

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)

Thursday, June 10 – Sunday, June 13, 2010
Florence Civic Center
Florence, South Carolina

Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, Presiding

CONFERENCE THEME:
“For the Least of These”

The First Day – Thursday Morning
June 10, 2010

Clergy Session. The Clergy Session was called to order by Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor at 10:30 a.m. in the Exhibit Hall. Bishop Taylor opened the meeting with a word of prayer. The Reverend Kenneth Nelson, Chairperson of the **Board of Ordained Ministry**, 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 to present the Business Questions on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

The Reverend Anthony Hodge, Registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry, presented the full written and distributed report. Reverend Hodge 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. It was perfected and approved by more than two-thirds vote of the clergy session. Motion 2, on the second page of the Clergy Session Memorandum, 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. The clergy session acted to approve each of the following Business Questions separately: 18b, 21, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 42, 45, 46 a-d, 50 and 76. Questions 32, 33, and 50 were approved by more than a two-thirds majority. Question 76 was approved by more than a ¾ majority. Following the reading of the names of clergy who had died during the past year, as listed under question 48, Bishop Taylor offered prayer in remembrance and appreciation of their service to the Annual Conference. There being no further business, several announcements were made, Bishop Taylor reminded the members of the afternoon worship session, thanked them for their presence and participation, and declared the clergy session adjourned.

Lay Orientation. An Orientation Session was conducted for the Lay Members of the Annual Conference by the Board of

Laity at 11:00 a.m. in the Arena of the Florence Civic Center. The session began with a welcome by Dr. Joseph E. Heyward, Conference Lay Leader, followed by an opening prayer by Mr. Donald Love, the Rock Hill District Lay Leader. 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 2010 Annual Conference. Lay members were invited to give special attention to the Day of Service, the proposal to re-structure Connectional Ministries, and the proposal to change the conference health insurance program. Announcements were made concerning the ordination service, the Laity Luncheon, the conference worship services, additional hand-outs, and the Laity Convocation scheduled for later in the summer. Opening and closing hymns were sung. The session was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

The First Day – Thursday Afternoon
June 10, 2010

Opening Service of Worship. The opening worship service was held in the Civic Center Arena at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor presided, preaching a sermon entitled, “When Was It?” based on Matthew 25:44-47. The service opened with the singing of the historic Wesleyan Hymn, “And Are we Yet Alive.” Dr. Joseph Heyward, Conference Lay Leader, offered the opening prayer and Ms. Cheryl Tolbert of St. Luke UMC, Lexington, KY, presented special music.

Organizational Session. The Conference was called to order by Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor at 3:05 p.m. Ms. Peggy McLean, Chair of the Florence Civic Center Board of Directors, brought greetings and welcomed the Annual Conference to 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 2010 Annual Conference session be elected as nominated without reading and their names be published in the *2010 Conference Journal*. The following **clergy tellers** were nominated and elected: The Reverends Ebbie S. Abraham, David Bauknight, J. Melvin Bell, Randall E. Bowers, Doris Bright,

Delbert Brown, Giles Campbell, Andria S. Cantrell, Robin Dease, Anne D. Everett, Wade Everett, Scott Gilmer, Pattie E. Gordon, Christopher Greene, Walter Harley, Jeremy Howell, Joanne Lockard-Hawkins, Joe Long, Leon Love, Alice MacKeil, Bonnie Miller, Ken Nelson, Allen Nesmith, George Olive, Scott W. Petry, G. Bernard Ponds, Robert Reeves, Darlene Richardson, Michael Ritter, Chris Thompson, Emily D. Turner, R. Horace White, and John Williams. The following **lay tellers** were nominated and elected: Charles Adams, Clyde Burch, Bill Click, Lillie Davis, Azilee Dickey, W. Vincent Ferguson, Tommy Glenn, Edna Green, Jacqueline Greene-Stuckey, Gerald Hicks, Francis Hipp, Patricia Jackson, Dan Mabey, Conda Martin, Chris McCoy, Ray McCoy, Steve McGahee, Jon Miller, Buddy Perry, June Price, Yvonne Stokes, John Thrasher, Pat Walker, Tommy Walker, Doug Watts, Constance Wilborn, Cynthia B. Williams, Eunice White, and Tom Woodward.

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 2010 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 2010 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 2010 Annual Conference Session. All of these organizational motions were seconded and approved.

Reverend Rogers described again the areas included in the "bar of the conference", and directed the attention of the conference to the recognition card and ballot sheet. Rev. Rogers noted that two revised reports were included in the registration packets to replace reports that have been included in the pre-conference packets: pages 1a and 2b and 31a and 32b. Rev. Rogers also requested that evaluation forms be filled out prior to departure at the conclusion of the Annual Conference.

Bishop Taylor recognized the Reverend Dr. Roger Gramling, who was serving as the substitute Parliamentarian for the Annual Conference in place of Reverend Dr. Tim McClendon for the 2010 Annual Conference.

The Report of the **Committee on Standing Rules** was given by the Rev. Patricia Mayfield, chairperson. The committee recommended the following rules be adjusted and/or adopted. The committee recommended ten changes. **Rule 19** was to be amended by striking "at the morning session of" and adding the word "on." The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was approved. **Rule 27** was to be amended in several ways including incorporating Rule 92. The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was approved. **Rule 28** was to be amended by removing the requirement of the nomination form. The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was approved. **Rule 30** was to be amended by removing the term "officers" from the rule and giving voice without vote to the Associate Conference Lay Leader and the Secretary of the Conference Board of Laity. The bishop

called for a vote and the amendment was approved. **Rule 46** was to be amended by adding the "Coordinator of Clergy Services" to the Annual Conference Ministry Advisory Team. The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was approved. **Rule 47** was to be amended by requiring nominations for Boards of Trust, parent boards, or agencies to identify any nominee who is a member of the United Methodist Church. The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was approved. **Rule 55** was to be amended by allowing a person to serve on the Boards of Trust of Columbia College and Wofford College after a one year absence from the Boards. The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was approved. **Rule 66** was to be amended by adding a member of the Committee on Congregational Development as an ex-officio member of the Commission on Equitable Compensation. The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was approved. **Rule 68** was to be amended to ensure that no more than one lay person from each district be on the Committee on Annual Conference. The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was approved. **Rule 74.I** was to be amended requiring that nominations made to Boards of Trust identify any nominee who is a member of the United Methodist Church. The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was approved. The Standing Rules of the Annual Conference were then adopted as a whole, and are printed in Section IX of the Journal.

The Reverend Timothy Rogers presented the **Consent Calendar** and called attention to the Petition to Remove items from the Consent Calendar, reminding the body that the items on the Consent Calendar were scheduled to be voted on during the business session on Friday morning.

The Reverend Edward H. McDowell, Jr., President of the **Conference Council on Finance and Administration**, nominated **Anthony C. Prestipino, Jr.** to be the Conference Treasurer. Mr. Prestipino was elected and welcomed. Rev. McDowell then acknowledged the work of Becky Buie, the interim Conference Treasurer. Rev. McDowell then presented the report of the Council on Finance and Administration. He informed the conference of a revision to the recommended budget for Equitable Compensation, part of the revised Report No. 1. The revision reduced the recommended budget from \$585,000 to \$505,000. The recommended increase in the line item was reduced from a recommended increase of 23.2% to a recommended increase of 6.3%. This change resulted in a total proposed budget of \$17,418,594, a proposed increase of 2.8%. After several questions and responses, the various reports of the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, found on pages 1a, 2a, and 3 – 30 of the pre-conference materials, were presented for information by Rev. McDowell. The adoption of the budget was scheduled for Sunday morning. Dr. McDowell then acknowledged the work and leadership of the members of the Conference Council on Finance and Administration.

Ms. Betty Walker, chair of the **Committee on Resolutions and Appeals**, reported that two resolutions printed in the pre-conference materials were being referred to the committee: a resolution regarding sexual activity among teens, and a resolution to request a review of government policies that affect vulnerable children. A third resolution, regarding immigration reform, was also being referred, and copies of this resolution were available on the hand-out tables. She reminded the body that any additional resolutions must be submitted by the end of the current session, so that the committee, meeting immediately following the session,

could consider them. The makers of any new resolutions must provide enough copies (2300) for the entire body, and must provide them by the close of the following day's session. The vote on resolutions was scheduled for Saturday.

