



DAILY PROCEEDINGS

California-Pacific Annual Conference

“Ministry with the Poor”

University of Redlands
Redlands, CA
June 16-19, 2011

Thursday, June 16, 2011

California-Pacific Annual Conference
2011 Annual Conference Sessions

Clergy Executive Session Thursday, 8:30 a.m.

Bishop Swenson called the Clergy Session to order in the Chapel. She invited the body to sing with the Opening Song "And Are We Yet Alive".

Bishop Swenson introduced Conference Secretary Rev. Dan Lewis and the Parliamentarian Rev. Preston Price, along with Gail Kendall and Wes Davis of the Bishop's Office, and Cathy Wilson, Administrative Coordinator for the Board of Ordained Ministry. She clarified the rules according to *The Book of Discipline* regarding who may be present due to their Conference responsibilities. Bishop Swenson lifted up the value and importance of our Covenantal relationship.

Bishop Swenson ask for the opening prayer to be lifted up by Rev. Etuni Kelemeni, who was entering into retired relationship.

Bishop Swenson called on Rev. Derek Nakano to bring the business of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Rev. Nakano thanked those who served on the Board of Ordained Ministry and the time and tasks necessary to complete their responsibility. He described changes to the process for ordination and spoke to the revamped Clergy Residency Program. Rev. Nakano notified us that the Board of Ordained Ministry had recommended a Conference Rule Change to extend the length of service of the Board of Ordained Ministry from 8 years to 12 years. Recognizing the changes that were lifted up for the Annual Conference and General Conference, along with those in key leadership roles who will be all reaching their term limit at the same time, the Board of Ordained Ministry felt they would be more effective and better capable to perform their duties if they had the extra time to serve. The Board of Ordained Ministry recognized the Conference Budget had the potential to impact their service as well. Rev. Nakano thanked the Board members again along with Administrative Coordinator, Cathy Wilson.

Rev. Anna Mulford invited those who had corrections to Disciplinary Questions (DQ) to write down their changes and place it in a box in the narthex. The candidates for Provisional Membership and those for Full Connection were presented for introduction, and then for election, to the Clergy Session.

Provisional Membership (DQ 28; 38): Elaine Hisu Cho, M. Andrew Davis, Melinda Teter Dodge, Min-Kyu Park, Christopher Drake Spearman, Eva Chi Than Thai-Erwin, Gary Williams, and J. Andre Wilson were elected to Provisional Membership and Commissioning in the Elder Track. Jeong Hoan Lee was elected to transfer from the Korean Methodist Church in to Provisional Membership. Rev. Melissa MacKinnon offered a prayer for those elected to Provisional Membership in the Elder Track.

Full Connection (DQ 32-33, 39): Camille Garmon Mattick was elected as Deacon in Full Connection. Anna Claire Crews Camphouse, Alma Lee Johnson-Hawkins, Stephen B. Kim, Brian Keith Long, Allison Kanani Mark, S. Dianna Masters, Kirsten Sonkyo Oh, and Siosaia Fonua Tu'itahi were elected for Ordination as Elder in Full Connection. Joel Hortiales was elected to transfer from the Methodist Church of Mexico in to Elder in Full Connection. Diane Wood Rehfield was elected to transfer from Deacon in Full Connection to Elder in Full Connection. Rev. Doug Williams offered a prayer for those elected to Full Connection.

Certified Candidates for Ordained Ministry (DQ 19): Rev. JT Greenleaf presented the names of the certified candidates as listed in DQ 19. He spoke to the need for Mentors in the Candidacy Process. Those who were in Full Connection and Local Pastors who were serving in full time ministry were eligible to serve as mentors. There was new training that was available for those willing to serve as mentor. There was a training on June 21st at Riverside 1st, from 9am to 1:30pm. He ended with prayer for all candidates and those who walked alongside them.

Local Pastors (DQ 20-23): Local Pastors were recognized and approved for another year of service. Our Local Pastors were lifted up in prayer.

Cross Conference Appointments (DQ 24-26): were approved and those serving in such appointments were asked to stand.

Discontinuance (DQ 42): Six provisional members were discontinued from Provisional Membership. Rev. Doug Williams prayed for those who were discontinued as they transitioned into a new path. It was indicated that there were five clergy members under review. This action did not require a vote.

Termination (DQ 46): Two clergy members were presented for the termination of their membership. It was moved and approved.

Leave of Absence (DQ 50): Corrections to the DQ report include Nicole Reilley's name being taken off the personal leave list as she was appointed to extension ministry in the Santa Ana District. Sheena Trotter-Dennis should be listed in the family leave section of the report.

Incapacity Leave (DQ 52): Those on incapacity leave were approved. Willie Foreman prayed for those on incapacity leave.

