



African Methodist Episcopal Church Connectional Lay Organization

ANNUAL REPORT

June 24 – June 26, 2014

GENERAL BOARD AND COUNCIL OF BISHOPS MEETINGS
Sheraton Music City Hotel
Nashville, Tennessee



Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson, President, General Board
Bishop Richard Franklin Norris, First Vice President, General Board
Bishop Jeffrey Nathaniel Leath, Host Bishop and President, Council of Bishops
Bishop John Richard Bryant, Senior Bishop
Bishop William Phillips DeVeaux Sr., Chairperson, Lay Commission
Dr. Willie C. Glover, President, Connectional Lay Organization
Mr. Darwin K. Eldridge, Treasurer, Connectional Lay Organization
Mr. Richard L. Bowden, Financial Secretary, Connectional Lay Organization



**The President's Report
to the
General Board
of the
African Methodist Episcopal Church**



Tuesday, June 24, 2014

To: Bishop Adam Jefferson Richardson, President, General Board
Bishop Richard Franklin Norris, First Vice President, General Board
Bishop Jeffery Nathaniel Leath, Host Bishop and President,
Council of Bishops
Bishop John Richard Bryant, Senior Bishop
Bishop William Phillips DeVeaux, Chairperson, Lay Commission
Other Bishops of the Church, General and Connectional Officers, Lay
Organization Executive Board, Clergy and fellow Laypersons:

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

It is in the joy of Jesus I greet the Lay Commission, the General Board and the Council of Bishops meetings. What a blessing it is to recognize the noble history and legacy of our distinguish past established by our fore parents. This fifth "unqualified" audit report is presented with pride.

The Connectional Lay Organization continue to do a consistent and persistent work in our Lay ministry.

THIRTY THIRD BIENNIAL

The Thirty Third Biennial Session of the Connectional Lay Organization ended on a high note. The convention major focus was on teaching and training led by the Director of Lay Activities, Mrs. Edith Bartley Cartledge assisted by our Young Adult Representative, Mr. John Thomas. The Black Tie Soiree highlighted Wilberforce University and ordained clergy from across the connection delivered soul stirring messages to begin each day's activities. The election of officers for the next four years was held on the first day of the meeting.

It was a blessing having Bishop Sarah Frances Taylor Davis actively participating in morning worship, panel discussion and other activities throughout the convention. Her love for laity was obvious. We appreciate the Bishops and other clergy for attending the Biennial and modeling the bond between laity and clergy.

EXECUTIVE BOARD RETREAT

In November 2013 the Executive Board participated in a Leadership Retreat with Dr. Patricia Larkins Hicks of "Outcomes Management" as the consultant. The Retreat focused on the mission statement of the organization which states; The Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church is commissioned to Teach, Train and Empower its members for Lay Ministry, Global Leadership and Service following the Tenets of Jesus Christ.

The two day retreat goal was to bring the very diverse Board to common goals as well as to assist new Board members in being more effective. The feedback from the Retreat was very positive and expressions by all was time well spent.

CONNECTIONAL LAY DONATIONS

We have also contributed to the Church and components. They include:

- Wilberforce University \$50,000
- Morris Brown College (for operating) \$25,000
- SADA \$ 5,000
- Bethel School (Lusaka, Zambia) \$ 1,000

MAJOR TRAVEL

My travel this year has taken me from coast to coast, to the southern borders of Texas and the heartland of the United States. I along with the Director of Lay Activities, Mrs. Cartledge attended the Global Development Council (GDC) in Lusaka, Zambia. The two of us also attended along with the Young Adult Representative, Ms. Felicia Commodore, the African Development Initiative (LOADI) in Windhoek, Namibia. The Episcopal District Director of Lay Activities from the Ninth Episcopal District also attended the latter. Episcopal Districts 14 - 20 continue to struggle with issues of inclusion, redistricting, and economic concerns. A central focus of each meeting was the 2016 General Conference and election of bishops. Over 25 persons from the African Districts and one from the 16th Episcopal District have announced candidacies.

RECOMMENDATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

I continue to lift up a paragraph from my last report. " In these times as empowered laypersons it behooves us to become involved in the challenges of life around us. We must take bold stands on social issues such as gun control, the poor and increasing poverty, sequestration, cutting assistance for the elderly and other social concerns. We must be willing to take on these tough issues by contacting Congress and State legislators as concerned Christians individually and collectively. I have and continue to encouraged each Episcopal Lay Organization to have a social actions committee and part of each agenda to explore the pertinent social and civic issues not in the best interest of the public in general and faith based people in particular.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness and joy we accept the will of God in the untimely tragic death of Sister Eileen Shaw Warner, Third Vice President of the Connectional Lay Organization. While we still mourn her passing we rejoice in the knowledge of being absence from the body is to be present with God. We also acknowledge the passing of a devoted servant and former Board member, Sister Donnell Banks Anderson.

GRATITUDE

It is my extreme honor to lead such an august body and my deepest thanks to the thousands of laypersons across the five continents the African Methodist Episcopal Church is located for their loyal support in embracing the vision God has given me. Many thanks to the Executive Board, the financial team and my office staff, my wife, Mrs. Karen L. Glover and Mrs. Lyndia Mayo.

"Where He may lead me I will go, For I have learned to trust Him so,
And I remember 'twas for me, That He was slain on Calvary.
Jesus shall lead me night and day; Jesus shall lead me all the way;
He is the truest friend to me, For I remember Calvary."

Humbly and gratefully submitted,

Willie C. Glover, Ph. D.

Global President

Connectional Lay Organization

CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

2013 - 2017

Executive Board Connectional Lay Organization

Bishop William Phillips DeVeaux, Sr.	Chairperson Lay Commission
Dr. Willie C. Glover Third Episcopal District	President
Ms. Gloria T. Byrd Sixth Episcopal District	1st Vice President
Mr. Matikane Abednego Makiti Nineteenth Episcopal District	2nd Vice President
*Mrs. Eileen S. Warner Eleventh Episcopal District	3rd Vice President
Mrs. Gloria DeVeaux Cobb Seventh Episcopal District	Recording Secretary
Mrs. Doris M. Bell Thirteenth Episcopal District	Assistant Recording Secretary
Mrs. Ada Groff Fifth Episcopal District	Corresponding Secretary
Mr. Richard L. Bowden Ninth Episcopal District	Financial Secretary
Mr. Darwin K. Eldridge Thirteenth Episcopal District	Treasurer
Mrs. Alice Belden Fourth Episcopal District	Chaplain
Mrs. Edith Bartley Cartledge First Episcopal District	Director of Lay Activities
Mr. Walter Jeffers First Episcopal District	Director of Public Relations
Mrs. Virginia Henderson, RP Sixth Episcopal District	Parliamentarian
Mrs. Pamela F. Tilley Tenth Episcopal District	Historiographer
Ms. Felicia Commodore Second Episcopal District	Young Adult Representative
*Deceased	

EPISCOPAL DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

FIRST DISTRICT

Mrs. Mary L. Mootoo

SECOND DISTRICT

Mrs. Valerie Bell

THIRD DISTRICT

Ms. Ametta L. Reaves

FOURTH DISTRICT

Mrs. Madge White

FIFTH DISTRICT

Mr. Simeon Rhoden

SIXTH DISTRICT

Mr. Michael Brown

SEVENTH DISTRICT

Mr. Roger Cleckley

EIGHT DISTRICT

Mr. Melvin Davis

NINTH DISTRICT

Mr. James C. Bonner

TENTH DISTRICT

Mr. Larry Hollie

ELEVENTH DISTRICT

Mr. Charlie Nichols

TWELFTH DISTRICT

Dr. Dorothy Henderson

THIRTEEN DISTRICT

Mrs. Dorothy Ealy

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

Mr. Garfield Mason

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT

Mr. Alfred Goliath

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT

Ms. Maylene Loncke

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT

Mr. Westone Mutale Bowa

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT

Mr. Malugisa Dlamini

NINETEENTH DISTRICT

Mr. Simon Letsoko

TWENTIETH DISTRICT

Mr. Gibson Andrason Mengwe

PAST AND CURRENT PRESIDENTS

(1985 - Present)

