

IV. DAILY PROCEEDINGS
A. 2015 CONFERENCE PROGRAM



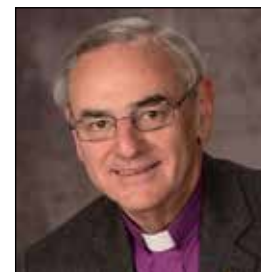
Rev. Dr. Kim Cape
 General Secretary, General Board
 of Higher Education and Ministry
 Nashville, Tennessee



Bishop William T. McAlilly
 Nashville Area
 Tennessee Conference and
 Memphis Conference



Bishop Ziphozihle Siwa
 Methodist Church of South Africa
 President, South African
 Council of Churches



Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster
 Charlotte Area
 Western North Carolina Conference



Rev. Dr. Rob Blackburn
 Central United Methodist Church
 Asheville, NC

**Until the
 Whole World Hears***

*“For by grace you have been saved through faith,
 and this is not your own doing;
 it is the gift of God” (NRSV) – Ephesians 2:8*



Jane Boatwright Wood
 Laity Address Speaker
 Waynesville, NC

2015 WESTERN NC ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

All sessions will be held in Stuart Auditorium unless otherwise noted

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17	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
	7:30 p.m.	Opening Worship, <i>Service of Holy Communion</i> Bishop Ziphozihle Siwa, Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church of South Africa, preaching Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster, liturgist
	9:00 p.m.	Laity Session: Introduction of Nominees
THURSDAY, JUNE 18	8:30 a.m.	Laity Session <i>Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Delegates</i>
	11:00 a.m.	Break
	11:15 a.m.	Conference Plenary – Business Session <i>Balloting continues as needed</i> Welcome from Lake Junaluska Procedural Matters, Elections for Conference, and Consent Calendar Committee on Nominations Plan of Organization and Rules
	12:00 p.m.	Lunch Recess
	1:30 p.m.	Conference Plenary – Business Session <i>Balloting continues as needed</i> Strategic Alignment Leadership Team: The WNCC Vision <i>Our vision is to increase the number of vital churches, fully engaged in God’s mission in our communities and in the world.</i> Conference Committee on Camp and Retreat Ministry report Conference Committee on Episcopacy report
	3:30 p.m.	Break
	4:00 p.m.	Disciple Dialogues..... Various Locations
5:30 p.m.	Dinner Recess	
	7:30 p.m.	Evening Worship, <i>Camp Meeting Night</i> , Bishop William T. McAlilly, Nashville Area, preaching

continued on next page

2015 Western NC Conference Annual Meeting

continued

- FRIDAY,
JUNE 19**
- 7:15 a.m. *A Bluegrass Service of Prayer and Praise* Memorial Chapel
- 8:30 a.m. *Worship Service: Commissioning of Provisional Members*
Rev. Dr. Kim Cape, General Secretary of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Annual Meeting of the Membership of the United Methodist Foundation of WNC, Inc.
- 10:00 a.m. Conference Plenary – Business Session
Balloting continues as needed
Board of Pensions and Health Benefits report
The Children’s Home report
- 11:15 a.m. Break
- 11:30 a.m. Order of the Day – *Recognition of Retiring Clergy Members*
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Recess
- 1:30 p.m. Conference Plenary – Business Session
Balloting continues as needed
Council on Finance and Administration
2016 Conference Budget
- 3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:30 p.m. Conference Plenary – Business Session
Balloting continues as needed
Resolutions and Petitions
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner Recess
Note: Friday evening will remain open and flexible. If more time is needed for balloting for either clergy or laity delegates, a session will be held. All delegates must be elected before midnight on Friday evening.
- SATURDAY,
JUNE 20**
- 7:15 a.m. *An Acoustic Service of Prayer and Praise* Memorial Chapel
- 8:30 a.m. *Order for Morning Prayer*
- 8:45 a.m. Conference Plenary – Business Session
Board of Laity Report, including Laity Address
Resolutions and Petitions
Concluding Conference Business
- 10:45 a.m. Break
- 11:15 a.m. *Worship Service: Celebration of Life*
Rev. Dr. Robert M. Blackburn, Jr., Central UMC in Asheville, preaching
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch Recess
Note: Saturday afternoon is scheduled to be a free afternoon. However, if action on resolutions and petitions has not been completed, a business session will be convened.
- 7:30 p.m. *Worship Service: Ordination of Deacons and Elders*
Bishop William T. McAlilly, preaching
Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster, liturgist
- SUNDAY,
JUNE 21**
- 9:00 a.m. *Adult Sunday School* – Memorial Chapel
Rev. Robert V. Dodd, teaching
- 10:00 a.m. *Closing Worship Service*
Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster, preaching
Special Music by the *Junaluska Singers*, Melody Galloway, Director
Fixing of the Appointments
Commissioning of General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates
Adjournment of the 2015 Annual Conference, *sine die*

*Until the Whole World Hears by Casting Crowns

Words and Music by Mark Hall, Roger Glidewell, Jason McArthur, and Bernie Herms

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B. 2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPECIAL EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 14		C2LJ Bicycle Ride St. Luke's UMC, Hickory, to Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska
TUESDAY, JUNE 16	11:30 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Extension Ministries and Beyond the Local Church LuncheonKern Center, 11 Memory Lane Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting..... Harrell Center, Room 202
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	Women in Ministry Breakfast Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N. Lakeshore Drive Teller Training, Clergy Stuart Auditorium Brotherhood/Sisterhood Meeting Terrace Hotel, Room 213 Tellers Training, Laity..... Stuart Auditorium Emory Club Dinner Long's Chapel UMC Fellowship Hall, 133 Old Clyde Hwy. UM Rural Advocates Annual Banquet..... Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N. Lakeshore Drive Duke Divinity School Picnic DinnerNanci Weldon Pavilion, Outdoor Gym Usher Training Stuart Auditorium Introduction of Laity Candidates for General and Jurisdictional Conferences..... Stuart Auditorium 9:00 p.m. Ed Kilbourne and The Foundation BandJunaluska Café, Harrell Center, Room 105
THURSDAY, JUNE 18	8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	Givens Estates: Cookies on the Lawn Outside Stuart Auditorium, Tent by the Lake Givens Estates: "Pickin & Grinnin" Outside Stuart Auditorium, Tent by the Lake Conference Board of Trustees Luncheon Terrace Hotel, Room 319 Deacons, Diaconal Ministers, and Deaconesses Luncheon Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N. Lakeshore Drive 12:00 p.m. Gordon Conwell Alumni and Friends Luncheon Lambuth Inn, Room 105 12:00 p.m. Wesley Theological Seminary Luncheon Lambuth Inn, Saville Room 12:00 p.m. PK Pizza PartyKern Youth Center Auditorium, 11 Memory Lane 5:30 p.m. Board of Ordained Ministry Dinner Waynesville FUMC, 566 South Haywood Street 5:30 p.m. Hood Theological Seminary Alumni, Students, and Prospective Students Dinner..... Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N. Lakeshore Drive 6:00 p.m. Retiring Clergy DinnerLambuth Inn, International Room 9:00 p.m. Seminary Students Fellowship - Campfire and S'mores Shackford Fire Circle 9:00 p.m. Ed Kilbourne and The Foundation BandJunaluska Café, Harrell Center, Room 105
FRIDAY, JUNE 19	7:15 a.m. 7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m.	Retired Clergy and Spouses Breakfast sponsored by The Eugene M. Cole FoundationLambuth Inn, International Room 7:30 a.m. Evangelical Movement Breakfast Terrace Hotel, Room 316 9:00 a.m. Spouses of Retiring Clergy Coffee..... Terrace Hotel, Room 319 12:00 p.m. Asbury Seminary and Friends Luncheon, bring your own lunch Terrace Hotel, Room 319 12:00 p.m. Chaplains' Fellowship Luncheon..... Terrace Hotel, Room 316 12:00 p.m. Pfeiffer University Lunch & Learn, with incoming president, Dr. Colleen Perry Keith Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N. Lakeshore Drive 12:00 p.m. High Point University LuncheonLambuth Inn, International Room 12:00 p.m. Young Adult Clergy and Families Picnic - <i>The Branch</i> Playground near Children's Building 12:00 p.m. Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR)..... Jones Dining Hall, 238 N. Lakeshore Drive 12:00 p.m. Reconciling Ministries Lunch Lambuth Inn, Room 100 2:30 p.m. Prayer and Praise Fellowship for Clergy Spouses Memorial Chapel 8:00 p.m. Reconciling Ministry Worship Memorial Chapel 9:00 p.m. Ed Kilbourne and The Foundation BandJunaluska Café, Harrell Center, Room 105
SATURDAY, JUNE 20	6:30 a.m. 7:15 a.m. 7:30 a.m. 7:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 12:45 p.m. 1:00 p.m.	"Imagine No Malaria" 5K & Fun Run/Walk, sponsored by the WNCC Emory Club In Front of Stuart Auditorium 7:15 a.m. Educational Opportunities BreakfastTerrace Hotel, Auditorium 7:30 a.m. Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members Meeting and Breakfast Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N. Lakeshore Drive 7:30 a.m. CONAM Breakfast (Native American Ministries) Lambeth Inn, Saville Room 12:30 p.m. Greensboro and Bennett Colleges LuncheonTerrace Hotel, Auditorium 12:45 p.m. Clergy Spouses Luncheon Foundation for Evangelism, 125 N. Lakeshore Drive 1:00 p.m. Potato Gleaning - Society of St. AndrewNanci Weldon Pavilion, Outdoor Gym
SUNDAY, JUNE 21	12:00 p.m.	Luncheon and Meeting for Newly-Elected General Conference/ Jurisdictional Conference DelegatesLambuth Inn, International Room

