

PRAYER BREAKFAST

Prayer Leader:

PROGRAM

(Enter Quietly and Prayerfully)



FOCUS:

“Them Bells Are Calling Us to Pray”

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (Bells ring softly) (based on Acts 13)

LEADER: Bells are softly ringing calling God’s people to prayer.

WORSHIPPERS: To join the mission of Jesus Christ in service to the world.

LEADER: While they were worshiping the LORD and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

WORSHIPPERS: So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and set them off.

LEADER: The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there to Cyprus.

WORSHIPPERS: Then they arrived at Salamis; they proclaimed the word of GOD in the Jewish synagogues. John was with them was with them as helper...

UNISON: The word of GOD spread through the whole region... And the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

INVOCATION (Bells ring softly)

Thank You LORD for calling us to Your great salvation. Thank You for equipping us for the work of missions, and thank You for the opportunity You have given to us to bless the lives of others. Strengthen us in this prayer experience to know You more and more; and make us ready for greater mission ministry that will honor Your Name and the Name of You Son, our LORD, JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.* (Bells ring softly)

SCRIPTURE READING (unison) Philippians 4:6-7
Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

HYMN

“Sweet Hour of Prayer”

(Bells ring softly)

Them Bells are calling us to pray for Mission Ministries:

- ❖ End violence against women and children around the world
- ❖ Healing of aids victims
- ❖ Hunger and Homelessness
- ❖ Natural Disasters and Relief
- ❖ Illiteracy and Education

(Bells ring softly)

SING SOFTLY

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

SOLO / HYMN OF PREPARATION

(Bells ring softly)

MEDITATION

HYMN

(insert)

“When They Ring Those Golden Bells”

SINGING OF THE BLESSING

(Bells rings softly)

BREAKFAST IS SERVED



REMARKS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Bells rings softly)

CLOSING PRAYER

THE MISSIONARY BLESSING

“God be merciful unto us and bless us and cause His face to shine upon us and give us peace.” Amen.



Ring Them Bells

Although not commonly used in modern churches, bells have a long history. They were very important when clocks were unavailable. Their call to prayer, worship and keep aspects of life helped to mark out the time of day and times for the people of villages and towns.

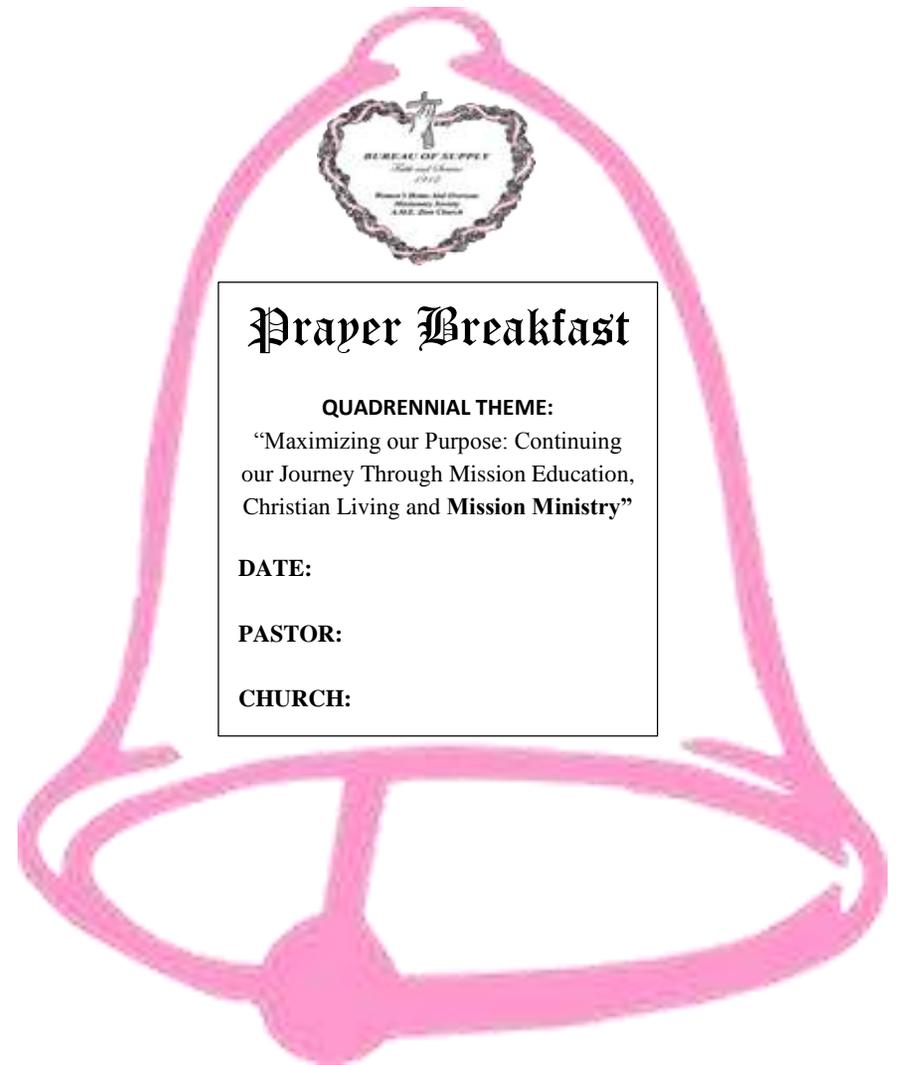
Bells came into use in our Christian churches as early as the year 400. Now, among a people who were Christian, it was natural that the bell should become a signal for prayers. Way back then and even now, saying prayers blended with marking out the time of day, early in the morning, at noon day and in the evening. Maybe it's no wonder we developed that tune: "Whisper a prayer in the morning, whisper a prayer at noon, whisper a prayer in the evening to keep your heart in tune".

Bells. Bells. They summon us to the services of the Church. Don't you have a steeple and a bell in your Church whether it is used or not? They peal forth joyfully on the wedding day as if to prophesy happiness and prosperity to the couple who are beginning their lifelong union. They toll mournfully to sing all your praises to those who never heard; announce the death of a member and as the corpse is borne to receive the Church's last blessing, to remind us to the duty of praying for the departed soul.

But for us who are called to the sacred ranks of the *International Bureau of Supply Secretaries of the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society*, we must be aware that from time immemorial the Church bell was useful for summoning alarm for the faithful and the unfaithful, when danger threatened. The faithful knew, but somehow, all around, maybe, it was because of the manner in which the bells were rung, all knew, that danger was imminent or it was time for Church service.

Supply Secretaries, Parent Body, Y.A.M.S., Youth, BUDS, Missionaries all, non-missionaries if there are any, don' you hear **them bells**?... Danger is imminent. It is more than upon us; it is here within our ranks: Violence against women and children, AIDS, Hunger & Homelessness, Disaster, Illiteracy, etc. Many are the persons who have fled from oppression. Many are in need of clothing, many in need of food and water. We have heard the bells. We have gathered. Let us be still. Let us listen to the needs. Let us **pray** and then in silence, let us make ourselves available for we are God's eyes, God's hands and God's heart.

Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church



Prayer Breakfast

QUADRENNIAL THEME:

"Maximizing our Purpose: Continuing our Journey Through Mission Education, Christian Living and **Mission Ministry**"

DATE:

PASTOR:

CHURCH:

Mrs. Sara S. Cherrington

General Secretary Bureau of Supply

Dr. Sandra L. Gadson

International President

Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society