



UM Daily

Sunday, June 19, 2011

1 California-Pacific Annual Conference

2 2011 Annual Conference Sessions

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Plenary # 8

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6 **Call to Order:** Bishop Mary Ann Swenson called the session to order and invited Rev. Mary Elizabeth Moore to offer a prayer before the opening of business.

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9 **Courtesies:** Rev. Lee Carlile began our courtesies by wishing a very Happy Father's Day to all the fathers with us. Rev. Mary Elizabeth Moore brought news from Boston University and expressed her excitement as the seminary had elected 7 new faculty, 4 of which are people of color.

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14 **Orders of the Day:** Rev. Dan Lewis presented and moved the Orders of the Day which were approved. He emphasized clarity should delegates require use of the microphones and the importance of the paddle system in order to expedite this morning's business.

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18 **Lay Ballot # 6 Results:** The results of Lay Ballot #6 were announced, with JoAnn Yoon Fukumoto being elected by the body.

19

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21 **Clergy Ballot # 5 Results:** The results of Clergy Ballot #5 were read, with Rev. Patricia Farris being elected by the body.

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24 Those elected to General Conference also form part of the delegation to the Jurisdictional Conference in the order they were elected, followed by additional delegates to be voted upon by the body in the Jurisdictional Ballot.

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28 **Lay Ballot # 7 Jurisdictional Delegates:** Lay Ballot #7 was cast. The body was entitled to vote for up to, but no more than 8 names.

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31 **Clergy Ballot # 7 Jurisdictional Delegates:** Clergy Ballot #6 was cast, with the body once again entitled to vote for up to, but no more than 8 names.

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34 **Legislative Items not on the Consent Calendar:** Bob Rhodes presented Legislative Items not on the Consent Calendar as follows:

35

36
37 Rules 11-4 - Passed with 100% in its legislative section but was amended. Bob moved 11-4 as amended. The amendment for PR page 88, line 27 changed: "Superintendent for the purpose of

38

1 strengthening the congregation. ; and 5) **attempt to remain current in paying**” The original
2 proposed amendment is **bold** with the Legislative Section amendment in ***bold italic underline***.
3 No discussion. **Rules 11-4 was supported as amended.**

4
5 Resolution 11-16 - Passed with 77% in its legislative section. Bob moved Resolution 11-
6 16.. Discussion took place. Dan Gara moved an amendment by exclusion in deleting Lines 38-
7 41, 45 & 47 “If these companies do not change their involvement within two years, they should
8 be removed from United Methodist Portfolios.” Discussion took place. 2 speeches in favor 3
9 against in discussion. Amendment not supported. **Resolution 11-16 was supported.**

10
11 Resolution 11-14 - Passed with 67% in its legislative section. Bob moved Resolution 11-
12 14. Discussion took place. **Resolution 11-14 was supported.**

13
14 Resolution 11-10 - Passed with 78% in its legislative section. Bob moved Resolution 11-
15 10. Discussion took place. Megan Haslinger moved to amend the Resolution by striking word
16 “forgive” starting page 104, line 47. It was seconded and supported. **Resolution 11-10 was**
17 **supported as amended.**

18
19 Resolution 11-11 - Passed with 70%. Bob moved Resolution 11-11, Discussion took place.
20 **Resolution 11-11 was supported.**

21
22 Resolution 11-7 - Passed with 69% but was amended. Bob moved Resolution 11-7. Discussion
23 took place. Chris Simpson moved page 100, line 10 “one additional pastor selected by the DS”,
24 line 11 “the lay leader from the local congregation”, add “one additional pastor selected by the
25 pastor in charge” to add balance in the construction of the committee. The amendment was
26 supported. **Resolution 11-7 was supported as amended.**

27
28 Jim Monk moved “that this Conference affirm the right of any person to join the United
29 Methodist Church and that this Conference recommends that this Conference’s delegates support
30 this concept at General Conference.” Discussion took place. **This motion was not supported.**

31
32 Resolution 11-9 - Passed with 64% as amended. Bob moved Resolution 11-9. Discussion took
33 place. **Resolution 11-9 was supported as amended in legislative session.**

34
35 Resolution 11-17 - Passed with 90%, but was removed from the Consent Calendar. Bob moved
36 Resolution 11-17 - Rev. Richard Bentley moved an amendment:

37
38 “Replace “may” with “shall” on line 38 so that the last sentence reads:
39 The director shall be amenable to an elected leadership body of the Annual Conference which
40 **shall** consult with the Bishop.

41
42 Lines 32 to 38 previously read:
43 The director shall serve as an officer of the Annual Conference and shall sit with the cabinet
44 when the cabinet considers matters relating to coordination, implementation, or administration of
45 the Conference program, and other matters as the cabinet and director may determine. Whether
46 appointed or elected to this position, the director shall be amenable to the bishop, in consultation
47 with the appropriate annual conference personnel body. **The director shall be amenable to an**
48 **elected leadership body of the Annual Conference which may consult with the bishop.”**

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The amendment was supported. Resolution 11-17 was supported as amended.

Lay Ballot #7 Results: Bishop Swenson announced the results of Lay Ballot #7. There was not an election, because a majority was not reached.

Lay Ballot #8: The remaining nominees' names were read with the corresponding numbers. There was one write in. Rev. Kelvin Sauls offered prayer before the laity ballot was taken. Each lay person could vote up to but no more than 8 persons.

Clergy Ballot #6 Results: A majority was not reached.

Clergy Ballot #7: The remaining names were read with their corresponding numbers. Rev. Dan Lewis instructed voting clergy members to rise to receive their ballots. Clergy members can vote for up to, but more than 8 people. After the voting, Rev. Lewis declared this election closed.

