The African Methodist Episcopal Church is excited to welcome this new era of faith, hope, and the assurance that our ever-growing communion will reach generations to come with our brandnew partnership with Wespath Benefits and Investments.

At the <u>2008 General Conference in St. Louis, Missouri</u> an inclusive motto was adopted and now declares *God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, the Holy Spirit Our Comforter, Humankind Our Family*. The evolution of our motto demonstrates that African Methodists engage in ongoing assessments of our theology and how God speaks to us in changing circumstances. One changing circumstance is the need for the AME Church to position itself to minister to the whole person of our salaried servants. As a denomination we want to be intentional about making certain that the security, longevity, and financial well-being of those who give so much to our Zion are safe and secure.

The AME Church is excited to partner with Wespath to secure our financial future. Wespath is a not-for-profit administrative agency of The United Methodist Church (UMC) and responsible for the general supervision and administration of the retirement, health and welfare benefit plans, programs, and funds for more than 100,000 active and retired UMC clergy and lay employees. The company has a longstanding history rich in service and ministry to those who are called to serve.

As African Methodists we are honored to introduce the New Life Personal Investment Plan to extend the mission and ministry of our beloved church, while maintaining our mission to provide the highest quality retirement investment and financial security services available to the valued servants, employees, and members of our Church in tandem with our Department of Retirement Services.

With this new plan you will be able to:

- Have 24/7 access to your personal retirement account.
- Utilize tools to help you protect your future as well as manage our investments and distributions.
- Update your personal information, beneficiaries and track your future at the click of a button.

We are overjoyed to share this new era of the AME Church with Wespath, and we are elated about what our future looks like as a participant in the New Life Plan. Our best days are yet to come!

~Bishop A.J. Richardson Senior Bishop, African Methodist Episcopal Church