The First Day – Sunday Evening
June 5, 2016

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

Clergy Session: Bishop Jonathan Holston called The Clergy Session to order at 5:30 P.M. in the Exhibit Hall. Bishop Holston opened the meeting with a word of prayer. Reverend Wayne Horne thanked those who serve on the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and district committees for their service in the past year. Reverend Ted Walter made the report of the Administrative Review Committee. Reverend Mel Arant presented the Business Questions on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

Reverend Wayne Horne, Chair of The Board of Ordained Ministry thanked Reverend Ken Nelson for his assistance and support to him in this position. Reverend Horne introduced the persons newly elected in the following positions: Reverend Kathryn Hunter as Chair, Order of Elders, Reverend Karen Jones as Chair, Order of Deacons and Reverend Alphonso Jones as Chair of the Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associates.

Clergy members were presented with a full written report for the questions. Business Questions 19, 20, 22, 23, and 24 were presented as information and moved to Record; as no vote was required.

Motion 1: Business Question 25, 26, 29, 35, 36, 37, 43, 44, 51, 52, 53, 54, 56, and 57-59 as reported by the Board of Ordained Ministry, were offered as part of the Clergy Session “consent Calendar.” It was approved by more than two-thirds vote of the Clergy Session.

Motion 2: Authorized the Registrar and Office of Clergy Services to make editorial changes where necessary for the Annual Conference Journal. The Clergy Session acted to approved each of the following Business Questions separately: 18a, 18c, 21, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33,
34, 42, 45, 46, 48, 50, and 73. More than a two-thirds majority approved questions 32, 33, 34, and 50. More than a three-fourths majority approved question 73.

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. There being no further business, Bishop Holston offered the closing prayer, 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:** The Board of Laity conducted an Orientation Session for the Lay Members of the Annual Conference at 5 P.M. in the Arena of the Florence Civic Center. The session began with a welcome by Ms. 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 2015 Annual Conference.

The **Opening Service of Worship** began at 7:30 P.M. in the Civic Center with Bishop Jonathan Holston presiding. The Bishop’s sermon entitled “One More Thing!” was based on Romans 8:31 - 39. His message was a passionate reminder of God’s inseparable love for us. The Mt. Zion UMC, Kingstree, SC presented the music during the service. The attendees celebrated Holy Communion. The offering received during this service assisted SC United Methodist Conference Disaster Recovery fund. Delegates departed from the Civic Center for the evening.
The Second Day –

Monday Morning
June 6, 2016

At 7:30 A.M., the Conference began in the Civic Center with a service of Holy Communion. The Reverend Jason Everson, was the celebrant for the service.

At 8:32 A.M., Bishop Jonathan Holston called the Conference into order and invited those in attendance to sing the historic opening hymn, “Are We Yet Alive.” Reverend John Hipp, Florence District Superintendent and Rev. Mike Henderson, pastor of Highland Park UMC welcomed conference attendees

Rev. Ken Nelson, Conference Secretary offered the following motions: to approve the tellers, to approve the attendance register as the official roll of the conference, and approval of the bar of the conference. Each motion was approved by the delegates. Ken advised that daily the written proceedings of the conference will be available online, and the daily Advocate will be distributed so that attendees may share these summaries with their local churches. Ken then reviewed the contents of the pre-registration packets – specifically the voting recognition form and the ballot forms in the registration packet. He then emphasized the importance of completion of the evaluation form in the registration packet.

Clergy Tellers:
Anderson District:  
Rev. Carleathea Benson  
Rev. Matt Turner  
Rev. Mary Teasley

Columbia District:  
Rev. Meredith Dark  
Rev. Shay Long

Florence District:  
Rev. Lee Johnson  
Rev. Tenny Rupnick

Greenville District:  
Rev. Don Brown  
Rev. Matthew Greer  
Rev. Davon Harrelson

Greenwood District:  
Rev. Daniel Eplee
Rev. Tyler Strange
Rev. Webb Belangia

**Marion District**
Rev. Anthony Alford
Rev. Henry Altman
Rev. Jonathan Harris

**Orangeburg District:**
Rev. Harry Lee Brown
Rev. Louise Wright
Rev. Sara Relaford
Rev. Jon Hoin
Rev. Terry Flemming

**Rock Hill District:**
Rev. Tony Adams
Rev. Eric Shepard
Rev. Bill McCown

**Spartanburg District**
Rev. David Bauknight
Rev. Merritt Wentz

**Walterboro District**
Rev. Tim Soucy
Rev. John Williams
Rev. Latonya Dash

**Lay Tellers**
**Anderson District:**
Larry Fetterly
Charlene Fetterly
Rayford Prince

**Charleston District:**
Richard Thompson
Ed Kennedy
Betty Davis
Alfreda Hill
Ruby Hannah

**Columbia District:**
Francis Hipp
Maeward Belk
Tommy Glenn
Marlene Sipes
Millie Hopkins

**Greenville District:**
Mike Henson
Ellen Henson

**Greenwood District:**
Tony Watson
Ron Taylor

**Hartsville District:**
Travis Feagin

**Marion District**
Ed Curlee
Bob Elwood

**Rock Hill District:**
Eddie Knox
Sylvia Knox
Joe Wix

**Spartanburg District**
Vickie Harvey
Steve Whitaker
Mildred Tillerson

**Walterboro District**
Richard Infinger
Genora Kennedy
Eartha Pinckney

Committee on Standing Rules report was provided by the Chairperson, Mr. Willie Robinson. He directed the attendees to the registration packet for the full report. Amendment to standing rule 28 concerning election of clergy delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. The motion is for the creation of a ballot consisting of all eligible clergy names. The attendees approved the motion.

Secondly standing rule 53 concerning the election and composition of the Board of Trustees of Claflin University. The composition of the Board shall include 3 members (clergy or lay) from the SC Annual Conference and these candidates will be vetted and approved by the. This motion was unanimously approved by the attendees.

Thirdly standing rule 54 concerning the election and composition of the Boards of Trustees of Columbia College and for Wofford College. The motion was unanimously approved by the attendees.
Fourthly, **standing rule 70** concerning submission of petitions to the General Conference was unanimously approved. Standing rule 71 was considered, Rev. Roger Grambling proposed an amendment to the motion Resolution to the annual conference may be submitted by any clergy member(s), and any elected Lay Members (s), or any organization or body affiliated with the Annual Conference. There were no amendments against this motion. The amended motion was unanimously approved.

**Ms. Martha Thompson** introduced **Dr. Luther Smith** from the Candler School of Theology to the Conference who would present the morning Bible Study concerning children in poverty. Dr. Smith thanked Bishop Holston, Ms. Thompson and the task force on Children in Poverty for their exemplary work. The theme of the Bible Study for the week is “Making Space for God to Work” and Luke 18:9 - 17 was the scriptural text with emphasis on verses 15 – 18 for this morning’s session. Dr. Smith assigned Luke 9 as homework for tomorrow.