Liz Roark made a motion "to suspend the rules in order to elect the top two vote getters beginning with the current ballot." Rev. Tia Wildermuth moved to amend the motion to elect the top 8 vote getters on future ballots. Discussion took place. The amendment was not supported. Jim Monk moved to amend the motion to affect the next ballot. That amendment was supported. **The motion as amended was supported.** The next report there will be at least two delegates nominated.

Legislation not on the Consent Calendar was resumed.

Resolution 11-6 - Passed in legislative section at 63%. Bob Rhodes moved the legislation. 1 speech against. 2 speeches in favor. Dale McCart's moved to remove all reference to "and delivery systems". 1 speech in favor of amendment. The amendment was supported. **Resolution 11-6 was supported as amended.**

Rules 11-1: Tenure of Board of Ordained Ministry passed the legislative section with 78%. Bob Rhodes moved the legislation. 2 speeches against. 1 speech in favor. **Rules 11-1 was not supported**

Resolution 11-21: With consultation with the chair of the rules committee, **Resolution 11-21 was declared invalid.**

Resolution 11-20 was withdrawn by Rev. Richard Bentley.

Resolution 11-18 was withdrawn by Rev. Richard Bentley.

Resolution 11-23: Justice for grocery workers - Bob Rhodes moved the legislation. 1 speech in favor was made. **Resolution 11-23 was supported.**

The body thanked Bob Rhodes for his hard work as he heads off to Nebraska for a new appointment.

CF&A Recommendation # 6. Special offering days totaled \$286,000. Rev. Richard Bentley

1 moved to amend the recommendation to add \$50,000 for a special offering for campus
2 ministry. The amendment was passed. **Recommendation # 6 was supported as amended.**

3
4 **Conference Advance Special for Border Ministry:** Rev. Kathey Wilborn moved we approve
5 the Conference advance specials for border ministry. Rev. Myron Wingfield said we have a
6 border missionary in residence here in Cal-Pac starting July 1. **Conference Advance Special
7 for Border Ministry was supported.**

8
9 Bishop Swenson showed her “Save La Plaza United Methodist Church” t-shirt and gave a brief
10 history of the church and the community. She urged help and support for the congregation.

11
12 **Recommendation 11-1 - Associate Conference Lay Leaders:** Connee and Phil Freeman have
13 been named the associate Lay Leaders for the Conference per the passage of **Recommendation
14 11-1** that appeared on the consent calendar.

15
16 **Nominating Committee Report:** The Nominating Committee Report was presented with
17 corrections to the report. Rev. Roy Riggs asked a point of clarification about the make-up of the
18 Board of Trustees. Rev. Stephanie Toon Glassman offered clarification on the legend of the
19 nominating report.

20
21 The names for the Archives and History Committee were not on the Nominating Committee
22 Report. Rev. Richard Bentley moved the names of last year’s Archives and History Committee
23 members be added to this year’s report. **The motion was supported.**

24
25 **Personal Privilege:** Rev. Miguel DeGuzman shared that his daughter, Jewel, received an
26 internship in Washington DC with the United Methodist Church.

27
28 **Personal Privilege:** Rev. Sharon Rhodes-Wickett recognized Melanie Little, a member of
29 Claremont United Methodist Church who made the stoles placed on the ordinands at last night’s
30 service.

31
32 **Navigation Essential Ministry Team Election:** The names of the at-large nominees for the
33 Navigation Team were presented for ballot. Suanne Ware-Diaz offered correction to her name.
34 Rev. Dan Lewis asked all the nominees to stand. Ballots were passed out to all voting members
35 of the Conference. Each person may vote for 1 lay and 1 clergy person. Rev. Dan Lewis offered
36 prayer before the ballot was taken.

37
38 **Cabinet Matters:** Rev. Mark Ulrickson brought Cabinet Matters to the body.

39
40 (1) On behalf of the Cabinet, he presented a motion for the 2011 Annual Conference to establish
41 a Task Force to study a realignment of districts. Results of the Task Force to be presented at
42 next year’s Annual Conference (see text below):

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**Charter for the Deployment of Superintendents
and the Establishment of Mission Areas
for the California-Pacific Annual Conference**

June 2011

A Brief Introduction

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- The Bishop and Cabinet of the California-Pacific Annual Conference will:
- reduce the total number of superintendents;
 - organize each district into geographic units called Mission Areas for the purposes of growth, relevance, and vitality;
 - guide the clergy and laity serving in each Mission Area to collaborate in mission and ministry;
 - call for a task force to develop a plan for new district alignment.

10 **Background and Context**

11 At the 2010 Annual Conference, the Conference Leadership Team introduced a plan to focus the
12 conference’s resources through the five essential ministries – Leadership, New Ministries,
13 Compassion and Justice Ministries, Resources, and Navigation – to generate more energy for
14 mission and ministry. In a similar but distinct effort, the Bishop and Cabinet are seeking to focus
15 the role of the General Superintendent to guide and serve the mission and ministry of the church.

16
17 When the California-Pacific Annual Conference was formed in 1985, there were 505
18 congregations. Today, in 2011, there are 361 churches. During the same period of time, the total
19 membership of the Cal-Pac Conference has declined from 138,926 to 82,667, and the average
20 weekly attendance has gone from 64,262 to 48,664. Only 10% of United Methodist churches
21 across the country are growing at a rate of 5% or more per year. In the context of fewer
22 congregations, fewer members, and declining attendance, the Bishop and Cabinet are clear that,
23 if we want a different outcome, we have to change what we are doing. It is time to change
24 structures and strategies in order to more effectively serve our mission of making disciples of
25 Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

26
27 Stewardship of our resources is also at issue here. In 2011, the cost of maintaining eight district
28 offices (including superintendents and district staff) is approximately 20% of the entire budget
29 for the California-Pacific Annual Conference. Rising costs on every front and a general decline
30 in apportionment giving across the denomination present financial challenges that call for
31 creative change.

