

African American Methodist Heritage Center 36 Madison Avenue • PO Box 127 • Madison, NJ 07940 (973) 408-3862 • aamhc@aol.com • Web site: aamhc-umc.org Advance Code #3020514

The Board of Trustees of the African American Methodist Heritage Center, Inc. is pleased to announce that Ms. Elinor L. Thompson of Frankin UMC in Churchton, Maryland, in the Baltimore Washington Conference, is the winner of the Forrest C. Stith Grant for the presentation of the history of African American Congregations for 2023. Of the 14 submissions from all over the United States and Nigeria, Africa, the selection committee chose her proposal of <u>Saving Sacred Spaces and Places in African American Church Communities</u>. According to Ms. Thompson, "much of the historical interconnections lie in sacred spaces and places of African American Churches and cemeteries. This project poses a rate opportunity to confirm and consolidate a rich collaborative history before it is lost forever". Retired Bishop Forrest C. Stith, states 'when the Heritage Center was conceived over twenty years ago, we dreamed of the day when every African American United Methodist congregation would find creative ways to celebrate, preserve and secure its rich legacy and story. This grant is a step in that direction."

More information about the grant can be found at our website <u>www.aamhc-umc.org</u>, or contact Executive Assistant, Carol Travis to the Board of Trustees at <u>aamhc@aol.com</u>.

Ms. Mollie M. Stewart, President Bishop Forrest C. Stith, President Emeritus Carol L. Travis, Executive Assistant