Following the Bible Study, **Reverend Barbara Reid**, Chairperson on the Committee on the Episcopacy, provided the committee report. The Committee is responsible on providing residence for the Bishop and Mrs. Holston. She highlighted some of the bishop’s many accomplishments including the Bishop’s Bash, his leadership of trips abroad, his popularity as a guest preacher, and that he is the recipient of several honorary degrees. **Rev. Reid** then highlighted **Mrs. Felecia Holston’s** prolific missions work in our Conference including co-chairperson of No More Malaria. Rev. Reid presented Bishop and Mrs. Felecia Holston to the Conference attendees. Bishop Holston and Mrs. Holston addressed the Conference and thanked them for their support. The report of the Committee on Episcopacy was unanimously approved.

**Bishop Holston** presented the Quadrennial officers: Parliamentarian Rev. Timothy McClendon, Secretary, Rev. Ken Nelson, Conference Chancellor Kay Crowe, Assistant Secretaries: Rev. James C. Lane, Rev. Angela Ford Nelson, Rev. Mary Johnson, Rev. Jeri Katherine Warden Sipes, and Rev. Mel Arant, Jr.. The slate of quadrennial officers was unanimously approved by the delegates.

**Rev. Joseph James, Jr.** provided the report on nominations found on pages 75 – 94 of the Conference Packet. He asked the delegates to submit any changes to the Conference Secretaries prior to the election of the slate of officers that will take place on Wednesday. Rev. James thanked his entire team and those who support the work of the team. **He welcomed Rev. Kyle Randall to the committee.** **Rev. Bishop Holston** then opened the floor for nominations. Rev. John Hipp of the Florence District page 85, line 45 – substituted Mr. Sam Clarkson with Mrs. Rosa Cherry.

**Rev. Ken Nelson** presented the Consent Calendar discussed how the calendar would be maintained.

The Conference Chancellor, **Ms. Kay Crowe** stressed the importance of each church having a complete insurance package. The Trustees are responsible for an annual review of the insurance coverages. This annual review must be referenced in the meeting minutes. The Conference no longer provides bond coverage. This is the individual
responsibility of each church. The Conference has adopted a standard listing of coverages that each church should have. She then discussed the process for the sale, transfer, and mortgage or leasing of a church property. She emphasized that the trust clause must be included in any related documents. The delegates unanimously received the report.

Ms. Emily Evans made a motion that the two alternate clergy and lay delegates to the 2016 Jurisdictional Conference receive funding for the SC Annual Conference equal to that received by delegates from the Jurisdictional Conference, inclusive of lodging, meals, and travel. The delegates unanimously approved the motion.

Rev. Wayne Horne recognized the Board of Ordained Ministry and the members of the District Committees. He then presented the report of the Board of Ordained Ministry. He celebrated those who will be licensed, commissioned and ordained today.

The candidates for commissioning include:
Anthony Griffith Carosiello
Bette Ann Hedden
Beverly Crowe Tipton
Jon August Hoin
Shawna Michelle Darnall
James Stewart McDowell
LaTonya Monique Dash
Brian Edward Preveaux
Eleanora Coaxum Ellington
Sara Elizabeth Relaford
Katherine Marie Haselden
Sylvia Freeman Watson
James Timothy Whited

The candidates for ordination include:

Deacons —
Eric Philip Hendrickson
Bernett William Mazyck
Andrew Thomas Jones
Elizabeth Adams Murray
Martha Ann Timmons

Elders —
Doris Regina Bright
Erik Kenneth Grayson
Meghan Lindsey Sweeney Cook
Kayla Brooke Harward
William Wallace Culp III
Miriam Wilson Mick
Lillie Kerns Davis
James Lawson Morgan
He mentioned the diligent preparation and examination that each candidate undergoes. He then discussed the outcome of the Board of Ordained Ministry’s planning retreat wherein it was agreed to evaluate a four year cycle of continuing education and a team that will be responsible for assisting pastors who are struggling in their assignments. Lastly, he recognized churches for sending persons into ministry and encouraged the delegates to continue in this important work. Rev. Karen Jones celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the ordination of deacons and presented a video highlighting the varied ministries of deacons to the delegates. She recognized all deacons and thanked Bishop Holston and the order of Elders for their support. Rev. Wayne Horne also celebrated 60 years of the ordination of women in the clergy. Rev. Jim Arant recognized Ms. Sallie Anna Barton who completed Children’s Ministry and Christian Education certification and Ms. Anne-Louise Shelton who completed Christian Education certification. Rev. Wayne Horne thanked Rev. Ken Nelson and Ms. Martha Long of clergy services for their support. The report was received unanimously by the delegates.

**During the presentation of the Board of Ordained ministry the following persons were licensed:**
- Minnie Pearl Anderson
- Laura Nicole Benson
- Tammy Abee Blom
- Patricia Peterson Bowman
- Timothy Warren Burleson
- Willie Mae Cannon
- Jeffrey Weldon Childress
- Gerald Farrow Clinkscales
- Joe Wesley Conner
- Karen E. Dowdle-Wells
- James L. Drummond
- Michael Eugene Evans
- Daniel Kaye Fortney
- Alisha Christine Hansen
- Anthony Allan Harder
- Richard Kent Herd
- Roger Dale Hovis
- George Palmer Hudson
- Annie Kathryn Jackson
- Marcus Allen Johnston
- Clayton Jonathon Jones, Sr.
- Harold Ray Kessler, III
Mr. Scott Cochran, President of Spartanburg Methodist College provided the report of SC United Methodist colleges and universities beginning on page 24 of the Conference materials. He thanked the SC Annual Conference for their support and shared stories of how our colleges and universities have impacted the lives of many in South Carolina. Bishop Holston thanked the leaders of the colleges and universities and expressed an invitation for them to travel with him and the delegation of pilgrims to Zimbabwe and South Africa in 2018.

Dr. James Salley presented the report on Africa University and thanked the SC Annual Conference for leading the way and enabling resolutions that continue to provide funding for the University. He also thanked the Conference for 104% giving to the Africa University Fund and presented a banner to celebrate this accomplishment. The University will celebrate 25 years in ministry this year with more than 7,000 graduates since its inception! Remember March 20 – 25th on the campus on the university – the celebration of the 25th Anniversary – all are invited. Lastly, Dr. Salley share a video wherein students and university staff members offered words of thanks. The report was unanimously approved by the delegates.

