

CME to hold star-studded conference in Augusta

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The Sixth District of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church will hold its annual conference July 14-17 at the HEAL Complex at Paine College, with a theme of Experiencing God Through Faith, Family, Spirituality and Love.

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This will be the first time the conference has been held in Augusta, and it is expected to draw delegates from 350 Georgia churches.

At least 2,000 people are expected to attend from across the state, according to a news release.

Newly elected Bishop Marvin Frank Thomas will speak at 7 p.m. Monday. Thomas is also the dean of the Phillips School of Theology, which is the seminary of the CME church.

On Monday, Glenda Hatchett will be the featured speaker. The television judge and motivational speaker has served as chief presiding judge over the juvenile court in Fulton County.

Monday's events also include a performance by gospel singer Tramaine Hawkins, who has won two Grammy Awards, two Dove Awards and was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 1999.

At noon on Wednesday, Dr. Yamma Brown, the daughter of singer James Brown, will speak. An ecumenical choir will lead the evening worship at 7 p.m.

Cast members from the '70s TV sitcom *Good Times* – Jimmie Walker (J.J.), Bern Nadette Stanis (Thelma) and Ralph Carter (Michael) – will also take the stage Wednesday evening.

The conference concludes July 17 with a service at 10 a.m. led by Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, the pastor of Friendship West Baptist Church in Dallas.

All events are free and open to the public.

COMMENTS

CME at the HEALCenter

So let me get this straight, the CME Bishops get chicken dinners, JJ, Thelma, and "Good Times" at the HEAL center while the students get rats, roaches, mold infestation AND RAPISTS in the dorms.