chairman. He serves as Pastor of the Divine Fellowship Church of Jesus Christ in North Philadelphia. Rev. Gatei serves as Co-chairman of the Liberian Ministers Association of the Delaware Valley Program Planning Committee. Rev. Gatei attended the African Bible College in Liberia and earned a Bachelor and Master of Arts in Religions from the Philadelphia Biblical University in Pennsylvania.



Rev. Amos T. Suah is the Assembly Financial Secretary and Financial Secretary of the LMADV. He serves as Assistant Pastor at the Agape International Baptist Church in Philadelphia. Rev. Suah is an educator, and community organizer. He serves his County Association, Sinoe County in the United States as National President and advisor to several community-based organizations.



Rev. Solomon M. Muin is the Secretary of the Assembly and Secretary General of the Liberian Ministers Association of the Delaware Valley. Rev. Muin is an ordained minister who have served with many ecumenical bodies both in Liberia and the United States. He is the current Secretary of the Coalition of West African Countries Affected by Ebola. He holds a bachelor in theology degree from the Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Master of Arts in Peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation from the SIT Graduate Institute in Vermont with emphasis in Youth and organization development.



Rev. Natt Edwin Miller, II is the Co-Chair of the Assembly Planning Committee and convener of the youth wing of LMADV. He is the Master of Ceremony of the Assembly Empowerment Service. A motivational speaker and marriage counselor, Rev. Miller serves as Associate Pastor with the Dominion Christian Fellowship and the Christian International Assemblies, one that he co-founded while Ghana. Rev. Miller runs a marriage school in Philadelphia with the goal to ensure the building vibrant families from lasting meaningful marriage.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE

### IT IS GOOD FOR BROTHERNS TO DWELL TOGETHER IN UNITY!



Fellow Ministers and friends; on behalf of the members of the LMA-DV Board of Directors, I welcome you to the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Annual Convention of this great organization. The Lord has brought us a mighty long way. To Him be the glory.

The saying is true; “new rain; new grass”! The current administration, while building on the foundations laid by predecessors, continues to take the LMADV to new heights. Congratulation!

We pray for your return in office to continue the good work.

Every good thing must come to an end. We treasured the honor you bestowed upon us to serve as your Board Chairman for these many years. As this Convention ushers in a new corps of officers to include new Administration, Directors, and a new Board leadership, it is my ardent hope that these exercises will further unit us for the onward progress of this organization.

We, again, call upon Ministers within the Delaware Valley still sitting on the fence to see wisdom in joining hands in order for, us all, Ministers within the Delaware Valley to continue speaking with one voice. You may be focused on your Ministry which is good; however, “one man belly full is not the belly full of the Town.” Your Ministry is an integral part of the community. Our Lord prayed for the unity of His followers (John 17) and Christ’s command for love and unity among His followers are loud and clear throughout Scripture. Our unity will not only inspire our respective members, but also, it will promote unity within the entire community, and above all, glorifies the Name of our Lord and soon coming King, Jesus Christ.

The challenge I am leaving with us all is while we are greatly growing in other areas, we must be prayerful and devise ways and means to financially support this organization. We must also continue to be financially responsible at all times. Further, Administration and Board must always continue to work together for the good and progress of the organization.

We are only turning the Director position and Board Chairmanship over. However, we are still around as a member, by God’s help, prepared to do whatever the Lord will have us do for the betterment of the LMA.

Thanks for your understanding, love, and friendship. GOD BLESSE US:



## The Youth Report

The Youth Auxiliary of LMADV has been working hard this year to foster relationship between youth ministries of various churches and build network to make a greater impact in our communities. This year has been eventful with series of meetings with different youths and youth groups. Although this is the first year of its inception, the Youth of LMADV has successfully hosted a Valentine's Day Ball and an inter-church revival. The planners and participants of these events have been greatly blessed and encouraged and have called for continuation and increase in frequency of these events with a broader approach.

Next year we intend conduct three major programs. As the Youth Auxiliary of LMADV, we have adopted the vision of the LMADV but tailoring our efforts on the youth. We believe as young people, in order to be effective and make lasting and meaningful impact, we must have a holistic ministry to our peers. Therefore, the Youth Auxiliary is planning a series of programs for the upcoming year 2016 with a holistic approach by conducting social, intellectual and spiritual programs. We have highlighted three ways we want to minister to the youth of our community and at large.

1. Spiritual Programs - There will be one major youth program that will be cultivating the collective efforts of various youth ministries and churches. The collaboration will bring together youth for a time of worship, impartation, and fellowship. The length (number of days) of the program can be decided later

Ecclesiastes 12:1 says, Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them.

2. Intellectual Program - In order to promote education and further academic achievement among the youth in the community, we intend to organize seminars where we will invite other successful Liberian professionals who will serve as motivational speakers while giving talks on jobs in their respective fields; and other topics that could motivate the young people. In addition to just coming and speaking, we hope to build a collaboration with these professionals to serve as mentors and guides to other young people in their individual field.

3. Social Program - From teenage pregnancies to high school dropout, there are lot of social issues that plague our young people in our community. We don't intend to solve all the problems at once. However, we have written a proposal and designed a frame work for programs which will target programs like after school care.

These programs are meant to affect changes on every level. We have begun cultivating collaborative efforts with other Youth groups and programs to achieve a greater impact. We are filled with excitement as we go into the New Year 2016, and anticipate an eventful year with greater impact. The Youth auxiliary has set up an interim leadership as follows:

Mr. Diamond Hne – President  
Pastor Francis Wongbaye – Vice President  
Mrs. Miracle Washington – Secretary  
Mr. Leemue Koimene - Coordinator

Besides the major program we intend to have annually, there will be other programs as our individual church calendar permits.



**ORDER OF THE SERVICE**

- 1. Musical Prelude..... The Faith-Immanuel Lutheran Church Choir
- 2. Opening Song..... All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (See hymnal)
- 3. Opening Prayer..... Pastor Doris Howard-Sherman
- 4. Welcome Remarks..... Rev. Louise Brooks-Koffa
- 5. Selection..... Faith-Immanuel Lutheran Church Choir
- 6. Scripture Reading.....Rev. Dr. Deddeh Poe
- 7. Presentation and Installation of Officers Elect
- 8. Intercessory Prayer..... Rev. Dr. Anthony Sengbe
- 9. Offering and Offertory..... Rev. J. Hosea Kanmoh
- 10. Introduction of the Guest Preacher..... Rev. Solomon M. Muin
- 11. Special Selection..... Rev, Marron D. Cassell
- 12. The Message..... Bishop Amos W. Tarpeh
- 13. Remarks..... Hon. Christopher Selekpoh, LAP  
Rev. Dr. John K. Jallah, LMADV
- 14. Reading of Complimentary General Resolution
- 15. Vote of Thanks..... Rev. Dr. Moses Suah- Dennis
- 16. Motion for Adjournment of the Second General Assembly
- 17. Closing Song.....What A Fellowship, What A Joy Divine
- 18. Closing Prayer..... Rev. Dr. Napoleon Birch

**Master of Ceremony: Rev. Edwin Natt Miller, III**