

**IV. DAILY PROCEEDINGS**

**A. PROGRAM OF THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**



**Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr.**  
Great Plains Episcopal Area



**Bishop Paul L. Leeland**  
Western North Carolina Conference  
Charlotte Area



**Bishop J. Michael Lowry**  
Central Texas Conference  
Fort Worth Episcopal Area



**Rev. Angela Pleasants**  
Catawba Valley District  
Superintendent

**TRUST & OBEY**



*...and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.” Matthew 28:20a*



**Bishop Janice Riggle Huie**  
Leadership Formation  
Texas Methodist Foundation

<b>THURSDAY JUNE 20</b>	10:00 a.m.	Executive Session of Clergy Members ¶ 605.6 – <i>“The actions of the clergy session shall be for and on behalf of the annual conference”</i> <i>Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Delegates</i>
	12:00 p.m.	Lunch Recess
	1.30 p.m.	Clergy Session continues <i>Balloting continues as needed</i>
	5:30 p.m.	Dinner Recess
	8:00 p.m.	Laity Session: Introduction of Nominees
<b>FRIDAY JUNE 21</b>	8:30 a.m.	Laity Session <i>Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Delegates</i>
	11:00 a.m.	Opening Worship: Service of Holy Communion <i>Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr., Great Plains Annual Conference, preaching</i> <i>The offering will go toward Disaster Response from 2018 Hurricane Florence in Eastern North Carolina and 2018 Hurricane Michael in the Florida Panhandle</i>
	12:30 p.m.	Lunch Recess
	2:00 p.m.	Conference Plenary – Business Session <i>Balloting continues as needed</i> Opening Hymn and Prayer Welcome from Lake Junaluska Procedural Matters, Elections for Conference, and Consent Calendar Committee on Nominations Plan of Organization and Rules Opening Remarks from Bishop Leeland
	3:00 p.m.	Break

- 3:30 p.m. Order of the Day: *Recognition of Retiring Clergy*  
 4:15 p.m. Conference Plenary – Business Session  
*Balloting continues as needed*  
 Nurturing and Celebrating Innovation in the Western NC Conference  
 Board of Laity
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner Recess  
 7:30 p.m. Conference Plenary – Teaching Session  
*Bishop Janice Riggle Huie, Leadership Formation, Texas Methodist Foundation*  
*Balloting continues as needed*
- SATURDAY, JUNE 22**
- 8:30 a.m. Order of Morning Prayer  
 8:45 a.m. Annual Meeting of the Membership of the United Methodist Foundation of WNC  
 9:15 a.m. Conference Plenary – Business Session  
*Balloting continues as needed*  
 Conference Council on Finance and Administration  
 Proposed 2020 Conference Budget  
 Conference Board of Trustees  
 Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits
- 10:30 a.m. Break  
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service: *Celebration of Life*  
*Rev. Angela Pleasants, Catawba Valley District Superintendent, preaching*
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch Recess  
 1:45 p.m. Conference Plenary – Business Session  
*Balloting continues as needed*  
 Cabinet Resolutions  
 Committee on the Episcopacy  
 Petitions
- 3:15 p.m. Break  
 3:45 p.m. Conference Plenary – Business Session  
 Celebrating Connectional Innovation  
*Balloting continues as needed*
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner Recess  
 7:30 p.m. Worship Service: *The Ordering of Ministry*  
*Bishop Michael Lowry, Central Texas Annual Conference, preaching*  
*Bishop Paul Leeland, liturgist*
- SUNDAY, JUNE 23**
- 10:00 a.m. Closing Worship Service: *What Are We to Teach?*  
*Bishop Paul Leeland, preaching*  
 Fixing of the Appointments and Sending Forth  
 Commissioning of General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates  
 Adjournment of the 2019 Annual Conference, *sine die*  
*The offering will go toward Disaster Response from Hurricanes Florence and Michael*



## USHERS FOR THE 2019 SESSION

George Eubanks, Kathy McAbee, and Mickey Penninger, Joint-chairpersons

### Team Yellow

Karen Doucette  
 Deb Demorest  
 Rich Schilling  
 Joy O. Gardner  
 Gene Charleton  
 Maggie Charleton  
 John Harper  
 James Marsh  
 David DeWitt  
 Debbie Ray  
 Aryn Williams-Ruebel  
 David Dunaway

Jonathan Gaylord  
 Jesse Teal  
 Chad Shoaf  
 James Pickett  
 Mitzi Kepley  
 Drew Nix  
 Pete Ross  
 Willie Mae Ervin  
 Teresa Greene  
 Jill Rhinehart  
 Jim Tate  
 Peter Brown  
 Dianne Johnston

### Team Green

Byron Alexander  
 Innocent Justice  
 Jae Lee  
 Teila Hand-Broadnax  
 Ray Cabaniss  
 Sandy Hieronymus  
 Richard Gould  
 Lonnie Grose  
 Nina Miller  
 Betty Jo Hardy  
 Vic Jackson  
 Ruth Sides

Albertina McGirt  
 Myra Waddell  
 Gary VanLandingham  
 Willie Murray  
 Wendy Barnes  
 Josh Barnes  
 Linda Peeler  
 Lane Peeler  
 Rachel Styers  
 Lorraine Burns  
 Howard Fleming  
 Warren Lunsford

**B. SPECIAL EVENTS OF THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE****MONDAY-WEDNESDAY****JUNE 17-19**

C2LJ Bicycle Ride..... Christ UMC, Hickory, NC to Kern Center, Lake Junaluska

**WEDNESDAY****JUNE 19**

10:00 a.m. Conference Board of Trustees Meeting and Luncheon..... The Terrace, T-319  
 10:00 a.m. FLOURISH: Reflect and Renew Program Launch ..... The Terrace, T-316  
 2:00 p.m. Conference Council on Finance and Administration Meeting..... The Terrace, T-213  
 4:00 p.m. Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting..... Harrell Center, Susan Todd Room  
 6:30 p.m. Ministry Innovators Dinner ..... Long's Chapel UMC, 175 Old Clyde Hwy, Waynesville  
 7:00 p.m. Ice Cream Rally, hosted by  
 the WNCC Evangelical Movement..... Stuart Auditorium Lawn, Tent by the Lake

**THURSDAY****JUNE 20**

8:00 a.m. Women in Ministry Meeting ..... Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N Lakeshore Dr  
 9:00 a.m. Teller Training for Clergy ..... Stuart Auditorium, Near the Stage  
 12:15 p.m. Extension Ministries and Beyond the Local Church Luncheon..... Kern Center, Auditorium  
 3:00 p.m. Focus on Laity: A Time of Learning and  
 Fellowship, open to all laity at AC2019 ..... First UMC (Sanctuary), 566 S Haywood St, Waynesville  
 5:30 p.m. Candler/Emory Alumni and Friends Dinner ..... The Terrace, Bring your buffet dinner to T-316  
 5:30 p.m. Hood Theological Seminary Alumni,  
 Students and Prospective Students Dinner ..... Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N Lakeshore Dr  
 5:30 p.m. Wesley Theological Seminary Gathering ..... The Terrace, Bring your buffet dinner to T-319  
 6:00 p.m. Board of Ordained Ministry Dinner ..... First UMC, 566 S Haywood St, Waynesville  
 6:00 p.m. Duke Divinity School Alumni Dinner ..... Nanci Weldon Pavilion, Outdoor Gym  
 6:00 p.m. Retiring Clergy Dinner ..... Lambuth Inn, International Room  
 6:00 p.m. Usher Training ..... Stuart Auditorium, Near the Stage  
 7:00 p.m. Annual Conference Choir Rehearsal..... Harrell Center, Susan Todd Room  
 7:00 p.m. Teller Training for Laity..... Stuart Auditorium, Near the Stage  
 8:00 p.m. AC After Hours ..... BearWaters Brewing Company, 101 Park St, Canton

**FRIDAY****JUNE 21**

7:00 a.m. Emory Club 5k (onsite registration at 6:00 a.m.) ..... In front of Stuart Auditorium  
 7:15 a.m. Educational Opportunities Breakfast ..... Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N Lakeshore Dr  
 7:15 a.m. Retired Clergy and Spouses Breakfast sponsored by  
 The Eugene M. Cole Foundation ..... Lambuth Inn, International Room  
 8:30 a.m. Givens Communities: Cookies on the Lawn ..... Stuart Auditorium Lawn, Tent by the Lake  
 12:30 p.m. Asbury Seminary Alumni and Friends Luncheon ..... The Terrace, Bring your buffet lunch to T-319  
 12:30 p.m. Black Methodists for Church Renewal  
 (BMCR) and Friends Luncheon ..... Jones Dining Hall, 238 N Lakeshore Dr  
 12:30 p.m. Chaplain's Fellowship Luncheon ..... The Terrace, T-316  
 12:30 p.m. Get to Know Wesley Community  
 Development Luncheon ..... Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N Lakeshore Dr  
 12:30 p.m. Givens Communities Songfest ..... Stuart Auditorium Lawn, Tent by the Lake  
 12:30 p.m. High Point University Alumni Luncheon..... Lambuth Inn, International Room  
 12:30 p.m. Reconciling Ministries Luncheon..... Kern Center, Auditorium  
 1:00 p.m. Brotherhood/Sisterhood Meeting..... The Terrace, T-213  
 3:00 p.m. Get the Scoop: Ice Cream Social, hosted by Methodist University..... Harrell Center, Susan Todd Room  
 5:30 p.m. Evangelical Movement Dinner ..... Lambuth Inn, International Room  
 6:00 p.m. Fellowship of Local Pastors and  
 Associate Members Meeting..... Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N Lakeshore Dr  
 6:00 p.m. Pfeiffer Alumni and Friends Dinner ..... First UMC, 566 S Haywood St, Waynesville  
 9:00 p.m. Reconciling Ministries Worship..... Memorial Chapel

**SATURDAY****JUNE 22**

7:00 a.m. Wesley Covenant Association Breakfast ..... Lambuth Inn, International Room  
 7:30 a.m. CONAM Breakfast  
 (Native American Ministries) ..... Lambuth Inn, Bring your buffet breakfast to Saville Room  
 12:15 p.m. Greensboro and Bennett Colleges Luncheon ..... Lambuth Inn, International Room  
 12:15 p.m. UM Rural Advocates Banquet ..... Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N Lakeshore Dr

**SUNDAY****JUNE 23**

12:00 p.m. Luncheon and Meeting for Newly-Elected  
 General Conference/Jurisdictional Conference Delegates..... Lambuth Inn, International Room

**C. DAILY MINUTES****THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019****EXECUTIVE SESSION OF CLERGY MEMBERS – 10:00 A.M.**

**CLERGY SESSION CONVENES:** In compliance with ¶¶ 605.7 of the *Book of Discipline* (2016), Bishop Paul L. Leeland convened an executive session of the clergy members of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 20, 2019, in George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. The Bishop introduced Jarvis Wilson, conference musician, pianist/organist, Atlanta, Georgia and Keith Wilson, conference musician, vocalist, Ben Hill UMC, Atlanta, Georgia who led the singing of hymn 140 (UMH), *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*. Bishop Leeland presented a meditation using II Timothy 1:8-14 and offered an opening prayer. Bishop Leeland welcomed those in attendance and noted that 2019 marked the 51<sup>st</sup> year of The United Methodist Church and the 235<sup>th</sup> year of the Methodist Church in The United States. He referenced ¶¶ 605.7 and ¶¶ 369.5 of the *Book of Discipline* (2016) for the purpose and business of the executive session of the clergy and the sole eligibility of clergy members in full connection to vote.

**PERMISSION TO BE PRESENT:** At the request of Bishop Leeland, the clergy members in full connection approved that the conference musicians, identified guests, lay members of the Board of Ordained Ministry and local pastors be allowed to be present during the executive session.

**BUSINESS QUESTION 17:** Bishop Leeland asked the District Superintendents to stand and supplied the proposed response for business question 17 in regard to the character of the eight District Superintendents. Then each of the District Superintendents affirmed the character of the clergy serving in their districts and business question 17 was approved.

**BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY REPORT:** After expressing appreciation to members of the Board of Ordained Ministry and affirming the work of the members, Bishop Leeland introduced Rev. Donald Jenkins, Saint Paul (Winston-Salem, YV) chairperson. Rev. Jenkins presented the report of the Board of Ordained Ministry and noted that the responsibility of the board is to guide, clarify, equip, and credential God's call to ministry for those seeking ordination and those already serving as clergy in the annual conference. He thanked the Bishop and the Cabinet.

**ELECTION OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS:** The Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, director of ministerial services and conference secretary, introduced and moved the election of three persons as provisional deacons and four persons as provisional elders in response to Business Question 28, and they were elected. In response to Business Question 31, the Rev. Ingram introduced two persons who have had their ordination recognized from another Christian denomination and moved their election as provisional members and it was approved. (See Section V, *Business of the Annual Conference*, in the *2019 Journal*)

**ELECTION OF FULL CONNECTION MEMBERS:** The Rev. Ingram introduced and moved the election of one person as a deacon in full connection and 15 persons as elders in full connection in response to Business Question 32. Following Bishop Leeland's inquiry of asking the traditional and historic questions and admonitions from the *Book of Discipline* (2016) and the ordinands' responses with the prescribed responses, they were elected and greeted warmly by the clergy. The same persons just elected were approved for ordination as deacons or as elders in response to Business Questions 33 and 34. The Rev. Ingram provided responses to Business

Questions 38 and 39. In the instance of Business Question 38, those received by transfer from other annual conferences of The United Methodist Church; and, Question 39, one who was received in full connection from another denomination. Approval was given. (See Section V, *Business of the Annual Conference*, in the *2019 Journal*).