C. 2015 DISCIPLE DIALOGUES**Held on Thursday, June 18 • 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.**

Held on Thursday, June 18, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., choices were offered for Disciple Dialogues to encourage vitality and growth. Attendance was not mandatory but encouraged. The sessions were open to clergy and laity.

RELATIONAL EVANGELISM: THROWING THE BOX AWAY

Leader: Luke Lingle
Church Vitality Strategist, Smoky Mountain-Blue Ridge Districts

Location: Memorial Chapel

Where do people hang out in your town? What do folks do for fun? What is the community like that surrounds your church?

People are fundamentally relational, and whether we gather at churches, bars, or our neighborhood apartments, we all will gather to be in relationships. Come spend some time thinking about/talking about ministry, as we throw the boxes away. Whether you start a Bible study in a bar, listen to bluegrass/Jazz while eating at food trucks on your church campus, or create community ministries/socials in apartment ministry, God is calling us to go where people are gathering!

Ministry is where we throw the boxes away and people gather beyond the walls of our churches. Let's talk about it!



Leader: Stephanie Moore Hand
Church Vitality Strategist, Metro-Uwharrie Districts

MINISTRY OF BELONGING: WAYS PEOPLE ENTER "THE CHURCH"

Leader: Sarah Howell
Associate Minister, Centenary (Winston-Salem)

Location: Kern Auditorium

"The way we've always done it" isn't good enough anymore. In today's culture, things are upside-down and backwards, from years past. No longer do people believe, find a church, and then "belong." Today's generations want to feel like they belong first. Believing and practicing comes later. Come and engage in conversation on how to do just that. Meet people where they are! See how the church isn't the building, it's where the people are! and other guest clinicians who have been there, done that, and ARE doing it!



Leader: Carroll Harris
Coordinator of Camp and Retreat Ministries, Western NC Conference

SEIZING THE ADVANTAGE

Leader: Rob Hutchinson
Pastor, Unity (Thomasville) and representatives from this multi-cultural church

Location: Junaluska Café (lower level of Harrell Center)

Revitalization requires that we take advantage of the circumstances within our churches, as well as out in our community, in order to raise our evangelistic aptitude and reach people for Christ. Hear the story of one church that is in the throes of the seemingly dauntless work of revitalization. Interact with laypersons who are faced with the difficult decisions involved in giving up the old and embracing the new.



Leader: Rene Wilt
Church Vitality Strategist, Northern Piedmont-Yadkin Valley Districts

C. 2015 DISCIPLE DIALOGUES

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RESOURCES FOR ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY WITH THE GOSPEL

Location: Stuart Auditorium

The four leaders of this Disciple Dialogue will share at resources that will provide new insights for seeing the community with new eyes: Patrick Lencioni's book, *The Advantage*; *Readiness 360*; and *MissionInsite*.

Come to encounter the transformation of congregations through these three resources which are free for every congregation in the Western NC Conference.

- The Rev. Bill Foust will share his experience using *The Advantage*, by Patrick Lencioni, to answer six questions for ministry clarity.
- The Rev. George Ragsdale will share this leadership team's experience with the *Readiness 360* assessment.
- Kim Shockley will dive into *MissionInsite* as a powerful demographic tool.
- Charlie Rivens will share his experience using the tools in his ministry setting.



Leader: Bill Foust
Pastor, Concord (Catawba)



Leader: George Ragsdale Pastor, First (Belmont)



Leader: Charlie Rivens
Pastor, Smith Memorial-Harper's Chapel (Lenoir) Charge



Leader: Kim Shockley
Church Vitality Strategist, Catawba Valley-Appalachian Districts

THE ART OF STORYTELLING: CRAFTING MESSAGES THAT STICK

Location: Kern 100



Leader: Paul Martin
Director of Student and Young Adult Ministries, Matthews UMC

We've all been bored, sitting through presentations that have great content, but never capture our attention. A very few presentations, though, grab us from the very beginning and take us through something beautiful. Those messages are the ones we still remember. They share a single characteristic that set them apart. They paint in our memories by using stories. This workshop teaches the art of storytelling to help presenters craft memory-making experiences.

Paul Martin will share in this dialogue as a creative, heartfelt communicator. He whole-heartedly believes we are all created with something important to say. He writes, speaks, and consults with youth workers, helping them find their best source of service – their identity in Christ.

His book, *Masterpiece - The Art of Discipling Youth*, is currently in its second printing. His blog, beingministry.com, explores the importance of knowing yourself, as a foundation for ministry.



Leader: Caroline Wood
Associate Director of Discipleship Ministry, Western NC Conference

D. DAILY MINUTES**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2015****EXECUTIVE SESSION OF CLERGY MEMBERS – 10 A.M.**

CLERGY SESSION CONVENES: In compliance with ¶¶ 605.7 of the *Book of Discipline* (2012), Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster convened an executive session of the clergy members of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2015, in George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. After singing hymn 553 *And Are We Yet Alive*, and an opening prayer by Bishop Goodpaster, the Bishop offered a meditation using the stanzas from the Charles Wesley hymn just sung and *Genesis 45:28*. Bishop Goodpaster noted that the opening stanzas offer gratitude and praise. Annual conference is a time of seeing each other face-to-face, a time of connecting, renewing friendships, and commitment to our vocation, and celebrating ministry. Second, the middle stanzas turn our thoughts to ministry, both the difficulties and the joys. The final stanzas offer hope and encouragement through God's redeeming power and our taking up the cross. The Bishop closed with reading *I Peter 5:6-11* and a prayer using the lyrics from hymn 603 *Come Holy Ghost, Our Hearts Inspire*. The time of worship concluded with singing stanzas five and six again of hymn 553 *And Are We Yet Alive*.

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY REPORT: The Rev. Ashley Crowder Stanley, chairperson of the board, began asking persons to stand who in various ways had assisted and supported someone's call to ordained ministry. Using a personal witness from her childhood and youth about learning to play a ukulele, she emphasized the role of clergy and members of the board of ordained ministry who are given gifts from God to enable the process for ordination.

