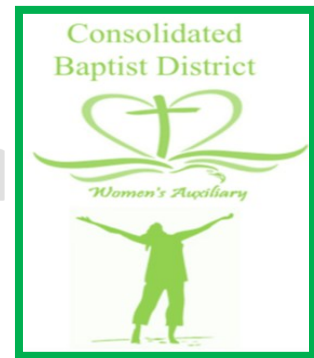


May Newsletter



CBDWA Wishes You A Happy Mother's Day

*Women like you
show the world that
being a truly beautiful
woman of color
isn't about the hair or the hips
or the walk or the talk.*

*It's about love.
Fierce, forever love.*

*The kind that's passed down
through the generations,
hand to beautiful hand,
each reaching out
and pulling
another through.*



Presidential Pen

Registration Deadline
April 20, 2026 4:00 p.m.

Primary Election
May 19, 2026

Passing the
baton of...

FINANCE



Beverly Bowens

Greetings Sisters,

First of all, I thank God for the many blessings that were showered upon my husband and me as we celebrated the Pastoral Installation at First Baptist Church of Paris. Thank you all for your love and support as well.

The month of May continues with celebrations of Motherhood as we pass the baton of faith to the next generation. There's still a little time to register for the Women's Retreat. However, the room block is closing and t-shirts are being ordered. Register today so that you don't miss out on all the goodies. Our Keynote was featured last month. Now read about our dynamic facilitators and all that they will be sharing and see the itinerary.

Come celebrate with us Jesus & Juneteenth.

In His Service,

Vonita

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Beverly Bowens is a Certified Financial Educator, Licensed Insurance Professional, and Income tax Preparer with over 25 years of experience helping individuals and families take control of their financial future. She holds a **master's degree in Family Studies with a concentration in Family Resource Management** and serves as a **Certified Instructor with the Heartland Institute of Financial Education, Inc.**, where she teaches foundational principles of how money works and the strategic steps required to build and maintain long-term wealth. Beverly's mission is deeply personal. After moving to Kentucky to attend Berea College, she experienced firsthand the impact of financial hardship and financial illiteracy. That journey ignited her passion to help others move from **confusion and uncertainty to clarity, confidence, and long-term financial independence.**

Through her structured financial education framework — often referred to as the **7 Money Milestones** — Beverly equips individuals and families with practical tools to build strong financial foundations, including **financial literacy, budgeting, emergency savings, debt elimination, income protection, retirement readiness, cash flow management, and generational wealth building.** Her teaching is designed to help individuals move from **surviving to thriving**, while creating long-term financial stability and wealth.

Beverly delivers practical, faith-centered financial education that integrates **biblical stewardship principles** with real-life financial strategies such as **budgeting, emergency fund planning, sowing seeds, protecting income, and building sustainable wealth.** Her goal is not only to educate but to empower individuals with actionable tools they can immediately apply in their own lives.

Beverly believes financial education should not stop with one person. She is committed to ensuring that every participant walks away equipped with **practical tools, knowledge, and confidence to share with their families, households, and communities.** Her heart is to help attendees become **financial stewards and educators within their own circles**, passing along biblical financial principles and wisdom from one generation to the next so that **no one is left behind.**

In addition to her professional work, Beverly leads **Financial Discipleship courses** in her local church and partners with faith-based organizations, churches, and community groups to help close the wealth gap and equip families with the knowledge and direction needed to build lasting financial security and legacy.

Her message is simple and powerful: Financial freedom is not accidental — it is intentional, teachable, and achievable! Beverly believes financial education is a human right!

Passing the baton of...

FITNESS & HEALTH

LUTHERIA SMITH

Lutheria Harrison Smith has been married to James E. Smith, Sr. for 30 years and they are the parents of a daughter, Patricia Bradley, who is a 2015 Purdue University graduate living in Washington, DC and employed as a Senior Area Sales Manager for GE Appliances and a son, James E., Jr. ("Jamie"), who graduated from Randolph-Macon College in 2023 and is an Diagnostic Imaging Account Manager for First Call Parts responsible for the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic territories and residing in Alexandria, VA.