Mr. Herman Lightsey, chairperson and Mr. David Anderson, Conference Pension and Health Benefits Officer provided the report of the Board of Pension and Insurance. Mr. Lightsey began by thanking the Board for their fine work. Mr. Lightsey presented the Charles L. Calkins award, conferred by the General Conference, to Mr. David Anderson for excellence in compensation and benefits administration. Mr. Anderson shared that there will be no changes to clergy pension plans in 2017, active rates for health care will
increase on average by 12.4%. The delegates unanimously approved report 1 and the Group Insurance report (page 34). Mr. Anderson reported that we are fully funded in all aspects of our benefits package except for Retiree Medical. The remaining reports were unanimously received for information by the delegates.

Rev. Cathy Jamieson of the Columbia District asked for a point of personal privilege to ask for greetings to be sent to the family of the late Mr. Rhett Jackson, in care of his wife Mrs. Betty Jackson, in light of his significant contributions in the area of race relations in our Conference. Bishop Holston led the delegates in the unanimous approval of this request.

Rev. Wayne Horne recognized the candidates who will be commissioned and ordained this evening.

Rev. Ken Nelson made conference announcements and offered reminders for the Conference delegates. He then acknowledged special guests, Bishop and Mrs. McCleskey, Dr. Smith – our Bible Study Leader, Mrs. Josepha Bethea Walls, Mr. Gary Henderson, Rev. Sonya Broom, Dr. James Salley, and Rev. Dr. Clayton Childers. Bishop Holston recognized Ms. Bettye Rivers, his executive secretary for her support.

At 11:51 A.M. Bishop Holston adjourned the morning session following a closing prayer.
Monday, June 6, 2016  
The Afternoon Session

At 2:01 P.M. the conference delegates reconvened. The afternoon session began with the singing of “Shine Jesus Shine”.

**Rev. David Surret**, chairperson of the Council on Finance and Administration directed the delegates to the financial reports beginning on page 1 of the pre-conference materials and the financial reports beginning on page 108 for review. The delegates will be asked to approve these reports later in the session. Rev. Surret introduced Ms. Elizabeth Westbury, the Conference treasurer. Rev. Surret awarded the delegates of the Walterboro district for payment of 100% of their apportionments. Rev. Surret nominated Ms. Elizabeth Westbury for the upcoming quadrennium. Bishop Holston led the delegates in consideration of the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. After highlighting the contents of each of the financial reports, Rev. Surret advised that the overall net budget increase for consideration is only $272.00. Rev. Surret shared an article from the October 1997 Advocate which discussed the 13 steps to insure safe church accounting. He reminded the delegates of their responsibilities to employ strong financial controls.

**Bishop Holston** thanked Rev. Surret and the Council on Finance and Administration for their report. He then recognized Bishop McCleskey and Rev. Dr. Betty Clark, the Sr. Pastor of Mother Emmanuel AMEC in Charleston, SC.

**Rev. Marvin Caldwell** presented the report for the Committee on Resolutions. These resolutions will be distributed to the delegates for consideration. Rev. Caldwell and his committee will meet with those who are bringing resolutions after the afternoon session in the Pee Dee room.

**Bishop Holston** directed the delegates to a video presented by United Methodist Seminaries.

**Rev. Tim McClendon** and **Ms. Barbara Ware** presented the report of the delegation to General and Jurisdictional Conference. He began by presenting the delegates who joined him on the stage and then by presenting a video highlighting the 2016 General Conference which was held in Portland, Oregon. Rev. McClendon thanked the delegation for their faithful service. He then shared highlights of the discussions that took place during General Conference. It is possible that there may be a called General Conference to discuss the issues and resolutions that were not concluded. Rev. McClendon presented a slate of 45 nominees for Jurisdictional Conference consideration. This slate was approved by the delegates. Ms. Barbara Ware extended her thanks to the SC delegation. She shared that the delegation had the opportunity to meet the 14 Episcopal nominees. She then presented Rev. Tim McClendon as the Episcopal nominee from the SC Annual Conference. Bishop Holston presented the nomination to the delegates, and it was unanimously approved.
Mr. Stanton Adams, Clemson UMC asked Bishop Holston to consider a motion for the Council of Bishops to do the following concerning the matter of Human Sexuality which is before the General Conference: (1) name the members of A Way Forward Commission as soon as possible, but no later than August 1, 2016; (2) include members of the LGBTQ1 on the Commission; (3) invite established experts to provide information; (4) provide forum for receipt of input from churches and members; (5) report to the annual conferences once a quarter; (6) provide a final report in advance of any called General Conference; (7) a moratorium on the processing of any current or future complaints. This motion was signed by 68 members of the Annual Conference. Bishop Holston assured the delegates that no decisions concerning this matter have been made by the Council of Bishops; and that any decisions will be made with transparency and consideration.

Rev. Sara White presented the report of the Conference Board of Congregational Development. She presented a word cloud which included the words that were used below by the team. She remarked that the name Jesus was foremost in the word cloud. Rev. White discussed the many accomplishments of committee including a 90% success rate for the creation of new ministries by the 1st class of Discernment Academy attendees. The delegates unanimously approved the report.

Rev. Tom Wall, campus ministry are USC presented the report for Campus Ministries. He asked all who have been impacted by campus ministries to stand. Each of the campus ministers introduced themselves and they received thanks from Bishop Holston and the delegates.

After a 15 minute break, Bishop Holston reconvened the session at 3:46 P.M. with the singing of the hymn, the “Church is One Foundation.”

Ms. Barbara Ware presented the Annual Conference Lay Leader report found on pages 9 – 10 of the Conference packet. She introduced the Associate Lay Leader, Mr. Donald Love. Donald thanked all of the participants in the Mission Fair. He then recognized the District Lay Leaders, Lay Servant Ministries director, the United Methodist Men director, the Youth Ministries director and representatives of the Bishop’s Cabinet. Mr. Love presented gifts of thanks to members who were retiring from service after serving on the team for 8 years. Ms. Ware recapped what has occurred in the shared ministry of laity and clergy since 2012. She remarked that Bishop Holston’s goal of open and honest communication with the goal of building trust is being realized through the listening sessions, the road shows and the barbeque bashes. Over 4,000 persons have attended these avenues for communication. She then presented a video which showcased our shared lives together over the past year. Ms. Ware made a motion to accept the report as the official report as Conference Lay Leader. The delegates unanimously approved the report.

Rev. Susan Leonard-Ray presented the report of the Cabinet found in the preconference materials on page 54. Rev. Ray offered a quote to begin her report: “The first responsibility is to define reality, the last is to say thank you, and in between is to be a servant leader!” She then presented a video to recap all that has happened in our shared ministries in 2016. Rev. Joe Long echoed the importance of establishing trust through
relationships in our churches. He highlighted the Bishop’s work to hear from laity and clergy across the Conference. He asked the delegate to get ready for the Bishop’s “Power of Love” tour! The church expects as part of the superintendent ministry that the superintendent will be the chief mission strategist. In order to do this the superintendents are challenged by our Bishop to be strategic thinkers. Lastly Rev. Long emphasized that to move forward we have to be agile. We have to be focused on giving new ideas a try because the world has changed and the kingdom is coming! Rev. Leonard-Ray thanked Rev. Patricia Parrish and Rev. James Friday for their leadership over the years and wished them well as they leave the Cabinet. The delegates unanimously received the report.

