

2020 SPECIAL EDITION



NEWSLETTER

**Business & Professional
Women's Federation National Chapter
The Church of God in Christ, Inc.**
Our Creed: We Care! We Share! We Help!



**MOTHER BONNIE MCPEAK,
National B & P W F President**

INSIDE NEWS... Mother McPeak's Official Greetings, Mother Barbara McCoo-Lewis's Official Letter concerning the cancellation of the 2020 Int'l Women's Convention, Tips to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19, News from Illinois Midwest Jurisdiction COGIC, NEWS for YOU, Poem by Rekeisha Nevels of Southern California First Jurisdiction COGIC, and Photo highlights of B&PWF at the 2019 Holy Convocation



**Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr.
Presiding Bishop & Chief Apostle COGIC**



**Mother Barbara McCoo-Lewis
General Supervisor COGIC**



OFFICIAL GREETINGS

From the President's Desk

National President, Mother Bonnie Jean McPeak

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S FEDERATION CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Our Creed: We Care- We Share- We Help

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ:

We are thankful for the loyal women in the Business & Professional Women's Federation who serve in their homes, churches, and communities. I consider it a privilege and honor to serve the B&PWF as the National President. November 2020 will mark my second year as the National President of this great organization! We are a ministry in the IDOW under the leadership of our visionary General Supervisor, Mother Barbara McCoo-Lewis. We serve with gladness.

I am happy to report we have increased the number of chapter presidents all over the United States. We also have a chapter president in Zambia, Africa. We have grown in membership. This increase is due to the efforts made to promote the B&PWF in your jurisdiction and local churches. Special thanks to our membership committee and chapter presidents. For this, we give God the glory!

In the first quarter of this year, our country was attacked and still suffers by the Coronavirus crisis. It has claimed many lives including some of our highest ranking leaders and parishioners of the Church of God in Christ. The concern with the spread of this deadly virus prompted our Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr. to cancel and postpone four national meetings including the 2020 Women International Convention of The Church of God in Christ. Bishop Blake and Mother McCoo-Lewis have faced this pandemic with continual and fervent prayer vigils and promotion of safety practices.

We will adhere to the "Call to Action" in our prayer life and devotion: praying for one another, wear your face mask, practice safe distancing, washing and sanitizing hands, and don't leave your home unless for emergencies or essential needs. Let us continue to pray for our Presiding Bishop and General Supervisor that God will strengthen them to lead our church through these perilous times.

Remember, ***"This too shall pass!"*** We can do all things through Christ who strengthen us.

Mother Bonnie McPeak, National B&PWF President

3547 Breton Valley Dr SE

Kentwood, MI 49512

Email: mcpeak8961@gmail.com. Website: www.bpwfcogic.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bpwfncogic>

Cell: 616-617-5519



**INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.**

April 1, 2020

Women's International Convention Delegates,

As announced by our Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake Sr., the 2020 Women's International Convention (WIC) in Portland, Oregon has been cancelled. Our recommendation to Bishop Blake was based on a prayerful consideration for your safety and welfare.

You may request a full refund; however, I would like to encourage you to carry over your 2020 WIC deposit or full payment to the 2021 WIC scheduled for May 31, 2021 – June 4, 2021. Your request for either option must be received in writing. Be sure to include your full name and complete address. You may email your written request to wic@cogic.org or mail it to **Women's International Convention, P.O. Box 1052, Memphis, TN 38101**. Your request must be submitted within 60 to 90 days from the date of the Presiding Bishop's cancellation announcement.

For your convenience, enclosed is the 2020 Women's International Convention Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

In these perilous times seek the face of God through prayer and fasting. Let us rest in the assurance of God's word...The Lord will give strength to His People; The Lord will bless His people with Peace (Psalm 29:11).

Serving to Bring Glory to our Father,

Barbara McCoo Lewis
General Supervisor



**THE NATIONAL OFFICERS
of**

The Business and Professional Women's Federation

National President

Mother Bonnie Jean McPeak

1st Vice President

Dr. Mary May Larry

2nd Vice President

Dr. Peggy Harris

Secretary

Tiberlene Jackson

Financial Secretary

Quintina Winston Flowers

Assistant Financial Secretary/

Treasurer

Lady Starla Ross

Chaplain

Evangelist Ernestine Ross.