Deceased (DQ 48): The names of those who had been a part of our covenant that had transitioned to life eternal were recognized. Rev. Willie Foreman offered a prayer of thanksgiving for those who joined the Church Triumphant.

Retirees (DQ 53-56): A list of names of this year's retirees was presented. It was moved and accepted.

Disciplinary Questions regarding Diaconal Ministers (DQ 66-75) and clergy appointed to less than full time service (DQ 76) were presented for review. This concluded the matters for the Board of Ordained Ministry.

Bishop Swenson lifted up the Clergy Convocation that was scheduled for September. Rev. Mike Slaughter would be our speaker at that event and clergy were encouraged to attend. Reminders about Early Morning Prayer on Friday and Saturday were given.

Rev. Tom Griffith raised a question regarding Disciplinary Question 18 and if a vote was required in the Clergy Session. It was determined that this DQ would be addressed within a Plenary Session.

Rev. Karen Moore moved the Clergy Session recommend the suspension of rules regarding Rev. Mai Nguyen's salary arrearage. It was determined this motion was out of order in the Clergy Session and should be raised in a Plenary Session.

Rev. Richard Bentley raised a question for the Board of Ordained Ministry regarding adding members to the Board of Ordained Ministry to ease the issue of transition at the quadrennial changes. Rev. Derek Nakano and Bishop Swenson addressed the concern.

Rev. Dr. Kenny Walden, chaplain at March AFB in the reserves, prayed at the close of our Clergy Session.

Lay Orientation Sessions Thursday, 10 a.m.

Mele Maka, Santa Barbara District Lay Leader, greeted the gathering and opened with prayer. She encouraged the gathering to remain open to the proposed changes, but also be open to voices of dissent as these may shed new light on areas that needed clarity. Mele offered a meditation on the importance of making new, visionary leaders for Christ, and emphasized the Laity's role as "change agents" during this Annual Conference session.

Marcia Gallon, Associate Lay Leader of Pasadena District, represented the Board of Laity and introduced Conference Lay Leader, Ken Ellis.

Ken informed us the average age of United Methodists is 57, emphasizing the need to find new blood, so the future of the United Methodist Church might be preserved. He introduced the Orientation Session to the District Lay Leaders and associates, indicating that these would be the people to talk to concerning any questions. He concluded by stating his support for Recommendation 11-1, and explained its importance to the election of future Conference Lay Leaders.

Marcia clarified that all board and agency positions were open to Lay Members of the Annual Conference, with the sole exception being those dealing with ministerial concerns. She described the responsibilities of Lay Members to the Annual Conference session, voting procedures, and plenary responsibilities specific to Lay Members. Lay Members were responsible for reporting back to their churches concerning all actions taken at the Annual Conference session.

The location of the lost and found was mentioned: the Fine Arts building, east of the Chapel. The Message Board, where Lay Members may be notified of any messages they may receive, was located at the entrance to the Fine Arts building. Members of the Board of Laity may be approached with questions concerning the locations of any events. District Gathering locations were listed in the Resource Handout. Marcia stressed the importance of attending these gatherings as an opportunity for Lay Members to meet clergy new to their Districts and gain greater familiarity with the District itself.

Dan Gara announced his retirement as Conference Treasurer after sixteen dedicated years of service. He mentioned the final budget recommendation had been completed and would be distributed. This budget had taken into account the proposed administrative changes. If passed, the proposed changes would save the Annual Conference more than \$800,000 over just 2 years. Dan acknowledged there were dissenting voices present and encouraged listening to those with differences of opinion.

Rev. Kirsten Oh described the purpose of the Learning Circles, and discussed their relevancy to the theme of this year's Annual Conference gathering. Learning Circle assignments had been printed on the name badges that members were given at registration. A detailed description of the Learning Circles would be distributed in Plenary Session on Friday. The recent Lay Ministry Academy graduates were

recognized.

Bob Rhodes offered an explanation of the Preliminary Reports. The differences between recommendations, resolutions, petitions, and motions were described. All motions must be submitted to the Conference Secretary in writing before the motion was made on the floor. The role of the Legislative Sections was to take the tremendous amount of legislation and break up the work and assign it into smaller groups. Dave Stambaugh explained that legislation that received 80% concurrence or non-concurrence was then voted on via the Consent Calendar. Lay members may only vote in the Legislative Section in their assigned group. The Consent Calendar would be posted around the campus and could be downloaded to your mobile device or tablet. It could also be viewed online. Procedural instructions were given concerning Plenary Sessions: Leanne Nakanishi explained microphone usage etiquette, with an explanation of the color paddle system. Laity were reminded that microphone usage was monitored and limited to no more than two minutes at a time. Clarification would be provided when needed. All procedures could be found on page I-12 of the Journal. The UM Daily would be available at the end of each day and served the Annual Conference session as a record of each day's events. Live streaming of the plenary sessions would be available online as well. Visit the Conference Co-Secretaries' website at <http://secretary.cal-pac.org>

Badge colors designating voting status were discussed.

