

## 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)  
Wednesday, June 8 – Sunday, June 12, 2011  
Florence Civic Center  
Florence, South Carolina  
Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, Presiding  
**CONFERENCE THEME:**  
*“The Wesleyan Way: Principles, Passion, and Practice”***

### **The First Day – Wednesday Morning June 8, 2011**

**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 scripture, a devotional thought, and an opening 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 Ted Walter to present the report of the Administrative Review Committee.

Rev. Walter, chairperson of the Administrative Review Committee, read the committee's conclusion that the administrative process followed in placing Rev. Grady Ponds on Involuntary Leave of Absence correctly followed the requirements of The Book of Discipline. The Clergy Session received the report.

Rev. Nelson then called upon Rev. Anthony Hodge, Registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry, to present the Business Questions on behalf of the Board.

The Reverend Anthony Hodge, Registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry, presented the full written and distributed report. **Business Questions** 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 37, 38, 40, 41, 46e, 47, 49 and 53 were presented for information and moved to record, as no vote was required. 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. The clergy session acted to approve each of the following Business Questions separately: 18b, 21, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 42, 45, 46, 48, 50, and 76. Questions 32, 33, and 54 were approved by a two-thirds 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. After voting on specific questions was completed, Rev. Hodge offered Motion 2, on the second page of the Clergy Session Memorandum. The motion was approved, and authorized 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. 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 an overview and welcome by Dr. Joseph E. Heyward, Conference 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 2011 Annual Conference. Special attention was given to the process of electing delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences, the proposal to restructure Connectional Ministries, and the conference Pension and Health Benefits plan. Dr. Heyward made several closing announcements, especially concerning the ordination service, the Laity Luncheon, the Laity Convocation, and the organizational lunch for the tellers. The session was adjourned for lunch.

### **The First Day – Wednesday Afternoon June 8, 2011**

**Organizational Session.** The Conference was called to order by Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor at 2:00 p.m.

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 2011 Annual Conference session be elected as nominated without reading and their names be published in the *2011 Conference Journal*. The following **clergy tellers** were nominated and elected: The Reverends Ebbie S. Abraham, Wanda D. Altman, Brian Arant, David D. Bauknight, R. T. Bowling, III, Diane Boyer, Andria S. Cantrell, Ross Chellis, Joyce M. Chiles, Frances S. Connell, John W. Evans, Enrique Gordon, Pattie E. Gordon, Walter Harley, Fadetra Harrington, Joseph James, Nels Ledwell, Joe Long, Bill Lynch, Ken Nelson, George Olive, David Phillips, Ray L. Reavis, Cindy Shaw, F. Eric Shepherd, Donald Upson, Karen L. Upson, Richard W. Waldrep, Jeri Katherine Warden, Patricia G. Warden, Merritt

R. Wentz, Myrna Westfall, R. Horace White, Sheri White, and John Williams. The following **lay tellers** were nominated and elected: Robert Barrett, Shashaunna Bradley, Tonia Bennett, Mitchell Brown, Evelyn Burwell, Gladys Chastain, Azilee Dickey, June Dyches, Candice Elliott, Emily Ghassmzadeh, Dorothy C. Gilbert, Tommy Glenn, Roger Hayes, Ruth Henry, Francis Hipp, Nancy Lee, Chris McCoy, Ray McCoy, Carlie McKain, Rayford Prince, Emily Rogers, Dianne Stanton, Jeffrey Tadlock, Reg Tatum, Donna Jo Walsh, Eunice White, and Virginia Williamson.

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 2011 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 2011 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, 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 be designated the "bar of the conference" for all business sessions of the 2011 Annual Conference Session. All of these organizational motions were approved.

The Reverend Rogers made several announcements, and especially directed the attention of the conference members to the recognition card and ballot sheet. He noted errors had been identified on pages 71–74 of the pre-conference materials mailed to delegates. Corrected and revised materials for pages 71–74 were available in the registration packets.

In preparation for the first ballot to elect delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference, Rev. Rogers offered voting instructions. Instructions included identifying those who were eligible to cast a ballot, the votes necessary for election, and an explanation of the voting process. Rev. Rogers explained that the list of eligible clergy included the names of those clergy eligible for election who had not asked to have their names removed from the ballot list. Three additional names were withdrawn from the list of clergy eligible for election (Louis Mason Adams, John Robert Fulton Evatt, and David Carroll Norrell). Eleven names from the newly elected class of full members were added to the list (Shawn Galloway Armstrong, William Thomas Dargan, Daniel Flessas, Pattie Elaine Gordon, Karen Hanyea Lail Jones, Karen Trogdon Kleuver, Joshua Timothy McClendon, Annie Hair Sistrunk, John Henry Vickers, III, Richard Wilson Waldrep, and Amanda Taylor Young).

The **Opening Service of Worship** was held in the Civic Center Arena at 2:20 p.m. 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 the Reverend Paul Frey led the singing. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor presided, preaching a sermon entitled, "Why We Are Here," based on Colossians 3:12-17.

Following the service, the first ballot for delegates to General Conference was taken.

The Reverend Patty Mayfield then presented the Report of the Committee on **Standing Rules**. She first offered a motion that Standing **Rule 27.b.2** be amended by striking "twenty (20)" and adding "fifty (50)". The bishop called for a vote on Rule 27 and the amendment was approved. Rev. Mayfield then moved the amendment of Standing **Rule 30** by deleting the position of "Auditor" from the list of officers elected at each quadrennial meeting of the Annual Conference. The bishop called for a vote on Rule 30 and the amendment was approved. Rev. Mayfield next moved to amend Standing **Rule 51** to add the chairperson of Council on Finance and Administration as an ex-officio member of the Board of Pension and Health Benefits, with voice, but no vote. She also moved amending Standing **Rule 61** to add the chairperson of Pension and Health Benefits to the Council on Finance and Administration with voice, but no vote. The bishop called for a vote on Rules 51 and 61 and the amendments were approved. Rev. Mayfield then moved to amend Standing **Rule 75** (concerning the Committee on Pastoral Care and Counseling) by deleting the portion of the rule that called for election of the members of the committee by the annual conference, and adding "named by and amenable to the Board of Ordained Ministry." The bishop called for a vote on Rule 75 and the amendment was approved. It was moved to amend Standing **Rule 76** (concerning the Committee on Petitions to the General Conference) to require that the committee be composed of 3 lay and 3 clergy members, with at least half having been delegates to General Conference previously. The bishop called for a vote on Rule 76 and the amendment was approved. It was moved to adopt the **Standing Rules** as a whole to govern the proceedings of this Annual Conference. The bishop called for a vote on the Standing Rules of the Annual Conference and the body affirmed them as a whole.

The Reverend Mike Bowers, chair of the **Committee on Nominations**, presented their report. Rev. Bowers offered several additions and corrections to the report as printed. William Simon James was added to the list of nominations to the Commission on Religion and Race. Stan Wood was nominated to fill the vacancy in the class of 2015 for the Camps and Retreats Ministries Board. Marvin Caldwell, Sr. was nominated to fill the vacancy in the class of 2014 for the United Methodist Center Trustee. The nominees for the Wofford College Trustees were offered as follows: new nominees were Dr. Daniel B. Morrison, Jr., class of 2015; Rev. John W. Hipp, class of 2015; Mr. Jimmy I. Gibbs, class of 2012; and Mr. J.E. Reeves, Jr., class of 2012. Nominees to be re-elected to serve in the class of 2015 were: Mr. Frederick D. Gibbs, Mr. James M. Johnson, Mr. C. Michael Smith, Mr. J. Patrick Prothro, Mr. Joe E. Taylor, and Mr. John B. White, Jr. The following names were offered for election to the Board of The Methodist Manor of the Pee Dee: Mr. Marvin Owen, Mr. D. Lawrence McIntosh, and Rev. Cynthia Taylor. It was noted that due to resignations there were two vacancies on the Florence District Board of Church Location and Building. The Rev. Roger Gramling asked about the new Standing Rule requirement to report to the annual conference to list those nominees to boards of trust who are United Methodist. Rev. Bowers explained that that information had not been provided, but that he would get that information and report it to the annual conference on Friday. Bishop Taylor then asked if there were nominations from the floor, and there were none. With the additions and corrections offered by Rev. Bowers, the full slate of nominations was placed before the annual conference for information, to be elected on Friday afternoon.

Ms. Betty Walker, chair of the **Committee on Resolutions and Appeals**, called attention to two resolutions in the conference materials: "A Resolution to Develop a Task Force to Evaluate the Current Number of Districts in the South Carolina Annual Conference", and "A Resolution in Support of the "20-20: Visioning an AIDS-Free World" Campaign"; and a third resolution made available on the distribution tables, entitled, "A Resolution for Immigration Reform." Ms. Walker reminded the body that any additional resolutions must be submitted to the Committee when it met that afternoon following the close of the business session, and 2,200 copies must be provided by the author by the close of the following day's session. Action on the resolutions was scheduled for Friday.

The Reverend David Surrett and Mr. Tony Prestipino presented the report of the **Council on Finance and Administration**. Rev. Surrett corrected the Parsonage and Office funds and Total Budgets for the Florence and Greenville districts as follows: the Florence Parsonage fund was recommended at \$25,000 and the Office Fund at \$45,000, for a total of \$70,000; and the Greenville Parsonage fund was recommended at \$26,000 and the Office Fund at \$30,000, for a total of \$56,000. Rev. Surrett reviewed the various reports offered by the Council on Finance and Administration, and specifically asked that Report Number 10 be published in the Journal of Proceedings. (Report Number 10 is attached to the Report of the Council on Finance and Administration.) The total proposed budget for 2012 was \$17,195,808, a 1.3% decrease compared to the 2011 budget. The adoption of the budget was scheduled for Saturday afternoon, the Fourth Day of Annual Conference. Reverend Roger Gramling offered a motion that the **Episcopal Residence Committee** be directed to bring to the 2012 South Carolina Annual Conference a report on the maintenance, upkeep, and improvements being made or that may need to be made to the Episcopal residence, said report to include copies of the budget requests presented to the Conference Council on Finance and Administration for 2012 and 2013. The motion was seconded. Rev. Gramling spoke to the motion. There being no further discussion, the bishop called for a vote and the motion passed.

The Conference then moved into a teaching session, led by the Reverend Bob Howell, whose talk focused on the "Principles of Leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit."

At 5:30, the conference adjourned for a dinner recess.

### **The First Day – Wednesday Evening June 8, 2011**

At 7:30 p.m., the Annual Conference gathered for worship. The Reverend Millie Nelson served as liturgist and the Reverend Jeff Kersey preached a sermon entitled, "Why Can't We?" The offering received went to support disaster relief.

The **first ballot** was reported. The clergy elected the **Reverend Dr. W. Timothy McClendon** (first). The laity elected **Dr. Joseph E. Heyward** (first) and **Dr. Carolyn Briscoe** (second). A second ballot for General Conference was taken.

### **The Second Day – Thursday Morning June 9, 2011**

At 8:30 AM, the Annual Conference gathered for worship. The Reverend James Ellis-Griffith served as liturgist and presided at Holy Communion.

The business meeting was resumed with the reporting of the results of the **second ballot**. The laity elected **Michael Cheatham** (third) and **Liz J. Patterson** (fourth). The clergy elected **Kenneth Lee Nelson** (second). The third ballot for General Conference was taken.