**ELECTRONIC BALLOTING TUTORIAL:** The Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, conference secretary, gave information about the process of electronic balloting to elect the delegates to the 2020 General Conference and 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. In order to facilitate the process, the wi-fi in Stuart Auditorium will not be available during the elections; it is requested that cell phones and hotspots be turned off during balloting. After today the clergy sections for balloting will be in sections 1-5 and the laity sections for balloting will be in sections 6-10 of Stuart Auditorium. Voting for election of delegates will use an electronic handset. Ten clergy will be elected to serve as delegates to the 2020 session of the General Conference and 10 additional clergy will be elected to serve as delegates to the 2020 session of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, along with three reserve delegates. A simple majority of the valid ballots cast will be needed for election. On the first ballot for delegates to General Conference the list with corresponding voting numbers of all eligible clergy is printed in the *Supplement*, pages 20 through 32. Thirty seconds, or a longer period at the discretion of the Bishop, will be provided to enter the voting number of each person during a ballot. On the second and subsequent ballots a new roster for voting will be provided of the top 100 persons receiving votes. On the first ballot the names of persons receiving 10 or more votes will be read. After the second ballot those persons receiving 20 or more votes will be read. On all subsequent ballots those persons receiving 30 or more votes will be read.

After the first ballot the process to write-in a name for election is as follows: You must stand in place, relinquish the handheld device to the teller, receive a write-in ballot and vote for all the names to be elected on that ballot.

In the event that there is a technical difficulty with the handheld device during any ballot you must stand and receive a write-in ballot from the teller. After the ballot is closed you may go to the help desk and have the handheld device checked.



**ELECTION OF DELEGATES:** The conference secretary made the following enabling motions pertaining to the election of delegates to the 2020 General and Jurisdictional conferences, and they were approved:

Many of the regulations which govern our delegate elections are set forth in the 2016 *Book of Discipline* or in our conference rules; however, in order that we may properly carry out the balloting process, the following motion is necessary:

1. That the voting bar of the clergy session be set to include the Stuart Auditorium; and, that the voting bar of the laity session be set to include sections 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The bar will be set for the rest of the annual conference during the organizational session.
2. That all ballots in this election be cast using the electronic handsets that were distributed at registration. Write-in votes may be cast by relinquishing one's handset to a teller and requesting a written ballot. Conference member should write the names of all persons for that ballot on the paper ballot provided; provided.
3. That, following the counting of the first clergy ballot, a new voting roster for clergy be prepared, listing in alphabetical order the names and voting numbers of the 100 persons who received the highest number of votes on the first ballot; provided, however, that in the case of a tie which would result in the listing of more than 100 names, the listing cease with the names of those who received the number of votes immediately ahead of the position at which the tie occurred.
4. That a voting number be assigned to any person receiving at least twenty-five write-in votes on any ballot.
5. That the schedule for ballot reporting and taking ballots provided in the approved conference program be followed until the full number of delegates to the General and Jurisdictional conferences has been elected. Balloting must be completed by Saturday at 5:30 p.m.
6. That at least one of the chief tellers and one additional teller each from the laity and clergy be present in the rehearsal room as the results are being tabulated and produced.
7. That, following the ballot on which the final delegate from each order is elected to the Jurisdictional Conference, another ballot be taken and the three persons receiving the highest number of votes on that ballot be declared elected as reserve delegates from that order to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.
8. That the travel and per-diem expenses of attending the 2020 General Conference be paid by the annual conference for the first two Jurisdictional Conference delegates elected from each order, in accordance with General Conference provisions for principal delegates.
9. That the travel and per-diem expenses of attending the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference be paid by the annual conference for all reserve delegates from this conference to that body, in accordance with Jurisdictional Conference provisions for principal delegates.
10. That the tellers named on page 18 of the *Supplement* be elected.

The Rev. Ingram extended her thanks to all the tellers just elected to serve.



## TELLERS FOR THE ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCES

### CLERGY

Chief Tellers: Paul Brown (SM) • Angela Hollar (CV)

(AP)	John Howard, Jr. David McCauley	(CV)	Elaine Hall Sean Turner	(NP)	Tammy Ingram Jeremiah Johnson	(UW)	Jennifer Orr William Roberts
(BR)	Glenda Hayner Debbie Toney	(ME)	Angela Marlowe Jonathan Marlowe	(SM)	Susan Giles Jason Smith	(YV)	Jay Bowers Carl Manuel

### LAITY

Chief Tellers: Mark Hollar (CV) • Dana Lyles (NP)

(AP)	Betty Poe Robin Tyndall	(CV)	Robbie Combs Chandra Marble	(NP)	Jason Boggs Michelle Pyle	(UW)	Tonya Lanier Frances Williamson
(BR)	Sherri Noble Suzanne Schilling	(ME)	Teila Broadnax Nancy Friend	(SM)	Jessica Green Carol Harper	(YV)	Libby Craven Chris Raines



**PRACTICE USING THE HANDHELD ELECTRONIC VOTING DEVICE:** The Rev. Ingram guided the clergy through several operational exercises using the handheld device, including using the yes and no keys.

**QUESTIONS:** The Rev. Dawn Hand, District Superintendent (Pittsburg District, Western Pennsylvania Conference) asked a question. The Rev. Paul McClure, Oak Hill (Morganton, CV District) made a comment. Bishop Leeland responded in each instance.

**BUSINESS QUESTIONS:** The Rev. Kim Ingram continued the presentation of the required business questions 18-30, 35-37, and 40-47; and in each instance where a vote was required, they were approved.

**REPORT OF THE TECHNICIAN:** The technician in charge of the electronic balloting devices reported that the failures from the test ballots were due to user error and the need for additional time between selections. The Bishop ruled that the time for each selection during a ballot would be increased to one minute. A final practice ballot was taken.

**FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT:** Following prayer by Rev. David C. Hockett, District Superintendent (ME District) the first clergy ballot for 10 delegates to the 2020 General Conference was taken.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The Rev. Kim Ingram, conference secretary, made necessary announcements.

**RECESS:** Following prayer by Bishop Leeland the executive session of the clergy recessed at 11:52 a.m.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION OF CLERGY MEMBERS RECONVENES – 1:30 P.M.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE CLERGY RECONVENES:** The executive session of clergy members reconvened at 1:30 p.m. with singing of hymn 368 (UMH), *My Hope Is Built*.

**BUSINESS QUESTIONS:** The Rev. Ann L. Duncan, secretary for the Board of Ordained Ministry, presented the responses for business questions 49-81; and in each instance where a vote was required the response was approved with the necessary majority. In response to business question 48, the Rev. Duncan requested the clergy to stand as she read the names of the members of the annual conference who had died since the last session and Bishop Leeland offered prayer. All of the business questions, considered as part of the executive session of the clergy, were approved as a whole.

**TREASURY SERVICES:** The Rev. Dr. R. Mark King, treasurer and director of administrative services, reported that Health Perks, a free virtual care service, and HealthMap were introduced earlier in 2019. He announced that the conference was changing the health network from Primary Physicians to Cigna Health Care Providers. Healthgram will continue to provide the administration for the clergy health benefits. This fall there will be an open enrollment for life insurance, major and accidental coverage with expanded options.

**WORD OF GREETING:** The Rev. Dr. Ken J. Walden, 16<sup>th</sup> President and Dean, brought greetings from Gammon Theological Seminary. Dr. Walden noted that the school was founded in 1883, has a long history of providing African-American higher education, and is known as the “school of the prophets,” speaking truth to power. He thanked the conference for its prayers and financial support.

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM:** Rev. Kim Ingram introduced Rev. J. Daniel Hester, chairperson, and Rev. Kari L. Howard, vice-chairperson, who presented a report for the leadership development team. The goal of LEAD is to increase the capacity of ministry professionals and lay leadership to improve performance, accomplish changes in the local church, set and achieve significant goals, and inspire the congregation through preaching. Rev. Hester reviewed the fall offerings for the three preaching cohorts, developing servant leaders, and strategies to navigate change. In addition a fall spiritual renewal offering will be announced later. Hester noted that leadership development podcasts will begin in September. Rev. Howard announced clergy financial planning sessions in Asheville, Charlotte, High Point, and Statesville. The cost for the five-hour session is on a sliding scale. For more information and registration go online to [www.LEADwnc.org](http://www.LEADwnc.org) or [www.wnccumc.org](http://www.wnccumc.org). Rev. Ingram announced an initiative called The Space Between, which offers tools and resources for leaders in the midst of divisions in the denomination, churches, and communities.

**BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD:** Rev. Joseph M. Westfall, St. Luke’s (Hickory, CV District) president, presented the report. The mission of the brotherhood/sisterhood is to reach out with compassion and care to bereaved families at the loss of a clergy member of the annual conference. Rev. Westfall introduced Rev. Roland T. Barnhardt, executive director, who noted that he makes immediate contact with the family upon learning of a member’s death and presents them a benefit check. Rev. Barnhardt reported a decline in membership and the need to address the amount of assessments to maintain benefits. Rev. Westfall introduced Rev. H. Donnell FitzJefferies, St. Matthews (Greensboro, NP District) as the incoming president for the Brotherhood/Sisterhood.

**FLOURISH:** The Rev. Laura H. Auten, Uwharrie district superintendent, announced the creation of Flourish. In compliance with the requirement of *The Book of Discipline (2016)* for clergy assessment and review every 8 years, Flourish will be designed to assist clergy to review, renew and retool one’s ministry.

**RECESS:** The executive session of the clergy recessed at 2:25 p.m.

**RECONVENES:** The executive session of the clergy reconvened at 2:40 p.m. with the singing of hymn 369 (UMH) *Blessed Assurance*.

**REPORT OF FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE BALLOT FOR CLERGY:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the first General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Valid, 606; necessary to elect, 304. The Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram received 339 votes and was declared elected as a delegate to the 2020 General Conference. The listing of the top 100 vote getters was distributed.

**SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT:** The second clergy ballot for 9 delegates to the 2020 General Conference was taken.

**FRESH EXPRESSION:** Rev. Daniel L. Pezet, II, conference director of church development, announced that every church would be provided access to Mission Insite Reports and that micro grants of \$250.00 are available for congregations to develop fresh expression projects. Rev. Luke S. Edwards, coordinator, reported that since the challenge issued at last annual conference, 89 Fresh Expressions have been launched. Many of those fresh expression launches were for “dinner churches” (literally inviting people to gather around the dinner table to enjoy a free meal and have fellowship). In several instances churches with average worship attendance under 100 had doubled worship attendance with the start of a dinner church. The report concluded with a video about fresh expression and dinner churches.

**ORDER OF DEACONS:** Rev. Gloria G. Hughes, chairperson, presented the report of the order of deacons and announced that the order would meet September 12<sup>th</sup> in Asheville where deacons will learn more about Fresh Expressions and visit Haw Creek Commons. Participants will be led by Rev. Luke Edwards.

**ORDER OF ELDERS:** Rev. Paul B. Thompson, chairperson, presented the report of the order of elders and announced there would be a gathering of the order in November, 2019. He spoke of the value of the orders and fellowship; and, the nature of clergy working together. He expressed appreciation for deacons and local pastors, who along with elders, provide leadership in the conference.

**FELLOWSHIP OF LOCAL PASTORS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:** Rev. Sue Anne Morris, chairperson, presented the report. She celebrated the passion and service of local pastors, announced that the fellowship would convene its annual meeting Friday, June 21, 2019, and noted that this year’s mentoring theme would be Back to Wesleyan Basics and would use the book *Being United Methodist in the Bible Belt* written by Rev. Belton Joyner.

**REPORT OF SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE BALLOT FOR CLERGY:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the second General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Valid, 727; necessary to elect, 365. The Rev. Amy L. Coles received 444 votes, Rev. Jeremy I. Troxler received 437 votes, Rev. James C. Howell III received 408 votes, Rev. In-Yong Lee received 385 votes, and Rev. Ashley Crowder Stanley received 366 votes and were declared elected as delegates to the 2020 General Conference.

**PRIVILEGE MATTER:** The Rev. Dawn M. Hand, requested that she no longer be considered for election as a delegate to the 2020 General Conference.

**THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT:** The third clergy ballot for 4 delegates to the 2020 General Conference was taken.

**INTENTIONAL GROWTH CENTER:** Rev. Claude Kayler, new chief ministry officer, presented the report noting that the intentional growth center provides continuing education, leadership training and life-long learning experiences for the Southeastern Jurisdiction. He highlighted that the center provided training for intentional interim specialists to assist churches in transition and that since 2002 over 600 ministry specialists had been trained. A thousand youth have attended confirmation retreats. He listed several events scheduled for summer 2019 including “Creating a Discipleship Pathway” and “Time Management for Christian Leaders.”

**WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY:** Philip D. Wingeier-Rayo, newly hired academic dean and lay delegate from the Metro District, presented the report. He noted several new faculty hires, Rev. Lorena Parrish, associate professor of urban ministries and director of community engagement institute, and Rev. Anna Petrin, associate professor of worship and chapel elder. There are several new doctor of ministry tracks which include foreign travel. The Lily Foundation has awarded the school 2.2 million dollars to study changes in the religious work force. He reported on additional scholarships available for students.

**REPORT OF THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE BALLOT FOR CLERGY:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the third General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Valid, 729; necessary to elect, 366. The Rev. Shelly F. Webb received 396 votes and was declared elected as a delegate to the 2020 General Conference.

**FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT:** The fourth clergy ballot for 3 delegates to the 2020 General Conference was taken.

**STORIES OF FAITH:** Rev. Amy L. Coles, assistant to the bishop, highlighted the stories printed in the Stories of Faith that was distributed to the delegates showcasing examples of who we are in the Western North Carolina Conference. The opening story is about Riley Howell, a member of First (Waynesville, SM District) and student at the University of North Carolina Charlotte. Riley was killed by an on campus shooter as he tackled the assailant, protecting other students in the classroom.