Dr. Kenneth Mufuka, Chair of the **Commission on Equitable Compensation**, presented the commission's report. The Reverend Jeremy Howell presented information about Report 2.A.1, which is the overall budget of the commission, explaining the reduction in the commission's request. He then presented Report 2.A.2, which included the a recommendations for minimum compensation, setting the minimum salary for Clergy in Full Connection at \$40,500; the minimum salary for Provisional, Commissioned, and Associate Members at \$36,800; and the minimum salary for Local Pastors at \$34,150. Rev. Howell moved that the schedule of minimum compensation be approved, the vote was taken, and the report was approved. The entirety of Reports 2 and 3 were received by the conference. Dr. Mufuka then moved the report as a whole be received, and the report was received. Dr. Mufuka then acknowledged the work and leadership of the members of the Commission on Equitable Compensation.

The Reverend Ken Howell brought greetings and a video presentation from **Lake Junaluska**. He then recognized the members of the South Carolina Annual Conference serving on the Lake Junaluska Board of Directors.

Bishop Taylor informed the body that there were three items of information available to be picked up: a supplemental report from the Committee on Nominations, a resolution concerning immigration, and a special report on Epworth Children's Home.

The Annual Conference was in recess from 4:25 p.m. until 4:45 p.m.

The Annual Conference was called back into session by "shooting" t-shirts from a t-shirt launcher into the crowd. The t-shirts were provided by the four United Methodist related colleges and universities within the conference, as a way of increasing awareness of these institutions within the conference.

After the recess, Courtneka Hudson, a student at Payne College, addressed the annual conference as a representative of the **Black College Fund**.

The Report of the **Committee on Nominations** was presented for review by the Rev. Mike Bowers, Chairperson. The main report was included in the registration materials, and a supplemental report was distributed during the afternoon session. Reverend Bowers requested that editorial corrections be submitted in writing. Rev. Bowers pointed out vacancies remaining to be filled. A nomination was made from the floor for the Epworth Children's Home Trustees: John Gramling, III, to replace C.F. Evans. 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 Saturday afternoon.

The Reverend Ken Nelson, Chair of the **Board of Ordained Ministry**, offered the Board's report. Rev. Nelson acknowledged those who have completed the five-year Basic or Advanced Course of Study. He introduced the five **Ministerial Interns and Partner Congregations** who will

join in ministry in South Carolina during the summer of 2010. Rev. Nelson then proposed amendments to the Board of Ordained Ministry **Policy Guidelines**. The first proposed amendment would change item VI.B.2.g to make the Residency program a two year program, and create a separate Residency program for those continuing in provisional membership beyond the second year. The bishop called for a vote on the recommendation and the amendment was approved. The second proposed amendment would change the checklist titled "Guide for License for Pastoral Ministry" to reflect that up to \$960 would be provided for Course of Study. The bishop called for a vote on this recommendation and the amendment was approved. The third proposed amendment would change item XXI.A, and the "Guide for License for Pastoral Ministry", by requiring a "C" grade for a course to be accepted and providing that scholarship money will be awarded only once per course. The bishop called for a vote on the recommendation and the amendment was approved. The fourth proposed amendment would change items VII.B.3.d and VIII.B.4.e to require candidates to complete all courses listed in the Basic Graduate Theological Studies and South Carolina Conference requirements with a "C" grade or higher in order to be credited with completion of the courses. The bishop called for a vote on this recommendation and the amendment was approved. The fifth and final proposed amendment to the Policy Guidelines would change the checklist for "Provisional Membership and Commissioning Toward Deacon or Elder" by removing the requirement of a separate recommendation letter from the District Superintendent. The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was approved. The Reverend Tim Rogers and Ms. Bonnie Speas were recognized and thanked for their outstanding support of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Rev. Roger Gramling, Parliamentarian, offered a motion that the ending time for this session be extended to complete the business of this session. The motion was approved. The candidates approved during the clergy session for Associate Membership, Provisional Membership, and candidates for ordination and Full Membership were recognized. Dr. Joe Heyward (Annual Conference Lay Leader), Rev. Ken Nelson (Chair of the Board of ordained Ministry), and Rev. John Cribb (Chair of the Fellowship of Local Pastors), together with Bishop Taylor, presented those to be licensed as Local Pastors by leading the conference through the **Liturgy for the Examination and Licensing of Local Pastors**. The following persons were licensed as Local Pastors: Eugene Aaron Aiken, Heather Stewart Baird, Patricia Diane Boyer, David Wiscombe Canine, Lillie Kerns Davis, Jonathan Wright Donald, Brenda Ward Durham, Ernest Winfred Frierson, Sharon Spann Gamble, Jo Ann Armstrong Garrett, Daniel McKay Hall, Curtis Davon Harrelson, Fadetra Deonka Harrington, Robert Paul Keely, Vivian Remona Lingard, Janice Lee Mabey, Darren Josef McClam, Shannon Marie Murray, Richard Hancock Reams, Phillip Henry Reynolds, Karen Jean Richmond, Paige Chisolm Roper, Kathryn W. Scarborough, Cindy Smith Shaw, Emily Silvola, Gregg Scott Varner, Suzanne Byrum Walker, Jeri Katherine Warden, Joel Andrew Watson, Merritt Robert Wentz, II, Myrna Kay Westfall, Charles Bryson Williams, Stephen Arthur Williams, Louise Brown Wright, and Wade Anthony Wyatt, Sr. The liturgy concluded with the bishop praying a blessing over the newly licensed Local Pastors. Rev. Nelson concluded his report by reporting the answer to Business Question 17 concerning the character of the clergy members of the annual conference. The full report was received by the Annual Conference, with appreciation.

Following announcements, the Annual Conference adjourned at 5:52 p.m. until the 7:30 p.m. worship service.

The First Day – Thursday Evening June 10, 2010

At 7:30 p.m., the Annual Conference gathered for worship. Pianist and singer Cheryl Tolbert led “An Evening of Song, Story, and Spirit.” The offering received went to support the Central Conference Pension Initiative.

The Second Day – Friday Morning June 11, 2010

At 8:30 a.m., the Annual Conference gathered for worship, which included a testimony by Mr. Jim Winkler, General Secretary of the General Board of Church and Society. The Reverend Sandra Stevens-Poirel served as liturgist.

Following a short recess, the Conference gathered at 9:45 a.m. for a Business Session.

Dr. Coleen Keith, President of Spartanburg Methodist College, greeted the Annual Conference on behalf of the **Conference Related Colleges** and highlighted various ways that Claflin University, Columbia College, Spartanburg Methodist College, and Wofford College are in service in their communities. Following her remarks, Rev. Joseph James, chairperson of the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, presented two t-shirts to Bishop Taylor on behalf of the colleges, the Wesley Foundations, and the Board.

The Reverend Ed McWilliams, chairperson of **The Board of Pension and Health Benefits**, and the Reverend David Anderson, Conference Benefits Officer, presented the report of the board. Rev. Anderson began with a slide presentation to help explain the particulars of the reports. Corrections were made to Report Three of the Pension Section of the report of the board, changing the title “For Supplement One to the Ministerial Pension Plan” to “For Supplement One to the **Clergy Retirement Security Program**,” changing “A PSR Increase of 6.0%” to “A PSR Increase of **2.0%**,” and changing “Funding Surplus as of December 31, 2009” to “Funding Surplus as of January 1, **2008**”. Rev. McWilliams moved adoption of Reports 1, 2, and 3 of the Pension Section, as amended. Bishop Taylor invited questions. There were none. The bishop called for a vote and the motion passed. Rev. McWilliams moved adoption of the entire Group Insurance Section. Bishop Taylor invited questions. There were none. The bishop called for a vote and the motion passed. Rev. Anderson then presented the Special Report, **Retiree Health Liability Funding Plan**. He reminded the conference that the 2009 Annual Conference directed the Board of Pension and Health Benefits to develop three plans to provide funding for the unfunded liability related to the retiree health benefit plan of the Annual Conference, and to present the three plans to the 2010 Annual Conference. He also reviewed the fact that such a plan was now required by the *Book of Discipline* and by current accounting standards. He also reported that the unfunded liability for the South Carolina Annual Conference was estimated to be \$51,530,727 as of December 31, 2008. After further explanation, Rev. Anderson moved the adoption of the report and recommended the adoption of Option One. Rev. George Gain moved that page 65, line 61 of the pre-

conference reports be amended to replace “January 1, 2015” with “July 1, 2015.” After discussion, the motion having been seconded, the bishop called for the vote. The amendment prevailed. Rev. Gain moved that page 66, lines 8 and 9 be amended to replace “January 1, 2015” with “July 1, 2015.” The motion being seconded, and there being no discussion, the bishop called for the vote. The amendment prevailed. Rev. Buddy Phillips requested that the examples of impact on retirees be shared with the body. Rev. Anderson shared these. Coke Goodwin, lay member from Lyttleton Street UMC, Camden, asked if younger clergy will have health benefits at retirement. Rev. Anderson confirmed that younger clergy would not have supplemental health insurance at retirement under Option One. Rev. Ken Owens asked about the Administrative costs in Option Two. Rev. Anderson estimated that new administrative costs associated with Option Two would be approximately 4-6%. More discussion followed concerning the implications of the plan, as well as the steps taken to inform the conference of the plan prior to Annual Conference. Rev. Mitch Houston moved the substitution of Option Three for Option One, to make Option Three the recommended plan. His motion was seconded. Questions and discussion followed.