Bishop Holston recognized Ms. Ella Mae Colbert a member of the United Methodist Church in SC for her 100th birthday and the Conference sang “Happy Birthday” to her!

Bishop Holston adjourned the session with a prayer at 4:44 P.M.

Tuesday
June 7, 2016
The morning session

The morning began at 7:30 A.M. with a worship service led by the Reverend Geneva Stafford and her choir from St. Mark UMC in Sumter, SC. This worship service included the celebration of Holy Communion.

The annual awards breakfast was led by the Reverend Jeffery Salley. Awards were given to the following persons and churches:

Reverend Kenneth L. Nelson – JOSEPH B. BETHEA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
South Carolina Conference Laity or Clergy who have shown a strong commitment to Christian social justice for at least five years are eligible.

Reverend Angela Ford Nelson and Reverend Steven Patterson - BARBARA BOULTINGHOUSE BRIDGE BUILDERS AWARD
The Barbara Boultinghouse Bridge Builder award, named after a UMC deaconess, is given to a person or organization in the S.C. conference who has built bridge of understanding by promoting equity and inclusiveness without regard to race, gender, age, handicap or economic condition. It is sponsored by the Commission on Religion and Race.

Reverend George Olive and Dr. James Salley – THE MICHAEL C. WATSON VOLUNTEER IN MISSION AWARD
The Michael C. Watson Volunteer in Mission Award is an annual initiative which recognizes clergy and laypersons who exemplify extraordinary volunteer mission service within the S. C. Conference.

The Bishop’s Five Star Award –
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<th>Church</th>
<th>Pastor</th>
<th>District</th>
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<tr>
<td>Advent United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Rev. Michael Turner</td>
<td>GV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bethel United Methodist Church-St. Stephen</td>
<td>Rev. Cindy Shaw</td>
<td>CH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapin United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Rev. Joseph Flowers</td>
<td>CO</td>
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<td>Dickson Memorial United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Rev. Judy Hames</td>
<td>AN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goose Creek United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Rev. Debra Dowdle</td>
<td>CH</td>
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<tr>
<td>First United Methodist Church-Clover</td>
<td>Rev. Thomas Wilkes, III</td>
<td>RH</td>
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<td>Harmony United Methodist Church-Johnston</td>
<td>Rev. Steven Keck</td>
<td>GW</td>
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<td>Lebanon United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Rev. Drew Martin</td>
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<td>Little River United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Rev. J. Kevin Gorry</td>
<td>MA</td>
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<td>Martha's Chapel United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Rev. Wade Wyatt, Sr.</td>
<td>GW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mays Chapel United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Rev. Mark Anthony Williams</td>
<td>OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church-Ninety Six</td>
<td>Rev. Thessa Smith</td>
<td>GW</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Charleston United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Rev. Wendy Hudson-Jacoby</td>
<td>CH</td>
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<td>Reidville Road United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Rev. Danny Wiley</td>
<td>SP</td>
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<td>St. John's United Methodist Church-Rock Hill</td>
<td>Rev. Debra Quilling Smith</td>
<td>RH</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Luke United Methodist Church-Walhalla</td>
<td>Rev. Richard Reams</td>
<td>AN</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Paul United Methodist Church-Camden</td>
<td>Rev. James Smith</td>
<td>HA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trinity United Methodist Church-Greenwood</td>
<td>Rev. LaSheila Mack Wyatt</td>
<td>GW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union United Methodist Church-McBee</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Steven Todd</td>
<td>HA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wesley United Methodist Church- Aiken</td>
<td>Rev. Pattie Gordon</td>
<td>OR</td>
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COLUMBIA DISTRICT

**Lexington UMC**, Rev. Ken Owens, Pastor
Cub Scout Pack 507
James H. Gregory, Scouting Coordinator

**Red Bank UMC**, Rev. W. Russell Freeman, Sr., Pastor
Girl Scout Troop 2323
Cub Scout Pack 518
Boy Scout Troop 518
Robin O. Smith, Scouting Ministry Coordinator

**BISHOP’S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

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 who participate in Girl Scouts of the USA and Boy Scouts of America.

**Scholarships**

The Seminary Student Scholarship – Frances Taylor

**T. Dennie Smith Scholarship** – Carol Waters

**JANIE ROBINSON THOMASSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND RECIPIENT** – Kenneth Faulkner
The South Carolina Merit Scholarship – Loren Faulkner

The South Carolina Advocate Scholarship – Ashly Higgins

THE COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY AWARDS
The Herbert Hucks Award for Preservation and Interpretation of Church History goes to four churches this year.

Green Pond UMC, Gray Court, SC
Ann Vaughn, Church Historian
Rev. Bob Keely, pastor

Livingston UMC, Livingston, SC
Martha M. Sligh, Church Historian
Rev. Brandon Fulmer, pastor

Pisgah UMC, Aynor, SC
Judy Floyd, Church Historian
Rev. Jane Pearce, pastor

Mountain View UMC, Taylors
Frieda Anne Liston, Church Historian
Rev. Chris Arries, pastor

Centennial Church Award
Bethlehem, Manning (Jordan) Newman Swamp, Lamar
Florence District Hartsville District

Bi-Centennial Church Award

Simpsonville, Simpsonville Lane, Lane (Greeleyville)
Greenville District Florence District

St. Paul, St. Matthews North Charleston, North Charleston
Orangeburg District Charleston District

Salem, Dorchester Brandon, Greenville
Walterboro District Greenville District

Students in Mission
David Larymore, student at Charleston Southern University and member of the Charleston Wesley Foundation will serve at Rural Mission, Inc.
Joshua Simon, student at Claflin University from St. Paul United Methodist Church (Kingstree) will serve at Rural Mission, Inc.

LaToya Charley, student at Claflin University from New Covenant United Methodist Church (Bowman) will serve at Rural Mission, Inc.

Miyosha Foster, student at Lander University from Central United Methodist Church (Central) will serve at Aldersgate United Methodist Church (Charleston).

Sarah Davis, student at Spartanburg Methodist College from Woodland United Methodist Church (Rock Hill) will serve at Aldersgate United Methodist Church (Charleston).

Following the presentation of the awards Bishop Holston commended all of the recipients and challenged the attendees to continue to dream God Sized Dreams and to do just one more thing in their communities to make a difference.