Parliamentarian

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Hospitality Committee

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Deborah Thompson, Co-Chair

Advisory Board

Dr. Emma Clark, Chairperson

Frances Miller Harris

Dr. Peggy Harris

Dr. Goldie Wells

Atty. Tijuana Secret-Terell

Lady Joan Gorham

District Missionary Quintina Flowers

Education / Training

Dr. Peggy Harris

Dr. Mary May Larry

In Memoriam

Former Advisory Board Chairman,

Mother Lee Powell



70 CHAPTERS ACROSS AMERICA and 1 CHAPTER in ZAMBIA, AFRICA

OUR MISSION

Based on the belief that God has empowered and equipped, by the Holy Spirit, the Business and Professional Women's Federation to serve as Godly examples in their work places, homes, schools, churches, communities, and the world; our mission is to share our God-given resources and expertise; to care for the general welfare of all people; and to help spread love, joy, happiness, and the Word of God, by being living testimonies to people everywhere.

OUR CREED: We Care! We Share! We Help!

This organization is designed to promote good fellowship among women in various business and professional fields for the ultimate purpose of winning souls to Christ.

OUR SCRIPTURE:

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13 KJV).

Mother Bonnie McPeak, National B&FWF President

3547 Breton Valley Dr SE

Kentwood, MI 49512

Cell: 616-617-5519

Email: mcpeak8961@gmail.com.

Website: www.bpwfcogic.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bpwfncoigic>



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

To Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

Description:

Protect yourself and others around you by knowing the facts and taking appropriate precautions. Follow advice provided by your local public health agency.

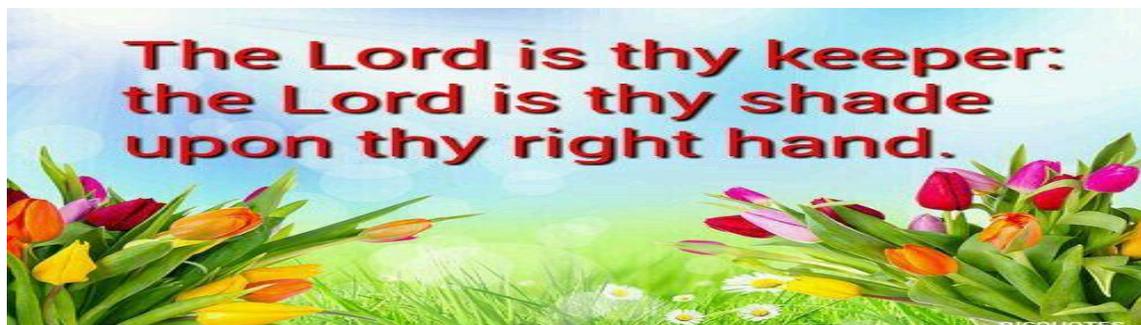
To prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Clean your hands often. Use soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Maintain a safe distance from anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
- Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Cover your nose and mouth with your bent elbow or a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Stay home if you feel unwell.
- If you have a fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention. Call in advance.
- Follow the directions of your local health authority.
- Avoiding unneeded visits to medical facilities allows healthcare systems to operate more effectively, therefore protecting you and others.

Information from: The United States - [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) / The COVID-19 homepage

For more information: [www.cdc.gov › downloads › 2019-ncov-factsheet](https://www.cdc.gov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet)

