

## SECTION IV

### The Journal of Proceedings

#### SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE The United Methodist Church Organized 1972

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

Sunday, June 4 – Wednesday, June 7, 2006

Claffin University  
Orangeburg, South Carolina

Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, Presiding

“Following Jesus....In This Way of Life”

The First Day – Sunday Afternoon

June 4, 2006

**Lay Orientation.** An Orientation Session was conducted for the Lay Members of the Annual Conference by the Board of Laity at 5:30 p.m. in the Tullis Arena of the Kennedy Center. The session began with an introduction by the Conference Lay Leader, the Dr. Joseph Heyward. Following his remarks, the session participants sang the hymn, “God of Grace, and God of Glory”, which was followed by a devotion by Mrs. Jane Scott based on the story of Pentecost found in Acts 2. Dr. Carolyn Briscoe reviewed the summary of Roberts Rule of Order, introduced the Standing Rules of the Conference, discussed the process for dealing with resolutions presented to the Conference, and explained the Consent Calendar. Ms. Robin Landers discussed the Bishop’s initiative: the Annual Conference Trinity Initiative of Needs. Dr. Heyward reviewed the process for electing lay delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences. Ms. Millie Carter discussed the Ordination Service and its meaning. Ms. Earline Ulmer highlighted certain reports contained in the pre-conference and registration packets. Dr. Heyward made a series of final announcements, and invited the Lay Members present to close the session by singing the hymn, “Open My Eyes, That I May See”.

**Clergy Session.** The Clergy Session was called to order by Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor at 5:40 p.m. in the Middleton Fine Arts Center. Bishop Taylor offered a scripture reading and then prayer.

The Reverend Patricia J. Parrish, Chairperson of the **Board of Ordained Ministry**, was recognized for remarks. She reviewed the work of the Board since the last session of Annual Conference, and asked the members of the Executive Committee and the entire board to stand to be recognized for their work. Reverend Parrish called attention to the proposed amendments to the Policy Guidelines of the Board.

The Reverend Dr. Granville A. Hicks, Chairperson of the **Administrative Review Committee**, was recognized and presented the report of his committee. The Reverend George Hammond Boyd, Jr., had been on involuntary leave of absence, and was being recommended for termination from Probationary Membership, pursuant to Par. 327.6 of the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, by the Board of Ordained Ministry. Dr. Hicks reported that his committee had found that the action of the Board of Ordained Ministry in the matter of the Reverend Boyd was a fair process with proper documentation. Dr. Hicks further reported that his committee had been informed of an Administrative Complaint filed against the Reverend Harrison D. Ervin, and that the committee had found that the Board of Ordained Ministry followed a fair process in reaching the actions taken in regard to Reverend Ervin.

The Reverend Kenneth L. Nelson, Registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry, presented the full written, distributed report. **Business Questions** 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, and 53 were presented for information and moved to record, as no vote was required. Bishop Taylor reminded the clergy session that on Board of Ordained Ministry matters, only Deacons and Elders in full connection are eligible to vote. The Consent Calendar, which included Questions 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 38, 39, 40, 47, 48, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, and 62, was presented on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry by the Reverend Nelson. It was perfected and approved by more than two-thirds vote of the clergy session.

The clergy session approved Business Questions 21, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 46, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54, and 83 as presented in the written report, with the following corrections which were also adopted:

Question 24	Page 7	Add Don Thrasher	Spartanburg
Question 83a	Page 28	Remove Katherine Bostrom	Rock Hill
Question 88a	Page 29	Add Tiffany Knowlin	Marion

Questions 33, 35, and 54 were approved by a two-thirds majority. Question 83 was approved by a three-fourths majority. Following the reading of clergy who had died during the past year, listed under question 52, Bishop Taylor offered prayer in remembrance and appreciation of their service to the Annual Conference.

Motion #2, on the second page of the consent calendar, was approved, authorizing the Registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry and Coordinator of Clergy Services to make editorial and / or substantive changes to the business questions where necessary in preparing them for the Annual Conference Journal.

It was announced that following the clergy session there would be a meeting of those persons involved in the Tuesday evening Ordination Service.

Bishop Taylor reminded the members of the evening worship session and declared the clergy session adjourned.

### **The First Day – Sunday Evening**

**June 4, 2006**

#### **Celebration of Holy Communion and Recognition of Full Clergy Rights for Women.**

The service was held in the Tullis Arena of the Kennedy Center at 7:30pm. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor presided, preached a sermon titled, "In Ages Past and Years to Come", based on Acts 2: 16-21, and celebrated Holy Communion. A highlight of the service was a Readers Theater, re-creating the debate held at the 1956 General Conference leading up to the vote to grant full clergy rights to women. Participating in the Readers' Theater were: Barbara Ware, Carol Allison, Tommy Moore, and Reverend Thomas Bowman. Another special event included in the service was a video highlighting the history of clergywomen in South Carolina. An offering was taken for the Bessie Bellamy Parker Scholarship Fund. Liturgists in the service were the Reverend Susan Leonard-Ray and Dr. Joseph Heyward. Musicians included the Shandon United Methodist Church Choir, directed by Ann Philbeck, together with Luncinda Shields and Nancy Kelly, organist and pianist, and Mr. Billy Fallaw, conference organist.

### **The Second Day – Monday Morning**

**June 5, 2006**

**Holy Communion and Bible Study.** The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated at 8:30am in the Tullis Arena of the Kennedy Center by the Reverend Kenneth L. Nelson. Centering music was offered by the Reverend Rusty Taylor, Tiffany Taylor, and Mandy Taylor Young. Following Communion, a Bible Study was offered by the Reverend Diane A. Moseley. The study concluded at 10:15 a.m., followed by a recess.

**Organizational Session.** The Conference was called to order by Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor at 10:35 a.m. Dr. Henry Tisdale, President of Claflin University, brought greetings and welcomed Bishop Taylor and the members of the Annual Conference to the Claflin campus.

Following his remarks, Bishop Taylor recognized and thanked Mr. Spencer Anderson, the Director of Auxiliary Services for Claflin University. Bishop Taylor then recognized Josepha Bethea Wall, daughter of the late Bishop Joseph B. Bethea. Mrs. Wall then introduced her husband, Brian Wall, to the Annual Conference.

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 2006 Annual Conference session be elected as nominated without reading and their names be published in the 2006 Conference Journal. The following clergy were nominated and elected: Shawn Armstrong, Jones Brewer, Leslie Shattuck, Sr., Lisa Hawkins, Jeremy Howell, Julius McDowell, Billy Lee Lynch, Sam George, Marty Nason, Rufus Snowden, Jonathan Brown, Jr., Frank James, James Friday, Michael Hayhurst, Jo Anna McGehee, Sandra King, Steven King, Nels Ledwell, Ken Nelson, Richard Howell, Pamela Ledbetter, Joel McMakin, Marie Nuckles, Ray Smith, David Williamson, Paul Thomas, David McManus, Wayne Major, Larry Hyder, Burton Ott, James Grant, Curtis Young, and Laura Caulder Byrd. The following laity were nominated and elected: Floyd Mainous, Jennings Farr, Jerry Harrison, Chong Cha Yi, Nola Montgomery, Francis Hipp, Mary Johnson, Lynn Jenkins, Cynthia Williams, Mary Tisdale, Amelia Fulton, Hank Brooks, Jr., Jamie Robinson, Matt Yon, Marilyn Murphy, Robert Shirk, Willie Jo LaGroone, Gary Toothe, Lottie Brisbon, Gordon Brown, Troy Fairley, Sabine Marcotte, Marianne Schuler, James Jordan, Rosa Kennerly, Robert Scarborough, Flo Nadine, Gordon Oran, Janet Oran, Queen Bowman, David Welken, and Royden Hudson.

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 2006 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 2006 Annual Conference Session, provided that the President may further adjust the schedule as necessary to expedite the business of the Session; that all the seating areas of Tullis Arena, including any wheel chairs present, the platform and the Conference Secretary's table, be designated the "bar of the conference" for all business sessions of the 2006 Annual Conference Session. All of these organizational motions were approved.

Reverend Rogers then placed in nomination the name of the Reverend Kristen R. Richardson-Frick to serve as Assistant Secretary of the Annual Conference for the remainder of the quadrennium. Reverend Richardson-Frick was duly elected by the Conference.

The Report of the **Committee on Standing Rules** was presented by Mr. Leon Love, chairperson, and was approved as presented in the pre-conference materials. The three changes by the committee affected Rule 51, concerning the Board of Pension and Health Benefits; Rule 76, concerning the Committee on Resolutions and Appeals; and Rule 94, concerning "Moving Day". The proposed changes to the Standing Rules were adopted without amendment.

