



## Annual Report 2017

Chloé C. Jones, UN Youth Representative 2016-2021



By God's grace I have been blessed to serve another year as a UN Youth Representative for the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church. In alignment with the theme of the 13<sup>th</sup> World Assembly, 'Chosen People: Called to Proclaim', I have described my activities under the headings of proclaiming through worship, relationships and social action:

### **Proclaiming through Worship**

Unfortunately, due to personal losses and graduate school student teaching schedule I have not had ample opportunities for corporate worship with fellow World Federation members this year. However, September 2017 I attended a Restoration Summit that had a meditative service and different workshops focusing on discipleship and church growth. One workshop I attended was "Maximizing Millennials", which addressed general characteristics of the millennial population, challenges they face with traditional church culture, and ways churches can attract them and maintain their involvement. In October, I attended a Mission Education Workshop in New Rochelle, NY which included World Federation Affiliate Representative Edith Mayfield giving a presentation about World Federation, her participation, and introduced me as the Youth Rep. As a personal goal I have continued to commit to strive for deeper Bible study and prayer life, occasional sharing motivational messages and thoughts or challenges about life as a Christian young adult through social media.

### **Proclaiming through Relationships**

As a Youth Representative much of my experience with relationships has been through fellowship via UN events. For instance, leading into the year of 2017, I participated a #HerStory Editathon coordinated by UN Women as part of UN International Youth Day. The editathon as part of the #HerStory campaign was intended to increase both content about women and women editors on Wikipedia. While working with others, I learned how to make small edits on a page for Julia A. J. Foote, the first woman ordained as a deacon in my church's denomination. Women shared stories and accomplishments of women that often go unnoticed. In August 2017, I attended the Intergenerational Dialogues on the SDGs at the UN Headquarters with fellow World Federation Representative Dr. Brenda Smith and Joan Capel, an Affiliate of the National Council of Negro Women. I participated in the dialogues "Breaking the Intergenerational Cycle of Poverty" and the other "Healthy Living- Physical and Mental Wellness". Between sessions we were encouraged discuss the dialogues with others. This sparked an impromptu conversation with another youth representative from a Harlem-based NGO about the expanding roles and opportunities for women today.

### **Proclaiming through Social Action**

Not only do I serve as a youth representative of this amazing organization, I have also been a long standing member of the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society (WHO &OM Society of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Zion Church. Annually, missionaries at Mother AME Zion Church collect Back to School supplies to donate in Harlem, NY. One major project we have engaged in this year has been designing and collecting pillowcase dresses to send to little girls in Ghana and other African and Caribbean countries. Additionally, youth in the Christian Education Department of the AME Zion Church in NYC conducted a joint outreach project to give care packages to the homeless in one of our local church areas. As an assistant to the NYC District Youth Director, I helped assemble the small care packages of items such as, water bottles, granola bars, hot chocolate packets, sandwiches and pamphlets with information about the respective church. I look forward to seeing what God has in store for the years to come!