Mrs. Smith is an active member of Sweet Union Baptist Church where she serves as Assistant Superintendent of Church School and as a Church School teacher.

Grateful for the many blessings she has received and believing that to whom much is given, much is expected, Mrs. Smith feels called to serve her community in as many ways as she possibly can. To that end, she currently serves as Treasurer and Investments Committee Chair of the Board of Governors for the Community Foundation serving Western Virginia; as a member of the Board of Directors for the National Bank of Blacksburg; and as Chaplain and Parliamentarian of the Roanoke Chapter of the Links, Inc. She previously served as Chair of the Board of Trustees for Roanoke City Public Schools and as a past president of the Junior League of Roanoke Valley. Mrs. Smith volunteers at the Rescue Mission, Hurt Park and Westside Elementary Schools.

Holding a Senior Professional in Human Resources certification, Mrs. Smith served as Executive Vice President & Chief Human Resources Officer at American National Bank until its recent acquisition by Atlantic Union Bank; and currently serves as an HR Consultant helping companies elevate their people via her Consulting Firm, Elevatus Partners. She earned a B.A. in Political Economy at Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, participating in a junior year study abroad program at Reading and Oxford Universities in England. Mrs. Smith also completed graduate-level human resources courses at Cornell University's School of Industrial Labor Relations, receiving a Strategic HR Certification. Mrs. Smith is actively involved in Human Resource professional organizations and provides volunteer HR services to several national and local non-profit organizations.

Mrs. Smith feels compelled to share that she is a grateful 10-year breast cancer survivor, a living testimony, who is always excited about the God-given opportunity that each new day brings to not only study God's Word, but to grow in faith and to live it out!

Her life verses are:

- Jeremiah 29:11 – "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
- Isaiah 40:31 – "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."
- Isaiah 43:2 – "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."
- 2 Chronicles 7:14 – "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

LIVING A SPIRITUAL LEGACY
Passing the Baton of Faith In
FITNESS & HEALTH

Daughter – Patricia Bradley Smith

Passing the baton of...

FAITH & FAMILY

ANNA ALLEN-EDWARDS

LIVING A SPIRITUAL LEGACY
Passing the Baton of Faith In Family



Daughter - Alexis Edwards

God has been gracious to Anna (Grace) Rebecca Allen, the **fifth** child of the late Rev. Edward Jackson Allen and Sis. Enestine Kizzar Crooks Allen all of her life. Her journey of faith began immediately—born on a Wednesday, and by the **fifth** day of life, she was in her first worship service at Greater First Baptist Church of Sharpsburg, KY, where her father pastored. (Grace is the number **five**).

At age **five**, Anna entered the family of faith, joining Zion Baptist Church of Paris, KY, under the leadership of the late Rev. Leon McGuire. At Zion, she was immersed in the sounds of hymns, the effectual prayers of the righteous, and the preached Word. These early spiritual experiences left a lasting impact. Today, she clings to the hymn "I Love the Lord," holds fast to the instruction to pray always, and lives assured by Romans 8:1—"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus." She walks confidently in the testimony that she is the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus." 2nd Corinthians 5:21

Anna is a servant. She graduated with honors from Eastern Kentucky University with a degree in History and earned her Master of Public Administration (MPA) from Kentucky State University. She also studied theology under the esteemed Dr. Frederick G. Sampson in Detroit, MI.

Her professional journey began at Paris High School and transitioned into federal service with the IRS and the VA Medical Center. Later, she was called to higher education, where she established the Chandler Medical Center's Office of Minority Affairs and the Graduate School's Office of Diversity at the University of Kentucky. Following her retirement, she continued serving her community as a Paris City Commissioner and as a member of the Joint Planning and Zoning Commission. The Lord used her to help spearhead the efforts to move the Paris City dump from a historically Black neighborhood and the building of a multi million-dollar transfer station benefiting all citizens of the county. She was also directly responsible for having state highway signs erected acknowledging Paris to be the birthplace of Garrett Morgan. Her civic involvement includes board and committee service, most recently as Secretary of the University of Kentucky Federal Credit Union Board and convener of the Westside Initiative.