ELECTION OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS: The Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, director of ministerial services and conference secretary, introduced and moved the election of four persons as provisional deacons and 23 persons as provisional elders in response to Business Question 28, and they were elected. In response to Business Questions 30 and 31, the Rev. Ingram announced that one person has had his orders recognized from another Christian denomination and moved his election as a provisional member and it was approved. (See Section V, *Business of the Annual Conference*, in the *2015 Journal*)

ELECTION OF FULL CONNECTION MEMBERS: The Rev. Ingram introduced and moved the election of two persons as deacons in full connection and 26 persons as elders in full connection in response to Business Question 32. Following Bishop Goodpaster's inquiry of asking the traditional and historic questions and admonitions from the *Book of Discipline* (2012) 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 Question 34. In response to Business Question 36, the Rev. Ingram read the name of a person who was readmitted as an elder. (See Section V, *Business of the Annual Conference*, in the *2015 Journal*).

ELECTRONIC BALLOTING TUTORIAL: Bishop Goodpaster and the Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, conference secretary, gave information about the process of electronic balloting to elect the delegates to the 2016 General Conference and 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. In order to facilitate the process, the wi-fi in Stuart Auditorium has been disconnected during the session of the annual conference. After today the clergy sections for balloting will be in sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of Stuart Auditorium. Voting for election of delegates will use an electronic handset. Ten clergy will be elected to serve as delegates to the 2016 session of the General Conference and 10 additional clergy will be elected to serve as delegates to the 2016 session of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, along with four 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 19 through 31. Forty-five seconds 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 2016 General and Jurisdictional conferences, and they were approved:

Many of the regulations which govern our delegate elections are set forth in the *2012 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. 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, however, that on the first clergy ballot only, no write-in votes will be permitted (all eligible persons have assigned numbers for that ballot only).
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 25 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 have been elected. Balloting must be completed by Friday midnight.
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 four persons receiving the highest number of votes on that ballot be declared elected as reserve delegates from that order to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.
8. That the travel and per-diem expenses of attending the 2016 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 2016 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 15 of the *Supplement* be elected [listed on *Journal* page 162].

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

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

QUESTIONS: The Rev. Craig J. Sefa asked a question. The Rev. Kathleen H. Kilbourne asked a question. The Rev. Michael W. Moree asked a question. The Rev. James K. Sanders asked a question. Bishop Goodpaster responded in each instance.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: Bishop Goodpaster gave counsel to the clergy to be reflective and prayerful in the balloting process and mindful of the diversity and giftedness of the clergy in the annual conference.

FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Following prayer by Bishop Goodpaster, the first clergy ballot for 10 delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

BUSINESS QUESTIONS: The Rev. Crowder Stanley and Bishop Goodpaster supplied the proposed responses for Business Questions 17 and 18 and they were elected. Bishop Goodpaster noted that Business Question 18 (c) Committee on Investigation is a new item as a result of a Judicial Council ruling that reinstates this committee following an action taken by the 2012 General Conference. Therefore the criterion for membership is based on the 2008 *Book of Discipline*.

CLERGY ETHICS: The Rev. Michelle Foster, a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry, reminded the clergy members that clergy ethics seminars are required once per quadriennium for all clergy under appointment. Beginning later this year and continuing into 2016, seminars are planned in almost every district. The focus of the seminars will consider discretionary funds, use of Facebook and other social media, and setting boundaries in order to care for oneself.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The conference secretary made necessary announcements. Among those announcements she noted that an Elders Day Apart is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2015, at Assurance United Methodist Church in Huntersville.

RECESS: The executive session of clergy members recessed at noon.

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 prayer by Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster.

REPORT OF FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE BALLOT FOR CLERGY: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the first General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 824; valid, 654; necessary to elect, 328. There was no election. The listing of the top 100 vote getters was distributed.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: The Rev. Sally O. Langford and the Rev. Thomas A. (Andy) Langford thanked those who cast votes for them but requested that they not be considered for election. The Rev. Ronald A. (Alan) Rice withdrew his name from consideration for election.

SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The second clergy ballot for 10 delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

BUSINESS QUESTIONS: The Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, director of ministerial services and conference secretary, supplied the responses as amended to business questions 19 and 21; and the responses to business questions 25 and 26, and they were approved. The Rev. Donald Jenkins, vice-chairperson of the board, provided the responses to business questions 42 and 46. In response to business question 48, the Rev. Jenkins requested the clergy to stand as the names of the members of the annual conference who had died since the last session were read and prayer offered. The Rev. Ingram provided the responses for business questions 50 and 52 as amended and they were approved. Rev. Jenkins gave the responses for business questions 69, 70, 73

as amended, 77 (c), and 78 and in each instance where a vote was required the members approved. All other business questions were referenced for the body's information.

HAW CREEK COMMONS: The Dr. Rev. John S. Boggs and the Rev. Luther E. (Luke) Lingle shared about a new ministry in the Asheville area. In partnership with the Missional Wisdom Foundation, efforts are underway to transition and repurpose church facilities to develop and train missional leaders and intentional Christian communities for the 21st Century. The current project involves the Bethesda congregation in the Haw Creek area of Asheville. The Rev. Karen Doucette will be leading this initiative.

REPORT OF SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE BALLOT FOR CLERGY: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the second General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 792; valid, 688; necessary to elect, 345. The Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram received 411 votes and was declared elected as a delegate to the 2016 General Conference.

THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The third clergy ballot for nine delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

RECESS: The clergy session recessed at 2:55 p.m.

RECONVENED: The executive session of the clergy reconvened at 3:20 p.m.

REPORT OF THIRD CLERGY BALLOT FOR 2016 GENERAL CONFERENCE: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the third General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 792; valid, 673; necessary to elect, 331. The Rev. Amy L. Coles received 351 votes and was declared elected as a delegate to the 2016 General Conference.

FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The fourth clergy ballot for eight delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

VIRGIN PULSE: Jennifer L. Burton, Treasurer-Conference Statistician-Director of Administrative Services, explained the Virgin Pulse activity program that is part of the Health Benefits Committee initiative to encourage wellness among members of the clergy; 1,500 clergy are eligible to enroll. To date, 370 are enrolled. Incentive rewards are given to enrollees to encourage fitness and better health.

BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD: The Rev. Moses E. Hodnett, Jr., president, encouraged the clergy to become members. The Rev. James L. Pyatt, president-elect, highlighted the mission of the Brotherhood/Sisterhood to show compassion and care to the families of deceased clergy members of the annual conference. The Rev. Pyatt also paid tribute to the Rev. Robert W. Combs, executive director, and Robbie Carr, administrative assistant.

REPORT OF FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the fourth General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 724; valid, 617; necessary to elect, 309. The Rev. David H. Christy received 332 votes and was declared elected as a delegate to the 2016 General Conference.

FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Following prayer by Bishop Goodpaster, the fifth clergy ballot for seven delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

CALL AND VOCATION COMMITTEE: The Rev. Sally W. Queen, associate director of ministerial services, and the Rev. James C. Parsons, representing the Call and Vocation Task Force of the Board of Ordained Ministry, encouraged the clergy to cultivate a culture of the call by sharing their call stories to their congregations and to the committee who are cataloging call stories. A brief video clip shared some of the interviews already archived. The clergy were invited to share their call story to the person sitting beside them.

REPORT OF FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the fifth General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 708; valid, 634; necessary to elect, 318. The Rev. Ashley Crowder Stanly received 356 votes, the Rev. In-Yong Lee received 339 votes, the Rev. Dr. James C. Howell received 337 votes and they were declared elected as delegates to the 2016 General Conference.

SIXTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The sixth clergy ballot for four delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL: Dr. Richard L. Hays, Dean, brought greetings from the divinity school and using *1 John 1:3*, described the mission of the divinity school to bring the witness of the faith in Christ Jesus to bear in the fellowship of the believers, the church, so that the joy of the relationship with God and one another in Jesus Christ might be complete.

REPORT OF SIXTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the sixth General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 691; valid, 623; necessary to elect, 313. There was no election.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: The Rev. Anthony (Andy) E. Lambert requested that his name for election be withdrawn. The Rev. Dawn M. Hand asked that her name be withdrawn from consideration to be elected to General Conference.

SEVENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The seventh clergy ballot for four delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

SOUTH SUDAN PROJECT: The Rev. Lory Beth Huffman, the Rev. Heidi Campbell-Robinson, and the Rev. Rennie R. Salata presented through a video clip and personal testimony their recent trip to the South Sudan Teaching Institute which is part of a global initiative adopted by the 2012 General Conference to enhance theological education in developing countries.

