

## SECTION IV

The Journal of Proceedings  
SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
The United Methodist Church  
Organized 1972

Continuing the South Carolina Conference (1785)  
and the South Carolina Conference (1866)

Sunday, May 31 – Wednesday, June 3, 2009  
Florence Civic Center  
Florence, South Carolina  
Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, Presiding

*Conference Theme:*  
*“Rejoice in Hope”*

### The First Day – Sunday Afternoon May 31, 2009

**Lay Orientation.** An Orientation Session was conducted for the Lay Members of the Annual Conference by the Board of Laity at 5:00 p.m. in the Arena of the Florence Civic Center. The session began with an overview and welcome by Dr. Joseph E. Heyward, Conference Lay Leader. Barbara Ware offered an opening devotional. An opening hymn was sung. All lay members present were provided information and instruction by the Conference Lay Leader and others concerning the agenda, movement, procedures and parliamentary process of the 2009 Annual Conference, with special attention given to the proposed constitutional amendments. Announcements were made concerning the ordination service, the Laity Luncheon and the Laity Convocation. An opportunity was provided for Lay Members to ask questions. The session was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

**Clergy Session.** The Clergy Session was called to order by Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor at 5:00 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall, and the session began with a prayer. Bishop Taylor then called on the Reverend Ted Walter to present the report of the **Administrative Review Committee**. Rev. Walter reported that the committee had reviewed the process followed in relation to the recommendation of Involuntary Leave of Absence, and had found that the process had been followed properly and in compliance with the Book of Discipline. The Reverend Kenneth Nelson, Chairperson of the **Board of Ordained Ministry**, was then called upon. Rev. Nelson recognized and thanked the members of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the members of the district committees on ordained ministry for their work. Rev. Nelson then briefly reviewed the work of the Board since the last session of Annual Conference. When all members of the session had received copies of the Business Questions, he called upon the Reverend Anthony Hodge, Registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry, to present the Business Questions on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Rev. Hodge presented the full report and noted certain corrections to the report.

**Business Questions** 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 37-38, 40-41, 46e, 47, and 49 were presented for information and moved to record, as no vote was required. Bishop Taylor reminded the clergy session that on Board of Ordained Ministry matters, only Deacons and Elders in full connection are eligible to vote. The Consent Calendar, which included Questions 25, 26, 29, 30, 34, 35, 36, 39, 43, 44, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, and 57-59 (statistical data questions calculated after clergy session) was presented on behalf of the Board of

Ordained Ministry by the Reverend Hodge as Motion 1 of the Clergy Session Memorandum. The Consent Calendar was perfected and approved by more than two-thirds vote of the clergy session. The clergy session acted to approve each of the following Business Questions separately: 21, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 42, 45, 46, 48, 50, 76 and 80. Questions 32, 33, 50, and 80 were approved by a two-thirds majority. Question 76 was approved by a three-fourths majority. (Those newly approved as local pastors, together with those elected to associate, provisional, and full membership are listed in the record of the Ordination Service.) Following the reading of the names of clergy who had died during the past year, as listed under Question 48, Bishop Taylor offered a prayer in remembrance and appreciation of their service to the Annual Conference. Prior to action on Question 50, the session voted unanimously to waive the 90 day notice requirement in relation to the recommendation for Involuntary Leave of Absence for Rev. Roger W. Pearce. The recommendations for Involuntary Leave of Absence for both Rev. Ethel G. Jefferson and Rev. Roger W. Pearce were approved upon a counted, recorded vote by more than a two-thirds majority. When action on all Business Questions was completed Motion 2 was approved, authorizing the Registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry and Coordinator of Clergy Services to make editorial changes to the business questions where necessary in preparing them for the Annual Conference Journal. Rev. Hodge then moved the adoption of the report as a whole. The motion was seconded and approved.

There being no further business, several announcements were made, Bishop Taylor reminded the members of the evening worship session, thanked them for their presence and participation, and declared the clergy session adjourned.

### The First Day – Sunday Evening May 31, 2009

**The Service of Ordination, Commissioning and Licensing** was held in the Civic Center Arena at 7:00pm. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor called the 2009 Annual Conference to order, and announced the opening hymn, “And Are We Yet Alive”. An offering was received for the Bethlehem Bible College, located in Bethlehem, Israel. Music was provided by the Candler Singers under the direction of

Rev. Barbara Day Miller. The organist was Billy Fallaw of First UMC, Conway. Bishop Taylor preached a sermon entitled "The Consecrated Life", based on Romans 10: 11-15. In addition to Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, candidates for ordination, consecration, and licensing, together with the Extended Cabinet, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and clergy sponsors, participated in the procession.

**The following persons were licensed as Local Pastors:** Brian James Arant, Julie Songer Belman, Doris R. Bright, Cora Campbell, Andria Shores Cantrell, Brenda I. Curtis, Jack Williamson Gibson, Jacqueline Carter Harris, Lindora Flemming James, Larry McCray, Brian Edward Preveaux, Raymond Lee Reavis, Moon Taeg Rhyee, Timothy Eugene Soucy, Christopher Lee Thompson, Donald G. Upton, Karen L. Upton, and Laura Howard Whitt.

**The following person was received as an Associate Member:** Robert Eugene Lee

**The following persons were commissioned as Provisional Deacons:** Sarah Wiggins Branyon, Karen Lail Jones, Angela Halter Marshall, and Mary Kay Wood.

**The following persons were commissioned as Provisional Elders:** Shawn Galloway Armstrong, Marian Woodle Dyer, Linda McDaniels Guthrie, Kathy Priest Hudson, Johsua Timothy McClendon, Adrian Maria McGree, Annie Hair Sistrunk, Keith Robert Taylor, Jonathan Edward Tompkins, and John Henry Vickers III.

**The following person was ordained as a Deacon:** Terry Abner Roof

**The following persons were ordained as Elders:** William Danford Blair, Alice Loving Deal, Amy Alyssa Dill, Kelly Lee Gallamore, Michael Leon Hayhurst, Lois Jean Helms, Richard Reber Howell, Jr., Heather Bridges Humphries, Scott Allen Johnson, Tiffany Denise Knowlin, Roye Lynn Kulik, Samuel Earle Marcengill, Patrician Caldwell McCain, Whittaker Vernon Middleton, Faye Jones Stephens, Charles Ernest Summey, Jr., Tina Anderson Thomas, Robert Manigault Vincent, and Jennifer Leigh Williams.

Following the service, a reception in honor of those licensed, commissioned and ordained was held in the Exhibit Hall of the Florence Civic Center.

## **The Second Day – Monday Morning June 1, 2009**

**Organizational Session.** The Conference was called to order by Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor at 8:30 a.m. The Reverend Jeanette Cooper, Pastor of Cumberland UMC in Florence, brought greetings and welcomed Bishop Taylor and the members of the Annual Conference to Florence. Reverend Cooper then introduced the Honorable Stephen Wukela, mayor of Florence, who welcomed the Annual Conference to the City of Florence. The Reverend Timothy J. Rogers, Secretary of the Annual Conference, offered various **organizational motions** for the Conference. The first motion was that the tellers nominated by their District Superintendents for the 2009 Annual Conference session be elected as nominated without reading and their names be published in the *2009 Conference Journal*. The following **clergy tellers** were nominated and elected: The Reverends Ebbie Abraham, Bruce Adams, Wanda Altman, Shawn Armstrong, Connie Barnes, Joe Blackwelder, Laura Canine, Todd Davis, Lowry Drennen, Linda Dunn, Harry Gindhart, Pattie Gordon, Preston Grimsley, James Grubb, Judy Hames, Jerry Harrison, Ben Herlong, Michael Hood, Randall

Horres, Hal Johnson, Joanne Lockard-Hawkins, Edward L. Mainous, Robert Malachi, Ed McCutcheon, Luke Mims, Ken Nelson, Allen Nesmith, Bernard Ponds, Darlene Richardson, Lee Roper, Rebecca Shirley, Ray Smith, Brenda Washington, Horace White, David Williamson, and Matt Yon. The following **lay tellers** were nominated and elected: Anthony Alford, Ollie Boyd, Valeree Browning, Willie Cannon, Don Carr, Chip Cooper, Orr Cromer, Hugh Folk, Susan Gladden, Tommy Glenn, Faye Grice, Francis Hipp, Alice Keziah, Mike Keziah, Willie LaGroone, Curtis Lake, Rob Levin, Dian Litster, Leon Love, Lowell Manning, Conda Martin, Chris McCoy, Ray McCoy, Betty Price, Matthew Profit, Ed Stallworth, Jack Story, Lauren Taylor, Debbie Wallace, Eunice White, Constance Wilborn, Hannah Williams, Debra Williams, Cynthia Williams, Jimmie Williamson, and Margaret Wolfe.