At 8:30 A.M. Bishop Holston opened the Annual Conference with the singing of “Standing on the Promises of God.” After greeting the delegates he introduced Dr. Luther Smith who led us in Bible study. The focus scripture for the morning was Luke 9. Dr. Smith emphasized the importance of having power and authority as well as hospitality. Jesus invited the disciples to give hospitality the opportunity to do its work. Give yourself to the community – because we don’t bring it all. God has provided all that we need if we give ourselves over to the hospitality that is found in community. God is the source of sustenance. Dr. Smith challenged the participants not to sit around waiting for God to give them what He has already given. The homework assignment for tomorrow is: Luke 11:1 – 13. He invited the participants to make space for God to work by sitting with the text.

Rev. Ken Nelson greeted the delegates and thanked the Annual Conference for the Sunday offering of $13,228.00 received for Disaster Response and the Monday offering of $10,956 to support theological education for persons attending Seminary and Course of Studies.

He also reminded the delegates of the ongoing blood drive. Bishop Holston then led the Conference in a prayer for bereaved families.

Ms. Martha Thompson was featured in a video highlighting their ministries to children around the Conference. John 10:10 – “I came that you might have life and have it more abundantly.” This is what we are called to share with the children of our communities.

Reverend Kathy James, Director of Connectional Ministries shared a video of their ministries throughout the Conference in 2015 - 2016 after the devastating flood of October. Rev. James reported that over 7000 cleaning buckets and over 2,000 health kits were distributed. The flood affected over 40 UM churches. She shared the diligent work of the Conference Disaster Response Team and asked this team to stand to be recognized. She asked the Emergency Response Teams and the churches that hosted ERT teams to stand to be recognized as well. Mr. Derial Ogburn and the UMVIM team was also recognized. Rev. James then recognized the significant contributions of Rev. Greg Varner,
Conference Disaster Coordinator, and presented him with a hammock so he and his family
can rest and recover! Rev. James reported that UMCOR has provided us with a $1,000
grant for staffing under the direction of Mr. Wade Smith, and have received over $500,000
in donations. Rev. James introduced Mr. Greg Forrester, UMCOR Associate General
Secretary, and Domestic Disaster Response to bring greetings. Lastly, Rev. James shared
a video highlighting the work of all of the servant leaders involved in Connectional
Ministries, and she thanked her team. She thanked Ms. Cynthia Williams who has
accepted a position to work on the Disaster Response team and has resigned from the
position as Convener. Rev. James asked Bishop Holston to receive the report and move it
to record. Bishop Holston reminded the Conference that Advance Specials has been
removed from the report. Rev. Steven Gaither came forth to provide to the report of
Conference Global Ministries. He lifted up the work of the 14 Advance Special Ministries.
He encouraged the Conference to continue to support Advance Special Ministries through
our apportionments and the annual offerings on Advance Special Ministries Sunday. The
best way to support these ministries is through involvement. Rev. James again asked that
the report be moved to record. Bishop Holston asked for questions from the delegates.
Mr. Larry Fetterly of First UMC in Easley stood to give credit to
Mr. Neil Van Derlinden
“UMCOR Man”. Mr. Van Derlinden passed away, however his inspiration to all of us
continues.

Following the singing of “How Great is Our God” in English and in Spanish, Rev. Enrique
Gordon invited the Conference to stand if we understood his greeting – which he spoke
to us in Spanish (no one stood). Rev. Richard Reames then come forth to interpret
Enrique’s greeting in English and he then provided the report for Hispanic and Latin
Ministries. He challenged us to reach beyond the boundaries of prejudice and racism –
because we are better than that! Rev. Elizabeth Murray challenged us to push past
language as an excuse! She directed the Conference to visit the Facebook page and
website that have been established. Pentecost Journey, UMC curriculum was rolled out in
February, and more than 20 clergy and laity came and learned about the Latino population
in our State. Rev. Emily Sutton invited the delegates to another Pentecost Journey will
provided November18 – 19th at Aldersgate UMC in Greenville. Everyone is encouraged to
get involved! Bishop Holston presented the report to the delegates for approval. The
report was approved unanimously.

Bishop Holston called for the tellers to distribute printed copies of upcoming resolutions.

Mr. Lyle Wazer, stood at microphone 6 asked if there is an English as second language
program. He encouraged us to have a Spanish as second language program so we can go
out instead of having Spanish speaking brothers and sisters come to us.

A delegate (name not provided) stood at microphone 1 and asked for a point of
personal privilege. He remarked about comment he overheard at a local establishment.
He heard the staff remarking how kind ‘Those Methodists’ are! He thanked us for being
who we are.

Bishop Holston led the Conference in the singing of Happy Birthday to Rev. Tim Rogers.
Rev. Ken Nelson then reminded the Conference to take part in the blood drive!

Rev. Dr. John Holler came forth to provide the report for the Epworth Children’s Home. He shared that children who arrive at Epworth are hopeless. Many of them may have never experienced an opportunity for a better life. The Conference celebrated 100% graduation rate for students at Epworth as well as the attainment of an exemplary status with the regulatory agency monitors Children’s Homes such as Epworth. Rev. Dr. Holler reported on the purchase of the former Carolina Children’s Home. In the next few weeks programs will begin at the new site and continue at the existing site. Epworth is starting the Center for Excellence in Foster Care. This program will focus on training Foster Parents by leveraging the rich connections of our local churches. This will enable children to remain in their communities. Rev. Holler shared the story of a brother and sister who recently graduated from high school and how Epworth will continue to support them as they begin college studies. Lastly, Rev. Holler shared two videos about the life saving ministries of Epworth. Bishop Holston placed the report before the Conference for approval. The report was unanimously approved.

Rev. Ken Nelson asked the Conference to prepare for the retirement service by clearing their areas. Bishop Holston invited Rev. Joe Long to come forth to offer prayer prior to the beginning of the retirement service.

The retirement service began at 11:00 A.M. with the singing of the hymn “Be Thou My Vision.” The retirees and their guests were recognized and honored by Bishop Holston on behalf of the SC Annual Conference. Rev. Ernest Etheredge and Reverend Erik Grayson participated in the passing of the mantle service in remembrance of the passing of the mantle between Elijah and Elisha in 1 Kings. The service concluded with a video featuring some of our retirees who shared reflections from their ministries and the benediction offered by Bishop Holston.

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The retirees included:

Carol Dianne Allison
John Mayford Altman, Jr.
Lee Curtis Bines
Joethel Jeannetté Cooper
Tuesday, June 7, 2016
The Afternoon Session

Following the lunch break the Conference reconvened at 2:00 P.M. for the Memorial Service wherein the clergy choir led us in the singing of “Total Praise” and other songs of celebration. Rev. Patricia Parrish’s sermon: “Remarkable Words of Promise” based on John 14:1 – 3. She reminded us that while we may not have words to express our feelings during those moments of grief, God has words – remarkable words. Words that bring us life even in the midst of death. Words that challenge us to choose life! Rev. Steven King led the service of Acts of Remembrance by ringing of the bell for each of our beloved clergy and lay members who passed away during the Conference year. The benediction was offered by Bishop Holston.