The Reverend Timothy Rogers then explained the process of the **Consent Calendar**, and the manner in which items might be removed from the Consent Calendar for individual action. The Consent Calendar was scheduled for approval on Wednesday morning.

The Report of the **Committee on Nominations** was presented for review by the Reverend Carlton McClam, chairperson. The final report of the Committee on Nominations, reflecting the officers elected by the Annual Conference, including any amendments to the report made on the floor, is printed elsewhere in the Conference Journal.

The Report of the **Conference Council on Finance and Administration** was presented for information by the Reverend Sara A. White, vice-chairperson of the Council. Questions concerning the report were asked by members of the Annual Conference. The Reverend John W. Culp requested that the Tellers hand out an amendment to the report that he wished to make at the appropriate time. The Reverend James Knowles-Tuell, Conference Treasurer, offered a correction to Report No. 3, Item C.3, to amend the program fund amount for the various districts. Reverend White noted those changes in policy reflected in Report No. 4. Reverend White explained the request in Report No. 5, related to a request for funds to help repair the dam at Lake Junaluska. The Reverend Delos D. Corderman made a request that in

2007, that the detailed Funds Analysis be printed and made available to the entire Conference. The Reverend James Knowles-Tuell, Conference Treasurer, explained the reasons for the decision not to print the Funds Analysis for all conference members.

At the conclusion of the Report of the Council on Finance and Administration, several announcements were made by the Conference Secretary. Ms. Betty Walker, Chair of the **Committee on Resolutions and Appeals**, directed the attention of the Conference to the Report of the Committee on page 69 of the Pre-Conference materials, and announced the meeting of the Committee to consider those Resolutions that had been submitted. The session was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

## The Second Day – Monday Afternoon

June 5, 2006

**At 2:00 p.m. the Annual Conference Memorial Service was held.** The preacher for the service was the Reverend Jeanette Cooper-Dicks. Her sermon was titled, "Moving Day", and was based on II Corinthians 5: 1-10. Special music was provided by the Trinity United Methodist Church Male Chorus. The following deceased ministers, spouses, and others were remembered during the Memorial Service: Honorary Members remembered were: Bishop Edward L. Tullis. Active Ministers remembered were: James Edward Breedlove, Patricia Ann Griffith-Fallow, Mark Lee Mullins, and Robert David Vehorn. Retired Ministers remembered were: Frank Leon Abercrombie, Preston Bolt Bobo, Sidney Randolph Crumpton, Cyrus Bassett Dawsey, Jr., Walker Jackson, Jesse Frank Manning, Marion Cooper McClary, Carl Webster McNair, Sr., Daniel Angus Morrison, Jr., Benjamin Pinckney, Robert Hance Robinson, Sr., and Joseph Huey Sowell. Spouses remembered were: Donna Gaskill Batson, and Charles Washington, Jr. Surviving Spouses remembered were: Ruth Mabry Atkinson, Opal Lancaster Cannon, Elizabeth Holroyd Hammond, Vivian Guardo Heape, Anna Ruth Scott Hook, Ella Mae Spann Mark, Margaret Mae Greer Moore, Miriam McKee "Trudy" Peurifoy, Rachel Clark Porter, Margaret Esterleen Allen Sweat, Mary Herlong Younginer Whitaker, and Pearl Manison Wilson. At the close of the service, the session was in recess for 15 minutes.

At 3:30 p.m. the session was called back by music provided by the Lemira Elementary School Percussion Ensemble from Lemira Elementary School in Sumter, S.C., made up of students in grades 1-5.

At 3:40 p.m., Mrs. Margie Wilkie, chairperson of the **Conference Board of Global Ministries**, introduced Reverend Paul Dirdak, Deputy General Secretary of UMCOR, of the General Board of Global Ministries. Reverend Dirdak addressed the Conference to express thanks for the financial support given in response to the tsunami disaster in Southeast Asia, and for the response to the needs following Hurricane Katrina along our Gulf Coast.

Following the presentation by Reverend Dirdak, Mrs. Wilkie introduced Reverend Lane Glaze of the Clemson Wesley Foundation, to speak about the **Summer Investment Program**, and the eleven missionaries taking part this year. Each of the missionaries introduced themselves to the Conference. Mr. Bill Brown then addressed the Conference about **Salkehatchie Summer Service**. Salkehatchie began in 1978 with 25 participants, and a budget of less than \$5,000, to repair four homes. This year, 2480 participants are registered to attend 40 camps, with a budget of more than \$500,000, to repair 284 homes. The Conference was next addressed by the Reverend Tony Rowell, Chairperson of **UMVIM** for South Carolina. Reverend Rowell reported that SC UMVIM is in the process of creating Early Response Teams across the Conference, and has sent 37 recovery teams to the Gulf Coast over the last ten months, as well as 41 international teams. These teams included 1,074 missionaries, and the churches of the Conference raised \$1,078,409 to finance these efforts. Finally, the Reverend Nick Elliott brought greetings on behalf of the Southeastern Jurisdiction UMVIM, and to express gratitude for the financial response of the Conference to the needs of the Gulf Coast following the recent hurricanes.

Mrs. Wilkie then asked the Reverend Jack C. Washington to join her in presenting the Michael C. Watson Volunteer in Mission Award. The laity recipients of the award were Billy and Terry Lynn Robinson. The clergy recipient was the Reverend Kenneth W. Phelps.

The **Reverend Jack Washington** asked for a moment of personal privilege, in light of his changing appointment, to express his gratitude for the opportunity to work in the Conference Council on Ministries in the Outreach Section for the past 15 years. He specifically recognized those who have worked with the Communities of Shalom over the last eleven years.

Bishop Taylor then asked that the **ACTION Video** be shown, to summarize the mission emphasis of the 2006 Annual Conference. The video explained the effort this year to support the children in our neediest public schools by providing school kits, to respond to the Bishop's Appeal for Hurricane Relief, and to provide funds to provide water to the Old Mutare Mission in Zimbabwe. Following the video, Reverend Willie Teague reported that more than 1,800 school kits had been brought to Conference, which equaled more than \$36,000. Those kits were being distributed by members of the SC UMM to designated schools across the state. Reverend Teague acknowledged that Bethel UMC in Walberboro provided the most kits of any single church, and also expressed appreciation to Robin Landers for serving as the coordinator of this project.

The Bishop then invited church representatives to bring their offerings for the Bishop's Appeal and the Old Mutare Water Project while the Lemira Percussion Ensemble played. Following the offering, Bishop Taylor offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

A motion to extend the time beyond the designated time to adjourn for dinner was made, seconded, and carried.

The Reverend Patricia J. Parrish, chairperson of **The Board of Ordained Ministry**, directed the attention of the Conference to the printed report of the Board, and then introduced Reverend Debra Griffis-Woodberry, chairperson of the Scholarship Committee. Reverend Griffis-Woodberry presented the 2006 Bessie Bellamy Parker Scholarship Award to Sheila Elliott. She then presented the 2006 South Carolina Seminary Student Scholarship Award to Amanda Taylor Young. She then presented the 2006 T. Dennie Smith Scholarship Awards to Matthew Yon and Elizabeth A. Brown.

Reverend Parrish then directed the attention of the Conference to the proposed additions and changes to the Policy Guidelines of the Board. The first change was a new proposed Policy on Pastoral Ineffectiveness. Reverend Parrish presented the policy for action, and it was approved by the Conference. The second change came in the form of an updated Evaluation of Pastoral Leadership. Reverend Cathy Jamieson-Ogg asked that the Board review the annual evaluation form again, to consider using other resources to develop a more detailed evaluation form. Reverend Parrish stated that she would receive that as a recommendation for the Board to act on prior to 2007. Bishop Taylor then called for a vote on the document presented by the Board, and it was approved. The third change was an addition to the packet of materials to be used by those seeking full membership in the Annual Conference. This change would allow the S/PPRC of the church being served by the probationary member, or the supervising committee of the service setting, to make a recommendation to the Board of Ordained Ministry concerning the application of the candidate. After a question, Bishop Taylor called for a vote, and it was approved. Reverend Parrish then presented an amendment to the policy guideline that currently requires that all Local Pastors be assigned a mentor. The amendment would exempt those Local Pastors who have graduated from the Basic Course of Study. Reverend Tommy Tucker proposed a change to the amendment which would extend that exemption to Local Pastors who have earned a Master of Divinity degree. Reverend Parrish accepted his motion as a friendly amendment. Bishop Taylor then called for a vote, and the amendment was approved. Reverend Parrish then presented, as a group, several other changes to the Policy Guidelines. One question was raised concerning the proposed amendment to the Consent to Testing Form. Following that discussion, there being no further discussion, Bishop Taylor called for a vote, and the amendments were approved.