Anna is married to Charles Edwards of North Carolina. Together, they are the proud parents of Charles, Brandon, and Alexis Edwards. They share grandchildren Milana, Amira and Ahijah. She joined Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church under the pastoral leadership of pastor emeritus, Dr. Joseph L. Owens. Currently Rev. Marvin o. King, Jr., is the pastor. There, she continues to teach, write liturgical plays, and organize Christian programming. Anna has the distinction of having served as President of the former Sunday School and BTU Convention and the Consolidated Baptist District Women's Auxiliary.

Anna believes God called her to one simple mission: To be a plain-spoken Bible teacher. Straight, no chaser!

Mother's Day Gift Ideas

RETREAT INFO

EXTRA, EXTRA

YOU CAN STILL REGISTER

Online at:
www.cbdec.org

Mail to:
**CBDWA, POB 12901,
Lexington KY 40583**

Vendor Opportunities Available

Sister Elma Zachary
Elma.Zachary81@gmail.com
Call 936-676-7139

HOTEL ROOM BLOCK

CLOSES 5/14/26

Volunteer Hostesses & Models

(must be registered)
Call Lisa - (859) 489-7181

Thurs - Casual

All fun & games!!!

Fri - Juneteenth

Morning - Juneteenth
3 Dynamic Workshops

Break for Free time, Touring,
Shopping, TRUTH TRAVEL-
ER, etc.

Evening - Juneteenth/ African
Attire Dressy
Banquet, Fashion Show &
Musical Concert

Sat - Retreat t-shirts

Keynote, Memorial Tribute
& Luncheon

Mother's Day Gift Idea—CBDWA Women's Retreat Registration

GIFT IDEA!!! - Easter & Mother's Day or Just Because.... Donate to Sponsor A Delegate



Annual CBDWA Women's Retreat

June 18 - 20, 2026
The Ramsey Hotel & Convention Center
Pigeon Forge TN

"Living a Spiritual Legacy, Women Passing the Baton of Faith"

Registration Fee: \$200

Pay your deposit to hold your spot!
(non refundable deposit)

Includes:

- A Dynamic Keynote Speaker
- 3 Fabulously Spirit-filled Workshops
- Retreat Swag - Theme t-shirt
- Thurs Game Night w/ heavy Hors d'oeuvres
- Fri Juneteenth Banquet & Fashion Show
- Sat Buffet Luncheon

Payments to:

- Church Contact Ladies
- CBDEC Institutes
- CBDWA Board Members
- Online (Tithes) at www.cbdec.org
- Mail: CBDWA, POB 12901, Lex, KY 40583

Hotel Booking

3230 Parkway, PH. 865-428-2700

Group Code: CBDWA2Q

2 nights w/ tax : Thurs - Sat

1 person - \$403.99

2 persons - \$202

4 persons - \$101

Grab a Roommate - Cut the cost!!!

Bring your daughters (age 18+),
mothers, friends, family!!!

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED!

Come celebrate JUNETEENTH
with your Sisters in Christ!

"One generation shall praise your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts." - Psalm 145:4

"Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good." - Titus 2:3

"Living a Spiritual Legacy, Women Passing the Baton of Faith"

Consolidated Baptist District Women's Association
2025-2029

Vonita Bennett
CBDWA President

Rev. Reginald Davis
CBDA Moderator

ANNUAL CBDWA
Women's Retreat

LIVING A SPIRITUAL LEGACY:
WOMEN PASSING
THE BATON OF FAITH

Come Celebrate
Juneteenth
with your Sisters in Christ!