REPORT OF SEVENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the seventh General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 688; valid, 642; necessary to elect, 322. The Rev. Jeremy I. Troxler received 379 votes and the Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Moore, Jr. received 361 votes and they were declared elected as delegates to the 2016 General Conference.

EIGHTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Following prayer by Bishop Goodpaster, the eighth clergy ballot for two delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

ZOE MINISTRIES: The Rev. Jaylynn W. Byassee, Director of Mission Pathways, presented a video clip prepared by Adam Hamilton about the project to support orphans who had lost parents to HIV/Aids on the continent of Africa and the country of India by training and enabling older siblings to care for their families. She updated the status of the project by announcing that currently 15 churches in the conference had partnered to support 1,603 orphans and that the program was expanding to include the country of Guatemala.

REPORT OF EIGHTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the eighth General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 668; valid, 645; necessary to elect, 323. There was no election.

QUESTIONS: The Rev. Carol P. Carkin inquired if the next clergy ballot could be delayed and Bishop declined the request. The Rev. Andrew T. Hellams urged that greater diversity be considered on the next ballot.

NINTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The ninth General Conference clergy ballot for two delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

BLESSED EARTH: The Rev. Bill Hughes presented information about a structured program to help individuals and families learn to keep the Sabbath.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Rev. Ingram made necessary announcements.

ADJOURNMENT: The executive session of the clergy adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

OPENING WORSHIP AND HOLY COMMUNION – 7:30 P.M.

The Rev. Erin Beall, WNCC's youngest full connection clergy person, led the call to worship, followed by the singing of the processional hymn 159, *Lift High the Cross*. After an opening prayer given by the Rev. Ralph Reed, WNCC's oldest full connection clergy person, by video recorded at Aldersgate Retirement Community, and the reading of *Ephesians 2:1-10* by the Rev. Emmanuel Boakye-Yiadom, the Rev. Innocent Justice offered the prayers of the people and read the scripture from *Ezekiel 47:1-12*. After an introduction by Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster, Bishop Ziphozihle Siwa, presiding bishop of the Methodist Church of South Africa, preached the message, "Made Alive Together with Christ." Bishop Siwa proclaimed that it is God's nature to desire a chance to start over again in making his creation whole. After *The World Methodist Social Affirmation*, led by the Rev. Myer Dahn, and the receiving of the offering for the Missional Faith Communities and Ministries, the praise team from Covenant United Methodist Church, High Point, provided special music, "Christ Is Risen" and led the congregation in the Doxology. Bishop Goodpaster led the congregation in a responsive prayer of confession and pardon. Bishop Goodpaster celebrated the sacrament of Holy Communion with the assistance of deacons, elders with Africa connections, district superintendents and members of the WNCC staff. After a prayer following communion, the singing of the hymn, *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, and dismissal with blessing, worship concluded and the conference recessed at 9:30 p.m. Timothy Scruggs, First United Methodist Church in Gastonia, and Scott Taylor, First United Methodist Church in Waynesville, are the music leaders for annual conference.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2015

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

LAITY SESSION CONVENES: Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster began the laity session in Stuart Auditorium, noting the news report of a shooting in Charleston, S.C., during a prayer meeting at an AME church, killing nine persons. He offered prayer for the victims, their families, and survivors. Following the singing of hymn 533, *And Are We Yet Alive*, the bishop prayed for this session of the annual conference.

Bishop Goodpaster and the Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, conference secretary, gave information about the process of electronic balloting to elect the delegates to the 2016 General Conference and 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. In order to facilitate the process, the wi-fi in Stuart Auditorium has been disconnected during the session of the annual conference. 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 2016 session of the General Conference and 10 additional laity will be elected to serve as delegates to the 2016 session of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, along with four 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. Forty-five seconds 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, printing each name.

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 2016 General and Jurisdictional conferences, and they were approved:

Many of the regulations which govern our delegate elections are set forth in the *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 laity session be set to include sections 5,6,7,8,9, 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, however, that on the first clergy ballot only, no write-in votes will be permitted (all eligible persons have assigned numbers for that ballot only).
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 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 25 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 Friday midnight.
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 four persons receiving the highest number of votes on that ballot be declared elected as reserve delegates from that order to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.
8. That the travel and per-diem expenses of attending the 2016 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 2016 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 15 of the *Supplement* be elected.

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

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

QUESTION: Midgie Dial, Landis UMC, asked a question and the Bishop responded.

FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Following a prayer from Bishop Goodpaster, the first laity ballot for 10 delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

FLAME BUILDERS: Cindy Thompson, program director, shared the story of Flame Builders, a global leadership and spiritual formation institute for young adults. Dana Lyles, program graduate, share her personal testimony. This project will be available in all the districts beginning this fall.

REPORT OF FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the first General Conference laity ballot as follows: Votes cast, 967; valid, 791; necessary to elect, 396. There was no election.

QUESTIONS: Dick Davidson, Ben Harton, and Sara Williams asked questions and the Bishop responded. Bob Chaney made a comment.

SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: The second General Conference laity ballot for 10 delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

CONGREGATIONS 4 CHILDREN: The Rev. Dr. John S. Boggs, Blue Ridge District superintendent, Caroline Wood, conference associate director for discipleship ministry, and Karen Ballard, Blue Ridge District, gave the report for the project designed to transform the lives of children and families impacted by poverty through collaboration with the public schools in North Carolina.

REPORT OF SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the second General Conference laity ballot as follows: Votes cast, 990; valid, 843; necessary to elect, 422. Jennifer P. Davis received 500 votes, Jennifer L. Burton received 475 votes, Lynne Gilbert received 449 votes, and Coley Hooker, Jr. received 422 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2016 General Conference.

THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Following prayer by the Rev. Dr. Boggs, the third General Conference laity ballot for six delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

QUESTIONS: John Davis requested reading the voting number along with the name when reporting the ballot. Ryan Clark encouraged election of younger delegates.

ZOE MINISTRIES: The Rev. Jaylynn W. Byassee, director of mission pathways, presented a video clip prepared by the Rev. Adam Hamilton about the project to support orphans who had lost parents to HIV/Aids on the continent of Africa and the country of India by training and enabling older siblings to care for their families. She updated the status of the project by announcing that currently 15 churches in the conference had partnered to support 1,603 orphans and that the program was expanding to include the country of Guatemala.

REPORT OF THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the third General Conference laity ballot as follows: Votes cast, 1005; valid, 902; necessary to elect, 452. There was no election.

FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: The fourth General Conference laity ballot for six delegates to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The conference secretary made necessary announcements.

ADJOURNMENT: The laity session adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE CONVENES – 11 A.M.

CONFERENCE CONVENES: With Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster, 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 17, 2015 at 11:20 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Goodpaster called the 48th annual session of the conference to order at 11:20 a.m. (actual) and offered prayer.

REPORT OF FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the fourth General Conference laity ballot as follows: Votes cast, 1,021; valid, 848; necessary to elect, 425. Amy L. Johnson received 521 votes, Shannon Sherfey received 486 votes, Sandra L. (Sandy) Hieronymous received 480 votes, Henry W. (Hank) Dozier received 477 votes, and Robert D. Upchurch received 448 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2016 General Conference.

FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: The fifth General Conference laity ballot for one delegate to the 2016 General Conference was taken. Bishop Goodpaster announced that, in the event that more lay members than the one delegate needed to complete the balloting for laity delegates to General Conference received the necessary votes to be elected on this ballot, then those additional persons would be declared as elected as a delegate(s) to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

REPORT OF NINTH GENERAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the ninth General Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 608; valid, 580; necessary to elect 291. There was no election.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: Bishop Goodpaster requested permission of the annual conference to communicate love and prayers from the Western North Carolina Conference to Bishop Richard Franklin Norris, bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal area that includes congregations in Charleston, South Carolina, in response to the deadly shooting Wednesday evening at Emmanuel AME Church, where nine worshippers, including the pastor, were killed. The conference affirmed the Bishop's request.

