

ENCED 2026

Leadership

Training

Institute

Ordination Service

Saturday ~ June 27, 2026

Simon Temple A. M. E. Zion Church
5760 Yakin Road ~ Fayetteville, NC 28303



EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA
EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
A.M.E. Zion Church

Mrs. Devieta C. Moore
Missionary Supervisor

Bishop W. Darin Moore
Presiding Prelate

SATURDAY ~ June 25, 2026
Worship and Ordination Service ~ 9:00 AM
Worship Leader – Presiding Elder Erlinda C. Dobson

Call to Worship	Presiding Elder Erlinda C. Dobson
Invocation	Presiding Elder Erlinda C. Dobson
Opening Hymn	ENCED LTI ~ Choir

“The Church’s One Foundation”

The Church’s one foundation. Is Jesus Christ her Lord,
She is His new creation. By water and the Word:
From Heav’n He came and sought her. To be His holy bride,
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o’er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation, One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

’Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation, Of peace forevermore;
Till, with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious, shall be the Church at rest!

Yet she on earth hath union, With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won,
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

The Reading of the Gospel	John 10:1-16	Presiding Elder Avery C. Brown, Sr.
The Reading of the Epistle	Ephesians 4:7-13	Presiding Elder Michael S. Bell
Gloria Patri		
Affirmation of Faith	“The Apostle’s Creed”	Presiding Elder Charlmers L. McDougald
Prayer		Presiding Elder Darwin D. Little

⌘ THE ORDINATION SERVICE ⌘

The Presentation of Candidates for Deacon Orders:

CHAIRS OF HOLY ORDERS

Cape Fear Conference Presiding Elder Terry L. Jones, Sr.

North Carolina Conference Presiding Elder Erlinda C. Dobson

The Order for the Ordination of Deacons

(Candidates are presented by Chairs of Holy Orders Committees)

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE ~ ORDINAND

Bro. Percy D. Arrington (MR) Deacon

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE ~ ORDINAND

Bro. Nicholas Cornelius (MR) Deacon

The Ordination Ritual

Bishop: *Brothers and Sisters: If there are any of you who know of any crime or impediment in any of these persons presented to be ordained Deacons, for which they should not to be admitted to this Office, come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is. If any crime or impediment is presented, the Bishop shall cease from ordaining that person until such time as the party accused shall be found cleared of the same.*

The Collect

(Let us pray together)

Almighty God, who by your divine providence has appointed various Orders of Ministers in your Church, and did inspire your Apostles to choose into the Order of Deacons your first martyr, St. Stephen, with others: mercifully behold these your servants now called to the same Office and Administration; replenish them so with the truth of your doctrine, and adorn them with the innocence of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve you in this office, to the glory of your name and the edification of your Church, through the merits of your Son our Savior Jesus the Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Ghost now and forever

Bishop: *Deacons likewise must be serious, not double-tongued, not indulging in much wine, not greedy for money; they must hold fast to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. And let them first be tested; then, if they prove themselves blameless, let them serve as deacons. Women likewise must be serious, not slanderers, but temperate, faithful in all things. Let deacons be faithful to one spouse and let them manage their children and their households well; 13 for those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and great boldness in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.*

Bishop: *Do you trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Spirit to take up the Office of the Ministry of Deacon in the Church of Christ, to serve God for the promoting of His glory and the edifying of His people?*

Candidates: I trust so.

Bishop: *Do you inexhaustibly believe the entire Canon Scriptures of both the Old and New Testaments?*

Candidates: I do believe them.

Bishop: *Will you diligently read or expound the same to the people whom you shall be appointed to serve?*

Candidates: I will.

Bishop: *It is the responsibility to the Office of a Deacon to assist the Elder in divine services. And especially when ministering the Holy Communion, to help in the distribution thereof, and to read and expound the Holy Scriptures, to instruct the youth, and to baptize. And furthermore, it is your office to search for the sick, poor, and impotent, that they may be visited and relieved. Will you do this gladly and willingly?*

Candidates: I will do so, by the help of God.