At 11:15, debate on the special report from the Board of Pension and Health Benefits was suspended. Larry Hays, Chair of the Order of Elders, led the conference in prayer for Rev. Narcie McClendon Jeter and her family, as Rev. Jeter was scheduled to undergo surgery that this time. Following the prayer, the Conference entered into a fifteen-minute recess.

Following the recess, debate resumed on the Houston amendment. Following three speeches in favor of the amendment, and three speeches against, the bishop called for the vote. The amendment failed.

Discussion resumed on Option One. Rev. Randy Smith moved that Option Two be substituted for Option One. The motion was seconded. After one speech in favor of the amendment, there were no other speeches in favor or in opposition. The debate having been concluded, the bishop called for a vote on the amendment. The amendment failed.

Returning to discussion on Option One, one speech was offered in favor. There having been three speeches in favor and three in opposition, debate was concluded. The bishop then called for a vote. The Board’s recommendation of Option One was approved.

Rev. Anderson then moved adoption of the Special Report in its entirety. The bishop invited questions and discussion. There was none. The bishop called for a vote and the report was approved.

Rev. Anderson moved the adoption of the entire report of the Board of Pension and Health Benefits. The report was approved, with appreciation.

Dr. Joe Heyward, Conference Lay Leader, offered the **Report of the Lay Leader**. Dr. Heyward directed the attention of the Conference to the submitted report found in the pre-conference materials, and offered highlights from that report. He expressed appreciation for the members of the Board of Laity, expressing special thanks for the work of Kathryn Scarborough and Lib Norton. Dr. Heyward moved the report to record, and it was received by the body. Dr. Heyward offered the nomination of Barbara Ware to fill

Kathryn Scarborough's unexpired term as associate conference lay leader. This replacement was necessary since Kathryn Scarborough was licensed as a local pastor on Thursday, and therefore became a clergy member of the Annual Conference. Ms. Ware was elected, and Dr. Heyward's report was concluded.

Betty Moss McGuirt, member of **United Methodist Publishing House** board, brought greetings on behalf of Cokesbury and The United Methodist Publishing House, and reported on the recent work of the Publishing House. A brief video was played for the Annual Conference as part of Mrs. McGuirt's presentation. Mrs. McGuirt announced that the Publishing House contributed over \$50,000 to the *Imagine No Malaria* campaign and the Publishing House staff raised over \$10,000 for UMCOR's work in Haiti. Mrs. McGuirt concluded her report, which was received with appreciation.

Rev. Timothy Rogers, in compliance with Standing Rule 22, presented the **Consent Calendar** for adoption. There were no petitions to remove items from the Consent Calendar. The bishop invited discussion, and there was none. Bishop Taylor called for a vote and the motion to receive the reports listed in the Consent Calendar was approved. The reports so approved were: Special Days for 2011, Advance Special Ministries 2011, The Board of Education, The Council on Children's Ministries, Christian Educators Fellowship, eChristianEd™, The Conference Council on Older Adult Ministries, The Division on Ministries with Young People, The Board of Evangelism, The Board of Global Ministries, The Disaster Response Committee, Spartanburg Methodist College, The Board of Health and Welfare, Epworth Children's Home, The Methodist Oaks, The Methodist Manor of the Pee Dee, Wesley Commons, The Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, Claflin University, Columbia College, Wofford College, Charleston Wesley Foundation, Clemson Wesley Foundation, Columbia Wesley Foundation, Francis Marion Wesley Foundation, Furman Wesley Fellowship, Lander Wesley Fellowship, Orangeburg Wesley Foundation, Winthrop Wesley Foundation, The Commission on Archives and History, The Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, The Commission on Communications, The Commission on Religion and Race, The Commission on the Status and Role of Women, The Commission on Worship, The Committee on the Annual Conference, The Committee on the Conference *Journal*, The Committee on Congregational Development, The Committee on Episcopacy, The Ethnic Local Church Concerns, African American Task Force, Korean American Task Force, Native American Committee, Global AIDS Committee, The Committee on Pastoral Care and Counseling, The Office of Clergy Services, Ministry Advisory Team, Trustees of the Annual Conference, Camps and Retreat Ministries Board of Trustees, The James L. Belin Board of Trustees, The Trustees of *The South Carolina United Methodist Advocate*, The United Methodist Center Board of Trustees, The United Methodist Men, The United Methodist Women, Lake Junaluska Assembly, Africa University, Candler School of Theology, Duke Divinity School, Gammon Theological Seminary, and The Hispanic/Latino Ministries Committee.

Rev. Rogers then offered a motion that the South Carolina Annual Conference **petition the Judicial Council for a declaratory decision** as follows:

Under Par 2610.2j the South Carolina Annual Conference petitions the Judicial Council for a declaratory decision as to the constitutionality,

meaning, application, or effect of Paragraph 502 with Paragraph 13 and Paragraph 15 of the 2008 *Book of Discipline* as these relate to the authority to fix the number of General Conference delegates to be elected at the session of the annual conference prior to the next regular General Conference.

The following questions are raised to clarify any conflict in Paragraph 502 with Paragraph 13 and Paragraph 15.

1. Does the authority of the Secretary of the General Conference to calculate the number of delegates to be elected by each annual conference in Paragraph 502.3 include the authority to alter the ratio formula fixed by General Conference under Paragraph 13 and Paragraph 15 of the Constitution and defined in Paragraph 502.3?
2. Is the prescribed minimum (600) and the prescribed maximum (1000) number of delegates intended to permit variation in the ratio formula fixed by General Conference under authority of Paragraph 15? Can such variation in the fixed formula ratio be delegated to the Secretary of the General Conference or is any formula variation limited to the General Conference by Paragraph 15?
3. When the formula fixed by General Conference produces a number of delegates either below the minimum or above the maximum, is the Secretary of the General Conference authorized to adjust the number of delegates more than is necessary to remedy the situation as defined in Paragraph 502.3e?

The motion was seconded and Rev. Rogers offered an explanation. There being no discussion or questions, the bishop called for a vote. The motion to petition the Judicial Council was approved.

The bishop then offered a blessing on behalf of those going to serve in the Great Day of Service. At 12:40 p.m., the Annual Conference stood in recess for lunch, to be followed by the Great Day of Service.

**The Second Day – Friday Afternoon
June 11, 2010**

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

**The Second Day – Friday Evening
June 11, 2010**

At 7:00 p.m. the Annual Conference reconvened for worship, celebrating the Great Day of Service and highlighting youth-oriented ministry. Rev. Judson King served as liturgist and Rev. Lowell McNaney, Sr., Pastor of Crossroads UMC of Concord, North Carolina, served as the preacher. Rev. Lisa Hawkins was the Communion Celebrant and worship leaders

included the Boys of Praise from St. Mark UMC, Taylors and the C.R.O.S.S. Praise Band from Advent UMC, Simpsonville.

The Third Day – Saturday Morning June 12, 2010

At 8:30 a.m. the Annual Conference gathered for Morning Prayer and Holy Communion. Rev. Jeremy Howell opened worship by playing “Amazing Grace” on a Native American flute. Dr. Chris Griffin, Lay Member of Main Street UMC, Abbeville, shared a testimony and Rev. Amy Dill Bratton presided over Holy Communion.