The other organizational motions were: that the attendance registers signed at the time of registration be designated the official roll and record of attendance for the 2009 Annual Conference Session; that the Conference program printed and distributed in the pre-conference materials along with such scheduling adjustments and additions which the President and the Secretary have since made be adopted as the Agenda for the 2009 Annual Conference Session, provided that the President may further adjust the schedule as necessary to expedite the business of the Session; that the seating areas on the floor of the Civic Center Arena, the seating in sections 209, 210, 211, 212, 218, 313, 314, 315, and 316, together with any wheelchairs present on the floor or in the handicap area immediately behind sections 313 to 316, the platform and area surrounding the platform, and the sound and recording booth be designated the "bar of the conference" for all business sessions of the 2009 Annual Conference Session. All of these organizational motions were approved. The Reverend Rogers directed attention to the recognition card and ballot sheet. The Reverend Rogers and Annual Conference expressed appreciation to the Reverend David Surret for his years of service as Assistant Secretary of the Annual Conference. The Reverend Will Malambri was nominated to serve out the duration of the Reverend Surret's term. The motion carried.

The Report of the **Committee on Standing Rules** was presented by the Rev. Patricia Mayfield, chairperson, as printed in the registration materials. The committee recommended the following rules be adjusted and/or adopted. First: The committee recommended that **Rule 57a.** be changed to reorganize the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina *Advocate* from three to four classes. The bishop called for a vote on Rule 57a. and the motion passed. Second: The committee recommended that **Rule 68.c.3** be changed by striking "One copy of the Conference *Journal* will be sent to each charge, and to each retired minister" as a cost-savings measure. The bishop called for a vote on Rule 68.c.3 and the motion passed. Third: the committee recommended the adoption of a Standing Rule to govern the election of the Board of Trustees of the **Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry**. The bishop called for a vote on this recommendation and the motion passed. Fourth: The committee recommended that the Standing Rules of the Annual Conference be adopted as a whole. The bishop called for a vote on the Standing Rules and they were adopted. Fifth: the committee offered a motion that the Annual Conference suspend **Standing Rule 19** for the Monday morning session in order to allow the report of the Committee on Nominations to be presented Monday afternoon. The bishop called for a vote on suspending Standing Rule 19 and the motion

passed. Sixth: the Committee on Standing Rules moved that Bishop Taylor form a committee to review **Standing Rules 27 and 28**, which currently govern the nomination and election of delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences, and to report back to the 2010 Annual Conference. The bishop called for a vote on this motion, the motion passed, and the report of the Committee on Standing Rules was concluded.

The Business Session continued with remarks by Dr. Charles Teague, President of Spartanburg Methodist College, who brought greetings on behalf of the **United Methodist-related colleges** in South Carolina. Dr. Teague thanked the conference for the opportunity to serve as president of Spartanburg Methodist College, and then introduced Dr. Colleen Keith, his successor as president of Spartanburg Methodist College. He introduced representatives of the other South Carolina United Methodist-related colleges: Dr. Henry Tisdale, President of Claflin University, Dr. Ron White of Columbia College, and Dr. Ron Robinson, chaplain of Wofford College, highlighting accomplishments of the four institutions over the course of the past year. Dr. Teague concluded by inviting the members of the annual conference to attend the President's Luncheon later that day.

The Reverend Joe Cate, pastor of Pointe Hope UMC, Mt. Pleasant, led the Annual Conference in a **Bible Study, followed by Holy Communion** celebrated by The Reverend Janice Frederick-Watts.

The Annual Conference was in adjournment until 10:20 a.m.

At 10:20 a.m., the Conference returned from recess in order to debate and vote on the **Constitutional Amendments**. The Bishop reminded the members of the Annual Conference of the bar of the Conference and of those who are eligible to vote: lay delegates and clergy in full connection. For the Constitutional Amendments to be passed, a 2/3 majority of the aggregate votes of all of the Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church must be reached. Bishop Taylor explained the process that would be followed: amendments would be debated separately, in the order in which they were printed. Normal rules governing debate would be followed. No amendments are allowed. Voting would be by written ballot. Ballots would be distributed at the end of all debate, and each ballot would include a place to vote on each amendment.

The Bishop then opened debate on the amendments, inviting debate on Amendment I and following amendments as noted below:

**Amendment I.** Toni White, Clergy, Suber Marshall, spoke in favor of the amendment. Terry Fleming, Clergy, Elloree-Jerusalem Charge, spoke in opposition to the amendment. Willie Teague, Clergy, Conference Council on Ministries Director, spoke in favor of the amendment. Albert Cox, Retired Clergy, Chapin, spoke in opposition to the amendment. Sandy Warren, Lay, Hockory Grove Charge, spoke in favor of the amendment. Emily Rogers, Lay, Central (Florence), spoke in opposition of the amendment.

**Amendment II.** Jim Knowles-Tuell, Clergy, Conference Treasurer, spoke in opposition to the amendment. Wade Everett, Clergy, Langley Charge, spoke in opposition to the amendment.

**Amendment VI.** There was no debate on Amendment VI.

**Amendment VIII.** Don Clendaniel, Clergy, Grace (Charleston), spoke in opposition to the amendment. Kathy James, Clergy, Congregational Specialist, spoke in favor of the amendment.

**Amendment IX.** There was no debate on Amendment IX.

**Amendment XV.** Michael Cheatham, Conference Director of Lay Speaking Ministries, spoke in opposition to the amendment.

**Amendment XVII.** Judy Irby, Lay, New Beginning (Greenville), spoke in favor of the amendment.

**Amendment XIX.** Stephen Taylor, Clergy, Trinity (Sumter), spoke in favor of the amendment. John Cribb, Clergy, Sardis-Unity (Union/Spartanburg District) and chair of the Fellowship of Local Pastors, spoke in favor of the amendment.

**Amendment XXII.** There was no debate on Amendment XXII.

**Amendments III, IV, V, VII, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XVI, XVIII, XX, XXI, XXIII, XXIV, XXV, XXVI, XXVII, XXVIII, XXIX, XXX, XXXI, XXXII** (Worldwide Nature of the Church) were treated as a single item for the purposes of the debate. Lois Helms, Clergy, Hendersonville Charge (Walterboro District), spoke in opposition to the amendments. Jeff Cila, Elloree Charge, spoke in opposition to the amendments. George Holler, Clergy, Antioch Charge, Conway (Marion District), spoke in favor of the amendments. Bob Howell, Clergy, Bethany, Summerville (Charleston District), spoke in opposition to the amendments. Clayton Childers, Clergy, Woodruff Charge, Board of Church and Society, spoke in favor of the amendments. Judy Irby, Lay, New Beginnings, Greenville, spoke in favor of the amendments.

In preparation to vote, the Bishop reminded the Annual Conference that those eligible to vote were Lay Members and Full Clergy Members, restated the bar of the conference and stated that those outside the bar would not be allowed to vote, and reviewed the balloting process. The Tellers distributed the ballots and voting commenced. The ballots were then collected and the voting was declared closed. Bishop Taylor informed the house that the results of the vote would be announced when the Tellers completed the count.

A **United Methodist Homes** video presentation highlighted the ministries of The Oaks (Orangeburg), Epworth Children's Home (Columbia), the United Methodist Manor of the Pee Dee (Florence), Wesley Commons (Greenwood), and Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry.

Sara A. White, Rock Hill District Superintendent, highlighted the Report of the **Epworth Study Committee**. The recommendations were: 1) That Epworth continue to solicit support independently rather than becoming an apportioned item; 2) That the goal of a minimum of \$6.00 per member per year be encouraged, that district superintendents promote Epworth at charge conferences, and that Epworth develop resources (such as a DVD) to be widely distributed to local church representatives and pastors; and 3) That local congregations and leadership hold themselves accountable to tell the story of Epworth's life changing ministries by using materials and resources that are available through Epworth Children's Home, selecting a Local Church Representative in each congregation who is equipped to tell the story and by working with mission committees to discover ways to share ministry with the children of Epworth. Bob Huggins, Clergy, Trio Charge, spoke in favor of the recommendations, offering a friendly amendment to have the committee report to the Annual Conference in 2010 as to the progress of these recommendations. Rev. White accepted the amendment on behalf of the study committee. The recommendations were approved by the annual conference.

Announcements were made and the session was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**The Second Day – Monday Afternoon  
June 1, 2009**

At 2:00 p.m. the **Annual Conference Memorial Service** was held. The preacher for the service was the Reverend Mel Arant, pastor of Waters Edge UMC, Beaufort. His sermon was entitled "Surrounded" and was based on Hebrews 11:29-12:2. Liturgists were Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor and The Reverend Carol Allison. The opening hymn was "For All the Saints" and the closing hymn was "Rejoice in God's Saints." Special music was provided by the Clergy Choir, directed by the Reverend Debra Quilling Smith. Mr. Billy Fallaw was organist.