32
33 Additionally, the function of superintendents has grown more complex and expectations of the
34 role have compounded as our connectional system endures a variety of stresses. In these
35 changing circumstances, the primary responsibilities and functions of superintendents must be
36 reassessed and refocused so they can be deployed in an effective manner.

37
38 **What Drives This Change**

39
40 *“The task of superintending in The United Methodist Church resides in the office of bishop and*
41 *extends to the district superintendent....The purpose of superintending is to equip the Church in*
42 *its disciple-making ministry....*
43 *“It is also their task to facilitate the initiation of structures and strategies for the equipping of*
44 *Christian people for service in the Church and in the world in the name of Jesus Christ and to*
45 *help extend the service in mission” (§ 401, The United Methodist Book of Discipline, 2008).*
46

47 Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, so the
48 primary reason for these changes is to “initiate structures and strategies” that serve that purpose

1 effectively. We believe that this approach will focus our efforts on the four foci of our
2 denomination, helping us to develop new leadership, new places for new people, and ministries
3 of compassion and justice that will have a broader, transformative impact on the communities we
4 serve.

5

6 These changes are also a constructive way to address the financial realities of our Annual
7 Conference. Even so, the true effectiveness of these changes will be measured by the answer to
8 the question asked of each Mission Area, each congregation, and each United Methodist: What
9 have you accomplished for the sake of the Church's mission?

10

11 **Biblical and Theological Reflections**

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13 In the gospel of Luke, Jesus identifies himself by the fruits of his ministry:

14 *The disciples of John reported all these things to him. So John summoned two of his disciples*
15 *and sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for*
16 *another?" ...And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind*
17 *receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the*
18 *poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me" (Luke*
19 *7:18-23).*

20

21 Likewise, when Bishop Mary Ann Swenson addressed the General Conference in April 2008,
22 she said that our identity as disciples of Jesus Christ is shown by pouring ourselves out for a
23 world in need.

24 *"In a world that has embraced the 'myth of scarcity' in a 'culture of consumption,' God offers*
25 *abundant life through Jesus Christ.... However, too often we live as if we had just one small cup*
26 *to receive God's gift. When used faithfully, the cup becomes Christ's vessel for mission and*
27 *ministry. When it is empty, its purpose is to be filled; when it is filled, its purpose is to be*
28 *emptied. It receives only so it can pour out.*

29 *"As people of faith...we are the cup. Our purpose is to have God's life-giving abundance flow*
30 *through us, pouring out into the world, running over the four corners of the world, transforming*
31 *the world. We do this when we move beyond the myth of scarcity to the reality of God's*
32 *abundance. God has poured out everything needed for ministry in this time, in this place and for*
33 *all the people of God. Let us be the cup overflowing in a thirsty world."*

34

35 **The Learning Process**

36

37 In anticipation of these changes, we have sought the wisdom and knowledge of our friends in
38 other Annual Conferences that have made comparable changes, including California-Nevada,
39 Indiana, Wisconsin, and West Ohio. From their experience with district mergers, deployment of
40 district superintendents over larger districts, and Mission Area development (or "clusters" and
41 "circuits" as they are known in those conferences), we have gained valuable insights.

42

43 The key strengths and intended outcomes they identify are: increased effectiveness of
44 congregational efforts; the strengthening of individual congregations; and the cultivation of a
45 culture of support and accountability at every level of the conference. The challenges and
46 unresolved realities they have experienced include general resistance to change, language
47 obstacles, cultural obstacles, and geographic challenges.

48

1 In recent years, a few of the districts in Cal-Pac have begun working with geographic groupings
2 of churches and, from this experience, we have found the value of collaboration in mission,
3 cooperative ministries, shared resources, and more; the full potential is yet to be realized.

4 5 **The Proposal**

6 7 **Change the Focus of the Superintendents**

8 *“The district superintendent shall oversee the total ministry of the clergy and of the churches in*
9 *the communities of the district in their missions of witness and service in the world... (a) by*
10 *giving priority to the scheduling of time and effort for spiritual leadership, pastoral support,*
11 *supervision and encouragement to the clergy and to the churches of the district...” (§419, The*
12 *United Methodist Book of Discipline, 2008).*

13
14 In July 2011, Santa Ana District Superintendent, Mark Ulrickson, completes his term of
15 service. Bishop Swenson has designated Cedrick Bridgeforth (Los Angeles District) to be the
16 Superintendent of Record for the Santa Ana District beginning July 1, 2011. He will be assisted
17 by Kathy M. Wilborn (Long Beach District), Myron Wingfield (San Diego District), and Bau
18 Dang (Riverside District). There will be no change in district administrative assistants or district
19 offices at this time.

20
21 We expect that two additional district superintendents will come off the Cabinet at the end of
22 June 2012, when the vision of a reconfigured Cabinet will be fully realized with a total of five
23 district superintendents.

24
25 In order for this structure to work, there will be a dramatic shift in the role of the superintendents
26 – what they prioritize, what they do, and what they do not do.

27
28 The priorities of the district superintendents will be:

- 29 1. to focus on the appointment process to provide effective leadership;
- 30 2. to foster collaborative engagement in the mission field;
- 31 3. to develop and maintain a structure of support and accountability for clergy and
32 congregations.

33
34 District superintendents will give more attention to discipleship and leadership development in
35 general, and training for Staff-Parish Relations Committees specifically, to establish systems and
36 structures that foster healthy congregations. Congregational communications covenants,
37 processes for conflict resolution, and regular Mission Area leader training are some of the tools
38 that will be used to support congregations and clergy in making these changes.

39
40 District Superintendents will no longer meet annually with each Staff-Parish Relations
41 Committee, but will consult with SPRCs when a change of pastoral appointment is expected, or
42 as necessary to consult on such matters. They will, however, meet regularly with Mission Area
43 clergy and lay leadership for the purpose of focusing on our common mission.