After a short recess, the session resumed with a report from Rev. Sara White, Rock Hill District Superintendent, on the outcome of the surgery on Rev. Narcie Jeter, which had been completed on Friday. Rev. White reported that while Rev. Jeter faced more treatments, the surgery was successful. Following her report to the conference, the **Awards, Presentations, and Recognitions** of the various boards, agencies and institutions were presented. The event was led by Mr. Tom Kinard of Florence, South Carolina, who served as 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 first. The recipient of the 2010 Herbert Hucks, Jr. Individual Award for service beyond the local church was Mrs. Betty Murph Timmerman. The church recipients were: Central UMC, Spartanburg; Grace UMC, Pickens; Main Street UMC, Columbia; Mountain View UMC, Taylors, Greenville County; New Hope UMC, Anderson; Pisgah UMC, Aynor; Shandon UMC, Columbia; St. James UMC, Burgess Community, Horry County; St. Luke UMC, Walhalla; and Trinity UMC, Anderson. The **Centennial Churches** (celebrating 100 years – established in 1910) were: Golightly (of the Golightly-Tabernacle Charge), Cross Anchor, Spartanburg District; Wesley Memorial, Columbia, Columbia District; Summerton, Summerton, Florence District; St. Matthew (of the East Camden Charge), Camden, Hartsville District; Trinity (of the New Zion Charge), New Zion, Florence District; Mathews (of the Mathews-Harris Charge), Greenwood, Greenwood District; and Beaumont, Spartanburg, Spartanburg District. The **Bicentennial Churches** (celebrating 200 years – established 1810) were: Ebenezer (of the West Kershaw Charge); Elgin, Columbia District; and Smyrna (of the West Kershaw Charge), Elgin, Columbia District.

Leaders, youth, and young adults involved in **Salkehatchie Summer Service** and those participating in **Students in Mission** were introduced. Gifts from the Salkehatchie ministry, financed by sales of the book recounting the history of Salkehatchie, were acknowledged with gratitude: \$5,000.00 was donated to Campus Ministries to support the missions trips sponsored by campus ministries programs, and \$5,000.00 was donated to UMVIM in support of their trips to help the people of Haiti. The students participating in Students in Mission were: Katherine Haselden, Shelby Culbreth, Margaret Alley Grant, John Brasche, James Cox, Taylor Thomas, Rashana Gillians, Peter Ebo Baidoo, Haley Moble, and Ieisha Cooper.

The United Methodist Volunteer In Mission (UMVIM) **Michael C. Watson Volunteer in Mission Awards** were presented to: Joseph W. “Jay” Alley (laity) and Rev. Jack Bailey (clergy).

The **Barbara Boultinghouse Bridge Builder Award** was presented to the Reverend Stephen Taylor in recognition of his work as a consensus builder and as a tireless advocate for racial reconciliation, the inclusion of women in the life and ministry of the church, and the inclusion within the life, leadership, and ministry of the church of persons with developmental disabilities.

Graduates of the **eChristian Education / Certification Training Program** of Columbia College (and co-sponsored by the Board of Ordained Ministry) were: Basic I (Biblical and Theological Foundations for Ministry) - Betsy Cline and Mary Abbott; Basic II – (Foundations in Christian Education) - Willetta Brown Pennington; Advanced Course I (Children’s Ministry) - Connie Borgianini, Velma Pruit, and Kevin Reinke; Advanced Course II (Youth Ministries) - Velma Pruit and Kevin Reinke; and Advanced Course III (Adult Ministries) - April Buddin. The **Para-professional Certification for Christian Education** was presented to Connie Borgianini and to Thomas Jones, Jr.

The Board of Higher Education & Campus Ministry presented the **Francis Asbury Award** to the Reverend Dr. Harris Parker, posthumously. The award was accepted on behalf of Mrs. Susan Parker by Lisa Livingston, Executive Director of Alumnae Relations at Columbia College.

The Board of Ordained Ministry scholarships were awarded as follows: **The T. Dennie Smith Scholarship** – Sharon Spann Gamble, Benjamin D. Sloan, and Christopher L. Thompson; **The South Carolina Conference Seminary Student Scholarship** – Benjamin D. Sloan and Ryan G. Spurrier; **The Bessie Bellamy Parker Memorial Scholarship** – Katherine Brock.

It was announced that the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry did not have the funds to award any **South Carolina Merit Scholarships** this year, or a **Janie Robinson Thomason Memorial Scholarship**, but that the Board expects to once again make awards in 2011.

The **Bishop’s Award of Excellence in Scouting** was awarded to: Cub Scout Pack 397 and BSA Troop 397 of Asbury Memorial UMC in Columbia; BSA Troop 507 of Lexington UMC in Lexington; Cub Scout Pack 518 of Red Bank UMC in Red Bank; and Cub Scout Pack 190 and BSA Troop 190 of Trinity UMC in Orangeburg. Pack 190 and Troop 190 were being recognized for their 25th consecutive year, and Mr. Young, the local church scouting coordinator at Trinity UMC, has been the Scout Master there for 50 years.

The United Methodist Men presented the **G. Ross Freeman Award** to the Rev. Clarence “Smoke” Kanipe, senior pastor of Mauldin United Methodist Church. The Foundation for Evangelism presented the **Denman Evangelism Award** to Lauren Taylor (laity) and the Reverend Alfonza Jones (clergy). The **Bishop’s Five Star Award of Excellence** was presented to: Advent, Simpsonville – Susan Leonard-Ray, Pastor; Bethel, Columbia – Henry M “Todd” Davis, Pastor; Bethel, Winnsboro – Kathy Griffin, Pastor; Buncombe Street, Greenville – Jerry Temple, Pastor; Chapin, Chapin – Jody Flowers, Pastor; Christ, Bennettsville – Dora Gafford, Pastor; Dacusville, Easley – James McCoy-Bruce, Pastor; Dawsey, Florence – Richard R. Howell, Jr., Pastor; First, Isle of Palms – David Surret, Pastor; Francis Asbury, Greenville – Peggy Garland, Pastor; Goose Creek, Goose Creek – Debra Dowdle, Pastor; Grace, Columbia – Alexander Stevenson, Pastor; Greater St. Paul, Cross – Alphonza Jones, Sr.,

Pastor; Grove Hall, Summerville – Virginia Stafford, Pastor; Landrum, Landrum – Jane Jenkins, Pastor; Lexington, Lexington, Dickie Knight, Pastor; Little River, Little River – Randy Smith, Pastor; Mauldin, Mauldin – C.E. “Smoke” Kanipe, Pastor; Mt. Carmel, Kirksey – Myra E. Taylor, Pastor; Mt. Horeb, Lexington – Jeff Kersey, Pastor; Sardis, Union – John Cribb, Pastor; Shandon, Columbia – Michael Guffie, Pastor; Sharon, Reidville – Matthew Yon, Pastor; St. James, Columbia – Bob Vincent, Pastor; St. Matthew, Greenville – Cameron Treece, Pastor; St. Paul, Kingstree – James C. Lane, Pastor; St. Paul, Clover – Anne Parrott, Pastor; Trinity, Andrews – Sandra Stevens Poirer, Pastor; Wesley, Pinopolis – Lee Bines, Pastor; Wesley Chapel, Greer – Alfred Wright, Pastor; and Wightman, Prosperity – Michael Turner, Pastor.

Bishop Taylor and members of the Annual Conference expressed appreciation to Mr. Kinard for his leadership, and congratulated all of the awards recipients for their great and various ministries in the service of Jesus Christ.

Following a short recess, the Annual Conference reconvened for **A Retirement Service Recognition and the “Passing of the Mantle.”** Bishop Taylor presided. 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 relationship with the Annual Conference: John C. Adams, Quay W. Adams, E. Warren Ashmore, Harold J. Bailey, Charles S. Branch, Jonathan Brown, Jr., Larry Brown, Donald O. Clendaniel, II, Samuel B. Cooper, James M. Cubie, John Dickey Evans, John Wesley Evans, William F. Evans, William B. Farley, Mary B. Griffin, John T. Hemingway, Ethel G. Jefferson, James H. Knowles-Tuell, Willie Lawson, Dennis R. Lee, Leslie H. McIver, Sr., Edward L. McWilliams, Anthony S. Medlin, Ronald A. Pettit, John Gerald Pickens, Thomas Carl Pietila, John C. Preer, Ernest J. Reece, Jr., Larry W. Rodeffer, Paul H. Rogers, Richard W. Rogers-Berry, Matthew D. Rucker, Kermit O. Shrawder, Jr., Robert E. Stillwell, LornaLee Curtis Stoehr, Phillip E. Stout, Eddie C. Thomas, Jr., Christine M. Wechsler, and Ellen A. Younker. The Reverend Paul Rogers represented the retiring class, and the Reverend Aaron Meadows represented the entering class for “The Passing of the Mantle.” Following the service, the Annual Conference stood in adjournment for lunch.

