

BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE NO. 1

October 4, 2023

Greetings in the Precious Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

The Board of Directors would like to thank the Delegates who attended the 104th National Convention in Washington, DC. We pray that everyone had a safe return trip home from the convention. We also pray that everyone affected by COVID-19 during the convention and the ones who tested positive after returning home from the convention have fully recovered. We can truly thank God for His love, keeping us, and watching over us during the 104th National Convention.

We thank Chairman Colleen Green and the Albert W. Briggs Health Unit for their quick reaction to the COVID-19 breakout. Your swift responses helped minimize the spread of COVID-19 during the convention. Also, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to President Brenda Gilliam, District of Columbia, and everyone who assisted in acquiring donated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) items during our time of urgency to control and minimize the spread of COVID-19 from the Executive Office of Mayor Bowser, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services, Emergency Operations Department. They donated 270 rapid home test kits, 300 masks, and 60 boxes of gloves.

The 104th National Convention was a success despite the COVID-19 health issue we encountered and dealt with to the best of our abilities. We thank the Delegates for supporting the convention events and activities, as the convention was successful in attendance and financially.

The 104th Convention Badges were found in the Nurse's Station on Friday, August 4th. The Board will prepare procedures for claiming packages delivered to the host hotel for future conventions.

Page 1

Charles J. Brown President	Jamal Edwards-Frayer President	Brian Valentine President	Filmore F. Gregory President Emeritus	Ruth I. Jones Board Chairman
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	Department	People's Department		

We want to thank an anonymous delegate for her donation to purchase alternative convention badges for the delegates to wear during the convention. Due to the late delivery of some of the items, the alternative badges were not completed in time to be distributed to the delegates.

A National Photographer was secured for the 104th National Convention. However, on July 10, 2023, the contractor notified the Board Chairman that he could not fulfill the contract requirements for the 104th National Convention due to a mandatory job training requirement that he was recently hired during the same week as the National Convention. The Board took immediate action to secure a Photographer for the convention. Due to the short notice, the Photographer could not take pictures of the various convention events and activities. We want to thank and commend, once again, the many delegates who took photos during the convention. Your services helped to document the events and activities of the 104th National Convention.

It is time for us to start planning for the 105th National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Board of Directors has begun preparing for the convention, and we need your assistance to help make the 105th National Convention a success.

105th NATIONAL CONVENTION

The host hotel is the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, 500 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130. The Convention dates are July 22 – July 26, 2024. The room rate is \$139.00/night, plus a State and Local Tax Rate of 14.95% (\$20.09), a Tourism Assessment Fee of 1.7% (\$2.43), and an Occupancy Fee of \$3.00 (subject to change) for a total of **\$164.52 total/night**) for Kings and Double/Double rooms.

A host hotel is acquired, and a group rate is negotiated for the Delegates' benefit and convenience. The Board of Directors would like to remind the Delegates of the importance of staying at the host hotel to prevent the Association from paying extra expenses for unused rooms.

Since the 105th National Convention is in New Orleans, Louisiana, consider taking advantage of the hotel lodging rate by arriving within three days before the convention and/or staying three days after the convention to explore the many sightseeing opportunities.

Reservation Link: <u>https://book.passkey.com/e/50516881</u> Central Reservation Number: 1-888-236-2427 Sheraton New Orleans Hotel main number: 504-525-2500

Housing Chairmen: Please contact Chairman Pansy Bradley-Cooper - pansyart@aol.com – 301-335-1779 and Director Olivia Day – <u>dayolivia68@yahoo.com</u> – 708-209-9371 if you experience any problems with your lodging reservations.

<u>Reservation Guarantee</u>: To guarantee a reservation, the hotel will charge a deposit of one night's room rate of \$164.52 for each room reserved. The charge will be deducted from the total bill upon checkout.

Early Departure Fee: Any individual wishing to change their departure date may do so until check-in time without any fee. Upon checking in, you must inform the hotel of early checkout, or you will be charged a departure fee of one night's room and tax. Guests will not be charged due to unforeseen or medical emergencies only on a **case-by-case** basis.