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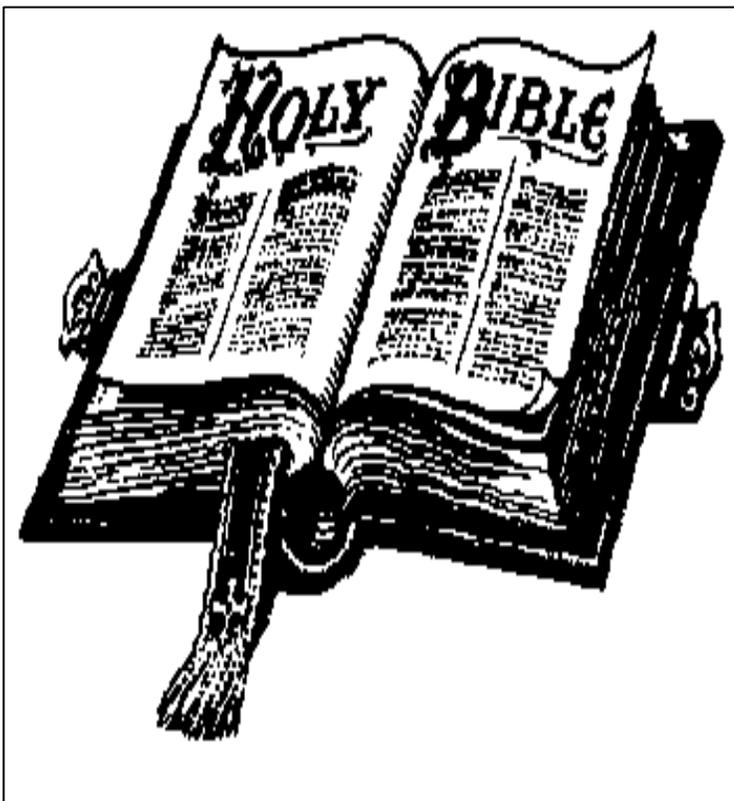
GOD IS WITH US!

Psalm 46 New International Version (NIV)

Psalm 46^a

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. According to alamoth.^b A song.

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
³ though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.^c
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.



- ⁵ God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.
- ⁶ Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
- ⁷ The LORD Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- ⁸ Come and see what the LORD has done,
the desolations he has brought on the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars cease
to the ends of the earth.
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields^d with fire.
- ¹⁰ He says, "Be still, and know that I am
God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."
- ¹¹ The LORD Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

HAVE FAITH IN GOD!



News from B and PWF Chapter Illinois Midwest Jurisdiction COGIC

The IMEJ WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT "2019" WORKING DINNER held on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2019 was a blessing to future young business entrepreneurs and current female business owners. We are thankful for the beautifully designed programs, the dinner and the breakout session. The session included: 501 (C)(3) Information, Grant Writing, Legal Protection and much more.

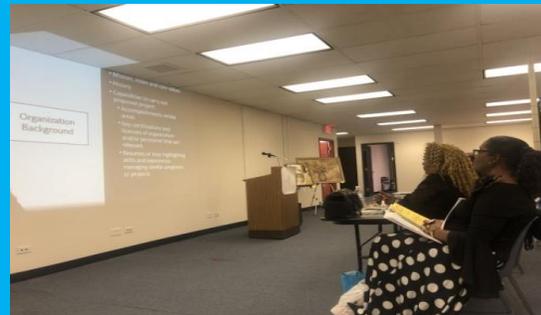
A special thanks to our Supervisor Mother, Dr. LuVonia Whittle, for attending and supporting this event.

Richly blessed,

Dr. Mary "May" Larry, Ph.D.

~Local President Business & Professional Women's Federation

~Vice-President of the Business & Professional Women Federation C.O.G.I.C. Worldwide



BIRTHDAY WISHES for DR. EMMA CLARK!



DR. EMMA J. CLARK 2019 “BEST IN CLASS” AWARD RECIPIENT, WIC BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

The Business and Professional Women’s Federation National Chapter wishes to highlight one of our long-standing faithful members, Dr. Emma J. Clark. She is loyal and committed to the vision and programs of the B&PWF. She diligently serves this organization on the local, District, Jurisdiction, and National level.

She will celebrate her 80th Birthday on May 18, 2020. Let’s show her our love. We are asking you to please send Dr. Clark a birthday card as soon as possible. She has expressed her love toward us all. We now have an opportunity to do the same for her. Please send your greeting to:

Dr. Emma J. Clark
5821 Highland Ave
Richmond, CA. 94804-5013

Thank you,
Mother Bonnie McPeak, National President
B&PWF

IN the SPOTLIGHT.. **DR. PEGGY N. HARRIS**



Dr. Peggy N. Harris is a well-known evangelist and servant of God. The ministry of Dr. Harris has touched the lives of many prominent leaders in the local church, Jurisdiction, National church and the Memphis community. She is without a question: a compassionate, loving and humble woman of God. Her life is centered by Christ. As an ardent worker for the Lord, her church, and several levels of ministry within the Church Of God in Christ, the Kingdom of God is always her priority and the basis for all decisions she makes. Dr. Harris leads by example in her giving and living as well.

Dr. Harris has is a third generation member of the Church Of God in Christ, Inc. She has been a member of New Mount Olive Church of God in Christ for over 54 years. She faithfully serves her local church in many different capacities.