The Third Day – Saturday Afternoon June 12, 2010

At 2:00 p.m. the Annual Conference Memorial Service was held. The preacher for the service was the Reverend Dr. Paul Harmon, pastor of Washington Street UMC, Columbia. His sermon was entitled “A Love That Won’t Let You Go.” Liturgists were Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor and The Reverend Alfred Wright. The opening hymn was “For All the Saints” and the closing hymn was “Rejoice in God’s Saints.” Special music was provided by the Highland Park UMC Choir, who also supplied the Acolytes and Crucifer.

The following deceased ministers, spouses, and others were remembered during the Memorial Service. **Active Ministers** remembered were Foy LaRue Cook, Herbert V. L. Fogle, Billy Gene Osborne, and Anthony Whay. **Retired Ministers** remembered were Harold Edward Albert, Leonard Porter Anderson, Jr., Kenneth Wilson Bedenbaugh, Sr., Walla Brown, Jr., Melvin Edward Calvert, Clyde Livingston

Calhoun, Sr., William (“Billy”) Delano Cooper, Thomas Neal Crouch, Robert (“Bob”) Cleo Faulkner, Nathan Alfred McClennon, Harris Hart Parker, Jr., and James Herndon Shepherd. **Spouses** remembered were Janet Y. Fuller, Dorothy Wilson Knight, Evelyn Ray Lane, Joan (“Joann”) Eudy Rivers, and Mary Ellen Moon Steele. **Surviving Spouses** remembered were Katherine Joyce Foxworth Bailey, Joellen Marie Williams Cook, Marian Ruth Eakin Dugan, Juanita Davis Edwards, Ruth Stone Gossett, Katherine Way Gott, Lorena Mathis Kinard, Eleanor (“Ellie”) Litts, Ruby Seigler McClellan, Anne Pauline Hinton Newman, Geneva Blount Rouse, Nedra Carolyn Bouknight Turner, Nancy Lynn Smith Waters, and Margie Johnson Watts. Also remembered were James (“Jimmy”) Weldon Powers, Cullen Leon Smith, and Donald Carol Tumblin.

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

The afternoon session resumed at 4:00 PM.

Following the recess, Bishop Taylor announced the pledges and **offerings** received so far. The Friday night offering to support **scholarships for youth-oriented ministry**, including Asbury Hills, Breeze, and Revolution, totaled \$10,296.58. Gifts received for the **Central Conference Pension Initiative** totaled \$147,639.59. An additional \$26,000 has been pledged, making a total of \$173,339.59 from South Carolina.

Dr. Richard Hays, incoming Dean of the Divinity School at Duke University, brought greetings on behalf of the **United Methodist Theological Seminaries** and updated the Annual Conference on the developments at Duke.

Bishop Taylor invited **Bettye Rivers**, Administrative Assistant of the Annual Conference, to the platform for a moment of appreciation.

Mr. Jim Salley, Associate Vice-Chancellor of Institutional Advancement at **Africa University**, brought greetings, thanks, and a video from the university.

The Reverend Mike Bowers, chair of the **Committee on Nominations**, moved the suspension of Standing Rule 19 in order to present new nominations which had not been presented on the first day of the Annual Conference. The motion passed by a more than 2/3 majority of the Annual Conference. Rev. Bowers then presented the remainder of the nominations. He opened the floor for nominations to either the Orangeburg Wesley Foundation or to the Trustees of *The Advocate*. The name of Elaine M. Harley was offered for the Orangeburg Wesley Foundation. The bishop called for a vote. The nominations were elected as presented. Rev. Bowers then offered a brief report on the racial and gender composition of the nominations presented by the committee. 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, can be found in final form in the Conference Journal.

Ms. Earline Ulmer, Chairperson of Connectional Ministries, and the Reverend Willie Teague, the Director of Connectional Ministries, presented the Report of the Conference Council on **Connectional Ministries**, and the “Resolution to Restructure Connectional Ministries at the Conference and District Levels”. Ms. Ulmer introduced the report of the Council. Rev. Teague then introduced the

resolution, stating that it is an effort to assist in equipping local churches. Rev. Teague pointed out that if the proposal in the resolution was approved, a Transition Team would develop and present an implementation plan at the 2011 Annual Conference. The bishop invited discussion. Dr. Ted Walter, Columbia District, moved the following amendment: insert "for implementation January 1, 2012," following "2011 Annual Conference". The motion was seconded. Following a period of discussion and the opportunity for speeches regarding the Walter amendment, the bishop stated that the time for adjournment had arrived, and stated her intention to adjourn for the afternoon. Rev. Teague asked if a vote could be taken on the amendment. The bishop responded that there had not been two speeches for and two against. She then asked the body if they were ready to vote on the amendment, and the body indicated in the affirmative. The bishop then called for a vote, and the Walter amendment was approved. The bishop asked the body if they were ready to consider the main question, the **Resolution to Restructure Connectional Ministries at the Conference and District Levels**. The conference again indicated its readiness to vote. The bishop called for a vote, the resolution was approved by the body as amended, and reads as follows:

A Resolution to Restructure Connectional Ministries at the Conference and District Levels

Resolved,

1. That there will be in each district a District Council of Connectional Ministries (DCCM) structured to comply with paragraph 660 of the 2008 *Book of Discipline* and organized into four ministry areas of 6 to 10 members each: discipleship, advocacy, outreach, lay leadership. The members will be named by the district superintendent, district congregational specialist and the district lay leader. The congregational specialist in consultation with the district superintendent will give oversight to the DCCM. Local church needs are to be addressed at the district level and those that cannot be addressed there are to be passed on to the Conference Council of Connectional Ministries. Funding will be a portion of the conference Connectional Ministries budget. And further,
2. That there will be a Conference Council of Connectional Ministries (CCCM) structured to comply with paragraph 610 of the 2008 *Book of Discipline* and organized into four ministry areas of 24 to 30 members each: discipleship, advocacy, outreach, lay leadership. Membership shall consist of two persons from each district, named from District Councils of Connectional Ministries by the district council in consultation with the District Superintendent, Congregational Specialist, and District Lay Leader. Each CCCM ministry area may add to its membership up to six additional members to ensure inclusiveness. The Conference Council on Connectional Ministries shall receive from the District Councils of Connectional Ministries those local church concerns that cannot be met at the district level. The CCCM shall address annual conference and general conference concerns and shall be responsible to establish

strong connections among local churches, districts, the annual conference and the general church. Persons may serve for one but no more than two quadrennia, after which they shall be ineligible to serve on a ministry area for a quadrennium. And further,

3. That the implementation will take two years. The DCCMs will be established to begin their ministry during the 2010/11 Annual Conference year. During the year a transition team will be established by the current CCCM and present to the 2011 annual conference for implementation by January 1, 2012 a detailed restructuring plan that will comply with the *Book of Discipline* and relevant Judicial Council rulings. They will work with the Committee on Standing Rules to present all changes to our standing rules necessary to facilitate the establishment of the newly organized Conference Council of Connectional Ministries.

Following the adoption of the resolution, Ms. Ulmer moved the adoption of the entire Connectional Ministries report. There being no discussion, the Bishop called for a vote, and the report was approved.

The Annual Conference went into dinner recess at 5:10 p.m..

**The Third Day – Saturday Evening
June 12, 2010**

The Service of Ordination and Commissioning was held in the Civic Center Arena at 7:00p.m. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor presided and Bishop Robert Spain preached the sermon entitled, "Entrusted with the Gospel," based on First Thessalonians 2:4. An offering was received for the Bethlehem Bible College, located in Bethlehem, Israel. Music was provided by the Chancel Choir of St. John's UMC in Aiken. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor presided. The Extended Cabinet, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and clergy sponsors participated in the procession.

The following person was received as an Associate Member: John Paul Watts.

The following person was commissioned as a Provisional Deacon: Paige Matthews Wolfe.

