

Mackenzie Florence and Meera White attended the Southeastern Jurisdiction (SEJ), Black Methodist for Church Renewal's (BMCR) Harambee youth conference, which was held June 24th through the 28th. The conference is for teens 12-18 and was located at the Gammon Theological Center on the campus of Clark-Atlanta University in Atlanta, GA. At this youth conference, young adults were encouraged to "*Step Up and Speak Out.*"

Every day we attended worship services where we praised God with themes related to what we like. We also attended workshops which were on Thursday. One was called "Rapping with JC." This workshop helped to explain ways to speak with Jesus personally, through things like praying and reading his word in the bible.

One day we had a session which was divided up; if you are a boy you would go to "Brother-to-Brother" and if you are a girl you would go to "Sister-to-Sister." During these sessions we were encouraged to talk about anything that was on our minds, and everything was confidential. We were also taken out on a "Fun Day!" Which featured a tour of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Museum, bowling, and roller skating.

The leadership team and the supervisors were very nice and took good care to look out for all of us. Special thanks to Rev. Will and Mrs. Janice Rogers for their encouragement and support for our attending the conference. All in all, Harambee is a great way for youth to rethink their relationship with God, better understand the ways of God, and meet new friends.

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