She has held numerous roles in the church which includes: the 2nd Vice President to the Business and Professional Women Federation, the Education Committee and a member of the Advisory Board. In the Tennessee Headquarters Jurisdiction, she was the former Chairman of the Board of Examiners for Licensure. She is the Co-Founder, Instructor and Dean of the Missionary Auxiliary and Awareness Institute, and State YPWW Chairlady Emeritus. In the Southern Region Dr. Harris is the Director of Education Emeritus. At her local church, New Mount Olive COGIC, she is on the Prison Ministry Team, the Trustee Board, Sunday School Superintendent Emeritus and the past Church Secretary.

In 2016, Dr. Harris was honored as a “Woman of Excellence” by the Memphis City Council. She has received her Bachelor of Science degree from LeMoyne Owen College and pursued graduate studies from the University of Memphis and the C.H. Mason Theological Seminary in Atlanta Georgia. She also received a Master of Arts Degree in Religion from Jacksonville Theological Seminary in Jacksonville Florida. She received her Doctorate in Theology from Jacksonville Theological Seminary in Jacksonville Florida.

Education is her passion which is evident as she has been a career educator for over 58 years. Dr. Harris has received numerous certificates, honors, accommodations, and awards throughout her illustrious career. She continues to share her knowledge and wisdom as a professor. Dr. Harris has been committed to service of 30 years in the Orange Mound Community.

News for YOU!



- **Yahoo Small Business offers FREE** Website, Domain and 5 Emails for a year. Go to their site for further details: <https://smallbusiness.yahoo.com/businessmaker/payitforward>
- **VISTAPRINT OFFERS...** A new live series for small businesses during COVID-19.

Small businesses around the world are facing new and unexpected challenges as a result of COVID-19. There are a lot of questions out there – and our live series is designed to help you get answers. Join us online to get expert marketing tips, hear timely advice and connect with our panel of Vistaprint experts, industry pros and fellow small business owners. www.vistaprint.com

- **MORE HELP FOR BUSINESSES:** Staples, UPS Stores, Fifth Third Bank, U-Haul Company and others. For further information please check their websites.
-

Business and Professional Women...

Check with your bank to see what special help they are offering during these critical times.



CONGRATULATIONS! MAY GOD BLESS YOU!

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways, acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths," (Proverbs 3:5-6 KJV).

We, the B&PWF, wish you great success and many blessings!



WORDS OF INSPIRATION

By Poet Rekiesha Nevels,



Rekiesha Nevels

In 2019, Chairman Dr. Wanda Street and the Southern California First Jurisdiction's Chapter focused on "Engaging Young Professionals" along with the "Seasoned Wise Women" Professionals during our Annual Day.

One Young Professional, Ms. Rekeisha Nevels, wrote and delivered this poem. It touched everyone deeply with its powerful sentiment. She has performed it several times including during our State Convocation.

Sheila Bankhead Grisham. Co-Chair BPWF So Cal First.

T RANSFORMATION

By Rekiesha Nevels
Contact Email: nevels_rekiesha@yahoo.com

Father God I don't see, hear,
or feel You at all
It feels like You picked me up
just to leave me and watch me fall.
Fall deep into depression,
deep into confusion and solitude
I understand I'm being renewed Father,
but sheesh to this magnitude?

Stripping me from everyone
and everything I know
With no warning or planning,
I had to get up and go?

At first ... You showed up on the scene
with magnificent joy, love and power,
I fell in love with Your presence!
But after a while,
You vanished and left me feeling unpleasant.
I want You back Lord!

Where'd You go?
You said if I trust in You
and turn from my wicked ways
You'd be with me every step here below.

But I'm now being told things like,
*"Just hold on to God's hand another day,
He will do everything He's said
and continues to say."*

*"In due time, you'll come out as gold
and a huge testament." ...*

I'm hearing and receiving it all,
but all I'm wanting is an estimate

An estimate to when this season will be over,
when will my God show up again?
These promises You've given me,
Lord when will they begin?
When will my smile come
and replace this horrible grin?
I started following You with obedience
and left all my sin
Was it worth it?

Having to leave everything
I could see and touch behind
And start following You
like I'm physically blind

Faith ... is what I'm being told it's called
And the more I hear that word
the more I'm appalled!
My thoughts and moods are running wild
wondering what You're up too
I don't wanna hear or see nobody else
right now but You!