**REPORT OF THE FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE BALLOT FOR CLERGY:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the fourth General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Valid, 712; necessary to elect, 357. The Rev. E. Carter Ellis received 418 votes and the Rev. Darryl D. Dayson II received 378 votes and they were declared elected as delegates to the 2020 General Conference.

**PRIVILEGE MATTER:** Rev. Anthony (Andy) E. Lambert, Oak Ridge (Oak Ridge, NP District) withdrew his name from consideration for election.

**FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT:** The fifth clergy ballot for 1 delegate to the 2020 General Conference was taken.

**GENERAL BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRY:** Dana Lyles on behalf of the General Board of Global Ministry announced that 2019 marked the bicentennial of the mission movement of the Methodist church. A video showcasing that history and the current mission of GBGM was presented.

**REPORT OF THE FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE BALLOT FOR CLERGY:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the fifth General Conference clergy ballot as follows: valid, 726; necessary to elect, 364. There was no election.

**SIXTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT:** The sixth clergy ballot for 1 delegate to the 2020 General Conference was taken.

**REPORT OF THE SIXTH GENERAL CONFERENCE BALLOT FOR CLERGY:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the sixth General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Valid, 709; necessary to elect, 355. The Rev. Joshua H. Sherfey received 430 votes and was declared elected as a delegate to the 2020 General Conference.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The conference secretary made necessary announcements.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Following prayer by Bishop Leeland the executive session of the clergy members adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2019

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE OPENS WITH LAITY SESSION – 8:30 A.M.

**LAITY SESSION CONVENES:** The laity session convened at 8:30 a.m. in Stuart Auditorium with Jarvis Wilson and Keith Wilson, conference musicians, leading the singing of hymn 140 (UMH) *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*. Jane Boatwright Wood, conference lay leader, opened with prayer. Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, conference secretary, outlined the procedure for voting for delegates and the use of the electronic voting devices. In order to facilitate the process, the wi-fi in Stuart Auditorium will not be available during the elections; it is requested that cell phones and hotspots be turned off during balloting. The laity sections for balloting will be in sections 5-10 of Stuart Auditorium. Voting for election of delegates will use an electronic handset. Ten laity will be elected to serve as delegates to the 2020 session of the General Conference and 10 additional laity will be elected to serve as delegates to the 2020 session of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, along with three reserve delegates. A simple majority of the valid ballots cast will be needed for election. On the first ballot for delegates to General Conference the list with corresponding voting numbers of those persons willing to be elected are printed in the *Supplement* on page 19. One minute will be provided to enter the voting number of each person during a ballot. On the first ballot the names of persons receiving ten or more votes will be read. After the second ballot those persons receiving 20 or more votes will be read. On all subsequent ballots those persons receiving 30 or more votes will be read.

In order to write-in a name on the first or any subsequent ballot the process to write-in a name for election is as follows: You must stand in place, relinquish the handheld device to the teller, receive a write-in ballot and vote for all the names to be elected on that ballot.

In the event that there is a technical difficulty with the handheld device during any ballot you must stand and receive a write-in ballot from the teller. After the ballot is closed you may go to the help desk and have the handheld device checked.

**ELECTION OF DELEGATES:** The conference secretary made the following enabling motions pertaining to the election of delegates to the 2020 General and Jurisdictional conferences, and they were approved:

Many of the regulations which govern our delegate elections are set forth in the *2016 Book of Discipline* or in our conference rules; however, in order that we may properly carry out the balloting process, the following motion is necessary:

1. That the voting bar of the clergy session be set to include the Stuart Auditorium; and, that the voting bar of the laity session be set to include sections 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The bar will be set for the rest of the annual conference during the organizational session.
2. That all ballots in this election be cast using the electronic handsets that were distributed at registration. Write-in votes may be cast by relinquishing one's handset to a teller and requesting a written ballot. Conference member should write the names of all persons for that ballot on the paper ballot provided.
3. That, following the counting of the first clergy ballot, a new voting roster for clergy be prepared, listing in alphabetical order the names and voting numbers of the 100 persons who received the highest number of votes on the first ballot; provided, however, that in the case of a tie which would result in the listing of more than 100 names, the listing cease with the names of those who received the number of votes immediately ahead of the position at which the tie occurred.
4. That a voting number be assigned to any person receiving at least twenty-five write-in votes on any ballot.
5. That the schedule for ballot reporting and taking ballots provided in the approved conference program be followed until the full number of delegates to the General and Jurisdictional conferences has been elected. Balloting must be completed by Saturday at 5:30 p.m.



6. That at least one of the chief tellers and one additional teller each from the laity and clergy be present in the rehearsal room as the results are being tabulated and produced.

7. That, following the ballot on which the final delegate from each order is elected to the Jurisdictional Conference, another ballot be taken and the three persons receiving the highest number of votes on that ballot be declared elected as reserve delegates from that order to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

8. That the travel and per-diem expenses of attending the 2020 General Conference be paid by the annual conference for the first two Jurisdictional Conference delegates elected from each order, in accordance with General Conference provisions for principal delegates.

9. That the travel and per-diem expenses of attending the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference be paid by the annual conference for all reserve delegates from this conference to that body, in accordance with Jurisdictional Conference provisions for principal delegates.

10. That the tellers named on page 18 of the *Supplement* be elected.

**PRACTICE USING THE HANDHELD ELECTRONIC VOTING DEVICE:** Rev. Ingram guided the laity through several operational exercises using the handheld device.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Rev. Ingram announced that lay members had received unsolicited messages. These messages did not come from the conference and were not approved. It is unknown at this time how contact was able to be made to the recipients. In addition Drew Nix who had offered himself for election as a lay delegate is no longer eligible since he was approved as a local pastor at the Thursday executive session of the clergy.

**OPENING REMARKS:** Bishop Paul L. Leeland made opening remarks asking the lay delegates to have patience in using the electronic voting devices, to not use their other device's hot spots, and to reduce the use of write-in ballots.

**FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Following a prayer from Bishop Leeland, the first laity ballot for 10 delegates to the 2020 General Conference was taken.

**REPORT OF TASK FORCE ON CERTIFIED LAY MINISTRY:** Kylie Rose Frye presented the report of the task force on certified lay ministry using a video presentation of Dr. Tiffany Little's testimony of call and Ms. Frye shared the training to become a certified lay minister. Ms. Frye recognized the other persons who are certified lay ministers in the conference: Augustus M. (Bud) Black, James Thomas Bridges, Kenneth C. (Kenny) Bumgarner, and Donald Eugene Meadows. Ms. Frye urged the laity to investigate, explore, and cultivate the resources available to develop and enhance their gifts and skills for ministry.

**GRACIOUS ACCOUNTABILITY GROUPS:** Ron Ballard, Central (Asheville, BR District) reported on the impact of forming multiple gracious accountability groups in the local church. **FRESH EXPRESSION:** Rev. Daniel L. Pezet, II, conference director of church development, and Rev. Luke S. Edwards, coordinator for Fresh Expressions, provided an update on the challenge issued at the 2018 session of annual conference. Eighty-nine Fresh Expressions have been launched. Many of those expressions have been "dinner churches" (literally inviting people to gather around the dinner table to enjoy a free meal, have fellowship, and worship). Rev. Pezet and Rev. Edwards announced that 25 grants for \$2500 are now available for a church to make an application with which to start a "dinner church." Twenty grants for \$1000 are now available for application by churches with an existing dinner church. The report concluded with a video about fresh expression and dinner churches and the challenge for every congregation to do something to make a witness.

**REPORT OF FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Following the singing of one stanza of hymn 368 (UMH) *My Hope Is Built*, Bishop Leeland announced the results of the first General Conference laity ballot as follows: Valid, 969; necessary to elect, 486. Jennifer P. Davis received 489 votes and was declared elected as a delegate to 2020 General Conference.

**POINT OF INFORMATION:** Dick Davidson, Weddington (Weddington, ME District) asked a question and the Bishop responded.

**SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** The second laity ballot for 9 delegates to the 2020 General Conference was taken.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The conference secretary made necessary announcements.

**RECESS:** The conference recessed at 10:20 a.m.

### OPENING WORSHIP AND HOLY COMMUNION – 11:00 A.M.

The Rev. Susan Suarez Webster, led the call to worship, speaking the leader line in Spanish. Through a videoed interview, the Rev. Michael A. and Kellie Carr; and, Jennifer P. Davis offered their testimonies of faith: "Living In and Through the Storms." Rev. and Mrs. Carr talked about their infant daughter, Hannah's death. Ms. Davis spoke about the completed suicide of her son, Sean. They all shared how they saw and experienced God through the storm. Following the processional hymn 110 (UMH), *A Mighty Fortress*, Rev. Diron Chloe, Rev. Amy Burton, Rev. Rob Hutchinson, and Rev. Pat Dixon offered prayers of the people. After singing hymn 473 (UMH), *Lead Me Lord*, Rev. Jessica Ligon Dayson read the scripture from Genesis 11:31-12:5b. After an introduction by Bishop Paul L. Leeland, Bishop Ruben Saenz, Jr., resident bishop of the Great Plains Conference, preached the message, *The Long View*. Bishop Saenz proclaimed that like Abraham and Sarah we will need the long view of God and God's kingdom. A long view of the

holy work that is beyond our efforts, that is beyond our life, and that is beyond our vision. God's promises call us to trust and to obey, to not quit, and to not settle halfway as we journey toward a future with hope as friends of God, in the grace of Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit. The offering will go toward disaster response efforts in the North Carolina and Alabama-West Florida Annual Conferences in which individuals and churches suffered extensive damage from 2018 hurricanes Florence and Michael. In addition to the conference musicians, Jarvis Wilson and Keith Wilson, the music was led by members of The Conference Choir, under the direction of Rev. Carrie Wright and accompanist, Rev. Rhonda Smith. The Choir presented an anthem, *O God Our Help in Ages Past* and an offertory, *Psalm 139*. Bishop Leeland, Bishop Saenz, and assisted by Rev. Gloria Hughes, led the congregation in a prayer of confession and pardon and Great Thanksgiving. Bishop Leeland celebrated the sacrament of Holy Communion with the assistance of deacons in full connection, district superintendents, and conference staff. After the prayer following communion, the singing of the hymn 467 (UMH), *Trust and Obey*, and benediction by Bishop Leeland, worship concluded, and the conference recessed at 12:30 p.m.

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE CONVENES – 2:00 P.M.

**CONFERENCE CONVENES:** With Bishop Paul L. Leeland, resident bishop of the Charlotte Area, presiding, the Western North Carolina Annual Conference of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church convened in the George R. Stuart Auditorium at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, on June 21, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Following the singing of hymn 553 (UMH), *And Are We Yet Alive*, Bishop Leeland offered an opening prayer and called the 51st session of the annual conference to order at 2:00 p.m.

**WELCOME TO LAKE JUNALUSKA ASSEMBLY:** Bishop Leeland introduced Ken Howle, executive director of Lake Junaluska, who welcomed the members of the annual conference to Lake Junaluska and presented his report. The mission of Lake Junaluska is to be a place of Christian hospitality, where lives are transformed through renewal of mind, soul and body. Next year the assembly celebrates 106 years. Stuart Auditorium is the oldest structure at Lake Junaluska. He noted many of the improvements throughout the entire grounds: street paving, recreational improvements, and preservation of Shackford Hall. Lake Junaluska connects more youth to Christ than anywhere else in the United Methodist church. Over 10,000 youth are coming to these grounds with the potential to double that number in the upcoming years. Next year, there will be a full renovation of the dining hall on the west end of the campus that serves as the youth dining hall. It will have an expansive deck and a hang-out area and will overlook the lake. Mr. Howle thanked the conference for its leadership and generosity to revitalize the bridge over the dam.

**VOTING BAR:** Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, conference secretary, moved and the conference approved that the voting bar, or legal limits, of the conference be set to include all of Stuart Auditorium, and that those voting should be seated within the bar unless other instructions are given in the case of a full house.

**EXPLANATION OF THE RED, YELLOW, AND GREEN CARDS:** Rev. Ingram explained the colored cards provided at registration. The use of the cards will assist Bishop Leeland to preside when members wish to be recognized to speak from the floor. To speak for an issue the conference member should lift the green card. In order to speak against a business item the member should raise the red card. If someone wishes to ask a question or raise a point of order, they will signal with the yellow card.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The conference secretary moved and the conference approved that the conference program as printed on pages six and seven of the *Supplement* to the *Program and Reports booklet*, subject to necessary daily adjustments, constitute the official agenda of the 2019 conference session.

**REPORTS OF BOARD AND AGENCIES:** The conference secretary moved and the conference approved that the reports of the conference boards and agencies as published in the *Program and Reports booklet* and the *Supplement* be ordered to record, insofar as they do not require conference action and provided that conference agencies be permitted to file late reports and/or corrections no later than June 30, 2019.

**GREETINGS TO THOSE MEMBERS ABSENT:** The conference secretary moved and the conference approved that any action concerning conference members unable to attend because of illness or other family emergency be given directly to the conference secretary, and that the secretary write these absent members expressing the greetings and prayer concern of the conference.

**SECRETARIAL STAFF:** The conference secretary nominated the following persons as members of the conference secretarial staff for the 2019 session, and they were elected: Marsha Patton and the Rev. A. Owen Peeler, associate secretaries; the Rev. Kathy M. McAbee, George Eubanks, and Mike Penninger, Assistant Secretaries; and the Rev. Dr. Charles D. White, Jr. (Denny) as *conference secretary emeritus*.