Reverend Parrish informed the Conference that the policy of the Board has been to provide financial aid to ministerial students through the **Ministerial Education Fund** in the amount of \$3,300 to students attending United Methodist seminaries, and \$1,650 to students attending non-United Methodist seminaries. Reverend Parrish reported that the Board has approved increasing that financial aid to \$5,000 per year for students attending United Methodist seminaries, \$3,000 per year to students attending non – United Methodist seminaries, and \$1,000 per year to undergraduate students. The Reverend Charles Phillips presented a motion that an equal amount of financial aid from the MEF be provided to all

students attending any seminary approved by the University Senate. The motion was seconded, and discussion followed. The Reverend T. Lee Bryant offered a motion to table, which was seconded. Bishop Taylor called for a voice vote. Being unable to determine the will of the house, Bishop Taylor called for a standing vote. Being unable to determine the will of the house on a standing vote, Bishop Taylor called for a written ballot. After Bishop Taylor declared the ballot closed, the Tellers finished collecting all ballots. Bishop Taylor announced that the results of the vote would be declared later, and asked that the members of the Conference turn in their worship booklets to the liturgy for The Admission of Clergy Candidates.

The Reverend Kenneth L. Nelson, registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry, read the names of those persons elected to be received into membership in the Annual Conference. Those persons stood before the Bishop for examination using the historic Wesley questions as presented in *The Book of Discipline*. **The following persons were elected as Probationary Members of the Annual Conference: as Probationary Deacons:** Sara Caroline Ardrey-Graves, Steven Andrew Compton, Shelley Anne Holder, Nicholas Jeffries, and Terry Abner Roof; **as Probationary Elders:** Howard Donald Addis, Debra Anne Armstrong, William Danford Blair, Alice Loving Deal, Amy Alyssa Dill, Harry Kyle Gindhart, Jr., Michael Leon Hayhurst, Lois Jean Helms, Richard Reber Howell, Jr., Heather Bridges Humphries, Scott Allen Johnson, Tiffany Denise Knowlin, Roye Lynn Kulik, Samuel Earle Marcengill, Patricia Caldwell McCain, David Carroll Norrell, Christine Henchar Reed, Barbara Lee Reid, Faye Jones Stephens, Charles Ernest Summey, Jr., Tina Anderson Thomas, Robert Manigault Vincent, Danial Allen Wiley, Jennifer Leigh Williams, and Michael Leonard Written.

**The following persons were elected as Members in Full Connection: as Full Deacons:** Thomas Clifton Byrd, Dawn McGahee Compton, and Bobbie Opal Taylor; **as Full Elders:** Emily Dawn Allen, David Leslie Anderson, Robert Christopher Barrett, Shawn Vivian Bell, Delphine Anita Bozardt, Kevin Francis Dalton, Joy Renee Kirven Garrison, Mary Katherine Brown Matthews, Richard Moses Smith, and Cynthia Cooke Taylor.

The Tellers having completed the count of the earlier written ballot, Bishop Taylor reported the results: 416 voted to table the motion, 326 voted against tabling. The Phillips Motion was tabled.

Bishop Taylor announced that the evening session would convene thirty minutes later than scheduled, at 7:30 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m., and the Conference stood in recess at 6:10 p.m.

### **The Second Day – Monday Evening**

**June 5, 2006**

**The Evening Worship Service** was held at 7:30 p.m. in Tullis Arena. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor welcomed the worshippers, and especially thanked the choir, the Canaan-Sand Hill Children and Youth Choir. Bishop Taylor then extended a special welcome to the preacher for the evening, Bishop Woody White. His sermon was titled, "Ministry in Times Like These", and was based upon II Corinthians 4: 1-9. The liturgists for the evening were Bishop Taylor and the Reverend Carlton McClam. An offering was received for New Church Development in South Carolina.

### **The Third Day – Tuesday Morning**

**June 6, 2006**

**Holy Communion and Bible Study.** The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated at 8:30am in the Tullis Arena of the Kennedy Center by Bishop Bill Morris. Centering music was offered by Bishop Morris. Following Communion, a Bible Study was offered by the Reverend Diane A. Moseley. The study concluded at 10:00 a.m., followed by a recess.

Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor called the session to order at 10:35 a.m., and began with several announcements. Bishop Taylor then invited the Reverend Patricia Parrish to return to conclude the report of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

The Reverend Cyrus Rogers made a motion to remove from the table **the Phillips Motion**. The motion was seconded and approved. After discussion, the Bishop called for the vote, and

the motion was defeated. Thereupon, Reverend Parrish presented the entire report of the Board of Ordained Ministry, and it was received by the Conference.

The Reverend Catherine Jamieson-Ogg rose to request that the conference send greetings to **Dr. Jan Love**, congratulating her on her selection as the new Dean of Candler Seminary at Emory University. This was agreed to by consensus.

Following announcements, the session was in recess at 11:00 a.m.

At 11:05 a.m., the Conference re-convened for the **Retirement Recognition Service**. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor served as liturgist. The Reverend Jim Johnston, Jr., represented the retiring class, and the Reverend Shawn Bell represented the entering class during "The Passing of the Mantle". A video presentation recalling the ministry and thoughts of the retiring class was presented. The following clergy were recognized upon the occasion of their entering the retired relation: Thurman Wilson Anderson, Talmadge Davis Belding, Jr., Danye Olin Bragdon, David Alfred Brisbon, Ashley Carlyle Brunson, Jimmy Taylor Campbell, Delos Duane Corderman, Hasford John Cribb, Jr., Bobbie Reeves Etheridge, Jack Lee Fenner, James Otis Harper, Louis Dwight Jamison, James Willard Johnston, Jr., Robert Edward McAuley, Milton Lee McGuirt, Hoyt Bruce Palmer, Norman Keith Polk, Jr., Daniel Thomas Reynolds, Nena Ruth Grigg Reynolds, Elmer DeVon Ruth, Colin Elias Simmons, Patricia Ann Sullivan, Thomas S. Summers, Billy Julian Weisner, and Benjamin Franklin Webb. Mr. Billy Fallaw served as organist for the service, which concluded at 12:05 p.m. The Conference stood in recess for the lunch break.

### **The Third Day – Tuesday Afternoon**

**June 6, 2006**

The Conference resumed at 2:12 p.m. Bishop Taylor introduced Mr. Bill Smith, Conference President of the **United Methodist Men** who presented the report of the organization, and emphasized the spiritual nature of United Methodist Men in addition to the fellowship component of the program. He presented the 2006 **G. Ross Freeman Outstanding Leadership Award** to the Reverend James L. Friday. Next, Mr. Pat Long, the Conference Scouting Coordinator, emphasized the effective use of Scouting as a part of each local church's total youth ministry. Bishop Taylor then joined Mr. Long to present the **Bishop's Award of Excellence** to four scouting units representing the following churches: Trinity UMC – Orangeburg (two units), Simpsons ville UMC – Simpsons ville, and Bethel Park UMC – Denmark. The Conference then approved the report of the United Methodist Men.

Dr. Walter McKelvey, President of Gammon Theological Seminary, then spoke on behalf of the **United Methodist Theological Schools** - especially those in the Southeastern Jurisdiction. At the closes of President McKelvey's presentation, The Reverend A. Clark Jenkins asked about the possibility that the joint program between Claflin University and Gammon Theological Seminary might be reinstated in the future. President McKelvey responded that it is hoped that that program might be renewed by linking the two campuses through the internet, and operating it as a distance learning program.

Dr. Ted Morton, President of the **Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits** was then presented to the Annual Conference to make that report. Reports A, B, and C on page 37 of the Pre-Conference Reports were approved by the Annual Conference upon voice vote. Report D on pages 37-38 was presented and received as information. Report E, on page 38 of the Pre-Conference materials, was presented. After some discussion, the report was approved. Reports F and G were also received as information. Report Two presented the 2007 Pension and Welfare Operating Budget and was also approved. Report Three, the South Carolina Annual Conference Funding Plan for Supplement One to the Ministerial Pension Plan As of January 1, 2007, was received for information. Dr. Morton moved the adoption of the Pension Report in its entirety, and it was adopted.

Dr. Morton then presented the report on the Group Insurance Section. Report Number One describes who is eligible for coverage and set terms for eligibility. This report was presented for information, and was received by the Conference. Report Number Two, describing the Major Medical Insurance Benefits, was presented next. This report recommended increasing the deductible from \$ 500 to \$ 750 for individuals and from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for family coverage.