<u>Cut-Off-Date</u>: The cut-off hotel date is **Wednesday, June 26, 2024**. However, we ask all members to make lodging reservations by **December 31, 2023**. This will assist with determining whether our meeting space will be cut when we have our room block review with the hotel on February 28, 2024.

<u>Refundable Deposit</u>: Deposits are fully refunded if a reservation is canceled before **Friday, June 7**, **2024**. Any reservations canceled after Friday, June 7, 2024, are non-refundable.

Hotel Parking: Parking at the host hotel for the 105th National Convention is \$46.00 per day. We have secured a discounted rate of \$30.00 daily for the delegates.

<u>Airport</u>: Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport (MSY)

Hotel Shuttle Service from and to the Airport: The host hotel does not provide a shuttle service from the Airport to the hotel or from the hotel to the Airport. The average Taxi fare for two individuals will cost about \$35.00 per trip.

<u>Call To Convention Book</u>: The Call To Convention Book is anticipated to be available via Flipping Book in March 2024. Please confirm with your State President that we have your current email address on file.

<u>Souvenir Journal</u>: The deadline to submit information for the Souvenir Journal is **June 1, 2024**. The submission form is attached to this update. The Chairmen are Director George Merida – <u>georgedmerida@dallascollege.edu</u> – 214-335-0984 and Director Angela Allgood – <u>aallgood5@hotmail.com</u> - 414-416-2429.

<u>Patron's List</u>: Please use the attached Patrons List to identify all Patrons in the Souvenir Journal. The deadline is **June 1, 2024**.

Background Checks: Junior Supervisors, Parents, and anyone working with or interacting with our Juniors and attending the Junior and Young People's Department meetings and outings will need a current background check before the National Convention. Background Checks are good for two (2) years. Requests for Background Checks or to confirm if you need to update your Background Check, please contact Vice Chairman Rev. Dr. Travis Harden – revdrtravisharden@gmail.com. The deadline is June 1, 2024.

Vendor Opportunities: Vending opportunities at the 105th National Convention will be limited. The fee is \$500.00 per exhibit space or \$900.00 for two (2) spaces. A signed agreement and a non-refundable deposit of \$200.00 per space or \$400.00 for two (2) spaces are required to reserve a space(s). The balance of \$300.00 for one (1) space or \$500.00 for two (2) spaces is due by June 1, 2024. Payments must be in a money order, bank check, or credit card. Contact the Financial Secretary, Darrell Johnson, at <u>djnucuaafinsecy2023@gmail.com</u> for payment. Contact the Treasurer, George L. Jones, at <u>georgeljones2@aol.com</u> for card payments or payments using Zelle. For the application and additional information, contact Director Daryl Adkins at 937-422-7613 - <u>trusteechair@mtenonbaptistive.org</u> or Director Darleissa Robertson at 302-588-3545 – <u>robertson2denise@gmail.com</u>.

105th National Convention Pre-Registration: It is anticipated that pre-registration for all Departments will begin on **March 1, 2024**, and end on **June 15, 2024**—pre-registration fees: Seniors, Young Adults, and Visitors - \$50.00; Juniors - \$45.00.

JULY 2021 NATIONAL BYLAWS: Bylaws are available for \$10.00 each. Please contact your State President to purchase a copy of the Bylaws. Bylaws will also be available at the 105th National Convention.

REFUND POLICY

Effective October 1, 2023. (1) All changes, substitutions, and cancellations must be made in writing. Substitutions may be made without penalty. (2) Deadlines for a refund of attendee registration, guest, or fees:

- Up until 30 days before the event Full refund less 25% cancellation fee.
- 30 days before the event or July 1st No refunds
- If, at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors, an extraordinary circumstance occurs, the Board may consider a waiver of the 25% cancellation penalty on a case-by-case basis. If an attendee feels they have experienced an extraordinary circumstance, they should email the President and Board Chairman with as much information as soon as possible. The appeal will be discussed at the next Board meeting for discussion and a decision vote.

BANK PROCESSING FEES

Financially, the National can no longer pay the increasing bank processing fees associated with processing transactions using debit or credit cards. Processing fees paid by the customer is a standard industry practice. We all pay processing fees or service charges for goods and services when paying with a debit or credit card. We are still investigating the bank processing fees. The implementation date will be provided at a later date.