Bishop: *Will you apply all your diligence to form and model your own lives and the lives of your families, according to the doctrine of Christ; and to make yourselves, with all that is within you, wholesome examples of the flock of Christ?*

Candidates: I will do so, the Lord being my helper

Bishop: *Will you reverently obey those to whom the charge and government over you is committed, following, with a glad mind and will, their godly admonitions?*

Candidates: I will endeavor to do so, the Lord being my helper.

The Presentation of Candidates for Elders Orders

CHAIRS OF HOLY ORDERS

North Carolina Conference

Presiding Elder Erlinda C. Dobson

The Order for the Ordination of Elders

(Candidates are presented by Chairs of Holy Orders Committees)

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE ~ ORDINAND

Reverend Reginald Hargett

Elder

The Ordination Ritual

Bishop: *Brothers and Sisters, we present unto you, these whom we intend, by the help of God this day, to ordain Elders. For after due examination, we find, not to the contrary, that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and are persons fit for the same. If, however, there be any crime or impediment in any of them, for which they ought not be received into this holy Ministry, let the accuser come forward, in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.*

Bishop: *You have heard, brothers and sisters, in your private examination, and in the holy lessons taken out of the Gospel and the writings of the Apostles, of what dignity and how great of importance this Office is into which you are called. And now again we exhort you, in the name of our Lord Jesus the Christ, that you have, in remembrance, inquired into how high a dignity and to how weighty an Office you are called: that is to say, to be messengers, watchmen, and stewards of the Lord, to teach and forewarn, to feed and provide for the Lord's family, to gather the outcast, to seek the lost, and to be ever ready to spread abroad the Gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with God.*

Have always, therefore, printed in your remembrance how great a treasure is committed to your charge. For they are the Sheep of Christ, which he bought with his life, and for whom he shed his blood. The Church who you must serve is his spouse and his body. And if it shall happen, the same Church, or any member thereof, do take any hurt or hindrance by reason of your negligence, you know the greatness of the fault, and also the horrible punishment that will ensue. Therefore, consider the end of the

ministry toward the children of God, toward the spouse and body of Christ; and see that you never cease your labor, your care and diligence, until you

have done all that lies in you, according to your bounden duty, to bring all such as are or shall be committed to your charge unto that agreement in the faith and knowledge of God, and to that ripeness and perfectness of age in Christ, that there be no place left among you, either for error in religion, or for viciousness in life.

For as much then as your Office is both of so great excellency and of so great difficulty, you see with how great care and study you ought to apply yourselves, as well that you may show yourselves dutiful and thankful unto that Lord who has placed you in so high a dignity; as also to beware that neither you yourselves offend, nor be occasion that others offend.

Furthermore, you cannot have a mind and will of your own; for that will and ability is only given from God. Therefore, you have a need to pray earnestly for his Holy Spirit. And seeing that you cannot, by any other means, fully understand the full extent of doing so weighty a work, pertaining to the salvation of man, but with doctrine and exhortation taken out of the Holy Scriptures, and with a life agreeable to the same, consider how much time you should spend in studying, reading or learning the Scriptures. And further, in determining these things, you must also determine, with all of your ability, both regarding you and those especially committed to you, according to the rule of the Scriptures; how to forsake and set aside, all worldly cares and studies.

We hope that you have all weighed and pondered these things with yourselves long before this time, and that you have clearly determined, by God's grace, to give yourselves wholly unto this Office, with which it has pleased God to call you; so that as much as lies within you, you will apply yourselves wholly to this thing, and draw all your cares and studies this way. And that you will also continually pray to God the Father, by the mediation of our only Savior Jesus the Christ, for the heavenly assistance of the Holy Ghost; that by daily reading and weighing of the Scriptures you may grow riper and stronger in your ministry. And further, that you may so endeavor to sanctify the lives of you and those you serve, in order to fashion them after the rule and doctrine of Christ, be wholesome and godly examples and models for the people to follow.

And now, that this congregation of Christians here may also understand your minds and wills in these things, and that your promise may persuade you to do your duties even more, you shall answer plainly to these things which we, in the name of God and his Church, shall demand of you touching the same.