This report was approved. Report Number Three described Medicare Benefits, and was received as information by the Annual Conference. Report Number Four describing administrative procedures was then received as information by the Conference. Report Number Five presented the 2007 Group Health Insurance Operating Budget. Following discussion, Report Number Five was approved. Report Number Six and the Special Report One on Retiree Group Health Funding were both presented and approved by the Annual Conference Session as well. Dr. Morton then presented the Group Insurance Section for approval as a whole. The Bishop calling for a vote, the entire report was approved. At the conclusion of the report at 3:47 p.m., Bishop Taylor announced a recess of 15 minutes.

At 4:02 p.m., Bishop Taylor called the Conference to order. Following several announcements by the Conference Secretary, The Reverend Catherine Jamieson-Ogg introduced **The Celebration of the Ministry of the Conference Related Colleges**. The conference was addressed by the following representatives of the United Methodist institutions of higher education in South Carolina: The Reverend Candice Sloan, Spartanburg Methodist College Chaplain (representing Dr. Charles Teague, President); Dr. Henry Tisdale, President of Claflin University; Dr. Caroline Whitson, President of Columbia College; and Dr. Benjamin B. Dunlap, President of Wofford College.

Following that presentation, Bishop Taylor noted that Betty Walker, Chairperson of the Committee on Resolutions and Appeals, had placed the Resolutions which were printed in the Pre-Conference materials before the house on Monday. The Bishop therefore ruled that the Resolutions were properly before the body for action on Wednesday. By voice vote, the Conference affirmed that ruling.

The Report of the **Division on Ministries with Young People** was presented with both speakers and liturgical dance. The report was moved to record by June Willson and approved by the Annual Conference. June Willson then highlighted the eChristian Ed Program at Columbia College, and presented the professors and instructors involved in the program. The graduates of the various components of the **eChristian Ed** program during the past year were named, and those present were presented certificates. Hazel Bennett spoke to express thanks on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry for the work of Columbia College and the Board of Education in creating eChristian Ed. Mrs Bennett also recognized the two newly certified para-professional Christian educators, Meg Junnes and Cheri Yates. Bishop Taylor expressed the gratitude of the Conference to all those who help provide this program, and those who have completed the various educational programs offered.

Ernest Mensah, the representative of the **Black College Fund**, addressed the Conference. Mr. Mensah is a recent graduate of Claflin University, a member of Trinity UMC in Orangeburg, and a native of Ghana. He thanked the Conference for their support of the Black College Fund, and expressed hope that this support would continue.

The Reverend David E. Nichols, retiring Superintendent of the Rock Hill District and President of the Cabinet, presented the **Report of the Cabinet**. The Reverend Nichols described the new role of the Extended Cabinet, and made clear that only the appointive cabinet addresses personnel issues. Secondly, he discussed the issue of direct billing and the ways in which it has affected the churches and pastors of the Annual Conference. Thirdly, he highlighted the assistance offered to existing congregations through Natural Church Development, and the effort to establish two new congregations during this Conference session. Fourth, the Cabinet celebrates the move from programming to resource persons within Connectional Ministries. Fifth, the Cabinet celebrates the mission of churches of all sizes. Sixth, the Cabinet celebrates the progress being made in race relations. There is surely not enough progress but there is progress. Seventh, the Cabinet celebrates the work of the Annual Conference in youth ministries, and the progress seen there. Finally, he discussed the privilege of serving as a District Superintendent - to serve as an administrator, a sacramental leader, and to be (in the words of earlier years) a Presiding Elder, sometimes stilling and sometimes stirring up conflict - always remembering that there is One greater leading in the work of the Kingdom of God.

Bishop Taylor then presented Bibles to each of the retiring Cabinet members: The Reverend David Nichols, The Reverend Susan Ulmer and The Reverend Taylor Campbell, and expressed deep appreciation to them for their service to the Conference in their years as superintendents.

The Conference Secretary then made an announcement and the Conference was in recess at 5:15 p.m.

### **The Third Day – Tuesday Evening**

**June 6, 2006**

At 7:00 p.m. the worship service for **Ordination, Commissioning and Licensing in the South Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church** began in Tullis Arena of the Kennedy Center at Claflin University. Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor brought the sermon, titled "The Power of Purpose", based on Luke 22: 24-30. An offering was received for the Seminary Students Scholarship Fund, administered by the South Carolina United Methodist Foundation. Music was provided by the Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church Chancel Choir and Praise Band, directed by Jack T. Warren. The conference organist was Billy Fallaw.

The Reverend Patricia J. Parrish, Chairperson, Board of Ordained Ministry, Dr. Joseph E. Heyward, Conference Lay Leader, The Reverend Leonard C. Ripley, The Reverend Jimmy J. Montgomery, The Reverend Katherine C. James, The Reverend Frank J. Griffith, Jr., and The Reverend Karen H. Radcliffe all participated in the worship service. Members of the Board of Ordained Ministry, Ordination sponsors, and the candidates participated in the procession.

**The following persons were licensed as Local Pastors:** Debra Lavern Anderson-Joe, Joe Darsey Durham, Daniel Flessas, Justin Meakin Gilreath, James Alan Grubb, Christopher Matthew Lollis, Leroy Daniel Mason, Otis Odell McCluney, Stephen Aaron Meadows, Albert Larenzo Murdaugh, Marie Elizabeth Ray, Glenn Williams Rebelin, Sr., Richard Foster Robinson, Jr., Joey Richard Taylor, Jr., Arthur Desport Vick, Jr., Pattie Elaine Way, Jason Glen Wilson, and Neal Young Woods.

**The following persons were commissioned as Probationary Deacons:** Sara Caroline Ardrey-Graves, Steven Andrew Compton, Shelly Anne Holder, Nicholas Anderson Jeffries, and Terry Abner Roof.

**The following persons were commissioned as Probationary Elders:** Debra Anne Armstrong, William Danford Blair, Alice Loving Deal, Amy Alyssa Dill, Harry Kyle Gindhart, Jr., Michael Leon Hayhurst, Lois Jean Helms, Richard Reber Howell, Jr., Heather Bridges Humphries, Scott Allen Johnson, Tiffany Denise Knowlin, Roye Lynn Kulik, Samuel Earle Marcengill, Patricia Caldwell McCain, David Carroll Norrell, Christine Henchar Reed, Barbara Lee Reid, Faye Jones Stephens, Charles Ernest Summey, Jr., Tina Anderson Thomas, Robert Manigault Vincent, Danial Allen Wiley, Jennifer Leigh Williams, and Michael Leonard Written.

**The following persons were ordained Deacon:** Thomas Clifton Byrd, Dawn McGahee Compton, and Bobbie Opal Taylor.

**The following persons were ordained Elder:** Emily Dawn Allen, David Leslie Anderson, Robert Christopher Barrett, Shawn Vivian Bell, Delphine Anita Bozardt, Kevin Francis Dalton, Joy Renee Kirven Garrison, Mary Katherine Brown Matthews, Richard Moses Smith, and Cynthia Cooke Taylor.

A reception in honor of those licensed, commissioned, and ordained was held following the service in the Main Lobby of the Kennedy Center.

### **The Fourth Day – Wednesday Morning**

**June 7, 2006**

**Holy Communion and Bible Study.** The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated at 8:30 a.m. in the Tullis Arena of the Kennedy Center by The Reverend Sheila Rogers. Centering music was offered by Tony and Mary Rowell. Following Communion, a Bible Study was offered by the Reverend Diane A. Moseley. The study concluded at 10:00 a.m., followed by a recess.

At 10:22 a.m., Bishop Taylor called the session to order, and invited Betty Walker, chairperson of the Committee on Resolutions and Appeals to come to present the report of the committee. As she came forward, Bishop Taylor announced that the offering for the **Bessie**

**Parker Scholarship Fund** was \$3,993.54; that the offering for **New Church Development** was \$2,589.75; that the offering for the **Old Mutare Water Project** was \$31,623.10; that the offering for the **Bishop's Appeal for Katrina Relief** was \$33,331.23; and that value of the **School Kits** and money brought for local schools aid was more than \$36,600.00.

The report of the **Committee on Resolutions and Appeals** was presented by Betty Walker, chairperson. The Committee recommended non-concurrence on the "Resolution Urging Prayerful Reflection About Church Membership in the Abortion Coalition." After debate, the Reverend LaRue Cook called for the question. Debate was closed upon vote of the Annual Conference. The bishop then called for a vote. The committee's recommendation of non-concurrence was approved by the Annual Conference, and the resolution was not approved.