WELCOME TO LAKE JUNALUSKA ASSEMBLY: Bishop Goodpaster introduced John "Jack" Ewing, executive director of Lake Junaluska, who welcomed the members of the annual conference and reminded them of the mission statement of the Assembly: "To be a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind, and body." He noted the renovations completed at the Terrace at Lake Junaluska.

VOTING BAR: The 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. Clergy will sit in sections 1-4 and Laity will sit in sections 5-10.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The conference secretary moved and the conference approved that the conference program as printed on pages five and six of the *Supplement to the Program and Reports booklet*, subject to necessary daily adjustments, constitute the official agenda of the 2015 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, 2015.

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 2015 session, and they were elected: Sandra S. Hargett, Marsha Bradley, and the Rev. A. Owen Peeler, associate secretaries; the Rev. Kathy M. McAbee, and Mike Penniger, Assistant Secretaries; and the Rev. Dr. Charles D. White, Jr. (Denny) as *conference secretary emeritus*.

ELECTION OF CONFERENCE CHANCELLOR: The conference secretary moved the election of the conference chancellor, Greg Huffman, and he was elected. Bishop Goodpaster invited Huffman to the platform and he was introduced to the conference.

CONSENT CALENDAR MOTION: The conference secretary moved that the consent calendar, PETITIONS 3-12, and 14-19 be adopted as printed, with the following change in PETITION 3: BOARDS OF DIRECTORS FOR WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE CAMPS: Camp Carolwood replace the name of David Cash with the name of Amy Cable, and it was approved. (The listing of petitions can be found in Section IX and additionally in Section VIII.)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS: The conference secretary moved the adoption of the report of the committee on nominations for 2015-2016 (*ad interim*) and the nominees were elected. The elections are found in Section II of the *Journal*.

CONFERENCE RULES AND PLAN OF ORGANIZATION: The Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, conference secretary, moved the adoption and they were approved of the Conference Rules and Plan of Organization, printed in the *Supplement*, pages 57-65 and found in Section VII of the *Journal*.

GUIDELINES FOR HOLY CONFERRING: Bishop Goodpaster referenced the statements presented in the guidelines for Holy Conferencing found on the inside opening page of the *Supplement* and the *Program and Reports booklet*; and, announced his plan to preside over the sessions using these guidelines.

REPORT OF FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the fifth General Conference laity ballot as follows: Votes cast, 951; valid, 951; necessary to elect 477. There was no election.

SIXTH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: The sixth General Conference laity ballot for one delegate to the 2016 General Conference was taken.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Rev. Ingram made necessary announcements.

RECESS: The conference recessed at 12:03 p.m.

EVENING WORSHIP CAMP MEETING – 7:30 P.M.

In the style of the historic camp meeting worship experience, the evening worship was a time of music, song, prayers, praise, and testimony. Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster introduced Bishop William T. McAlilly, resident bishop of the Nashville Area, Tennessee Conference and Memphis Conference. Bishop McAlilly preached the sermon titled “Wake Up to Love” using the scripture text from *John 21:15-19*. Special music was provided by The Experience from Mount Holly, N.C., and the Camp Ground Singers, representing the Catawba Valley District Campgrounds. The Anthony Family presented a closing song and Bishop McAlilly offered the benediction.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2015

SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS – 8:30 A.M.

Joshua Messick, a virtuoso hammered dulcimer player from Asheville, opened the worship service. Following the processional hymn 399, *Take My Life, And Let It Be*, the Rev. Donald Jenkins, vice-chairperson Board of Ordained Ministry, led the call to worship and opening prayer. After an introduction by Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster and prayer by the Rev. John Isley, the Rev. Dr. Kim Cape, general secretary, of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, The United Methodist Church, Nashville, Tennessee, preached the sermon “What Would Wesley Do?,” based on *Ephesians 4:11-16*. Dr. Cape urged the licensed local pastors and provisional members to pray, study, be great preachers, stay connected, and grow-up. Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster recognized a new class of licensed local pastors and commissioned 28 persons for ministry. Each candidate commissioned received a cross from the Board of Ordained Ministry, presented by the Rev. Donald Jenkins. The service concluded with the singing of hymn 2241 *The Faith We Sing, The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION, INC.: Christopher W. Davis, chairperson of the board, convened the annual meeting and nominated the following for election to the board and they were elected: in the class of 2018 – the Rev. Dennis Marshall, Brad Chapman, the Rev. Brad Farrington, Dave Guilford, and Anne Martin. Davis introduced the Rev. Elizabeth Coppedge-Henley, chief operating officer, who reviewed the ministry of the foundation and its various services and programs. Davis introduced the Rev. David A. Snipes, president and CEO, and he thanked the members of the board of directors for their service and presented his report. The Rev. Snipes noted four new ministry initiatives: 1) The United Methodist Foundation will develop and implement a liaison project to inform the conference better about the work of the foundation; 2) Develop a comprehensive program to provide debt assistance for clergy; 3) Develop a Lead Pastor/CEO training program; 4) Promote legacy opportunities for congregations. Davis thanked the conference for the vision that created the foundation, which is celebrating its 30th Anniversary. He paid tribute to the late Claire Hunsucker for her long-time work on the staff and noted her recent death. Davis presented a check in the amount of \$10,000 to Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster. The money represented a tithe from the foundation. The annual meeting of the foundation adjourned.

CONFERENCE PLENARY – BUSINESS SESSION – 10:15 A.M.

CONFERENCE RECONVENES: Pursuant to adjournment the annual conference reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

MOTION: A lay member moved to adjust the voting procedures and Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster ruled the motion out of order.

WORDS OF INSTRUCTION: Bishop Goodpaster reported that the system for the electronic voting devices is working properly. The issues that are causing invalid ballots are as follows:

1) Must vote for the exact number of persons required for that ballot; 2) If you encounter a technical difficulty with the device, you must stand, relinquish your device to the teller, and receive a write-in ballot. Following the taking of that ballot go to the help desk to have your device checked; 3) Turn off all mobile devices during the entire session; 4) In an emergency, leave the auditorium in order to use your mobile device.

REPORT OF THIRD JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the result of the fourth Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot as follows: Votes cast, 1021; valid, 821; necessary to elect, 411. Wade D. Loftin received 446 votes and was declared elected a delegate to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

FOURTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Following prayer by Bishop Goodpaster, the fourth Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot for three delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

REPORT OF FIRST JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the first Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 630; valid, 404; necessary to elect, 202. The Rev. Sally W. Queen received 209 votes and was declared elected a delegate to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

SECOND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The second Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for nine delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: Bishop Goodpaster introduced and welcomed to the platform Dr. Colleen Perry Keith, the new president of Pfeiffer University. Dr. Keith spoke to the conference.

REPORT OF FOURTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the fourth Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot as follows: Votes cast, 1056; valid, 958; necessary to elect, 479. Reynaldo A. Rodriguez received 553 votes, Kathy FitzJefferies received 523 votes, and Joseph Williams received 493 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

FIFTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: The fifth Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot for four reserve delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

CONFERENCE BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS: M. Lynne Gilbert, president, presented the report and moved adoption of PETITION 2, PART a: PENSION PROGRAMS AND POLICIES, and the petition was approved.

Gilbert presented and moved adoption of PETITION 2, PART b: HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM AND POLICIES.

The Rev. William I. Mandelstamm moved to amend Part 2b. item 1, but the amendment failed to receive a second.

The Rev. Dr. Frank A. Stith, III and Todd Creviston, of GBOPHB, explained the Virgin Pulse walking program and announced the clergy winners of the conference challenge: the Rev. Michael K. Swofford, the Rev. James K. Sanders, the Rev. Kevin Miller, the Rev. Dale W. Bost, the Rev. Lee A. Eggers, the Rev. Jeff Hamrick, the Rev. L. Elaine Hall, the Rev. Noel N. Sweezy, the Rev. Jill B. Rhinehart, and the Rev. Lee H. Strange. The Rev. Dr. Stith announced that a check of \$2,800 would be given for the mission offering as a part of the steps challenge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Rev. Ingram made necessary announcements. She explained the procedure to collect the electronic voting devices used by the lay members for balloting.