44 45 **Establish Mission Areas**

46 Beginning July 2011, we will see the introduction of Mission Areas. A Mission Area is a region
47 within a district determined by a strategic, geographic grouping of four to ten congregations
48 within that region. The purpose of each Mission Area is to coordinate, encourage, and facilitate

1 mutual support among clergy and laity in making a transformative impact on the people in their
2 region. The objectives include, but are not limited to: 1) developing cooperative support among
3 clergy and congregations; 2) identifying the assets, strengths, and opportunities available to meet
4 the needs within their shared mission field, and; 3) collaborating and partnering in fruitful
5 mission and ministry.

6

7 The Bishop and District Superintendents are currently in the process of organizing churches in
8 Mission Areas with the expectation that all clergy and churches will participate in this structure
9 and strategy.

10

11 **Identify and Train Mission Area Leaders**

12 A Convening Elder will be appointed by the district superintendent for each Mission Area. The
13 specific responsibilities for Convening Elders will be uniform across the annual
14 conference. Training modules are currently in development.

15

16 **Mission Area Clergy**

17 As stated above, Mission Areas become the primary point of support and accountability for the
18 mission of the church. For that reason, clergy will be expected to meet at least quarterly to build
19 relationships, share hopes and concerns, and chart their course. Beyond these specific
20 expectations, each Mission Area will determine the best pattern of gathering to accomplish its
21 shared purposes. The general spirit of these gatherings should take shape around the
22 questions: “What can we accomplish together, working cooperatively and collaboratively, that
23 we cannot accomplish, either as well or at all, by ourselves?”

24

25 **Mission Area Laity**

26 In a parallel and often overlapping manner, the lay leadership of each Mission Area will also
27 convene quarterly to build relationships, share hopes and concerns, and chart their course. Once
28 established, the spirit of these gatherings should take shape around the question: “What can we
29 accomplish together, working cooperatively and collaboratively, that we cannot accomplish,
30 either as well or at all, by ourselves?”

31

32 The lay leaders best suited to take the lead in this effort may not be the currently elected officers
33 of the congregation. Instead, identify key participants by asking, “Who has a passion for the
34 mission of the church and a proven track record of leadership?”

35

36 **Outcomes and Measurements**

37 Four Foci & Essential Ministry Areas (MA)

38 · How is your MA developing more spiritual & principled leaders? List achievements.

39 · Given the report from the “Call to Action,” what steps is your MA taking in assessing and
40 strengthening the vitality of existing congregations? List achievements.

41 · Where does your MA envision the possibility developing new ministries? List timeline(s).

42 · How is your MA actively engaging in ministries of justice and compassion with the poor? List
43 local, regional, national & global deployments of servant disciples.

44

45 Mission Area Demographic Realities

46 · What are the assets in your MA for possible partnership in ministry?

47 · What are the primary and secondary needs in your MA? What are the short and long-term
48 needs in your MA?

1 · How are the congregations in your MA a reflection of your demographic reality?

2

3 **Congregational Realities**

4 · What are the assets and resources individual congregations bring to enhance the effectiveness
5 of the MA?

6 · How are you re-envisioning and re-directing your resources towards vitality?

7 · How is your MA utilizing congregational strengths and assets to meet community needs?

8 · What are the challenges in individual congregations? How are you collectively working on
9 transforming congregational challenges into opportunities to strengthen and enhance your MA?

10

11 **District Alignment**

12 The alignment of district boundaries is the prerogative of the annual conference, and the Bishop
13 and Cabinet are convinced that, just as the number of superintendents is changing from 8 to
14 5, we should also change the alignment of districts from 8 to 5 (4 in California, and one
15 Hawaii). To that end, the Cabinet will present a motion to the June 2011 session of the Annual
16 Conference calling for a District Alignment Task Force to study the feasibility and requirements
17 of changing the number and borders of districts in Cal-Pac.

18

19 **District Staff & Offices**

20 As stated above, there will be no change in the number of district offices or in the number of
21 district administrative assistants at this time, but we are working toward making that change by
22 July 2012. When the district alignment plan is complete, however, we expect:

23 · The five districts will be staffed by five administrative assistants.

24 · The district offices will be located within their respective geographic regions.

25 · The need for additional district or transitional staff (part time or temporary) will be assessed
26 as part of the planning and implementation process.

27

28 June 2011

29 **Transition and Implementation Timeline**

30 **Superintendent transitions**

31 July 1, 2011

32 Santa Ana District – a new DS of record is assigned, partnering with three other superintendents
33 to give oversight for Santa Ana Mission Areas

34

35 July 1, 2012

36 (Assuming action by the 2012 Annual Conference to change District alignments) 1 or 2 district
37 superintendents will rotate off the cabinet and the remaining 5 or 6 will continue to provide
38 supervision during the transition to newly aligned districts.

39

40 July 1, 2013

41 If only one DS rotates off in 2012, another DS rotates off

42

43 **Districts**

44 June 2011 – Annual Conference considers (and approves budget assuming 5 DS's) moving to 5
45 Districts, maintaining eight districts through June 30, 2012

46

47 June 2012 – Annual Conference acts on specific number of districts and boundaries proposed

48

1 **Mission Areas**

2 Spring 2011

3 Initial boundaries set by the District Superintendents, followed by a year of implementation and
4 adjustment in collaboration with Mission Area leaders, allowing for organic and serendipitous
5 developments in pursuit of the church's mission.

6

7 **Mission Area Leaders**

8 Convening Elders will be determined by the District Superintendents. Lay leadership to be
9 determined collaboratively with clergy in each congregation. Training for Mission Area leaders
10 will begin Summer and Fall of 2011.