The Reverend J. Taylor Campbell, offered a motion that debate be limited to two speeches for and against, with a time limit of two minutes per speaker, by suspending the rules of the Annual Conference for all remaining issues. After discussion, the Bishop called for the vote, and the motion was defeated for lack of a two-thirds majority. The Reverend Toni White offered the Campbell motion, but limited only to the report of Resolutions and Appeals. The motion was carried with a two-thirds majority.

The Reverend Dr. Gareth Scott questioned whether the resolutions from Ellen B. Thompson were applicable to the South Carolina Annual Conference, because they were originally written by the Institute on Religion and Democracy. Bishop Taylor ruled that they were.

Betty Walker then presented the resolution calling for "Accountability in Taking Positions on Divisive Political Issues". The committee recommended non-concurrence. After debate, the Annual Conference voted in favor of non-concurrence and the resolution was not approved.

The committee recommended that the third resolution, "A Resolution Supporting Human Rights and Peace in the Middle East", be referred to the Board of Church and Society. There being no debate, the Conference voted to support the recommendation of the committee, and the resolution was referred to the Board of Church and Society.

The committee recommended non-concurrence regarding "A Resolution Affirming Laws Defending Marriage", on the basis that the resolution was repetitive in light of Paragraph 161C of The 2004 *Book of Discipline*. There being no debate, the Conference voted to support the recommendation of the committee, and the resolution was not approved.

The committee recommended non-concurrence regarding the fifth resolution, "A Resolution Setting the Number of Districts in the South Carolina Annual Conference as of June 16, 2007". Following debate, the Conference voted to support the recommendation of the committee, and the resolution was not approved.

The committee recommended concurrence regarding the sixth resolution, "A Resolution Regarding Immigration Reform". After discussion, the Conference voted to support the recommendation of the committee, and the resolution was approved. Following the vote, in response to a request by the Reverend John Culp, Bishop Taylor offered prayer. The resolution approved was as follows:

#### **A RESOLUTION REGARDING IMMIGRATION REFORM**

*Whereas*, The members of the General Board of Global Ministries have addressed the matter of immigration reform in a resolution adopted on April 6, 2006; and

*Whereas*, We as Christians are called to love our neighbor and to help the sojourner among us (MT 28: 16-20); and,

*Whereas*, The United Methodist Church has a long history of being in ministry with immigrants and supporting just immigration policies (see paragraph 162 of The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church (2004) and resolutions 118 "Opposition to the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Resolution Act" and 119 "Refugees, Immigrants and Visitors to the United States of America" of the Book of Resolutions (2004)); and

*Whereas*, Many of the citizens of the United States have their roots in immigrant peoples, with the notable exceptions of First Nation peoples and those brought in

against their will; and

*Whereas*, The United States Congress is considering significant changes to immigration laws, some of which are harsh, intolerant and could negatively impact individuals, families and entire communities, making the realization of the “American Dream” more difficult; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church calls on the United States Congress to refrain from passing laws relating to immigration that would divide families, make felons out of millions of workers now in the United States who are without Green Cards or Visas, encourage mistreatment of immigrants or criminalize the efforts of the Christian church, other faith traditions and social service organizations to help people in need, regardless of their citizenship status; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church encourages United Methodists to inform themselves and others about the plight of undocumented workers in the United States, and how the church is and can continue responding to the economic, social, political, legal and spiritual challenges they encounter, and be it further

*Resolved*, That the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church stands with United Methodists and others who advocate and are working for fair and just immigration policies in the U.S. and in other places in the world.

*Respectfully submitted,  
John W. Culp, Clergy Member  
Director, General Board of Global Ministries*

The committee next presented “A Resolution to Support the UMC Global Aids Fund”, with the recommendation of concurrence, and with the further recommendation that those portions of the resolution related to funding be referred to the Council on Finance and Administration, and that those portions of the resolution related to scheduling be referred to the Board of Church and Society. After some discussion, the Bishop divided the question, and presented the recommendation to refer. After further discussion, the vote was called, and the Conference voted to refer. The Bishop then presented the questions of concurrence or non-concurrence. After discussion, the vote was called. The Conference supported the recommendation of concurrence from the committee, and the resolution was adopted as follows:

### **A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE UMC GLOBAL AIDS FUND**

WHEREAS, We seek to be disciples of the One who came to bring good news to the poor and who sent his disciples out to witness and to heal; and

WHEREAS, Over 40 million persons globally are living with HIV and AIDS, and 9,000 people die from AIDS every day, and

WHEREAS, The AIDS pandemic causes five million persons to be infected and three million lives to be lost each year, and

WHEREAS, There are more than 15 million AIDS orphans in Africa alone; and

WHEREAS, There are an estimated 980 persons who are newly diagnosed with HIV infection, including AIDS, each year in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina is ranked 10th in the nation among states, and Columbia, South Carolina is ranked 11th in the nation among cities, in the number of AIDS cases; and

WHEREAS, The year 2006 is the 25th anniversary of the first diagnosed case of AIDS; and

WHEREAS, The 2004 General Conference of The United Methodist Church established a Global AIDS Fund with a goal of raising \$8 million in Special Askings this quadrennium; and

WHEREAS, One-fourth of those funds raised within our Annual Conference for this Fund remain within the Conference to be distributed as a special Conference Committee deems fit; and

WHEREAS, The United Methodist Church over the past twenty plus years primarily has only written resolutions instructing others what to do, but has failed to demonstrate its own financial commitment to combating HIV/AIDS; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the South Carolina Annual Conference establish a minimum Advance Special goal of raising an average of \$1.00 per member by special projects, offerings, or other methods as each local church deems best during this quadrennium, (an amount equal to only 25 cents per member per year), beginning in 2006; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the South Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church encourages each local church to observe a Global AIDS Awareness Sunday on the fourth Sunday of November each year for the remainder of this quadrennium, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Bishop appoint a Conference Global AIDS Committee to (a) provide educational and promotional materials for this observance, and (b) determine the distribution of the 25% of the funds designated for Conference use.

*Submitted by:*  
*John W. Culp, Clergy Member*  
*Member, United Methodist Global Aids Task Force*  
*Hayes Gainey, Clergy Member*

The committee presented "A Resolution to Strengthen Joseph Bethea United Methodist Church" with the recommendation that it be referred to the Conference Board of Congregational Development. After debate, the Bishop called for a vote, and the Conference supported the committee's recommendation, and the resolution was referred. With this vote, the report of the Committee on Resolutions and Appeals was completed.

The Reverend Willie Teague presented a motion that **Standing Rule No. 7 be suspended**, and that for the remainder of the Conference debate be limited to two speeches for and two against on each question, and that speeches be limited to two minutes each. The motion was seconded. There being no debate, the vote was called and the motion was approved by a two-thirds majority.

The Reverend Scott H. Wachter, chairperson of **The Board of Church and Society**, presented "A Resolution Calling for Protecting Our Children Against Poverty in South Carolina" on behalf of the board. There being no debate, the Bishop called for the vote, and the resolution was approved. The resolution reads as follows:

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN AGAINST POVERTY IN SOUTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, There are more than 1 million children who live in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, There are approximately 200,000 poor children which represents 20% of children who are poor in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Every 50 minutes a child is born into poverty in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, The condition of children in South Carolina today will determine what our state will be like tomorrow because children are our future; and

WHEREAS, In 1996, the Council of Bishops called upon the United Methodist Church to reshape its life in response to the crisis among children and the impoverished, and in faithfulness to Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, The crisis among children and the impoverished and our theological and historical mandates demand more than additional programs or emphases; and

WHEREAS, United Methodists in South Carolina should demand that children be protected against the ills of poverty; and

WHEREAS, United Methodist in South Carolina through its clergy, laity members and ministries need to help people who are not poor to understand their God given responsibility to help their brothers and sisters; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church impress upon its members and other entities of the urgent need to take immediate action to protect our children against poverty; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That each United Methodist congregation in South Carolina is urged to adopt a local public school by actions such as providing school kits or participating in a mentoring program; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded immediately to the General Conference of the United Methodist Church, the South Carolina General Assembly, and the Governor of South Carolina for action.