Carroll Player (Florence) raised a point of order related to the voting process. Bishop Taylor responded by explaining the rules under which the conference operated in voting, and thanked Dr. Player for his interest in the business of the conference.

Ms. Earline Ulmer and the Reverend Willie Teague then presented the Report of the Conference Council on **Connectional Ministries**. Ms. Ulmer invited the members of the Transition Team to stand for recognition. Rev. Teague explained the Transition Plan and expressed appreciation for the Transition Team's effort.

Rev. Willie Teague, Director of Connectional Ministries, concluded his presentation of the Transition Plan. Ms. Earline Ulmer, Chairperson of Connectional Ministries, moved the adoption of the Transition Plan. Bishop Taylor asked if there were any questions or discussion.

Rev. Daniel Flessas offered the following motion: "Be it resolved that key actions and decisions made by conference level boards, agencies and commissions will be made available on the conference web site within two weeks after a meeting, except for those entities whose proceedings must be kept confidential as determined by Connectional Ministries." Rev. Flessas was not certain where to insert the amendment into the report. Rev. Teague recommended that the amendment be placed in that section of the report dealing with accountability, and stated that the amendment would be accepted as a friendly amendment and made a part of the report.

Rev. Fran Connell asked how the adoption of the Transition Plan would impact the budget. Rev. Teague responded that it would have little impact on the method of funding Connectional Ministries or on the amount of the Connectional Ministries budget.

There being no further discussion, Bishop Taylor called for a vote, and the Transition Plan, as amended, was approved. The complete text of the Transition Plan can be found with the report of Connectional Ministries.

The Bishop then invited the Reverend Joseph James, the chair of the Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, to the platform. Rev. James moved that the Transition Plan "be deferred as it applies to the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry for so long as it takes the Board to amend its By-laws and, if necessary, its Articles of Incorporation, in order to bring its corporate structure into compliance with the structure authorized by the Transition Plan. In no case shall this deferral last beyond December 31, 2011." The bishop called for a vote and the motion passed.

Rev. Teague reported that **background checks** for local churches will no longer be provided through the Annual Conference. Local congregations were encouraged to use Trak1, the same vendor the Annual Conference will use for background checks for conference level organizations. The suggestion came as a means of consolidating services and preventing duplicate background checks. Congregations were not required to use Trak1. Rev. Constance Barnes (Hartsville) moved that the Annual Conference suspend changing the background check process until the decision from the Judicial Council. The motion was seconded and discussion followed. The bishop then called for a vote and the motion was defeated. Reverend Teague then offered the Connectional Ministries report for approval as a whole, the bishop called for the vote, and the entire report was approved.

Rev. Teague noted that the Transition Plan, which had been previously approved, included the following motion:

Motion following Annual Conference adoption of the New Structure: "Under Par. 2610.2(f) of The Book of Discipline 2008, the SC Annual Conference petitions the Judicial Council for a declaratory decision on the constitutionality, meaning, application, and effect of the Discipline in regard to Par. 610, Par. 614.3 and Judicial Decision 1147 on the SC Conference Structure Plan adopted in session June 19, 2011 and to become effective June 2011".

Rev. Teague then asked if the annual conference should vote separately to approve the request to petition the Judicial Council on the constitutionality, meaning, application, and effect of the Discipline on the Transition Plan, referred to in the motion as the SC Conference Structure Plan. Bishop Taylor ruled that a separate vote should be taken, and called for a vote on the motion to petition. There being no discussion, the vote was taken, and the motion to petition the Judicial Council, as reported above, was approved.

Dr. Joe Heyward gave the report of the Conference Lay Leader, drawing attention to the written report of the **Board of Laity**. He and the body showed appreciation to the Board of Laity for their work and highlighted some of their recent activities. Dr. Heyward moved to record the written and verbal report. The bishop called for a vote and the body received the report by acclamation.

The Reverend Tim Rogers presented the **Consent Calendar** as found in the pre-conference materials, and directed the attention of the body to the Petition to Remove items from the Consent Calendar. He reminded the body that the items on the Consent Calendar were scheduled to be voted on during the business session of Friday morning. A correction was made to the Consent Calendar. No report had been submitted for "The Council on Children's Ministries." The report that was printed in the materials was printed in error, the body was asked to disregard that report, and that item was deleted from the Consent Calendar.

The results of the **third ballot for General Conference** were announced. No one was elected. A fourth ballot was taken.

Mr. Herman Lightsey and Rev. David Anderson presented the Report of the **Board of Pension and Health Benefits**. Mr. Lightsey reflected on the present pension investment outlook. He reported that there would be no increase in premiums for active and retired clergy in 2012 (compared

with 2011). He announced that in 2012 of a Consumer Driven Plan option (high deductible plan with a funded health reimbursement account) will be offered. He also announced that the Pharmacy Plan will be changed from a fixed co-pay to a percentage of the cost for 2012. Co-payments for Emergency Room and Urgent Care visits will be \$200, unless the patient is admitted to the hospital, at which point the co-payment is waived. The clergy were reminded of the Virgin HealthMiles and BluePrint for Health incentives. Mr. Lightsey acknowledged the members of the Board and the body showed appreciation for their efforts. Rev. David Anderson, Conference Benefits Officer, presented the pension section of the report. He reported that the Conference will be billing at the same rate in 2012 as they did in 2011. Rev. Anderson moved approval of the pension portion of the report. After discussion, the bishop called for a vote and the body elected to approve the report as submitted. Rev. Anderson then presented the Group Insurance Section. The Bishop asked for discussion. There was none, the vote was taken and the report was approved as submitted. Rev. Anderson asked for a brief moment to recognize the contributions of William F. Newart, a member of the staff of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, and the liaison between the general board and the South Carolina Conference. Mr. Newart died unexpectedly in March. The conference expressed its appreciation. Bishop Taylor then called for a vote to approve the entire report, and it was approved, and the body expressed its appreciation.

Mr. Lightsey expressed his appreciation for the work of *The Advocate* in educating the members of the annual conference in relation to matters coming before the conference. The body expressed its appreciation for the work of *The Advocate*.

Ms. Betty Moss McGuirt made a presentation on behalf of **Cokesbury** and the **United Methodist Publishing House**. She called attention to the revised cokesbury.com website and to the new ministrymatters.com and worshipandsong.com websites.

The Bishop then recognized Mr. Gil Hanke, the General Secretary of the General **Commission of the United Methodist Men**. Mr. Hanke expressed thanks and made comments on behalf of the Commission.

The offering from the Wednesday night worship service was reported. The \$18,442.47 received will be directed to support the **UMCOR** disaster relief efforts.

**Spartanburg Methodist College** offered a video presentation and Mr. James Salley brought greetings and a video presentation from **Africa University**.

The body was then in recess for the lunch break.

### The Second Day – Thursday Afternoon June 9, 2011

The results of the **fourth ballot for General Conference** were announced. The laity elected **James H. Salley** (fifth) and **Herman B. Lightsey, Jr** (sixth). The clergy elected **Timothy J. Rogers** (third). The fifth ballot was taken.

The Reverend Ken Nelson, Chair of the **Board of Ordained Ministry**, expressed appreciation to the Board members, Cabinet, District Committees on Ordained Ministry, and

delegates from local congregations for their cooperative effort in identifying and supporting potential clergy.

He noted the Board's report and highlighted the fact that through the Ministerial Education Fund, the conference board provided financial support during 2010 for 101 candidates for ministry at ten different University Senate approved seminaries in the amount of \$187,180. He then announced those who were to be commissioned as Provisional Members of the Conference: as Provisional Deacon: Katherine Amanda Brock; and Provisional Elders: Walter Joseph Cantwell, Jason Daniel Everson, Fadetra Deonka Harrington, Judith Ann Knox, David Dean McManus, Jr., Kurt Anthony McPherson, Richard Hancock Reams, Davie Demetrius Sanders, Jr., Steven Paul Simoneaux, Jr., Scott Walter Smoak, and Ryan Greasor Spurrier. The body showed their support with applause. Rev. Nelson announced those who were to be ordained and received as Full Members in the Annual Conference. Those to be ordained as deacons: Shelly Anne Holder, Karen Hanyea Lail Jones, Karen Trogdon Kluever, and Mary Kay Wood. Those to be ordained as elders: Debra Anne Armstrong, Shawn Galloway Armstrong, William Thomas Dargan, Ann Dease Everett, Daniel Flessas, Pattie Elaine Gordon, Joshua Timothy McClendon, Adriane Maria McGee, Nanada Nichole Middleton, Dwight Arnold Nelson, Annie Hair Sistrunk, Jonathan Edward Tompkins, John Henry Vickers, III, Richard Wilson Waldrep, and Amanda Taylor Young. The body showed their support with applause. Rev. Nelson named those who have completed the Basic (five-year) Course of Study: Brenda Washington, Barbara Segars, Joshua Gaskins, Hal Johnson, Ron Towery, Mary Snowden, Alfonso Jones, and George Thomas, Jr. The body showed their support with applause. The following persons were licensed for ministry as Local Pastors by Bishop Taylor: Anthony Alford, Lorenzo A. Bell, II, Laura L. Bessent-Price, Don Clifford Boshell, Ollie Mae Boyd, Kenneth Campbell Burr, Sr., Taylor Freeman Coates, Andrea M. Davis, Kimberly Norbeck Evans, Mallory Jean Forte, Shirley P. Gordon, Cheryl Giles Johnson, James W. Lewis, Sr., Sharon L. Long, Andrew Charles Martin, Angela Regina Ford Nelson, Tony Bernard Richardson, Sr., Thomas Raymond Smith, Amie Pridgeon Shaver, Brenda Joyce Thomas, Redonia McKnight Thomas, Sheri Yvette White, Paul David Wilmer, and William McClary Wrighten. The body showed their support with applause and Bishop Taylor prayed on their behalf.

After the licensing of Local Pastors, Rev. Nelson announced that the Board will add two additional weekends (16 hours each weekend) to the School of Pastoral Ministry to come in compliance with the requirements of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. He then introduced three ministerial interns serving in South Carolina this summer: Ben Burt, serving at John Wesley UMC, Charleston; Kayla Harward, serving at Central UMC, Florence; and Zachary Dillard, serving at Trinity UMC, Orangeburg. Rev. Nelson offered a motion that the Policy Guideline XIX B be amended by deleting, "When any candidate seeks a status which requires the completion of the 24 hours of basic graduate theological studies, at least one-half of the 24 semester hours shall be completed in the same seminary on campus. One-fourth of the 24 seminary hours may be taken as independent study from an accredited seminary approved by the University Senate" and replacing that with, "Distance Education rules shall be the same as the policy announced by the University Senate. In January 2011, the University Senate announced the following rules: All United Methodist seminaries and Asbury Theological Seminary shall be

allowed to offer two-thirds of the Master of Divinity degree online, with one-third of the degree required to be in residence. The only 'on-line courses' allowed to count toward a degree for a candidate seeking ordination in the United Methodist Church shall be those offered by one of the 13 official United Methodist seminaries and Asbury Theological Seminary." The bishop invited discussion, called for a vote, and the motion was adopted. Rev. Nelson then moved deleting #5 in the "Provisional Membership Checklist" and changing the name of the Licensing School to "School of Pastoral Ministry." The motion was adopted. Rev. Nelson then recognized the work of the Board, especially Tim Rogers and Bonnie Speas for their support of the Board's work. Rev. Terry Fleming (Orangeburg) moved to amend Policy Guideline XXI.D2 by deleting, "as full-time student for minimum of 12 semester hours or equivalent" and adding to the policy, "MEF Committee may distribute loan-grants to less-than-full-time students at a percentage of amount set by BOM for full-time students. Loan-grant distribution rates for less-than-full-time students shall be 25% for three semester hours; 50% for six semester hours; 75% for nine semester hours. Twelve semester hours or equivalent shall be considered full-time." Joseph James moved to refer the matter to the Board of Ordained Ministry. The motion to refer passed. Rev. Nelson concluded by reporting to the Annual Conference the answer to Business Question 17, which is recorded in Section V of this Journal. Rev. Nelson offered a motion that the entire report of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry be entered in the record. The motion was approved, and the body expressed its appreciation.