We remember the following loved ones:

Active Ministers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert Christopher Barrett</td>
<td>December 15, 1973</td>
<td>February 24, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwina Juliette Williams</td>
<td>May 25, 1949</td>
<td>February 14, 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Retired Ministers
Eugene Holland Bedenbaugh   June 4, 1935   February 16, 2016
George Raymond Cousar   February 7, 1930   July 13, 2015
Harry Mulford Goewey   September 21, 1924   June 15, 2015
Betty Sue Griffin   August 22, 1932   August 16, 2015
Franklin Herman Johnson   August 2, 1934   December 22, 2015
William Randolph Kinnett   May 2, 1927   August 14, 2015
George Alfred McClenan   June 22, 1947   April 30, 2016
Edward Donald McKinney   May 9, 1923   December 4, 2015
Fred Mortimer Reese, Jr.   September 18, 1927   April 16, 2016
Woodrow Marshall Smith   April 7, 1937   January 5, 2016
Norris McDonald “Donnie” Swett   December 5, 1936   December 8, 2015
William Joseph Vines   October 11, 1931   October 12, 2015
Seth W. Williams   March 25, 1944   September 7, 2015

Spouses
Betty Wilson Alewine   January 26, 1931   June 29, 2015
Judy Risinger Benton   June 6, 1947   February 29, 2016
Iris Faye Cothran   January 13, 1938   December 22, 2015
Patricia Jenkins Cross   December 27, 1934   August 7, 2015
Barbara Rate Davis   July 8, 1957   September 12, 2015
Jackie Jennings Morris   October 23, 1953   November 18, 2015
Sherry Prater Murphy   May 8, 1946   January 15, 2016
Alice Patricia “Patty” Padgett   December 25, 1940   September 26, 2015
Hazel Marie Abercrombie Templeton   March 3, 1930   January 1, 2016
Bernard Issac Timmons   October 18, 1953   March 18, 2016

Surviving Spouses
Helen Hutto Brabham   February 5, 1922   May 13, 2016
Carolyn Crenshaw   January 19, 2016
Olivia Rayfield Davis   October 28, 1931   December 26, 2015
Mildred Kennerly Hendrix   October 25, 1922   May 2, 2016
Agnes Dawsey Rogers   April 30, 1927   April 17, 2016
Dorothy Coker Way   January 22, 1922   August 24, 2015
Bernice Martin Wright   January 17, 1931   February 27, 2016

Others
Mary Jo Chreitzberg
The Conference reconvened at 3:26 P.M. with the singing of a congregational hymn.

Rev. Jeremy Howell presented the report of Equitable Compensation. He asked Bishop Holston to present report 2A, which requests apportionments in the amount of $550,000 to the delegates for approval. The report was approved. Report 2B was also presented to the delegates and approved. Rev. Howell requested to move report 2 to record. The delegates approved this report. Rev. Howell then requested to move report 3 to the record. This report was also approved. Report 4 – pertaining to Renewed Vitality Situations was presented and unanimously approved. Rev. Howell asked Bishop Holston to move the entire report to record. The delegates unanimously approved the report. Rev. Howell, who will be rolling off of the board, thanked his team for their work. He also thanked the District Secretaries and Ms. Beth Westbury. He then thanked Rev. Sara White of Congregational Development for her support. Lastly, he thanked Mr. Skipper Brock, the Vice Chairperson for his work – and he invited Mr. Brock to introduce himself. Mr. Brock thanked Rev. Howell for his faithful service.

Mr. Arthur Springs, Executive Director of Camps and Retreat Ministries presented their report. He mentioned that the ministry has purchased a 15-passenger bus. He highlighted the successful golf tournament, which was won by the Marion District. Rev. Tim Rogers came forth to accept the award. Mr. Springs then showed a video highlighting the ministry’s accomplishments. Mr. Springs introduced Mr. Jay Haar the Board Chair who presented a resolution requesting an extension of time to sell the Sewee property. The delegates unanimously approved the motion. Bishop Holston and the delegates thanked the ministry for their work.

Rev. Jeri Katherine Warden Sipes, Coordinator presented the report for Imagine No More Malaria. She invited her team to join her on stage at which time Bishop Holston thanked each of them individually for their work. Rev. Warden Sipes then presented a video about the Imagine No More Malaria ministry. Ephesians 3:12 – our God is more than able to do exceedingly, abundantly above all that we could ever hope for or imagine. This is certainly what we’ve seen in our Conference in light of the support that has been received thus far. The SC Annual Conference has donated more than $400,000 to this cause so far! She introduced Rev. Jerry Henderson of the National No More Malaria Association who thanked the SC Annual Conference for our support. Bishop Holston invited the delegates to come back this evening and to return with their pledge forms.

Bishop Holston asked Rev. Joseph James to come forth from the Nominations Committee
Page 85 line 18 – delete Lori Matthews and add Tara Start Jeffers
Page 92 Change Wyatt C. Minton to Paul Fry

Rev. James requested that Bishop Holston accept the motion to accept the report with corrections. The delegates unanimously approved the report.
Rev. Ken Nelson announced that all attendees are asked to register for the delivery of ice cream by children from Epworth to one local church!

Bishop Holston adjourned the Conference following a prayer offered by Dr. James Salley.

At 7:30 P.M. the Conference attendees reconvened for a concert by the Digital Age and the Youth Choir of the Lake City Charge – Amiri Hooker, Pastor. The offering collected at this worship service will benefit the Imagine No More Malaria campaign.

Wednesday
June 8, 2016
The Morning Session

The SC Annual Conference reconvened for the morning session at 8:30 A.M. with singing of “We Are Marching!” Following a greeting from Bishop Holston, and an introduction of our Bible Study leader, Dr. Smith began his study with a prayer.

Dr. Smith asked this question to begin the study – “How are you making space for prayer?” The study for the morning focused on Luke 11:1 – 13. Jesus’ prayer began with Our Father – Abba. This beginning emphasized the nature of God as more than majesty, but as tender father. God doesn’t need us to be persistent so that we are heard. Persistency reflects the fervency of our work – the work of prayer – the work of our spiritual journey.

Rev. Carol Cannon, Trinity UMC stood to thank the Board of Ordained Ministry for the funds to attend the five-day academy for Spiritual Formation. She encouraged everyone to avail themselves of the academy as a way of making space for God to work.