**CONSENT CALENDAR MOTION:** The Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, conference secretary, reported that the list of petitions for the consent calendar is found on page 33 of the *Supplement*. The Rev. Ingram moved that the consent calendar, PETITIONS 3-16 be adopted as printed, and it was approved. (The listing of petitions can be found in Section IX and additionally in Section VIII.)

**PRIVILEGE MATTER:** Bishop Leeland shared several pastoral concerns. The Rev. C.B. Barr, Jr. who is 91, will celebrate his 72<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary tomorrow. He served for 49 years in the annual conference, is now under hospice care and unable to attend. On Monday lightning struck Smith Grove UMC (YV District) and the resulting fire damaged the building. Members of the church prepared food and fed the firefighters on the scene. The church had recently made a contribution to the United Methodist

Foundation for its building fund. The foundation offered to return the money to help with the current emergency. Bishop Leeland noted the death of the father of Rev. Ricky Mitchell. Bishop Leeland offered a prayer of thanksgiving and intercession for these pastoral concerns. Bishop Leeland quoted Erasmus, a church leader of the 1500's, who spoke a word of hope that the church and he might be made better. In that vein Bishop Leeland reflected on the 2019 special session of General Conference in the hope that the United Methodist Church and her members, in spite of differences and a shaken confidence of faith, might worship and work together. As annual conference begins he saw signs of hope in the new pastors to be licensed, commissioned and ordained, the continued ministry of the clergy, the election of delegates to the 2020 General Conference and 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, the 89 Fresh Expression ministries begun during the past year; and, the investment from the United Methodist Foundation to support lay leadership development. He confessed his own struggles but exhorted the members of annual conference to make the mission of the church the first priority and make God the center of life and discipleship. He found encouragement not only in the words of Erasmus but also the prayer of Hezekiah in II Chronicles chapter 30, "May the Lord who is good pardon every one, who sets their heart on seeking God, even if they are not clean."

**REPORT OF CLERGY DELEGATES ELECTED TO THE 2020 GENERAL CONFERENCE:** Bishop Leeland named the clergy who are elected to the 2020 General Conference as follows: Kimberly T. Ingram, Amy L. Coles, Jeremy I. Troxler, James C. Howell, In Yong Lee, Ashley Crowder Stanley, Shelly F. Webb, E. Carter Ellis, Darryl D. Dayson, II, and Joshua H. Sherfey.

**REPORT OF LAITY DELEGATES ELECTED TO THE 2020 GENERAL CONFERENCE:** In preparation for the reading of the second General Conference laity ballot Bishop Leeland named the lay delegate already elected as Jennifer P. Davis.

**REPORT OF PFEIFFER UNIVERSITY:** Dr. Scott Bullard, president, presented the report for Pfeiffer University. As the new president of the university Dr. Bullard is meeting with faculty and trustees, and becoming familiar with the school. He told stories about two recent graduates: Alissa, who was serving as a summer camp counselor and will be attending Princeton Seminary in the fall; and, Jeremiah, who, as a freshman, was considered an at-risk student but graduated with the highest academic record in this year's graduates with a degree in nursing. The school is awaiting news as to whether it will be approved to award doctoral degrees.

**REPORT OF THE SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the second general conference laity ballot as follows: Valid, 897; necessary to elect, 450. Amy Johnson received 498 votes, Gregory (Greg) Huffman received 463 votes and Lynne Gilbert received 456 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2020 General Conference.

**THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** The third General Conference laity ballot for 6 delegates to the 2020 General Conference was taken.

**REPORT OF METHODIST COLLEGE:** Dr. Stanley T. Wearden, new president, presented the report. Dr. Wearden is proud that Methodist College in Fayetteville is part of the Wesleyan tradition of scholarship and spiritual development. The school seeks to produce moral agents of the future, who think clearly and critically, communicate well, and take ethics into their decision making.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Rev. Kim Ingram, conference secretary, made necessary announcements.

**RECESS:** The conference recessed at 3:00 p.m.

### **ORDER OF THE DAY – 3:30 P.M. RECOGNITION OF RETIRING CLERGY AND SPOUSES**

Thirty-nine clergy were recognized on the event of their retirement. The Rev. Nancy Miller Campbell spoke on behalf of the retirees. The Rev. Joel Richard Simpson spoke in response on behalf of the 2019 class in full connection. Mike Watson, president of the Board of Pension and Health Benefits; the Rev. Kennette Lawrence Thomas, a member of the 2019 class in full connection; Bishop Paul L. Leeland; Dale Bryant, benefits administrator; Rev. R. Mark King, treasurer and director of administrative services; Rev. Kim Ingram, conference secretary, also participated. Rev. Michelle Chappell and Rev. Juston Smith presented special music. Retirees were presented with certificates and each spouse was given a rose.

**CONFERENCE RECONVENES:** Pursuant to recess the conference reconvened at 4:15 p.m.

**FIRST JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT:** Following prayer by JaCynthia Bailey, Mount Zion (Cornelius, ME District), the first Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for 10 delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS:** The conference secretary moved the adoption of the report of the committee on nominations for 2016-2020 *ad interim*, and the nominees were elected. The elections are found in Section II of the *Journal*.

**CONFERENCE RULES AND PLAN OF ORGANIZATION:** Dr. Jonathan LeMaster-Smith, Oak Hill (Morganton, CV District), member of the committee on organization and rules, moved the adoption of the Conference Rules and Plan of Organization, as amended and they were approved, printed in the *Supplement*, pages 70-79 and found in Section VII of the *Journal*. The first changes were in Part I Section A. Membership, number 1. items a. and b. Under item a. the deletion removes an unnecessary phrase *to pastoral charges of the conference*. Any local pastor under appointment is considered sufficient. In the same section under item b., the word





eligible is added to the phrase as they are eligible clergy members. This includes reference in item a. to the definition of eligible clergy. In the same section, the guidelines and term limits for lay members of the annual conference has been removed. In number 2 of Part I, Section A, the reference to a committee on nominations has been removed and the word *elect* has been changed to **select**. This change reflects actual practice of selecting at large delegates from the respective districts. Along with this, the deadline for substitution and for substitution certification has been removed. Changes can be accepted just before the conference begins. The next proposed changes were in Part I, Section B. Officers. In number 4 the phrase **and the Conference Benefits Officer** is added to the description of the DAS for director of administrative services to bring the rules in line with practice. In the same section, number 7 has been removed, as a coordinator of calendar is no longer elected. These responsibilities are delegated to the petition's committee. In Part I, Section C. Conference Organization, number 1. Committee on Nominations, item b. changes the word *shall* to the word **may** and adds the phrase **or equivalent structure**. The additional changes in this item removes the phrase *who shall be secretary* and adds the phrase **and others who could include**. The phrase *district president of United Methodist Youth* is deleted and **a youth** is added. The remaining deletions and changes in item b. brings the rules and organization in line with practice. In item c. of Section C, number 1 the phrase *receive and review the nominations from the district committees and shall then* is deleted as it is not our present process. The word **annual** is added for clarification. In item d Section C, number 1 the phrasing is altered to reflect removal of district to districts, as well as add stipulations for the nominations, while not precluding nomination from the floor of annual conference as allowed by **The Book of Discipline**. In item f. of Section C, number 1 the phrase *and the Committee on Conference Staff Relations* is removed **and the Conference Committee on Organization and Rules and the Petitions Committee is added**. Additionally in item f. the word *agency* is changed to **entity**. A new item h. has been added to reflect the disciplinary requirement that members of general church boards and agencies serve with a conference equivalent as ex-officio which further enhances Section C. number 2, Connectible Table. In Part I Section C. number 2. Connectional Table the phrase *the Conference Staff Relations Committee* is removed and the **Council on Camp and Retreat Ministries** is added to further enhance our connection with conference camps and retreat ministries. The assistant to the bishop is added as a member of the Connectional Table. In Part I Section C. number 3 a new item b is created establishing a **Council on Camp and Retreat Ministry** as follows: **This council shall be constituted quadrennially and be composed of eight to twelve members. Special attention will be given to the election of persons knowledgeable and passionate in the areas of camp, retreat and outdoor ministry, non-profit board experience, and business management. The council will promote all existing WNCUMC camp and retreat centers. This includes camp facilitated and cooperative ministry with the local church, districts, and conference. The council is responsible for establishing, implementing, and maintaining financial oversight of the Camp and Retreat Ministry Endowment fund. The Council will submit a yearly request to the Annual Conference for financial support on behalf of the camp and retreat centers. The Council will be a source for support in non-profit board development, will encourage and support sustainable best practices for all current camp and retreat centers, and maintain positive relationship with each of the camps and their staff and board of directors. The Conference Coordinator of Camp and Retreat Ministries shall be an ex-officio member without vote.** In Part 1 Section C. number 4. Boards items a. b. c. makes changes to the ex-officio members without vote. On the Board of Trustees, the bishop, the assistant to the bishop and a cabinet representative is added. The Associate Director of Ministerial Services is added to the Board of Ordained Ministry. On the Board of Laity one district superintendent is added as an ex-officio member without vote. One district superintendent named by the cabinet is added to the Board of Pension and Health Benefits. In Part I, Section C. number 4 item e. is changed from the *Council on Campus Ministry* to the **Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry**. The number of members is reduced from sixteen to twelve and the requirement of two campus ministers as ex-officio members is removed. Only the Associate Director of Ministerial Services shall be an ex-officio member without vote. In Part 1, Section C. number 5. Ministry Teams in items a., b., c., and d. adds to the last sentence **without vote** to the conference staff person affiliated with these teams to coincide with the present practices and to align with other conference entities. In Part I, Section C. number 5, item d. Justice and Reconciliation Team has requested additional changes for entities relating to it: creating **Ministries of Creation Care led by a Conference Earthkeeper**; changing *Interreligious Concerns to Relationships*; **adding Peace with Justice Ministries, and the ministries and connection to the North Carolina Council of Churches are part of this Team**. In Part I Section C. number 6. Administrative Commissions changes are made in item a. Commission on Archives and History to clarify the purpose and plan for the commission by adding the disciplinary paragraph notation; and, making the conference archivist an ex-officio member without vote. In number 6, item c. Commission on Equitable Compensation adds one district superintendent as an ex-officio member without vote. In Part I Section C. number 7. Committees two additional committees are added to the plan of organization to reflect current practices and provide the description of the duties for those committees. The new item **b. Petitions Committee** is constituted as follows: **This committee shall be constituted quadrennially in order to do the following: (a) receive and review petitions to the Annual Conference; (b) prepare a calendar of petitions for each plenary session; and, (c) ensure that all petitions are in front of the conference until adjournment. This committee shall consist of 4-6 members, reflecting the diversity of the conference. The conference secretary shall be an ex-officio member without vote.** The new item **c. Conference Committee on Organization and Rules** is constituted as follows: **This committee shall be constituted quadrennially and shall be the primary steward of the Western North Carolina Plan of Organization and Rules of Order. Their work shall include the following: receive and review proposed changes and/or additions to the Plan of Organization and Rules of Order to keep them in compliance with *The Book of Discipline*. This committee shall consist of 4-6 members, reflecting the diversity of the conference. The conference secretary, resident bishop, and director**



**of connectional ministries shall be ex-officio member without vote.** The following changes are in Part I Section E relating to Districts, District Conferences, and District Councils. In Part I Section E., number 2 denotes the appropriate paragraph in **The Book of Discipline** and simplifies the membership of a District Conference to be the lay and clergy delegates to the annual conference for the current calendar year. Part I Section E, number 3. is deleted because this is not the current practice and not the purview of the districts. Part I Section E, number 4, simplifies the description of district lay leader and allows districts to decide how they are selected. The office of associate district lay leader is removed. Part I Section E, number 5 alters language to remove the program ministries council and allows more freedom for districts to organize themselves. All district organizational teams formed are required to reflect the diversity of the district. Part I Section E, number 6 removes language relating to district treasurers and other officers which is no longer the current practice. In Part II Section C. Business Procedures, Rule 8. Petitions replaces the conference secretary with the newly created petitions committee. In Part II Section C, Rule 15 Consent Calendar now reflects the responsibility of the petition committee.)

David Rigby, Mt. Tabor (Winston-Salem, YV District) asked several questions and the conference secretary responded in each instance.

**REPORT OF THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the third General Conference laity ballot as follows: Valid, 838; necessary to elect, 420. There was no election.

**FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** The fourth General Conference laity ballot for 6 delegates to the 2020 General Conference was taken.

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF LAITY:** Jane Boatwright Wood, conference lay leader and president of the Board of Laity, presented the report. Ms. Wood recalled that the mission of the board of laity is to model, assess, and advocate for the laity to fulfill the conference mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The values that have informed the board are diversity, inclusivity, partnership, and connectivity. She updated the work of the four focus areas of the board. In the area of accountability 80% of the congregations have at least one accountability group and there are trained mentors in every district. A second focus is developing leadership, particularly certified lay ministers, but also other training opportunities for equipping the laity to mature in faith, disciple others and transform the church, community and world in measurable ways. Communications remains a priority, providing cross district communications about available training and resources. There is new laity page on the conference website, plus a Facebook presence. Finally, she encouraged persons to volunteer to serve on the board of laity.

**REPORT OF INNOVATIONS MINISTRIES TASK FORCE:** Rev. B. Parker Haynes, Rev. Louis Timberlake, and Rev. Shannon M. LeMaster-Smith presented the design thinking for church innovation. The innovation task force invites persons and congregations to open their minds to new possibilities for ministries; to try new things; to imagine what is possible beyond things we have tried before. The point of such openness and imagining is to consider ones gifts to use for the glory of God and for being creative on how one can reach out to people who are in need, whether that be the hungry, the poor, the brokenhearted. Innovation is an opportunity to learn more about God and God's calling; and, offers new ways to show God's love to people around us and the world that we serve. Because the world is constantly changing and churning, the church seeks to connect with people; to be innovative in order to identify trends, notice threats, and look for new opportunities ahead. A video presented examples of creative innovations which included outdoor worship, good neighbor parties, community feeding, and pop-up worship. As an incentive to members, the presenters encouraged them to complete the innovation bingo card and submit it to be part of a drawing for a \$500.00 grant.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The conference secretary made necessary announcements.