*Submitted by,  
South Carolina Conference Board of Church and Society*

The Reverend Joseph R. James, chairperson of **The Commission on Equitable Compensation**, presented "A Resolution to Create a Task Force to Plan for New Church Starts" on behalf of the Commission. The Reverend Jeremy Howell offered an amendment, which was accepted on behalf of the Commission by Reverend James. After discussion, the vote was called for and the resolution was adopted. The resolution, as amended, is as follows:

#### **A RESOLUTION TO CREATE A TASK FORCE TO PLAN FOR NEW CHURCH STARTS**

WHEREAS, The development of new churches is a vital part of the mission of the South Carolina Annual Conference; and

WHEREAS, Our current method of funding new churches reflects a time when South Carolina was not experiencing the drastic and rapid population growth as it currently is experiencing in 2006; and

WHEREAS, The South Carolina Annual Conference has approved a mandate to start 10 new churches by the year 2010, with no cost projections on how these new starts will affect the annual conference budget; and

WHEREAS, Annual Conference agencies must have effective lines of communication, accountability, and responsibility amongst themselves as well as clear direction from the annual conference to be most faithful to the church's mission to start new churches; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 2006 South Carolina Annual Conference form a task force composed of the chairpersons (or an agency member designated by the chairperson) of the following agencies: the Conference Commission on Equitable Compensation, the Conference Committee on Congregational Development, and the Conference Council on Finance and Administration. In addition, the task force shall have a member of the Cabinet and no more than three other persons to be named by the Bishop (to include a clergy member who has started a church within the last ten years); the Conference Director of Congregational Development and the Conference Treasurer shall be ex officio members with voice and vote. The Bishop shall name one of the members of this task force to serve as the convener for the group; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the funding for this task force shall come from the administrative account of the Commission on Equitable Compensation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this task force shall report back to the 2007 South Carolina Annual Conference with a plan for its review and approval to be implemented in January 2008; this plan is to include the following information:

1. A cost projection of the Annual Conference mandate to start 10 new churches by 2010. This projection will include costs for new church clergy compensation, housing, pensions and insurance, as well as the annual conference's other financial obligations in new church starts.
2. Coordinated annual conference agency guidelines and clear plans for new church starts that encourage quick response to changing demographic situations, new church effectiveness, and rapid but accurate funding to meet the burgeoning need for new churches in the South Carolina Annual Conference.

*Submitted by:  
The South Carolina Conference Commission on Equitable Compensation  
The Reverend Joseph James, Chairperson*

The stated time to recess for lunch having arrived, the Conference voted by a two-thirds majority to extend the time of the session by ten minutes to allow for the Equitable Compensation report to be completed.

Reverend James then moved to the body of the report of the Commission on Equitable Compensation, and directed the attention of the Conference to the vacation policy included the report of the Commission. Reverend James then presented Report Number 2 A., "Schedule of Total Minimum Compensation for Clergy Serving in the South Carolina Annual Conference", and asked for its approval. There being no discussion, the vote was called and the Report Number 2 A was approved by the Conference. Reverend James then invited The Reverend J. Taylor Campbell to the podium to extend to him the thanks of the Commission for his service as the Cabinet Representative, and to present to him a gift of "Equitable Compensation Golf Balls", with a "minimum driving distance of 215 yards." Reverend James then moved the remainder of the report of the Commission to record. The motion was approved by the Conference.

Bishop Taylor then invited Betty Moss McGuirt to make a presentation on behalf of the United Methodist Publishing House. As a member of that Board, Mrs. McGuirt presented a check from the Publishing House for \$15,469.54 for pension fund support in the Central Conferences.

Following announcements by the Conference Secretary, the Conference was recessed for the lunch break at 12:10 p.m.

### **The Fourth Day – Wednesday Afternoon**

**June 7, 2006**

Bishop Taylor called the Session to order at 2:05 p.m. and recognized **Mr. Carl Arrington**, Director of African American Ministries for the Southeastern Jurisdiction. Mr. Arrington brought greetings from the Jurisdiction, and invited the members of the Conference to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the new **Bishop Joseph and Shirley Bethea Welcome Center** at Lake Junaluska, to be held on Sunday, July 2, 2006.

**Dr. Joseph E. Heyward**, the Conference Lay Leader, next delivered the Report of the Conference Lay Leader. After delivering a spoken report, Dr. Heyward moved to record the printed Report of the Conference Lay Leader, as found in the Pre-Conference Materials. The report was received by the Conference.

The Report of the **Commission on Archives and History** was then presented by The Reverend Franklin B. Buie, Chairperson. Reverend Buie made several corrections to the printed report, and called attention to the Centennial Churches, the Bicentennial Churches, and the churches who were winners of the Hucks Award in 2006. A special Herbert Hucks Award for Historical Preservation was presented by Reverend Buie to The Reverend Dr. Roger M. Gramling for his faithful and attentive work in preserving and promoting the history of Methodism in South Carolina. Reverend Buie then requested that the remainder of the report be ordered to record without reading, and it was done.

The Report of the **Board of Camps and Retreats** followed next, presented by The Reverend Russell C. Davis, Director of Camps and Retreats. He discussed the impact of

camps and retreats upon the clergy of the Annual Conference. A new private island is available for the use of groups near Sewee Coastal Retreat Center. The Anderson District United Methodist Volunteers in Mission were recognized for their service at Asbury Hills United Methodist Camp. The report was received by the Conference.

The Report of the **United Methodist Women** was given by Ms. Imogene Steele, President, both verbally and in video format. Thanks were expressed to The Reverend Jack C. Washington for his liaison support for UMW. Ms. Steele moved the report to record, and the report was received by the Conference.

The Report of the **Board of Congregational Development** next followed, introduced by The Reverend Dan Bradley, Chairperson. He challenged the Conference to move forward in the area of congregational development without fear. The Administrative Assistant, Laura Hill, and The Director of Congregational Development, The Reverend Rusty Taylor, were introduced by Reverend Bradley. Reverend Taylor spoke to the Annual Conference about the new demographic program available in their office and presented a video from The Office of Congregational Development highlighting new church starts and the Natural Church Development program. The report was moved to record by Reverend Bradley, and was received by the Conference.

The Report of the **Conference Council on Ministries** was then presented by Mrs. Earline Ulmer, Chairperson, and The Reverend Willie S. Teague, Director of Connectional Ministries. The Reverend Jack C. Washington was recognized for his fruitful leadership and service for 15 years by Mrs. Ulmer on behalf of the Council on Ministries.

Mrs. Ulmer directed the attention of the Conference to the report of the Council on Ministries. Mrs. Ulmer specifically presented the two proposals that required approval by the Conference, and invited the Reverend Willie S. Teague, Director of Connectional Ministries, to explain the reasons for these proposals. Mrs. Ulmer presented the proposals for approval. Much discussion followed. In response to a question from The Reverend Marvin Caldwell, Bishop Taylor stated that the report of the Conference Staff Relations Committee does not state that this proposal had been approved because the request from CCOM came after the report of the Staff Relations Committee had been submitted for pre conference publication. However, the Conference Staff Relations Committee has since met, and has approved the proposal from the Council on Ministries. Following debate, the Bishop called for a vote on Item # 1, and it was approved.

Mrs. Ulmer then presented Item # 2 for approval. There being no debate, the Bishop called for a vote, and Item # 2 was approved by the Conference. The remainder of the Conference Council on Ministries report was offered for approval by Mrs. Ulmer. Prior to a vote being taken, the Reverend Robert Cannon requested that in the future, the report of the Council on Ministries (now named the Conference Council on Connectional Ministries) reflect the budget request from the Council, and also report the amounts expended on Emerging Ministries. The Reverend H. Samuel Johnson provided some historical information to explain why there has been no budget offered with the report of the Council on Ministries. There being no further discussion, the report of the Council on Ministries was received by the Conference.

**The Consent Calendar** was considered next. The Report of the Commission on Status and Role of Women was lifted from the calendar. The Reverend Emily Allen made this request, based on a desire to know the writer of the said report. The Reverend Allen offered a motion to have it reported to record with the inclusion of the author of the COSROW report. The motion was seconded, and the Conference approved the motion. The Reverend Timothy Rogers moved the adoption of the Consent Calendar as presented, with the exception of the COSROW report which had been separately acted upon. The motion was seconded by The Reverend James C. Lane, and the motion was approved by the Conference.

The Reverend Carlton McClam, chairperson of the **Committee on Nominations**, then came to present their report. He began by offering a motion to suspend Standing Rule # 19, in order to consider nominees for the Board of Church and Society, and the Trustees of Camps and Retreat Ministries. The Conference voted to suspend the rule. Reverend McClam then placed in nomination, for those two boards, those persons listed on a handout previously distributed to the members of the Conference. In addition, Reverend McClam nominated The Reverend Kelli Taylor to replace The Reverend Dr. Gareth D. Scott (resigned) on the Furman

University Wesley Foundation Board upon the recommendation of the Board of Higher Education. Reverend McClam then placed the entire report of the Committee on Nominations, as amended, before the Conference for action. The Bishop called for the vote, and the report was approved, and those officers were elected. The officers elected are listed elsewhere in the *Journal*.