Reverend Kathy James, Director of Connectional Ministries stood to ask for the suspension of standing rule 30-G. The delegates unanimously approved this motion.

Rev. James asked to meet with the district and conference lay leaders, United Methodist Women and Men leaders in the Pee Dee room.

Rev. Dr. Marvin Caldwell came forth to discuss the report for the Committee on Resolutions and Appeals.

Resolutions:

1. Changing SC Department of Education regarding Native Americans in the SC history books – Concurrence; the delegates approved.

2. Responsibilities for the eradication of racism resolution – Concurrence;
**Ms. Renee Galvin**, Rock Hill District stood to speak against the resolution. She didn’t agree with the wording regarding preservation of slavery as the war was fought for several reasons. Bishop Holston asked her hold her remarks until we work our way up the resolution.

Amendment of the last “Be It Further Resolved” paragraph:

**Ms. Jane Robello**, Greenville District stood to speak for the resolution. Although she is in favor she asked to add a line to the end of the paragraph to encourage predominately white and black UMCs to be intentional about planning services together during the calendar year. This motion was seconded. The amendment was approved.

Deletion of the last “Be It Further Resolved” paragraph:

**Rev. Jim Arant** stood to speak against the resolution – He asked to delete the last “Further Be It Resolved” because it is asking for churches to report the same information being reported to their charge conferences.

**Rev. Amiri Hooker** stood to speak for the resolution – He explained why the last “Further Be it Resolved” was included. He explained that the paragraph is needed for clarity to ensure reporting of cross-racial interactions with the intentionality of eradicating poverty.

**Ms. Brenda Hook**, stood to ask how to vote on deletion of paragraph. Bishop Holston clarified that if we vote to delete we would remove the amended paragraph.

**Rev. Dr. Larry McCutchen** stood to advise that this paragraph is already addressed

**Ms. Karen Ares** stood to advise that there was a misunderstanding about where we are starting with the approvals.

**Mr. John Nibbens** stood to advise how to resolve the misunderstanding.

**Bishop Holston** confirmed that we are at the very last “Be It Further Resolved.”

**Rev. Tim Rogers** offered a motion to amend the motion to delete the last paragraph without amendment. Bishop Holston clarified that the paragraph in question has not been amended

**Rev. Christopher Thompson**, author of the resolution stood to ask if the first six words of the paragraph could be read when presenting it for consideration. Bishop Holston agreed.

**Bishop Holston** presented the last paragraph to the delegates again for deletion. The delegates approved deletion.

**Bishop Holston** asked for discussion on the next paragraph - no discussion

**Bishop Holston** then asked for discussion on the next paragraph
Rev. Drew Martin, Lebanon UMC stood to speak for the paragraph – but to amend, so that all clergy and lay leadership will be encouraged to participate – not just “newly ordained clergy.” The motion was seconded. The amendment was approved.

Bishop Holston asked if the delegates were ok with Ms. Robello’s paragraph amendment. The delegates agreed.

Bishop Holston asked for discussion.

A delegate (name inaudible) asked to further amend the first “Be It Further Resolved” paragraph. This paragraph has already been approved, thus it is out of order to bring up further changes.

Ms. Nancy Zeigler stood to propose amendment for the Therefore Be It Resolved paragraph to add:

“and racism including disbanding of all groups....that divide us into racial or ethnic groups.” The motion was seconded.

Ms. Nancy Zeigler stood to expound upon her amendment. She doesn’t feel that dividing into groups will help to be united.

Rev. Shawn Weeks stood to speak against the amendment because there will always be groups that need to meet because of the plight of the people or groups.

Rev. Kathy James spoke to speak against the amendment. She advised that Deacons and African American churches who are a minority in our Conference need avenues of meeting.

Rev. Dr. Sheila Elliot spoke against the amendment. She advised that children notice differences but they don’t attach value to it until they grow up and are taught differently.

Rev. Dr. Frederick Yebuah spoke in favor of amendment. Meeting separately breeds suspicion. We cannot be united and be separate at the same time.

Rev. Amiri Hooker, Lake City Circuit stood to ask a question. The SC Annual Conference does not exclude persons of other ethnic groups from participating in various meetings. He asked is the body clear about that.

Ms. Nancy Zeigler advised that she agreed that she is welcomed to attend.

Bishop Holston asked if we are ready to vote.

Rev. Charles Johnson stood to ask if we can talk about disbanding meeting if they are established rules within the UMC which allow for these groups to meet.
Bishop Holston advised that the amendment is out of order in light of Rev. Johnson’s question.

Ms. Renee Gallien stood to speak against the first whereas paragraph – asking for deletion.

Rev. Ben Burt stood to speak against deletion of the paragraph because white supremacy exists.

Mr. Edward Kennedy spoke for the amendment because the paragraph doesn’t recognize the strides that have been made.

Rev. John Culp stood to speak against the deletion. Racism is hardly a thing of a past.

Rev. Terry Fleming stood to speak against the deletion. He has personally experienced white supremacy in his pastoral setting.

Ms. Wonderland Pinckney stood to speak against the deletion. She reminded the Conference of the Bible Study last year wherein acceptance of our role in racism was discussed.

Mr. Bob Abbott stood to make a speech, remove “a fact perpetually overlooked by the white supremacy community…” This motion was seconded.

Ms. Ruth McAllister stood to question the parliamentarian procedure – she stated that it is not in order to delete a portion of the motion to delete the paragraph.

Rev. Larry McCutchen stood to state that racism is alive and well. This was a speech against deletion of the sentence proposed by Mr. Abbott.

Ms. Sylvia Zeigler speaking in favor of removing the white supremacy paragraph. Racism affects all races – not just black and white.

Rev. Keith Ray stood to speak against deletion of the sentence.

Rev. Dr. Robin Dease stood to speak to call the question. Bishop asked for those in favor of calling the question. The delegates agreed to do so.

Bishop Holston called for the vote for deletion of the sentence. The motion did not pass. The sentence remains.

The motion delete the paragraph was submitted to the delegates for vote. The delegates voted not to delete the paragraph.

Ms. Renee Gallien asked to remove the end of the last sentence, “as well as for the local removal of icons of a war fought to preserve slavery.” This is because the war was fought for many reasons – not just the preservation of slavery.
Dr. Phillip Stone, spoke against the motion. No American historian would argue that the war was not fought over the eradication of slavery.

Rev. Amiri Hooker stood to speak against the motion to delete. For a long time persons in this state have suffered under images and icons that are hurtful.

Rev. Jim Dennis stood to ask a question. Does the sentence mean that war memorials would be removed?

Rev. Marvin Caldwell called Rev. Christopher Thompson to come forth to answer. Monuments are not intended in this phrase.

Rev. Kathy James spoke against the motion to delete.

Rev. John Adams stood to speak against the motion to delete.