ORDER OF THE DAY: RECOGNITION OF RETIRING CLERGY AND SPOUSES

Twenty-nine clergy were recognized on the event of their retirement. The Rev. Randy L. Wall spoke on behalf of the retirees. The Rev. Daniel McEwen Corpening spoke in response on behalf of the 2015 class in full connection. M. Lynne Gilbert, president of the Board of Pension and Health Benefits, the Rev. Meredith Poe Martin, a member of the 2015 class in full connection, and Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster also participated. Retirees were presented with certificates and each spouse was given a rose. The hymn of praise, *Forever the Same*, written for the 125th anniversary of Hudson United Methodist Church, Hudson, N.C. by Rebecca Ratcliffe Brittain was sung as the opening hymn.

CONFERENCE PLENARY – BUSINESS SESSION – 1:30 P.M.

CONFERENCE RECONVENES: Pursuant to recess the conference reconvened at 1:30 p.m. following an opening prayer by Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster.

REPORT OF FIFTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE LAITY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the fifth Jurisdictional Conference laity ballot as follows: Ann H. Aldridge, Fred Q. Candler, Harry Underwood, and Rebekah Lisk having received the highest number of votes were declared elected as reserve delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional, thus completing the laity delegation.

REPORT OF SECOND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the second Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 592; valid, 450; necessary to elect, 226. The Rev. Shelly F. Webb received 257 votes and the Rev. David C. Hockett received 255 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: The Rev. Dawn M. Hand reported that the Rev. Dr. Arnetta E. Beverly, who is absent because of providing care for her aunt, requested that her name be removed from consideration for election to Jurisdictional Conference.

THIRD JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The third Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for seven delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

REPORT OF THE CHILDREN'S HOME: Katheryn Northington, chairperson of the board of trustees, introduced Jenny Taylor, interim executive director, and presented the report. Northington named members of the board from the Western North Carolina Conference and listed the categories of professions of the other board members. She outlined the process that the board of directors was taking to make The Children's Home an effective institution for serving children in need and at risk.

PETITION 13: TRUSTEES OF THE CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.: The Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram presented Petition 13: Trustees of the Children's Home, Inc., and Redge Hanes, Leigh Summer, Barry Lyon, Matt York, and Saribeth Dozier were elected.

REPORT OF THIRD JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the third Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 454; valid, 417; necessary to elect 209. The Rev. Angela A. Pleasants received 240 votes and the Rev. Stephanie M. Hand received 223 votes; and, they were declared elected as delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

FOURTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The fourth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for five delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: Laurie S. Guy, president, presented the report of the Council on Finance and Administration. She presented PETITION 1: 2016 CONFERENCE FUNDS AND FINANCIAL POLICIES and moved the adoption of items 1-19, and they were approved.

The Rev. Ellis Carson asked a question about item number 5 and Jennifer Burton responded.

The Rev. Kent Smith asked about item number 2 in regard to fixed costs and Guy answered.

Guy then presented the proposed 2016 CONFERENCE BUDGET and moved its adoption. She noted that the 2016 Conference Budget, which totals \$16,415,998, is a decrease of \$40,733 and represents .26% reduction from the 2015 budget.

David Johnson asked about the increase for legal services and Burton and Bishop Goodpaster responded.

Peg Aldridge asked a question and Burton answered.

The Rev. Lori Ann Bowen made a comment.

Ron Ballard asked a question and the Bishop responded.

The Rev. Dr. Donald W. Haynes asked a question and Bishop Goodpaster answered.

The budget was adopted.

REPORT OF FOURTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the fourth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 524; valid, 488; necessary to elect, 245. The Rev. Lory Beth Huffman received 255 votes; and, she was declared elected as a delegate to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

FIFTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The fifth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for 4 delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

RECESS: The conference stood in recess at 3 p.m.

CONFERENCE RECONVENES: Conference reconvened at 3:30 p.m. with a prayer offered by Bishop Goodpaster.

REPORT OF FIFTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the fifth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 525; valid, 498; necessary to elect, 250. The Rev. Christopher M. Westmoreland received 281 votes; and, he was declared elected as a delegate to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

SIXTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The sixth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for three delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

PETITION 22: PARSONAGE HOME INSPECTIONS FOR PASTORAL TRANSITIONS: The Rev. Jeremy I. Troxler and the Rev. James C. Parsons presented the petition and moved its adoption; and the petition was adopted.

The Rev. Ann Haywood Baxter asked a question.

The Rev. Byron E. Alexander asked a question and Rev. Troxler answered.

Brenda Lyons asked a question and Rev. Troxler responded.

The Rev. Holly C. Adams spoke in favor of the petition.

Mary Cash spoke against adoption.

The Rev. Kris Maris asked a question and the Rev. Parsons answered.

The Rev. Michael A. Shuford moved to amend the petition by requiring the inspection be done every five years regardless of a pastoral transition.

The Rev. A. J. Moore spoke in favor of the amendment.

The Rev. Cindy Lunsford spoke against the amendment.

Beverly Maulden asked a question and the Rev. Troxler answered.

The Shuford amendment did not prevail.

The petition was adopted.

REPORT OF SIXTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the sixth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 472; valid, 443; necessary to elect, 223. The Rev. Laura M. Beach received 242 votes, the Rev. Dawn M. Hand received 242 votes; and they were declared elected as delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

SEVENTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The seventh Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for one delegate to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

PETITION 20: JUST SAVE ONE HIV AND AIDS: The Rev. Matthew S. Smith, chairperson of the Justice and Reconciliation Team, presented the petition and moved its adoption; and the petition was approved.

Gary Kennedy asked a question and Bishop Goodpaster responded.

Charmaine Van Rooyen asked a question and the Bishop answered.

The Rev. William I. Mandelstamm spoke in favor of the petition.

REPORT OF SEVENTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the seventh Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 488; valid, 488; necessary to elect, 245. There was no election.

EIGHTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The eighth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for one delegate to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

PETITION 21: PROMOTE HEALTHY CONVERSATIONS: McKencie C. Dillingham, district-at-large lay member, Blue Ridge District, presented the petition and moved its adoption; and, the petition was approved.

The Rev. Dr. H. Donnell FitzJefferies spoke in favor of the petition.

Larry Moose spoke against the petition.

James Michael Smith asked a question and Dillingham answered.

Coley Hooker, Jr., spoke against the petition.

Wayne Worth asked a question and Dillingham responded.

Lisa Euwer spoke in favor of the petition.

Dewey Waters spoke against the petition.

REPORT OF EIGHTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announce the result of the eighth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 478; valid, 478; necessary to elect, 240. There was no election.

NINTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The ninth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for one delegate to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

PETITION 23: REMOVAL OF LANGUAGE FOUND IN ¶ 161 IN THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE: Ronald J. Ballard, district-at-large member, Blue Ridge District, presented the petition and moved its adoption; and the petition failed to be supported by a vote of 568 For; 763 Against; 61 Abstaining.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: The Rev. Kelly P. Carpenter moved suspension of Rule 24 and take an immediate vote without debate, and the motion to suspend the rules was sustained by the required 2/3 vote.

The Rev. Charles C. Kyker raised a point of order and the Bishop ruled.

REPORT OF THE NINTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the result of the ninth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 476; valid, 476; necessary to elect, 239. There was no election.

TENTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The tenth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for one delegate to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

POINT OF CLARIFICATION: The Rev. Nathan T. Snider requested clarification and Bishop Goodpaster responded.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: The Rev. Dr. George P. Robinson moved to suspend the rules so that on the next Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot the top five recipients of votes would be declared elected as delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference with the top vote recipient being declared elected as the principal clergy delegate and the additional four in order of votes declared elected as reserve clergy delegates, and the motion was adopted.

REPORT OF THE TENTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the results of the tenth Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Votes cast, 470; valid, 470; necessary to elect, 236. There was no election.

ELEVENTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: The eleventh Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot for five delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was taken.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The conference secretary made necessary announcements. The Rev. Ingram thanked Michael Crabb, Katie Gilden, and Josan Battle of Option Technology for the equipment and their expertise in using the electronic device voting for delegates to the 2016 General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE CLERGY BALLOT: Bishop Goodpaster announced the result of the eleventh Jurisdictional Conference clergy ballot as follows: Rev. Julianne (Jan) Brittain was declared elected as a principal delegate; and, The Rev. Uiyeon Kim, the Rev. Talbot A. Davis, the Rev. Anthony E. (Andy) Lambert, and the Rev. Dr. Charles C. Kyker were declared elected as reserve delegates to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, thus completing the clergy delegation.

RECESS: The conference recessed at 5:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2015**CONFERENCE PLENARY – BUSINESS SESSION – 8:30 A.M.**

CONFERENCE RECONVENES: Pursuant to adjournment the annual conference reconvened at 8:30 a.m.

ORDER FOR MORNING PRAYER: Following the singing of hymn 384, *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*. Bishop Goodpaster offered prayer.

LAITY ADDRESS: Robert D. Upchurch, conference lay leader, introduced Jane Boatwright Wood, executive director of the Foundation for Evangelism, who presented the 2015 Laity Address. Wood, using the scripture *Mark 16:15*, focused on the theme “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus.” She described what evangelism and evangelical mean for Christians and United Methodists; and, challenged the conference to become the kind of Christian we are called to be and proclaim our story of God’s love in word and deed.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF LAITY: Robert D. Upchurch, conference lay leader and president of the Board of Laity, presented the report. He announced that the Gathering of the Laity will be August 7-8, 2015, at Lake Junaluska Assembly. This year will mark the 50th anniversary of the gathering and will be the final year the event will be held. Later this summer, a survey on the conference website will solicit ideas about what future laity-sponsored events should be considered.

YOUTH MINISTRIES: Natalie Harris, president of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, gave the annual report of the council. Harris, with the help of video slides, highlighted the various ministry events the conference offers to empower youth to be faithful disciples.

UNITED METHODIST MEN: Neil Brown, conference president of United Methodist Men, gave the annual report of that organization.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: Tonya Lanier, conference president of United Methodist Women, presented the report. She reported that for the 14th consecutive year, the Western NC Conference UMW was first in the nation in mission giving and contributed more than \$900,000.

BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD: Jack Young, laity director of the WNCB Brotherhood/Sisterhood, encouraged the laity to support the Brotherhood/Sisterhood, which provides support and encouragement to the family of deceased clergy members. Laity members are honorary members and are asked to contribute \$3 per call. Currently there are 1,848 laity members of the Brotherhood/Sisterhood.

DENMAN AWARDS: The Rev. Gary Shockley, conference director of Church Vitality, and Jane Boatwright Wood, executive director of the Foundation for Evangelism, presented the 2015 Harry Denman Awards to the following: The Rev. James G. Allred, Jr. received the clergy award for his work with Bridge to Recovery; and, George Eubanks, Mount Pleasant UMC, Stanly, received the laity award for his ministry with Common Ground Prayer Chapel.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: Betty Jo Hardy, a member of the Governing Board of the North Carolina Council of Churches, introduced the Rev. Dr. Jennifer Copeland, the new executive director of the North Carolina Council of Churches. The Rev. Dr. Copeland greeted and spoke to the conference. Hardy requested that the conference secretary send greetings to the Rev. George Reed, expressing appreciation for his years of service to the council. Bishop Goodpaster paid tribute to the Honorable C. Sydnor Thompson, Jr., who died earlier this year, for his passion for ecumenism and his service from the conference to the North Carolina Council of Churches.

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

Pine Hill United Methodist Church, Davidson County, Uwharrie District (GCFA: 301634, Map # DVD38)

Whereas, Pine Hill United Methodist Church, Davidson County, Uwharrie District, has declined to eight members and zero attendance,

Whereas, due to declining attendance, the church is unable to fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church according to the *2012 Book of Discipline*, ¶ 201-204; and

Whereas, the 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 Pine Hill United Methodist Church, Davidson County, Uwharrie District, be discontinued and declared abandoned effective December 31, 2014; and that the Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of the *2012 Book of Discipline* and the policies of the annual conference.

Davis Chapel United Methodist Church, Haywood County, Smoky Mountain District (GCFA 302412, Map # HAY06)

Whereas, the membership of Davis Chapel United Methodist Church, Haywood County, Smoky Mountain District, has declined to an average of four members 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 *2012 Book of Discipline*, ¶ 201-204; and

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

Resolved, that the Davis Chapel United Methodist Church, Haywood County, Smoky Mountain District, be discontinued and abandoned effective June 30, 2015; and that the Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of the *2012 Book of Discipline* and the policies of the annual conference.

Eshcol United Methodist Church, Wilkes County, Appalachian District (GCFA 288913, Map # WLK07)

Whereas, the membership of Eshcol United Methodist Church (also known as Eschol [Sic] United Methodist Church), Wilkes County, Appalachian District, has declined to 12 members in worship; and

Whereas, due to restricted funds and declining membership Eshcol UMC is unable to actively fulfill the purpose and mission of the local church in accordance with ¶ 201-204 of the *2012 Book of Discipline*; and

Whereas, 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 Eshcol United Methodist Church, Wilkes County, Appalachian District, be discontinued and declared abandoned effective July 1, 2015; and that the Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2549 of the *Book of Discipline (2012)* and the policies of the annual conference.

MOTION: The Rev. Jay W. Bissett made the following motion and it was adopted:

That the Bishop appoint a task force to:

- a. Study ways that our public schools might be improved through state policy;
- b. Find ways for our churches and conference to be advocates for our children to our state leaders;
- c. To report their findings to the 2016 session of the annual conference.

COUNCIL OF BISHOPS LETTER ON RACISM: Bishop Goodpaster referenced the *Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Racism* printed in the *Supplement* and encouraged that it be shared to the local congregations. He noted that he plans to develop specific conversations that address racism, domestic violence, and human trafficking.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: The Rev. Pamela L. Strader thanked Bishop Goodpaster for his modeling before the conference the guidelines of holy conferencing.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: The Rev. Matthew C. Morris asked if the conversations the bishop planned might include persons from the Pan-Methodist churches.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Rev. Kimberly T. Ingram, conference secretary, made concluding announcements. The offering received to date for Missional Faith Communities and Ministries totals \$18,190. She spoke words of appreciation for the work of the secretarial staff, ushers, tellers, the residents of Lake Junaluska, the Stuart Auditorium staff and Lake Junaluska staff, the conference worship team, the persons typing the transcriptions and providing signing, and the members of the conference staff. Bishop Goodpaster thanked the members and delegates of the annual conference. He offered special thanks to the Rev. Ingram for her work as conference secretary.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: Jack Young spoke words of appreciation for the leadership of Bishop Goodpaster and requested prayer for Lisa and Allen.

RECESS: The conference recessed at 10:23 a.m. in order to prepare for the Celebration of Life worship service.

WORSHIP SERVICE – CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE – 11:15 A.M.

The Rev. Robert M. Blackburn, Jr., pastor of Central UMC, Asheville, Blue Ridge District, was the preacher for this service. The sermon text was based on *Hebrews 12:1-2* and *Matthew 28:16-20* and the sermon was titled, "Remembering." Kathi Graham and Leisa Stamey played the bagpipes and escorted the families in and out of the service. Members of the 2015 class elected to full connection assisted in the service. Special music was provided by the Brass Quartet from First United Methodist Church, Gastonia, and the Joyful Ringers I and II, bell choirs, from Simpson-Gillespie UMC, Charlotte. During the Naming of the Saints, the lives of 39 clergy and diaconal ministers were remembered and celebrated, as well as the spouses of 28 clergy who died in the year.

SERVICE OF ORDINATION – 7:30 P.M.

Bishop William T. McAlilly, Resident Bishop, Tennessee Conference and Memphis Conference, preached a sermon from *John 13:1-9; 34-35*, titled "Love One Another." Robert D. Upchurch, conference lay leader, and members of the Board of Ordained Ministry assisted in the service. Following examination, two deacons and 26 elders were ordained by Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster, assisted by Bishops William T. McAlilly, Thomas B. Stockton, J. Lawrence McCleskey, and Kenneth L. Carder.