Dr. Kathryn M. Brown*	1985 - 1993
Mr. James L. Williams **	1993 - 2001
Mr. Arthur L. Brown*	2001 - 2003
Mr. Jesse L. Burns, Jr.	2003 - 2009
Dr. Willie C. Glover	2009 - Present

*Deceased

**President Emeritus

Advisors to the President

(Selected and Appointed by the President)

Ms. Felicia Commodore

Mr. Norman L. Deas

Mrs. Billie D. Irving

Dr. Richard A. Lewis

Mrs. Beverly Nutall

Connectional Lay Economic Development Corporation (CLEDC)

Mr. Tyrone L. Presley	Board Chairperson
Dr. Verda Bradley	Director
Mr. Larry Hollie	Treasurer

**CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION
OF THE
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

MARCH 31, 2014

EDWARD RICHARDSON, JR., C.P.A.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
15565 Northland Drive, Suite 508 West
Southfield, Michigan 48075

MEMBER:
MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CPAs
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CPAs

(248) 559-4514
Fax: (248) 559-0015

June 17, 2014

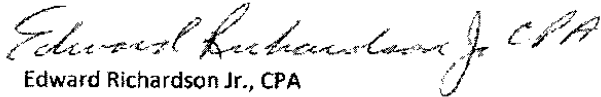
Dr. Willie Glover
Connectional Lay Organization of the A.M.E.
217 Brassic Way
Columbus, OH 43213-7614

Dear Dr. Glover:

The Connectional Lay Organization of the A.M.E. Church received an "unqualified opinion" on the audit of the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2014. The condition of the records was good throughout the last several years; however, the last twelve months of the year the records were impeccable.

It was a pleasure serving you.

Sincerely,


Edward Richardson Jr., CPA

EDWARD RICHARDSON, JR., C.P.A.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
15565 Northland Drive, Suite 508 West
Southfield, Michigan 48075

MEMBER:
MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CPAs
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CPAs

248/559-4514
(Fax) 248/559-0015

June 6, 2014

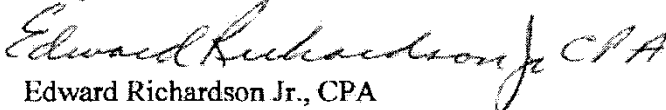
Independent Auditor's Report

Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church
288 South Hamilton Road
Columbus, OH 43213

I have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of Connectional Lay Organization African Methodist Episcopal Church as of March 31, 2014, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the supplementary information, which is presented for supplementary analysis purposes only. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Connectional Lay Organization's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally in the United States of America. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material aspects, the statement of financial position of Connectional Lay Organization African Methodist Episcopal Church as of March 31, 2014, and the statement of activities and cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.


Edward Richardson Jr., CPA

Accountant's audit report
Page 1



**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

March 31, 2014

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking - General Fund	\$ 277
Checking - Convention Account	53,816
Checking - General Funds II	<u>264,235</u>

Total Current Assets

\$ 318,328

Fixed Assets

Equipment	2,410
Less Accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,377)</u>

Net Fixed Assets

1,033

TOTAL ASSETS

\$ 319,361

The footnotes are an integral part of the financial statements.

**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
March 31, 2014**

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ -	
Total Current Liabilities		\$ -
Long-Term Liabilities		
Total Liabilities		-
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	309,793	
Restricted	<u>9,568</u>	
Total Net Assets		<u>319,361</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		<u>\$ 319,361</u>

The footnotes are an integral part of the financial statements.