Do you believe in your heart that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus the Christ, to the order of Elders?

Candidates: I do so believe.

Bishop: *Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain sufficiently all doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation, through faith in Jesus Christ? And that you are determined out of said Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge to teach them nothing, as required of necessity to eternal salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded, that may also be concluded and proved by the same?*

Candidates: I am persuaded, and have so determined, by God's grace.

Bishop: *Will you then give your faithful diligence always so to minister the Doctrine and Sacraments and Discipline of Christ as the Lord has commanded?*

Candidates: I will do so, by the help of the Lord.

Bishop: *Will you be ready, with all faithful diligence, to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's word? And will you use both public and private admonitions and exhortations to the sick, as well as to everyone within your charge, as need shall require and occasion shall be given?*

Candidates: I will, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: *Will you be diligent in praying and in reading the Holy Scriptures, and in such studies which will further provide the knowledge of the same, laying aside the study of the world and the flesh?*

Candidates: I will endeavor to do so, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: *Will you be diligent to frame and fashion yourselves and your families according to the doctrine of Christ: and to make both yourselves and them, with all that is within you, wholesome examples and models to the people of Christ?*

Candidates: I will apply myself to these things, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: *Will you maintain and set forward, with all that is within you, quietness, peace, and love among all Christian people and especially among them that are or shall be committed to your charge?*

Candidates: I will so do, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: *Will you reverently obey your chief Ministers, who have been committed the charge and government over you? And will you follow, with a glad mind and will, their godly admonitions, and submit yourselves to their godly judgment?*

Candidates: I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: *Almighty God, who has given you this will to do all these things, also grant you strength and power to perform the same; that He may accomplish His work which he has begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(To be read responsively)

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire.

And lighten with celestial fire.

Thou anointing Spirit art,

Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above

Is comfort, life, and fire of love.

Enable with perpetual light

The dullness of our blinded sight;

Anoint and cheer our soiled face

With the abundance of thy grace;

Keep far our foes, give peace at home:

Where thou art Guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son

And Thee of both to be but ONE;

That through the ages, all along,

This may be our endless song:

Praise to thy eternal merit,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Bishop: *Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of your infinite love and goodness toward us have given to us your only and most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ to be our Redeemer and the author of everlasting life; who after he had made perfect our redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, sent abroad into the world his Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Teachers, and Pastors, by whose labor and ministry he gathered together a great flock in all parts of the world, to set forth the eternal praise of your holy name: for these so great benefits of your eternal goodness and for that you have promised to call these here present to the same Office and Ministry appointed for salvation of mankind, we render unto you heartfelt thanks: we praise and worship you; and we humbly beseech you, by the same, your blessed Son, to grant unto all who, either here or elsewhere, call upon your name, that we may continue to show ourselves thankful unto you for these and all of your many benefits, and that we may daily increase and go forward in the knowledge and faith of you and your Son, by the Holy Spirit. So that in your Ministers, and those over whom they shall be appointed as Ministers, may ever glorify your holy name, and cause your blessed kingdom to be enlarged through the same, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the same Holy Spirit world without end. Amen*

(The Bishop and Elders shall lay hands on each candidate)

Bishop: *The Lord pour upon you the Holy Ghost for the Office and work of an Elder in the Church of God, now committed unto you by the authority of the Church through the imposition of our hands. And be a faithful dispenser of the Word of God and of his holy Sacraments: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

(Each candidate placing their hands on the Holy Bible)

Bishop: *Take authority as an Elder in the Church, to preach the word of God and to administer the holy Sacraments in the Congregation.*

Bishop: *Most Merciful Father, we ask you to send upon these your servants your heavenly blessings, that they may be clothed with righteousness, and that your word spoken by their mouths may have such success, that it may never be spoken in vain. Grant also that we may have grace to hear and receive what they shall deliver out of your most holy word, be agreeable to the same, and be the means of our salvation; that in all our words and deeds we may seek your glory and the increase of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Ordination Certificates

Bishop W. Darin Moore

Benediction

Bishop W. Darin Moore

BROTHER PERCY D. ARRINGTON



Bro. Percy D. Arrington serves faithfully as a Local Preacher at the at Salisbury A.M.E. Zion Church on the Wilson District. Bro. Percy is married to Claudia Arrington, and together they are the proud parents of five sons and grandparents to one grandson. He is a native of Raleigh, North Carolina. Percy currently, resides in Misawa, Japan, where his wife serves as Assistant Director of the Child Development Center.