**RECESS:** The conference recessed at 5:35 p.m.

### CONFERENCE PLENARY – EVENING TEACHING SESSION – 7:30 P.M.

**CONFERENCE RECONVENES:** Pursuit to adjournment the conference reconvened at 7:30 p.m. with the singing of hymn 170 (UMH) *O How I Love Jesus*.

**PRIVILEGE MATTER:** Bishop Leeland announced that the morning offering for hurricane relief totaled \$33,835.00.

**REPORT OF FIRST JURISDICTIONAL CLERGY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the first Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Valid, 344; necessary to elect, 173. Rev. David C. Hockett received 258 votes, Rev. Sally W. Queen received 220 votes, Rev. Samuel A. Moore received 215 votes, Rev. Veranita G. Alvord received 207 votes, Rev. Uiyeon Kim received 204 votes, Rev. Lory Beth T. Huffman received 201 votes, Rev. Elizabeth O. Coppedge-Henley received 199 votes, Rev. Stephanie M. Hand received 185 votes, Rev. Julia S. Trantham received 175 votes, and Rev. Sara L. Belles received 173 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

**POINT OF ORDER:** A clergy delegate raised a point of order regarding the reading of the rest of the first Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot and the Bishop responded.

**SECOND JURISDICTIONAL CLERGY BALLOT:** The second Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot was taken for three reserve delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

**QUESTION:** A clergy delegate asked a question about the first Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot and Bishop Leeland responded.

**REPORT OF FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the fourth General Conference laity ballot as follows: Valid, 861; necessary to elect, 432. Emma Austin received 512 votes, Havaleh Havelka received 462 votes, Shannon Sherfey received 453 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2020 General Conference.

**FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** The fifth General Conference laity ballot was taken for three delegates to the 2020 General Conference.

**TEACHING SESSION:** Bishop Paul Leeland introduced Bishop Janice Riggle Huie, leadership formation for the Texas Methodist Foundation. Bishop Huie focused her teaching session on leadership and that a different kind of leader is needed in a world that has changed and is changing. The paradigm for leadership is no longer so much about change per se but leading the midst of change. The context for leadership is affected by convergent and divergent views. Convergence tends to see questions and answers as the same for all. Convergence tends to understand problem solving and authority from the top down. Divergence, influenced by the development and spread of social media, views the world in a more individualize way and sees authority from the bottom up. Questions and answers are not the same for everyone and depend on context and circumstances. Most current church leadership operates within a convergent model. The culture at large has moved into a more divergent stage. The task for leadership is leading in this “liminal” season; this threshold season between the ending of one way of viewing issues, people and relationship and a different way that has not yet begun.

**REPORT OF SECOND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the second Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Rev. John S. Boggs, Rev. Lynda L. Ferguson, and Rev. Benjamin G. Carson having received the highest number of votes were declared elected as reserve delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, thus completing the clergy delegation.

**REPORT OF FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the fifth General Conference laity ballot as follows: Valid, 630; necessary to elect, 316. Helen Ryde received 342 votes and Lynette Whitaker received 328 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2020 General Conference.

**SIXTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** The sixth General Conference laity ballot was taken for 1 delegate.

**TEACHING SESSION CONTINUED:** Bishop Huie continued her presentation of leading in a culture of change. In the spirit of John Wesley leadership involves holding the convergent and divergent views together. Leadership involves listening to God and the neighbor. What is the difference you are trying to make? Who are your neighbors now? What story in scripture most describes your congregation now? Move beyond problem solving alone. Be steady in purpose in focusing on God’s kingdom but flexible in strategy.

**REPORT OF SIXTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the sixth General Conference laity ballot as follows: Valid, 657; necessary to elect, 330. Linda Linfors received 339 votes; and, she was declared elected as a delegate to the 2020 General Conference.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Bishop Leeland listed the names of the laity delegates elected to the 2020 General Conference and reminded all delegates to keep their electronic voting device after the remaining delegates are elected. Rev Kim Ingram, conference secretary, made additional announcements.

**RECESS:** The conference recessed at 9:26 p.m.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2019

### CONFERENCE PLENARY – BUSINESS SESSION – 8:30 A.M.

**ORDER FOR MORNING PRAYER:** Keith Wilson, conference musician, led the singing of, *This Is the Day*, and presented the meditation that even the business of annual conference is an act of worship and that sometimes words are inadequate to speak in prayer but God’s music can press past our issues. Jarvis Wilson, conference musician/organist, concluded the devotion with an instrumental presentation of *The Lord’s Prayer*.

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION, INC.:** Tom Jordan, chairperson of the board, convened the annual meeting and began the annual report. Mr. Jordan nominated the following for election to the board and they were elected: in the class of 2022 – Mark Bailey, Wanda Musgrave, Jimmy Saine, Charlie Smith, and Steve Wilson. Mr. Jordan introduced Rev. David A. Snipes, president and executive director, who continued the report around the theme, *call and response*. He reviewed the call that created the foundation and established its mission to build the church for generations to come. The United Methodist Foundation of Western North Carolina is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest single conference foundation in the connection. The foundation has changed its bylaws to serve any church with a Wesleyan heritage. Rev. Snipes introduced Susan Cothorn, director of ministry services, who presented the second portion of the report, the foundation’s response. Ms. Cothorn highlighted the ministry of the UMF Development Fund and Loan Program, the Clergy Debt Reduction Loan Program, and the efforts for Planned Giving. She introduced the Rev. A. J. Thomas as the new director of client relations. Mr. Jordan concluded the annual report and presented the foundation’s tithe in the amount of \$33,000 to Bishop Leeland for the Comprehensive Plan for Inclusiveness. The annual meeting of the Foundation adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

**CONFERENCE RECONVENES:** Pursuant to recess the conference reconvened at 9:10 a.m.

**FIRST JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** The first Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot for ten delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

**REPORT OF CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION:** The Rev. Dr. Glenn Kinken, president, presented the report of the Council on Finance and Administration and PETITION 1: 2020 CONFERENCE FUNDS AND FINANCIAL POLICIES and moved the adoption of items 1-19, and they were approved.

Rev. Dawn M. Hand, district superintendent (Pittsburg, Western Pennsylvania Conference) asked a question about item 3, unrestricted fund balance and Dr. King responded.

Ricky Johnson, Asbury (Hamptonville, YV District) moved to amend item 7 to reduce the salary and benefits for district superintendents by \$1,200.00. The motion failed for lack of a second.

The Rev. Dr. Kinken presented the proposed 2020 CONFERENCE BUDGET, moved its adoption and it was approved.

The Rev. Dr. Kinken introduced the Rev. Dr. Mark King, treasurer and director of administrative services, who presented his annual report to the annual conference. Dr. King gave thanks for the strong support by the churches to connectional giving to make ministry happen in spectacular, even miraculous ways.

**REPORT OF CONFERENCE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Bob Wilhoit, chairperson, presented the report. He reviewed the investment of the Jesse Spencer Bell fund and the disbursements to the designated beneficiaries which totaled \$10,848.98. He reported that the new Conference Center had been consecrated and been awarded gold medal status as an energy efficient facility. Property management and brokerage services have been transferred from A. Anthony Corp. and Foundry Commercial to Wesley Community Development. Vehicle leasing will continue for the Bishop, district superintendents and some conference staff. He continued to admonish and encourage churches to look at liability and property insurance coverage, especially in regard to sexual misconduct. Mr. Tom Jordan, president United Methodist Foundation of Western North Carolina, presented a check from the foundation to support the conference center.

**REPORT OF CONFERENCE BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS:** Michael Watson, president, presented the report and moved adoption of PETITION 2, PART a: PENSION PROGRAMS AND POLICIES, and the petition was adopted.

Mr. Watson presented and moved adoption of PETITION 2, PART b: HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM AND POLICIES and the petition was adopted.

Dave Mildenberg, Dilworth (Charlotte, ME District) asked a question and Rev. King responded.

**REPORT OF FIRST JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the first Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot as follows: Valid, 654; necessary to elect, 328. Tanya Lanier received 328 votes and was declared elected as a delegate to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

**SECOND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** The second Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot for 9 delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The conference secretary made necessary announcements.

**RECESS:** The conference recessed at 10:35 a.m.

### **WORSHIP SERVICE – CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE – 11:00 A.M.**

Rev. Wesley Hall, Jr. read Psalm 46 and Rev. Rebekah Ralph read John 11:17-27. The Rev. Angela A. Pleasants, district superintendent, Catawba Valley District, preached the sermon entitled, "Resurrection Life." In her message Rev. Pleasants reflected that we pray to God in our finite being, but we have to understand, though we are finite, we are praying to an infinite God of eternity. We have to learn instead of trying to bring God into our finite being we need to step over into the infinite eternal God. When we confess Christ as Savior the Holy Spirit comes into us and this gives us hope, gives us resurrection power. Yes we grieve, yes we mourn, yes we have triggers that bring both sorrow and joy about the one loved and lost, but we have something greater, a resurrection life not just for the future but in the present. Kathi Graham and Leisa Stamey played the bagpipes for the recessional. Bishop Paul L. Leeland; Keith Wilson, conference musician, vocalist; Jarvis Wilson, conference musician, pianist/organist; and members of the 2019 class elected to full connection assisted in the service. Crossflame from St. Luke's, (Hickory, CV District) provided special music. During the Naming of the Saints, the lives of 32 clergy and diaconal ministers were remembered and celebrated, as well as the spouses of 42 clergy and diaconal ministers who died in the year.

### **CONFERENCE PLENARY – BUSINESS SESSION – 1:45 P.M.**

**CONFERENCE RECONVENES:** Pursuant to recess the conference reconvened at 1:45 p.m. with singing of hymn 370 (UMH) *Victory in Jesus* and prayer by Edna Johnson, Centenary (Greensboro, NP District).

**PRIVILEGE MATTER:** Bishop Leeland recognized Rev. Grady R. Barringer, who is attending his 74<sup>th</sup> session of the annual conference.

**REPORT OF SECOND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the second Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot for nine delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference as follows: Valid, 576; necessary to elect, 289. Dana Lyles received 349 votes, Sandra (Sandy) Hieronymus received 335 votes, Caroline Wood received 332 votes, Kathy FitzJefferies received 322 votes, Amy DeVore received 315 votes, Mathew (Matt) Sink received 306 votes, and Erin Betlej received 305 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. Buddy Taylor, Avery's Creek (Arden, BR District) asked a question and Bishop Leeland responded.

**PRIVILEGE MATTER:** James Michael (JM) Smith withdrew his name from being considered for election to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

**CABINET RESOLUTIONS:** The Rev. Amy L. Coles, assistant to the Bishop and secretary of the Cabinet, proposed adoption of the following resolutions on church discontinuance and abandonment, and they were adopted:

**Beaver Creek United Methodist Church, Wilkes County, Appalachian District**

(GCFA: 967777; DCNO: AP-415)

*Whereas*, Beaver Creek United Methodist Church, Wilkes County, Appalachian District, has declined to an average worship attendance of ten (10) persons; and

*Whereas*, due to declining attendance and the inability to maintain the financial responsibilities of a church, the church has come to the conclusion that it is no longer able to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

*Whereas*, the district superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Appalachian District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Beaver Creek United Methodist Church, Wilkes County, Appalachian District, be declared discontinued and abandoned effective June 9, 2019; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of the *2016 Book of Discipline* and the policies of the annual conference.

**Chestnut Hill United Methodist Church (Jefferson), Ashe County, Appalachian District**

(GCFA: 288718; DCNO: AP-600)

*Whereas*, Chestnut Hill United Methodist Church, Ashe County, Appalachian District, has declined to an average worship attendance of seven (7) persons; and

*Whereas*, due to declining attendance, the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

*Whereas*, the district superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Appalachian District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Chestnut Hill United Methodist Church, Ashe County, Appalachian District, be declared discontinued and abandoned effective June 30, 2019; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of the *2016 Book of Discipline* and the policies of the annual conference.

**Mount Olivet United Methodist Church, Caldwell County, Appalachian District**

(GCFA: 300082 • DCNO: AP-630)

*Whereas*, Mount Olivet United Methodist Church, Caldwell County, Appalachian District, has declined to an average worship attendance of three (3) persons; and

*Whereas*, due to declining attendance, the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

*Whereas*, those attending Mount Olivet will transfer their membership to their sister church, Harper's Chapel (Patterson), with whom they are already having joint worship services; and

*Whereas*, Mount Olivet houses a vibrant food distribution ministry and is supported by others beyond Mount Olivet church; and

*Whereas*, the district superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Appalachian District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Mount Olivet United Methodist Church, Caldwell County, Appalachian District, be declared discontinued and abandoned effective April 30, 2019; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc. be instructed to lease the Mount Olivet property to Harper's Chapel United Methodist Church for a nominal amount with the understanding that they will continue to operate the food distribution ministry at the Mount Olivet UMC property after the closing of Mount Olivet; and be it

*Further resolved*, that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., handle all other property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of the *2016 Book of Discipline* and the policies of the annual conference.



