

Overview of Major African American Denominations

DENOMINATIONS	STATED MISSION	LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE	HEALTH PROMOTIONS
NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION USA	“Fulfill the Great Commission of Jesus Christ through preaching, teaching, and healing.”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National convention governed by its Board of Directors. • Individual churches are members of the national convention. 	The Usher’s and Nurse’s Auxiliary encourages members to understand what salvation means so that they can witness about the goodness of Jesus Christ and carry His Great Commission through ushering and health-related programming.
PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION (PNBC)	Committed to the mandate of making disciples for Christ. The convention is founded on the precepts of fellowship, service, progress and peace, and seeks to affirm the “priesthood of all believers.”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Convention governed by Board of Directors. • Individual churches are members of the national convention. 	Official Health ministry department at the national level. Health ministry departments at the regional level and within individual churches.
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (AME)	To minister to the spiritual, intellectual, physical, emotional, and environmental needs of all people through Christ’s liberating gospel in word and deed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each local church is a part of a larger connection. • Elected Bishops appoint Presiding Elders for each district. • Pastors receive a yearly appointment to a church on the recommendation of the Presiding Elder. 	National Connectional Health Commission serves to help the denomination understand and promote health. Each region/subregion appoints District/Conference Director of Health.
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST PENTECOSTAL (COGIC)	A Church of the Lord Jesus Christ in which the word of God is preached, ordinances are administered and the doctrine of sanctification or holiness is emphasized, as being essential to the salvation of mankind.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a 12 member Presidium of Bishops that act as the General Board. 	Individual churches may have a health ministry.