While serving in Japan, Percy remains active in ministry through fellowship with the Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Pastor Patrick Sledge. There he continues to preach, teach, and lead Men's Bible Study. His ministry extends beyond the church walls into the Japanese community, where he engages in evangelism, discipleship, and compassionate outreach to connect individuals and families to Christ. Percy serves as a Key Spouse, supporting military members and their families as they transition to and from overseas assignments.

He has earned a Bachelor of Science in Religion from Liberty University in May 2023 and a Master of Divinity from Hood Theological Seminary in May 2026. He plans to begin the Doctor of Ministry program at Hood Theological Seminary in January 2027. He hopes to further his pastoral formation through Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at ECU Health Medical Center. Percy's long-term calling is to serve as a chaplain in the Veterans Health Administration, focusing on ministry to veterans facing PTSD, substance abuse, and other life challenges. As a veteran himself, he is deeply committed to helping those who have served find healing, hope, and spiritual restoration. The Scripture that shapes his life and ministry is Isaiah 1:17 (NIV): "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow." This verse reflects his passion for advocating for the marginalized and standing with those who are hurting or in need of hope. Percy believes Christians are called not only to proclaim the Gospel but also to embody Christ's love, compassion, and justice in their communities.

BROTHER NICHOLAS CORNELIUS



Nicholas Cornelius has faithfully served in ministry within the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church for more than three years, demonstrating a commitment to spiritual leadership, service, and discipleship. He currently serves as a traveling minister at Piney Grove AMEZ Church, where he attempts to minister with humility, compassion, and dedication. His spiritual foundation was established early in life, and at just 12 years old, he was accepted into Full Connection at St. Luke AMEZ Church in Maysville, North Carolina. Nicholas is a graduate of Livingstone College, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in English and distinguished himself as Mr. Maple during the 2013–2014 academic year. He is also a proud initiate of the Gamma Delta Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

Nicholas currently serves in the North Carolina Army National Guard and has received notice of an anticipated deployment to Kuwait in September 2026. He has served in the National Guard since January 2023 while continuing a distinguished military career rooted in discipline, leadership, and service. Prior to joining the National Guard, he honorably served eight years on Active Duty in the United States Army as a Paralegal Specialist (27D). He currently holds the rank of Staff Sergeant and is assigned to the 449th Combat Aviation Brigade. It was during his Active-Duty service that Nicholas discerned and embraced his call to ministry, further deepening his dedication to serving both God and country.

To further prepare for impactful ministry and leadership, Nicholas earned a Master of Divinity from Campbell University Divinity School in Buies Creek, North Carolina. His theological training strengthened his passion for preaching, pastoral care, and transformational leadership within the church and community. Nicholas remains committed to personal growth and to equipping others through spiritual guidance and compassionate service. Beyond his professional and ministerial accomplishments, he is deeply devoted to his family and values their role in shaping his purpose and calling. He has been married to his beloved wife, Krishonda Cornelius, for 10 years, and together they are the proud parents of Mya (8) and Max (6). His family continues to serve as the foundation of his faith, leadership, and lifelong commitment to service.

REVEREND REGINALD HARGETT



Reverend Reginald Hargett of the Beaufort District, which is also a part of the North Carolina Annual Conference. I am originally from Kinston, NC, but have been living in Cove City, NC for more than 27 years. I have currently been Pastoring for three years now. Prior to becoming a Pastor, I faithfully served as an Usher (for my local church), District President of the Men of Zion, as well as going through the process of becoming a local preacher. I have also gone through the local, district, and conference studies, to complete the process that is required in the AME Zion Church, for eligibility of becoming an Elder (in the life of the AME Zion Church).