**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

12 Months Ended

Mar. 31, 2014

CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

General Fund Revenues

AMEC Allocation	\$ 194,964
CLO -100	1,200
Registration	8,095
We Speak Subscription	375
Biennial Income	441,367
Disaster Relief	6,235
Study Guides	3,560
Other Revenues	<u>3,117</u>
Total Unrestricted Revenues	\$ 658,913

General Fund Expenditures

Printing	459
Stipends	36,330
YAR Expenses	1,248
Executive Board Expenses	55,291
Secreterial Expense	2,111
Audit Expenses	3,770
DOLA Expenses	6,808
We Speak Expense	21,262
Biennial Expense	10,887
Historiographer	1,800
President's Expense	17,448
Postage	2,037
Web Maintenance	494
Bonding Insurance	257
Bank Fees	368
Biennial Expense (Current Year Paid)	461,204
Miscellaneous Expense	1,368
Convention Planner	2,000
Contributions/Donations	31,125
Outside training	1,438
Depreciation	344
Other Travel	<u>5,248</u>
Total General Expenditures	\$ 663,294

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

\$ (4,381)

The footnotes are an integral part of the financial statements.

**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

	12 Months Ended <u>Mar. 31, 2014</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	\$ (4,381)
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	324,086
PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT	<u>(344)</u>
NET ASSETS AT END OF PERIOD	<u>\$ 319,361</u>

The footnotes are an integral part of the financial statements.

**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the Twelve Months Ended March 31, 2014

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Net income (loss)	\$ (4,381)
Adjustment to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:	
Depreciation	344
Prior Year Adjustmnets	(344)
Change in assets and liabilities :	
Accounts payable	<u> -</u>
Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(4,381)

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	(4,381)
Cash at beginning of period	<u>322,709</u>
CASH AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 318,328</u>

The footnotes are an integral part of the financial statements.

**CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE A – NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT POLICIES

Nature of Activities

The Connectional Lay Organization (CLO) is a department of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (a nonprofit organization). Its purpose is to organize and train the laity of the African Methodist Church so that each lay person may utilize to the maximum the abilities and skills granted by God, in assisting with the improvement and extension of God's kingdom, and creating happiness, peace, and harmony among its members. The CLO is supported primarily through contributions from the AME Church, biennial convention registration fees, and various other sources of income.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the CLO have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting and accordingly reflect all significant receivables, payables, and other liabilities.

Basis of Presentation

Financial statement presentation follows the recommendations of the Financial Accounting Standards Board in the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SAS) No. 117, *Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations*. Under SFAS 117, the church is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that effect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Property and Equipment

Acquisitions of property and equipment in excess of \$500 are capitalized. Property and equipment are carried at cost or, if donated, at the approximate fair value at the date of donation. Depreciation is computed using primarily the straight-line method.

Revenue Recognition

Contributions received are recorded as increases in unrestricted, temporarily restricted, or permanently restricted net assets, depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor restrictions.

**CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

All donor-restricted contributions are reported as increases in temporarily or permanently restricted net assets, depending on the nature of the restriction. When a restriction expires (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished), temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Contributed Services

The CLO receives various amounts of services donated by its members in carrying out the CLO's ministry. No amounts have been reflected in the financial statements for those services since they do not meet the criteria for recognition under SFAS No. 116, *Accounting for Contributions Received and Contributions Made*.

Income Taxes

The AME Church, including all of its components, is exempt from federal and state income taxes under Internal Revenue Code Section 501 ©(3).

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include all monies in banks and highly liquid investments with maturity dates of less than three months. The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents approximates fair value because of the short maturities of those financial instruments.

NOTE B – CASH

The total cash held by the CLO at March 31, 2014 was \$318,051. All of the monies invested by the CLO were insured provided by the federal government.

NOTE C – RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Temporarily restricted net assets were comprised of \$9,568 held on behalf of the AME V-Alert.

NOTE D – CONCENTRATIONS

The CLO receives greater than 30% of its annual operational revenues from the Connectional Church of the AME.

NOTE E – RELATED PARTY

The CLO is a department of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Each year the CLO is allocated \$194,964 by the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

**CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

NOTE F – DEPRECIATION

The depreciation expense for the period was \$344.00.