The following deceased ministers, spouses, and others were remembered during the Memorial Service:

Retired Ministers remembered were Talmadge Davis Belding, Jr., William Reginald Claytor, Jr., Delos Duane Corderman, George Walter Couch, Jr., John Willis Davenport, Thomas Foster Evatt, Jr., Wesley Darlington Farr, John Louis Fowke, Buster Thornwell Huggins, Henry Samuel Johnson, Mark Reagan Long, William Monroe Major, Thomas Francis Matthews, Robert Lee McCraw, Christopher Lee Poole, Clayton Zeno Price, Eben Taylor, Joseph Elmo Tysinger, Sr., and Billy Julian Weisner, Sr.

Spouses remembered were Mildred Wilson Abram, Carol Elizabeth Jones Callahan, Dorothy Ruth Watkins Davidson, Inez Gambrell Evatt, Dolly Griffin Gilliam, Mildred H. Mack, Gary Clifton McCain, Leila Yarborough Attaway Riley Peurifoy, Rudolph Horace Smith, Belva Aleen Morse Williams.

Surviving Spouses remembered were Margaret Derrick Bauknight, Mary Louise Bell, Hilda Collier Berry, Dorothy Rozier Coursey, Marshlea Cottingham Dawsey, Gene (Juanita) Daughtry Hamm, Mary Motte Anderson Herbert, Florence Newton Johnston, Annie Blondell Rumph McKay, Ruth Moultrie Nelson, Almarie Stradford Richardson, Lucy Graves Shuler, Sara Long Lupo Smoak, Mary Sue Teal Stackhouse, and Carolyn Smith Tyler.

Also remembered were Alice Henderson Brazil Johnson, James William McAlister, and Sara King Fridy Murry Purser.

At the close of the service, the session was in recess for 30 minutes.

The afternoon session resumed at 3:43 PM.

Dr. John Holler brought greetings from **Epworth Children's Home**, and then shared a brief video presentation.

The report of the **Board of Ordained Ministry** was then presented by The Reverend Ken Nelson, Chair. He expressed his appreciation for the 2004-08 Board, under the leadership of the Reverend Patricia Parrish, chairperson during that quadrennium. Rev. Nelson noted the following goals currently before the current board: 1) To strengthen continuing education for clergy, moving all clergy toward excellence in ministry and responding to those who are ineffective, 2) Recruitment and retention of young clergy, 3) Strengthening the relationship between the Board of Ordained Ministry and candidates from the South Carolina Annual Conference currently enrolled in seminary, and 4) Continuing to assist candidates to fund their theological education.

Rev. Nelson then presented the proposed, revised *Policy Guidelines* of the Board of ordained Ministry. Rev. Nelson highlighted the major changes. Many changes were editorial in nature, bringing the *Policy Guidelines* in-line with

the language of the 2008 *Book of Discipline*. The most significant change was to change the provisional period from a three-year period to a two-year period.

Rev. Nelson reported that thirty-one seminary students, attending twelve different theological schools, received financial assistance totaling \$119,800 from the Ministerial Education Fund.

Rev. Nelson then read the names of those who were ordained and commissioned for service in the South Carolina Annual Conference during the Ordination and Commissioning Service the previous night. These persons were invited to stand and were recognized by the Annual Conference. Appreciation was then expressed to Rev. Tim Rogers and Mrs. Bonnie Speas for their work in the Office of Clergy Services.

Rev. Nelson responded the response to Business Question 17, "Are all the clergy members of the conference blameless in their life and official administration?" with the answer, "Yes, with the exceptions that have been noted and acted upon in the clergy session held on Sunday, May 31, 2009."

Rev. Nelson then moved the adoption of the *Policy Guidelines*. The motion carried. The report was then accepted as a whole, and the report of the Board of Ordained Ministry was completed.

The Report of the **Committee on Nominations** was presented for review by the Rev. Mike Bowers, Chairperson. The main report was provided in the registration materials. Reverend Bowers requested that editorial corrections be submitted in writing. Rev. Bowers announced several additional nominations, and several changes in nominations, on behalf of the Committee on Nominations. He then highlighted several vacancies remaining to be filled. Some nominations were offered from the floor to fill vacancies in the report of the Committee on Nominations. There were no nominations from the floor for any position for which the Committee on Nominations had already offered a name. The report of the Committee on Nominations was presented to the conference for information only, and was to be acted upon by the Conference on Wednesday. The final report of the Committee on Nominations, reflecting the officers elected by the Annual Conference, including any amendments to the report made on the floor, will be printed in final form in the Conference Journal.

Rev. Tim Rogers presented the **Consent Calendar** found in the pre-conference materials and directed attention to the Petition to Remove items from the Consent Calendar, reminding the body that the items on the Consent Calendar are scheduled to be voted on during the business session of Tuesday morning.

The Report of the **Conference Council on Finance and Administration**, was presented for information by The Reverend Ed McDowell, Chairperson of the Council. Rev. Jim Knowles-Tuell, Conference Treasurer, presented several corrections to the Funds Summary for Equitable Compensation. The changes were: the Year-to-date Apportioned Income was increased from \$344,806 to \$496,658; Other Income was increased from \$13,670 to \$19,606; Actual Expense was increased from \$472,061 to \$622,007; and the Current Balance was increased from \$40,022 to \$47,864. That correction having been offered, final action to adopt the budget was scheduled for Wednesday.

Betty Walker, chair of **Committee on Resolutions and Appeals**, reported that there were no pre-conference resolutions. She reminded the body that any resolutions must

be submitted before the end of the afternoon session and also reminded the body that any person offering a resolution was responsible for providing enough copies to distribute to the members of the annual conference. Any such resolution would be distributed at the beginning of the following day's session. The Committee was scheduled to meet following the close of the current session (Monday afternoon).

**The Commission on Equitable Compensation** report was presented by Dr. Kenneth Mufuka, chairperson of the Commission. The commission recommended a minimum cost of living raise of \$600 for all full-time clergy for 2010. The recommendation was approved by a vote of the body. Dr. Mufuka directed the attention of the conference to Report Number 4, highlighting the increasing number of clergy receiving equitable compensation, and the accompanying increase in costs.

Dr. Mufuka then invited Rev. Robert Cannon to present the proposal for Ministry with Hispanic/Latino People (Section F in the Report of the Commission on Equitable Compensation). He began with editorial changes: adding an "e" to "Report Number 3, Part 3" in line 14 of the report in the pre-conference materials, making the corrected notation, "Report Number 3e, Part 3", and adding "In limited circumstances" to line 51 making the corrected sentence, "In limited circumstances, equitable compensation shall provide up to a yearly maximum of \$4,000 to supplement the support provided by the district."

Dean Maples, Lay Member, Pickens Charge, (Anderson District) asked what impact this proposal might have the direct billing expense for other churches. Rev. Cannon responded that he foresees no real impact on other churches. Mr. Maples asked how this proposal would be funded. Rev. Cannon responded that it would be funded through the Equitable Compensation apportionment. There being no further debate, Bishop Taylor called for a vote, and Section F of the Equitable Compensation report was adopted. The report was concluded, and the report as a whole was received by the body.

The Reverend Ed McWilliams, Chair, presented the report of the **Board of Pension and Health Benefits**. Bill Newhart from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits was recognized.

The Pension Section (Reports 1-3) was presented to the body. There were no corrections to the report. An opportunity for questions was given; none were asked. The recommendations of the Board were approved by the body.

The Group Insurance Section (Reports 1-6) was presented to the body. Rev. Don Clendaniel, Clergy, Grace (Charleston District) asked about a denominational healthcare plan. Mr. Newhart said this was considered by a committee at the 2008 General Conference and it was deemed unfeasible. Rev. Noble Miller, Retired Clergy, asked about premium increase in 2010. Rev. Anderson said that there is a 10% increase in premium for retired clergy for 2010. The recommendations of the Group Insurance Section were adopted by the body.

The Reverend David Anderson, Administrator of Conference Benefits Office, presented a Special Report on the Mail Order Pharmacy. The report was received by the body. Anita Bozardt, Clergy, Kershaw Charge stated that Medco in relation to insulin by mail has been a concern of hers. Mr. Anderson responded that this concern will be relayed to the general board.

Rev. Anderson presented a second special report, the Retiree Health Liability Funding Plan. Rev. Anderson noted

that the development of this plan was required of all annual conferences by the 2008 General Conference. He made an editorial change to his report changing the years on lines 53 and 54 to 2015 and 2016 respectively.

David Braddon, Lay Member, Bethany, Summerville (Charleston District) proposed an amendment to paragraph seven changing the word "surcharge" to "fair-share apportionment" and adjusting the effective dates by delaying the start to 2013 and each year following by one year.

Rev. George Olive, Antioch, Conway (Marion District) spoke in opposition to the amendment. Mr. John Redmond, Lay, Buncombe St. (Greenville District) asked for a cost comparison between the Board's proposal and the Braddon amendment. Rev. Anderson said the total cost to the Annual Conference will be the same with either proposal, and gave some further information about the costs related to either the original proposal or the Braddon amendment.

