



Executive Director:
Rev. Dr. Angelique Walker-Smith

Organizing, Energizing and Mobilizing the Faith Community Since 1912

**Denominations and
Congregations represented:**

- African Methodist Episcopal Church
- African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
- American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.
- Assemblies of God Church
- Church of God, Anderson
- Church of God in Christ
- Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
- Church of the Brethren
- Church of the Living God
- The Episcopal Church
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- Greek Orthodox Church
- Independent Baptist
- Independent Christian
- Interdenominational Community Churches
- International Council of Community Churches
- Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church
- Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod
- Mennonite Church
- Moravian Church
- National Baptist Convention of America
- National Baptist Convention, U.S.A.
- National Missionary Baptist Convention
- Pentecostal Apostolic
- Pentecostal Assemblies of the World
- Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
- Progressive National Baptist Convention
- Reformed Church in America
- Roman Catholic Church
- The Salvation Army
- Society of Friends
- Unity Church
- United Church of Christ
- The United Methodist Church

Mission:

“Striving to make visible God’s gift of unity in Jesus Christ and the quality of community God wills for the human family.”

Spiritual Outlook

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Walking with Angels

By Rev. Dr. Angelique Walker-Smith

Easter Joy to you and yours!

Now that the Lenten Season is over, the holy season of resurrection joy and hope is with us.

St. Luke recalls the reason for this season but he also records a walk Jesus made to Emmaus with two ordinary men. At first, Jesus does not introduce himself to them. He does not seek any praise or fame for the miracle of His resurrection. Rather, He simply converses with them and walks humbly alongside of them as a stranger, just as He did with other ordinary folk before His crucifixion.

Prior to Jesus crucifixion, Jesus dared to walk and talk with people who liked and disliked Him. He was welcomed and resisted yet He still humbly walked among them. He walked with the sick, the poor, the rich, the children, the mentally challenged, prostitutes, tax collectors, his related Jewish kindred and many others this limited space will not allow me to name!

Although Jesus was a stranger among the two men walking to Emmaus, He invited them to a new awareness of who they are and what they could become. He moved their conversation of gossip to one of spiritual transformation. They left the encounter saying: “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?”

This Post-Resurrection account invites the following questions for us today. Who is walking alongside of you? Do they mirror your values and priorities or are you

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acting as a change agent for the betterment of people's lives, including strangers? Do they look and act like you? What is your attitude towards them and life itself? Is your glass half empty or half full? While there may be a fear of walking with strangers, people of faith are called to overcome this by the power and grace of God. The two ordinary men may have been initially afraid of the man (Jesus!) they were walking with, but they later realized they were not just walking and talking with an angel but God Him self!

If we take a close look around us, we will find that so-called strangers are often people you may already know or could know. They exist within our families, neighborhoods, churches, synagogues and mosques. Some may be current or former school mates and co-workers. In any case, we are encouraged to listen and share the love and joy of Christ with others who are like and unlike us. Walking and talking to those who are estranged from us and the society can be important in addressing matters of crime, hatred, violence, division, peacemaking and reconciliation. God wants to bless you for having done this. We are the "angels" God is looking for! Let us pray for renewed strength and courage to live this out as we celebrate the Great Resurrection of Jesus the Christ!