**The Barbara Boultinghouse Bridge Builder Award** for 2006 was presented by Patricia Jackson on behalf of the Commission on Religion and Race. The award was presented to Mary Alexander, who was unable to be present at the Conference.

The Report of the **Conference Related Homes** was presented next. The Reverend Athan M. Arant, Sr., chairperson of the Conference Board of Health and Welfare, presented the report of the Board, and introduced representatives of each of the five conference related homes, each of whom brought greetings to the Conference. The Reverend Ted Walter, who had served as the interim president of Epworth Children's Home, took the opportunity to introduce The Reverend John E. Holler, Jr., the new president of the home.

The Report of **the Study of the Relationship Between the Annual Conference and The Advocate** was presented next by The Reverend Willie Teague. The Reverend Paul Harmon offered an amendment to the report on behalf of the Board of Trustees of *The Advocate*. The amendment was accepted by Reverend Teague on behalf of the Study Committee. Debate followed. The Reverend Stephen P. Taylor offered an amendment to the report by deletion. After brief debate, the motion was defeated. There being no further debate on the main motion to approve the report, the vote was called, and the report of the study committee, as amended, was approved.

The Report of the **Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry** was presented by The Reverend Catherine Jamieson-Ogg, chairperson of the board. Reverend Jamieson-Ogg recognized the leadership transition at the Winthrop Wesley Foundation, as The Reverend Jerry Gadsden was leaving that position, and The Reverend Narcie M. Jeter was assuming that responsibility. Reverend Jamieson-Ogg then presented the 2006 Francis Asbury Award to The Reverend Geneva Williams, long-time staff member of Claflin University.

The Report of the **Conference Chancellor** was offered by Mr. Jeffrey Barham. His work has focused especially during this past year on abandoned and discontinued church properties. Mr. Barham offered a motion that his written report be moved to record, and the Conference approved. Mr. Barham then offered a resolution, on behalf of the Trustees of the Annual Conference, to authorize the disposition of Barr's Chapel Methodist Church located in Edgefield County. The resolution was approved, and is as follows:

**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROPERTY  
OF A DISCONTINUED LOCAL CHURCH  
Barr's Chapel Methodist Church  
Edgefield County, South Carolina  
Greenwood District, South Carolina Conference**

Whereas, In 1936, the Upper South Carolina Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, closed (discontinued) Barr's Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church, South ("Barr's Chapel"), Greenwood District, Edgefield County, South Carolina; and

Whereas, In 1944, the Upper South Carolina Conference of The Methodist Church reopened Barr's Chapel and placed it on the Asbury Mission; and

Whereas, In 1964, the South Carolina Conference of The Methodist Church closed (discontinued) the Asbury Mission which had been placed on the Plum Branch Charge; and

Whereas, It appears that no disposition of the property of Asbury Mission was made other than to place the property "under the direction of" the Plum Branch Quarterly Conference, and that no express disposition was made of the property of Barr's Chapel; and

Whereas, The Plum Branch Quarterly Conference no longer exists, and no transfer of the legal title to the property of Barr's Chapel has occurred; and

Whereas, Edgefield United Methodist Church ("Edgefield UMC") has cared for and maintained the real property of Barr's Chapel, including its cemetery, for a number of years and has now requested conveyance of the property; and

Whereas, The South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church (the "South Carolina Conference") is the successor to the South Carolina Conference of The Methodist Church which was the successor to the Upper South Carolina Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and

Whereas, Pursuant to paragraphs 2548.2(b) and 2548.3 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (2004), the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the South Carolina Conference has consented to the transfer and conveyance of the property of Barr's Chapel to Edgefield UMC; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the South Carolina Conference authorizes and approves the conveyance of the Barr's Chapel property to Edgefield UMC; and be it further

Resolved, That the South Carolina Conference authorizes any two officers of the Board, to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the conveyance of the Barr's Chapel property to Edgefield UMC; and be it further

Resolved, That Edgefield UMC shall pay any and all costs associated with the conveyance of the property.

*Submitted by:*  
*The Trustees of the South Carolina Annual Conference*  
*A.A. Morris, Jr., Chairperson*

**The Report of the Conference Council on Finance and Administration** was then presented by The Reverend H. Samuel Johnson, chairperson of the Council. Reverend Johnson reported that CF&A had received the amendment that Reverend Culp intended to make, and had agreed to accept it. That change amended Report No. 2, Line A. 2, by adding an additional \$150,000, which produced a total of \$521,150 for that line. Report No. 2 being before the Conference, the Bishop asked if there was any discussion. Reverend Culp thanked the Council for agreeing to his request. At the close of discussion, the Bishop called for the vote, and Report No. 2, as amended, was adopted. Report No. 3 was before the Conference with some adjustments to District Program items, but it was noted that those would not change the totals. There being no discussion, Report No. 3 was adopted. Reverend Johnson then placed Report No. 4 before the Conference. He noted a change in the Special Days, with the addition of Global AIDS Awareness Sunday on the first Sunday in December, or a date of a congregation's choosing. The date of Epworth Children's Home Work Day offering also needed correction to September 9, 2007. With those corrections, Report No. 4, Parts A and B, were approved by the Annual Conference.

In Report No. 4, Part C - # 10 was presented with the deletion of all wording after Claflin College in order to allow more freedom to the Camps and Retreats Board, as they are attempting to develop a unified budget for Camps and Retreats. Report No. 4, Part C, as amended, was approved by the Conference. Report No. 5, concerning the request for funds to help repair the dam at Lake Junaluska, was also approved. Report No. 6, authorizing the placement of the 2005 Average Net Funds information in the *Conference Journal*, in order to calculate the 2007 apportionments, was placed before the Conference. Report No. 6, as corrected, was approved.

Reverend Johnson then directed the attention of the Conference to Report No. 1, noting that "Conference Benevolences" should be corrected to \$ 2,270,103 and the total should then be \$16,525,057. This is less than a one percent increase. The Reverend Cec Jenkin offered a personal word for the Conference. The Bishop then called for the vote, and the Conference adopted Report No. 1 as amended, which completed the approval of the entire report. The Reverend H. Samuel Johnson called on James Knowles-Tuell to explain better access at the next Annual Conference session to funds analysis figures. Reverend Johnson then recognized those churches who paid 100% of their apportionments in 2005, as well as those churches who paid an increased percentage of their apportionments. He then asked their pastors and representatives to stand to receive the thanks of the Conference.

Bishop Taylor then recognized three new clergy members who had transferred into the South Carolina Conference in 2006: The Reverend Patricia Ann Gannaway, The Reverend James Knowles-Tuell, and The Reverend Sonia Ortigoza. The Conference welcomed them.

The Conference Secretary, The Reverend Timothy J. Rogers, presented the report of the **Committee on the Annual Conference**. Reverend Rogers presented the recommendation to hold the 2007 Annual Conference at the Florence Civic Center, and reviewed the committee's reasoning behind the recommendation. After extensive debate, the Bishop called for a vote on the recommendation. The Conference voted in favor, and the recommendation was approved. Immediately following the vote, the Bishop set the dates of the next Annual Conference: June 3-7, 2007.

The Bishop then called on The Reverend Susan Ulmer, the Secretary of the Cabinet, to present the **Charge Line Changes**. Reverend Ulmer presented the Charge Line Changes, which were included in the Pre-Conference materials, and are included elsewhere in the Business Questions, for information. The Conference voted to receive them. Reverend Ulmer then presented a resolution to discontinue Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church in Spartanburg. There being no discussion, the Bishop called for the vote and the resolution was approved by the Conference. It reads as follows:

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

Whereas, the Church Conference of Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church ("Duncan Memorial UMC") has voted to discontinue the church, effective June 14, 2006; and

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

Whereas, The Church Council of Central United Methodist Church ("Central UMC"), Spartanburg, South Carolina, has agreed to minister to the members of Duncan Memorial UMC; and

Whereas, The Spartanburg District Board of Church Location and Building has consented to the discontinuance of Duncan Memorial 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 Duncan Memorial UMC; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the South Carolina Conference does hereby declare Duncan Memorial UMC discontinued pursuant to paragraph 2548.2, *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2004)*, effective June 14, 2006; 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 Duncan Memorial UMC; and be it further

Resolved, That the membership of Duncan Memorial UMC shall be transferred to Central UMC of Spartanburg, South Carolina; and be it further

Resolved, That all of the real property of Duncan Memorial UMC in existence at the time of this resolution shall be sold with the proceeds, less expenses related to the sale, being distributed as set forth below; and be it further