The results of the **fifth ballot for General Conference** were announced. The laity elected **Barbara Ware** (seventh) and **John A. Redmond** (eighth). The clergy elected **Robin Dease** (fourth). The sixth ballot was taken. After a brief adjournment, the body was brought back to order.

Ms. Kathleen Cramer, Prospect UMC (Orangeburg), and Mr. Walter Lee, Greater St. Paul UMC (Charleston), shared their appreciation for the support of the **Black College Fund** apportionment. Both students were rising seniors at Claflin University. Dr. Luther B. Felder II, Campus Pastor for Paine College, was greeted by the body.

Dr. Kenneth Mufuka, Chair of the **Commission on Equitable Compensation**, drew attention to the report of the Commission, and reviewed the highlights of the report. The Reverend Jeremy Howell offered a motion that the operating budget, found in Report 2.A.1, be approved. The bishop called for a vote and the motion passed. Rev. Howell then offered a motion that Report 2.A.2, which sets the minimum compensation for various categories of clergy, be approved. The report recommended that the minimum salary in 2012 for Clergy in Full Connection be \$40,500; the minimum salary for Provisional, Commissioned, and Associate Members be \$36,800; and the minimum salary for Local Pastors be set at \$34,150. These recommendations for minimum salaries were unchanged from 2011. The motion passed. Rev. Howell reminded the body that Continuing Education minimum funding expectations have not changed since 1988 and encouraged increased support in the year to come. Rev. Sara White (Rock Hill) offered a motion that Report 3.B.4 be amended by deleting "with at least four years' experience" from line 13. The motion failed. The bishop then called for a vote on the entire report, and the report was approved.

Preston Cantrell, chairperson of the **Committee on Petitions to the General Conference**, announced that the committee

would meet to consider the petitions that had been submitted, and to prepare the committee's report back to the annual conference regarding those petitions.

The Conference then moved into a teaching session, led by the **Reverend Susan Leonard-Ray**, whose talk focused on the "Passions of Leadership in the Wesleyan Way."

Rev. Myrna Westfall then introduced **Ms. Teresa Tabor** as the new Director of the Methodist Manor of the Pee Dee and the body was dismissed for a dinner break.

### **The Second Day – Thursday Evening June 9, 2011**

The **Reverend Telley Gadson** preached for the evening worship service, the Reverend Joel McMakin served as liturgist, and St. Mark UMC Mass Choir was the choir for the evening. An offering was received for the "Imagine No Malaria" campaign.

### **The Third Day – Friday Morning June 10, 2011**

The day began with a service of Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, with the Reverend Adriane McGee presiding.

The results of the **sixth ballot for General Conference** were presented. The clergy elected **Sara Ann White** (fifth) and **Katherine Lewis James** (sixth). The laity elected **David V. Braddon** (ninth). This completed the General Conference delegate election for the laity. The seventh General Conference ballot was taken by the clergy. The first ballot for Jurisdictional Conference delegates was taken by the laity. Ms. Marlene Sykes moved that the Bishop announce only those candidates who receive 25 votes or more after each ballot, in order to expedite the process. The motion was seconded and debated. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Rev. Sara White presented the **Report of the Cabinet**. She noted that we live in "a season of uncertainty for people of faith." She stated that the role of the church "is to bear witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ." She asked how our witness is to bear fruit in this season. Rev. White said the work of the Cabinet is to enable local congregations to worship and evangelize for Jesus Christ. Quoting from the *Book of Discipline*, she pointed out that the work of the Superintendents is integral to itinerancy. Rev. White celebrated the renewed focus on the ministries of the local congregation. She addressed the discussion about reducing the number of districts, concerned that the result would be less connection and relationship between the Superintendents and the clergy and between the Superintendents and local congregations. At the conclusion, the conference voted to receive the report.

Rev. Tim 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. There was none. Bishop Taylor called for a vote and the motion to receive the Consent Calendar passed. The following reports were received as part of the Consent Calendar: Summary Funds Report, Special Days for 2012, Advance Special Ministries 2012, The Board of Church and Society, The Board of Education, Christian Educators Fellowship, eChristianEd, The

Conference Council on Older Adult Ministries, The Division on Ministries with Young People, The Board of Evangelism, 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 Committee, The Hispanic / Latino Ministries Committee, the Native American Committee, The Committee on Pastoral Care and Counseling, The Office of Clergy Services, The 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, The Report of the Conference Chancellor, Lake Junaluska Assembly, Africa University, and Candler School of Theology.

Ms. Betty Walker, on behalf of the **Committee on Resolutions and Appeals**, reported the action of the committee regarding the resolutions that had been referred to the committee. The first resolution considered was "**A Resolution to Develop a Task Force to Evaluate the Current Number of Districts in the South Carolina Annual Conference**". The recommendation of the committee was concurrence. After some debate, the Rev. Willie Teague (Columbia) offered an amendment to delete, "regarding the reduction of districts in the Conference" because this phrase presumes the result of the evaluation. The question was called. The vote was taken and the amendment passed. Returning to the original resolution, debate continued. Emily Rogers (Charleston District) asked if the resolution, which would provide \$5,000 in funding for the Task Force, would result in a change in the conference budget. Mr. Prestipino, Conference Treasurer, stated that it would change the budget. Rev. Willie Teague stated that if the conference adopted the resolution, then CF&A would be required to adjust the budget prior to presenting the budget for final approval. The bishop then called for a vote and the resolution, as amended, was supported. The resolution stated as follows:

#### **A Resolution to Develop a Task Force to Evaluate the Current Number of Districts in the South Carolina Annual Conference**

*Whereas*, The current number of districts in the South Carolina Annual Conference is based on a 39 year old model ( 1972 ) when the number of churches in the conference was greater, the transportation issues were more difficult, and the internet communication abilities of the Conference and District leadership were non-existent; and

*Whereas*, The present change in the population distribution and demographic patterns in South Carolina as compared to 1972 have created an imbalance in the average number of charges and churches per district, resulting in uneven work loads among the twelve District Superintendents; and

*Whereas*, Due to the current economic and unemployment crisis in South Carolina having negatively impacted the income and budgets of many local churches, the Districts' administrative costs to the South Carolina Annual Conference have greatly escalated; and

*Whereas*, The South Carolina Annual Conference now has six Congregational Specialists to support District administrations and local churches in programming and accessibility to resources, which helps reduce the workload and responsibilities of District Superintendents; and

*Whereas*, A significant number of conferences in the Southeastern Jurisdiction (Alabama-West Florida, Virginia, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama ) have successfully reduced the number of districts in their conferences, resulting in a more efficient and cost effective administration model; and

*Whereas*, A detailed assessment of the current number of districts in the South Carolina Conference can result in recommendations that will achieve more productive administrative systems, more strategic use of lay and clergy persons in leadership positions, and more effective financial savings for the Conference's annual budget; and

*Whereas*, The projected long-term annual cost savings derived from a updated redistricting process will far outweigh the one-time expense of forming a task force for one year; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Annual Conference establish a Task Force on Redistricting to evaluate the number of districts in the South Carolina Conference and present a recommendation to the 2012 Annual Conference; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the task force consist of at least 14 members, appointed by the Bishop, and consisting of equal representation between clergy and lay members who are knowledgeable in the interpretation of business management principles and financial / demographic statistical analysis, and be it further

*Resolved*, That the task force be instructed to develop a discovery process of collecting and processing information from diverse sources as, but not limited to:

- Reports from other annual conferences in the US which have redistricted.
- South Carolina Conference's financial and statistical data.
- Financial and statistical data from other Southeastern Jurisdictional Annual Conferences.
- Demographic data from the present 12 districts in SC.
- The 2008 Book of Discipline's paragraphs related to the Duties of District Superintendents [Par: 419-425] and District Structure [ Par: 657-670].
- District surveys related to District Superintendents' time structuring.
- Articles from national church leaders on district structure

- Presentations and testimony from consultants on district redistricting from Jurisdictional and General Conferences; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the South Carolina Annual Conference direct the Council on Finance and Administration to provide funds from the Administrative Fund (Report 3) for administrative costs up to \$5,000.00.

Ms. Walker then recommended, on behalf of the committee, concurrence with **"A Resolution in Support of the 20/20: Visioning an Aids-Free World Campaign"**. The Bishop invited discussion. There was none. The vote was taken and the motion passed as follows:

### **A Resolution in Support of the "20/20: Visioning An AIDS-Free World" Campaign**

*Whereas*, the global HIV and AIDS pandemic has for more than 30 years been impacting the world, particularly among the poor and the marginalized, and the General Conference has established the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund which has supported more than 175 HIV and AIDS church-oriented and Christ-centered ministries in 37 countries, and

*Whereas*, more than 30 million people are infected world-wide, almost 50% of whom are women, and more than 15 million children are orphaned, and information about the global health crisis and the church response are available on [www.umglobalaidsfund.org](http://www.umglobalaidsfund.org), and

*Whereas*, Jesus called his disciples to "heal every disease and sickness" (Matthew 10:1) and John Wesley instructed his followers to treat the sick without stigma or discrimination, and

*Whereas*, a gift as small as \$20 can stop the transmission of HIV from several mothers to their new-born babies, supply nutrients to 20 HIV positive children suffering from dehydration, ensure nursing care for a newborn infant born with AIDS, teach young people and adults how to prevent HIV, feed an HIV positive person for a month so they can take powerful medicines, and provide free Upper Room biblical readings and prayers for those infected and affected, and

*Whereas*, the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Committee has launched a campaign entitled "20/20: Visioning An AIDS-Free World"; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the South Carolina Conference:

1. Endorses the "20/20: Visioning an AIDS-Free World" campaign.
2. Calls upon its churches in 2012 to devote at least 30 minutes discussing the pandemic and practical ways each congregation can respond.
3. Commits that 30 minutes of the 2012 South Carolina Annual Conference plenary time be devoted to "20/20: Visioning an AIDS-Free World."
4. Invites every church member to contribute yearly \$20, \$200 or more to the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Advance #982345. 25 percent of what the annual conference raises should be used within the conference for AIDS work, either locally or in global projects.