Rev. Frank Wulf discussed General and Jurisdictional Conference. General Conference was the United Methodist Church's primary legislative body. California-Pacific Conference must send eight total delegates (four Clergy and four Lay) to General Conference. Jurisdictional Conference has classically been the legislative body that elected Bishops to the Annual Conferences in our Jurisdiction. The 2012 Jurisdictional Conference would have an emphasis on proposed changes to Annual Conference boundaries along with networking and sharing of resources between Annual Conferences in the West. Rev. Wulf explained the balloting process.

Joann Orendurff gave an explanation of the resources available to the disabled at this year's Annual Conference session.

Mele Maka closed the session with prayer.

Orders of Ministry Covenant Session Thursday, 2 p.m.

“A Love Feast” Clergy Orders

Rev. Molly Vetter addressed the gathering and led us in singing, “For a Thousand Tongues.”

Rev. Greg Norton was introduced and said there were Clergy Convocation brochures on the tables and encouraged people to attend.

Rev. Vetter informed the gathering regarding the availability of funds from the Orders in the areas of continuing education and renewal leave to assist Clergy in their efforts of learning and renewal.

Rev. Sue D'Alessio asked the body to share the joys and concerns and prayers were lifted up.

Bishop Mary Ann Swenson encouraged the gathering to attend the clergy convocation in September. Afterward, she led the body in the prayer of community.

Rev. Carol Dalton from the Orders Executive Board introduced our guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Lincoln Galloway. He led the bible study referencing Paul's first letter to the Corinthians centering on the call to be centered in Love. He empowered the gathering by speaking on the message of love. Love had to be the center of our ministry, for without love, injustice, suffering, division, and the state of hopelessness would continue.

Following Rev. Dr. Galloway's preaching, the clergy session broke into extemporaneous singing of the hymn "Love Lifted Me".

Rev. Faith Conklin spoke on the origins of the Love Feast. The love feast allowed the community to focus on God, enabled us to lift up Christ and be in fellowship with one another.

"Father of Earth and Heaven" was sung.

Rev. Tia Wildermuth read Psalm 145:8-21 and led the Community Prayer.

Rev. Vetter introduced three speakers to offer a witness on our call to community.

Rev. Sarah Heath shared about her gift of being able to create and build community. She talked about two of her youth, Brittany and Steven. Community began with Confirmation and Baptism. She shared the story of how young Brittany was inspired by Steven's decision to be baptized on the day he was confirmed. Brittany became a driving force in offering community and the love of Christ to others. Brittany was taking her love of Christ into the community by creating a nonprofit lunch program, "I love you lunches," building community by working to make a difference the lives of those in need.

Rev. Heath's witness was followed by a question for discussion: "Where have you experienced holy community in the church?"

Rev. Alan Mark shared stories about his past appointments and his calling to be a community organizer. He identified the importance of the church becoming an organized community to make a positive and necessary change. The faith community must become the voice for the voiceless and bringing changes in the world.

Small group discussion took place around "Where have you shared 'church' in your community?"

"Jesus, United by Thy Grace" was sung.

Rev. Kenny Walden spoke on the call to ministry outside our local congregations. He shared his experiences as a military chaplain offering pastoral care to those who serve our country and their families. He encouraged us to offer prayers, encouragements, and support for those who serve outside the local church.

Small group discussion took place around "Where has our call led you to serve outside our traditional roles?"

“Grace Alone” was sung.

Rev. Vetter led the gathering in a closing prayer and the Lord’s Prayer.

Bishop Swenson dismissed the body with the benediction.

Lay Session Thursday, 2 p.m.

Ken Ellis, Conference Lay Leader, opened the session and encouraged the body to be open and to listen. He introduced Rev. Darryl Fairchild and Rev. Kim Armentrout and sharing a portion of their background.

The laity sang the opening hymn “Are We Yet Alive?”

Ken led the body in prayer and then turned it over to Darryl and Kim. They shared experiences and “tag teamed” an inspirational message on ways to create vital congregational communities and ministries. A handout was provided outlining the Five Skills to Develop for Organizational Vitality.

