

Presiding Elders Secret Watch Thinking Big in This Season

By Rev. Brenda J. Smith

In this season when ABBA is calling His church to prepare for the great wedding feast, II Chronicles 7:14 is the order of the day. Spiritual warfare forged against believers has increased tremendously. There is a clarion call for us (God's people) to seek more intimacy with Father God through Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

In 2016, at Bishop Clement W. Fugh's Planning Meeting, Rev. Dorisalene Hughes with her husband standing as her covering, eloquently built a solid case for the need of a sound prayer ministry in the Fifth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The vision Rev. Dorisalene unfolded before the congregation was well received by Bishop Fugh who bestowed blessings upon the vision which would later adopt the title Presiding Elders' Secret Watch (PESW).



Why Secret Watch?

Psalms 91:1-2 in the King James Version tells us "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust." The Presiding Elders' Secret Watch is not a secret society, but its members attempt to dwell in the secret place of the Most High and lift our colleagues up on a consistent basis as we are to pray without ceasing.



The Construct. Bishop Fugh has twelve Presiding Elders in the Fifth District. Each one of his Presiding Elders chose a prayer minister to represent his or her district. Rev. Dorisalene is Bishop Fugh's prayer minister and PESW coordinator. Presiding Elder Fran T. Cary afforded me the honor of being her representative for which I am grateful.

How does this work? Each member contacts his or her Presiding Elder on a regular basis and prays for the Presiding Elder, family, and district. We, the PESW members, meet every Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. CST for prayer. Prior to Saturday's meeting, each member submits a list of five to ten clergy persons, and we pray for those persons, their families, and ministries. Sometimes, Presiding Elders and/or Pastors are extended a personal invitation to join PESW so we can saturate them in prayer and Spirit. The PESW has been strategic in reclaiming lost spiritual ground on the Lord's behalf.

About six months ago, a new component was added. Thursdays at 10:15p.m. CST we can be found in the Zoom sanctuary along with guests. Thursday night worship allows us to be more inclusive. Guests from every auxiliary in our Zion, other episcopal districts and denominations have shared in this movement of the Holy Spirit. We have experienced deliverance, miraculous healings, restoration of relationships, runaway children returned home safely, and strongholds broken. It is written in Matthew 17:21 that this kind cannot come out except by prayer and fasting. To God be the glory!

Some of you are hearing about the Presiding Elders' Secret Watch for the first time, while others were invited to join us and refused to do so. It is our desire to be the Church that Christ is returning to harvest, a praying church all on one accord. This is not a blight on anyone. We all sin and fall short of the glory of God. Yet, in this season of thinking "Big" I declare and decree that we shall walk in the light of the Great Commission according to Job 22:28 and Matthew 28:16-20. Scales will fall from our eyes that we may see clearly what the Lord says as in (Acts 9:18). We shall have clean hearts and renewed right spirits within us (Psalms 51:10). The Almighty will order our steps in his Word. His Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our soul (Psalm 119:105).

Other Episcopal Districts have invited our coordinator to help them organize a Secret Watch.

We are thinking "BIG" in this season. God has the sky for us. The sky is our limit. He said in Ephesians Chapters 1 and 2 that we sit in the Heavenlies in Christ Jesus. So, Church, let's learn how to fly. Please follow the enclosed link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zHRWo-TrjXQ> to "Fly" by Jason Upton and let it minister to your soul.