

James L. Davis, Servant Bishop

Arelis B. Davis, WMS Supervisor



November 3, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Since our meeting in Hampton, Virginia a few months ago, I have been working in concert with the National Bankers Association and three of its Black bank CEOs, Jim Sills of North Carolina, Joseph Haskins of Maryland and Doyle Mitchell of Washington, D.C., to follow-up on a plan to connect the churches within the Second Episcopal District to these banks. The idea is to encourage our congregations to do business with the banks that have always been there for our communities. Supporting Black banks makes good sense because as they become stronger financially, they are capable of providing more personal and business loans to our congregants and to the churches themselves.

To this end, we will kick-off our AME campaign to support Black banks beginning on the third Sunday of November. We will designate each subsequent third Sunday – for December, January and February as - **“Black Bank Sunday.”**

Working in coordination with the banks and with the assistance of the presiding elders within the Second Episcopal District, we will be measuring the success of this campaign by using tracking cards that will help us to record each banking transaction.

Additionally, we ask that you share your church’s engaging, creative, and exciting programmatic experiences and progress for **“Black Bank Sunday”** Campaign for District social media posting. Exemplary work must not go unnoticed. Therefore, we are asking that you send documentation like videos and other tangible products to: jld123servantbishop@gmail.com. We assure you that your work will be posted.

Further, we will announce at our Mid-Winter meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina in February 2018, the results of this campaign. I believe, if we work with a sense of unity of purpose, we will be able to claim great success. Our story could then be shared with the entire A.M.E. family at the Council of Bishops’ meeting.

I would like to thank each of you in advance for your cooperation. Greater abundance is ours if we seek it in earnest.

In the Spirit to Empower the People,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James L. Davis".

James L. Davis
Servant Bishop

The logo for The Harbor Bank of Maryland, featuring the words "THE HARBOR BANK" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, with "OF MARYLAND" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font below it.

The logo for M&F Bank, with "M&F" in a large, bold, blue font and "Bank" in a smaller, bold, blue font to its right.

The logo for Industrial Bank, with "INDUSTRIAL" in a bold, black, sans-serif font and "BANK" in a bold, red, sans-serif font below it, with a yellow lightning bolt graphic behind the word "BANK".

SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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