1. Cultivate a Relational Culture: This began by seeking opportunities to be in relationships personally and to go out into the community to build a new community. This entailed making contact with another person - face to face. It was through developing new relationships that we created community growth.
2. Tell our Story: Stories were important for developing the relational culture. There were components to our stories: location, people, plot, point - these all helped us understand and relate to each other. Stories showed values, priorities, passions, and the richness of our lives. Stories shared the essential parts of who we were. As followers of Jesus we needed to articulate our God experiences - which were our stories. We were helped by knowing how God was working in us and through us.
3. Dig for self interest: One must determine if they were being selfish (about me) or selfless (about others). Darryl proposed a “Be a Better Lover” model for relationship development - Love of God and Love of Neighbor. 5 characteristics of a healthy loving relationship: 1) encouraged deeper connections; 2) developed zest and vitality; 3) increased understanding; 4) empowered to act; and 5) increased sense of self worth. Church was a means to giving people God experiences for transformation. Jesus said “Follow me and I will have you fish for men.”
4. Develop Leaders: Recruit and develop more than one leader for vitality. Vital church leadership had to be more than the pastor. Congregations could be transformed when they were vitally involved in the changes and growth. Iron Rule of vital leadership: Never do for anyone what they could do for themselves. Leaders were not born, they were “discipled.” Leadership development was sanctifying grace. Looking at someone where they were and helping them grow to the potential they could be. To grow you had to be willing to lose yourself.
5. Make acting and evaluating a habit: Help people to think in terms of “we” and be active together. Outreach events including opportunities for Face to Face relationship building encouraged others to become part of a growing and transformed community (congregation).

Dick Englar, District Lay Leader from Hawaii, led the body in closing prayer.

Call to Order & Liturgy of Beginning
Thursday, June 16, 2011

Bishop Mary Ann Swenson called the session to order, making opening comments framing the opening of Annual Conference. Bishop Swenson introduced Rev. Darryl Fairchild, Rev. Kim Armentrout, and their daughter Maya who would be guests of the Conference and would be preaching at the Ordination Service on Saturday. Bishop Swenson set the stage for worship.

Liturgy of Beginning

Opening Song “We are Called”

Gathering the People-- Rev. Nestor Gerente and Almeida Cash

Scripture Reading : Amos 5:21-24

There was a reading for gathering together in worship to God to be transformed as a Conference recognizing God’s grace in our blessings and God’s presence in our shared struggles.

Rev. Tonya Harris, Rev. Lupita Alonso-Redondo, Susan Stouffer, and Rev. David Farley shared the struggles of serving the poor in our communities. This led into our gathering waters of how our churches were serving those in need.

The Amos passage was read in many different languages.

We offered a prayer of confession and hope, acknowledging God’s call placed in our lives and seeking renewal through God’s grace and hope. Words of Pardon and Grace were extended.

In Gathering the Waters, people representing each District brought in pitchers of water and read out the names and activities of ministry to the poor.

As Ken Ellis poured water into a basin representing life-giving living water, Bishop Swenson lifted up prayers, recognizing God’s flowing blessings that had brought us healing and life.

The congregation sang and danced through “Singing Through the Water.”

Bishop Swenson welcomed all present at Annual Conference for the first time and then those who have been at AC for 10 then 20 then 30 then 40 the 50, 55, 60. 62 years was the most years served.

This was the 27th meeting of the California-Pacific Annual Conference.

Bishop Swenson introduced Ken Ellis, Rev. Dan Lewis, Leanne Nakanishi, and the Parliamentarian Preston Price.

Rev. Dan Lewis moved that bar of the Conference be set as the main level seating area of the chapel, the balcony seating area from the stairwell entry doors forward, the Green Room, the stage, and the audio-visual room backstage. **The motion was approved.**

Orders of the Day: Rev. Dan Lewis moved the Orders of the Day and **they were approved.**

Dan and Leanne presented four Procedural Motions which were **approved.**

1) The Agenda in the Resource Handout distributed at Registration be the official Agenda of this Annual Conference, and the Agenda Chairperson and/or Conference Co-Secretaries be authorized to make necessary adjustments in consultation with the Bishop as needed.

(2) The proceedings published in the UM Daily be the official minutes of the Annual Conference after they were corrected and approved.

(3) The registration forms be used as the official roll call of the Conference Sessions.

(4) All resolutions NOT adopted by the end of Annual Conference be referred to the appropriate entities.

A fifth motion was presented:

(5) As per Conference Rule IV.3 located on Page I-7 of the Conference Journal, to reach the required number of Lay Members in equalizing membership (lay & clergy), as allowed under Paragraph 602.4 of *The Book of Discipline*, the Cabinet nominated Tricia Hamilton, Jackie Hawthorne, Carla Moreno, and Brenda DePano for election as Lay Members to the 2011 Annual Conference. **The motion was approved.**

Rev. Tom Griffith presented Rule Change 11-3: Because of the nature of this proposed rule change affects the operation of the entire AC Session, the Rules Committee, on its own decision, moved that the Conference Rules be suspended, so this proposed rule change may be voted upon in the opening plenary session, that it take effect immediately upon passage, and that it not be sent to a Legislative Session.