Rev. Jim Knowles-Tuell spoke in favor of the Braddon amendment.

The discussion was tabled at 5:43 PM, announcements made, and the session was adjourned at 5:46 PM.

### **The Second Day—Monday Evening June 1, 2009**

At 7:30 the Annual Conference gathered in worship. The Reverend Jennifer Williams, Ashley Ridge UMC, Summerville, preached a sermon entitled, "Time to Take Off the Boat Shoes" based on Matthew 14:22-33. Worship Leaders were Beth Sanders, Bradley Brown, and the Bethany UMC Praise Band. An offering was received for the benefit of the Conference Related Homes of South Carolina. Following the service, the session was adjourned.

### **The Third Day—Tuesday Morning June 2, 2009**

Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor called the session to order at 8:30 a.m. The Reverend Michael Hood, pastor of GracePoint, Bluffton, led a Bible Study and the Reverend Dr. Keith Ray of Berea Friendship celebrated Holy Communion.

After a short recess, the session resumed with the **Awards, presentations and recognitions of the various boards, agencies and institutions**. The session was led by Rev. Don Smith, of the North Texas Annual Conference, who served as the presenter. Bishop Taylor greeted each award recipient as they came on stage. The award and recognition recipients were as follows:

The Commission on Archives and History **Herbert Hucks Awards** were presented as follows: For Service Beyond the Local Church was presented to **Ann Taylor Andrus**. The Publication Award was presented to **Dr. Katherine Davis Cann**. The church recipients were: Mountain View, Taylors; Pisgah UMC, Aynor; Dials, Gray Court; Duncan Acres, Union; Lee Road, Taylors; Livingston; Main Street, Greenwood; Trinity, Conway; Walnut Grove, Roebuck; Westminster; Windsor; and First, Winnsboro. The Centennial Churches (celebrating 100 years) were: Eutawville, Orangeburg District; McBee, Hartsville District; Shandon, Columbia District; and Toxaway, Anderson District. There was one **Bicentennial Church** (celebrating 200 years): Bethany, Saluda, Greenwood District.

Leaders and youth / young adults involved in **Salkehatchie Summer Service** and **Students in Mission** (formerly the Summer Investment Program) were introduced.

Rev. John Culp was recognized as the founder of the Salkehatchie Summer Service program. **The UMVIM Michael C. Watson Volunteer in Mission Awards** were presented to **Mary Carolyn Watson** (laity) and **Reverend Michael B. Henderson** (clergy). And a special recognition was extended to **Reverend Nick Elliott**, Director of the Southeastern Jurisdiction UMVIM for the past 16 years.

Graduates of the **eChristian Education/Certification Training Program** of Columbia College and the Board of Education were: as follows: For Basic I – Biblical and Theological Foundations for Ministry: Lauren Taylor, Gloria Dorris, Wiletta Pennington, and John McLeod, Jr. For Basic II – Foundations in Christian Education: Kevin Reinke, Velma Pruitt, Gloria Dorris, For Advanced I – Ministry with Children, Amy Uteley, and April Buddin. For Advanced III – Ministry with Adults: Amy Uteley, Kevin Reinke, and Velma Pruitt.

The Board of Ordained Ministry scholarships were awarded as follows: **Bessie B. Parker Memorial Scholarship** – Genova McFadden; **T. Dennie Smith Scholarship** – Genova McFadden and Willis Everett Haselden; **South Carolina Seminary Students' Scholarship** – Christopher Thompson. The Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry scholarships were awarded as follows: **South Carolina Merit Scholarships** - Katherine Haselden and Tyeeikia Williams; **The Janie Robinson Thomason Memorial Scholarship** - Katheryn Tamblyn.

The **Bishop's Award of Excellence in Scouting** was presented to: Cub Scout Pack 750 and BSA Troop 750 of Stallville UMC in Summerville; Girl Scout Brownie Troop 2378 and Cub Scout Pack 518 of Red Bank UMC in Red Bank; BSA Troop 507 of Lexington UMC in Lexington; Cub Scout Pack 833 of Advent UMC in Simpsonville; and Cub Scout Pack 190 and BSA Troop 190 of Trinity UMC in Orangeburg, both of which were being recognized for the 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.

**The G. Ross Freeman Award** was presented to Reverend Dickie Knight. The Society of John Wesley named **Reverend Dr. Charles L. Johnson** as a John Wesley Fellow. **The Denman Evangelism Awards** were presented to Dr. Robert O. Pettus (laity) and Reverend Marvin Taylor, Sr. (clergy). **The Bishop's Five Star Award of Excellence** was presented to Advent, Simpsonville – Susan Leonard-Ray, Pastor; Asbury-St. James – Timothy Shaw, Pastor; Bethany, Summerville – Robert J. Howell, Pastor; Bethel, Lexington – Kathryn Scarborough, Pastor; Calvary, Laurens – Janie Gist, Pastor; Christ, Bennettsville – Dora Gafford, Pastor; Dunean, Greenville – Priscilla Pearce, Pastor; Goose Creek, Goose Creek – Debra Dowdle, Pastor; Grace, Charleston – Donald O. Clendaniel, Pastor; Grace, Columbia – Alexander Stevenson, Pastor; Greater St. Paul, Cross – Alphonza Jones, Sr., Pastor; Kinard, Greenwood – Danny Wiley, Pastor; Mesopotamia, Gaffney – George Fizer, Pastor; Mt. Carmel, Bamberg – G. Bernard Ponds, Pastor; Mt. Olivet, Cheraw – Cheryl D. Toothe, Pastor; Pleasant Grove, Cheraw – Cheryl D. Toothe, Pastor; New Beginnings, Boiling Springs – Thomas W. Smith, Pastor; Osceola, Lancaster – Edward Galloway, Pastor; Point Hope, Mt. Pleasant – Joe Cate, Pastor; Red Bank, Lexington – Tommy Wilkes, Pastor; St. James, Columbia – Bob Vincent, Pastor; Mountain View, Taylors – Kitty Holtzclaw, Pastor; Wightman, Prosperity – Michael Turner, Pastor; Lupo Memorial, Greenwood – Dean Lollis, Pastor; First, Isle of Palms – David Surrent, Pastor; St. Mark, Columbia – Daniel Burbage, Pastor; Shandon, Columbia – Michael Guffie, Pastor; Sharon, Greer – Matthew Yon, Pastor; Smyrna, Elgin – Daniel Flessas, Pastor; Wesley, Pinopolis – Lee Bines, Pastor; St. Stephens, Bowman – James P. Smith, Pastor;

Pineville, Bowman – James P. Smith, Pastor; Monticello, Winnsboro – Kathy Griffin, Pastor; and Bethel, Winnsboro – Kathy Griffin, Pastor.

Bishop Taylor expressed her gratitude to Rev. Smith for his leadership as the presenter for the morning and congratulated all of the award recipients for their great and various ministries in the service of Jesus Christ, and invited the conference to express their appreciation to them all.

Dr. Walter McKelvey, President of Gammon Theological Seminary, brought greetings from the Association of Theological Schools, and especially from Gammon Theological Seminary. Dr. Jan Love, Dean of Candler School of Theology, also brought greetings.

The Reverend Tim Rogers, on behalf of the Commission on Archives and History, recommended the approval of "A Resolution Designating Fork Creek United Methodist Church a United Methodist Historic Site." The resolution was put before the Annual Conference and approved as follows:

#### **A Resolution Designating Fork Creek United Methodist Church a United Methodist Historic Site**

Whereas, The Fork Creek United Methodist Church was organized in 1784 as Knight's Meeting House, and is therefore one of the oldest Methodist congregations in South Carolina, and

Whereas, Fork Creek's congregation has met on its present site since 1792, and

Whereas, The Fork Creek Church was responsible for the founding of several churches in Chesterfield County, and has played a central role in the life of western Chesterfield County, and

Whereas, Fork Creek was the site of Bishop William Capers' conversion and acceptance of his call to ministry, and

Whereas, For all of these reasons, the Commission on Archives and History of the South Carolina Annual Conference recommends that the Fork Creek United Methodist Church be designated a historic site of the South Carolina Conference, now, therefore,

Be it Resolved, By the South Carolina Annual Conference, meeting in Florence, South Carolina, June 2009, that Fork Creek United Methodist Church is hereby designated a historic site of the South Carolina Conference, to be registered with the General Commission on Archives and History.

Rev. Rogers then presented the **Consent Calendar** and made the Conference aware that there were no petitions to remove any items from the Consent Calendar. He moved its adoption and it was adopted as presented, so that all the listed reports were moved to record.

Ms. Jessica Baker was presented as a representative of the **Black College Fund**. A video presentation about the Black College Fund followed.

Rev. David Anderson resumed the **Board of Pension** report, reviewing where the conversation ended the previous day. Rev. Tim Rogers then read the Braddon Amendment. Rev. Keith Ray, clergy, Greenville, spoke in favor of the amendment. Rev. Mitch Huston, clergy, Salem, Irmo, offered a substitute amendment with three parts: to delay action on Report Number 3 to the 2010 Annual Conference, to direct

the Board of Pensions to hold regional or district meetings prior to the 2010 Annual Conference, and directing the Board to present 3 clear options to the annual conference in 2010. The motion was seconded. Rev. Roger Gramling, Columbia, raised a Point of Order, suggesting that the Houston motion was actually a motion to defer. Rev. Houston amended his motion, presenting it as a motion to defer to 2010 Annual Conference, together with a direction to the Board of Pensions to hold regional meetings and present three options to the 2010 annual conference. The revised motion was seconded. Bob Huggins, Clergy, Trio Charge, spoke in favor of the Houston motion to defer. Frank Buie, Retired Clergy, spoke in favor of the motion to defer. The vote was put before the body, which approved the motion to defer. Rev. Anderson moved the amended report as a whole and it was approved by the body. Rev. Anderson then thanked members of the Board.

There was a short recess.

The **Service of Recognition for Retiring Ministers and the "Passing of the Mantle"** began at 11:30 AM. Bishop Taylor presided and a video presentation of interviews of retiring clergy provided the message for the service. The following clergy and their spouses were recognized upon the occasion of their entering the retired relation: Donald Wayne Boatwright, Barry Franklin Brinson, Sr., Joseph Lee Cole, David Michael DeDonato, Nicholas Scott Elliott, Arthur Robert Nix, Angelia Powell Price, Lillian Quackenbush, Charles Porter Teague, John Pinckney Thomas, Cheryl Amelia Walker, Julian Austin Watson, Ellwood Holler Wiggins, and Seth W. Williams. A video presentation recalling the ministry and thoughts of the retiring class was presented. The Reverend Nick Elliott represented the retiring class, and the Reverend Tiffany Knowlin represented the entering class during "The Passing of the Mantle." Mr. Billy Fallaw served as organist for the service, and at the conclusion Bishop Taylor sent the Annual Conference forth into the Florence community for a "Great Day of Service". The Conference stood in adjournment.

**The Third Day – Tuesday Afternoon  
June 2, 2009**

**THE GREAT DAY OF SERVICE  
TO FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA  
AND THE PEE DEE REGION**

**The Third Day – Tuesday Evening  
June 2, 2009**

The Great Day of Service Celebration began at 7:30 p.m. Pre-Service Music and the anthem were provided by the Spirit Singers. A sermon, entitled "*Good News from the Brickyard*" was offered by The Reverend George Ashford of Journey UMC, Columbia, based on Exodus 5:22-6:1. An offering was received for the Esperanza new church start. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor and the Reverend Paul Hutchison served as liturgists for the service.

**The Fourth Day – Wednesday Morning  
June 3, 2009**

Annual Conference resumed at 8:30 a.m. with a Bible Study led by the Reverend Enrique Gordon. The Reverends Elise and Chris Barrett celebrated Holy Communion. The session recessed at 9:30 a.m.

At 9:50 a.m. the session was called back into order by Bishop Taylor. Bishop Taylor gave an update on **Offerings** received to that point: Bethlehem Bible College received \$11,293.74, South Carolina Methodist Homes received \$12,874.59, and the Esperanza new church start received \$18,329.82.

Ms. Betty Moss McGuirt, member of **United Methodist Publishing House** board, brought greetings on behalf of Cokesbury and the United Methodist Publishing House. Ms. McGuirt announced that – because of the economic downturn – the Publishing House would be unable to make its traditional annual gift to the pension fund, but that the South Carolina Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits will contribute \$15,814.94 in support of the Central Conference pension program.

Bishop Taylor recognized Ms. **Betty Rivers**, Administrative Assistant, for her work on behalf of the Episcopal Office. The body expressed appreciation for Ms. Rivers.

Ms. Earline Ulmer, Chair, and Rev. Willie Teague, Director, brought a report from **Connectional Ministries**. A video highlighted the ministry of the Congregational Specialists who have been in contact with over 50% of our local churches since 2006, when the position of Congregational Specialist was created. Rev. Teague identified the Congregational Specialists and the districts to which they primarily relate. He also reported that a 10-week internship program for current seminarians has begun. Emily Scales, Duke Divinity School, will be working with Mt. Hebron in the area of Hispanic Ministries. Alex Barr, Duke Divinity School, will be working with Strengthening the Black Church for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Katie Brock, Wesley Theological Seminary, will be working with youth ministry, primarily assisting Congregational Specialist Judson King. The final intern, Rett Haseldeen, Duke Divinity School, will be working with First UMC, Conway. Judson King announced that *Revolution*, a Spiritual Life Retreat, will be held in Columbia at Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, January 22-24, 2010. A video presentation about *Revolution* followed. The written Connectional Ministries report was moved to record by vote of the body.

Rev. Teague introduced Mr. David Malloy, Annual Conference liaison of the **General Advance** of the Board of Global Ministries, to bring greetings. He expressed appreciation to South Carolina for contributing \$484,000 in 2008 to the Advance and highlighted the opportunity to support United Methodist Missionaries through "Covenant Relationships." He also introduced "Be-1: one being, being one," a 24-hour food fasting event. A video presentation about Be-1 followed. More information is available at [www.fasttodaychangetomorrow.org](http://www.fasttodaychangetomorrow.org).

Bishop Taylor, on behalf of Betty Walker, Chair, **Committee on Resolutions and Appeals**, reported that there are no resolutions to be presented.

Bishop Taylor thanked the tellers, by name, for their service. She then shared the results from ballot on Constitutional Amendments:

- I—449 Yes, 790 No
- II—338 Yes, 908 No
- III—189 Yes, 1049 No
- IV—186 Yes, 1052 No
- V—186 Yes, 1053 No
- VI—368 Yes, 863 No
- VII—188 Yes, 1049 No
- VIII—942 Yes, 300 No
- IX—888 Yes, 353 No

X—185 Yes, 1063 No  
 XI—183 Yes, 1044 No  
 XII—185 Yes, 1045 No  
 XIII—179 Yes, 1048 No  
 XIV—178 Yes, 1052 No  
 XV—389 Yes, 846 No  
 XVI—184 Yes, 1044 No  
 XVII—740 Yes, 503 No  
 XVIII—180 Yes, 1047 No  
 XIX—1053 Yes, 191 No  
 XX—183 Yes, 1044 No  
 XXI—178 Yes, 1050 No  
 XXII—1040 Yes, 197 No  
 XXIII—187 Yes, 1043 No  
 XXIV—180 Yes, 1048 No  
 XXV—179 Yes, 1046 No  
 XXVI—179 Yes, 1047 No  
 XXVII—179 Yes, 1045 No  
 XXVIII—181 Yes, 1045 No  
 XXIX—185 Yes, 1040 No  
 XXX—181 Yes, 1045 No  
 XXXI—178 Yes, 1047 No  
 XXXII—176 Yes, 1048 No

The Bishop reminded the body that these are the South Carolina results of the election, which will be added to the votes from the entire United Methodist Church, which will all be added together to produce aggregate totals.

A ten-minute recess followed.

When the session resumed, Rev. Michael Bowers, Chair, brought back before the Annual Conference the report of the **Committee on Nominations**. The report had been initially presented on Monday. Rev. Bowers made one more additional nomination: the name of Anne Drake of the Greenwood District to replace William McCoy on the Wesley Commons Board of Trustees. Rev. Bowers moved to close the nominations and elect the slate before the body. The submitted slate was elected by the body. Rev. Bowers commented on the importance of this process, and reminded the members that the process of elections begins at the local churches when names are proposed during the charge conference process.