5. Asks individuals and congregations to join the 2020 Club comprised of those who have committed \$2020 by 2020 to the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund; and be it further

*Resolved*, that since words are best matched by action, we urge the 2012 South Carolina Annual Conference to take a special offering to support the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund (Advance #982345)

The third resolution presented was “**A Resolution for Immigration Reform**” (handed out on the first day of Annual Conference). The committee recommended concurrence based on the Social Principles. After much discussion, Dr. Carroll Player (Florence) moved that the vote be postponed until the following day. The motion was debated and defeated. Rev. Bob Howell moved to amend the resolution by deleting “RESOLVED, that the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church discourage the South Carolina Legislature in passing and implementing SB 20.” Debate followed and the bishop called for a written ballot. The ballots were collected and the Tellers began the process of counting.

The **seventh clergy ballot for General Conference** was reported, with no one elected. The **first lay ballot for Jurisdictional Conference** was reported, with **Marilyn Murphy** (first), **Emily Rogers** (second), **Rubielee L. Addison** (third), **Brenda B. Hook** (fourth), and **Martha Friday Thompson** (fifth) elected. The eighth clergy General ballot and the second laity Jurisdictional ballot were taken.

Dr. Jack Ewing, Executive Director of the **Junaluska Assembly**, brought greetings to the Annual Conference.

### **The Third Day – Friday Afternoon June 10, 2011**

After a lunch recess, the results of the prior ballot were shared. On the **second lay ballot for Jurisdictional Conference delegates**, the laity elected **Linda J. DuRant** (sixth) and **Skyler E. Nimmons** (seventh). On the **eighth clergy ballot for delegates to General Conference**, **Susan Paige Leonard-Ray** was elected (seventh). The third laity Jurisdictional ballot and the ninth clergy General Conference ballot were taken.

The body then resumed the debate of the **Resolution for Immigration Reform**. The result of the written vote on the Howell amendment was 550 votes against the amendment to 520 in favor. The Howell amendment failed. A written ballot was then taken on the Immigration resolution. The result of the ballot was 543 votes in support of accepting the recommendation of the Committee on Resolutions and Appeals (which recommended concurrence) and 501 in opposition. The Resolution for Immigration Reform was approved and states as follows:

#### **A RESOLUTION FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM**

*Whereas*, the 2008 General Conference of the United Methodist Church passed a Resolution on Immigration Reform stating that migration is not new to human beings, in itself is certainly not bad or evil, and that theologically and historically it has been an opportunity of receiving God’s grace; and

*Whereas*, The United Methodist Church is a global church and in the United States immigration makes up the story of most of those who live in this country, as they or their ancestors migrated here “seeking safety, economic betterment, and freedom of religious and cultural expression,” (The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church, 2008, Resolution 3281); and

*Whereas*, the United States immigration policy has not adapted adequately to changes in the global nature of the world or taken into consideration that “Globalization has lessened the geographical distance between the poor and affluent,” or that globalization “has also greatly exacerbated the chasm between those with access to resources and those denied that same access,” (The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church, 2008, Resolution 3281); and

*Whereas*, Jesus in Luke 4:18, reading from the scroll of Isaiah stated: “*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,*” and as scripture continually shows Jesus’ compassion for the vulnerable and the poor, His “incarnated hospitality as he welcomed people and ministered to their greatest need, (and how) Jesus’ presence on earth initiated the Kingdom reality of a new social order based on love, grace, justice, inclusion, mercy and egalitarianism, which was meant to replace the old order, characterized by nepotism, racism, classism, sexism, and exclusion,” (The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church, 2008, Resolution 3281); and

*Whereas*, the 2008 General Conference recognized and stated in their resolution that the United States immigration system is broken and that our community and church responses have reflected old order; and

*Whereas*, the State of South Carolina Legislature is considering Senate Bill 20, a bill that will create division in our communities, will continue to encourage racial discrimination, will bring economical hardship on our state and in its passing says to the rest of our nation and the world that our annual conference does not see our migrant brothers and sisters in Christ as equally valuable as ourselves in the sight of God; and

*Whereas*, The United Methodist Church has started two new Hispanic / Latino Missions in the last two years and has sensed a call to ministry with the least of these; be it

*Resolved*, that the South Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church discourage the South Carolina Legislature in passing and implementing SB 20, and be it further

*Resolved*, that the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church call upon all United Methodist congregations to study the Biblical basis of hospitality to all (Leviticus 19:33): “*When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.*”) and to advocate for the comprehensive reform of the US immigration system; and be it further



*Resolved*, that the South Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church call upon all United Methodist congregations to welcome newly arriving people in their communities, to love them as we do ourselves, to treat them as children of God, to see in them the presence of the incarnated Jesus, and to show hospitality to all in our midst, believing that through their presence we are receiving the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and be it further

*Resolved*, that a copy of this resolution be signed by the Bishop and the Secretary of the Annual Conference and be delivered to the members of the South Carolina Legislature.

That being the final resolution presented by the Committee, the entire report of the committee was received by the conference with appreciation.

Rev. Michael Henderson, Chair of the Conference Board of **Global Ministries**, called attention to the report of the board. He noted that the Board has been working to connect our congregations with various ministries supported by Global Ministries such as Spartanburg Methodist College, the Advance Special Ministries, Shalom Communities, Salkehatchie, hunger-related ministries, church extension partnerships, and hospitality to the immigrant population. Rev. Cathy Jamison-Ogg (Columbia) questioned the absence of Cooperative Ministries as an Advance Special Ministry. Rev. Henderson explained that they had not filed an application, and Rev. Jamison-Ogg was invited to encourage Cooperative Ministries to apply by July. The report was received by vote of the conference.

Rev. Henderson then presented a resolution sponsored by the Board of Global Ministries, "**A Resolution Recognizing the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission as the Official Agency for Sending Volunteer Mission Teams from the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church**". Rev. Henderson offered a motion that the resolution be adopted. The Bishop invited discussion. There was none. A vote on the resolution was taken and the resolution was approved by the body, and reads as follows:

**A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE  
UNITED METHODIST VOLUNTEERS IN  
MISSION AS THE OFFICIAL AGENCY FOR  
SENDING VOLUNTEER MISSION TEAMS  
FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA  
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

*Whereas*, The Bible calls on all believers to go into the world and spread the Gospel by word and deed; and

*Whereas*, The South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference") has been sending mission teams and individuals to preach, teach, and help people with their spiritual, emotional, relational, and physical needs since the formation of The United Methodist Church in 1968; and

*Whereas*, The South Carolina Conference is the founding organization of the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission ("UMVIM"); and

*Whereas*, UMVIM provides training, guidance, leadership, certain insurance coverage, and other

support for mission teams both within and outside of the United States, and

*Whereas*, The United Methodist churches in South Carolina desire to serve God and humanity in our country and abroad; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference recognizes UMVIM as the United Methodist agency with more than 40 years of experience in sending volunteer mission teams and individual volunteers to places in the United States and abroad; and be it further

*Resolved* that the South Carolina United Methodist Annual Conference urges all local churches to send their mission teams and individual volunteers through UMVIM, thereby receiving proper training, guidance, leadership, insurance and other help, and be it further

*Resolved*, that every church of our conference be encouraged to designate one Sunday as "Volunteers in Mission Awareness Day;" and that each local church be encouraged to provide for UMVIM displays, information resources, solicit individual or group testimonies, and/or develop other ways to celebrate the UMVIM movement in whatever fashion that best suits the local congregations; and that local churches draw upon the available resources of the Conference's UMVIM Committee, to make the day memorable, one of "Christian Love in Action." Churches may choose the Sunday for their observance.

Rev. Henderson then thanked the members of the Board of Global Ministries and the Annual Conference for the opportunity to serve.

Bishop Taylor then recognized Ms. Jeri McKie for a word of greeting from the **General Board of Global Ministries**. A video was presented introducing a new initiative, "With," a challenge to United Methodists to be "in ministry with the poor," rather than "to" or "for" the poor. The website for this program is: [www.ministrywith.org](http://www.ministrywith.org).

The results of the prior ballots were then reported. On the **ninth ballot for clergy delegates to General Conference**, **Stephen Phillip Taylor** was elected (eighth). On the **third laity ballot for Jurisdictional Conference delegates**, there was no election. The tenth clergy ballot for General Conference and fourth laity ballot for Jurisdictional Conference were taken.

Mr. Jeff Barham, the **Conference Chancellor**, directed the conference to his written report, and stated that there were no clergy trials and that the Conference has not been sued over the past year. He noted that South Carolina has a statute entitled "Judgments Against Unincorporated Associations" (South Carolina Code 15-35-170), which states that individual members of unincorporated churches are liable for judgments rendered against their church. He also encouraged local churches to plan for the financial needs and the perpetual care of their cemeteries. The report was received by the conference.

Mr. Barham offered a motion to approve the Conference Board of Trustees' resolution entitled, "**A Resolution to Authorize the Use of Funds by the Trustees of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church**". After a short discussion, the bishop called for a vote and the resolution was adopted as follows:

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE  
THE USE OF FUNDS BY  
THE TRUSTEES OF THE  
SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

*Whereas*, The Trustees of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("Trustees") are authorized by The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2008) ("Discipline") to act with regard to certain property matters on behalf of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("Conference"), and

*Whereas*, The Trustees are required to deal with the properties of abandoned and discontinued local churches that often were abandoned or discontinued many years ago without proper dispositions being made of the properties; and

*Whereas*, In dealing with these properties, the Trustees frequently incur costs for surveys, appraisals, maintenance, repairs, attorneys' fees, etc.; and

*Whereas*, The Trustees do not receive any funds from the Conference as part of the annual budget of the Conference, and

*Whereas*, While funds generated from the sale of a specific property may cover the costs related to the disposition of that property and even result in a surplus of funds for the Conference, the disposition of other properties (particularly those with cemeteries) generate no funds at all; and

*Whereas*, The Trustees require funds in order to properly carry out their responsibilities under the Discipline; and

*Whereas*, Through the years, the Trustees have accumulated funds (approximately \$95,589.36) that are not known by the current Trustees to be connected to any specific property; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Conference authorizes the Trustees to use the approximately \$95,589.36 of unattributed funds now in their custody, as necessary, for the purpose of carrying out their responsibilities.

Mr. Barham then offered a motion to approve, "**A Resolution Approving the Disposition of Funds from the Sale of the Property of the Discontinued Spring Branch United Methodist Church**". The Bishop invited discussion. As there was none, Bishop Taylor called for the vote, and the motion passed, and the resolution was adopted as follows:

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE  
DISPOSITION OF FUNDS  
FROM THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY OF  
THE DISCONTINUED SPRING BRANCH  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Marion County, South Carolina  
Marion District, South Carolina Conference**

*Whereas*, The Trustees of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("Conference Trustees") sold the real property ("Property") of the discontinued Spring Branch United Methodist Church ("Spring Branch UMC") in June 2009; and

*Whereas*, A resolution of the 2007 Annual Conference directed the Conference Trustees to make recommendations to the Annual Conference about the use of the funds remaining from the sale of the Property following the reimbursement of any expenses associated with the disposition of the Property ("Net Proceeds"); and

*Whereas*, The Net Proceeds remaining from the sale of the property are \$52,732.40 based on a report from the Conference Treasurer, and the Net Proceeds figure includes a small amount of rental income collected from the rental of the Property and an amount for interest income will be added to this figure when calculated by the Conference Treasurer; and

*Whereas*, The Conference Trustees recommend that the Net Proceeds be used as follows: (1) a portion of the Net Proceeds shall be used to provide much needed repairs to the church building located on the property of the discontinued Pisgah United Methodist Church (discontinued in 1987) in the Columbia District as part of conveying that property to a caretaker church (Fair Lawn United Methodist Church of the Columbia District has expressed a desire to become the caretaker for the property, including its cemetery, and intends to make use of the church building as part of its ministry.) and shall also be used to defray expenses related to the conveyance of the property; and (2) the remaining portion of the Net Proceeds shall be retained by the Conference Trustees to be used to support their work on behalf of the South Carolina Conference, including their work in disposing of the property of abandoned and discontinued local churches; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference approves the recommendations of the Conference Trustees set forth above regarding the disposition of the Net Proceeds; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference directs the Conference Treasurer to make any and all appropriate accounting or administrative transactions necessary to effect the disposition of the Net Proceeds in accordance with this resolution.