**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
For the Years Ended March 31, 2014 and March 31, 2013**

ASSETS

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Current Assets		
Checking - General Fund	\$ 277	277
Checking - Convention Account	53,816	85,058
Checking - General Fund II	<u>264,235</u>	<u>237,374</u>
Total Current Assets	318,328	322,709
Fixed Assets		
Equipment	2,410	2,410
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,377)</u>	<u>(1,033)</u>
Net Fixed Assets	1,033	1,377
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 319,361</u>	<u>\$ 324,086</u>

**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
For the Years Ended March 31, 2014 and March 31, 2013**

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ (1)
Total Current Liabilities	-	(1)
Long-Term Liabilities		
Total Liabilities	-	(1)
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	309,793	314,519
Restricted	<u>9,568</u>	<u>9,568</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>319,361</u>	<u>324,087</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 319,361</u>	<u>\$ 324,086</u>

See accountant's report.

**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

	12 Months Ended <u>Mar. 31, 2014</u>	12 Months Ended <u>Mar. 31, 2013</u>
<u>CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</u>		
General Fund Revenues		
AMEC Allocation	\$ 194,964	\$ 198,236
CLO -100	1,200	14,770
Registration	8,095	275
We Speak Subscription	375	-
Biennial Income	441,367	3,155
Disaster Relief	6,235	3,720
Study Guides	3,560	121,373
Other Revenues	3,117	-
Total Unrestricted Revenues	<u>\$ 658,913</u>	<u>\$ 341,529</u>
General Fund Expenditures		
Biennial Expense (Current Year Paid)	461,204	7,657
Training/conferences/donations	1,438	1,057
Travel	5,248	976
Contributions	31,125	1,200
CLO-100	-	60,668
Disaster Relief	-	5,870
Miscellaneous expense	1,368	-
Insurance	257	257
Office expense	2,111	-
Postage and shipping	2,037	1,567
DOLA Expenses	6,808	-
Stationery and printing costs	459	-
Publications expense	-	269
Accounting/Audit Expense	3,770	2,512
We Speak Magazine	21,262	10,459
Conventional Planner	2,000	-
Bank Fees	368	269
Outside Service		
Biennial Expense	10,887	-
Executive Board Meetings	55,291	48,357
Monthly Stipends	36,330	36,394
YAR Expenses	1,248	21,151
DOLA Expenses	-	9,968

See accountant's report

**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

	12 Months Ended <u>Mar. 31, 2014</u>	12 Months Ended <u>Mar. 31, 2013</u>
General Fund Expenditures		
Historiographer	1,800	1,350
President's Expense	17,448	14,817
Web Maintenance	494	663
General/Conference/Board Expense	-	19,164
Depreciation Expense	<u>344</u>	<u>344</u>
Total General Expenditures	<u>663,294</u>	<u>244,969</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	<u>\$ (4,381)</u>	<u>\$ 96,560</u>

**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

	12 Months Ended <u>Mar. 31, 2014</u>	12 Months Ended <u>Mar. 31, 2013</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	\$ (4,381)	\$ 227,528
PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT	(344)	(2)
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	<u>324,086</u>	<u>96,560</u>
NET ASSETS AT END OF PERIOD	<u>\$ 319,361</u>	<u>\$ 324,086</u>

See accountant's report

**Connectional Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church**

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Twelve Months Ended March 31, 2014 and March 31, 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</u>		
Net income (loss)	(4,381)	96,560
Adjustment to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation	344	344
Prior Year Adjustments		
Change in assets and liabilities :	(344)	
Accounts payable	-	(1)
Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(4,381)	96,903
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</u>		
Purchases of fixed assets	-	-
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</u>		
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	(4,381)	96,903
Cash at beginning of period	322,709	225,806
CASH AT END OF YEAR	\$ 318,328	\$ 322,709

See accountant's report



"Laity Fulfilling the Great Commission"