Rev. Carol Cannon brought the report of the **Board of Church and Society**. Rev. Cannon introduced the Rev. Clayton Childers of the General Board of Church and Society, who brought greetings to the annual conference and recognized Rev. Ernest Etheredge, one of the Directors of the Board. Rev. Cannon then presented “A Resolution Calling for the South Carolina Annual Conference to Begin Combating Human Trafficking”. Rev. Cannon moved the adoption of the resolution. Rev. Paul Gasque, Trinity/Berea Charge, Marion District, spoke in favor of the resolution, offering a friendly amendment to the resolution in the resources section by adding the agency International Justice Mission ([www.ijm.org](http://www.ijm.org)). Rev. Cannon accepted the amendment on behalf of the Board. The resolution was adopted as amended, and is as follows:

**A Resolution Calling for the  
 South Carolina Annual Conference  
 to Begin Combating Human Trafficking**

Whereas, Human trafficking is defined as a modern-day form of slavery, in which victims are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labor (U.S. Department of Health & Human Services “Human Trafficking Fact Sheet”); and

Whereas, Human trafficking generates \$9.5 billion annually and is the fastest-growing type of criminal activity in the world today (U.S. State Department’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons; The Polaris Project); and

Whereas, As many as 27 million people in the world today are victims of human trafficking (Sociologist Kevin Bales, “Disposable People”); and

Whereas, Some 600,000 to 800,000 victims are trafficked annually across international borders worldwide, with about 14,500 to 17,500 of those trafficked into the United States (U.S. Department of State); and

Whereas, An estimated 200,000 American children are at high risk for trafficking into the sex industry each year (The Polaris Project); and

Whereas, All people are created by God and in the image of God (Genesis 1:27); and

Whereas, God is a God of justice (Isaiah 61:8), who calls on His people to work for justice and to defend the oppressed (Isaiah 1:17), and blesses those who work for justice (Psalm 106:3); and

Whereas, God hears the cries of the oppressed (Psalm 10:17-18); and

Whereas, Jesus Christ defined His mission as ministering to the poor, the captive, the ill and the oppressed (Luke 4:18-19); and

Whereas, The General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church has studied the issue of human trafficking while participating in the U.N. Commission on the Status and Role of Women; and has endorsed and promoted the “Rescue and Restore” initiative of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and has publicized the Trafficking Information and Referral Hotline: 1-888-3737-888; and

Whereas, The United Methodist Church’s 2008 Book of Resolutions calls us to educate ourselves about this issue and work for its eradication; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church encourage its members and churches to join in fighting against all forms of human trafficking, in working to rescue and restore its victims, in promoting vigorous laws and prosecution of perpetrators, and in working to reduce the demand for trafficked persons. And be it further

Resolved, That the following action steps are suggested:

- Educate yourself and others. Resources include the following:
- U.S. State Dept. Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons: [www.state.gov/g/tip](http://www.state.gov/g/tip)
- U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services: [www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/)
- International Justice Mission: [www.ijm.org](http://www.ijm.org)
- Coalition Against Trafficking in Women: [www.catwinternational.org/](http://www.catwinternational.org/)
- The Polaris Project: [www.polarisproject.org/](http://www.polarisproject.org/)
- ECPAT International: [www.ecpat.net](http://www.ecpat.net)
- Not For Sale: [www.notforsalecampaign.org/](http://www.notforsalecampaign.org/)
- Pray for victims to be freed and restored, for

demand to be reduced, and for perpetrators to stop their evil deeds.

- Work with other churches and denominations in supporting the provision of safe houses for victims of human trafficking.
- Call on all people to recognize their particular responsibility to raise awareness of the issues involved in human trafficking.
- Observe the "National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness" on the Sunday before January 11 each year.
- identify advocacy groups and consider contributing financially to the work of freeing victims of human trafficking.
- Determine what services are available locally for runaway teens (who are particularly vulnerable to traffickers) and how you can support these services.

Next, the Rev. Ed McDowell, Chair, brought the report of **Council on Finance and Administration**, moving the adoption of the 2010 budget, with corrections made during the Monday session. Rev. Mike Bruce, Aldersgate, Greenville moved to amend Report Number 7 by removing "both" from the first sentence and adding "and the Methodist Homes Residents Assistance Fund has been reduced by 6.7% compared to the 2009 budget." He also moved to remove "Both of" from the second sentence. Finally, he moved to remove "in the amount of \$223,690" from the final sentence. The Bishop called for a vote and the amendment was supported by the body.

Rev. Roger Grambling, Columbia, asked for an update on the repayment of the loan from the Permanent Reserve Fund, taken in order to purchase a new **Episcopal Residence**. He also asked if the Episcopal residence is being inspected annually. Rev. Jim Knowles-Tuell responded that over the course of the past three years \$50,000 per year has been restored to the Reserve Fund. He reported that another \$50,000 will be repaid at the end of 2009, which will finish repaying the \$200,000 loan. Rev. McDowell reported that the annual inspection was made last year, but has not yet been done in 2009. No other questions or speeches being offered, the entire budget was moved for adoption, and was approved by the body.

Jeff Barham, **Conference Chancellor**, expressed appreciation for the opportunity for continuing legal education and networking opportunities with other Annual Conference Chancellors. He lifted up the importance of incorporating local churches and frequent review of insurance policies. Mr. Barham moved the adoption of "A Resolution to Create a Cemetery Endowment for the Perpetual Care of the Cemetery of the Discontinued Asbury Clark United Methodist Church", on behalf of the Trustees of the Annual Conference. There was no discussion. The Bishop called for a vote and the resolution was adopted and reads as follows:

**A RESOLUTION TO CREATE A  
CEMETERY ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE PERPETUAL CARE OF THE  
CEMETERY OF THE DISCONTINUED  
ASBURY CLARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Whereas, The South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church (the "Conference") discontinued Asbury Clark United Methodist Church ("Asbury Clark "UMC"), of the Anderson District and located in Anderson County, South Carolina, during

its annual session in 1988; and

Whereas, The discontinuation resolution of the Conference directed, among other things, that the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Conference assume control of the property, that the Board create a cemetery association for the care of the cemetery of the discontinued local church, and that the Board make disposition of the property; and

Whereas, The Board has sold two parcels of land from the property of the discontinued local church and deposited the net proceeds from the sales with the Treasurer of the Conference as the Custodian of funds entrusted to the Board; and

Whereas, The Board has determined that the creation of a cemetery association by the Board is neither feasible nor in the best interest of the Conference; however; the Board believes the cemetery can best be cared for by the establishment of a cemetery endowment for the care and maintenance of the cemetery and by the selection of a volunteer caretaker church in the local area; and

Whereas, Sufficient funds are available from the sales of the two parcels of property to create a permanent endowment for the perpetual care of the cemetery and to prevent a financial burden to the caretaker of the cemetery; and

Whereas, The Board recommends that a permanent cemetery endowment be established through the South Carolina United Methodist Foundation; and

Whereas, The Board recommends conveying the cemetery and the residual property adjacent to the cemetery (collectively referred to herein as the "Cemetery Property") to a volunteer caretaker church; and

Whereas, Until the selection of a volunteer caretaker church, the Board will continue to act as the caretaker for the Cemetery Property; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board is hereby authorized to take any and all actions necessary to establish a permanent endowment with the South Carolina United Methodist Foundation for the care and maintenance of the Cemetery Property; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Board is authorized to direct the transfer of \$125,000.00 to the South Carolina United Methodist Foundation to establish the corpus of the cemetery endowment; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Board is authorized to convey the Cemetery Property to a volunteer caretaker church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That any two officers of the Board are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the creation of a cemetery endowment for the care and maintenance of the Cemetery Property and to convey the Cemetery Property to a volunteer caretaker church.

Mr. Barham then moved the adoption of "A Resolution Approving the Discontinuation of Cainhoy Methodist Church and the Disposition of its Property", on behalf of the Trustees of the Annual Conference. There was no discussion. The

Bishop called for a vote and the resolution was adopted by the body, and reads as follows:

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DISCONTINUATION OF CAINHOY METHODIST CHURCH AND THE DISPOSITION OF ITS PROPERTY  
Berkeley County, South Carolina  
Charleston District, South Carolina Conference**

Whereas, The history of Cainhoy Methodist Church ("Cainhoy Church"), as reflected in the archives of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference"), is uncertain; and

Whereas, Cainhoy Church appears on an 1895 district map of the Charleston District but may have been closed by 1900. In 1934, the church was reopened as part of the Charleston Mission. In 1938, Cainhoy Church was shifted to the McClellanville Charge of the Kingstree District. In 1941, Cainhoy Church and Mt. Pleasant Church were placed on the Mt. Pleasant Charge. In 1942, the Mt. Pleasant Church was moved to the Charleston District, but no mention is made in the Conference Journal for that year of Cainhoy Church. No other information is known; and

Whereas, The archives of the South Carolina Conference do not show that Cainhoy Church was ever closed by official action of the annual conference; and

Whereas, It has come to the attention of the Board of Trustees for the Charleston District and the Board of Trustees for the South Carolina Conference ("Conference Board") that there is a parcel of land, approximately one acre in size, with a cemetery in Berkeley County, South Carolina, which is believed to be the remaining property of Cainhoy Church ("Cainhoy Property"). No buildings are on the Cainhoy Property; and

Whereas, It is appropriate that official action be taken with regard to the existence of Cainhoy Church and with regard to the disposition the Cainhoy Property; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That, to the extent that Cainhoy Church was never discontinued by official action of the annual conference, Cainhoy Church is hereby discontinued; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, to the extent that the South Carolina Conference has a property interest in the Cainhoy Property, the South Carolina Conference authorizes the Conference Board to make disposition of the Cainhoy Property; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference hereby authorizes any two officers of the Conference Board to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the disposition of the Cainhoy Property.