**Piney Grove United Methodist Church**, Wilkes County, Appalachian District

(GCFA: 968101 • DCNO: AP-360.2)

*Whereas*, the membership of Piney Grove United Methodist Church, Wilkes County, Appalachian District, has declined to 16 in worship; and

*Whereas*, the church is no longer financially able to support the pastor's salary and pension and district and conference apportionments, nor to maintain the building facility on its own; and

*Whereas*, after being established as a Cooperative Parish with Wesley's Chapel United Methodist Church and First United Methodist Church (Jonesville) in July 2018, the members of Piney Grove chose to unite with the other congregations and move their membership to the First United Methodist Church (Jonesville); and

*Whereas*, a majority of the members of the church, the Appalachian District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Appalachian District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Piney Grove United Methodist Church, Wilkes County, Appalachian District, be discontinued and declared abandoned effective October 12, 2018; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Wesley's Chapel United Methodist Church**, Surry County, Appalachian District

(GCFA: 968340 • DCNO: AP-360.3)

*Whereas*, the membership of the Wesley's Chapel United Methodist Church, Surry County, Appalachian District, has declined to 23 in worship; and

*Whereas*, the church is no longer financially able to support the pastor's salary and pension and district and conference apportionments, nor to maintain the building facility on its own; and

*Whereas*, after being established as a Cooperative Parish with Piney Grove United Methodist Church and First United Methodist Church (Jonesville) in July 2018, the members of Wesley's Chapel United Methodist Church chose to unite with the other congregations and move their membership to the First United Methodist Church (Jonesville); and

*Whereas*, a majority of the members of the church, the Appalachian District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Appalachian District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Wesley's Chapel United Methodist Church, Surry County, Appalachian District, be discontinued and declared abandoned effective October 12, 2018; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Berry Temple United Methodist Church**, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District

(GCFA: 967686 • DCNO: BR 935.1)

*Whereas*, Berry Temple United Methodist Church, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District, has declined to 14 members, with worship attendance averaging 11; and

*Whereas*, the church is financially unable to support a pastor's salary and district and conference apportionments, nor adequately maintain the buildings; and

*Whereas*, Berry Temple United Methodist Church is no longer able to fulfill its mission and purpose as required by ¶ 201-204 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) of The United Methodist Church; and

*Whereas*, members present from Berry Temple United Methodist, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District, made a faithful decision to discontinue as a congregation by unanimous vote on November 5, 2018; and

*Whereas*, Berry Temple United Methodist Church has planned to hold a closing worship celebration on June 30, 2019; and

*Whereas*, the presiding bishop, a majority of the cabinet of the Western North Carolina Conference, the Blue Ridge district superintendent, and the Blue Ridge District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that Berry Temple United Methodist Church, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District, be considered discontinued effective June 30, 2019, for repurposing for new ministry in the Blue Ridge District; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference; and be it

*Further resolved*, that on the date of closure, all current officers and directors of Berry United Methodist Church, Inc. tender their resignation and appoint Rev. Amy L. Coles and Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram as the interim directors and interim President and Vice President of the corporation, respectively.

**Centennial United Methodist Church**, Rutherford County, Blue Ridge District

(GCFA: 296935 DCNO: BR 725.1)

Whereas, the membership of Centennial United Methodist Church, Rutherford County, Blue Ridge District, has declined to 4 in worship; and

Whereas, due to declining attendance and limited financial resources, the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the 2016 *Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

Whereas, the members of Centennial have plans to hold a closing worship celebration on June 30, 2019; and

Whereas, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, the Blue Ridge District Superintendent and a majority of the Blue Ridge District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Centennial United Methodist Church, Rutherford County, Blue Ridge District, be discontinued effective June 30, 2019, and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Dana United Methodist Church**, Henderson County, Blue Ridge District

(GCFA: 290756 • DCNO: BR 315)

Whereas, the membership of Dana United Methodist Church, Henderson County, Blue Ridge District, has declined to 8 in worship; and

Whereas, due to declining attendance and limited financial resources, the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the 2016 *Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

Whereas, on March 17, 2019, the congregation acted to close the church by abandonment; and

Whereas, the Blue Ridge District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Blue Ridge District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Dana United Methodist Church, Henderson County, Blue Ridge District, be discontinued effective March 31, 2019, that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Dix Creek United Methodist Church**, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District

(GCFA: 291033 • DCNO: BR 325.1)

Whereas, Dix Creek United Methodist Church, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District, has declined to 12 members, with worship attendance averaging 8; and

Whereas, the church is financially unable to support a pastor's salary and district and conference apportionments, nor adequately maintain the buildings; and

Whereas, Dix Creek United Methodist Church is no longer able to fulfill its mission and purpose as required by ¶ 201-204 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) of The United Methodist Church; and,

Whereas, members present from Dix Creek United Methodist, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District, made a faithful decision to discontinue as a congregation by unanimous charge conference vote on February 11, 2019; and

Whereas, Dix Creek United Methodist Church has planned to hold a closing worship celebration on May 26, 2019; and

Whereas, the presiding bishop, a majority of the cabinet of the Western North Carolina Conference, the Blue Ridge district superintendent, and the Blue Ridge District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

Resolved, that Dix Creek United Methodist Church, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District, be considered discontinued effective May 27, 2019; and that the property be transferred to The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., which is hereby instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.



**Fairview Sharon United Methodist Church**, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District

(GCFA: 290825 • DCNO: BR 660.1)

*Whereas*, the membership of Fairview Sharon United Methodist Church, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District, has declined to 7 in worship; and

*Whereas*, resources are not available to meet financial obligations; and,

*Whereas*, due to declining attendance and limited financial resources, the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

*Whereas*, on January 20, 2019, the closing worship service for Fairview Sharon UMC was conducted; and

*Whereas*, Fairview Sharon United Methodist Church is a legal corporation;

*Whereas*, the Blue Ridge District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Blue Ridge District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Fairview Sharon United Methodist Church, Buncombe County, Blue Ridge District, be discontinued effective January 21, 2019; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference; and be it

*Further resolved*, that on the date of closure, all current officers and directors of Fairview Sharon United Methodist Church, Inc., tender their resignation and appoint Rev. Amy L. Coles and Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram as the interim directors and interim President and Vice President of the corporation, respectively.

**Pinnacle United Methodist Church**, McDowell County, Blue Ridge District

(GCFA: 296571 • DCNO: BR-720.1)

*Whereas*, the membership of Pinnacle United Methodist Church, McDowell County, Blue Ridge District, has declined to 12 in worship; and

*Whereas*, Pinnacle United Methodist Church has not been willing to participate in nor contribute to the connectional mission and ministries of the United Methodist Church for many years, including receiving the appointed clergy by the bishop and cabinet; and

*Whereas*, the church is unable and unwilling to fulfill the purpose and mission of a local United Methodist church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

*Whereas*, the members present at a charge conference meeting on September 30, 2018 unanimously approved the closure of Pinnacle UMC; and

*Whereas*, the Blue Ridge district superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Blue Ridge District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Pinnacle United Methodist Church, McDowell County, Blue Ridge District, be discontinued effective October 15, 2018; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Clover Hill United Methodist Church**, Cleveland County, Catawba Valley District

(GCFA: 293464 • DCNO: CV 605.1)

*Whereas*, the membership of Clover Hill United Methodist Church, Cleveland County, Catawba Valley, has declined to 13 in worship; and

*Whereas*, the church is no longer financially able to support the pastor's salary and pension, nor to maintain its facility; and the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of a local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

*Whereas*, the Catawba Valley District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Catawba Valley District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Clover Hill United Methodist Church, Cleveland County, Catawba Valley District, be discontinued effective June 30, 2019; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church**, Burke County, Catawba Valley District

(GCFA: 296877 • DCNO: CV 083.2)

*Whereas*, the membership of Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church, Burke County, Catawba Valley, has declined to 5 in worship; and

*Whereas*, the church is no longer financially able to support the pastor's salary and pension, nor to maintain its facility; and the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of a local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

*Whereas*, the members of Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church decided on a closing date of April 15, 2019.

*Whereas*, the Catawba Valley District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Catawba Valley District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church, Burke County, Catawba Valley District, be discontinued effective



April 15, 2019; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Warlick's Chapel United Methodist Church**, Burke County, Catawba Valley District

(GCFA: 296673 • DCNO: CV 621.1)

Whereas, the membership of Warlick's Chapel United Methodist Church, Burke County, Catawba Valley, has declined to 8 in worship; and

Whereas, the church is no longer financially able to support the pastor's salary and pension, nor to maintain its facility; and the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of a local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

Whereas, the Catawba Valley District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Catawba Valley District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Warlick's Chapel United Methodist Church, Burke County, Catawba Valley District, be discontinued and declared abandoned effective January 31, 2019; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Big Spring United Methodist Church**, Mecklenburg County, Metro District

(GCFA: 291625 • DCNO: ME 045)

Whereas, the membership of Big Spring United Methodist Church, Mecklenburg County, Metro District, has declined to 15 in worship; and

Whereas, the church is no longer financially able to support the pastor's salary and pension and district and conference apportionments, nor to maintain its facility; and the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of a local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

Whereas, on November 18, 2018 a majority of the members of Big Spring UMC affirmed the decision to close; and

Whereas, the Metro District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Metro District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Big Spring United Methodist Church, Mecklenburg County, Metro District, be discontinued and declared abandoned effective March 31, 2019; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Mount Carmel United Methodist Church**, Cabarrus County, Metro District

(GCFA: 298433 • DCNO: ME 220)

Whereas, the membership of Mount Carmel United Methodist Church, Cabarrus County, Metro District, has declined to 10 in worship; and

Whereas, the church is no longer financially able to support the pastor's salary and pension and district and conference apportionments, nor to maintain its facility; and the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of a local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

Whereas, on August 26, 2018 a majority of the members of Mount Carmel UMC voted to close; and

Whereas, the Metro District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Metro District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Mount Carmel United Methodist Church, Cabarrus County, Metro District, be discontinued and declared abandoned effective December 31, 2018; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Purcell United Methodist Church**, Mecklenburg County, Metro District

(GCFA: 291988 • DCNO: ME 430)

Whereas, the membership of Purcell United Methodist Church, Mecklenburg County, Metro District, has declined to 25 in worship; and

Whereas, the church is no longer financially able to support the pastor's salary and pension and district and conference apportionments, nor to maintain its facility; and the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of a local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

Whereas on September 26, 2018 the Charge Conference of Purcell UMC voted to close; and

Whereas, the Metro District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Metro District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Purcell United Methodist Church, Mecklenburg County, Metro District, be discontinued and declared abandoned effective October 31, 2018; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.



**Faithwalk United Methodist Church**, Guilford County, Northern Piedmont District

(GCFA: 295634 • DCNO: NP 125)

*Whereas*, Faithwalk United Methodist Church, Guilford County, Northern Piedmont District, has declined to worship attendance averaging 20; and

*Whereas*, the church is financially unable to support a pastor's salary and district and conference apportionments, nor adequately maintain the church property; and

*Whereas*, Faithwalk United Methodist Church is no longer able to fulfill its mission and purpose as required by ¶ 201-204 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) of The United Methodist Church; and

*Whereas*, members present from Faithwalk United Methodist Church, Guilford County, Northern Piedmont District, made a faithful decision by vote on March 17, 2019 to discontinue as a congregation, effective June 30, 2019; and

*Whereas*, Faithwalk United Methodist Church has planned to hold a closing worship celebration on June 30, 2019; and

*Whereas*, the presiding bishop, a majority of the cabinet of the Western North Carolina Conference, the Northern Piedmont district superintendent, and the Northern Piedmont District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that Faithwalk United Methodist Church, Guilford County, Northern Piedmont District be considered discontinued effective June 30, 2019; and that the property be transferred to The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., which is hereby instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Immanuel Mission United Methodist Church**, Guilford County, Northern Piedmont District

(GCFA: 289052 • DCNO: NP 090.2)

*Whereas*, the reported membership of Immanuel Mission United Methodist Church for 2017 was 40, with reported worship attendance of 28 or less; and

*Whereas*, during the 2018-2019 conference year, significant efforts have been made in its new charge configuration to connect with remaining Immanuel Mission members, but all seem to have moved on to other faith communities, and worship attendance of any of those persons has now ceased; and

*Whereas*, Immanuel Mission United Methodist Church is no longer able to fulfill its mission and purpose as required by *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*; and

*Whereas*, Immanuel Mission United Methodist Church has no assets and does not own any property; and

*Whereas*, the Northern Piedmont District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that Immanuel Mission United Methodist Church, Guilford County, Northern Piedmont District, be considered discontinued effective June 30, 2019.

**Clarksbury United Methodist Church**, Davidson County, Uwharrie District

(GCFA: 300812 • DCNO: UW 117)

*Whereas*, the membership of Clarksbury United Methodist Church, Davidson County, Uwharrie District, has declined to 14 in worship; and

*Whereas*, resources are not available to meet financial obligations; and

*Whereas*, due to declining attendance and limited financial resources, the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

*Whereas*, on January 14, 2019, the charge conference of Clarksbury UMC has made a faithful decision to discontinue as a congregation; and

*Whereas*, Clarksbury United Methodist Church is a legal corporation; and

*Whereas*, the Uwharrie District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Uwharrie District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Clarksbury United Methodist Church, Davidson County, Uwharrie District, be discontinued effective January 15, 2019, that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference; and be it

*Further resolved*, that on the date of closure, all current officers and directors of Clarksbury United Methodist Church, Inc. tender their resignation and appoint Rev. Amy L. Coles and Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram as the interim directors and interim President and Vice President of the corporation, respectively.

**Cleveland United Methodist Church**, Rowan County, Uwharrie District

(GCFA: 298455 • DCNO: UW 125)

*Whereas*, the membership of Cleveland United Methodist Church, Rowan County, Uwharrie District, has declined to 13 in worship; and

*Whereas*, due to declining attendance, the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

Whereas, the Uwharrie District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Uwharrie District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Cleveland United Methodist Church, Rowan County, Uwharrie District, be discontinued effective June 30, 2019, that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Zion United Methodist Church**, Rowan County, Uwharrie District

(GCFA: 298615 • DCNO: UW 998)

Whereas, the membership of Zion United Methodist Church, Rowan County, Uwharrie District, has declined to 8 in worship; and Whereas, due to declining attendance and limited resources, the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

Whereas, on April 14, 2019, the charge conference of Zion UMC has made a faithful decision to discontinue as a congregation; and Whereas, the Uwharrie District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Uwharrie District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Zion United Methodist Church, Rowan County, Uwharrie District, be discontinued effective May 15, 2019; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference.