The body voted on the suspension of the rules favorably and rule change 11-3 was **supported.**

Legislation Tracking Sheet Updates:

- (1) Petition 11-1/11-1.2 was ruled out of order by the Bishop.
- (2) Addition of Resolution 11-22--Study of District Boundaries.

Breakfast would be served until 8:00 a.m. Campus Copy Center was open from M-F 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Updated Legislative info would be posted in the booth outside the chapel and in the cafeteria. Booth across the way would house the excess printed documents.

Ken Ellis and Rev. Molly Vetter led the delegates to the 2008 General Conference. Delegates had a lot of homework to do. They needed to represent the Annual Conference prayerfully. Delegation would meet face to face to prepare for the work of the General Conference, strategizing to ministry in the Western United States. Bishop Swenson would convene a short organizational meeting after the close of Annual Conference Session in the Och Tamale Room.

Rev. Dan Lewis and Rev. David Burguson presented General Conference nominations procedures. The first ballot would be during Plenary Session #3 tomorrow morning. They explained guidelines to help us through the process. In the Bar of Annual Conference, everyone must wear a name badge. Laity

voted first, followed by the Clergy vote. Clergy vote for clergy and laity vote for laity. 4 clergy and 4 laity for General Conference, and 8 clergy and 8 laity plus 2 alternates for Judicial Conference were to be elected. Nominees were listed in the Resource Handout.

Nominees Tricia Hamilton, Mark Stephenson, Rev. Tom Choi, Rev. Rick Uhls, and Rev. Kirsten Oh were added after the Resource Handout was printed up.

New Delegates nominated at the session must fill out a form available to the right of the stage. Deadline to submit a nomination form was 15 minutes after the end of Plenary Session # 1.

Rev. David Burgeson called for nominations from the floor. Nominations were made from the floor and the nominees were as follows:

Laity (* indicates Jurisdictional nominee only)

Ali'ifua, Lauolefiso; Barrett, Patsy; Colling, Sarah; Cook, Vicki; *Dominguez, Lemuel; Ellis, Kenneth M.; Fairman, Marie; Fonua, Elenoa; Fukumoto, JoAnn Yoon; Hamilton, Tricia; Hernandez, Nelly; Hogan, Ralph L.; Hogan, Thom; Ingram, Carolyn; Jacques, Jennifer; Kehrberg, Norma; Kim, Richard C.; Maka, Mele; McKlenshaw, I. Lee; McLaughlin, Ann; McVey, Krista; Mendoza, Alberto C.; Nakanishi, Leanne; ODell, Candida (Candie); Oden, Eäär; Oh, John; Rockwell, Harry "Bill"; Smith, Jeanne Roe; Stephenson, Mark; Suchocki, Marjorie; Urda, Ana-Haydée; Tu'itahi, Monalisa S.; Watson, Lloyd; Wheeler, Krystle; Wilford, Linda

Clergy (* indicates Jurisdictional nominee only)

Abrams, Cynthia; Ala'ilima, Piula E.; Bentley, Richard; Bridgeforth, Cedrick; Brown, Craig; Chase, Louis; Choi, Tom; Coats, Cathleen; Dang, Bau; Eaves, A. Paige; Farris, Patricia; Foreman, Willie J.; Gara, Debbie; Gerente, Nestor; Griffith, Thomas; *Harris, Tonya; Hill, Paul; Kim, Ji Tai ("J.T."); Lee, Brian Suk-Boo; Mattick, Andy; McFarland, John; McGlocklin, David; McKeithen, Janet Gollery; Moore, Mary Elizabeth; Nakata, Bob; Oh, Kirsten; Peralta, Steven F.; *Richards, Sandie; Santillana, Teresa; Shaw, Leigh Ann; Stevenson Sr., James E.; Ulrickson, Mark; Van Hook, W. "Terry"; Vetter, Molly; Vindel, Jose; Wingfield, Myron; Wulf, Frank; Zuill, Charlene

William Renfroe from the Commission of Religion and Race, express the importance of racial and ethnic diversity in our Conference's representation to General and Jurisdictional Conference.