Mr. Barham then moved adoption of "A Resolution Regarding the Disposition of the Property of the Discontinued Center Methodist Episcopal Church, South," on behalf of the Trustees of the Annual Conference. The Rev. James Ellis Griffith, Spartanburg District, asked about the plans for the cemetery. Mr. Barham responded that he thinks there is every intention on the part of the Board to preserve

the integrity of the cemetery. There being no further discussion, the Bishop called for a vote and the resolution was adopted by the body, and reads as follows:

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE DISCONTINUED CENTER METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH Oconee County, South Carolina  
Anderson District, South Carolina Conference**

Whereas, In 1934, Center Methodist Episcopal Church, South ("Center Church"), located in Oconee County, South Carolina, near the Oakway Community, was discontinued by a predecessor annual conference of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference"); and

Whereas, The Conference discontinued Center Church but made no direction concerning the disposition of the property of the discontinued Center Church (the "Property") other than to "place the property under the care of the Townville Quarterly Conference"; and

Whereas, While the Townville Quarterly Conference is no longer in existence, no provision for the disposition of the Property was apparently made; and

Whereas, Very little is known about the history of the property since 1934; however, various volunteers and local churches have apparently provided upkeep to the Property through the years; and

Whereas, The Property has approximately two and one-half (2.5) acres of land, a one-room, wooden frame church building, and a cemetery; and

Whereas, A visit to the Property by members of the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference (the "Conference Board") reveals that deceased persons have been buried in the cemetery since 1934, including within the last several years; and

Whereas, It is appropriate that the South Carolina Conference take whatever action may be necessary with regard to the Property; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That, to the extent that the South Carolina Conference has a property interest in the Property, the South Carolina Conference authorizes the Conference Board to make disposition of the Property; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference hereby authorizes any two officers of the Conference Board to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the disposition of the Property.

With the adoption of the resolution, Mr. Barham concluded his report.

The Rev. Smoke Kanipe, Vice-Chair of the **Board of Camps and Retreats Ministries**, brought greetings on behalf of the board and staff of Camps and Retreats. Rev. Kanipe invited participation at the dedication of the new and revitalized facilities at Asbury Hills, June 7, 2009, and participation in the online survey regarding Camp Sewee (found at [www.surveymonkey.com/sewee](http://www.surveymonkey.com/sewee)) until June 15,

2009. Rev. Kanipe invited the members of the annual conference to continue enjoying Asbury Hills. He then presented a video from Camps and Retreats Ministries.

After announcements, the body entered into a lunch recess at 12:12 PM.

#### **The Fourth Day – Wednesday Afternoon June 3, 2009**

The session resumed at 2:08 PM. The Bishop requested that the Annual Conference Secretary send a note to the Rev. Jim Gadsden noting that he was missed and wishing him well. She then recognized delegates who have been attending Annual Conference for fifty or more years and those who attended for the first time this year.

Dr. Joseph E. Heyward, Annual Conference Lay Leader, presented the report of the **Board of Laity**. Dr. Heyward expressed appreciation for the members of the Board of Laity, particularly the seven newly minted District Lay Leaders. He told the body that The Hope for the Children of Africa Choir will be in South Carolina July 1-12, 2009 and churches are being solicited to host them for a concert. Dr. Heyward offered a motion that all churches be asked to take up a love offering on July 5, 2009 in support of their orphanage. Checks should be sent to the Conference Office. It was seconded. There was no discussion. The Bishop called for a vote and the motion carried. Dr. Heyward asked that his written and oral report be ordered to record, and it was so ordered.

Dr. Carolyn Briscoe called attention to the fact that Dr. Heyward was elected President of the Association of Southeastern Jurisdiction Lay Leaders. The annual conference expressed appreciation for Dr. Heyward's work.

Reverend Quay Adams, Dean of the Cabinet, began the **Report of the Cabinet** by thanking Bishop Taylor for her leadership. Reverend Adams stated that the Cabinet feels that the members of the South Carolina Annual Conference must be faithful and bold, rethinking church, in order to respond to God's call for us to make disciples for Jesus Christ. A video about "rethinking Church" was presented. Rev. Adams noted that these are economically-challenging times and said it is the Cabinet's prayer that the economy will not be an excuse to refrain from ministry, but will serve as a challenge to congregations to minister in creative ways. Rev. Adams affirmed local churches and conference staff for service in ministry, particularly the development of the Congregational Specialists ministry and the increase in apportionment giving. The Cabinet has been investing time and energy in continued development for the purposes of continually improving their shepherding in order that they may continue to superintend faithfully. The report was received by the body.

The Reverend Tim McClendon presented **Chargeline Changes**. These changes are reported in Business Question 16 in the 2009 Journal. These changes were received by the body.

Rev. McClendon offered resolutions to discontinue three churches within the conference. "**A Resolution to Discontinue Bethel United Methodist Church**" was presented, and the body expressed gratitude for the ministries of Bethel church, and recognized those in attendance with connections to that congregation. The Bishop called for a vote and the resolution was passed by the body as follows:

#### **A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Anderson County (Williamston), South Carolina Anderson District, South Carolina Conference**

Whereas, Bethel United Methodist Church ("Bethel UMC"), located in Anderson County, South Carolina, at or near the Town of Williamston, currently has approximately five active members, and the Church Conference has voted to discontinue the church; and

Whereas, The Reverend Dr. Robert E. Stillwell, District Superintendent of the Anderson District, South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference"), has recommended that Bethel UMC be discontinued; and

Whereas, The Church Council of New Golden Grove United Methodist Church, Piedmont, South Carolina, has agreed to minister to the members of Bethel UMC; and

Whereas, The Anderson District Board of Church Location and Building has consented to the discontinuance of Bethel UMC; and

Whereas, The Presiding Bishop of the South Carolina Conference and a majority of the District Superintendents thereof have consented to the discontinuance of Bethel UMC; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference does hereby discontinue Bethel UMC pursuant to paragraph 2548.2, *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2008)*; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference expresses thanksgiving to God for the Christian ministry rendered across the years by the members and pastors of Bethel UMC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the membership of Bethel UMC shall be transferred to New Golden

Grove UMC in Piedmont, South Carolina; and be it further

*Resolved*, That all funds of Bethel UMC remaining after the payment of any outstanding expenses or expenses associated with the discontinuance of the church be transferred to New Golden Grove UMC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That all of the remaining real and personal, tangible and intangible property of Bethel UMC shall be conveyed and transferred to New Golden Grove UMC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, as part of the winding up of the affairs of the discontinued local church, any two officers of the Board of Trustees of Bethel UMC are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the conveyance and transfer of the aforementioned funds to New Golden Grove UMC and the remaining real and personal property of Bethel UMC to New Golden Grove UMC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Anderson District shall oversee the transfer of membership; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Anderson District shall ensure that all deeds, records, and other official and legal papers,

including the contents of the cornerstone of the discontinued church are collected and deposited for permanent safekeeping with the Commission on Archives and History of the South Carolina Conference.

Rev. McClendon then offered "**A Resolution to Discontinue Whitney United Methodist Church.**" The body expressed gratitude for the ministries of Whitney church, and recognized those in attendance with connections to that congregation. The Bishop called for a vote and the resolution was passed as follows:

**A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE  
WHITNEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Spartanburg County, South Carolina  
Spartanburg District, South Carolina Conference**

Whereas, The Church Local Conference of Whitney United Methodist Church ("Whitney UMC") has voted to discontinue the church, effective June 24, 2009; and

Whereas, The Reverend Dennis R. Lee, District Superintendent of the Spartanburg District, South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference"), has recommended that Whitney UMC, located in Spartanburg County, South Carolina, be discontinued; and

Whereas, The Spartanburg District Board of Church Location and Building has consented to the discontinuance of Whitney UMC; and

Whereas, The Presiding Bishop of the South Carolina Conference and a majority of the District Superintendents thereof have consented to the discontinuance of Whitney UMC; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference does hereby declare Whitney UMC discontinued, effective June 24, 2009, pursuant to paragraph 2548.2, *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2008)*; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference expresses thanksgiving to God for the Christian ministry rendered across the years by the members and pastors of Whitney UMC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the membership of Whitney UMC shall be transferred to Gravely Memorial United Methodist Church, Spartanburg, South Carolina ("Gravely Memorial UMC"); and be it further

*Resolved*, That, as part of winding up the affairs of the discontinued local church, the Board of Trustees of Whitney UMC is authorized to sell the real property of the discontinued local church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, as part of winding up the affairs of the discontinued local church, the Board of Trustees of Whitney UMC is authorized to sell or otherwise dispose of the tangible personal property of the discontinued local church; and be it further

*Resolved*, that any two officers of the said Board of Trustees of Whitney UMC are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the sale, conveyance, and/or transfer of the property of the discontinued local church consistent with this resolution; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, if the Board of Trustees of Whitney UMC is able to sell the real property by July 31, 2009, all proceeds from the sale of the real property and any personal property and all other funds belonging to Whitney UMC, less expenses related to the sale of any property and other costs associated with the discontinuation of Whitney UMC, shall be donated to Spartanburg Bethlehem Center and Epworth Children's Home, in approximately equal shares; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, if the real property of the discontinued local church has not been sold by July 31, 2009, the Board of Trustees of Whitney UMC shall convey the real property to Bethel United Methodist Church, Spartanburg, South Carolina ("Bethel UMC"); and

*Resolved*, That, all remaining personal property belonging to Whitney UMC, if any, including any remaining funds, shall be transferred to Bethel UMC for its use and/or disposition; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, consistent with the desire of Whitney UMC, the South Carolina Conference requests that Bethel UMC sell the real property of the discontinued local church and donate the funds received from the sale and any other funds transferred from Whitney UMC, less any expenses associated the sale of the property, to Spartanburg Bethlehem Center and Epworth Children's Home, in approximately equal shares; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Spartanburg District shall oversee the transfer of membership and the conveyance and transfer of the property to ensure completion; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Spartanburg District shall ensure that all deeds, records, and other official and legal papers, are collected and deposited for permanent safekeeping with the commission on archives and history of the South Carolina Conference.