Ms. Renee Gallien stood to speak for the deletion because icons do include monuments.

Mr. John Adams spoke to speak against the motion deletion.

Rev. Dr. George Howe called the question to consider the entire resolution as amended.

Dr. Phillip Stone stood to advise that we need to take a series of votes.

Rev. Kathy James asked for clarification on what we are voting on.

Rev. Carleathea Benson stood to rescind the motion to act on the entire resolution.

Bishop Holston presented the motion to delete the paragraph concerning removal of icons. The body agreed to keep the paragraph.

Rev. Dr. George Howe agreed to approve all that is before us. The delegates agreed.

Bishop Holston placed the motion before the body. The motion was approved.

At 10:50 A.M. Bishop Holston called for a recess until 11:05 A.M.

At 11:06 A.M. the Conference reconvened with the singing of “No Turning Back.”

Bishop Holston advised that we must consider the Standing rules of our Annual Conference, the UMC Discipline, as well as Robert’s Rules of Order when motions are brought forth.

Rev. Dr. Marvin Caldwell put the Resolution concerning transgender people.
Rev. Keith Ray stood to ask about the Parliamentarian procedure that we are using. He asked to suspend [rule 7] the rules pertaining to considering one paragraph at a time when considering a resolution. The motion was seconded. Bishop Holston conferred with the Conference Parliamentarian.

Mr. Rod Beleskey stood to oppose the motion.

The delegation approved the motion.

A delegate (name inaudible) stood to request deletion of the whereas paragraph concerning major businesses.

Rev. Carol Cannon stood to speak against deletion of the paragraph.

Mr. Dan Moore asked to delete the whereas statements related to Governor Haley. Bishop Holston advised that we are not addressing this paragraph. Mr. Moore clarified that he would like deletion of the whereas paragraph concerning major businesses.

Rev. John Culp stood to speak against deletion of the paragraph.

Bishop Holston asked the delegates if they were ready for the vote. The delegates agreed.

The delegates agreed to keep the paragraph.

Rev. Emily Sutton made a motion that following two speeches for and two speeches against that we move to question. The motion was seconded. The delegates approved the motion.

In a speech against the resolution, Mr. John Gibbons asked do we need 12 resolutions to address this matter fully – as our discipline already addresses discrimination against groups. He stated that the resolution itself is discriminatory.

Rev. Michael Cheatham made a motion to refer this resolution to the Advocacy Committee of Connectional Ministries.

Rev. John Culp stood against referral of the resolution.

Rev. Fran Connell stood to speak against referral.

The delegates did not agree to refer the resolution.

Rev. Keith Ray stood to speak in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Jessica Moore moved to remove the statement, “Whereas Nikki R. Haley”. The motion was seconded.
Bishop Holston called for a vote on the removal of the statement. The delegates did not approve.

Rev. Webb Belangia spoke against the resolution.

Bishop Holston placed the resolution before the body. The delegates approved the resolution.

Resolution for the Nature of High Quality Public Education: The delegates approved the referral.

The Resolution for uninsured poor adults in SC – referral: The delegates approved the referral.

The Resolution for Assessment and a Plan of Action for the African American Historical Methodist Flagship Churches of the SC Annual Conference. "...use the current assessment method to evaluate, the past, present and future...” delete “...for African American Ministries.”

Rev. Patricia Parrish made a motion to strike the word 'worth’ in the first ‘Be it resolved.’ And to include the word ‘potential ministries.’

Rev. Norman Brown, author of the resolution stood to explain the meaning of 'Flagship' churches. These churches would be 150 years or older and formerly had approximately 400 members at one time.

Ms. Francis Hill spoke against the resolution.

Bishop advised that what was before the body is to strike the word 'Worth.’

Rev. Carleathea Benson spoke in support of the resolution because preservation of history is needed.

Ms. Paula Ford stood to speak against the resolution because it divides the church.

Mr. Tommy Wilkes spoke to amend the resolution. Bishop advised that the resolution is before the body. Mr. Wilkes asked how we determine what is a flagship church and what is not.

Rev. Amiri Hooker stood to explain the term, “Flagship” – it is a term that would be understood by persons performing the assessment.

Bishop Holston placed the resolution before the body for vote. The delegates approved the resolution.

Rev. Dr. Marvin Caldwell thanked his team for their work.
**Rev. Rett Haselden, IV**, reminded the Annual Conference that resolutions are needed before the March 15th deadline.

**Rev. Wendy Hudson Jacoby** asked that the SC Annual Conference engage in conversation about sexual identity.

**Rev. Cathy Jamieson** stood to offer a point of clarity – stating that these conversations have begun in her district and beyond.

**Rev. Jacoby’s motion** was approved.

Rev. Ken Nelson placed the Consent Calendar before the body for vote. The delegates unanimously approved.

**Reverend David Surrett** moved for the adoption of the CF&A reports with revisions by the Annual Conference. Rev. Surrett thanked his team and recognized those who will be completing their service.

**Rev. Thomas Bowmen** asked for a point of personal privilege wherein he asked clergy members who are interested to join the clergy choir.

**Rev. Jackie Jenkins** presented the nominations in accordance with Standing Rule 30 - G
- **Ms. Barbara Ware** - Conference Lay Leader
- **Mr. Donald Love** – Associate Conference Lay Leader
- **Ms. Jenny Rawlings** – Secretary Lay Leadership Area

**Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson** presented the Resolution to Discontinue and Realign Churches. The resolution is on page 123 – 125 of the Conference packet. Rev. Jamieson presented the resolutions to discontinue Bethlehem, Mt. Tabor, and Charles Wesley United Methodist Churches. After each resolution was presented, and approved by the body, Bishop Holston led the Conference in prayer. The delegates then voted on the chargeline changes found on pages 125 and 126. The vote was unanimous in favor of the changes.

**Rev. Ken Nelson** made a motion for the 2017 Annual Conference to be June the 4 – 7 at TD Convention Center in Greenville, SC. The Conference approved the motion.

**Rev. Ken Nelson** invited **Rev. Dr. George Howe**, District Superintendent of the Greenville/Spartanburg area to come forward to greet the delegates and to provide updates on what is planned for 2017. Rev. Howe mentioned that a ‘Kids Camp’ is being planned. **Ms. Michelle Stoudamier** from Greenville, SC came forth to discuss logistics. Hotel reservations will open on June 22, 2016. Save the date cards are available and will be distributed by our tellers. **Rev. Ken Nelson** invited the entire staff of the Florence Civic Center to come forth to accept our thanks.

At 1:00 P.M. **Bishop Holston** called a recess of the Conference until 1:15 P.M. when the Conference reconvened for the closing worship service and the fixing of appointments.
The Conference was adjourned at 2:00 P.M. with the Benediction offered by Bishop L. Jonathan Holston.