FEATURED SPEAKERS

 KEYNOTE: MICEAN JOHNIKIN	 LUTERIA SMITH FITNESS & HEALTH	 BEVERLY BOWENS FINANCE	 ANNA ALLEN- EDWARDS
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June 18 - 20, 2026
The Ramsey Hotel & Convention Center
Pigeon Forge, TN

For more information visit us
www.CBDEC.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ **May 1** - CBDWA Women in Worship
First African Baptist Church
- ◆ **May 23** - "Becoming Her" Women's
Empowerment Conference
1st Baptist Paris, Activity Center
- ◆ **June 18-20** - CBDWA Women's
Retreat, Pigeon Forge TN
- ◆ **July 11** - CBDWA Prayer Breakfast,
Nineth Street Baptist
- ◆ **July 13-16**—CBDWA Annual Session

MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION
"Crowns of Glory"

Washington Missionary Baptist Church
504 Clark Street • Maysville, Kentucky

SUNDAY, MAY 10th | 11:15 AM

A ROYAL REQUEST TO ALL MOTHERS
We invite every mother to wear your favorite crown (church hat) as we honor and celebrate:

- ★ Mothers of the past
- ★ Mothers of the present
- ★ Mothers shaping the future

"She is clothed with strength and dignity..." Proverbs 31:25

ALL ARE WELCOME
Come worship with us as we celebrate the beauty, strength, and legacy of motherhood.

"LIVING A SPIRITUAL LEGACY"
PASSING THE BATON OF FAITH

CBDWA WOMEN IN WORSHIP

5/1/2026 7:00pm

Consolidated Baptist District
Women's Auxiliary



First African Baptist Church
465 Price Rd, Lexington, KY 40508
Preached Word - Rev. Dr. Nathl Moore
\$50.00 Church Registration
Sis. Vonita Bennett-CBDWA President
Rev. Reginald Davis - CBDA Moderator

BECOMING HER
WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE

Mentally
BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND.
ROMANS 12:2

Spiritually
THEREFORE, IF ANYONE IS IN CHRIST, HE IS A NEW CREATION
2 COR. 5:17

Physically
HONOR GOD WITH YOUR BODY; YOU WERE BOUGHT AT A PRICE.
1 COR. 6:19-20

Saturday, MAY 23RD
FIRST BAPTIST ACTIVITY CENTER
PARIS, KENTUCKY

C.B.D.W.A.
P. O. Box 12901
Lexington, KY 40583

Email: www.cbdec.org
Facebook.com/C.B.D.W.A.

Consolidated Baptist District Women's Auxiliary



10th Edition, Volume 1
May 2026

**We're on the
web!**
www.cbdec.org

Consolidated Baptist District Women's Auxiliary
Officers 2025-2026

President	Vonita Bennett	First Baptist Church, Paris
1 st Vice President	Linda Gates	Historic First Baptist, Camp Nelson
2 nd Vice President	Demita Stevenson	Macedonia Baptist, Cynthiana
Treasurer	Paula Hardin	Macedonia Baptist, Keene
Financial Secretary	Augusta Mason	First Baptist Church, Nicholasville
Recording Secretary	Maria Weathers	Greater First Baptist, Sharpsburg
Corr. Secretary	Sherry Jackson	Bethsaida Baptist Church
Social Engagement	Elma Zachary	Centerville Baptist Church
Archivist	Priscilla Lewis	Washington Miss. Baptist Church
Health Coordinator	Monica Tucker	Shiloh Baptist Church
Worship Leader	Isabelle Mack Thompson	Centerville Baptist Church

Executive Board Members

Joan Bolton	First African Baptist Church
Vedra Douthitt	Evergreen Baptist Church, Mt. Sterling
Lisa Jones	Bethsaida Baptist Church
Stephanie Taylor (AFS)	Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church

President's Council

Anna Allen-Edwards	Shiloh Baptist Church
Valerie Marshall	Historic Pleasant Green Baptist Church
Tara Crumbe	Previously Zion Baptist Church
Hazel Compton	Jabez Baptist Church
Brenda Carter	Bethsaida Baptist Church
Pamela Thompson	Historic Pleasant Green Baptist Church
Elaine Farris	Bracktown Baptist Church
Roszalyn Akins	Bracktown Baptist Church
Valinda Livingston	Shiloh Baptist Church
Delma Peoples	Historic Pleasant Green Baptist Church
Ollie Ragland	First Baptist Church - Stanford

May Health Note



May Is Mental Health Awareness Month

1 In 4 People Suffer
From A Mental Illness



Please check in on your
friends and family -
you never know who many
be suffering in silence