Rev. Karen Moore moved to suspend the rules regarding Petition 11-1.2 pertaining to arrearage owed to Rev. Mai Nguyen while appointed to Grace Riverside. Bishop Swenson ruled it out of Order, because it needed to go before the Cabinet before it was considered by the Annual Conference. There needed to be a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote majority to the suspension of the rules. **The motion did not pass.**

Bishop Swenson announced the 2012 Western Jurisdictional Conference would be held in San Diego in July and invited Becky Haase, who was the chair for the Locations cCommittee, to share with us the need for volunteers and for committee members in the process of planning and carrying out Jurisdictional Conference. E-mail at HaaseHaaseB@aol.com if interested.

Bishop Swenson asked the Conference Secretaries to send a letter from us to our brothers and sisters in Arizona as they fight the fires in their area.

Prayers of Peace and Benediction--Rev. David Burguson

Plenary 2
Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

The Plenary Session was opened with the singing of “Marching to Zion,” A call and response prayer, and the song “Cuando.” Matthew 10: 40-42 was shared in both English and Spanish. Rev. Mary Scifres invited Rev. Sandy Olewine to share her experiences at The Neighborhood, in Long Beach.

We sung the last verse with a new verse of “Amazing Grace”

Orders of the Day: Rev. Dan Lewis moved the Orders of the Day and **they were approved.**

Rev. Dan Lewis presented some announcements.

Bishop Swenson introduced Bishop Charles Jordan and Rev. John Valles.

Tom Griffin announced proposed rule changes that were approved. He asked for Rules changes to be submitted prior to the deadline.

Conference body sang: “Jesu, Jesu”

Conference Leadership Annual Report:

Video was shown about “The Poor.” The key was to be in ministry **with**, not for.

Bishop Swenson spoke about what we do. The church was sharpening its focus. We needed to grow in influence and accountability. We had 5 key areas of focus: worship, make new disciples, grow, engage in mission, and give to mission. We needed to sharpen our focus and see a change in the general church, and the Conference would lead us in the good work we were doing.

“Hard news, and hard work:” We would have to change. Change would be seen in the breadth and depth of what we were about to do. They were people who said they wanted to change, but did not want to do the hard work needed. After the resurrection, the disciples expected certain changes, but Jesus said wait. The change would be within you.

“The change we needed was likely to be hard.” We understood who our customers were. When someone came through the door of the church as a guest, we saw them as a customer. If they decided to become a member of the church, they would accept a job description.

“The real customers of the church were not in the pews.” They were outside the church and were our neighbors, near and far. We served a global neighborhood. This required collaboration and teamwork and partnerships. That was where your membership was. You were no longer a customer. You were a member of the UMC. You were a staff member of the Annual Conference. You were on the global United Methodist Church team. We were the people of Jesus Christ and we had good work to do.

Hispanic Plan

A video was shown. Comprehensive strategic plan for ministries with Hispanics 2012-2022 (brochure was handed out).

Vision Statement: (provided in brochure). Annual Conference body read the Vision Statement together.

Recognition was given to those who worked on the plan. Participants listed.

Listed the 4 distinctive lines of objectives (Pg 7 of handout)

- 1) To develop Transformational Leadership
- 2) To move into growing healthy Hispanic churches and ministries
- 3) To broadening the Connection in order to undergird long-range success
- 4) Empower fruitful leaders to revitalize existing churches and ministries

5 Essential Ministries Teams

Rev. Riley McRae - These were our priorities:

- We believe we were called to attend to the demands of Justice & Compassion for our neighbors.
- We believe Leadership Development must address the ever-changing circumstances into which we were called to proclaim the Gospel.
- We believe New Ministries were demanded of us to share the hope and transforming power of God's love in the sprawling suburbs and in the downtowns of our many towns and cities, in the changing neighborhoods and in the aging communities, on our high school and college campuses, and in the homes and neighborhoods of our displaced workers and all those who were struggling to keep their families together.
- We believe as United Methodists in this place and in this time we were called by God to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world"
- Right now and in the most effective ways we possibly could.

Each of our local congregations and our faith communities were under a great deal of stress, but they were also filled with loving faithful people. Our task was to bring the collective resources that we as the Annual Conference could provide into the local faith communities of every type, every language, and every locale we could.

Rev. Brian Suk-Boo Lee

- We lived in an historic time. The world had changed, and was changing with every passing moment, and even the speed of change was picking up. He just got a Facebook page, and it was already becoming the old way to communicate. Did you know high school students had stated they do not like e-mail because it took too long?
- The economic collapse and lingering recession was a hard blow to every home and every organization, and even to the basic infrastructures of our communities, state and nation.
- Each of our families was facing the new challenges of our current reality, and adjusting choices in the short-term and long-term—when would I retire? Could I retire? What school could my children afford to attend? Where did I commit my tithes and charitable donations? What purchase did I make or postpone?
- Every congregation and ministry, large and small, had been affected and had to make hard choices.
- We as a connectional body must think carefully about our choices as well. At the same time be responsive to the ever-changing circumstances our people and neighbors faced. As we looked at ourselves, we found a need for repentance and reconciliation.