Resolved, That all proceeds from the sale of any real property and all other funds belonging to Duncan Memorial UMC shall be divided and distributed as follows: one-third to Spartanburg Methodist College to fund a scholarship in the name of Duncan Memorial UMC; one-third to the Building Debt Retirement Fund of Central UMC; and one-third to be transferred to the Conference Treasurer for crediting to the

Spartanburg District Congregational Development account/fund; and be it further

Resolved, That all remaining personal property items belonging to Duncan Memorial UMC shall be transferred to Central UMC; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of Duncan Memorial UMC is hereby authorized to convey and transfer the property of the discontinued Duncan Memorial UMC consistent with this resolution and that any two officers of the said Board of Trustees are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the conveyance and transfer of the property; and be it further

Resolved, That, if any of the real property has not been sold by July 31, 2006, then the Board of Trustees of Duncan Memorial UMC shall then convey the real property to Central UMC; and be it further

Resolved, That, if any action on the disposition of the property other than that in the provisions above is requested by Central UMC, that requested action must be approved by the Spartanburg District Board of Church Location and Building and the Superintendent of the Spartanburg District; and be it further

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

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

*Submitted by:  
The South Carolina Annual Conference Cabinet  
Susan Ulmer, Secretary*

Reverend Ulmer then presented a resolution to discontinue Blenheim United Methodist Church, in the Marion District. There being no discussion, the Bishop called for the vote, and the resolution was approved. It reads as follows:

**A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE  
BLENHAIM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Marlboro County, South Carolina  
Marion District, South Carolina Conference**

Whereas, The Reverend Quay W. Adams, District Superintendent of the Marion District, South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church ("South Carolina Conference"), has recommended that Blenheim United Methodist Church ("Blenheim UMC"), located in Marlboro County, South Carolina, be discontinued; and

Whereas, The Administrative Council of Manning Chapel United Methodist Church ("Manning Chapel UMC") has agreed to minister to the members of Blenheim UMC and to accept the transfer and conveyance of the personal, tangible and intangible property of Blenheim UMC (except real property) upon its discontinuance; and

Whereas, The charge conference of the Blenheim UMC has agreed to convey the title of Blenheim UMC to the city of Blenheim upon its discontinuance; and

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

Whereas, The Presiding Bishop and a majority of the District Superintendents have consented to the discontinuance; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the South Carolina Conference does hereby declare Blenheim UMC discontinued pursuant to paragraph 2548.2, The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church (2004), effective June 12, 2006; 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 Blenheim UMC; and be it further

Resolved, That the membership of the Blenheim UMC shall be transferred to Manning Chapel UMC; and be it further

Resolved, That the personal, tangible and intangible property of Blenheim UMC (except the real property) shall be transferred and conveyed to Manning Chapel UMC; and be it further

Resolved, That any cost related to the discontinuance, including the transfer and conveyance of property, shall be paid out of the funds of the discontinued church, if such funds exist for payment, and, if no funds are available, then any such cost shall be paid by the receiving church, and be it further

Resolved, That the title to all real property shall be transferred and conveyed to the city of Blenheim with any costs related to the conveyance being paid by the city of Blenheim; and be it further

Resolved, That the Trustees of Blenheim UMC are hereby authorized to convey and transfer the property of Blenheim UMC to Manning Chapel UMC and the city of Blenheim and to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the conveyance and transfer of the property; and be it further

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

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

Upon completion of the votes, Bishop Taylor led the Conference in a prayer of thanksgiving for the many years of ministry offered by these churches. This action completed the report of the Cabinet regarding Charge Line Changes and discontinuances.

**Concluding items.** The Annual Conference Secretary made several announcements, and was then given permission to express appreciation to all persons who assisted with Annual Conference in the *Journal*. Those persons are as follows: the Administration and Staff of Claflin University, especially Dr. Henry Tisdale, and Mr. Spencer Anderson, the Director of Auxiliary Services who coordinated all of the arrangements on campus; Ms. Latifah Muhammad and the staff of Sodexo Campus Services who handled the food service on campus; South Carolina State University for location and meal arrangements for the Laity Luncheon; the Reverend Ronald A. Pettit and the Orangeburg District Office; the Orangeburg District Council on Ministries, and specifically Ms. Clarece Green and Mr. Greg Riley, for assistance in recruiting ushers from district churches in our evening worship services, and to those who served as ushers each evening; Mrs. Nancy Brunson and Mrs. Mary Rivers who recruited and organized the volunteers for the district registration tables and our Information Booth, together with those who worked in the Information Booth and at the registration tables Sunday afternoon and Monday morning; The Reverend Larry D. McCutcheon and the membership of Trinity United Methodist Church, our Host Church, for many services and acts of hospitality; the Reverend Cec G. Jenkin, our Conference Recorder; Mrs. Pat Mack and the staff of the Print Media Center, who printed and assembled the pre-conference and registration materials, prepared the name badges for registration, and printed Conference Program materials; Laura Hill, Walt and Bonnie Speas, and Bill and Sylvia Hulbert who assisted with special registration on Sunday afternoon through Tuesday morning; Brodie Media and GNTV who handled audio and video services for this Conference; Mrs. Tracy Mahaffey who "signed" our three evening services; The Reverend Nelson L. Stokes who coordinated the Exhibitors and worked on setting up the exhibit areas; the three Assistant Secretaries serving on the platform, The Reverend James C. Lane, The Reverend David C. Surrent, and The Reverend Kristen R. Richardson-Frick; Mrs. Bettye Rivers, Administrative Secretary to Bishop Taylor; Mrs. Judith Murdaugh and the

Commission on Worship; The Reverend Susan Leonard-Ray, our Conference Worship Coordinator; Mr. Billy Fallaw, our organist; The Reverend Karen H. Radcliffe and members of the Board of Ordained Ministry who planned the Ordination Service; the choirs who added so much to our worship; all who offered special music and interpretive dance for our services; our worship leaders and celebrants; the Reverend Diane A. Moseley who led our Bible Study times; the preachers for our services, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, the Reverend Jeanette Cooper-Dicks, and Bishop Woody White; our Parliamentarian, Dr. W. Timothy McClendon; our Conference Lay Leader, Dr. Joseph E. Heyward, who planned and led the Orientation Session for Lay Members on Sunday afternoon; our Tellers, sixty-five persons from across the Conference, who served us during the week; and our bishop, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, who gave direction to much of the planning and so ably presided over the Conference.

The Conference Secretary then made the following **omnibus motion**: That any reports, nominations, or recommendations printed and distributed in the pre-conference or registration materials or distributed on the floor during the Annual Conference Session not previously acted upon be accepted and moved to record and that following the Service of Baptismal Renewal and The Fixing of the Appointments this 2006 Session of the South Carolina Annual Conference be adjourned *sine die*. The motion was approved by the Conference at 6:00 p.m.

Bishop Taylor then invited Mr. Spencer Anderson to come to the podium, and the Conference expressed appreciation for his extensive and outstanding work in guiding Claflin University to host the Annual Conference. Bishop Taylor then encouraged all Conference members to remain for the closing service, and announced a fifteen minute recess.

**Service of Baptismal Renewal and The Fixing of the Appointments.** Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor led the Annual Conference in closing worship at 6:15 p.m. in Tullis Arena of the Kennedy Center at Claflin University. The appointments were distributed by the tellers at the beginning of the worship service. The scripture for the service was Luke 15: 25-32, and Bishop Taylor preached on the topic of "What About Me?" The District Superintendents were invited to the platform to come and stand with the Bishop for the fixing of the appointments. Each Superintendent reviewed their appointments and made brief corrections as needed. The Reverends W. Timothy McClendon (Columbia District), Mary V. Teasley (Greenwood District), and Sara A. White (Rock Hill District) were recognized by Bishop Taylor as the new Superintendents, replacing The Reverends Susan Ulmer, J. Taylor Campbell, and David E. Nichols, who were completing their terms. Following the fixing of the appointments by Bishop Taylor for the coming Conference year, the congregation participated in The Affirming of the Appointments, and in the Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant. The Superintendents and District Lay Leaders were stationed around the arena to offer water and signs of the cross on the foreheads of worshippers for baptismal renewal. Participants were also given footprint pins, as a reminder that we are following Jesus. Dr. Joseph Heyward, Conference Lay Leader, served as liturgist for the service. Mr. Billy Fallaw served as Organist. The service concluded at 7:10 p.m., and the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the South Carolina Annual Conference was adjourned *sine die*.

Timothy J. Rogers  
Secretary of the Annual Conference