



"From Where I Sit ..."

Brenda M. Anderson Celebrates 40 years of Service to Personnel Services

December is the season of Christmas, gift giving and celebrations. August was also the season for Ms. Brenda Anderson. Acknowledging her service, the members of the Board of Personnel Services, in their May 2016 meeting, voted unanimously to recognize Ms. Anderson's 40 years of uninterrupted service as an employee of the General Board of Personnel Services. On August 17, 2016, more than 30 guests assembled at Fleming's Restaurant in Memphis, TN to celebrate this singular accomplishment. Ms. Anderson began her career with the Board on August 16, 1976 during the term of then General Secretary, Dr. D. S. Cunningham (*lower right of photo inset*). In 1978, Dr. N. Charles Thomas (*second inset from lower right of photo*) succeeded Dr. Cunningham as General Secretary and Ms. Anderson's employment continued.

To the CME Church, Ms. Anderson's voice often served as the face of the Board of Personnel Services in many important ways. With primary responsibility for the Superannuated Preachers, Widows and Orphans Plan and the CME Retirement Plan, she provided assistance to the many superannuated preachers and the widows of superannuated preachers who received checks from the CME Gift Fund. She provided the necessary paperwork for the participants of the CME Retirement Plan as their retirement dates occurred. And, with tender care, she served as the primary point of contact to initiate claims and process assignments for the beneficiaries of insured participants at the time of their deaths. In addition, Ms. Anderson's responsibilities also included accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll and taxes.



Guests at the dinner included Ms. Anderson's children (*Anjanette and Nicholas*), her brother and sister-in-law (*Glenn and Doris Wilson*), former co-workers and close friends. Also present were four Bishops and their spouses (*two on left & two on right in photo: Bishops E. Lynn Brown, Paul A. G. Stewart, Sr., Henry M. Williamson, Sr. and William H. Graves, Sr.*). Others present were Mrs. Elizabeth Coleman, the widow of former Board Chair Bishop Caesar D. Coleman, Judicial Council Member Roland Johnson, Jr., General Officer Roderick D. Lewis, Sr., and Personnel Services Board Member Reverend Peris J. Lester I and Board Secretary Attorney Trena M. Williams.

Former Board Chair, Bishop Paul Stewart, presented a plaque and spoke on behalf of the current Chair of the Board, Bishop Lawrence L. Reddick (*lower left of photo inset*), whose flight had been delayed. Former Board Chair Bishop Marshall Gilmore (*second inset from lower right of photo*), sent congratulatory expressions. Needless to say, "A good time was had by all" for a deserving employee. Or at least that's the way it looks to me..."

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Personnel Services Webpage of the CME Website at www.thecmechurch.org)