**Mallalieu-Jones UMC**, Surry County, Yadkin Valley District

(GCFA: 968180 • DCNO: YV 515.1)

Whereas, the membership of Mallalieu-Jones United Methodist Church, Surry County, Yadkin Valley District, has declined in worship and the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the *2016 Book of Discipline*, paragraphs 201-204; and

Whereas, on April 15, 2019, the charge conference of Mallalieu-Jones UMC has made a faithful decision to discontinue as a congregation and hold a closing worship on April 28, 2019; and

Whereas, the Yadkin Valley District Superintendent, the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and a majority of the Yadkin Valley District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the following action; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Mallalieu-Jones United Methodist Church, Surry County, Yadkin Valley District, be discontinued effective April 30, 2019; and that The Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of *The Book of Discipline* (2016) and the policies of the annual conference; therefore, and be it

*Further resolved*, that on this date, April 15, 2019, the Mallalieu-Jones United Methodist Church Incorporation will be dissolved.

It is the member's wishes to establish the (non-incorporated) Mallalieu-Jones Wesleyan Society connected with Central United Methodist Church of Mount Airy.

Rev. Coles then led a litany of thanksgiving for the mission, ministry, heritage, and the people of the several congregations dissolved and abandoned.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY:** Wanda Musgrave, chairperson, made the report. Ms. Musgrave noted the plans of the committee for evaluation and consultation for the transition to receive a new bishop to preside over the WNC annual conference in 2020. She highlighted the accomplishments of Bishop Leeland and his effective leadership, especially in communicating the actions of the 2019 Special Session of General Conference. Rev. Phillip B. Cole escorted to the stage Ms. DeEtta Rivens, administrative assistant to the bishop, who was recognized and thanked for her work; and, presented a gift of appreciation. Rev. Sanford L. Giles escorted Mrs. Janet Leeland to the stage where she was greeted with appreciation. Mrs. Lowery, spouse of Bishop J. Michael Lowry, was recognized.

**THIRD JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** The third Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot for two delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

**PRIVILEGE MATTER:** Bishop Paul Leeland introduced Bishop J. Michael Lowry, Central Texas Conference, Fort Worth Episcopal Area, who will preach during the ordering of ministry worship service tonight. In preparation for the presentations of the remaining petitions Bishop Lowry led in prayer.

**PETITION 17: GENDER DISCRIMINATION IN APPOINTMENTS:** Sue Jones, chairperson of the petitions committee (Cashiers, SM District), presented the petition.

Rev. Andrea McCumber, Groce, (Asheville, BR District) spoke in favor.

John Murphey, Shiloh (Statesville, AP District) spoke against the petition.

James-Michael Smith, Good Shepherd (Charlotte, ME District) spoke in favor.

Mr. Murphey asked a question and the Bishop responded.

Rev. McCumber made a final statement as author of the petition.

The petition was adopted.

**REPORT OF THIRD JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the third Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot as follows: Valid, 909; necessary to elect, 456. There was no election.

**FOURTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** The fourth Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot for two delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

**PETITION 18: CHILD ADVOCACY COALITION:** Sue Jones presented the petition.

Brian Mateer, Providence (Charlotte, ME District) spoke in favor of the petition.

Rev. Marsha E. Joyner, Sandy Ridge (Statesville, AP District) asked a question and Susan Pennock, Child Advocacy Task Force, responded.

Gayle Young, Oak Hill (Chandler, BR District) asked a question and Ms. Pennock responded.

The petition was approved.

**PETITION 19: ELECTION OF CLERGY DELEGATES TO GENERAL CONFERENCE:** Sue Jones presented the petition.

Rev. Jonathan A. Gaylord, Yadkinville (Yadkinville, YV District) spoke in favor of the petition.

George Milstead, Memorial (Kannapolis, ME District) asked a question and Rev. Rennie R. Salata, Acton (Asheville, BR District) responded.

The petition was adopted.

**PETITION 20: THE JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE PLAN:** Susan Jones presented the petition.

Rev. Jeremy I. Troxler, Spruce Pine, (Spruce Pine, BR District) spoke in favor of the petition.

Angie Wright, Christ (Hickory, CV District) asked a question and Rev. Troxler answered.

Paul Ervin, Long's Chapel (Lake Junaluska, SM District) spoke against the petition.

Ron Wood, Sharon (Shelby, CV District) asked a question and Bishop Leeland responded.

Helen Ryde, home missionary (BR District) spoke in favor.

Wade Loftin, Bethel (Thomasville, YV District) spoke against the petition.

James-Michael Smith, Good Shepherd (Charlotte, ME District) asked a question and Rev. Troxler answered.

Rev. Sean C. Turner, Hill's Chapel (CV District) spoke in favor of the petition.

Albertina McGirt, St. Matthews (Greensboro, NP District) asked a question and Rev. Troxler responded.

Rev. David L. Miner, Sr., Shiloh (Statesville, AP District) spoke against the petition.

Rev. Troxler, author of the petition, made final remarks.

The petition was adopted.

**PETITION 21: REMOVE INCOMPATIBILITY LANGUAGE:** Sue Jones presented the petition.

Rev. Kelly P. Carpenter, Green Street (Winston-Salem, YV District) spoke in favor of the petition.

Ricky Johnson, Asbury (Hamptonville, YV District) spoke against the petition.

Bob Youngblood, Davidson (Davidson, ME District) spoke in favor of the petition.

Rev. McKenzie M. Sefa, Union (ME District) raised a point of order and Bishop Leeland concurred.

Linda Black, Chestnut Grove (King, YV District) spoke against the petition.

Wade Loftin, Bethel (Thomasville, YV District) asked a question and the Bishop responded.

Danny Cartner, Center (Mocksville, YV District) spoke in favor of the petition.

Rev. Clifford W. Wall, Clarksbury (Harmony, AP District) spoke against the petition.

The petition was adopted.

**RECESS:** The conference recessed at 3:37 p.m.

**CONFERENCE RECONVENES:** Pursuant to recess the conference reconvened at 4:00 p.m. with the singing of hymn 419 (UMH) *I Am Thine, O Lord*, and prayer offered by Mary Ana Smith, Harrisburg (Harrisburg, ME District).

**REPORT OF FOURTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the fourth Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot as follows: Valid, 581; necessary to elect 292. George (Tom) Jordan received 356 votes and Megan Jones received 328 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

**FIFTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** The fifth Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot for three reserve delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF LAITY (CONTINUED):** Jane Boatwright Wood, conference lay leader and president of the board of laity, continued the report of the board of laity.

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN:** Julia Willis, president, presented the report, emphasizing the theme of the national conference, "The Power of Bold." March 23, 2019 marked the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Methodist women organized for mission efforts. The

vision of UMW is to see beyond our own front doors, beyond our own communities, to a world that doesn't have the resources that we have. UMW advocates for women and children who don't have a voice or are on the margins. We help local school backpack programs and lunch buddies, support UMAR, childcare facilities, food banks, clothing closets, crochet bed rolls for the homeless. United Methodist Women have a legacy of global mission projects, digging wells to provide clean drinking water, building clinics with staff and medicine to heal and eradicate diseases, teaching farming and safe meal preparation skills, funding micro businesses for small business enterprises. These are sustainable projects that keep on giving. Currently there are 20,784 members in 661 local units. Total designated mission giving amounted to \$689,797.00. Additional designated giving totaled \$71,920.00. Giving for college scholarships amounted to \$20,850. Hands on projects amounted to over \$100,881.50. This year \$75,000.00 was added to the Legacy Fund bringing the four-year total to \$251,000.

**YOUTH MINISTRIES:** Ashlee Hand, president of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, presented the report on the theme, "Transformation". She introduced the new adult coordinator for the council, Rev. Shannon M. LeMaster-Smith, First (Newton, CV District). Ms. Hand highlighted the two main events of the year, SpiritUs and IgniteUs. 800 youth attended SpiritUs at Fort Caswell in Oak Island, N.C. with the theme, "SpiritUs: Keeping the Streak Alive. The service project packed medical bags for Sole Hope. IgniteUs held at Camp Tekoa for middle school students focused on the theme, "Mountain Movers."

**UNITED METHODIST MEN:** William Waddell, president, presented the annual report. UMM strives to help men grow in Christ so others may know Christ. Mr. Waddell highlighted the work of the organization. Support of Scouting remains a strong focus. The United Methodist Church is the largest supporting denomination of Scouting in the USA. A second area of focus is the Upper Room Prayer Line. In 2018 WNCC was the number one contributor to the Living Prayer Center. The conference UMM encourages the efforts of second career pastors, providing ministerial scholarships for students. The organization continues to encourage and deploy disaster response teams and building teams. He announced the conference UMM are partnering with Kingdom Man Ministries of the Catawba Valley District to present on October 12, 2019 an event called "Kingdom Man" to be held at the Hickory Convention Center in Hickory. The organization continues its efforts against domestic violence and announced a week of prayer against domestic violence, August 4<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>. The report concluded with a video of the efforts United Methodist Men are making to address and respond to domestic violence.

**MISSION ENGAGEMENT TEAM:** Brian Mateer, chairperson, presented the report. The mission engagement team exists to equip the local church to be in the mission of God by focusing on connecting, collaborating, and engaging in local, regional, and global ministry. He highlighted that the former Cole Memorial United Methodist Church was developed into a mission resource center, warehousing thousands of UMCOR cleaning buckets and other supplies, and becoming a centralized hub for volunteer outreach, in partnership with the campus ministry at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The MET operation team launched a mission cohort pilot project in January 2019. The goal is to move local church missions from relief efforts to empowerment models. Recruitment for the first mission cohort will begin later this year with an official start date in early 2020. An additional project is a literacy effort for pre-schools in Haiti in partnership with the Smoky Mountain District.

**CHURCH VITALITY TEAM:** Rev. Kent C. Smith, Salem (Weaverville, BR District) and Rev. Daniel L. Pezet, II, director of church development, reported for the vitality team. Five new church starts have launched this year: Hope Fellowship (BR District), The Place (ME District), The Foundry (YV District), Gastonia Mission (CV District), The Bridge (SM District). Four additional new faith communities are anticipated later this year. He noted that 89 Fresh Expression have been created this conference year. One of the most successful models for fresh expressions is dinner churches and the goal is for 20 additional dinner churches. Dinner churches are designed for folks gathered around the table to share the stories that matter most and to connect. The report concluded with a video highlighting the testimony of churches which had begun dinner churches.

**DENMAN AWARDS:** Rev. Luke S. Edwards, Boone (Boone, AP District) and Jane Boatwright Wood, conference lay leader and president of the Foundation for Evangelism, introduced the 2019 Denman Awards. The Denman Award is presented in each annual conference for exceptional ministry of evangelism, inviting people into a life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ. The award can honor one youth, clergy, and lay person. Ann Hoover, First (Asheboro, UW District) presented the 2019 Harry Denman Clergy Award to Rev. Lynda L. Ferguson, First (Asheboro, UW District). Rev. Charles W. Wilson, II, Matthews (Matthews, ME District) presented the 2019 Harry Denman Laity Award to Laurie Little, Matthews (Matthews, ME District). Lewis McClain, Rock Hill (Mount Holly, CV District) and Lee Rice presented the 2019 Harry Denman Youth Award to Torey Haynes, Rock Hill (Mount Holly, CV District).

**JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION TEAM:** Pam Shoffner, chairperson, began the report. With assistance from Renee Hayes, team member, Ms. Shoffner presented Betty Jo Hardy, representative to the North Carolina Council of Churches, a plaque recognizing her service on the governing board of the NC Council of Churches. Ms. Shoffner updated the work of Olivia Navarro on her Sparrow Project. Last year 1,820 pounds of fresh produce was distributed to two food pantries. Rev. Ray S. McKinnon, co-vice chairperson and coordinator for peace with justice ministries, highlighted the area of peace with justice ministries, especially the projects of St. Matthews (Greensboro, NP District). This year in August will mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first slaves brought from Angola to Fort Monroe in Jamestown, VA. Ms. Shoffner completed the report with a tribute to the late Rev. Dr. James W. Ferree for his life-time of advocacy for social justice, racial justice and equality for us all. The 2020 Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration will be January 18, 2020 hosted by St. Paul church (Winston-Salem, YV District). Clara Ester, retired deaconess and one who walked with Dr. King, will be the keynote speaker.



**ONE MATTERS AWARD:** Rev. Michael F. Bailey, YV District superintendent, presented the 2019 “One Matters” award to Rev. Oscar C. Pilson, pastor, on behalf of St. Paul (Kernersville, YV District). The recognition was created in 2015 by the UM Discipleship Ministries with the purpose of lifting up churches, which in recent years moved from zero baptisms and professions of faith into positive numbers. The award gives a \$1,000.00 gift to the church for further discipleship making efforts.

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM:** Rev. J. Daniel Hester, chairperson, Rev. Kari L. Howard, vice chairperson, and Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, director of ministerial services, shared the report with the help of additional testimonies from the floor from participants of various leadership development programs and initiatives. Testimonies were provided by Rev. Leslee L. Wray, New Mount Tabor (Richfield, UW District) on the preaching cohorts, Rev. Mark M. Norman Vickers, Bethpage (Kannapolis, ME District) about a workshop on navigating change, Jesse Ennis on leadership podcasts and Cindy Thompson on “The Space Between.” “The Space Between” will be a series of training offerings designed to empower clergy to host civil discourse conversations in their churches around various issues and points of view dividing the church.