11

12 **Financial Impact of Changes in Superintendent & District Staff Compensation**

13 The Compensation for Conference Staff, including Superintendents and District
14 Administrative Staff, has been frozen at 2008 levels. In 2010, a new formula was approved for
15 setting DS compensation but, with the freeze, it has not been implemented. Implementation of
16 the formula would accompany the reduction in the number of Superintendents. Any new district
17 alignment plan will include appropriate compensation adjustments for non-exempt staff.

18 ***** End of Report*****

19

20 Discussion took place. **The motion was supported.**

21

22 (2) **Fontana UMC:** Rev. Bau Dang, Riverside District Superintendent presented an Amendment
23 to the 2008 Resolution for Discontinuance of Fontana UMC to stop the sale of Fontana United
24 Methodist Church for the purposes of the Fontana Hispanic Ministry Initiative. **It was supported.**

25

26 (3) **Christ UMC: San Diego:** Rev. Myron Wingfield, San Diego District Superintendent
27 presented a Resolution for Discontinuance of Christ United Methodist Church and a name
28 change to Christ United Methodist Church Ministry Center. **It was supported.**

29

30 (4) **Rolando UMC:** Rev. Myron Wingfield, San Diego District Superintendent presented a
31 Resolution for Discontinuance of Rolando United Methodist Church. **It was supported.**

32

33 **Motion:** Rev. Gilbert Stones moved "The Annual Conference direct the Cabinet and Board of
34 Trustees to find alternatives to selling the properties of churches that have closed." **It was**
35 **supported.**

36

37 Rev. Stephanie Toon Glassman asked for prayer for churches that were being discontinued. Rev.
38 Myron Wingfield offered prayer concerning the matter. He reminded the body that while the
39 discontinuance of a church was a painful process, we might take some assurance that the
40 resources of that church can be passed on to other faith communities, and in that sense, they live
41 on.

42

43 **Motion:** Rev. Riley McRae moved that the Navigation EMT look at our assumptions, criteria,
44 process, and communications about closing churches and report back to the 2012 Annual
45 Conference. **Motion was supported.**

46

47 (5) **Mid-City Korean UMC and La Palma Korean UMC merger:** Rev. Mark Ulrickson,
48 Santa Ana District Superintendent presented a Resolution regarding the merger of Mid-City

1 Korean United Methodist Church and La Palma Korean United Methodist Church. **Motion was**
2 **supported.**

3

4 **Motion:** A motion was made to reconvene at 1:00 PM in order to conclude business matters. **It**
5 **was not supported.**

6

7 (6) **Santa Ana Cooperative Parish of the UMC and Spurgeon UMC:** Rev. Ulrickson
8 presented a Resolution for establishing The Santa Ana Cooperative Parish of The United
9 Methodist Church and for the sale of Spurgeon United Methodist Church. **It was supported.**

10

11 (7) **Calvary UMC:** Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth, Los Angeles District Superintendent presented a
12 Resolution for Discontinuance of Calvary United Methodist Church. Discussion took place. **It**
13 **was not supported.**

14

15 (8) **Crescent Heights UMC:** Rev. Bridgeforth presented a Resolution for Discontinuance of
16 Crescent Heights. Pastor Scott Imler shared a portion of his written statement:

17

18 Bishop Swenson, Brothers and Sisters of the California-Pacific Annual Conference . . .

19

20 Given the time constraints and the gravity of the action sought, I request permission to submit
21 revised and extended remarks for the record. I have prayed many a night over the last six years
22 in my maiden appointment as a local pastor, that this cup would pass from me, and that I would
23 never have to stand before you, under the burden of my own shortcomings as a failed shepherd,
24 to acknowledge, as this resolution proffers, that TIME IS UP for the ministry of Crescent
25 Heights Church of West Hollywood, as a chartered local United Methodist Congregation. But
26 the cup hasn't passed. I am standing here, And the TIME IS UP. . . but for who?

27

28 If I thought for one minute that the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the commandment to love God and
29 neighbor, our commission to make disciples among all nations, or our noble purpose as United
30 Methodist to transform the world would best be served through silent acquiescence and
31 withdrawal -- I would disappear into the sunset, quicker than Sarah Palin's front porch view of
32 Russia.

33

34 And, while there is much that can and will be said in the coming months leading up to the 2012
35 General Conference about the process. . .

36

37 1. fundamental Disciplinary contradictions inherent to Crescent Heights' ministry with the gay
38 and lesbian community,

39

40 2. The potentially compromised integrity of the process by which this decision has been derived,

41

42 3. And manipulation of that process by those with conflicted interests who set out to
43 intentionality undermine this ministry. . . .

44

45 I only wish to say this morning how grateful we are to our District Superintendent, for his care
46 and his compassion and his diligent effort to truly perceive the nature of the "new thing" that
47 God was and is doing in our midst in West Hollywood.

48

1 While we understand a lot about itinerant pastors, and have well developed metrics for
2 measuring their success in making disciples, we have little understanding of the itinerant
3 congregant and no metrics for evaluating their success in obedience to commandment or
4 execution of commission once they have departed the fold, which in my estimation in a world as
5 mobile as ours is important to have.

