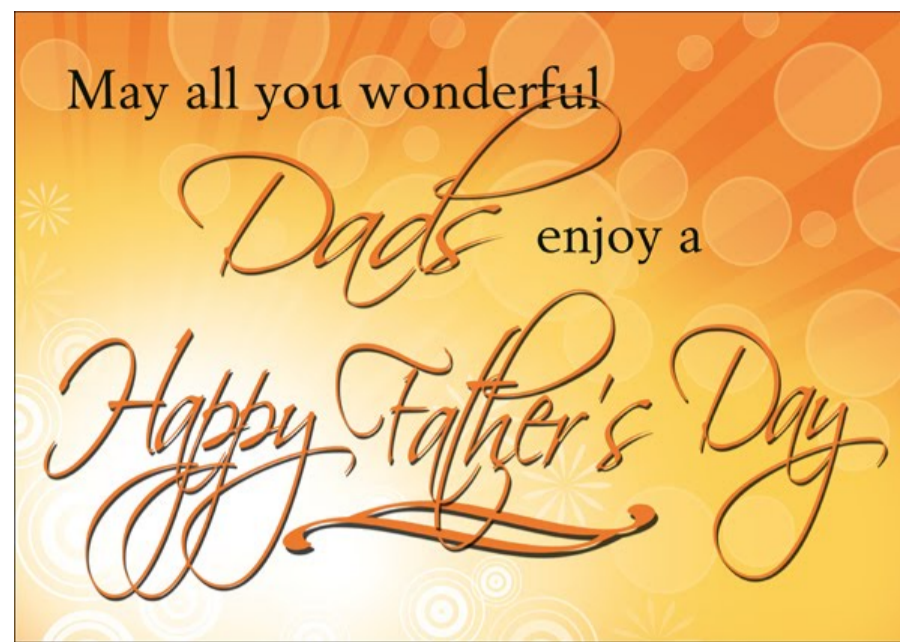


**Bishop Staccato Powell**  
Presiding Prelate Western Episcopal District AME Zion Church

June 16, 2019



**"As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him."**

**Psalm 103:13**

What a pleasure and honor to recognize and appreciate the gift of fathers in the Western Episcopal District and beyond. As fathers, missionary supervisor Nicole Powell and I celebrate you for the special place you hold in the lives of your children and families. You play an important role that cannot be duplicated or filled by others.

You are looked upon for the love, strength and care you provide. You are also respected for the provision and security you give and the confidence you instill.

Your presence and support are paramount to the emotional, cognitive and social development of your children as well as to their inner growth and strength.

As fathers, you are the priest of your house. Like Abraham commanded his house, so are you to command yours.

We thank you for the significant role you play and the large impact you have in helping to shape children into the persons they ultimately become.

Like mothers, you are the pillars in the development of a child's emotional well-being. Children look to you as fathers to provide a feeling of security, both physical and emotional. Your influence helps to provide a guide for how children are to develop relationships and relate with people as they grow.

As we grow in the West to become more spiritually aligned with God the father, let us dare to believe the fatherhood of God is pervasive among us and so shall we be. On this day established to recognize finer fatherhood, we salute and celebrate those who occupy the paternal role of the masculine gender.

May the blessings of the Almighty be upon you this day, throughout this year and in the years to come.

Anointed to Serve

Bishop Staccato Powell

Nicole Powell

"For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory."

I Thessalonians 2:11



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