The pain is so heavy on the surface ...
I understand You're transforming me
from my old person
But ever since I've turned from the world
it seems my life has worsened

And every inch of my soul
is wondering what's the purpose?
Cus following You right now Lord,
Seems like the biggest burden I've purchased.

When I said clear my mind and soul,
give me a fresh start
Renew in me a clean heart,
I don't ever want us to be apart

I didn't know it'll hurt this bad,
I'd be so sad,
On top of confused and mad.

This pain is excruciating Lord,
please make it stop
I wanna be used by You Lord,
But not if this process
is a part of Your Workshop!

It hurts Lord! It hurts!

The feeling of You making me pure
and getting rid of all the unclean habits and dirt,
Feels like I was shoved
in a spiritual washing machine
with no pants or shirt
But somehow You're promising
I'll come out unhurt

Lord, I know through Your divine eyes
this season is to help me grow
But with my natural lens and feelings,
to me it's a huge blow.

It's like You lured me in with
a taste of Your goodness and hope
Knowing if I saw You were real for myself,
Ain't no way I'm turning back, nope
Unless of course through memories
using a mental telescope.

I got no choice
but to follow You and trust.
And yes I must admit knowing
You're doing a good work in me,
It's better than being in hostage
as the devils holding me ... I'd rather be free

And now that I've made it
on the other side
oh Lord how I see!
What You were doing all along
on the inside of me.

How You've taken the pain and tears
and transformed the hurt into joy and glee
From a lost soul on this earth
to a workman used for Your glory.

I can't wait to tell the world
how You took me through the fire
to walk me out as brand new,
How it was necessary to build my faith,
patience, and hope in you

You've turned my worries and fears
into boldness and confidence
You've handled me with such grace and care,
no authoritative dominance.
You've given me growth from experience,
Renewed me from my weariness,
Turned lessons into unexpected blessings
Now I'm walking around with flesh
wrapped around Your huge loving essence.

I see the transformation through Your eyes Lord,
This was all a part of Your plan
And even tho it hurt like no other,
You've shown me
I was always safe in Your hands.

I see now, it wasn't about how I felt,
It's all about using me
for Your glory through my story.

And altho the time duration
left a lot of frustration,
I understand You needed my
undivided attention and full cooperation,
To perform this powerful divine transformation,
By using private preparation,
that's now setting me up
for this public ... elevation!

The pruning season blessed me
more than I can say,
During that time,
You hid me in Your secret place
by Your mercy and grace

Freed, Healed,
and snatched me out of harm's way
And as I stand here and replay
how You somehow made a way
I know I can never repay
All You've done for me,
and the love You continue to display.
And looking back now Lord all I can say
Is yes to Your will, yes to Your way
I will forever obey!

Continue to transform me
into Your image
I surrender to Your will
and Your power that has no limit
Lord, help me to trust in You
as I faithfully walk in the spirit

GOD BLESS!

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2019 Holy Convocation Photo Highlights



B&PWF leaders with **Mother Bonnie McPeak** the National President. Mother McPeak is clearly viewed in the top left photo. She is standing in the center pointing to the banner.





Closing Remarks from MOTHER BONNIE MCPEAK, B&PWF National President



We Care, We Share, We Help

Ephesians 6:18-20

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel,

²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

B&PWF Chapter Presidents: Please send in your annual dues and membership fees. Please make payable to IDOW. Mail checks or money order to: the B&PWF Financial Secretary, Lady Starla Ross, 2230 Huey St., South Bend, IN 46628.

B&PWF Members: You may order your handbook and membership lapel pin from our website: www.bpwfcoigic.org. or order these from: The National President, C/O Bonnie McPeak, 3547 Breton Valley Dr. SE, Kentwood, MI 49512

> Meet our B&PWF Newsletter Publisher, Wanda J. Palm Burnside, in the November newsletter!

We hope you enjoyed reading our newsletter. You can obtain copies by downloading them from our website: www.bpwfcoigic.org. Your feedback is appreciated.

Mother Bonnie McPeak, National B&PWF President

Wanda J. Palm Burnside, Newsletter Publisher, Editor and Typesetter

Mother Shirley Brown and Toni Sanders-Greene, Newsletter Editors