Finally, Rev. McClendon offered "**A Resolution to Discontinue Woodside United Methodist Church**". The body expressed gratitude for the ministries of Bethel, and recognized those in attendance with connections to that congregation. The Bishop called for a vote and the resolution was approved as follows:

**A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE  
WOODSIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Greenville County, South Carolina  
Greenville District, South Carolina Conference**

Whereas, Woodside United Methodist Church ("Woodside UMC"), located in Greenville County, South Carolina, currently has seven active members, and the Church Conference has voted to discontinue the church; and

Whereas, The Rev. Charles L. Johnson, Sr., District Superintendent of the Greenville District, South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference"), has recommended that Woodside UMC be discontinued; and

Whereas, The Church Council of Brandon United Methodist Church ("Brandon UMC"), Greenville, South Carolina, has agreed to minister to the members of Woodside UMC; and

Whereas, The Greenville District Board of Church Location and Building has consented to the discontinuance of Woodside UMC; and

Whereas, The Presiding Bishop of the South Carolina Conference and a majority of the District Superintendents thereof have consented to the discontinuance of Woodside UMC; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference does hereby discontinue Woodside UMC pursuant to paragraph 2548.2, *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2008)* (the "*Discipline*"); and be it further

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference expresses thanksgiving to God for the Christian ministry rendered across the years by the members and pastors of Woodside UMC, beginning when the church was founded (1911), and including their decision to pay 100% of their apportionments in 2008; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference approves the transfer of the membership of Woodside UMC to Brandon UMC in Greenville, South Carolina; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, as part of the winding up of the affairs of the discontinued local church, any two officers of the Board of Trustees of Woodside UMC are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the conveyance and transfer of the property of Woodside UMC as set forth below; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference approves the conveyance and transfer of the real and personal property of Woodside UMC to the South Carolina Conference to be held in trust by the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference ("Conference Trustees") and authorizes the Conference Trustees to dispose of the property; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, pursuant to paragraph 2548.7 of the *Discipline*, the net sale proceeds from any sale of the property shall be used for new and/or existing ministries within urban transitional communities; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Greenville District shall oversee the transfer of membership and the conveyance and transfer of property to the Conference Trustees to ensure completion; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Greenville District shall ensure that all deeds, records, and other official and legal papers, including the contents of the cornerstone of the discontinued church are collected and deposited for permanent safekeeping with the Commission on Archives and History of the South Carolina Conference.

With the adoption of this resolution, Rev. McClendon's report as Secretary of the Cabinet was completed.

A video about **Lake Junaluska**, and the United Methodist ministries hosted there, was presented.

The Reverend Lillian Washington and the Reverend Julius Hadden led a group which brought greetings from the

Hartsville District and invited the Annual Conference to attend the Oct. 18, 2009, "**Reach Another in Christ Everyday**" Evangelism Event at Darlington Motor Speedway.

The Reverend Timothy Rogers drew attention to the Report of the **Committee on the Annual Conference**. The recommendation of the committee was that the 2010 Annual Conference be held in Florence, SC. The Bishop called for a vote and the recommendation was affirmed by the body. The Bishop set the date for the 2010 Annual Conference to be June 10-13, 2010. Michael Cheatham, Conference Director of Lay Speaking Ministries responded affirmatively to the Bishop's request that Lay Speakers fill the pulpits on Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>.

After several closing announcements, the Conference Secretary then offered the following expressions of appreciation to those who had helped to organize and conduct the 2009 Annual Conference Session, which included: Rev. James Friday, Florence District Superintendent, and Margaret Smith, his administrative Assistant; Rev. Jeanetteé Cooper, Senior Pastor of Cumberland United Methodist Church, the Host Church, together with the people and staff of Cumberland for many acts of service and hospitality; Kendall Wall, General Manager of the Florence Civic Center, together with JoLynn, Russell, Lyna and the outstanding Civic Center staff; the United Methodist volunteers from throughout the Pee Dee region who served in registration, in the information booth, and as ushers; the Reverend Cec Jenkin, our Conference Recorder; Mrs. Pat Mack and the staff of the Print Media Center, who printed and assembled the pre-conference and registration materials, prepared the name badges for registration, and printed Conference program materials; Laura Hill, Bonnie and Walt Speas, and Sylvia and Bill Hulbert who assisted with special registration; the staff of GNTV who provided outstanding audio and video services for the Conference; Mrs. Tracy Mahaffey who "signed" the Sunday and Monday evening worship services and the memorial service; The Reverend Nelson L. Stokes who coordinated the Exhibitors and helped set up the exhibitors area; Ms. Millie Carter and the members of the organizing committee who oversaw the Great Day of Service; the three Assistant Secretaries serving on the platform: The Reverend James C. Lane, The Reverend Kristen Richardson-Frick, and the Reverend Will Malambri; Mrs. Bettye Rivers, Administrative Assistant to Bishop Taylor; Rev. Gary Phillips and the Commission on Worship; The Reverend Susan Leonard-Ray, Conference Worship Coordinator; The Reverend Miyoung Paik, who was responsible for preparing our communion table and backdrop banners; Mr. Billy Fallaw, Conference Organist; The Reverend Karen Radcliffe and members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry who planned the Ordination Service; Highland Park United Methodist Church for the use of their pulpit; Trinity United Methodist Church of Darlington for the use of their kneelers; Cumberland United Methodist Church for the use of their long kneelers; the Bible Study leaders: Rev. Joe Cate, Rev. Michael Hood, and Rev. Enrique Gordon for guiding us in our Bible Studies each day; Rev. Don Smith for standing in and leading our Awards and Recognitions program; the Candler Singers, the Conference Clergy Choir, the Praise Band of Bethany - Summerville, and the Spirit Singers – all of whom added so much to our worship experiences; our worship leaders and celebrants; the preachers for our worship services: Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, The Reverend Mel Arant, The Reverend Jennifer Williams, and The Reverend George Ashford; our Parliamentarian, The Reverend Dr.

Timothy McClendon; our Conference Lay Leader, Dr. Joseph Heyward, who planned and led the Orientation Session for Lay Members on Sunday afternoon; our Tellers, seventy persons from across the Conference who served us so ably throughout the week; and our bishop, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, who gave direction to our planning and so ably presided over the Conference.

The Conference Secretary then made the following **Omnibus Motion**: That any reports, nominations, or recommendations printed and distributed in the pre-conference or registration materials or distributed on the floor during the Annual Conference Session not previously acted upon be accepted and moved to record and that following the Closing Worship and The Fixing of the Appointments this 2009 Session of the South Carolina Annual Conference be adjourned *sine die*. The motion was seconded and approved by the Conference at 3:17 p.m.

Bishop Taylor then invited all Conference members to remain for the sending forth service, and announced a short recess.

Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor led the Annual Conference in closing worship at 3:50 p.m., presiding over the **Sending Forth and Fixing of the Appointments Service**. Bishop Taylor preached on the topic of "Ours the Journey." For the closing service, an outline of the state of South Carolina had been placed on the floor of the arena. The appointments were distributed by the tellers following the sermon, and the District Superintendents were then invited to the platform to stand with the Bishop for the fixing of the appointments. After each District Superintendent affirmed that the appointments were correct, he or she led the clergy appointed to serve in their district to stand with them within the outline of the state in the area of their districts. Following the fixing of the appointments by Bishop Taylor for the coming Conference year, the congregation participated in The Affirming of the Appointments litany. Dr. Joseph Heyward, Conference Lay Leader, served as liturgist for the service. Mr. Billy Fallaw served as Organist. The opening hymn was "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" and the closing hymn was "In the Midst of New Dimensions." The service concluded the 38th Session of the South Carolina Annual Conference and was adjourned *sine die* at 4:45 p.m.

Timothy J. Rogers  
Secretary of the Annual Conference