The following persons were commissioned as Provisional Elders: Brian James Arant, Hope Renee Avins, Julie Dawn Songer Belman, Laura Ramsey Bratton, Edward Rossiter Chellis, Michele Dellinger Cockroft, Joseph Christopher Greene, Jerry Harrison, Jr., Ronnie Lee Jeffcoat, Willis Everette Haselden, IV, Tarnishia Varnarda Jenkins Jackson, Stewart Dean Lollis, Genova McFadden, Millie Nelson, Luke Moon Taeg Rhyee, Emily Elizabeth Scales, Frederick Johnson Shepard, and Murray Arthur Snow.

The following person was ordained as a Deacon: Nicholas Anderson Jeffries.

The following persons were ordained as Elders: Carol Diane Allison, Mary Elise Barrett, Audrey Boozer, Scott Meade Bratton, Daniel Seay Burbage, Laura Louise Canine, Sheila Lamar Elliott, Harry Kyle Gindhart, Jr., James Alan Grubb, Mary Louise Johnson, Steven Paul Keck, Christopher Matthew Lollis, Billy Lee Lynch, Jr., Robert Lee Malachi, Christine Marie Matthews, Stephen Aaron Meadows, David Carroll Norrell, Marie Elizabeth Ray, Barbara Lee Reid,

Cheryl Dyke Toothe, Danial Allen Wiley, Jason Glen Wilson, Neal Young Woods, and Matthew Larry Yon.

A reception in honor of those commissioned and ordained was held following the service in the Exhibit Hall of the Florence Civic Center.

**The Fourth Day – Sunday Morning
June 13, 2010**

At 8:30 a.m. the Annual Conference gathered for Morning Prayer and Holy Communion. The Reverend Josh McClendon shared a testimony and Bishop Taylor presided over Holy Communion. At the conclusion of morning worship, the conference took a standing break prior to the start of day's business.

Bishop Taylor then introduced the first business of the morning by introducing the Reverend Kathy Mitchell, co-chair of the Southeast Jurisdiction's **Clergywomen's Consultation**, who invited clergy women to the April 4-7, 2011 gathering in Orlando, Florida.

The Reverend Sara White, on behalf of the Extended Cabinet, then presented a Resolution Establishing a Committee for the Purpose of Making Recommendations about the Relationship Between the **United Methodist Relief Center**, Inc. and the South Carolina Conference. Rev. White moved the adoption of the resolution. The bishop invited discussion. There was none. The bishop then called for a vote, and the resolution passed and reads as follows:

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A
COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE OF
MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT
THE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN THE UNITED METHODIST
RELIEF CENTER, INC.
AND THE SOUTH CAROLINA
CONFERENCE**

Whereas, The United Methodist Relief Center ("UMRC") was started to provide emergency response after Hurricane Hugo; and

Whereas, A joint study committee composed of members of the Annual Conference Boards of Missions and Church and Society and the Committee on Disaster Relief agreed to keep the UMRC open beyond its initial mission in order to respond to sub-standard housing needs in the Charleston area; and

Whereas, On June 15, 1991, the UMRC officially converted to a mission outreach to address issues related to substandard housing and the underlying causes of poverty in the Charleston District, and

Whereas, The UMRC has engaged in mission work throughout South Carolina in the name of the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church for more than twenty years and has received extensive administrative and financial support from the South Carolina Conference ("Conference") throughout that time; and

Whereas, Throughout this period, the Conference and the UMRC have never coordinated the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of the UMRC and the Standing Rules of

the Conference to ensure that the relationship was properly structured and formalized and consistent with the *Book of Discipline*; and

Whereas, The General Council on Finance and Administration ("GCFA") requires that the UMRC, an organization currently included under the GCFA Group Tax Exemption Ruling, have its Board members appointed by the Conference; and

Whereas, The Extended Cabinet of the Conference and the Board of Directors of the UMRC believe that it is in the best *interest* of the Conference and the UMRC to properly structure the relationship between the two entities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the board of directors of the UMRC be *appointed* by the 2010 Annual Conference; and be it further

Resolved, That the Resident Bishop is authorized to appoint a nine (9) person committee, to be known as the "UMRC-South Carolina Conference Relationship Committee" (the "Committee"), for the purpose of studying the relationship between the UMRC and the Conference and making recommendations regarding the Standing Rules of the Conference to the 2011 Annual Conference and recommendations regarding the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of the UMRC to the UMRC Board of Directors to properly structure the relationship between the two entities; and be it further

Resolved, That the Resident Bishop is authorized either to act as the chairperson of the Committee or to appoint a chairperson from among the nine members of the Committee; and be it further

Resolved, That the Resident Bishop is authorized to appoint other persons, as necessary, to assist the Committee in performing its responsibilities.

Following the vote, Rev. White acknowledged the work of Pat Goss, Director of the United Methodist Relief Center, as Ms. Goss entered retirement. The Annual Conference showed their appreciation with applause.

Ms. Betty Walker, chairperson of the **Committee on Resolutions and Appeals**, then presented the report of the committee. She began by presenting **A Resolution to Request a Review of Government Policies that Affect Vulnerable Children**. The committee recommended eliminating the words "far", "grave," "stiff, and "far," from the resolution. With those changes, the Committee recommended concurrence. Mr. Doug McLean, of the Pelion Charge, offered an amendment to remove the language that directed that a copy of the resolution be sent to those members of United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives elected from South Carolina. The motion received a second. Rev. David Anderson and Ms. Liz Patterson, of Central UMC, Spartanburg, spoke in opposition to the amendment. There being no further debate, Bishop Taylor called for a vote. The amendment was defeated. Kay Kirkpatrick, of Manning UMC, offered information on behalf of the Department of Social Services. Bishop Taylor interpreted her speech as a speech in favor of the committee's recommendation of concurrence. There being no further debate offered, the bishop called for a vote. The body

supported the recommendation of concurrence, and the resolution was approved as amended, and reads as follows:

**A Resolution
To Request a Review of Government
Policies that Affect Vulnerable Children**

Whereas, the state of South Carolina is ranked ninth in the nation in the percentage of its children who are in congregant care (children who reside in group foster care, group homes and institutions); and

Whereas, funding per child in welfare expenditure is the lowest in the nation among all states (according to statistics prepared prior to South Carolina budget cuts); and

Whereas, funding per child in welfare expenditure is one half of the expenditure per child of the forty-eighth ranked state (Mississippi) (according to statistics prepared prior to South Carolina budget cuts); and

Whereas, funding per child in welfare expenditure is 97% less than the state ranked highest in the nation (Rhode Island) (according to statistics prepared prior to South Carolina budget cuts); and

Whereas, the South Carolina Department of Social Services has been notified that said agency has fallen short of the standard of care established by the federal government; and

Whereas, there is concern that in order to receive a more favorable review and to avoid penalties the Department of Social Services is adopting and implementing policies that serve the federal review outcome better than those policies serve children in congregant care; and

Whereas, there is evidence to indicate the federal review instrument is fundamentally flawed; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United Methodist people of South Carolina express concern for the well being of our state's most vulnerable children by sending a copy of this resolution to all who are elected to: the United States Senate and House of Representatives from South Carolina, the governor of South Carolina and to all representatives who currently serve in the South Carolina legislature; and be it further

Resolved, That representatives at both the state and federal level are requested and encouraged to review policies and formulas that affect funding for children who need congregant care, and to review and amend South Carolina Department of Social Services evaluation and placement policies that may be detrimental to children in, or in need of, congregant care.

Following the vote, Rev. John Holler, President of Epworth Children's Home, asked for a moment of personal privilege to state that the partnership between Epworth Children's Home and the Department of Social Services is positive, and to further explain the intent of the resolution.

Ms. Walker then presented the **Resolution Regarding Sexual Activity Among Teens**. The committee recommended adding the words, "or had", to the fourth "Whereas" clause. With this change, the Committee recommended concurrence. The bishop invited discussion.

After two speeches in opposition to the recommendation of concurrence, Rev. Kathy James, Congregational Specialist, spoke in favor of the recommendation and offered an amendment which would add to the resolution, "shall review and offer the *Created by God* sex education curriculum for its young people." The amendment was seconded. Statements both in favor of and opposed to the amendment were offered. Rev. Willie Teague, Director of Connectional Ministries, offered a substitute amendment which would replace the two "Resolved" paragraphs. The motion was seconded. The bishop explained that, since the Teague amendment was in essence a motion to substitute, the rules of procedure now required that the original resolution be perfected, and that the Teague amendment then be perfected, and that a vote would then be taken between the two.

