

Tuesday, August 4, 2015 4:00 P.M.

Workshop II

Title: **Toward A Healthy Church**

Presenter: **Rev. Dr. C.R. Watkins, Jr.**

Scripture Base: Acts 2:46-47

Dr. Watkins' opening statement was, "Leaders make the church healthy." The discussion following this statement focused on the presenter's statement, "Effective leaders help churches stay healthy by:

- Demonstrating the ability to inspire.
- Moving the people in a positive direction.
- Sharing purpose and passion so the membership will feel it.
- Communicating the purpose with passion.
- Communicating the big picture by showing how all the component parts work together to fulfill the purpose.

The leadership includes both clergy and lay that must be willing, able, and trained. Clergy and lay alike must realize that leadership is not magic; it requires training, patience, sacrifice and willingness to serve. Every leadership position in the church comes from within the church. Consequently leaders may have similar problems as people in the congregation.

A leader must be an example of faith. They must demonstrate a higher level of faith as they seek God to work out problems and situations.

Leaders lead by faith as they realize that various levels of faith may be present in the congregation.

Leaders are not conformed to the world. They must be mature, patient, even tempered, not easily provoked. They should not appear before their followers angry and disinterested. They must have a mind and heart to serve.

Leaders are living sacrifices, sacrificing time, talent and treasure.

Leaders are loyal, presenting a unified front but willing to voice concerns about any negative or ungodly positions from the fellowship.

Leaders are informed. They know and understand what the Doctrine and Discipline of the AME Church says about their duties and responsibilities.

Recorder: Hattie Nathan (9th Episcopal District)