6
7 Because far too often, we only hear of the fate that befalls them, as was the case with two of our
8 "itinerant congregants" in the last month, who like hundreds of other young men gay and straight
9 alike, arrive from all point east, chasing the Hollywood dream, only to all too quickly run
10 headlong into the Tinsel Town nightmare -- from Huck Finns to Midnight Cowboys in a matter
11 of days sometimes hours -- going from bright-eyed and full of life to lost, bewildered, oftentimes
12 drug-addicted walking dead -- trading or selling for survival the only thing they have. In some
13 ways it's a throwback to a pre-liberation reality that some call the "gay circle of life" and others -
14 - myself included having been there as a teenager in Chicago -- call the "gay food chain."
15 Whatever you want to call it, too many of our tribesmen are still all too willing "to go there",
16 perhaps unaware of the soul robbing consequences for the young men so consumed as they work
17 in the shadows of the Sunset Strip. Add to the problem that most all social services for the
18 cohort in question are organized around two pathologies, addiction and AIDS. If you cannot self-
19 identify as an alcoholic, addict, or HIV infected, good luck finding help. Secondly, almost all
20 help is preconditioned, paternalistic, and rule-ridden, further robbing these young men of the
21 sovereignty, choice, and self-reliance necessary to the well-rounded social, personal, and
22 spiritual development of a healthy self-realized young adult male.

23 The Midnight Ministry and the Crescent Knights Fellowship have been our determined, albeit
24 modest, effort to address this reality. Over the last 3 years we have offered little more than a dry
25 mattress, a hot-shower, a warm meal, and some big-brotherly love with which to hopefully give
26 birth to their most authentic and intentional selves. It's a chance, just a chance, to take a different
27 journey.

28
29 The only rules are mutual respect, attend Sunday service, and show up for the Tuesday morning
30 fellowship. We have a chore-wheel, but you know how boys are about doing chores -- they hate
31 'em and they don't do 'em. So we cook breakfast every Tuesday morning, take turns sharing a
32 scripture or a thought for he check in about their progress, work on a group project that require
33 more than two hands, and squawk at them about doing chores. And they still don't do them --
34 right up until the day it dawns on them that they want to do them -- because once again want to
35 give of themselves -- and then it's not a chore at all something for their brothers, to improve the
36 collective lot. Once that threshold is crossed, we suddenly find them fixing broken furniture to
37 put in their rooms, framing tattered photos long buried in their backpacks, ironing a shirt to wear
38 on Sunday morning, playing Chess, reading books, keeping journals, playing music; taking up
39 old hobbies, rekindling their dreams. Their eyes begin to shine again, smiles replace the sullen
40 frowns, laughter filling our quiet church, infectiously spreading all around. The two in particular
41 that sadly we lost forever in the last month: one who was gay, who was never able to break the
42 grip that crystal meth had on his bed to bed existence, died at County USC of lymphoma on May
43 11th, and the other straight, who escaped his brief time here in L.A. for the University of Hawaii
44 to get a teaching credential, where he met the love of his life and who tragically died last
45 Thursday after accidentally falling through a plate glass window and bleeding to death. He was to
46 begin his new job with autistic kids today, but instead donated his organs that others might live -
47 leaving behind his young wife and their baby son, Koa. It is Stephan's and Tyler faces I see this
48 morning, woven as a beacon of hope, a beacon that has been kept alive by thousands of faithful

1 souls upon whose shoulders we have stood for the last six years, who loved Crescent Heights
2 Church through the trials and storms of their own times, and who passed the oil of that beacon to
3 a new generation of light-keepers, who would do the same for the next, and they the next, for 97
4 years now. That this progression of light-bearing, this rite of remembrance, will come to an end
5 on my watch will be my greatest and most abiding sorrow.

6

7 But genuine Christic ministry of, by, and for the "*itinerant congregant*" is a lifetime adventure; a
8 privilege, and a challenge, as we each come to know both the lambs and the shepherds within us.
9 While the way of traditional Christian discipleship is a well-marked path, leading to an ordered
10 faith, a disciplined peace, and a studied assurance, a Christic disciple's ministry -- self-
11 determined and divinely inspired in any given moment -- is more often risky than not and
12 requires that we encounter the world *AS IT IS*, at times playing Red Rover at the crossroads of
13 sin and death, at other times Catchers In The Rye on the edge of an abyss. Yet always with an
14 eye for the awe and wonder of God's hand; will we bear witness to both the beauty and the
15 beastly, without compulsion for judgment, heroics, or coercion to remake the world in our own
16 image, but rather to love and lift up those who will rebuild the world in God's.
17 And in so doing, as we necessarily sacrifice the certainty of "how we've always done it," we will
18 undoubtedly be bounced and buffeted, perhaps even ridiculed, certainly misunderstood, but will
19 be all-the-more compelled to wrestle with the overwhelming kindness and unfettered cruelty of
20 the human condition as we know it – discovering along the way that we are capable of either and
21 culpable for both.

22 It is in this authenticity that we will be changed forever, born again with each rising sun, and the
23 world further perfected in the light and love of God. So, on behalf of the remnant congregation
24 of Crescent Heights Church and the Crescent Knights Fellowship of our Midnight Ministry,
25 please know that we bear no hard feelings and accept as a challenge our "discontinuance" as a
26 chartered local church, if that is the wisdom of 2011 Cal-Pac Conference. But please know as
27 well, as we each journey forth in our walks with the *Wholly*, we do so with our heads held high,
28 not in pride, but as *lights in the darkness that were not overcome*, in praise and thanksgiving for
29 the gifts of God and each other, holding fast to the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson to, "Follow
30 not, where the path may lead, but go instead where there is no path and leave a trail for those to
31 come." Those like Tyler, Stephan, and all of us, who will come searching for a ray of hope too
32 long abandoned, a loving word by fear long silenced, or just a "room at the inn" in which to heal
33 saddened bodies, renew broken spirits, reincarnate fondest dreams, and resurrect the disrupted
34 adventures of our most authentic selves. This *IS* the "*new thing*" that the Lord is doing in West
35 Hollywood,. This *IS* the "*new thing*" the Lord is doing in these young lives. And this *IS* the
36 "*new thing*" we will keep doing at Crescent Heights Church, no matter who *perceives it* or
37 not . . . so help me God.