The report of the Conference Chancellor concluded, and the conference was in recess for ten minutes.

The offering from the Thursday night worship service was reported. The \$12,869.22 received will be directed to support the **Imagine No Malaria** campaign.

The Reverend Mike Bowers, chair of the **Nominations Committee**, directed the body's attention to the report of the committee. Following the conference action to restructure Connectional Ministries, the three groups listed under "Organizations under the purview of Conference Council on Connectional Ministries" were withdrawn. The second set of nominations, those in the section "Representatives to Conference Connectional Ministry under Transitional Plan" now became the primary report of the committee in reference to Connectional Ministries. Ms. Nancy Russell was nominated for the class of 2015 as a member of the Trustees of the United Methodist Center Trustees, replacing Ms. Marianna Davis. Rev. Bowers then read the names of nominees to Boards of Trust of those believed to be United Methodist. Rev. Bowers named additional nominees to the Methodist Manor of the Pee Dee: re-elect Rev. Robert

Clemons, Rev. Larry Rodeffer, and Rev. Gordon Timmons, class of 2015; replace Rev. Pamela C. Ledbetter with Rev. James L. Friday, class of 2015; replace Rev. Michael Turner with Rev. Cynthia Taylor, class of 2015; re-elect Mr. Stanley Gibson, class of 2015; elect Mr. D. L. McIntosh, class of 2015. Rev. Tommy Bailey (replacing Church Bailey) and Ms. Genevieve Burgess (replacing Stoney Moore) were added to the slate for The Florence District Board of Church Location and Building. Rev. Ken Phelps was added to the slate for the Orangeburg District Committee on Ordained Ministry. Rev. Bowers then submitted the entire slate of nominees for election. The slate was adopted by vote and appreciation was expressed to the committee by the body. Rev. Bowers then requested that the body give diligent consideration to those who can serve on Conference-wide committees, reminding the body that this process begins at the local churches' charge conferences.

The Conference then moved into a teaching session, led by the Reverend **Jerry Temple**, whose presentation focused on "Practices of Leadership in the Wesleyan Way."

### **The Third Day – Friday Evening June 10, 2011**

The Reverend Michael A. Turner preached for the evening worship service, Ms. Brooke Mogy served as liturgist, and the Wightman Praise Team served as worship leaders for the evening. An offering was received to support scholarships for youth activities, particularly Epworth, Revolution, Breeze, and Asbury Hills.

The results of the **fourth laity Jurisdictional Conference ballot** were announced. The laity elected **Edd William Cunningham** (eighth), and **Jeanie Blankenbaker** (ninth) as Jurisdictional delegates. With this ballot, the election of lay delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference was completed. A motion was offered by Rev. Willie Teague to nominate three alternate delegates (lay and clergy) to Jurisdictional Conference. There was a second and following discussion, the Bishop called for a vote. The motion was adopted. The results of the **tenth clergy General Conference ballot** were announced. No one was elected. The eleventh clergy ballot was taken. The fifth lay Jurisdictional Conference ballot (to elect alternates) was taken.

### **The Fourth Day – Saturday Morning June 11, 2011**

The day began with a service of Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, with the **Reverend Joanna Fallaw** presiding.

The Reverend Smoke Kanipe, chair of the Board of **Camps and Retreats Ministries**, presented their report. Included in his report was the introduction of the new Director of Camps and Retreats, Mr. Arthur Spriggs. Rev. Kanipe noted that Mr. Spriggs is a person of deep faith, has extensive experience in camping ministries, and has had years in development work. Mr. Spriggs said that the camp staff at Asbury Hills were ready to begin and that registrations were up for the summer of 2011. He invited the Annual Conference to visit Asbury Hills, then showed a video about the camp and retreat center. The conference voted to receive the report.

The Reverend John Hipp (Orangeburg) asked for an update on Sewee Coastal Retreat Center. Rev. Kanipe reminded the

body that several years ago Sewee was losing nearly \$100,000 per year. The Board determined at that time that it was best to suspend most operations until better facilities could be provided. A plan was developed and shared throughout the Annual Conference. The Board determined that there was not sufficient support at that time to pursue the plan and tabled the idea. In the meantime, Clemson University has operated some programs on the property and has assumed the operating costs of Sewee. Bishop Taylor encouraged the body to share any ideas and/or support to Rev. Kanipe and members of the Board. Appreciation was expressed by the body for the Board's work.

The Reverend Rusty Taylor presented the report of the Committee on **Congregational Development**. He highlighted the growth of Ebenezer and Wampee churches, under the leadership of Rev. Joanna Fallaw, and invited Rev. Fallaw to greet the conference. Rev. Taylor explained that Congregational Development also supports the re-visioning of existing churches. He noted that recent new church starts (Grace, Water's Edge, Journey, and Ashley Ridge) now average (collectively) over 1000 in worship each weekend. Rev. Taylor also drew attention to the successful model of parenting new churches that Bethany and Ashley Ridge congregations in Summerville exemplify. He reminded the body that another aspect of congregational development is to offer grants for a particular needs within existing congregations, citing as an example the worship leader that Wightman UMC hired through a Congregational Development grant. The report was received by the conference.

After a short recess, the session resumed with the **Awards, Presentations and Recognitions of the various boards, agencies and institutions**. The recipients were announced by the Reverend Kristen Richardson-Frick of Orangeburg, SC. Bishop Taylor greeted each award recipient. The **Barbara Boultinghouse Bridge Builder Award** was given to the Reverend Alfonza Jones. The **T. Dennie Smith Scholarships** were awarded to Sharon Spann Gamble and Brian Edward Preveaux. The **Seminary Students Scholarship** was awarded to Martha Ann Nichols. **Bicentennial Churches** recognized were Bethlehem UMC (Bethlehem Charge) and Rehoboth UMC (Rehoboth Charge) of the Greenwood District and Clark UMC (Oswego Circuit) of the Hartsville District. **Centennial Churches** recognized were Salem UMC (Salem Charge) of the Anderson District, Christ UMC (Christ Charge) of the Greenville District, Epworth UMC (Epworth-Springdale Charge) of the Greenwood District, Trenton UMC (Trenton-McKendree Charge) of the Greenwood District, Springville UMC (Marion Parish) of the Marion District, and Chesnee UMC (Chesnee Charge) of the Spartanburg District. The **Michael C. Watson Volunteer in Mission Awards** went to clergy member Rev. Jerry Mills Hill and lay member Marvin J. Horton. The 2011 **Bishop's Award of Excellence** was presented to: BSA Troop 502 (First, Isle of Palms), BSA Troop 397 (Asbury Memorial, Columbia), BSA Cub Scout Pack 397 (Asbury Memorial, Columbia), BSA Troop 9 (Buncombe Street, Greenville), BSA Troop 159 (Simpsonville, Simpsonville), GSUSA Brownie Troop 2378 (Red Bank, Red Bank), BSA Cub Scout Pack 518 (Red Bank, Red Bank), BSA Troop 518 (Red Bank, Red Bank), BSA Cub Scout Pack 190 (Trinity, Orangeburg), and BSA Troop 190 (Trinity, Orangeburg). The **Herbert Hucks Awards** were presented to First UMC in Cheraw; Bethlehem UMC in Bishopville; Mountain View UMC in Taylors; Gramling UMC in Gramling; Johnsonville UMC in Johnsonville; Beaumont UMC in Spartanburg; Pisgah UMC in Aynor; and Fork Creek UMC in Jefferson. The Individual Herbert Hucks Award recipient was

Thelma Chiles Clark, First, Marion. The Publication Herbert Hucks Award recipient was James A. Neal. This year's **Students in Mission** were introduced. They were Leslie Bledsoe, Sara Reynolds, Angela Rice, Rachel Sherron, Alexander John Stoops III, Nik Miller, Holly Taylor, Jon Hoin, and Alexis Stratton. Representatives of the **Salkehatchie Summer Service** camps were recognized. The **G. Ross Freeman Award** was received by Reverend Geneva G. Stafford. The **Denman Evangelism Awards** were presented to lay member Helen Shuler and clergy member Jane Jenkins. The final presentations were for the congregations honored with the **Bishop's Five-Star Award of Excellence**. The five-star congregations were Asbury-St. James (Charleston), Bethel (Columbia), Beulah (Gilbert), Buncombe Street (Greenville), Centenary (Moncks Corner), Chapin (Chapin), Christ (Bennettsville), Clinton (Salley), Ebenezer (Longs), First (Isle of Palms), Goose Creek (Goose Creek), Grace (Columbia), Greater St. Paul (Cross), Grove Hall (Summerville), Johnsonville (Johnsonville), Landrum (Landrum), Lebanon (Eastover), Little River (Little River), Mauldin (Mauldin), Mt. Hebron (West Columbia), Old Bethel (Charleston), Red Bank (Lexington), Shandon (Columbia), Springhill (Rembert), Springtown (Smoaks), St. James (Myrtle Beach), St. Mark (Columbia), Trinity (Conway), Trinity (Blythewood), Trinity (York), Wesley (Moncks Corner), and Wightman (Prosperity). Bishop Taylor and members of the Annual Conference applauded all of the awards recipients for their various ministries in service to Jesus Christ.

The results from the **eleventh General Conference clergy ballot** were announced. There was no election. The results of the **fifth Jurisdictional Conference lay ballot** were announced: **Earline Ulmer, Ray McCoy, and Jean Doscher** were all elected as alternates to Jurisdictional Conference. This completed the voting for representatives for the laity.

The Reverend Dr. Tim McClendon, secretary of the cabinet, offered three resolutions to discontinue local churches. He first presented, "A Resolution to Discontinue Beulah United Methodist Church (Anderson District)" The Bishop recognized those who been a part of the ministry of that congregation, and then called for a vote. The body adopted the resolution, which states:

**A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE  
BEULAH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Anderson County, South Carolina  
Anderson District, South Carolina Conference**

*Whereas*, The Church Local Conference of Beulah United Methodist Church ("Beulah UMC") has voted to discontinue the church effective June 29, 2011; and

*Whereas*, The Reverend Susan Leonard-Ray, District Superintendent of the Anderson District, South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference"), has recommended that Beulah UMC, located at 6224 Old Greenville Highway, Pelzer, South Carolina, be discontinued; and

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

*Whereas*, Beulah UMC has nurtured the faith of many people and served the community in which it is located since its founding in 1889; and

*Whereas*, The title to the real property on which the church building is located was never actually held by Beulah UMC; rather, the owner of the real property has simply allowed a local church of The United Methodist Church (and its predecessor religious denominations) to exist there through the years; and

*Whereas*, A cemetery association named The Chapel at Beulah Cemetery Association was formed to maintain the church building and grounds, including the cemetery; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference does hereby declare Beulah UMC discontinued, effective June 29, 2011, 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 Beulah UMC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the membership of Beulah UMC shall be transferred to Pelzer United Methodist Church, Pelzer, South Carolina; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the personal property ("Property") of Beulah UMC, including any remaining funds, shall be transferred to The Chapel at Beulah Cemetery Association; and be it further

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

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Anderson District shall ensure that all 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.