Rev. Clayton Childers offered an amendment to the James Amendment which was seconded. After two speeches in opposition to the Childers amendment, Rev. Wyatt Minton of the Beaufort Parish offered a motion that the question be called. The motion was seconded, and the bishop called for the vote. The body voted to call for the question. The bishop then called for the vote on the Childers amendment, and the amendment was defeated. Discussion returned to the James amendment. The bishop called for a vote, and the James amendment was defeated.

Bishop Taylor asked that the Teague substitute be read for the conference. The secretary reported that the motion would create a single "Resolved" section as follows, "*Resolved*, that by the 2012 South Carolina Annual Conference, the Conference Council on Connectional Ministries shall present workshops in each district to assist each church in providing a comprehensive program of sex education for its young people." The Bishop then asked if anyone would like to offer any amendment to the original resolution in order to perfect that resolution before perfecting the Teague substitute. Delores Daniels of Mt. Zion UMC, Timmonsville, offered an amendment to the resolution which was seconded. Rev. Gary Compton, McBee Charge, offered a motion to postpone the resolution indefinitely. The motion was seconded. After speeches in favor and in opposition, the bishop called for a vote. The motion was defeated. The Daniels amendment was before the body again, and the bishop asked the secretary to read the amendment. The amendment would have changed the third "Whereas", so that the second half of the statement would read, "long-lasting education and social problems for teen parents and their children." There being no discussion, the bishop called for the vote, and the Daniels amendment was approved.

Bishop Taylor then asked if there were any further amendments to be offered to the resolution as amended. Rev. Kathy James, Congregational Specialist, offered an amendment to delete that second "Whereas" clause, and to delete that portion of the fourth "Whereas" clause which read, "... with CDC estimates that one in four young women ages 15 – 19 has an STD;" The motion was seconded. There being no debate, the bishop called for the vote, and the amendment was approved.

Discussion proceeded until Rev. Keith Ray of Berea Friendship UMC offered a motion to refer "all that is before us" – both the resolution as amended and the Teague substitute – to the Conference Council on Connectional Ministries, with the request that the Council develop a plan for sex education for our youth that might be presented to the conference in 2011. The motion was seconded. After debate the vote was taken, and the matter was referred.

Ms. Walker, on behalf of the Committee on Resolutions and Appeals, then presented **A Resolution on Immigration Reform** and recommended concurrence. Mr. Ronald Johnson, Mt. Olivet - Pleasant Grove Charge, offered a motion to postpone indefinitely. The motion was seconded. Debate followed. The bishop called for the vote, and the motion to postpone indefinitely prevailed. This concluded the Report of the Committee on Resolutions and Appeals.

At 11:30 a.m. the Conference entered a fifteen-minute recess.

The Conference reconvened at 11:45.

Marilyn Murphy, Chair of the Advocate Board of Trustees, presented the Report of **The Advocate**. Ms. Murphy expressed appreciation for retiring Editor Emily Cooper. Ms. Cooper reflected on her 2 and ½ years of service as the editor of *The Advocate*. Ms. Murphy introduced incoming Editor Jessica Conner. Ms. Conner further introduced herself and expressed her excitement about serving as the editor of *The Advocate*. Ms. Murphy informed the Conference that The Reverend Dr. Michael Wolfe is working on a book in honor of the 175th Anniversary of *The Advocate*. Ms. Murphy then recognized the Board Members of *The Advocate*.

The Reverend Ken Owens and the Reverend Rusty Taylor offered the **Report of Congregational Development**. Rev. Taylor announced that two new churches were chartered during the past year: Journey Church, Columbia District, led by Pastor George Ashford, and Grace Community Church, Rock Hill District, led by Pastor Randy Madsen. The body received the report and expressed their gratitude for the addition of two new churches.

Dr. Augustus Rodgers, Chair of the Board of Church and Society, offered a motion to adopt a **Resolution on Combating the Sin of Racism**. Dr. Rodgers invited to the platform representatives of the Commission on Religion and Race, The Board of Church and Society, the United Methodist Women, and COSROW, as these were the bodies jointly offering the resolution. Mr. Bill Belvin, Trenholm Road UMC, offered a motion to add “, and sexual orientation” following the words “economic status”. The motion was seconded. After one statement in opposition to the amendment, there was no further debate. The vote being called for, the amendment was defeated. Carl Jordan, Mt. Horeb UMC, offered a motion to delete the second “Resolved”. The motion was seconded. The bishop invited discussion, but there was none. The bishop called for a vote and the amendment was defeated. After one speech in favor of the resolution, Rev. Wyatt Minton, Beaufort Parish, offered a motion to call the question, which was seconded. The motion was approved. The bishop called for the vote on the resolution. The resolution was adopted, and reads as follows:

RESOLUTION ON COMBATING THE SIN OF RACISM

Whereas, scripture affirms that all human beings are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27); and

Whereas, Jesus Christ commands us to love one another as He loves us (John 15:21); and

Whereas, St. Paul teaches us that in Christ there is neither male nor female, neither Jew nor Greek, neither slave nor free (Galatians 3:28); and

Whereas, The Declaration of Independence of the United States declares: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness;” and

Whereas, we are aware that racism is still prevalent in this nation; and

Whereas, we deplore and denounce all forms of prejudice, bigotry, and discrimination, wherever they exist; and

Whereas, as Christians, we are compelled to condemn all forms of racism in South Carolina and our nation;

Whereas, we recognize the failures of Christians to carry out the commitments we have made for racial justice,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church urges confession, repentance, and prayer for the healing of memories, narrow-mindedness and intolerance; and be it further

Resolved, that the South Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Conference pledges to partner with all persons or groups who seek racial understanding and reconciliation; and be it further

Resolved, that the South Carolina Annual Conference calls for a more extensive study of the underlying causes of the rejection of other human beings because of race, ethnic background, gender, creed, social or economic status; and be it further

Resolved, that the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church supports the South Carolina Conference United Methodist Women and the South Carolina Christian Action Council and all other concerned organizations to explore ways of supporting communities and persons who are experiencing the trauma of racial bias, conflict, and injustice; and be it further

Resolved, that the Office of Connectional Ministries, in consultation with the Bishop, the Extended Cabinet, and the Ministry Advisory Team, design a training event or consultation during the year 2011 on combating the sin of racism in the local church and annual conference and that a report be made on this effort at the 2012 session of SC Annual Conference.

This concluded the report of the Board of Church and Society.

Jeff Barham, **Conference Chancellor**, legal advisor to the Conference and the bishop, reminded the Conference of the nature of his work, which includes the judicial process, discontinued and abandoned property issues, and responding to requests of the Bishop and Extended Cabinet. Mr. Barham informed the Conference that 5 of the 32 Constitutional Amendments voted on last year were adopted by the United Methodist Church. This was a result of the voting that each Annual Conference participated in during the past year. The adopted Amendments were 8, 9, 17, 19, and 22. Bishop Taylor and the Annual Conference expressed appreciation for Chancellor Barham’s work.

Dr. Edward H. McDowell, Chair, and Tony Prestipino, Conference Treasurer and Director of Administrative Services, presented the Report of the **Council on Finance and Administration**. Mr. Prestipino expressed his appreciation for being elected the Conference Treasurer. Mr. Prestipino announced that nearly \$300,000 has been contributed to the Advance for Haiti Relief through the Treasurer's Office. Bishop Taylor announced that over \$1 million has been given to the Haiti Relief effort from the South Carolina Conference. Dr. McDowell moved the adoption of Reports Numbered 1 – 9, including revised reports 1 and 2. Bill Smith, of Faith UMC in Greer, offered a motion to defer any plan to hire a Controller for the Annual Conference. The motion was seconded. At the conclusion of discussion and debate, the bishop called for a vote, and the motion was defeated. Dr. McDowell then moved the adoption of the entire report of the Council on Finance and Administration (Reports 1 – 9). Ms. Liz Patterson, of Central UMC in Spartanburg, offered a motion to divide the question so that the body could vote for Report Number 4 by paper ballot. The motion was seconded. The bishop called for a vote and the motion was defeated. Rev. Wylie Cooper, retired, moved that Item 12 on Report Number 3 be amended to \$40,000. The motion was seconded and the bishop invited discussion. At the conclusion of the discussion, the bishop called for a vote. The motion was defeated. Rev. George Olive, of the Antioch-Poplar Charge, requested an explanation of the Conference Expense Fund, found in Report Number 3, line 6. Rev. Tim Rogers, Conference Secretary, explained that this fund pays for Annual Conference, elements of the Chancellor's expenses, and other items logically attributed to the entire Annual Conference, but not budgeted for elsewhere. Rev. Rogers stated that the request this year is to assist in paying down the accumulated deficit in this fund. Rev. Emily Turner, of the Dalzell UMC, offered a motion to amend Report 5A by adding to the list of special observances, "World AIDS Day", with an offering for the United Methodist Global AIDS fund to be held on December 1 or 4, 2011. The amendment was accepted by the Council on Finance and Administration. Doug McLean, of the Pelion Charge, offered a motion that all salaries included in Reports 3 and 4 be frozen at 2010 levels, and the motion was seconded. Having no place to locate the motion, it was ruled out of order. Flo Nodine, of Walnut Grove UMC, asked for a facility rental cost comparison for Annual Conference. Rev. Rogers responded that the cost of renting the Florence Civic Center is approximately \$2500 per year more than the contributions to Claflin University and Wofford College had been when their facilities were used. Dr. McDowell expressed a word of thanks to the members of the Council on Finance and Administration. The bishop called for a vote, and the report of the Council on Finance and Administration was approved as revised.