38

39 Discussion took place. **The Resolution for Discontinuance was supported.**

40

41 (9) **Kardia UMC Name Change:** Rev. Bridgeforth presented a Resolution for a Name Change
42 for West Los Angeles First UMC to change its name to Kardia UMC. **It was supported.**

43

44 Rev. Mark Ulrickson asked those who were effected by actions taken today to please stand and
45 offered prayer for new beginnings and transitions.

46

47 **Motion:** A member moved for the body to reconsider the closure of Crescent Heights United
48 Methodist Church. **It was not supported.**

1
2 **Lay Ballot #8 Results:** Lay Ballot #8 results were read and there were two elections. Norma
3 Kehrberg and Marjorie Suchocki.
4
5 **Clergy Ballot #7 Results:** Clergy Ballot #7 results were read and there were two elections: Rev.
6 Frank Wulf and Rev. Mary Elizabeth Moore.
7
8 **Motion:** Rev. Dan Lewis moved, “ With heart-filled consideration of what has been previously
9 shared, I would like to sense the will of the body. So, I move that this next ballot be our final
10 ballot and that the top recipients of lay and clergy fill our delegate slate to Jurisdictional
11 Conference including two reserves.” **Motion was supported.**
12
13 **Lay Ballot #9 (FINAL):** Lay Ballot #9 was cast.
14 **Clergy Ballot #8 (FINAL):** Clergy Ballot #8 was cast. Results of elections will be made
15 available in printed and electronic form for examination following the Annual Conference
16 session. Rev. Dan Lewis declared the election closed. Delegates need to be meet in the Och
17 Tamale room immediately following the session.
18
19 **GCORR Monitoring:** Dr. William Renfroe, Chair of the Conference Commission on Religion
20 and Race reported on the monitoring of many different demographic categories that was done
21 throughout this session of our Annual Conference, including the make-up of the General and
22 Jurisdictional Conference delegations: “We have gathered this week as the body of Christ to do
23 God’s business. We, the Cal-Pac Annual Conference truly are a tapestry of God’s diversity. The
24 DNA of this Annual Conference engages us to move forward into inclusive
25 relationships. Throughout our Annual Conference, we celebrate the movement of dialogue that
26 was experienced.
27
28 Here are the results of monitoring through the sixth plenary:
29 1) Racial/ethnic members of the annual conference contributed to the dialogue of the Annual
30 Conference at a similar rate to white members;
31 2) Throughout the sessions, women addressed the body at the same rate or higher than men,
32 except during our budget deliberations;
33 3) The voice of young adults in our midst was limited;
34 4) The laity lifted their voice more than clergy throughout the plenary and legislative sessions.
35 As we reflect upon our General Conference delegation:
36 · We elected 2 first-time delegates.
37 · We have 6 delegates who have represented us at the last General Conference.
38 · We elected 3 lay women and one lay man.
39 · We elected 2 male clergy and 2 female clergy.
40 This is a preliminary report. A complete report will be made available at a later time which will
41 include today’s plenary and the jurisdictional conference delegation [breakdown].”
42
43 **Motion:** Rev. Andy Mattick moved “That our Conference Secretaries in connection with
44 Sessions, examine our balloting process to make significant changes for future Annual
45 Conferences with special emphasis on 2015 for our next quadrennial election.” **It was**
46 **supported.**
47
48 Rev. Tonya Harris, Chair of Sessions, expressed appreciation for the members of Sessions who

1 assist in planning the logistics and implementing all the details during the week of
2 conference. Those thanks will be posted online. A link for the online evaluation will be
3 available at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Cal-PacRedlands2011>

4
5 **Mail Written Comments** to the Conference Secretaries in care of the Conference Center at P.O.
6 Box 6006, Pasadena, CA 91102-6006.

7
8 Jane Matsumoto offered our prayer for peace and benediction.

9
10 Celebration of Life and Ministry---Baptism and Retirement
11 Sunday, June 19

12
13 The **prelude** was sung by the Tongan Choir of Hawaii District, then continued by the Rosewood
14 UMC Choir, as the people gathered. Beautiful voices in perfect harmony as metaphor for the
15 harmony of the ideal life in Christ.

16
17 We began our worship together with **Gathering Music**, singing the great Wesleyan hymn, “O
18 For a Thousand Tongues to Sing.” The third verse was sung by the morning’s soloist, Jeffrey L.
19 Thomas, from North Hollywood UMC.

20
21 Mele Maka led us in the **Call to Worship** , which was taken from Isaiah 43.

22
23 The **Opening Song**” was “Gather Us In.”

24
25 **Opening Prayer** was led by Mele Maka, Lay Leader, Santa Barbara District.

26
27 **Scripture Reading** was read by Mele Maka, from Isaiah 43.

28
29 A **Solo** rendition of “I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry” was accompanied by a beautiful
30 liturgical dance by Miracle Movers from Aldersgate, Tustin, a dance troupe of young girls,
31 choreographed by Allison Horner.

32
33 Ken Ellis, conference lay leader introduced the children to be baptized and their families. Rev.
34 Joel Hortiales and wife Carmen Julia brought their daughters Alicia and Carmen Julia, and their
35 son Joel David. Rev. Colleen and Philip Windham-Hughes brought their son, Sebastian
36 Charles. Rev. Molly Vetter and her husband Matthew Parker brought their son Jonah Charles.

37
38 **Service of Christian Baptism** was celebrated, led by Bishop Mary Ann Swenson.
39 Mele Maka then led us in the congregational reaffirmation of baptism, and we all said to each
40 other, “Through the waters of baptism, you are called by name to serve God.” As the baptized
41 and their families went back to their seats, we heard a **Solo**, “You are Mine,” sung by Jeffrey L.
42 Thomas.

43
44 **Scripture Reading** Luke 4: 16-21 was read by Rev. Elaine Cho in two languages.