Dr. McClendon then offered a resolution titled, "A Resolution to Discontinue Black Creek United Methodist Church (Charleston District)" The Bishop recognized those who have been a part of the ministry of that congregation. The body adopted the resolution, which states:

**A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE BLACK  
CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Berkeley County, South Carolina  
Charleston District, South Carolina  
Conference**

*Whereas*, The Church Local Conference of Black Creek United Methodist Church ("Black Creek UMC") has voted to discontinue the church, effective June 29, 2011; and

*Whereas*, The Reverend Patricia J. Parrish, District Superintendent of the Charleston District, South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference"), has recommended that

Black Creek UMC, located in Cross, South Carolina, be discontinued; and

*Whereas*, The Charleston District Board of Church Location and Building has consented to the discontinuance of Black Creek 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 Black Creek UMC; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference does hereby declare Black Creek UMC discontinued, effective June 29, 2011, 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 Black Creek UMC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the membership of Black Creek UMC shall be transferred to Spring Hill United Methodist Church, Ridgeville, South Carolina ("Spring Hill UMC"); and be it further

*Resolved*, That the real and personal property ("Property") of Black Creek UMC, which includes a cemetery, shall be transferred and conveyed to Spring Hill UMC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, as part of winding up the affairs of the discontinued local church, any two officers of the Board of Trustees of Black Creek UMC are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the transfer and conveyance of the Property consistent with the direction of this resolution; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Charleston 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 Charleston 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.

Dr. McClendon then offered a third and final resolution to discontinue titled, "A Resolution to Discontinue Sharon United Methodist Church (Anderson District)". The Bishop recognized those who had been part of the ministry of that congregation, and called for a vote. The body adopted the resolution, which reads as follows:

**A Resolution to Discontinue  
Sharon United Methodist Church  
Anderson County, South Carolina  
Anderson District, South Carolina Conference**

*Whereas*, The Church Local Conference of Sharon United Methodist Church ("Sharon UMC") has voted to discontinue the church effective June 29, 2011; and

*Whereas*, The Reverend Susan Leonard-Ray, District Superintendent of the Anderson District, South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference"), has recommended that Sharon UMC, located in Anderson County, South Carolina, be discontinued; and

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

*Whereas*, Sharon UMC has nurtured the faith of many people and served the community in which it is located since its founding in the mid-1800s; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference hereby declares Sharon UMC discontinued, effective June 29, 2011, pursuant to paragraph 2548, *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (2008 ed.); 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 Sharon UMC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the membership of Sharon UMC shall be transferred to Liberty United Methodist Church, Liberty, South Carolina; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Anderson District shall have the authority to authorize the disposition of the tangible personal property items belonging to Sharon UMC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the real property and any remaining personal property of Sharon UMC (not including those tangible personal property items authorized for disposition by the District Superintendent), including any monies of Sharon UMC held in bank accounts or otherwise, shall be conveyed and transferred to the South Carolina Conference to be held in trust by the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference shall hold the property in trust pending a follow-up resolution of the annual conference that sets forth any further disposition of the property; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference are authorized to use the monies transferred by Sharon UMC for the care and maintenance of the property pending the follow-up resolution of the annual conference; and be it further

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

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Anderson District shall endeavor to locate a suitable caretaker church from within the South Carolina Conference or within a denomination represented in the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the District Superintendent of the Anderson District shall ensure that all 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.

Bishop Taylor offered a prayer in gratitude for the ministries of these churches throughout their years of service. Dr. McClendon then presented the **charge line changes**. The

Reverend John Hipp offered one correction – deleting lines 18 and 19 of page 92 of the pre-conference materials. After the correction, the changes to charge lines were offered to the conference. The charge line changes were received by the conference, and are reported in in this Journal in Section V, the Business of the Annual Conference.

The Reverend John Holler presented information about the ministry at **Epworth Children's Home**. He noted that this spring six children were baptized at Epworth on Easter Sunday and six high school seniors graduated and entered the Epworth higher education program. He reminded the body that the children at Epworth are "our children." He said our children need advocacy, prayer, and \$6 per member from us.

A video presentation from **Columbia College** was then offered to the body.

The results from **the twelfth General Conference clergy ballot** were announced. The clergy elected **Hayes Timothy Gainey, Jr.** (ninth). This concluded the election of clergy delegates to General Conference. The bishop then called for clergy ballot number one for Jurisdictional Conference, and the ballot was received.

The Bishop announced that the offering received for **youth-oriented scholarships** at the Friday night worship service was \$13,581.48.

Following a short recess, the Annual Conference reconvened for **A Retirement Recognition Service and the "Passing of the Mantle."** 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 relationship with the Annual Conference: Paul McKinney Ballard, Jr., Delphine Anita Bozardt, Daniel Senn Bradley, Robert Bissell Clemons, III, Rowan Dampeer Crews, Jr., James Ray Davis, John Henry Elliott, James Ellis Griffith, James Henry Gunn, Willie Jerome Key, Billie Ray Osborne, Jean Owens Osborne, Anne Richardson Parrott, Luther H. Rickenbaker, III, Sheila Davidson Rogers, William Fletcher Rogers, III, Leslie James Shattuck, Sr., Wendell Wilkie Sumter, Rufus Lee Wilson, Willie Wilson, and Alfred Truman Wright. The Reverends Luther Rickenbaker (retiring) and Debra Anne Armstrong (entering) represented the retiring and entering classes of clergy in the "Service of the Passing of the Mantle."

#### **The Fourth Day – Saturday Afternoon June 11, 2011**

After a lunch recess, the body came together at 2:00 p.m. for the Annual Conference **Memorial Service**. The preacher for the service was the Reverend Hayes Gainey. The liturgist was Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor. The opening hymn was "For All the Saints" and the closing hymn was "When We All Get to Heaven." Special music was provided by the Edisto Fork UMC Choir. Christian and Catherine Fowler served as acolytes and Bryce Jenson served as crucifer. Ms. Carol Wyndham served as organist. Mr. Paul Frey was the song leader. The following deceased ministers, spouses, and others were remembered during the Memorial Service. **Honorary Member** Bishop James Samuel Thomas was remembered, with special remarks by Bishop Taylor. **Active Ministers** remembered were Cecile "Cec" Glenn Jenkin, Jr., Edward Nunnery Taylor, Jr., and Charles Brett Waller.

**Retired Ministers** remembered were Louis Mason Adams, Paul Augustus Betsill, William Sterne Bolte, Cecil Martin Camlin, Jr., Charles Smith Crenshaw, Lucy Tedder Davis, Vernon Franklin Deese, Sr., James Wylie Gosnell, Oliver Norwood Greer, Everett William "Bill" Ishman, Jr., Lawrence "Larry" Anthony Kelly, Jr., Reuben Bunyan Marlowe, William Robert Morris, Sr., Haskell Robert Reynolds, Olyn Daniel Shytle, Sr., Michael LaFonn Smith, Charles Elbert Sperry, Howard Durant Sweat, Bill Bragg Williams, and Clarence Daniel "Red" Williams. **Spouses** remembered were Carolyn Davis Bowling, Mildred S. Brown, Camelia Washington Gibbs, Manning Josey, Jr., Karolyn Keaton Owens, and Sarah Burnett Dennis Scoggins. **Surviving Spouses** remembered were Gladys Blackford Albert, Helen Laverdy Spears Alsbrooks, Betty Hudson Clark, Margaret Burton Hawkes, and Justice Vernice Stephens McCants. Also remembered were Judge Reuben Clark and Walter Smithers Green, III. Following the Memorial Service, the body entered a brief recess.

After the recess, the body came together and heard a point of personal privilege from the Reverend Roger Gramling. Rev. Gramling gave thanks for the late Reverend **Cecile "Cec" Glenn Jenkin, Jr.** for his seven years of service as the Conference Recorder. He noted that Rev. Jenkins served "with faithfulness, devotion, and sacrifice, giving long hours before, during, and after each conference session." He asked that the Journal "record this word of gratitude for Cec, for Cec's service to this Annual Conference, the audio recordings of the proceedings, program, and services of these annual services of our Conference."

Bishop Taylor then announced the results of the **first clergy Jurisdictional ballot**. The clergy elected **Megan Lynn Gray** (first) as the first delegate to Jurisdictional Conference. The Bishop then called for the second clergy Jurisdictional ballot.

After the ballot, Ms. **Carolyn Briscoe (Anderson)** moved that the first two clergy delegates elected to Jurisdictional Conference and the first two lay delegates elected to Jurisdictional Conference be sent to General Conference as alternates, that they receive funding from the Annual Conference equal to that received by delegates from the General Conference and that the three alternate clergy and three alternate delegates to Jurisdictional Conference receive funding from the Annual Conference receive funding equal to that received by delegates from the Jurisdictional Conference. The motion was seconded and, after the bishop called for the vote, the motion passed.

The Annual Conference greeted Dr. Joy Moore Associate Dean at Duke Divinity School.

Rev. Tim Rogers presented the report of the United Methodist **Relief Center** – South Carolina Conference Relationship Committee. Rev. Rogers noted that the balance owed at the end of 2010 (\$274,087.98) is part of the Council on Finance and Administration report (CFA page 12). He reported that the appointed committee has met at least five times in the past year. Prior to last year, the Annual Conference did not elect the Board of Directors of the Relief Center, and the relationship between the Conference and the relief Center had never been clearly stated. However, in the years since the Relief Center was created as a response to Hurricane Hugo, the administrative and financial support provided to the Relief Center by the Conference Treasurer's Office had become a major portion of the work in that office. Rev. Rogers noted that the objective of the Committee was

to offer recommendations about creating a relationship between the Conference and the Relief Center much like the relationship that the Conference enjoys with Epworth Children's Home and the United Methodist Colleges in South Carolina. To this end, five recommendations were made to the Annual Conference. Rev. Rogers then offered a motion to approve the resolution titled, "**A Resolution to Clarify the Relationship between the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church and the United Methodist Relief Center, Inc.**" Rev. John Culp (Columbia) offered a motion to amend the resolution by striking, "the reasonable repayment of any outstanding balance to the Center" and adding, "the United Methodist Conference forgives the debt of the United Methodist Relief Center." The motion was seconded. The Rev. David Surret (Charleston) made a motion that the Culp Amendment be referred to CFA for study and that CFA report back to next year's Annual Conference session. The motion was seconded. Discussion followed. In response to questions, Rev. Tim Rogers reported that the Relief Center stated that as of June 3, 2011 their total debt was \$753,671.35, with \$263,097 of that debt owed to the Annual Conference. He then read a "fact sheet" about the Relief Center. Rev. Michael Bruce (Greenville) offered an amendment to the Surret motion by adding, "that all debt payments of the Relief Center to the South Carolina Conference be suspended until the Council on Finance and Administration comes up with a fair, just, and equitable way to settle the debt." Rev. Rogers noted that the Relief Center is not currently making payments. Rev. Bruce withdrew his motion. The Bishop tested the house to see if the Conference was ready to vote. The house was ready. The Bishop called for the vote to refer the Culp amendment to CFA. The Surret amendment was supported, and the Culp motion was referred. The Bishop then asked for further discussion. There was none. She called for the vote and the Resolution Clarifying the Relationship was approved, as follows:

**A RESOLUTION TO CLARIFY THE  
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SOUTH  
CAROLINA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH AND THE UNITED  
METHODIST RELIEF CENTER, INC.**

*Whereas*, The UMRC – South Carolina Conference Relationship Committee ("Committee") was formed by resolution of the 2010 Annual Conference; and

*Whereas*, The Committee believes that it is appropriate to clarify the working relationship between the United Methodist Relief Center, Inc. ("UMRC") and the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("Conference"); now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Conference acknowledges that the UMRC, which is a separately-incorporated nonprofit corporation, is a United Methodist ministry affiliated with the Conference in the spirit of the connectionalism that is an important part of the identity of United Methodists; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Conference may be considered the "sponsor" of the UMRC as that term is used and understood in ¶ 2506 of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2008); and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Conference declares that its association with the UMRC through connectionalism and its sponsorship of the UMRC are not intended to be or to imply a principal-agent relationship because

the UMRC is a separate, self-governing nonprofit corporation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Conference is amenable to appointing the directors of the Board of Directors of the UMRC by election during its annual session as may be provided by the Standing Rules of the Conference and the corporate governance documents of the UMRC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Conference hereby recommends that the UMRC revise its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws in order to bring the corporate governance documents of the UMRC in line with requirements of the Discipline for affiliated corporations and any Standing Rule pertaining to the UMRC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Conference Treasurer's Office is authorized to continue its work with the UMRC to transfer responsibility, no later than August 31, 2011, for the administrative functions currently being provided by the Treasurer's Office for UMRC; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Conference Treasurer's Office is authorized to continue to work with the UMRC toward the reasonable repayment of any outstanding balance and to conduct regular meetings with representatives of the UMRC to oversee that work until the repayment is completed.

Rev. Rogers then offered a motion to approve, "**A Resolution to Amend the Standing Rules by Adding a Standing Rule for the United Methodist Relief Center, Inc.**" Following discussion, the bishop asked the body if they were ready to vote. They were and the body voted to adopt the resolution, as follows:

**A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE STANDING  
RULES BY ADDING A STANDING RULE FOR THE  
UNITED METHODIST RELIEF CENTER, INC.**

*Whereas*, the Standing Rules of the South Carolina Conference ("Conference") make no reference to the United Methodist Relief Center, Inc., (UMRC); and

*Whereas*, The Bylaws of the UMRC call for the Conference to appoint the members of its Board of Directors, and the Conference has expressed its amenability to appointing the members of Board of Directors; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Standing Rules of the Conference be amended by addition as follows:

The Annual Conference shall appoint the Board of Directors of the United Methodist Relief Center, Inc. which is composed of eighteen (18) appointed members and one additional ex-officio member.

- a. Persons serving on this Board of Directors ("Board") shall be appointed through election by the Annual Conference upon nomination by the Board of Global Ministries. Those appointed shall be divided into three (3) classes of six (6) directors in each class. One class shall be appointed each year to serve for three (3) years. At least three-fifths of the appointed membership of the Board shall be members of United Methodist churches in the South Carolina Conference or ministerial members of that conference.
- b. The tenure of the appointed directors shall be limited to two (2) consecutive terms. A

director shall not be eligible for re-appointment until a lapse of one (1) year.

- c. In the event that a director fails to complete a term to which the director was appointed, the Board may elect a replacement for an interim period until the next meeting of the Annual Conference and shall notify the Board of Global Ministries of its action. At the next meeting of the Annual Conference, a replacement shall be appointed for the remainder of the term pursuant to subparagraph a. above. Appointment to complete a term shall not be counted as one of the two permitted consecutive terms of office.
- d. The Charleston District Superintendent shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Board.
- e. The Board of Directors shall report to the Annual Conference through the Board of Global Ministries.

Rev. Rogers asked that the members of the committee stand and asked the conference to express its appreciation to the committee members for their work.

The Bishop reported the results of the **second clergy Jurisdictional ballot**. The clergy elected **Telley Lynnette Gadson** (second) and **Michael Andrew Turner** (third). The third clergy Jurisdictional ballot was taken. Bishop Taylor then read a limerick regarding the balloting process from the laity to the clergy (authored by Ms. Sylvia Knox, Rock Hill), as follows:

*There is one thing the laity can tell  
The clergy vote is paced like a snail  
We respectfully fear  
It is all quite clear  
You preachers know each other too well!*

Rev. Tim Rogers offered a motion that the supper break be delayed until the business was completed. The motion carried.

Mr. Preston Cantrell then brought the Report of the **Committee on Petitions to the General Conference**. He presented the "Petition to the 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church Resolving Endorsing **'20/20: Visioning an Aids-Free World'**". The committee recommended concurrence. Mr. Ralph Demarco (Hartsville) offered a motion to eliminate the words, "either/or in global projects." The motion failed for lack of a second. The body voted to support the recommendation of the committee to send the petition to General Conference, as follows:

#### **Resolution Endorsing '20/20: Visioning An AIDS-Free World'**

*Whereas*, The United Methodist Church has long been committed to creating an AIDS-free world, and beginning in 2005 started the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund as a global health initiative to raise funds to support church-oriented and Christ-centered HIV and AIDS ministries, and

*Whereas*, this Fund successfully has raised funds for distribution for more than 175 projects in over 37 countries (including the United States), and the need for continued and increased funding for programs of HIV and AIDS education, prevention, care, and treatment is everywhere evident, and

*Whereas*, more than 30 million people are infected worldwide, almost 50% of whom are

women, and over 15 million AIDS orphans struggle to survive, we are reminded anew that "where there is no vision, the people perish . . ." (Proverbs 29:18) and that Jesus called his disciples to "heal every disease and sickness" (Matthew 10:1), and

*Whereas*, our founding leader, John Wesley practiced medicine himself and called his followers to care for the sick and suffering, and to avoid stigmatization and discrimination, and

*Whereas*, a gift as small as \$20 can stop the transmission of HIV from several mothers to their new-born babies, supply nutrients to 20 HIV positive children suffering from dehydration, ensure nursing care for a newborn infant born with AIDS, teach young people and adults how to prevent HIV, feed an HIV positive person for a month so they can take powerful medicines, and provide free Upper Room biblical readings and prayers for those infected and affected. Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the 2012 General Conference endorses the new "20/20: Visioning an AIDS-Free World" campaign of the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Committee, and

1. Encourages every United Methodist to contribute yearly \$20, \$200 or more to the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Advance #982345 and to invite others to join in this mission of mercy. 25 percent of what the annual conference raises should be used within the conference for AIDS work, either locally or in global projects.
2. Asks each church and Annual Conference to educate its members about the HIV and AIDS crisis and to take up at least one major Annual Conference offering during the quadrennium.
3. Invites local congregations and individuals to join the 2020 Club composed of those who have committed \$2,020 by 2020 to the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund.
4. Requests United Methodists to pray for an AIDS-free world, remembering the words of Galatians 6:9: "and let us not grow weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart." And be it further

*Resolved*, that the 2012 General Conference requests that planners of the 2016 and 2020 General Conference set aside plenary time to review the progress of this "20/20: Visioning an AIDS-Free World" campaign, evaluating and highlighting the contributions United Methodists have made in this global health initiative.

Mr. Cantrell then presented the "Petition to the 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church: **Records of the Committee on Investigation**". The committee recommended concurrence. The body supported the committee's recommendation by vote, and approved sending the petition to General Conference as follows:

#### **Petition to Amend ¶2706**

Amend ¶ 2706 by adding a new item 7. Records of the Committee On Investigation – At the conclusion of the investigation process, all documents used by the committee on investigation, including transcriptions of its hearings, shall be sent to the secretary of the



annual conference, the jurisdictional or central conference in the case of a bishop, who shall keep them in custody. Such documents are to be held in a confidential file and shall not be released except for the purposes of trial and then only to Counsels for the Church and the Respondent and to the Presiding Officer of the Trial Court who shall return them to the secretary of the annual, jurisdictional, or central conference following the conclusion of the trial and any appeal.

Rationale: This proposed amendment addresses the disposition and custody of the records of the Committee on Investigation which is not adequately addressed anywhere else in disciplinary procedures for the Committee except for ¶ 2706.4.e) which only addresses the matter in the case where the complaint is dismissed or returned to the bishop.

Mr. Cantrell then presented the “Petition to the 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church: **Assistant Counsels Clergypersons in Full Connection** of the Respondent’s Annual Conference, Jurisdictional or Central Conference and Not Practicing Attorneys”. The committee recommended concurrence. After brief discussion, the body supported the committee’s recommendation and voted to forward the petition to the 2012 General Conference as follows:

#### **Petition to Amend ¶2708.7**

Amend ¶ 2708.7. Counsel – In all cases, a respondent shall be entitled to appear and to select and be represented by counsel, a clergyperson in full connection of The United Methodist Church if the respondent is a bishop, a clergyperson, or a diaconal minister; and a lay or clergy member of The United Methodist Church if the respondent is a lay member. The respondent and the Church shall be entitled to have counsel heard in oral or written argument or both. The official charged . . . .

No person who was a member of the cabinet, Board of Ordained Ministry, or committee on investigation who earlier considered the case now before the trial court shall be appointed counsel for the church or serve as counsel for the respondent or any of the persons bringing complaints in a case. In all cases of trial where counsel has not been chosen by the respondent, counsel shall be appointed by the presiding officer. The counsel for the Church and for the respondent each shall be entitled to choose one assistant counsel, who may be an attorney, without voice. “Without voice” means without the ability to speak to or within the hearing of the trial court. In the case of a trial of a bishop, clergyperson, or local pastor, all counsels and assistant counsels shall be clergypersons in full connection of the respondent’s annual conference, or in the case of a bishop, of the bishop’s jurisdictional or central conference.

Rationale: Counsels and assistant counsels should be clergy in full connection, not practicing attorneys, as the process described here is a church process conducted by and within an annual conference, jurisdictional conference, or central conference. The presence of practicing attorneys compromises the distinction between church law and civil law.

Mr. Cantrell then moved “Petition to the 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church: **Suspension Superseded by Finding of the Trial Court** When Respondent is a Clergy Member”. The committee recommended concurrence. The Bishop invited discussion. There was none, and she called for a vote. The body voted to support the committee’s recommendation to forward the petition to the 2012 General Conference as follows:

#### **Petition to Amend ¶ 2704.2.c**

Amend ¶ 2704.2.c) If five or more members of the committee on investigation so recommend, the bishop may suspend the person charged from all clergy responsibilities pending the outcome of the judicial process conclusion of the trial process. The respondent retains all rights and privileges as stated in ¶ 334.

Rationale: The suspension provided for in this paragraph is superseded by the finding of the trial court. In the case of conviction, the finding of the trial court determines the new status of the person charged which has immediate effect unless otherwise indicated by the trial court (¶ 2711.3.).

Mr. Cantrell then offered the “Petition to the 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church: **Discipline in Effect for Judicial Process**”. The committee recommended concurrence. The Bishop invited discussion and there was none. She called for the vote, and the conference voted to support the committee’s recommendation to forward the petition to the 2012 General Conference as follows:

#### **Petition to Amend ¶ 2719.5**

Amend ¶ 2719.5. For procedural purposes, the judicial process shall be governed by the Discipline in effect on the date a Bill of Charges and Specifications is received by the chair of the committee on investigation a complaint is forwarded to the Counsel for the Church.

Rationale: Proposed amendment clarifies that the judicial process begins once a complaint is referred to Counsel for the Church. Prior to this referral, the process is still supervisory and not a judicial process. Amendment furthers corrects error as the “bill of charges and specifications” comes from the committee on investigation, not “received” by the chair of the committee.

Mr. Cantrell then presented the “Petition to the 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church: **Time Period for Proceedings to Trial** Following Referral of Bill of Charges and Specifications for Trial”. The committee recommended concurrence. The Bishop invited discussion, and there was none. She called for the vote. The body voted to support the committee’s recommendation to forward the petition to the 2012 General Conference as follows:

#### **Petition to Amend ¶ 2706.5**

Amend ¶ 2706.5.b) by adding a new item (5) Proceeding to trial – The respondent shall have thirty days from the date of receipt of the bill of charges and specifications adopted by the committee on investigation during which to withdraw from college, conference, or church membership, resign, surrender

the ministerial office, and/or surrender credentials. Should the respondent fail to do so within the allotted thirty days, the matter shall proceed to trial.

Rationale: This proposed amendment provides a fixed amount of time during which the Respondent may voluntarily avoid a trial, and failing to do so, will proceed to be tried.

With this vote, the report of the committee was completed, and the conference expressed its appreciation to Mr. Cantrell and the members of the committee.

Mr. Dan O'Neill of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits brought a word of thanks for the Conference's support of the **Central Conference Pension Initiative**.

The Reverend David Surret and Mr. Tony Prestipino brought the Report of the **Council on Finance and Administration**. Rev. Surret requested that the Conference Secretary send an expression of our prayers and concern to CFA President Rev. Dr. Ed McDowell during his physical rehabilitation. The body supported this request. He also requested that birthday greetings be sent to Rev. Bob James upon his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. The body supported this request. Rev. Surret that CFA had reduced its requested amount for the "Contingency Fund" by \$5,000, for a total request of \$255,000, and to add \$5,000 to the Administrative Committees budget, bringing the recommended total to \$8,000. This recommendation did not change the total budget amount recommended for 2012. Rev. Bob Huggins (Hartsville) asked where the pension amount or the delinquency of pension amounts are shown in CFA reports. Rev. Surret replied that these delinquencies are recorded and shared with CFA and the District Superintendents and delinquent congregations are encouraged to pay in full. Rev. Huggins then moved that the Annual Conference form a task force. The motion was seconded. Discussion followed and when the bishop called for a vote, the motion was defeated. The Bishop invited further discussion on the report, including the proposed budget for 2012. There was none. The conference then voted to adopt the report as a whole, including the adjustments noted by Rev. Surret. The report of CFA being completed, the conference expressed appreciation for the work of the Council.

Bishop Taylor then announced the results of the **third clergy ballot for delegates to Jurisdictional Conference**. The clergy elected **Patricia Jean Parrish** (fourth) and **Mary Victoria Teasley** (fifth). The fourth clergy Jurisdictional ballot was taken.

The bishop asked Rev. Tim Rogers to give the report of the **Committee on the Annual Conference**. The Committee recommended that the Conference return to Florence, SC for the 2012 meeting. The body voted to approve the recommendation.

Bishop Taylor reported that there were 846 laity and 795 clergy in attendance – a total of 1640 delegates. Bishop Taylor then set the **2012 Annual Conference dates as Sunday, June 10 – Wednesday, June 13, 2012**.

Rev. Rogers reminded the body that clergy need to submit updated personal information for the 2011 Ministers' Book, and asked that everyone fill out and submit evaluation forms. Rev. Rogers read a message from the Reverend Dr. Albert Mosley, President and Dean of Gammon Theological

Seminary, expressing his regret over his inability to bring greetings to the Conference in person. Dr. Moseley expressed his gratitude for the relationship between the South Carolina Annual Conference and Gammon and for the Annual Conference's support of the Ministerial Education Fund.

Rev. Rogers, Secretary of the Annual Conference, expressed appreciation to those who assisted with Annual Conference as follows: Rev. James Friday, Florence District Superintendent, and Margaret Smith, his Administrative Assistant; Rev. Dane Morehead, Senior Pastor of St. Paul United Methodist Church, the Host Church, together with the people and staff of St. Paul for many acts of service and hospitality; Kendall Wall, General Manager of the Florence Civic Center, together with JoLynn, Russell, Brandon, 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; Rev. Carleathea Benson, head usher; 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; David Hullings and the staff of GNTV who provided audio and video services for the Conference; Mr. Matt Brodie, the Director of Communications, for overseeing the preparation and presentation of the video presentations; Carla Steele who "signed" the worship services; the three Assistant Secretaries serving on the platform: The Reverend Will Malambri, The Reverend James C. Lane, and The Reverend Kristen Richardson-Frick, the Head Teller; our Tellers, sixty persons from across the Conference who served so faithfully throughout the week; Rev. Paul Cheezem, who oversaw the computer voting system; Mrs. Bettye Rivers, Administrative Assistant to Bishop Taylor; Rev. Gary Phillips and the Commission on Worship; The Reverend Miyong Paik and her assistants who were responsible for preparing the communion table and backdrop banners; Ms. Carol Wyndham, the 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 and kneeler; 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 the worship furniture; Rev. James Ellis Griffeth, Rev. Adriane McGee, and Rev. Jo Anna Fallaw for leading Morning Prayer and Communion; Rev. Hayes Gainey, the Memorial Service preacher; the Edisto Fork United Methodist Church Choir, the music leaders for the Memorial Service; Rev. Robert Howell, Rev. Susan Leonard-Ray, and Rev. Jerry Temple, the leaders during the Teaching Times, Rev. Millie Nelson, Rev. Joel McMakin, and Ms. Brooke Mogy, the evening worship leaders; Rev. Judy Hames, the St. Mark United Methodist Church Mass Choir, and Jon Ballard and the Wightman Praise Team who led the music in the evening worship services; Rev. Jeff Kersey, Rev. Telley Gadsden, and Rev. Michael Turner, the preachers for the evening worship services; the Rev. Paul Frey who served as song leader throughout the week; Mr. Robin Thompson, Mr. Shaw Thompson, and the Pee Dee Mass Choir who provided music in the Service of Commissioning, Ordination, and Sending Forth; all of whom added so much to the worship experiences; other individuals who have helped in the

preparation and conduct of the conference in so many ways; the Conference Parliamentarian, The Reverend Dr. Timothy McClendon; the Conference Lay Leader, Dr. Joseph Heyward, who planned and led the Orientation Session for Lay Members on Wednesday morning; and Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, who preached, led worship, gave direction to our planning and so ably presided over the Conference.

Reverend 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 completion of the voting process for clergy delegates to Jurisdictional Conference and the alternate clergy delegates to Jurisdictional Conference and the Closing Worship and The Fixing of the Appointments this 2011 Session of the South Carolina Annual Conference be adjourned *sine die*. The motion was seconded and approved by the Conference at 6:16 p.m. The Bishop and Annual Conference expressed appreciation to Rev. Rogers and to those involved in the preparations and conduct of the Annual Conference.

The Bishop then announced the results from the **fourth clergy ballot for Jurisdictional Conference**. The clergy elected **John Wesley Hipp** (sixth). The Bishop then called for the fifth clergy ballot for Jurisdictional Conference. Following the ballot, the Conference was in recess for the dinner break.

#### **The Fourth Day – Saturday Evening June 11, 2011**

After the dinner recess, the Bishop announced the results of the **fifth clergy ballot for Jurisdictional Conference**. The clergy elected **Constance Nelson Barnes** (seventh). The Bishop called for the sixth Jurisdictional ballot. The sixth Jurisdictional ballot was ruled invalid after a clerical error. The Bishop called for the seventh ballot.

The Bishop announced the results of the **seventh clergy ballot for Jurisdictional Conference**. The clergy elected **James Leroy Friday** (eighth). The bishop called for the eighth Jurisdictional ballot. The Bishop announced the results of the eighth ballot. There was no election. The bishop called for the ninth Jurisdictional ballot. The Bishop announced the results of the ninth ballot. There was no election. The bishop called for the tenth Jurisdictional ballot.

The bishop announced the results of the **tenth clergy ballot for Jurisdictional Conference**. The clergy elected **John Wesley Culp** (ninth) as the final delegate to Jurisdictional Conference. The bishop called for the eleventh Jurisdictional Conference ballot to elect alternate delegates to Jurisdictional Conference.

The bishop announced the results of the **eleventh clergy ballot for Jurisdictional Conference**. The clergy elected **Jeffery Grant Kersey** and **Narcie McClendon Jeter** as alternate clergy delegates to Jurisdictional Conference. The bishop called for the twelfth ballot.

The bishop announced the results of the **twelfth clergy ballot for Jurisdictional Conference**. The clergy elected **Thomas Jesse Bowman, Sr.** as the final clergy alternate to

Jurisdictional Conference. This concluded the clergy election process.

The session ended at 11:05 p.m.

#### **The Fifth Day – Sunday Morning June 12, 2011**

**The Service of Commissioning, Ordination and Sending Forth** was held in the Civic Center Arena at 10:30 a.m. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor presided, preaching a sermon entitled, "The Time Has Come," based on Acts 2:1-21. An offering was received to support South Carolina Seminary Student Scholarship Fund and the Bessie Bellamy Parker Memorial Scholarship Fund. Music was provided by the Mass Choir of the Pee Dee, under the direction of Mr. Shaw Thompson, with Mr. Robin Thompson of Main Street UMC, Dillon, serving as the organist. The Extended Cabinet, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and clergy sponsors participated in the procession.

During the service, Katherine Amanda Brock was commissioned as a **Provisional Deacon**. The following persons were commissioned as **Provisional Elders**: Walter Joseph Cantwell, Jason Daniel Everson, Fadetra Deonka Harrington, Judith Ann Knox, David Dean McManus, Jr., Kurt Anthony McPherson, Richard Hancock Reams, Davie Demetrius Sanders, Jr., Steven Paul Simoneaux, Jr., Scott Walter Smoak, and Ryan Greasor Spurrier. The following persons were ordained as **Deacons**: Shelly Anne Holder, Karen Hanyea Lail Jones, Karen Trogdon Kluever, and Mary Kay Wood. And the following persons were ordained as **Elders**: Debra Anne Armstrong, Shawn Galloway Armstrong, William Thomas Dargan, Ann Dease Everett, Daniel Flessas, Pattie Elaine Gordon, Joshua Timothy McClendon, Adriane Maria McGee, Nanada Nichole Middleton, Dwight Arnold Nelson, Annie Hair Sistrunk, Jonathan Edward Tompkins, John Henry Vickers, III, Richard Wilson Waldrep, and Amanda Taylor Young.

Following the **Fixing of the Appointments and Sending Forth**, the newly commissioned and ordained were received and congratulated in the Civic Center, thus concluding the 40<sup>th</sup> gathering of the South Carolina Annual Conference.

Timothy J. Rogers  
Secretary of the Annual Conference

## NOTES