Rev. Paige Eaves:

As we began the process of developing the EMT structure, we were focused on effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability. The deeper we got into the process, the more we realized how pervasive the sense of distrust was around our Annual Conference.

- Like a congregation that carried around the wounds of an appointment that did not work out, or suffered from a melancholy nostalgia for days gone by, so also our Conference carried open wounds, dysfunctions, un-forgiven debts, and grief for a time gone by.
- This was confusing for new generations who were ready to bring energy and gifts to our shared work, because such wounds were not always immediately obvious. But they manifested themselves in unattractive, unhealthy ways, like a “we vs. they” mentality, when it was really all about the US and the people in our zip codes whom we have not met yet and who had not heard the hope of the Gospel.

We also grew in our awareness of how our ethnic churches continued to feel marginalized, despite a representational system preserved through the 4/3s rule and highly visible caucuses and councils. Actually, to be honest what we heard was, it seemed that very few people felt fully included in the life of the Annual Conference.

We could not keep doing things the same way if we wanted something different – if we wanted to be healed, we needed to be forward-looking, authentically inclusive, and focused on making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The Conference Leadership Team had worked with many, many of you over the last 2 years in a proactive effort to change the way we went about our shared ministry. Since July of 2009, we had taken on pressing issues facing our Annual Conference- a shrinking budget, vacant staff positions in the Conference office, decisions related to Conference staffing structure, a habit and structure that did not hold us accountable for results, all of the surrounding trust issues, and competition for dwindling resources.

We had taken on these concerns by developing a structure with accountable systems that established outcomes for ourselves. The structure also represented an alignment with the 2008 General Conference goals and all that we had learned about vital faithful communities and congregations. Every United Methodist had been asked to take seriously the need to Develop Principled Leaders, Engage in Ministry with the Poor, Create New Communities and Revitalize Existing Ones, and Combat the Diseases of Poverty by Improving Health Globally.

At last year’s Annual Conference, you strongly supported the Five Essential Ministry Team framework, with the intent that the Team would bring five Chartering Documents, one for each EMT, back to the 2011 Annual Conference. We had done that.

These charters were framed as living and responsive documents, preparing us for the challenges of the future as well as holding on to those things we needed to cherish from the past. As part of these charters, the Annual Conference would receive an Essential Ministry Team staffing plan that would be linked to the primary outcomes of each respective EMT.

Tricia Hamilton

Over the last two years the Conference Leadership Team had led the process of developing the Essential Ministry Team structure through 5 Conference Tables with reps from every

Conference agency, 17 vetting sessions, 10 official CLT meetings, and a blizzard of e-mail conversations, skype meetings, and phone calls with each other and anyone who wanted to participate in the process.

If you had a voice in the development of an Essential Ministry Charter, attended a vetting session, visited the website, asked questions on the online academy, or completed the online survey, please stand and receive our recognition and thanks.

We used a charter worksheet to keep track of our work between meetings, always asking:

- Were we being attentive to our primary outcomes?
- Would the structure, staffing, and budget support our primary outcomes?
- And most importantly, would these plans support developing principled Christian leaders, new and renewed ministries, and ministries of justice & compassion?

We pulled in new conversation partners when we knew we needed them. Erin Hawkins, our General Secretary for Race & Religion came out to help us with our cultural competency in the process as we looked for a new way of collaboration among equals.

In March, we established a rules and judicial council ruling sub-team and enlisted our own Rev. Richard Bentley and Rev. Tom Griffith to join us in this process. They spent significant time informing the CLT on judicial council decisions regarding restructurings in other Conferences. The sub-team contributed hours and hours helping the Conference Leadership Team scour *The Book of Discipline* for mandated actions and committees, and suggesting functional Rules language. Jan Hanson, Rev. George Hooper, and the Conference Personnel Policy Committee continued to advise on Conference rules and California labor law. We continued to be informed and held accountable by passionate United Methodists in the pews who kept asking – How would this help my local congregation?

Our budgeting process changed dramatically. The CLT worked in concert with Conference Finance & Administration to lead an extensive process that was collaborative and participatory by using EMT design teams to work through budget decisions. No more do individual groups come before CFA, make their case, and hope to come out OK. Instead, we worked and struggled, prayed, and sought God's wisdom together, first as separate Essential Ministry Teams and then as one body, with the result of a very collaborative and mission driven budgeting process that we intended to continue and strengthen.