45
46 The sermon was introduced by a clip from “Toy Story 3,” in which Andy, going off to college,
47 passes Woody along to another little boy. This was followed by a clip from “Up,” showing the
48 old man remembering his life together with his departed wife, turning the pages of an old photo

1 album showing all the adventures he had with her. These clips were the beginning of the
2 **Message** by Rev. Dr. Mark Ulrickson, outgoing (but not retiring!) Superintendent of the Santa
3 Ana District. His message was entitled, “**The Adventure Book.**” He talked about always being
4 in transition from one stage of our lives to another---always an opportunity for transformation.
5 Jesus also passed through transitions. There are many transitions taking place in the Annual
6 Conference. We should not be going back to the same church---“if it is the same, what have you
7 been doing?” Claim the New Adventure, the next adventure! Are you ready, Cal-Pac
8 Conference, for your next adventure? Thank you for adventure! Now go out to the next one!”
9

10 **Litany of Celebrating Appointments** was led by Bishop Swenson, as all appointed rose to
11 receive a blessing demonstrated by the dance group. We bestowed upon each other and our
12 pastors, **the Blessing of Appointments.** We then sang together the **Song**, “I Know the Lord’s
13 Laid His Hands on Me”, following the lead of Jeffrey L. Thomas. Mele Maka prayed for the
14 **Offering** which was taken to benefit the Philippine Mission 2012 to build a church and support
15 advocacy work. The offertory was sung by the Rosewood UMC choir. While they sang, we
16 watched pictures taken during a prior mission trip to the Philippines. The theme **Song** for the
17 service, “I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry” was sung again by the congregation.
18

19 The **Celebration of Retirement** was started off by **Celebration in Song** by the Tongan Choir.
20

21 **Remembrance of Lives of Service---** Those entering into the retired relationship this year are
22 Ane Aholelei, Don W. Austin, Charles Burt, Dayton Samuel Griffin-Sloat, Thomas Harvey
23 Griffith, Donald C. Guerrant, James E. Hickman, William Howell Hitt, Susan Hollis Jacobson,
24 William L. Jenkins, Etuini “Eddie” Kelemen, William Leroy Kintner II, Jerry Larsen, Dung
25 Thien Le, Kathyne Elva Middle, Seungbae Joseph Paik, Fernando B. Santillana, Epeli Uhamaka,
26 and Mary L. Walton. The retirees all said a few parting words to the gathered body of Christ. At
27 times, the timekeepers had to encourage people to end what might be their last opportunity to
28 speak in worship, but it was done gently and respectfully. This time of transition was powerful,
29 moving, humorous, sad, and celebratory all at the same time!
30

31 **Blessing of Retirees and Passing of the Torch**

32 The torch, or rather, the stole, was passed from Rev. Tom Griffith to Rev. Allison Mark in a
33 symbolic ritual. Our soloist for the morning, Jeffrey L. Thomas, reprised “I Was There to Hear
34 Your Boring Cry” as a **Solo of Blessing** as the service ended. Once again, we were blessed by
35 the dancing of Miracle Movers, who added graceful beauty to our service!
36

37 **Navigation EMT Results:** The EMT Navigation election results were reported prior to the
38 benediction. Those elected were: Krystle Wheeler (Laity) and Rev. Frank Wulf (Clergy).
39

40 Also announced were the

41 **General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates:**

42 Lay Delegates to General Conference

43 1. Ken Ellis

44 2. Leanne Nakanishi

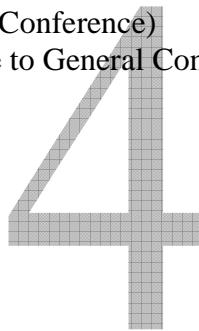
45 3. Mele Maka

46 4. JoAnn Yoon Fukumoto

47

48 Lay Delegates to Jurisdictional Conference

- 1 1. Norma Kehrberg (1st Alternate to General Conference)
- 2 2. Marjorie Suchocki (2nd Alternate to General Conference)
- 3 3. Monalisa S. Tu'itahi
- 4 4. Ana-Haydee Urda
- 5 5. Ralph L. Hogan
- 6 6. Carolyn Ingram
- 7 7. Krista McVey
- 8 8. Mark Stephenson
- 9
- 10 Jurisdictional Lay Reserve 1 & 2 (tied)
- 11 Lauolefiso "Fiso" Ali'ifua and Krystle Wheeler
- 12
- 13 Clergy Delegates to General Conference
- 14 1. Tom Choi
- 15 2. Molly Vetter
- 16 3. Cedrick Bridgeforth
- 17 4. Patricia Farris
- 18
- 19 Clergy Delegates to Jurisdictional Conference
- 20 1. Frank Wulf (1st Alternate to General Conference)
- 21 2. Mary Elizabeth Moore (2nd Alternate to General Conference)
- 22 3. Bau Dang
- 23 4. Charlene Zuill
- 24 5. Myron Wingfield
- 25 6. Piula Ala'ilima
- 26 7. Tonya Harris
- 27 8. Cynthia Abrams
- 28
- 29 Jurisdictional Clergy Reserve
- 30 1. Catie Coots
- 31 2. A. Paige Eaves



32
 33 Bishop Mary Ann Swenson pronounced the **Benediction**, which was followed by the **Sending**
 34 **Forth**, during which we blessed each other to “go forth, serve, and be a blessing to all!”

35
 36 During the **Song of Sending**, which was “Song of Hope (Canto de Esperanza)”, we were invited
 37 to dance in celebration of our mission and ministry in the world as we recessed! We chose to
 38 watch our dancers, Miracle Movers dance instead! They were much better than we could be!

39
 40 AMEN!!! Hallelujah!

41
 42
 43
 44
 45 **UM DAILY CORRECTIONS.** Please email additions or corrections to the UM Daily to
 46 umdaily@gmail.com by July 31, 2011.