To avoid paying the processing fee, Zelle payments are now available to the members—contact Treasurer George Jones at 860-978-2337 or **georgeljones2@aol.com** for information on using Zelle.

INSTALLATION AND RECOGNITION BANQUET

The 2024 Honoree for the Installation and Recognition Banquet will be our National President Charles J. Brown. He will be honored for serving as our National President for three years. Please make plans to be in attendance for this grand occasion and the installation of a new National President.

FREE COVID-19 TEST KITS

Due to the high number of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations due to COVID-19, the Federal Government will give a minimum of four free COVID-19 Rapid Test Kits per household upon request. Tests will be shipped through the U.S. Postal Service starting October 2nd. To order your four free COVID-19 Test Kits, log onto www.covidtests.gov.

<u>APPEAL</u>

The Donna A. Hines Informational Technology/Marketing Strategies (DAHIT) is looking to expand its Editing Team. If you have experience in editing, then your assistance is requested. Please contact DAHIT's Chairman Juanita Prophet – 240-917-6980 – jprophet301@comcast.net.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Board of Directors and the National President will use Constant Contact to distribute information to the membership. Please ensure that we have your current email address in NUCUAA's database. To add or update an email address, contact your State President.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your Board of Directors members in your Region, or you may contact Board Chairman Pansy Bradley-Cooper, <u>pansyart@aol.com</u> or National President Charles J. Brown, <u>nucuaaprez24@aol.com</u>.

Let us stay in prayer and continue uplifting all sick members, families, and those who have lost loved ones.

Sincerely, National Board of Directors

Pansy Bradley-Cooper

Pansy Bradley-Cooper, Chairman

Charles J. Brown

Charles J. Brown, National President

105th National Convention Deadlines At-a-Glance

Deadline	Contact Person	Contact Email Address	Contact Phone Number
October 31, 2023	Department/Committee Liaison		
December 31, 2023	Donna A. Hines Information Technology (DAHIT)	itmarketing@nationalchurchushers.org Copy: pansyart@aol.com Copy: nucuaaprez24@aol.com	N/A
December 31, 2023	Director Olivia Day or Director Darleissa Robertson	dayolivia68@yahoo.com robertson2denise@gmail.com	708-209-9371 302-588-3545
December 31, 2023	Director John Farrior or Director Willie Strait, Jr.	j.farrior@comcast.net WStraitJr_ICUA@aol.com	360-516-3694 443-802-6778
June 1, 2024	Director George Merida or Director Angela Allgood	georgedmerida@dallascollege.edu aallgood5@hotmail.com	214-335-0984 414-416-2429
June 1, 2024	Vice-Chairman Rev. Dr. Travis Harden	revdrtravisharden@gmail.com	870-717-7908
June 1, 2024	Director Daryl Adkins or Director Darleissa Robertson	trusteechair@mtenonbaptistlive.com robertson2denise@gmail.com	937-422-7613 302-588-3545
	October 31, 2023 December 31, 2023 December 31, 2023 December 31, 2023 June 1, 2024 June 1, 2024 June 1,	OctoberDepartment/Committee31, 2023LiaisonDecemberDonna A. Hines31, 2023Information Technology (DAHIT)DecemberDirector Olivia Day or31, 2023Director Darleissa RobertsonDecemberDirector John Farrior or31, 2023Director George Merida or DirectorJune 1, 2024Director George Merida or DirectorJune 1, 2024Vice-Chairman Rev. Dr. Travis HardenJune 1, 2024Director Daryl Adkins or Director	October 31, 2023Department/Committee Liaisonitmarketing@nationalchurchushers.org Copy: pansyart@aol.com Copy: nucuaaprez24@aol.comDecember 31, 2023Director Olivia Day or Director Darleissa Robertsondayolivia68@yahoo.comDecember 31, 2023Director Olivia Day or Director Darleissa Robertsonj.farrior@comcast.netDecember 31, 2023Director George Merida or Directorgeorgedmerida@dallascollege.eduJune 1, 2024Vice-Chairman Rev. Dr. Travis Hardenrevdrtravisharden@gmail.comJune 1, 2024Director Daryl Adkins or Directorrevdrtravisharden@gmail.com