The Reverend Sara White, Superintendent of the Rock Hill District, presented the **Report of the Cabinet**. Rev. White requested that the narrative portion of the report be submitted in written form to the Conference Journal. The request was approved by the body. Rev. White then presented the **Charge Line Changes**. This information was received by the body, and can be found in Section V of the 2010 Journal. Rev. White then presented **A Resolution to Discontinue Broomfield United Methodist Church**. The resolution was approved, and reads as follows:

**A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE
BROOMFIELD UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
Beaufort County, South Carolina
Walterboro District, South Carolina
Conference**

Whereas, Broomfield United Methodist Church ("Broomfield UMC"), located in Beaufort County, South Carolina, currently has only several active members; and

Whereas, The Reverend Ernest C. Etheredge, District Superintendent of the Walterboro District, South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, has recommended that Broomfield UMC be discontinued; and

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

Whereas, The Presiding Bishop of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference") and a majority of the District Superintendents thereof have consented to the discontinuance of Broomfield UMC; and

Whereas, Wesley United Methodist Church ("Wesley UMC"), Beaufort, South Carolina, has agreed to minister to the members of Broomfield UMC; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the South Carolina Conference does hereby discontinue Broomfield UMC as a local church of The United Methodist Church pursuant to paragraph 2548, *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 Broomfield UMC; and be it further

Resolved, That the South Carolina Conference approves the transfer of the membership of Broomfield UMC to Wesley UMC in Beaufort, South Carolina; and be it further

Resolved, That the South Carolina Conference approves the conveyance and transfer of the real property and personal property of Broomfield UMC to the South Carolina Conference to be held in trust by the Trustees of the South Carolina Conference ("Conference Trustees"); 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 Broomfield UMC are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the conveyance and transfer of the real property and personal property of Broomfield UMC to the South Carolina Conference; and be it further

Resolved, That, if the Trustees of Broomfield UMC are either unable or unwilling to convey and transfer the real property and personal property of Broomfield UMC to the South Carolina Conference as directed above, then the Trustees of the South Carolina Conference are hereby authorized to assume control of the real property and personal property

as the successor trustees for the property and to take any and all other actions necessary to maintain or dispose of the real property and personal property, including any gravesites or cemetery, as the said Trustees may determine to be in the best interests of the South Carolina Conference; and be it further

Resolved, That, if the real property and personal property are sold, any proceeds remaining, after the costs associated with maintaining or disposing of the real property or personal property have been reimbursed to the South Carolina Conference, are to be transferred to the Walterboro District for its use in congregational development; and be it further

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

Resolved, That the District Superintendent of the Walterboro 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.

On behalf of the Committee on the Annual Conference, Rev. Tim Rogers presented the recommendation that the Florence Civic Center in Florence be **the site for the 2011 Annual Conference**. The body approved the recommendation.

Bishop Taylor announced the **dates** of the 2011 gathering of the South Carolina Annual Conference: June 8 – 12, 2011.

Rev. Tim Rogers requested permission to send greetings on behalf of the Annual Conference to the Reverend Cassandra Paisley-Jackson, who has been ill. The body supported the suggested and granted permission.

Rev. Rogers reminded the conference that they had earlier approved a resolution concerning the **United Methodist Relief Center**, and that one provision of that resolution was that the board of the Relief Center would be appointed by the 2010 Annual Conference. Rev. Rogers then read the names of the Board of Directors, as they had been provided by the Relief Center: Rev. Cermette Clardy, Ms. Jaye Elliott Bethany, Ms. Helen Hiser, Mr. Booker Manigault, Mr. John Hoover, Rev. Kathryn Hunter, Mr. Judson Kiddy, Rev. Harlan Wilson, Ms. Mary Ann Wright, Ms. Bryan Fast, Rev. Anthony Hodge, Rev. Patti Parrish (Charleston District Superintendent), and Ms. Andrea Casey (Representative from District Committee on Church and Society). Rev. Rogers presented these names for election and appointment by the annual conference. The bishop called for the vote, and they were elected.

Rev. Rogers expressed appreciation to those who assisted with Annual Conference, and was given permission to print a list of those persons in the *Journal*. That expression of gratitude is as follows: Rev. James Friday, Florence District Superintendent, and Margaret Smith, his Administrative Assistant; Rev. Ray Litts, Senior Pastor of Highland Park United Methodist Church, the Host Church, together with the people and staff of Highland Park 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 audio and video services for the Conference; Mrs. Tracy Mahaffey who “signed” our worship services; Rev. Millie Nelson 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 and the Licensing Recognition 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; Central United Methodist Church for the use of their pulpit and for storing our worship furniture; Jim Winkler, Chris Griffin, and Josh McLendon for serving as presenters during morning prayer each day; Rev. Paul Harmon, our Memorial Service preacher; Bishop Robert Spain, our Ordination Service preacher; Mr. Tom Kinard for leading our Awards and Recognitions program; Ms. Cheryl Tolbert, the CROSS Praise Band of Advent UMC, the Boys of Praise of St. Mark UMC, the choir of Highland Park UMC, the chancel choir and orchestra of St. John’s UMC of Aiken, the Conference Clergy Choir, and Rev. Paul Frey who served as our song leader – all of whom added so much to our worship experiences; our worship leaders and celebrants; our Parliamentarian, The Reverend Dr. Roger Gramling; our Conference Lay Leader, Dr. Joseph Heyward, who planned and led the Orientation Session for Lay Members on Thursday afternoon; our Tellers, sixty persons from across the Conference who served us so ably throughout the week; and our bishop, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, who preached, led worship, gave direction to our planning for and so ably presided over the Conference.

Secretary Rogers 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 2010 Session of the South Carolina Annual Conference be adjourned *sine die*. The motion was seconded and approved by the Conference at 1:54 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned for a lunch break.

At 3:10 p.m. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor led the Annual Conference in **Closing Worship and The Fixing of Appointments**. Bishop Taylor preached a sermon entitled, “Right on Your Doorstep,” based on Luke 10:1-11. An

offering was received to support Hatcliffe UMC, Harare, Zimbabwe. Following the offering, Bishop Taylor reported on behalf of Rev. George Olive, Chairman of the Disaster Response Committee, that the South Carolina Annual Conference contributed over 25,000 health kits to Haiti. As each kit is valued at approximately \$10.00, that is a collective gift of more than \$250,000 given to disaster relief in Haiti. The body supported the Bishop in her request that greetings be sent on behalf of the Annual Conference to the Reverend J.W. Robinson, the oldest surviving pastor of the former 1866 Annual Conference. The appointments were then distributed by the tellers. The District Superintendents were invited to the platform to stand with the Bishop for the fixing of the appointments. After each District Superintendent made any necessary corrections and affirmed that the appointments were correct, he or she led appointed clergy to an area designated as their district within an outline of the state of South Carolina placed on the floor. Following the fixing of the appointments by Bishop Taylor for the coming Conference year, the congregation participated in The Affirming of the Appointments. Dr. Joseph Heyward, Conference Lay Leader, served as liturgist for the service. The opening hymn was "God Whose Love is Reigning O'er Us" and the closing hymn was "He Who Began a Good Work in You." The service concluded and the 39th Session of the South Carolina Annual Conference was adjourned *sine die* at 4:35 p.m.

Timothy J. Rogers
Secretary of the Annual Conference