My family is very important to me. I am a father of three sons, and Stepfather to two sons. I have been married for almost 2 years, and I thank God for not only my helpmate, but for the love and support that I receive from my wife, throughout various areas in the ministry. We are currently the grandparents of seven grandchildren, and will be expecting 2 more very soon. I completed my collegiate educational studies at the University of Everest (in Florida), which allowed me to receive a two year Associates Degree in Business Management.

During the course of my appointment at Cedar Grove AME Zion Church and St. Paul AME Zion Church (both located in Aurora, NC), I was able to conduct a marriage, as well as assist in the homegoing service for one of my members. The experience of being a Pastor has truly made me humble and eager to serve God's people in its full capacity, with a genuine heart, compassion and gratitude, prior to and beyond the ordination of an Elder in the life of the AME Zion Church.

THE RIGHT REVEREND W. DARIN MOORE



Bishop W. Darin Moore is a native of Mt. Vernon, NY and began his college education at Livingstone College, graduating from Purchase College, in Purchase, NY with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology. Theological studies were done at Yale University Divinity School obtaining the M.Div. from United Theological Seminary. He received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from UTS as well as an honorary Doctorate from Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Pastoral assignments for Bishop Moore have included Clarksville and MorningStar AME Zion Churches, Monroe, NC; Mt. Olivet AME Zion Church, Greensboro, NC; and Jones Tabernacle AME Zion Church, Indianapolis, IN. While in Greensboro, he served on the Commission for the Greensboro Coliseum and the County Commission on Children and Youth. In Indianapolis, Bishop Moore served two terms as President of the Board of Directors for the Greater Indianapolis Church Federation and was the Presiding Elder of the Indianapolis District for the AME Zion Church. He became the pastor of his home church, Greater Centennial AME Zion Church in 1993 and served faithfully until his election as a Bishop.

In July, 2012 Bishop Moore was elevated to the episcopacy from Greater Centennial A.M.E. Zion Church, Mt. Vernon, NY as the 99th bishop in succession. During his tenure as pastor of Greater Centennial the congregation grew from a few hundred to more than 6,500 members.

Bishop Moore was elected President of the Mount Vernon Board of Education. Additionally, he served as President of the United Black Clergy of Westchester, the Founding Chairperson for Save Our Seed Ministries, and a member of the Westchester County African American Advisory Board. He is Founder and the past President of the

Greater Centennial Community Development Corporation and past President of Greater Centennial Homes where he led in the construction of the James Varick Homes for 1st time home buyers, construction of the Zion Court Apartments, and a \$12 million substantial renovation of Greater Centennial Homes.

Twice, he has been selected as the Morning Preacher for the Hampton Ministers' Conference, an annual gathering of more than 10,000 ministers and musicians from around the country, he has been inducted into both the Morehouse College MLK Board of Preachers and the inaugural class of the Bishop Alfred G. Dunston College of Preachers at Livingstone College. Bishop Moore's sermons have been published in The African American Pulpit Forum and the Balm in Gilead Journal. He is the author/editor of two books.

Bishop Moore is a Past Chair of the National Council of Churches, USA, Chair of the Hood Theological Seminary Board of Trustees, Vice Chairman of the Livingstone College Board of Trustees, and a member of the World Methodist Council. He also serves as Chairman of the Restructuring Commission and the Connectional Budget Board of the AME Zion Church.

Bishop Moore is the Presiding Bishop of the Eastern North Carolina Episcopal District, which includes the Albemarle, Cape Fear, Central North Carolina, North Carolina, and Virgin Islands Conferences.

A loving husband to Devieta C. Moore, and devoted father to Daron (Elaina), Dana (Kevin), and Dion. He and his wife are proud grandparents of five grandchildren, Jayli, Creed, Kevin, Carter, and Dailyn.

Bishop Moore uses as his theme:

"It's our **OUTREACH** that validates our **UP REACH!**"



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