

Order of Worship

The Prelude

Call to Worship

Invocation

God our sustainer, we have come again to worship You. We give You thanks for our young adults; and we thank You for raising up another generation. We bless Your holy name and acknowledge that You are the center of our lives. You alone ordain and call us to Your service and although at times we fall down, You love us and pick us up and empower us for Your glory. You alone deserve our worship and praise. It is with grateful hearts that we answer Your call and invite Your presence into our lives again today.

Amen.

Invocation Response

Hymn of Praise

“Pass it On” (see insert)

Responsive Reading

Philippians 3: 7 – 14 (see insert)

The Affirmation of Faith

Gloria Patri

Scripture

1 Timothy 4:10-16

Prayer

Choral Response

Choral Selections

Introduction of the Speaker

Selection of Preparation

Y.A.C.M Sunday Message

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Invitational Hymn

Offering/Offertory

Y.A.C.M OBSERVANCE Challenge

(We encourage the young adults to create a ministry that focuses on mentoring young people in your church and in your community)

Rites of Passage Ceremony

(Please see insert)

Remarks

Benediction

QUADRENNIAL THEME

*Building Bridges for 21st Century Young Adults:
Relational Approach
Real Talk
Relevant Ministries*

ORGANIZATION

The Young Adults in Christian Ministries (YACM) was accepted as the third division of the Christian Education Department* at the 1986 Convention on Christian Education (Livingstone College, Salisbury, North Carolina), and ratified at the 1988 General Conference (Charlotte, North Carolina). In 1990, history records YACM as officially organized at the Convention on Christian Education at Livingstone College, Salisbury, North Carolina.

PURPOSE

The Young Adults in Christian Ministries focuses on viable ministries and assists in the inclusion of Young Adults in the mainstream of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

PRIMARY PURPOSE

To encourage and motivate Young Adults to maintain committed lives to Christ and practice Christian Principles. To provide an atmosphere in which Young Adults can develop and demonstrate their skills, talents and abilities in the furthering of Christian Education within and throughout the Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

LONG TERM GOALS

To promote Young Adult membership, participation and involvement within the Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, by establishing local Young Adult groups.

SHORT TERM GOAL

To develop workshops, seminars, task forces, revivals, retreats, panel discussions, and activities which will enrich both the social and spiritual lives of Young Adults.

Young Adults in Christian Ministries Observance Sunday



March, 2011

**The Young Adults in Christian Ministries of the AME Zion
Church
Rites of Passage
“Another Stone, I Must Obtain”
Created December 2006**

Designed for new member young adults, young adults between the ages (22yrs – 26 yrs) and other young adults that are new to Y.A.C.M. Rites of passage requires: 5 stone objects for each neophyte, a sack, and pin. Stones should be red and gold.

Leader: In our gathering we pause to recognize the joy that is shared through fellowship, we recognize the miracles manifested through the use of our collective spiritual gifts, we pause to celebrate the individual achievements which make us a stronger body. Yet in all of our pausing, our foundation remains weak without the addition of your fellowship, spiritual gifts, and strength.

Neophyte: I am seeking the opportunity to mature in my Christian journey and enjoy meaningful fellowship among other young adults within my church.

Young Adults: We seek your fellowship, spiritual gifts, and strength.

Leader: Today this ceremony is a crown jewel in helping you to mature as a young adult fully participating in effective Christian ministries. In many cultures and religions “rite of passage” is a symbolic process which demonstrates to the community that an individual has provided evidence of and qualifies as a full member of the higher society. Your presence demonstrates your desire to learn, execute, and educate the world in Christian understanding and education.

Neophyte: I desire encouragement to blossom in my Christian journey and enjoy the blessings found as I increase my knowledge to be a prepared young adult Christian educator active in effective ministry.

Young Adults: We encourage your fellowship, spiritual gifts, and strength.

Leader: "And a voice from heaven said, This is my beloved Son, and I am fully pleased with him." Just as God spoke words of blessings, identity, and love to Jesus in front of others, we gather today to publicly pronounce blessings and honor into your life and your Christian journey.

Young Adults: We are proud of you! We value your spiritual gifts! We accept your uniqueness! We love you! You are our brothers and sisters.

Leader: Today we share equal status and opportunity. Today we are peers seeking common ground and purpose. Our strength, gifts, and effectiveness are now affected by each other. Today we memorialize your upward and onward journey into Young Adults in Christian Ministries. We present you with 5 stones. Each stone represents an important attribute to aide you in your journey.

(A young adult will place a stone in each neophyte’s hand as the stone is called off.)
The 1st stone represents the PRIDE we have in knowing that you are a part of us, the Young Adults in Christian Ministries.

The 2nd stone represents the VALUE we place upon the gifts which God has place inside of you.

The 3rd stone represents our ACCEPTANCE of the unique person you are and the gifts which God has created within you.

The 4th stone represents the agape LOVE we share with you and the unconditional Love God has for you.

The 5th stone represents UNITY and the fact that you are never alone in Christian Ministry for we are your brothers and sisters.

The stones distributed are Red and Gold. The red symbolizes the Power and the Redemption of the blood of Jesus Christ.

The Gold symbolizes Royalty. We are a chosen people and part of a royal priesthood.

We have placed in your hands 5 stones and the number seven has a symbolic origin and meaning of representing Grace.

Young Adults: We present these stones as a symbol of commitment and welcome you to your next level of ministry and pray that you continue to grow in the grace of God.

The Collect: Father God, we ask for your wisdom and guidance as we prepare to minister to your people. We ask You to open our hearts and our minds to Your truth and good news that we be able to minister to these your people. We pray that You will use each of us as an example to other young adults. We pray that Your glory will be seen through our efforts. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Leader: At this moment we will remove one stone to remind you that your work in Kingdom Building is never complete. We encourage you to always press forward towards the next level. As you press forward remember, there is still another stone you must obtain. Now we ask you to place your stones in your bag and proudly display your bag on your outer garment for the remainder of our winter meeting.
Be blessed and never forget...

The Collect: There are still other stones I must obtain.

RESPONSIVE READING

Philippians 3:7-14 (New International Version, ©2010)

LEADER: But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things.

CONGREGATION: I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in^a Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

LEADER: I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

CONGREGATION: Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

LEADER: Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead.

TOGETHER: I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus