

SECTION IV

SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The United Methodist Church

Organized 1972

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

Sunday, June 1, 2014 – Wednesday, June 4, 2014

**Florence Civic Center
Florence, South Carolina**

Bishop Jonathan Holston, Presiding

CONFERENCE THEME:

“A More Excellent Way: Creating Corridors of Faith, Hope and Love”

**The First Day – Sunday Evening
June 1, 2014**

Registration: Registration began at 1:30 PM at the Florence Civic Center. Each registrant received a conference badge, registration booklet including additional reports and other information, information regarding the Florence area.

Clergy Session: The Clergy Session was called to order by Bishop Jonathan Holston at 5:00 PM in the Exhibit Hall. Bishop Holston opened the meeting with a word of prayer. The Reverend Kenneth L. Nelson, chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry, reviewed the work of the Board since the last session of Annual Conference.

The Reverend Ken Nelson stated that there was no report brought forth from the Administrative Review Committee for the previous year because there were no involuntary changes of status associated with any of our clergy and that was celebrated.

The Reverend Mel Arant presented the Business Questions on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Clergy members were presented with a full written report for the questions.

Business Questions 37, 38, 40, 41, 46e, 47 and 49 were presented as information and moved to record, as no vote was required. The Consent Calendar, which included Questions 25, 26, 29, 34, 36, 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 Reverend Arant as Motion 1 of the Clergy Session Memorandum. It was approved by more than two-thirds vote of the Clergy Session.

The Clergy Session acted to approve each of the following Business Questions separately: 18a, 21, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 42, 45, 46, 48, 50, and Questions 32, 33, and 50 were approved by more than a two-thirds majority. Question 73 was approved by more than a three-fourths majority.

Following the reading of the names of clergy who had died during the past year, as listed under Question 48, Bishop Holston offered prayer in remembrance and appreciation of their service to Annual Conference.

Bishop Holston asked the clergy to honor the Reverend Karen Radcliffe for her work as Director of Clergy Services. The Reverend Radcliffe is being appointed to serve in a local church.

There being no further business, Bishop Holston offered the closing prayer, and reminded the members of the evening worship session, thanked them for their presence and participation, and declared the Clergy Session adjourned.

The materials distributed during the Clergy Session are attached for reference.

Lay Orientation: An Orientation Session was conducted for the Lay Members of the Annual Conference by the Board of Laity at 5:00 PM in the Arena of the Florence Civic Center. The session began with a welcome by Barbara Ware, 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 2014 Annual Conference. Announcements were made concerning the ordination service,

the Laity Luncheon, the conference worship services, additional hand-outs, and the Laity Convocation schedule for later in the summer. Opening and closing hymns were sung.

The **Opening Service of Worship** began at 7:30 PM in the Civic Center with Bishop Jonathan Holston presiding. The Bishop's sermon entitled "Exposed to a Higher Standard" was based on John 14:15-21. Gathering music was provided by the Children and Youth Choirs of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Kingstree.

The Second Day – Monday Morning June 2, 2014

At 7:30 AM, the Conference began in the Civic Center with a service of **Holy Communion**. The Reverend Ross Chellis, pastor of Hampton/Varnville, was the celebrant for the service.

At 8:36 AM, Bishop Jonathan Holston called the Conference into order and invited those in attendance to open with the historic opening hymn, "And Are We Yet Alive."

The Florence District Superintendent, Reverend John Hipp, welcomed conference attendees to the city of Florence and the Florence District. Mr. Dennis Sullen, the Florence Lay Leader, also extended the welcome to attendees.

The Reverend Barbara L. Reid, speaking on behalf of the Conference Committee on the Episcopacy, welcomed Bishop Holston and his wife, Mrs. Felicia B. Holston, to the South Carolina Annual Conference. She pointed to Bishop Holston's "God-sized vision" for children in poverty, campus ministry and the goal of collecting a million books. Conference attendees recognized Bishop and Mrs. Felicia B. Holston as they celebrated their anniversary.

The Reverend Karen Radcliffe, Secretary of the Conference, offered a series of organizational motions.

The first motion was to elect the tellers nominated by their district superintendents for the 2014 Annual Conference session as nominated without reading and to publish their names in the 2014 Conference Journal. The following clergy tellers were nominated and elected: The Rev. Tony Adams, The Rev. Anthony Alford, The Rev. Barry A. Allen, The Rev. Robert (Bob) Allen, The Rev. Wanda D. Altman, The Rev. Shawn G. Armstrong, The Rev. David Bauknight, The Rev. Carleatha M. Benson, The Rev. Pete K. Bernston, The Rev. Michael Bingham, The Rev. Joshua Blackwelder, The Rev. Ollie Boyd, The Rev. Diane Boyer, The Rev. Scottie R. Bramlett, The Rev. Scott Bratton, The Rev. Don Brown, The Rev. Fred Buchanan, The Rev. Laura Canine, The Rev. J. Derrick Cattenhead, The Rev. Emily Davis, The Rev. Kim Eanes, The Rev. Donna S. Eidson, The Rev. Angela Etheredge-Manly, The Rev. Jason Everson, The Rev. Becky Forrest, The Rev. Ken Freeman, The Rev. Brandon Fulmer, The Rev. Tracy P. Glover, The Rev. Mary Green, The Rev. Matthew Greer, The Rev. Walter Harley, The Rev. William Hightower, The Rev. Jeremy Howell, The Rev. Bob Huggins, The Rev. David Inman, The Rev. Franklin D. James, The Rev. Cheryl Johnson, The Rev. Clayton Jones, The Rev. Ann Kovan, The Rev. Kevin B. Lindley, The Rev. Robert L. Malachi, The Rev. Joel McMakin, The Rev. Ken Nelson, The Rev. Frances (Lee) Roper, The Rev. Tenny Rupnick, The Rev. Becky Shirley, The Rev. Selena R. Smith, The Rev. Dr. James P. Smith, The Rev. Tyler Strange, The Rev. Steven "Matt" Turner, The Rev. Gregg Varner, The Rev. James Allen Vaught, The Rev. Robert Walker, The Rev. Jeri Katherine Warden-Sipes (Head Teller), The Rev. Merritt Wentz, The Rev. Paige Wheeler, The Rev. Laura Whitt, The Rev. Michael Wood, The Rev. Louise B. Wright, The Rev. William WRIGHT.

The following lay tellers were nominated and elected: Mr. Gary Ayers, Ms. Karen Ayers, Ms. Annie Bailey, Mrs. Gladys Chastian, Ms. Veronica Cooper, Ms. Tammy Dalton, Ms. Lynn Dehay, Mr. James Drummond, Ms. Elizabeth Duncan, Ms. Sherry Eisom, Ms. Gwendolyn Folk, Mr. Donnie Frazier, Mr. Weston Furgess, Mr. Garvin Gilley, Mr. Tommy Glenn, Mr. John Glover, Ms. Pamela Goodwine-Glover, Mr. Bill Gowder, Ms. Sylvia Harris-Greene, Mrs. Karen Hightower, Mr. Francis Hipp, Ms. Barbara Holley, Mr. Henry Hudson, Mr. Mike Keziah, Mrs. Sylvia Knox, Mr. Eddie Knox, Ms. Sylvia Landrum, Ms. Vivian Lee, Ms. Marlene Lowery, Ms. La Toya Lowry, Mr. Ronnie Lybrand, Mr. Del McAdams, Ms. Dorothy McClam, Mr. Ray McCoy, Ms. Christine McCoy, Ms. Paulie McKnight, Mr. Myron Middleton, Ms. Flossie Morais, Ms. Flo Nodine, Ms. Myra Nuttall, Mr. Jim Redmond, Mr. Jerry Richardson, Ms. Lucinda Saylor, Mr. Chuck Sicheloff, Mr. Devante Simon, Mr. Dawson Simon, Ms. Marlene Sipes, Mr. Nathan Smalls, Mr. Mike Smith, Ms. Norma Smith, Ms. Diane Snarski, Mr. Ed Stallworth, Mr. Jeffrey Tadlock, Ms. Cathy Trevino, Ms. Becka Trieper, Mrs. Sylvia Watson, Mrs. Patsy Whitaker, Ms. Virginia Williamson, Mr. Malachi Wilson, Ms. Selena Wine.

The other organizational motions were as follows: that the attendance registers signed at the time of registration be designated as the official roll and record of attendance for the 2014 Annual Conference Session, and 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 2014 Annual Conference Session, provided that the President may further adjust the schedule as necessary to expedite the business of the Session.

An additional motion set the bar of the Conference. These organizational amendments were approved.

The Reverend Karen Radcliffe presented as information that the daily updates for the conference will be posted by 10 pm each night. In addition, the Daily Advocate is being published each day to provide a look at what is happening each day at the conference. In addition, she reported that a one-page summary of the business of the conference will be available at the close of conference. This will allow delegates to report the information back to their churches.

The Reverend Karen Radcliffe provided additional information on the Civic Center and exiting the parking lot during lunch breaks. She presented additional information on voting during conference sessions.

Mr. Willie Robinson, chair of the **Committee on the Standing Rules**, presented two changes to the standing rules of the Conference:

The first amendment to **Standing Rule 47** will lead to the identification of denominational or religious affiliation for individuals who are nominated to Boards of Trustees and who are not members of the South Carolina Annual Conference. These persons shall be identified. This amendment was approved.

The second amendment to **Standing Rule 49** changed the membership of the Board of Ordained Ministry from 57 to 65 members. This amendment was approved. Standing Rule 49 will be amended by striking the word fifty-seven and replacing it with sixty five:

The next change would delete **Standing Rule 65.D** This rule provided for the publication, each 10 years, of a book of ministers of the South Carolina Annual Conference. This deletion was approved.

Amendments to **Standing Rule 68** would allow the Conference Lay Leader to send a designee to the Conference Committee on Nominations to ensure the Lay Leader is always represented. In addition, this change would call for clearly indicating the denominational or religious affiliation for individuals who are nominated for positions of leadership in the conference. An amendment to **Standing Rule 72** provided for a similar change to allow the Conference Lay Leader to designate an individual to attend the Committee on Standing Rules. These amendments were approved.

At 9:10 AM, **Dr. Robin Dease** led the conference in a Bible study. By looking at the feeding of the 5,000 in Matthew's Gospel, her study explored what God is saying to the church at this time about faith.

Following a break, attendees heard a presentation from the **Children in Poverty–Pan Methodist Task Force** which included a video presentation. Mrs. Martha Thompson recognized members of the committee and asked attendees, "How are the children?" She challenged churches to make children in poverty a priority on the church agenda and to be in prayer for children every day. Mrs. Thompson highlighted many of the efforts including the Million Book Effort. The report was approved by the Conference.

The attendees heard a report from Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe, General Secretary of **Church and Society**. She thanked the Conference for many efforts including the Million Book Effort, efforts related to immigration and other advocacy issues. In addition, she raised several issues relating to the need for advocacy and she thanked the Conference for the impact it has made in her life and ministry.

The Reverend Ken Nelson presented the report for the **Board of Ordained Ministry**. He described 2013 as an active and productive year for the Board of Ordained Ministry including the interviewing of 45 candidates seeking commissioning or ordination.

The Reverend Nelson presented those who will be commissioned and ordained during the Ordination Worship services. Those presented as **Provisional Deacons**: Eric Hendrickson, Andrew Thomas Jones, Elizabeth Adams Murray.

Those presented as **Provisional Elders**: Doris Regina Bright, Jacqueline Carter-Harris, William Wallace Culp III, Lillie Kerns Davis, Zachary Harmon Dillard, Angela Marie Etheredge-Manly, Kimberly Norbeck Evans, Sharon Spann Gamble, Michael Eugene Goldston, Erik Kenneth Grayson, Kayla Brooke Harward, John David Howle, Charles Brian Humphries, Sheila B. Koger, Mark Douglas Mitchell, James Lawson Morgan, Allen Nesmith, Meghan Lindsey Sweeney, Charlie Thomas, Carly Kirsten Wicklund.

Presented as an **Ordained Deacon**: Katherine Amanda Brock.

Presented as **Ordained Elders**: Hope Renee Avins, Joshua Lee Blackwelder, Benjamin Olsen Burt, Walter Joseph Cantwell, Daniel Walker Chamblee, Michael Terrence Fleming, Mallory Jean Forte, Andrew Charles Martin, David Jeffery Roper, Redonia McKnight Thomas, Suzanne Byrum Walker, Jeri Katherine Warden Sipes, Charles Bryson Williams Jr. and Thurmond Williams.

During the presentation, the following were licensed as **Local Pastors**: Marilyn Le'Cene Boyer, Kenneth Ray Carter, Beverly Cheryl CroweTipton, Meredith Marie Dark, William Anthony DuBose, Eleanora Coaxum Ellington, Jeffery Warren Farmer, Julie Kay Gibson, Daniel Troy Hembree, John Quincey Hooks II, Brandon Craig Lazarus, Miriam Wilson Mick, Maurice McNab, Roy Wayne Mobley, Joseph Sohwan Park, Travis Aaron Pearson, Nancy Creswell Reed, Donald Ray Studebaker, Heyward Daniel Sullivan Jr., Richard Dale Toy, James Allen Vaught, Paige Danielle Wheeler, Sandra Eslinger Whetsell, John Talbert Windham, and Daniel Cameron Wood Jr.

Following the licensing of Local Pastors, Rev. Nelson honored the Reverend Karen Radcliffe who has served as Director of Clergy Services for the previous two years. Rev. Radcliffe will be appointed to a local church during this annual conference. In addition, Bishop Holston honored Rev. Nelson for his work as chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry. As a result of appointments set at this conference, Rev. Nelson will be serving in a new capacity and the **Reverend Wayne Horne** will be serving as the chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

The Reverend Darrell Ricketts presented the report for the **Committee on Nominations** (page 87 of the pre-conference packet). He called for nominations from the floor – there were none. He also presented for information nominations from other boards and agencies. The report will be ratified on Wednesday, June 4, 2014.

Following the report, Bishop Holston announced that due to the Reverend Karen Radcliffe being appointed to a local church, she has asked to no longer continue to serve as Secretary of the Annual Conference so that she can concentrate on serving in the local church. The Reverend Dickie Knight submitted the Reverend Ken Nelson's name for consideration to serve as Secretary. By vote of the Conference, Rev. Ken Nelson was elected to serve in this role.

The Reverend Karen Radcliffe presented information on the consent calendar.

The Reverend David Surret and Conference Treasurer Anthony Prestipino presented the report for the **Committee on Finance and Administration**. The Rev. Surret reported that Bishop Holston set a goal of 95 percent giving for apportionments in 2014.

Report 1 included a 2 percent raise for District Superintendents in 2015. In Report 2, Part B, CF&A presented a change in the calculation of net giving that is used to determine apportionments. It would change the calculation of average net giving from four years to two years. Report 4 detailed the bankruptcy of the United Methodist Relief Center. Report 6 details the Conference Administration Fund and the Conference Benevolences Fund and both represent a decrease over the previous year. Report 7 presents a 0.6 percent increase in the budget from the previous year to include new church starts. The total recommendation for 2015 is \$16,708,470.

The Rev. Surret presented information on the Direct Billing Forgiveness Plan. The objectives of this effort are to provide relief, hope and accountability to assist congregations with debt relief. This will be available as a pilot plan in the fall and is anticipated to be available to all churches in February 2015.

The report was presented as information and will be voted upon by the body on Wednesday.

The Reverend Marvin Caldwell then presented the report for the **Committee on Resolutions and Appeals**. Three resolutions were presented prior to the conference: (1) A Resolution Designating Central United Methodist Church in Spartanburg as a United Methodist Historic Site, (2) A Resolution to Support Our Neighbors: The Need for Services to Individuals with

Mental Illness in the South Carolina Department of Corrections, and (3) a Resolution on Gun Violence. These were received as information today to be acted upon by the body on Wednesday.

Ms. Kay Crowe, the **Conference Chancellor**, made a report and encouraged churches to consider the benefits of legal incorporation. In addition, she challenged churches to review their insurance coverage and to ensure that they include: employment practices and sexual misconduct coverages.

Ms. Beth Dinndorf, president of **Columbia College**, greeted the Conference and thanked attendees for support of the United Methodist colleges in South Carolina.

Bishop Holson invited Mrs. Felicia Holston and Mrs. Betty Rivers to the podium and they were greeted by the Conference attendees. Bishop and Mrs. Holston were recognized for their 30th Wedding Anniversary which they celebrate today.

The attendees watched a video on a young girl named Olive, from Wesley UMC in Hartsville, SC where the Reverend Fran Elrod serves as pastor. Olive is leading the way to stop malaria!

Prior to adjourning for lunch, Bishop Holston reported that \$9,946 was collected in offering for campus ministry.

The Second Day – Monday Afternoon June 2, 2014

Bishop Holston called the afternoon session to order.

Lester Ruth, research professor of Christian worship at Duke University, presented the report of the **United Methodist Theological Schools**. He thanked the conference for its support of United Methodist theological schools and seminaries. His report included a video presentation on Duke Divinity School.

The Reverend Steve Simoneaux offered a report on **Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry** in the South Carolina Annual Conference. He stated that more than 1,000 students are involved each week in Wesley Foundation campus ministries in South Carolina. In addition, those students are involved in ministry and mission opportunities. The Rev. Simoneaux pointed to how those students are engaged and will be engaged in the church and in leadership roles. The report included a video presentation of some of the faces of students involved in campus ministry. The Rev. Simoneaux shared stories of the impact of campus ministries and reminded those in attendance that “campus ministry matters.”

In addition, the attendees watched a video on SIM (Students in Ministry), an outreach and missions effort of the Wesley Foundations in South Carolina.

The Reverend Ken Nelson introduced Mr. Charlie Coleman III to offer the report for the **Black College Fund**. Mr. Coleman related his experiences at Dillard University and his work as a Lina H. McCord Ambassador. He now attends Loyola University School of Law with a concentration in entertainment law. He thanked those in attendance for their support of the Black College Fund.

Following a video presentation on “Rev it Up,” Mr. Arthur Spriggs presented the report of **Camps and Retreat Ministries**. He led the attendees in song and presented a video on camps and retreats. He also presented the winning team from the Greenwood District: James Friday, Ronald Friday, Howard Lofton and Eric Wilson as the 2014 Golf Tournament winners! Les Prichard presented a report on Sewee. Currently the property is being used by Clemson University and Prichard reported that the committee has voted to sell the property.

Following that report, the session went on a break.

The Second Day – Monday Evening June 2, 2014

The Service of Commissioning and Ordination was held in the Civic Center at 7:30 PM. Bishop Jonathan Holston presided and Bishop Larry Goodpaster, Resident Bishop of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference preached a sermon titled, “A Fine Madness” based on Phillipians 2:1-11. Music was provided by the Chancel Choirs of St. John’s United Methodist Church, Aiken, South Carolina. The Extended Cabinet, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and the Clergy Sponsors participated in the service.

During the service, the following persons were commissioned as **Provisional Deacons**: Eric Hendrickson, Andrew Thomas Jones, Elizabeth Adams Murray; and as **Provisional Elders**: Doris Regina Bright, Jacqueline Carter-Harris, William Wallace Culp III, Lillie Kerns Davis, Zachary Harmon Dillard, Angela Marie Etheredge-Manly, Kimberly Norbeck Evans, Sharon Spann Gamble, Michael Eugene Goldston, Erik Kenneth Grayson, Kayla Brooke Harward, John David Howle, Charles Brian Humphries, Sheila B. Koger, Mark Douglas Mitchell, James Lawson Morgan, Allen Nesmith, Meghan Lindsey Sweeney, Charlie Thomas, Carly Kirsten Wicklund.

The following person was ordained as a **Deacon in Full Connection**: Katherine Amanda Brock; and as **Elders in Full Connection**: Hope Renee Avins, Joshua Lee Blackwelder, Benjamin Olsen Burt, Walter Joseph Cantwell, Daniel Walker Chamblee, Michael Terrence Fleming, Mallory Jean Forte, Andrew Charles Martin, David Jeffery Roper, Redonia McKnight Thomas, Suzanne Byrum Walker, Jeri Katherine Warden Sipes, Charles Bryson Williams Jr. and Thurmond Williams.

**The Third Day – Tuesday Morning
June 3, 2014**

At 7:30 AM, the Conference began in the Civic Center with a service of Holy Communion. The Reverend Candice Sloan, Chaplain, Spartanburg Methodist College, and The Rev. Paul Harmon, Spartanburg District Superintendent were celebrants for the service. In addition, at 7:30 AM the Awards Breakfast was held in the Pee Dee Room. The following awards were presented on behalf of Connectional Ministries.

The Bishop's 5 Star Award of Excellence, which is an award given to provide incentive for churches to annually embrace new ministries specifically geared toward growth and outreach. It is designed to enable churches of all sizes to receive recognition. Five Star churches meet the following criteria: increased Sunday School attendance by 5%, developed a new ministry that impacts youth, have a "new work" program that impacts growth, have a 1% increase for members who are received by profession of faith, paid all apportionments in full for 2013 or increased apportionment payments by 25% over those paid in 2012. The award was presented to the following churches:

Church	Pastor
Asbury UMC, Shiloh	Reverend Pattie Elaine Gordon
Bethel UMC - Charleston	Reverend Cindy S. Shaw
Bethel UMC – Columbia	Reverend Henry M. Davis
Boone Hill UMC	Reverend Kelli W. Taylor
Chapin UMC	Reverend Jody Flowers
Christ UMC	Reverend Wade Everett
Clemson UMC	Reverend Keith D. Ray II
Concord UMC	Reverend Kimberley Evans
First UMC - Clover	Reverend Tommy Wilkes
Grace UMC	Reverend James McCoy-Bruce
Grove Hall UMC	Reverend Virginia Stafford
Lebanon UMC	Reverend Dr. Mark Williams
Little River UMC	Reverend Stuart R. Smith
Mauldin UMC	Reverend C. E. Kanipe
Mays UMC	Reverend LaSheila Mack Wyatt
Mays Chapel UMC	Reverend Mark A. Williams
Mt. Hebron UMC	Reverend Tim J. Rogers
Mt. Vernon UMC	Reverend Linda B. Dunn
Mt. Zion UMC - Florence	Reverend J. Derrick Cattenhead
Mt. Zion UMC - Bishopville	Reverend Angela Ford Nelson
Shady Grove UMC	Reverend Bob Vincent
Shandon UMC	Reverend Mike Guffee
Shiloh UMC	Reverend Christopher Greene
Springtown UMC	Reverend Albert Middleton
St. Andrews by The Sea UMC	Reverend Neil Yongue
St. John UMC - Shiloh	Reverend Pattie Elaine Gordon
St. Luke UMC - Walhalla	Reverend Richard Reams
Trinity UMC	Reverend LaSheila Wyatt

Trinity UMC
Washington UMC
Wesley UMC - Pinopolis

Reverend Sandra Stevens Poirer
Reverend Williams M. WRIGHTEN
Reverend Lee C. Bines

The Bishop's Award of Excellence is established for the purpose of recognizing congregations and units within the United Methodist Church that extend their ministry to children and youth by creating a faith based environment for children, youth, their families, and their leaders to participate in Girl Scouts of the USA and Boy Scouts of America. The United Methodist Men of South Carolina join with Bishop Holston in recognizing Scouting Ministry as an important part of the Church's total ministry because of who is involved, ALL God's children. These children will learn of God's love from those servants who model their faith. Scouting affords many opportunities for ministry from the church's buildings to camping in God's creation. Those involved become part of a worldwide identity in the local community influencing youth positively for Christ. Not only are the youth ministered to, but the adults also ministry to each other. This award was presented to the following churches:

Charleston District

Boone Hill UMC

Reverend Kelli W. Taylor, Pastor
Charles Smith, Scouting Coordinator

Cub Scout Pack 759
Boy Scout Troup 759
Venturing Crew 314

Stallsville UMC

Reverend David James, Pastor
Rolland Fitch, II, Scouting Coordinator

Cub Scout Pack 750
Boy Scout Troop 750

Columbia District

Asbury Memorial UMC

Reverend Steve McCormick, Pastor
Gene Clark, Scouting Coordinator

Cub Scout Pack 397
Cub Scout Pack 518

Red Bank UMC

Reverend W. Russell Freeman, Sr., Pastor
Robin Smith, Scouting Coordinator

Girl Scout Troop 2323
Boy Scout Troop 518

Orangeburg District

Trinity UMC

Reverend Larry D. McCutcheon, Pastor
Ernest Nimmons, Scouting Coordinator

Cub Scout Pack 190
Boy Scout Troup 190

Greenwood District

Grace UMC

Reverend Jim Dennis, Pastor
Allan Coutts, Scouting Coordinator

Cub Scout Pack 7
Boy Scout Troop 7

The Herbert Hucks Award is presented to local churches and publications who celebrate the history of the church. This year's awards were presented to the following churches:

Livingston UMC, Livingston
Main Street UMC, Abbeville
Mt. Hebron UMC, West Columbia
Mount Dearborn UMC, Great Falls
Mountain View UMC, Taylors
Nazareth UMC, Batesville-Leesville
Oak Grove UMC, Swansea
Pisgah UMC, Aynor
Tabernacle UMC, Lancaster

The 2014 Herbert Hucks Individual Award was presented to Horace Harmon of Mt. Hebron UMC, West Columbia, former church historian and active historian of Lexington County. His work in historical preservation for the church and the county led to the preservation of the Temperance Hall at Mt. Hebron.

The 2014 Advocate Scholarship was established in 2014 to help alleviate tuition costs for students majoring in business, communications or journalism; and ideally will be awarded to a student who understands the role of journalism in Christian ministry. The inaugural award was presented to Ms. C'Nell L. Boone who received a \$1,000 scholarship. She attends Claflin University and is a member of Edisto Fork United Methodist Church, Orangeburg, SC.

The T. Dennie Smith Scholarship assists any young man or woman who intends to devote their lives to the ministry in the Methodist Church. The 2014 recipients are: the Reverend Walter Edward Strawther and the Reverend Edward Preveaux.

The Seminary Students Scholarship is awarded by the S.C. Conference to assist students from South Carolina in pursuing a program of study leading to a first professional degree. This year's recipient is the Reverend Sean Michael Kilpatrick.

The Denman Evangelism Award honors people, both lay and clergy, who are effective in making disciples of Jesus Christ. This effort can involve speaking, personal witnessing, or inspiring the church to be involved in evangelism. Nominees' lifestyles bring honor to Christ and the Church in ways that are in keeping with the United Methodist history and traditions. This award was presented to Ms. Mary Beth McCombs, Lay recipient; and the Reverend Jonathan Tompkins, Clergy recipient.

The Joseph B. Bethea Distinguished Service Award is presented to a person who has performed outstanding service in working for racial justice. This award was presented to the Reverend Amiri Hooker.

Barbara Boultinghouse Bridgebuilders Award is presented annually to one person or organization of the South Carolina Annual Conference who has built bridges of understanding by promoting the equity and inclusiveness of all persons, without regard to race, gender, age, handicap, or economic condition. This award was presented to: Mr. Cassius Rhue.

The United Methodist Men Life Membership Award was presented to Mr. Clayton Easter. Mr. Easter received a life membership certificate, Lifetime membership card and a pin.

Michael C. Watson Volunteer in Mission Award is presented annually to one clergy person and one lay person who has exemplified extraordinary volunteer mission service in the South Carolina Conference. The award was presented to: Ms. Suzanne Jones, Laity, and the Reverend Neil Flowers, Clergy.

The Archives and History Awards were presented to churches celebrating their 100th or 200th year anniversaries:

Bicentennial Churches: Greenwood District: Ebenezer UMC, Newberry, the O'Neal Street- Ebenezer Charge.

Centennial Churches: Anderson District: St. Andrew UMC, Easley; Columbia District: College Place UMC, Columbia; Florence District: First UMC, Hemingway; Greenwood District: Broad Street UMC, Clinton; Orangeburg District: Neeses UMC, Neeses, Springfield Charge; Walterboro District: Furman UMC, Hampton, Estill-Black Swamp Charge.

The following **Students in Mission (SIM)** were recognized: Cory Nelson, Kayla Norris, Javon Etheredge, Curtis Hudson, Will Shelton, Murphy Belton, LaQuaan Malachi, and Tripp Edwards.

The Reverend Dr. Robin Dease opened the morning with a time of **Bible Study**. She focused on Peter's healing of a lame man in Acts 3. She pointed to themes of hope and the church's continuing mission to those in poverty. She challenged those in attendance to wrestle with the ways in which we can create corridors of hope for those in need.

Following the study, those in attendance watched a video featuring children talking about hope.

The Reverend Karen Radcliffe encouraged those in attendance to participate in the blood drive with a goal of collecting 37 units.

The Reverend Kathy James and Ms. Cynthia Williams - Conference Convener, presented the report for **Connectional Ministries**. The report began with a video explaining the role of Connectional Ministries in the Annual Conference.

They recognized the Reverend George Olive for his service as the Conference's Disaster Response Coordinator. The Reverend Gregg Varner was introduced as the new coordinator. Rev. Varner thanked Rev. Olive for his work and shared the importance of disaster response.

The Reverend John Culp made a motion to address race reconciliation. The motion was seconded. The resolution was printed and submitted to those in attendance.

The resolution is as follows:

"I would like to move that the South Carolina Annual Conference take seriously its passion for race reconciliation and create out of the emerging ministry fund in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 a task force and/or committee to address racial prejudice and injustice as a theological and missional imperative on the local level in congregations and neighborhoods. In order to more deeply understand racism in our state and local communities and the church's opportunity and challenge in bearing witness to the New Creation wrought up in Jesus Christ, the following is offered as a way forward.

- (1) The conference request of Wofford College and Claflin University to work with the Commission on Religion and Race (or Advocacy Ministry Area or cabinet) in designing and implementing two one-day conferences with one session on each campus during 2015.
- (2) The conferences include the following topics: Current Realities Regarding Race in SC and the US; Role/Opportunity of the Church in Addressing Racism (specifically the UMC); How Clergy Can Provide Transformative Leadership in Racial Reconciliation; Moving Beyond Integration to Reconciliation.
- (3) All clergy are strongly urged to attend one or both of the conferences with at least one layperson from the local church.
- (4) Each pastor report at Charge Conference what is being done in the local congregation and community toward racial reconciliation and justice; or set specific goals with results to be reported at the 2015 Charge Conference.

The Reverend Gary Phillips made a motion to refer the Resolution to Connectional Ministries. The motion was seconded. The Reverend Hayes Gainey spoke in opposition to the motion to refer. Mrs. Nancy Russell spoke in favor of referring it to Connectional Ministries. The Reverend Larry McCutcheon spoke in opposition to referring the proposal and said that referring would be delaying it. Ms. Cynthia Williams, of Connectional Ministries, spoke before the vote and said that Connectional Ministries is working on issues as they come forward. Rev. John Culp spoke in opposition to the motion to refer. The Reverend Bob Huggins spoke in favor of referring the motion.

Bishop Holston called for a vote and attendees voted to refer the motion. Bishop Holston reminded those at the Conference that we are one body.

Following that, the Connectional Ministries report was approved.

Mr. Chris Lynch, Congregational Specialist, presented Hillary Taylor and Erica Oliveria who are serving as **Ministry Interns**. The interns shared information about their backgrounds and talked about the work they are doing in ministry. They encouraged others to be involved in ministry and missions efforts and to visit their booth in the exhibit hall.

The Reverend Robert Cannon asked for a point of personal privilege, and he spoke about Dr. Mike Watson who has published his memoirs inclusive of story of the founding of United Methodist Volunteers in Mission. Those memoirs are available for purchase at the UMMVIM table.

The Conference took a 10-minute break before continuing reports.

Following the break, the Conference watched a video on Revolution and the impact it has had on youth in South Carolina.

The Reverend John Holler presented a report on **Epworth Children's Home**. Epworth Children's Home has recently adopted a new slogan, "In the pursuit of excellence, aim higher." Rev. Holler shared that Epworth received a gift from the Duke Endowment to improve quality and efficiency.

Rev. Holler shared that, for the third consecutive year, 100 percent of Epworth's high school students graduated. All of this year's graduates have been accepted in institutions of higher learning. He said that Epworth is strong and there are many possibilities for the future to address the needs of children in South Carolina.

The Reverend Stephen Gaither presented a spotlight on the **Advance Special Ministries**. He reported that each of the ministries supported by the Advance Special has a United Methodist tie and the ministries address many areas of need. The Advance Special Ministries provide

support to 14 ministries. Ms. Sue Owen shared information on the ministry of the Bethlehem Center in Spartanburg, one of the ministries supported by the Advance Special Ministries.

After a brief recess, the Conference held the **Retirement Recognition Service** presided over by Bishop Jonathan Holston. The service included a video message from several of the retiring pastors. Those retiring included the following: Barrett Thomas Alewine, Judith Ann Alford, Ruth Heykens Arant, Kay Adams Best, Charles Lee Bowman, Anne Gregory Bridgers, William Martin Burke, Kenneth Campbell Burr, John Wesley Culp, Paul David Frey, Roger Marion Gwinn, James William Harris, Velma Martin Haywood, David George James, Ronald Lee Leonard, Jr., Patricia Petway Mayfield, Albert Middleton, Jr., Gilbert Dane Morehead, Barbara Lee Reid, Eldrige Bates Rowell, Kathryn Whitlock Scarborough, Barbara Rogers Segars, Rufus Lenoah Snowden, Alexander Thomas, George Theodore Thomas, Jr., Joseph Calhoun Watson, III, Myrna Kay Westfall, and Allen Dale Wolfe. Ad Interim Retirees included the following: Miriam Joyce Graham-Hadden, Mary Jane Shoemaker, and Charlie Albert Short. Sharing the "Passing of the Mantle" were the Reverend Paul David Frye (Retiring) and the Reverend Suzanne Byrum Walker (Entering Class).

Tuesday Afternoon – The Third Day June 2, 2014

Following the lunch break, the Annual Conference reconvened at 2:00 PM with the **Memorial Service**. The Liturgist for the service was Bishop Holston. The Opening Song was "My Faith Looks Up to Thee." The Reverend Kitty Holtzclaw preached the sermon entitled, "Family Stories," based on Isaiah 42:1-3a, 4-5, 13, 15, 18-19, 25. The following deceased ministers, spouses, and others were remembered during the service:

Active Ministers: Deloris Tart Inman, Charles Ernest Summey, Jr., Cynthia Louise Swofford.
Retired Ministers: Charles Martin Blackmon, Barry Franklin Brinson, Dorothy Nell Cobb Culp, Charles Loney Dunn, Thomas Carrol Gilliam, John Patrick Griffith, Foster Barney Fowler, Jr., Ernest Marvin Heape, Sr., Kinsler Boyd Mack, Sr., Roosevelt Montravel McFadden, Melvin Eugene Mullikin, Jack Ewell Ray, Richard Edward Seignious, Angelin Jones Simmons, Theodore Brandon Thomas, Jr. **Spouses:** Ruth Delores James Adams, Barbara Nalley Branan, Brenda Kay Ivey Brown, Martha Peterson Coble, Carnella Arthur Frazier, Ralph Terry Ray, Dorothy Peach Reese, Luretha Perry Thomas, Doris Tooke Wofford. **Surviving Spouses:** Lucy Eleanor Waldrop Boozer, Edneta J. Conner, Betty Bacot Stall Mullikin, Mabel Guyton Parrott, Eloise Deaton Petty, Ernestine Williams Robinson, Ethel Lee Lewis Rogers, Margaret Davis Rogers, Louise Mack Singletary, Eunice Horne Williamson, Mary Alice Parkman Wilson. **Others:** Oneida Soler Floyd, Catherine Roberta (Dot) Forrester.

The afternoon session opened with the attendees singing, "My Hope is Built". Bishop Holston reported that, so far, 64,400 books have been packaged at the conference.

The Reverend Jeremy Howell presented the report for the **Commission on Equitable Compensation**. In Report 2.A.1., the Commission requested a budget line item of \$650,000. However, CF&A requested that the request be reduced to \$550,000 and the Commission on Equitable Compensation amended the request. The report was approved.

In Report 2.B., the Commission on Equitable Compensation requested an increase in the minimum salary level for pastors. It was approved.

Report 2.D. makes a change in the Experience Merit for pastors. It was approved by the Conference.

Report 2.I. changes the language relating to charges receiving salary supplements. The request asks the charges to take on an increasing amount of the pastor's salary. It was approved.

A requested change in Report 3.B.4. strikes the language of "at least 4 years of experience" to allow the Cabinet to make the best appointments for each situation. It was approved.

The report of the Commission of Equitable Compensation was approved.

Mr. Herman Lightsey and the Reverend David Anderson presented the report of the **Board of Pensions and Health Benefits**. The insurance programs will change from a five-tier program to a three-tier program (participant only, participant and spouse, participant and family). The church costs for 2015 will be a uniform cost among all churches of \$9,870 per year (\$873 a month). This would stop the need for budget changes in mid-year due to clergy changes.

Rev. Anderson stated that the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits is a ministry and is there to assist those who serve. He made a motion to adopt Report 1. It was approved.

Report Two lists budgetary items that will be received by direct billing and other categories. It was approved.

Report One in the Group Insurance section defines those eligible for coverage. It was approved. Report Two details the major medical insurance benefits and wellness program. It was approved.

Report Three outlines retiree Medicare primary benefits. Rev. Anderson reported a smooth transition to the AmWINS Group Benefits. This report was approved.

Report Four outlines the administrative procedures for the collection of benefits. This report was approved. Report Five outlined the budget for 2014 and estimates for 2015. It was approved.

Report Six specifies the changes in the insurance program including the changes to a three-tier program. This also outlines the charges for churches in relation to clergy insurance.

The Reverend Steven King made a motion to amend Report Six. His motion is as follows:

“Amend Report No. Six of the Board of Pension and Health Benefits Section, Page 43.

- Add at the end of line 17, “The Church’s share would be approximately 70 percent of the rate; this is expected to be \$520 per month.
- Add at the end of line 19, “The Church’s share would be approximately 70 percent of the rate; this is expected to be \$1,125 per month.
- Add at the end of line 21, “The Church’s share would be approximately 70 percent of the rate; this is expected to be \$1,464 per month.
- Line 30 and 31, delete all C. and replace with the following: “All churches/charges who have eligible clergy who do not participate in the Clergy insurance plan will be direct billed a Mandatory Coverage Fee of \$745 per month.”

Rev. Anderson talked through a number of the options that are available but described this proposal as the “most equitable way.” This, he said, would equalize the billing and it removes the insurance cost factor when it comes to making appointments. The Reverend Patricia Parrish, District Superintendent, spoke of the struggles of making appointments while balancing the issues of pension and insurance.

A vote was called and Rev. King’s motion was defeated.

Edward Kennedy asked a question as to the meaning of “Spouse plus one.” Rev. Anderson said this combined “Participant plus spouse” and “Participant plus child” into one tier.

The Reverend Joseph James thanked the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits. He said that the Board helped to pay for him to attend the Clergy Health Initiative. Rev. James said the Board is making a difference in the life of clergy.

The Reverend Deborah Armstrong asked a question about the total costs for a church in relation to clergy insurance. Rev. Anderson stated that the costs was for each clergy person.

The Reverend Randy Smith asked whether that cost was the same for the church regardless of the number of participants in the clergy participant’s family.

The Reverend Valerie Mireb asked for clarification on the amount paid by clergy. Mr. Sanders thanked the Bishop and the Board for making this change.

The Reverend Donna Eidson asked how the charge would be split among churches in a charge. Rev. Anderson said the bill would be prorated among the churches in a charge.

The Reverend Angela Marshall asked whether a church would be charged for a full-time deacon if that deacon was not covered under the plan. Rev. Anderson stated that would not be the case.

Ms. Francis Hill requested a call for the question.

Bishop Holston called for a vote and the Report was approved.

Rev. Anderson asked approval of the entire report. Bishop Holston called for the vote and it was approved.

The Reverend Dickie Knight and the Reverend Susan Leonard-Ray presented the **Report of the Cabinet**. Rev. Knight and Rev. Leonard-Ray shared stories of churches and groups who were involved in ministry and having fun.

They shared information about the excitement of Stop Hunger Now meal packaging and the Million Book Effort. They encouraged churches to be in ministry with the poor and not just to the poor, for churches to seek new ways to share Jesus Christ, and to look for ways to serve others.

The report was approved.

Ms. Barbara Ware presented the **Report of the Laity**. She stated that Bishop Holston believes in the partnership between clergy and laity. She shared that Bishop Holston will be traveling to each District in the fall. Ms. Ware shared information on the tasks and mission of the Lay Leadership Area of Connectional Ministries.

The report included a video sharing information on the lay leadership in the Annual Conference.

Following the video, Mr. Donald Love recognized those involved in the lay ministry within the Conference.

Mr. Love shared information on the Missions Fair that was held during the Conference. He thanked God, the churches and the participants for their involvement in the Missions Fair.

Mrs. Ware thanked Mr. Love for his work as associate Conference Lay Leader. She concluded her report and made the motion to move it into record. Bishop Holston called for a vote and the report was approved.

Bishop Holston concluded the session with prayer and Conference adjourned for the day.

The Fourth Day – Wednesday Morning June 4, 2014

At 7:30 AM, the Reverend Adriane Burgess led the **Service of Holy Communion**. Her sermon challenged the congregation to walk together in the Hallway of discipleship.

At 8:30 AM, the Reverend Dr. Robin Dease led the delegates in a **Bible Study** focusing on the parable of the Good Samaritan. Her question to us: "Who is the Hu-Man in the Ditch?" Is it the single-mother, our sons and daughters...?

A Moment of Silence was observed in memory of **Mrs. Martha J. Swinton** who passed away on Sunday, June 1, 2014. She is the immediate past president of the Hartsville United Methodist Women. Funeral services will take place on Thursday, June 5, 2014.

Mrs. Francis Hill asked for a point of personal privilege, and was granted the time, to thank the Bishop and the Conference for showing compassion this week. She recapped all that we have learned together this week.

The Reverend Sara White and the Reverend Kenneth Owen provided the report of **Congregational Development**. The mission of Congregational Development is the creation of new places for new people so that those who desire Jesus may find in us bridges of connection and hope. The team highlighted development projects which were initiated in Marion, Columbia, Greenville, Greenwood, Anderson, Charleston, and Orangeburg. Testimonials about the impact of the ministry of Congregational Development were provided.

The Reverend Karen Radcliffe presented the **Consent Calendar** for adoption. No items were removed from the calendar. Bishop Holston called for a vote, and the consent calendar is approved.

Mr. Darrell Ricketts presented the report of the **Committee on Nominations**. He reviewed the nominations report in the pre-conference materials. Bishop Holston called for a vote, and the nominees were approved.

The Reverend Marvin Caldwell presented to report of the **Committee on Resolutions and Appeals**. He presented the **Resolution on Gun Violence**. John Gibson, Laity from Salem UMC in Irmo stood in support of the resolution; however, he offered that the resolution may be too wordy because it may cause the reader to be confused. Further, he offered that a group should not be appointed to speak for the Annual Conference. Instead the Annual Conference should speak for itself. He offered the following amendments:

Amend the resolution by deleting all whereas statements except for the first two. The amendment was seconded. Bishop Holston called for discussion. There was no discussion. Bishop Holston called for the vote. The amendment was approved.

The second motion to amend was to delete the resolution statement concerning the appointment of a Faith Coalition. The amendment was seconded. The Bishop called for discussion for and/or against the amendment.

The Reverend John Culp, Virginia Wingard UMC, clarified that the Advocacy area of the Conference is responsible for advocating on issues such as this. Bishop Holston advised that a handout has been distributed to the Conference to provide an overview of the Coalition. Mr. Weinberg from Trinity Sumter, spoke against the removal of the Coalition.

The Reverend Mitch Houston from Salem UMC, spoke for the amendment. He expressed concern that the handout concerning the Coalition was just distributed and thus not enough time was provided to review the information.

The Reverend Amiri Hooker, Lake City Circuit, provided clarification concerning the Advocacy Area of the Annual Conference. The area partners with other agencies; however, they are not directed by the groups.

The Reverend Bob Huggins, St. Johns Sumter spoke in favor of the motion to amend, and asked Reverend Hooker for information about the Faith Coalition.

The Bishop asked if anyone else would like to speak against the amendment.

The Reverend Paul Wood, Greenwood District spoke against the amendment. He expressed concern that the dialogue about the Faith Coalition does not address the serious issue concerning gun violence.

Bishop Holston asked the Body if it was ready to vote. The Conference approved the amendment.

Bishop Holston called for a vote to approve the resolution as amended. The resolution was approved as follows:

RESOLUTION ON GUN VIOLENCE

Whereas, gun violence in our society has reached intolerable levels, with far too many children, young adults, and others being killed or injured by guns;

Whereas, the prevalence of guns in our society has desensitized many people to the effects, both immediate and long term, of gun violence;

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that we, as a faith community, encourage greater communication and a sense of neighborliness—based on the Biblical exhortations to “love your neighbor,” and “do unto others...”—within local communities, states, and nations, through intentional, focused efforts to

- *change* the focus on guns and gun violence in our society;
- *raise* awareness about gun violence, its prevention and its impact on families and communities;
- *promote responsible gun ownership by providing information about gun safety and security;*
- *educate the public about alternatives to violence through conflict resolution; and*
- *advocate* for civil discourse, cooperation and collaboration for real security and a less violent society and culture.

Be It Further Resolved, that the 2014 Annual Conference of the South Carolina United Methodist Church will adopt an official stance against gun violence in all its manifestations in our society. In addition, we pledge to promote sustained, reasonable efforts to effect a change in our culture which has allowed such violence to flourish.

Submitted by

Kay Ayers-Garren and Charles A. Garren

The Reverend Constance “Connie” Barnes

The Reverend Franklin and Becky Buie

The Reverend Wiley and Emily Cooper

The Reverend John Wesley Culp

The Reverend Dr. Carl Evans

The Reverend Dr. John Dickey Evans

Kathy Handel

*John Holladay
Mark Huguley
Dr. Carolyn Jenkins
Carol Krebs
Hayes Mizell
The Reverend Dr. Thomas A. Summers
Kate Swanson
The Reverend Dr. Tom Wall
The Advocacy Area of the Conference
Connectional Ministries*

The Reverend Caldwell presented the Resolution designating Central United Methodist Church, Spartanburg as a United Methodist historic site. The resolution was approved.

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING
CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SPARTANBURG,
A UNITED METHODIST HISTORIC SITE**

Whereas, Central United Methodist Church, founded in 1837, is the oldest church of any denomination in the city of Spartanburg, South Carolina, and

Whereas, Central United Methodist Church continues to operate on its original campus, and its current sanctuary building was constructed in 1886, and

Whereas, Central granted the licenses to preach to three future bishops, William Wallace Duncan, A. Coke Smith, and Edwin D. Mouzon, and served as the church for seven other bishops while they were students at nearby Wofford College, and

Whereas, Central hosted the original meeting of the Wofford College Board of Trustees in 1851, and has been closely associated with the college ever since, serving as the church for generations of faculty and students, and

Whereas, most of the Methodist congregations around Spartanburg trace their roots to Central, and

Whereas, Central was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003; therefore

Be it resolved by the South Carolina Annual Conference, meeting in Florence, South Carolina, June 4, 2014, that Central United Methodist Church is hereby designated a historic site of the South Carolina Annual Conference, to be registered with the General Commission on Archives and History.

Submitted by the Commission on Archives and History

The Reverend Caldwell presented the Resolution to support our neighbors: the need for services to individuals with mental illness in the South Carolina Department of Corrections. Mr. Stephen Sikes, spoke for the resolution. The Reverend Cathy Jamieson-Ogg spoke in favor of the resolution. Mr. Russ Weinberg, Trinity in Sumter spoke in favor of the resolution. The resolution was approved.

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT OUR NEIGHBORS:
THE NEED FOR SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS
IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

WHEREAS, United Methodists are called to love our neighbors and visit those in prisons;

WHEREAS, many South Carolinians, including a large number of United Methodists, struggle with mental illness and are at risk of being confined in the state's jails and prisons;

WHEREAS, South Carolina Circuit Court Judge J. Michael Baxley issued an order on January 8, 2014 after six weeks of trial finding that the South Carolina Department of Corrections is failing to provide adequate mental health services to men and women in its custody;

WHEREAS, the Court found that "individuals have died in the Department of Corrections for lack of basic mental health care, and hundreds more remain substantially at risk for serious physical injury, mental decompensation, and profound, permanent mental illness;"

WHEREAS, Judge Baxley stated that, having served as a state court judge for 14 years and seen over 70,000 cases, "this case, far above all others, is the most troubling;"

WHEREAS, the dangerous conditions to which men and women with mental illness at the Department are exposed have been well-documented since 2000 through studies authorized by the South Carolina Department of Mental Health, the South Carolina General Assembly, the United States Department of Justice, and the South Carolina Department of Corrections itself;

WHEREAS, the Bible instructs Christians everywhere to care for the suffering, feed the hungry, heal the sick, visit the prisoner, clothe the naked, and provide care for the least of these, including those who suffer mental illness regardless of their station or location in life.

RESOLVED, that the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church calls on the director of South Carolina Department of Corrections to take all measures necessary to correct the long-standing deficiencies in its mental health program that degrade men and women and expose them to inhumane conditions;

RESOLVED, that the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church calls on Governor Nikki Haley to request that the General Assembly appropriate sufficient funds to enable the Department of Corrections to provide adequate mental health services and to correct the deficiencies in its mental health program;

RESOLVED, that the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church calls on the members of the South Carolina General Assembly to appropriate sufficient funds to enable the Department of Corrections to provide adequate mental health services and to correct the deficiencies in its mental health program.

RESOLVED, that the Bishop of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church should convey the concern and desire of United Methodists throughout South Carolina as expressed in this resolution to the South Carolina Department of Corrections, the Governor, and the South Carolina General Assembly by correspondence and other appropriate means.

Respectfully Submitted,
John W. Culp, Sr., Clergy Member
Cathy Jamieson-Ogg, Clergy Member

The Reverend David Surrett offered the report of the **Committee on Finances and Administration (CF&A)**. Reverend Surrett thanked Tony Prestipino for his work as the Conference Treasurer. Rev. Surrett presented the Summary Report number 7 which represents a slight increase over this year's budget. This is the first increased budget in several years. The 15% by 2015 Goal has been accomplished. Also he highlighted that we received 90% of our apportionment goal in 2013. He reminded the Conference of the Direct Bill forgiveness plan which was presented on Monday. The Bishop asked for discussion from the Conference. There was none. The Bishop called for vote for approval. The report was approved.

The Reverend Dr. Tim McClendon presented the **Resolutions to Discontinue or Abandon Churches**. Reverend McClendon referred to this moment as a high and holy moment and a celebration of the ministries of each of the churches that will be presented. He stated that these churches have chosen, through charge conference action, to discontinue their ministry.

The following churches were discontinued: St. Johns United Methodist Church on Johns Island, SC. Bishop Holston asked the Conference for a vote, and it was approved.

**A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE
ST. JOHNS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Johns Island, South Carolina
Charleston District, South Carolina Conference**

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 St. Johns United Methodist Church, located in Johns Island, South Carolina, be discontinued; and

Whereas, The Charleston District Board of Church Location and Building has consented to the discontinuance of St. Johns 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 St. Johns UMC; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the South Carolina Conference does hereby declare St. Johns UMC discontinued, effective June 25, 2014, pursuant to paragraph 2549.2, *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2012)*; 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 St. Johns UMC; and be it further

Resolved, That the membership of St. Johns UMC shall be transferred to Bethany United Methodist Church, Charleston, South Carolina and be it further

Resolved, That the real property and remaining personal property of **St. Johns UMC Johns Island** (not including those tangible personal property items authorized for disposition by the District Superintendent) including the monies of **St. Johns UMC Johns Island** 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 further disposition of the property in accordance with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference is authorized to use the monies transferred by **St. Johns UMC Johns Island** for the care and maintenance of the property until the further disposition of the property; and be it further

Resolved, That the Bishop and Cabinet are authorized to determine the ministry uses of the property pending permanent disposition thereof; and be it further

Resolved, That if the Bishop and cabinet determine that there are no practical future ministry uses for this property, they shall be authorized to notify the Conference Board of Trustees that they are authorized to dispose of the property; 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 St. John 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 in their absence or unavailability the District Superintendent is hereby authorized to sign any documents to transfer property pursuant 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.

*Presented by
The Appointive Cabinet*

Reverend McClendon then called for a motion to discontinue St. Johns United Methodist in the Walterboro district. Bishop Holston asked the Conference for a vote, and it was approved.

**RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE
ST. JOHN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WALTERBORO DISTRICT
Garnett, South Carolina**

WHEREAS, The Church Conference of St. John United Methodist Church, Stage Coach Road, Garnett, South Carolina, voted to discontinue St. John United Methodist Church and

WHEREAS, The District Board of Church and Location and Building, Walterboro District, in session December 31, 2013, consented that St. John United Methodist Church be discontinued; and

WHEREAS, The Bishop, The South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, and a majority of the District Superintendents thereof, have consented to the discontinuance of St. John United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, all of the former members of St. John United Methodist Church have transferred to other churches or have withdrawn;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, in session June 1-4, 2014, in Florence, South Carolina, does hereby declare St. John United Methodist Church, Stage Coach Road, Garnett, South Carolina discontinued; 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 St. John United Methodist Church; and be it further

Resolved, That the District Superintendent of the Walterboro District shall have the authority to authorize the disposition of the tangible personal property items belonging to St. John United Methodist Church; and be it further

Resolved, That the real property and remaining personal property of St. John United Methodist Church (not including those tangible personal items authorized for disposition by the District Superintendent) including the monies of St. John United Methodist Church held in bank accounts or otherwise, shall be conveyed and transferred to the South Carolina Conference to be held in trust by Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference, and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference is authorized to use the monies transferred by St. John United Methodist Church for the care and maintenance of the property until the further disposition of the property; and be it further

Resolved, That any two officers of the Board of Trustees of St. John United Methodist Church or the District Superintendent of Walterboro District 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 Walterboro 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 Walterboro 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.

Resolved, That the property be placed in the care of the Estill/Black Swamp Charge Conference pursuant to the direction of the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference.

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference shall hold the property in trust as the legal successors of the Black Swamp Charge pending a further disposition of the property in accordance with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*.

*Presented by
The Appointive Cabinet*

The Reverend Dr. Tim McClendon presented for information resolutions for change of charge lines. Bishop Holston thanked Reverend McClendon for his report.

2014 CHARGELINE CHANGES

CHARLESTON DISTRICT

1. Discontinue St. John's (271662) from the Folly Beach-St. John's Charge
 - a. Folly Beach (271525) will continue as a station church
2. Merge Bethlehem (956865) and St. James (956854) of the Johns Island Parish to form the Bethlehem-St. James Church. The Johns Island Parish will continue with Bethlehem-St. James and New Webster Congregations.

FLORENCE DISTRICT

1. Dissolve the Shiloh Charge
 - a. Make Asbury (953601) a station church
 - b. Make St. John (959174) a station church
2. Dissolve the Timmons ville-Salem Charge
 - a. Make Timmons ville (276221) a station church
 - b. Pine Grove (276106) moved to Florence District

- c. Attach Salem (276287) to Pine Grove (276106) to form the Pine Grove-Salem Charge

GREENVILLE DISTRICT

- 1. Dissolve the St. Mark-St. Matthew Charge
 - a. Make St. Mark (958658) a station church
 - b. Make St. Matthew (959378) a station church

HARTSVILLE DISTRICT

- 1. Move Pine Grove (276106) to the Florence District

MARION DISTRICT

- 1. Dissolve Brown Swamp-New El Bethel
 - a. Make Brown Swamp (276948) a station church
 - b. Attach New El Bethel (277101) to Antioch (276700) to form the Antioch-New El Bethel Charge

ORANGEBURG DISTRICT

- 1. Dissolve the Pelion Charge
 - a. Attach Pelion (272963) to Sharon (272611) to form the Pelion-Sharon Charge
 - b. Make Bethel (272597) a station church
- 2. Dissolve the Wagener-Swansea Charge
 - a. Make Wagener (277943) a station church
 - b. Make Swansea (277921) a station church

ROCK HILL DISTRICT

- 1. Attach Trinity (278515) to Church of the Good Shepherd (278776) to form the Church of the Good Shepherd-Trinity Charge

SPARTANBURG DISTRICT

- 1. Dissolve the Sardis-Unity Charge
 - a. Make Sardis (279417) a station church
 - b. Make Unity (279430) a station church
- 2. Dissolve the Foothills Charge
 - a. Make Campobello (279111) a station church
 - b. Make Liberty (279097) a station church

WALTERBORO DISTRICT

- 1. Discontinue St. John (277338) from the Estill-Black Swamp Charge
 - a. Estill (277544), Furman (277293), Mount Carmel (277316) will continue as the Estill-Black Swamp Charge

The Conference will take place in 2015 from June 7–11, 2015. This will allow our young people to be able to attend! The Reverend Karen Radcliffe called for a vote to host the 2015 Conference at the Florence Civic Center in Florence, South Carolina. Bishop Holston called for a vote. The motion was approved.

The Reverend Karen Radcliffe made announcements. She asked for delegates to fill out the evaluation form in the conference packet. She announced the winners of the Epworth drawing.

Reverend Radcliffe stated there are many people in the Conference who made this time and time of worship possible for the 2014 Annual Conference.

She expressed gratitude to Bishop Holston and the Cabinet and thanks to the Committee on the Annual Conference which is now a working committee.

She reminded the Conference that a summary sheet of the proceedings of Annual Conference would be distributed before the close of the Conference. As part of her report, delegates watched a video of all who assisted in the Conference.

Reverend Radcliffe 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 Fixing of the Appointments, that this 2014 Session of the South Carolina Annual Conference be adjourned sine die.

The motion was seconded and approved by the Conference at 11:01 AM.

Following a brief break, the Conference reconvened for the Closing Service of Worship and Fixing of Appointments. Copies of the SC Annual Conference, The United Methodist Church Ministerial Appointments roster was distributed to Conference participants.

Bishop Jonathan Holston presided over the worship service and preached a sermon entitled "**Rules for the Road.**" The sermon was based on Romans 12:9-21.

Following the sermon, the District Superintendents and the District Lay Leaders from each respective district came forth to amend the ministerial appointments where necessary and to approve them. The following edits were made to the Ministerial Appointments roster:

- The Anderson District:** The Rev. Susan Leonard Ray, District Superintendent and Ms. Freda Brock, District Lay Leader. The appointments are correct as printed.
- The Charleston District:** The Rev. Patricia Parrish, District Superintendent and Mr. David Braddon, District Lay Leader. With a few editorial corrections in the retirement, the appointment list is correct for the Charleston District.
- The Columbia District:** Dr. Tim McClendon, District Superintendent and The Rev. Cathy Jamieson-Ogg, the incoming Superintendent for the Columbia District, and Mrs. Betty Void, District Lay Leader. The appointments are correct as printed.
- The Florence District:** The Rev. John Hipp, District Superintendent and Mr. Dennis Sullen, District Lay Leader. The appointments are corrected as printed.
- The Greenville District:** The Rev. Mary Teasley, District Superintendent and The Rev. George Howle, the incoming Superintendent for the Greenville District, and Mr. Michael Cheatham, District Lay Leader. The appointments are correct as printed.
- The Greenwood District:** The Rev. James Friday, District Superintendent and Mr. David Salter, District Lay Leader. Please scratch through Mary Kay Wood, Full Deacon, Transitional Leave and change to Mary Kay Wood, Minister of Discipleship, McCormick UMC 1. With these corrections, the appointments are correct as printed.
- The Hartsville District:** Dr. Robin Dease, District Superintendent and Mrs. Anna Feagin, District Lay Leader. The appointments are correct as printed.
- The Marion District:** The Rev. Richard "Dickie" Knight, District Superintendent and Ms. Becky Graybill, District Lay Leader. The appointments are correct as printed.
- The Orangeburg District:** The Rev. Fredrick Yebuah and Mr. Gregg Riley, District Lay Leader. The appointments are correct as printed.
- The Rock Hill District:** The Rev. Joe Long, District Superintendent and Dr. Bill Click, District Lay Leader. The appointments are correct as printed.
- The Spartanburg District:** The Rev. Paul Harmon, District Superintendent and Mrs. Earline Powell, District Lay Leader. At the bottom of page 10, add the town of Campobello between Buffalo and Chesnee. On page 11 under the city of Spartanburg, remove Campobello. With these corrections, the appointments are correct as printed.
- The Walterboro District:** The Rev. Thomas Pearson, District Superintendent and Mrs. Pamela Goodwin Glover, District Lay Leader. The appointments are correct as printed.

Following the singing of the hymn "The Church's One Foundation," Bishop Jonathan Holston pronounced the Benediction and sent the Conference attendees forth to be disciples and to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

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