**POINT OF ORDER:** Rev. Keith Turman, First (Waynesville, SM District) moved to extend the time to complete the business of the annual conference, and the motion was adopted.

**REPORT OF FIFTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT:** Bishop Leeland announced the results of the fifth Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot as follows: Timothy (Tim) Kincaid, Coley Hooker, and Wade Loftin having received the highest number of votes were declared elected as reserve delegates to the 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, thus completing the laity delegation.

**PETITION 22: OPPOSITION TO THE TRADITIONAL PLAN:** Sue Jones presented the petition.

Mary Z. Longstreth, Central (Asheville, BR District) spoke in favor of the petition.

Coley Hooker, St. Matthews (Greensboro, NP District) spoke against the petition.

Rev. Ashley Crowder Stanley, Mills River (Mills River, SM District) moved a substitute motion, which was seconded; and, spoke in favor. The petition follows:

**Endorsing the Commitments of UMC Next and Supporting Full Inclusion of All People**

*WHEREAS*, more than 600 laity and clergy leaders from every Annual Conference in the United States met May 20-22, 2019 at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas for an event entitled UMC Next. The event’s purpose was to explore faithful responses to the Traditional Plan that was adopted by the 2019 special session of General Conference.

*WHEREAS*, John Wesley’s first rule for early Methodists was to do no harm and the enactment of the Traditional Plan continues and amplifies harm already done by the church to LBGTQIA+ United Methodists and their families.

*WHEREAS*, in our baptismal vows we promise to “resist evil, injustice and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.”

*WHEREAS*, there was a clear consensus from those in attendance at the UMC Next event about the four commitments essential to the future of the United Methodist Church.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Western North Carolina Conference (WNCC) formally aspires to the statement and four commitments of UMC Next:

“We believe these commitments are essential to a hope-filled future for the global Methodist movement as we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:”

1. We long to be passionate followers of Jesus Christ, committed to a Wesleyan vision of Christianity, anchored in scripture and informed by tradition, experience and reason as we live a life of personal piety and social holiness.
2. We commit to resist evil, injustice and oppression in all forms and toward all people and build a church which affirms the full participation of all ages, nations, races, classes, cultures, gender identities, sexual orientations, and abilities.
3. We reject the Traditional Plan approved at General Conference 2019 as inconsistent with the gospel of Jesus Christ and will resist its implementation.
4. We will work to eliminate discriminatory language and the restriction and penalties in *The Book of Discipline* regarding LG-BTQ persons. We affirm the sacred worth of LG-BTQ persons, celebrate their gifts, and commit to being in ministry together.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that we urge local United Methodist congregations of the Western North Carolina Conference to ensure that LG-BTQIA+ persons are welcomed and included in the membership and leadership of the local churches, to encourage members of the local congregations to be inclusive of all people and to have an open dialogue about the actions of the 2019 General Conference, the Traditional Plan, and these four commitments.

**Submitted by: The Western North Carolina Annual Conference representatives to UMC Next:**

Lynette Whitaker, laity, Winston Salem, NC  
 Carter Ellis, clergy, Greensboro, NC  
 Kasey Kelly, laity, Waynesville, NC  
 Darryl Dayson, clergy, Asheville, NC  
 Uiyeon Kim, clergy, Charlotte, NC  
 Joy Moss, clergy, Asheville, NC

Mary Brown, clergy, Andrews, NC  
 Keith Turman, clergy, Waynesville, NC  
 Josh Noblitt, clergy, Atlanta, GA.  
 Lory Beth Huffman, clergy, Boone, NC  
 Ashley Crowder Stanley, clergy, Asheville, NC

Rev. Clifford W. Wall, Clarksbury (Harmony, AP District) spoke against the substitute petition.

Albertina McGirt, St. Matthews (Greensboro, NP District) asked a question and Helen Ryde responded.

James Lee, Oak Ridge (Oak Ridge, NP District) raised a point of order and Bishop Leeland responded.

Ken Bowden, Bethel (Franklin, SM District) asked a question and Rev. Stanley Crowder responded.

Rev. Richard E. LeBaube, Bethesda (Lexington, YV District) asked a question and Bishop Leeland responded.

Rev. Mandy N. Jones, Forest Hill (Concord, ME District) moved to suspend the rules in order to end debate and to call the question to make the substitute petition the main petition. The motion to suspend the rules was seconded and approved.

A vote to call the question and make the substitute petition of the main motion was taken and the substitute motion was made the main motion.

Dwayne Mims, St. Matthews (Greensboro, NP District) spoke against the petition.

Rev. Nathan D. Finsel, Trinity (Kannapolis, ME District) asked a question and Bishop Leeland answered with an explanation of suspension of the rules, calling the question, and voting to make the substitute petition the main petition.

Jennifer Lineberry, Pleasant Grove (Thomasville, YV District) asked a question and Rev. Crowder Stanley responded.

Paul Ervin, Long's Chapel (Lake Junaluska, SM District) asked a question and Bishop Leeland answered.

Jeff Hodge, Mill Grove (Indian Trail, ME District) asked a question and Rev. Uiyeon Kim, Myers Park (Charlotte, ME District) responded.

Robin Uhl, College Place (Greensboro, NP District) gave an additional answer.

Rev. Ray S. McKinnon, South Tryon Community Mission (Charlotte, ME District) called the question on the petition and it was approved.

The substitute, now main motion, was adopted.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Rev. Kim Ingram, conference secretary, made concluding announcements, thanking all the persons who have assisted in the 2019 Annual Conference. June 19-21, 2020 are the dates the next session of the annual conference.

**RECESS:** The conference recessed at 6:35 p.m.

### **WORSHIP SERVICE – THE ORDERING OF MINISTRY – 7:30 P.M.**

Following gathering music and the processional hymn 577 (UMH), *God of Grace and God of Glory*, Bishop Paul Leeland led the responsive greeting and prayer; and, the act of remembering our baptism and common ministry. Bishop Leeland introduced Bishop J. Michael Lowry, Central Texas Conference, Fort Worth Episcopal area, who will bring the evening proclamation. Jane Boatwright Wood, conference lay leader, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Coppedge-Henley, vice-chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry, and Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, director of ministerial services presented to the Bishop those to be licensed, commissioned, and ordained. Rev. Sue Anne Morris, chairperson of the fellowship of local pastors and associate members, read the names of those to be licensed as local pastors. Rev. Donald Jenkins, chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry, read the names of those to be commissioned as provisional members, ordained as deacon and ordained as elders. Following a song of celebration, *Follow You Anywhere*, presented by the Modern Worship Team of Long's Chapel (Lake Junaluska, SM District), Rev. Sherise Lindsay led the prayer for illumination and read the Old Testament lesson from Isaiah 40:27-31. Bishop Lowery read the Gospel Lesson from Matthew 28:16-20 and delivered the sermon entitled, *No Other Way*. Bishop Lowry focused on Jesus' commission to the disciples and other witnesses following his resurrection and ascension. In the midst of human crisis and trauma, in our personal life, with our families, in the institutional church, and in the world, Jesus alone is the ultimate ruler of your life. His preferences hold sway over our desires and passions. He's the one who rescues and saves. All who are baptized, but especially those being ordered in ministry, are committing to be servants of this good news. Rev. Joseph Kim led the Apostles' Creed and hymn 467 (UMH), *Trust and Obey* was sung. Bishop Leeland examined all the candidates to be licensed, commissioned and ordained. Following further questions by Bishop Leeland, the 41 candidates to be licensed as local pastors were authorized by the Bishop and recognized by Rev. Dr. David Greene, licensing school coordinator. Bishop Leeland examined the 9 candidates to be commissioned and then commissioned each candidate assisted by Bishops Charlene Kammerer, Ken Carter, Lawrence McCleskey, and Michael Lowry. Rev. Jenkins presented a cross and Rev. Ingram presented a certificate to the newly commissioned members. Bishop Leeland examined the candidate and then ordained her as a deacon, assisted by the other bishops and clergy. The deacon received a stole from Bishop Leeland and presented a certificate of ordination from Dr. Coppedge-Henley. Bishop Leeland examined those to be ordained elders and with the assistance of the other Bishops and elders ordained 15 candidates to the order of elder. Each new elder received a stole and their credentials. Following a prayer of thanksgiving and the recessional hymn 648 (UMH), *God, the Spirit, Guide and Guardian*, Rev. Kennette Thomas, newly ordained deacon, pronounced the dismissal with blessing.

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2019

**A SERVICE OF THE WORD, AND THE FIXING OF APPOINTMENTS - 10 A.M.**

Bishop Paul L. Leeland, taking his text from *Matthew 28:16-20*, preached the sermon entitled, "The Joy of Full Surrender." Bishop Leeland proclaimed that Jesus commands his followers to repent, take up the cross, follow him, pray for one's enemies, to forgive, and to love God and the neighbor. Disciples are challenged to abandon themselves into the providence of God and gladly obey because God in Christ Jesus first loved each human being. We are called to be prophets. As prophets we are to point out the wrong doings we see in our society. But more than speaking "truth to power," we are called to see where the word of God and the words of Jesus intersect with our culture and context with the mission to bring a ministry of reconciliation. This is the joy of full surrender. Forgive us, we pray, free us for joyful obedience, for Jesus Christ our Lord. St. Mark's Choir and Musicians (Charlotte ME District) provided special music. Bo Taylor, director, Museum of the Cherokee Indians, Diane Harper, Mallalieu-Jones (Mount Airy, (YV District), Rev. Dr. Tom Mabry, Shady Grove (Winston-Salem, YV District), Rev. Juston Smith, First (Gastonia, CV District), and Elizabeth Helsabeck, Fairfield (High Point, NP District) served as worship leaders. Jarvis Wilson and Keith Wilson, conference musicians, provided musical direction and accompaniment.

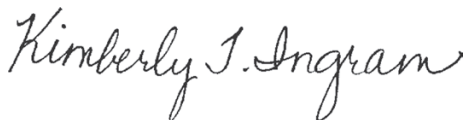
**OFFERING:** The morning offering was designated for disaster response efforts in the North Carolina and Alabama-West Florida Annual Conferences due to the damage from hurricanes Florence and Michael.

**COMMISSIONING OF GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES:** Bishop Leeland led the congregation in a prayer of commissioning and sending forth for those clergy and laity who were elected delegates to represent the Western North Carolina Annual Conference to the 2020 General and Southeastern Jurisdictional Conferences.

**FIXING OF THE APPOINTMENTS:** Bishop Paul L. Leeland officially fixed the clergy appointments for the Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church for the ensuing year.

**CHARGE AND COVENANT PRAYER:** Bishop Leeland charged the licensed, commissioned, consecrated, and ordained clergy to go where they are sent and called to serve. He charged the laity, including deaconesses and diaconal ministers, to live and serve in God's world and to receive and support the clergy appointed to their churches

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Western North Carolina Annual Conference of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church adjourned *sine die* at 11:18 a.m.



Kimberly T. Ingram



Paul L. Leeland

**ELECTED DELEGATION TO THE 2020 GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL (SEJ) CONFERENCES**

Clergy	
General Conference & SEJ	Jurisdictional Conference
Kim Ingram	David Hockett
Amy Coles	Sally Queen
Jeremy Troxler	Sam Moore
James Howell	Veranita Alvord
In-Yong Lee	Uiyeon Kim
Ashley Crowder Stanley	Lory Beth Huffman
Shelly Webb	Elizabeth Coppedge-Henley
Carter Ellis	Stephanie Hand
Darryl Dayson	Julia Trantham Heckert
John Sherfey	Sarah Belles
	John Boggs (Reserve)
	Lynda Ferguson (Reserve)
	Ben Carson (Reserve)

Laity	
General Conference & SEJ	Jurisdictional Conference
Jennifer Davis	Tonya Lanier
Amy Johnson	Dana Lyles
Greg Huffman	Sandy Hieronymus
Lynne Gilbert	Caroline Wood
Emma Austin	Kathy FitzJefferies
Havaleh Havelka	Amy DeVore
Shannon Sherfey	Matt Sink
Helen Ryde	Erin Betlej
Lynette Whitaker	Tom Jordan
Linda Linfors	Megan Jones
	Tim Kincaid (Reserve)
	Coley Hooker (Reserve)
	Wade Loftin (Reserve)

Note: The delegation members are listed in order of election.

**D. CERTIFICATE OF COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION**

This is to certify that at a service of commissioning held on Saturday evening, June 22, 2019, in George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, I, Paul L. Leeland, a bishop in The United Methodist Church did  
**Commission for ministry in The United Methodist Church under the 2016 Book of Discipline as provisional members of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference:**

Charles Hicks Curtis, Brian Adams Elwell, Maegan Daigle Habich, Cynthia Marie Worley Nanney, Timothy Gregg Plott, Jennifer Diane Read-Orr, and Courtney Dunnigan Sanford.

This is further to certify that at a service of ordination held on Saturday evening, June 22, 2019, in George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, I did

**Ordain to the Order of Deacon in The United Methodist Church:**

Kennette Lawrence Thomas; and

**Ordain to the Order of Elder in The United Methodist Church:**

Edward Richard Blount III, Mitchell Cliff Boughman, Ashley Christopher Cyre, Nathan David Finsel, Donna Faye Friddle, Carrilea Anne Potter Hall, Wesley Leonard Hall Jr., Bradley Sherman Lisk, Melissa Dawn Lowe, Roy Lee Miller, James Randolph Perdue, Rebekah Jane Shuford Ralph, Joel Richard Simpson, Benjamin David Sloan, Allen Tippet Stanton.



Bishop