

THE MEANING OF THE NEW LAY MINISTRY LAPEL PIN



PURPLE & GOLD – Laity are the unordained people of God, furthering the mission of the Church in the world, members of the Royal Priesthood: 1 Peter 2:9 “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”

THE OUTER OVAL – Lay Men and Women are encircled by the presence of God Himself, who guides believers toward righteousness and protects them in the cradle of his arms.

THE WORDS WITHIN THE OUTER OVAL – Laity as essential members of “The Body of Christ” are to: **STUDY** with Purpose and Determination; **SEEK** the Lost and Hurting; **SHARE** with a Sense of Thankfulness; **SERVE** with a Glad Heart. Laity in the CME Church have been furthering the Beliefs of Studying, Seeking, Sharing, and Serving **SINCE 1910**.

THE SHIELD – Symbolizes the “shield of salvation” and “the breast plate of life” that all Christians should wear as Children of God.

CME – The **CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH** was founded by 41 African American men on Friday morning, the 16th day of December 1870, in Jackson, Tennessee, after a night of prayer and commitment to God.

LAY MINISTRY – Laity actively and orderly addressing the needs and concerns of one’s neighbor, church, community, and world.

THE CROSS – The ever present symbol of Jesus the Christ, who died that all men and women might live and have a chance to make a difference in the lives of others.

THE LAMP AT THE TOP OF THE CROSS – The light of Jesus that illuminates the path of lay men and women, so that all can make meaningful contributions to the life and witness of God’s Church in the world.

LAUREL LEAVES - The laurel leaves represent our opportunity for triumphant salvation and the unwilting victory over sin because of the shed blood of Jesus the Christ. 2 Tim. 2:1 “You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. 3 Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.”