The Men's Quartet, the Rev. Matthew Burton, the Rev. Chris Hughes, Scott Taylor and Ed Davis, provided special music, *His Robes for Mine*. The Quartet was accompanied by Beverly Burton. Timothy Scruggs, conference musician, and Scott Taylor, assistant conference musician, provided accompaniment and direction for the hymns and special music.

Each ordinand received a red stole appropriate for their order and their certificate of ordination.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2015**A SERVICE OF THE WORD AND THE FIXING OF APPOINTMENTS - 10 A.M.**

Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster, taking his text from *Luke 5:1-11*, preached the sermon titled, "Net Results." The Junaluska Singers provided special choral presentations throughout the liturgy of the worship service.

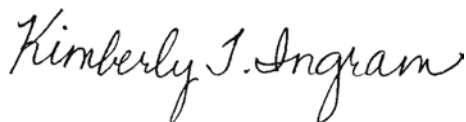
OFFERING: The morning offering was designated for the Missional Faith Communities and Ministries.

COMMISSIONING OF GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES: Those clergy and laity who were elected delegates to represent the Western North Carolina Annual Conference to the 2016 General and Southeastern Jurisdictional Conferences were invited to come to the platform. Bishop Goodpaster led the congregation in a prayer of commissioning and sending forth.

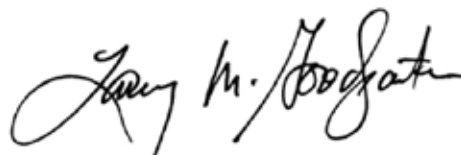
FIXING OF THE APPOINTMENTS: Bishop Goodpaster thanked the eight district superintendents and the Rev. Sally O. Langford, assistant to the bishop. The Bishop announced that the Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Moore, Jr., the Rev. Dr. Gary C. Royals, and the Rev. Lory Beth Huffman were being appointed to local congregations. The Rev. Sally O. Langford is appointed district superintendent of the Metro District; the Rev. Amy L. Coles is appointed assistant to the bishop; the Rev. Dr. Carl Arrington is appointed district superintendent of the Appalachian District, The Rev. Laura Hubbard Auten is appointed district superintendent of the Uwharrie District and the Rev. Randolph H. Harry is appointed district superintendent of the Smoky Mountain District. Bishop Goodpaster invited the Rev. Gary Shockley, director of church vitality to introduce two new faith communities. The Rev. Shockley introduced the Rev. Jesse Smith who will serve ReActivate Church, and the Rev. Dr. Susan Michael, pastor of New Hope UMC, with the Rev. Oscar Zuniga, who are launching a new Hispanic congregation in partnership with New Hope. Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster officially fixed the clergy appointments for the Western North Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church for the ensuing year.

CHARGE AND COVENANT PRAYER: Bishop Goodpaster charged the licensed, commissioned, consecrated, and ordained clergy to go where they are sent and called to serve. He charged the laity to uphold the church with prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness and to receive and support the clergy appointed to their churches. All persons present shared in the covenant and covenant prayer.

ADJOURNMENT: The Western North Carolina Annual Conference of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church adjourned *sine die* at 12 p.m.



Kimberly T. Ingram



Larry M. Goodpaster

USHERS FOR THE 2015 SESSION

Kathy McAbee and Mike Penninger, Co-chairpersons

Team A (Red)

Phyllis Glahn
Rodney Hagans
Lauren Miller
Deb Patterson
Jimmy Dancy
Robert Hayward
Dave Hudelson
Greta Wolfe
Tim Fitzgerald
Ed Armfield

Danielle Hammett
Tammy Ingram
Kim Eller
Myra Waddell
William Parish
Sarah Howell
Dave Kelley
Rick Cain
Baxter Slaughter

Sean Turner
Jim Tate
Gregg Plott
Ashley Anne Lloyd
Marvin Folger
Kelly Whitener
George Eubanks
Tripp Hord
Eric Hill
Justin Lowe

Team B (Green)

Paul Sears
Steve Miller
Carol Harper
John Harper
Sue Jones
CJ Nelson
Naomi King
John Pillsbury
Mike Harrison
Howard Fleming

Team C (Yellow)

Gregg Collins
Myer Dahn
Ron Hartman
Suzanne Dornsmith
Michlene Mathews
Pilar Perez
Midgie Dial
Todd Steck
Cindy Lunsford
Paul Bethel

Kelly Creekmur
Sybil Perrell
Monty Clark
Kayla Aiton
Eddie Aiton
Pat Gilber
Amy Halverson
Paula Northrup
Jessa Ren
Bruce Handy

Floater: Jerry Rogers

**TELLERS FOR THE ELECTION OF DELEGATES
TO THE 2016 GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCES****Clergy Chief Tellers:** Phyllis Coates and Allan VanMeter

(AP)	Michael Carr	(CV)	Byron Alexander	(NP)	David Blankenberg	(UW)	David McCauley
	Elaine Hall		Dale Sneed		Sue Anne Morris		Jack Tookey
(BR)	Karen Doucette	(ME)	Michelle Chappell	(SM)	Susan Giles	(YV)	Anne Elmore
	Ann Self		Dennis Gray		Aryn Williams		Gary Mahathey

Laity Chief Tellers: Shannon Sherfey and Fred Cantler

(AP)	Dillon Culbreth	(CV)	Angela Hollar	(NP)	Matt Johnson	(UW)	Elizabeth Lookabill
	Suzie Davis		Mark Hollar		Emily Sain		Kathy Odell
(BR)	Arlene Hendrix	(ME)	Karen Wilkerson	(SM)	David Dunaway	(YV)	Linda Moore
			Wanda Musgrave		Allison Spruill		Chris Raines
			Caroline Wood				

E. CERTIFICATE OF COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION

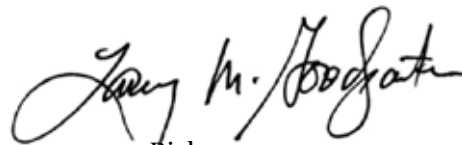
This is to certify that at a service of commissioning held on Friday morning, June 19, 2015, in George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, I, Larry M. Goodpaster, a bishop in The United Methodist Church did

COMMISSION for ministry in The United Methodist Church under the 2012 Book of Discipline as provisional members of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference: Sarah Louise Belles, Edward Richard Blount III, Mitchell Cliff Boughman, Walter Christian Bates, Darryl Diwayne Dayson II, Donna Southard Friddle, Jonathan Alan Gaylord, Wesley Leonard Hall, Jr., Bradley Thomas Hinton, Meredith Angeline Hinton, Joshua David Kurtz, Bradley Sherman Lisk, Adam Christopher Love, Tracy Fulbright Love, Roy Lee Miller, Corey Cole Milliet, Rebekah Jane Shuford, Kyle Lynn Sigmon, Jesse Ray Smith, Juston Ray Smith, Patricia Black Spicer, Allen Tippet Stanton, Debra Chrismon Swing, Victor Alan Wilfong, Arlyn Margaret Williams, Daniel Robert Wilson, John William Yeager.

This is further to certify that at a service of ordination held on Saturday evening, June 20, 2015, in George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, I did

ORDAIN to the Order of DEACON in The United Methodist Church: Meredith Poe Martin and Kevin Allan Turner.

ORDAIN to the Order of ELDER in The United Methodist Church: Erin Jessica Beall, Daniel Leonard Brubaker, Bradley Van Bruce, John Thomas Bryant, Kristy Hardin Burnette, Michael Franklin Burris, Daniel McEwen Corpening, Janet Ruth Fisher Dixon, Joseph Marion Fulk III, Arnold Park Gosnell, Jeanette Tatum Hayes, Denise Sarah Kilgo-Martin, Karen Christy Kurtz, Christopher Neil Lakey, Donald Wayne Mason, Kevin Parker McCormac, John Kendall McGill, Kevin Christian Miller, Paige Ann Scarlett Miller, Jeremiah Patton Pegram, Rachel Rose Randall, Julie Ann Roberts, Rennie Rohr Salata, Richard Scott Schilling, Melanie Lynne Swofford, Bruce David Updyke.


Bishop