- With our commitment to transparency, we brought the working documents to you at the 17 vetting sessions and internet questionnaires.
- Over 300 people participated in these vetting sessions.
- Those Vetting sessions were to listen, not argue nor defend, but to solicit more input. Each comment was seriously considered and many of them made it into the evolution of the next form of the charters. You could read all the comments on the Cal-Pac Conference Secretaries' website. Over two dozen modifications came out of those sessions.
- The passion and faithful dedication exhibited by you in those vetting sessions was exactly the kind of passion and excitement that we wanted to encourage and empower with this refined focus on the distribution of our resources.

Rev Siosaia Tu'itahi

The amount of work did not drop off in the last couple of months, but had continued at an intense pace as we had wrestled with additional budgeting issues, staffing concerns, nominations, and

other questions.

We had reworked the budget format multiple times in an effort to reveal clearly the changes from the old budgeting system. We were committed to your understanding of where the money went when local congregations made a precious choice that felt like a trade-off between dollars spent on local ministry and dollars spent on ministries beyond the local congregation. All of us on the CLT were likewise active in our own local congregations wrestling with these same conversations and choices.

Even through this week, we had continued to live into the refinement of our working staffing plan. Following a Navigation EMT discussion, CLT removed a hybrid position that had been of concern. The Assistant to the Bishop and the Director of Mission, Ministry, and Communication position would not be a hybrid. We had concluded that it was in all our best interests to have one position, hired by the Annual Conference and directed by the Navigation EMT.

We had continued to make changes to the charters. In fact, we were about to hand out 2 pages of modifications (and we were darn proud of it). We promised you the development of these charters would be a nimble and responsive process, so we had continued to use your input to make the 5 EMTs stronger.

Even now as we stood before you, we were ready to receive thoughtful, constructive amendments because we believed in the collective wisdom of all of us together, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and working as the body of Christ.

- Work would continue even after we left this week to bridge into the new structure,
- to set measurable benchmarks,
- to articulate clear and accountable job descriptions,
- to detail the rules needed to guide our processes for approval next year.

Once we approved the Five Essential Ministry Team charters, the task before each EMT would be to take action to initiate vital ministry, to establish strategic goals, and be prepared to return next year with measurable evidence of engaging in exciting and effective ministry—not just reporting on more talk!

Debbie Haustedt:

In a few moments, we would distribute information that would lead our deliberations for this Annual Conference.

Handouts for your review included:

- Charter modifications to be applied to the June 1st posted charter documents;
- EMT Enabling Motions worked out in collaboration with Rules that gave us the freedom to move forward, which included the dissolution of the Conference Leadership Team;
- Five Essential Ministry Team promotional card, including information links to a dedicated website complete with a smart code to get you there instantly.
- The Nominating Committee's Report, which you would find in a new format to match the EMT structures. Two of the Navigation at-large members would be nominated and elected from the floor during this Annual Conference.

There were several ways for us to talk with one another about these proposals and these materials:

- We would gather in our Table Forums to talk with one another about all that was before us.

- There would be informal gatherings for questions and answers at designated spots in the commons and courtyard. Look for the wind turbine logo. Or ask someone wearing a wind turbine name card.
- And do not forget we were on Facebook as well.
- Feedback to questions raised at Table Forums would be presented during the Saturday morning Plenary Session.
- Finally, floor debate and vote on the Essential Ministry Team proposals would take place on Saturday afternoon.

As you could imagine, remaking our “corporate culture” like this was a tremendously complex task. Not only were we trying to implement change that was effective and inspirational, but attention must be, and had been, and would continue to be given to *The Book of Discipline* mandates and to Judicial Council rulings.

We were aware other Annual Conferences had struggled with the same problems we had. We were working to learn from their struggles and would watch as General Conference deliberated over major changes to make it easier for us all to respond and adapt to this 21st Century world in which we lived out our call to serve Christ.

Rev. Terry Van Hook

The job of all the Essential Ministry Teams was to look around, find the people inspired by God, nurture the dreams given to them in Christ’s love, and with the best wisdom, insight, prayers, and graceful love, make it real!

Ken Callahan asked congregations: “Are your best days behind you? Or in front of you? Let us ask ourselves the same question as an Annual Conference: What if we reached for the best God had for us? What if we approached all of our ministries as if our best days were ahead of us? What if we accepted the EMT structure as an opportunity to move into our best days?

And if our best days were in front of us, were we willing to take the risk to make them real? Were we willing to put aside habits of gossip, suspicion, and mistrust? Were we willing to replace them with the spirit of collaboration, forgiveness, and grace? It had been said there would always be a church. God would see to that. The question we face was, “Will there be a United Methodist Church, here in our area, guided by the Holy Spirit, living out the Wesleyan promise of transformation of individuals, and of the world?” It was up to us, together, guided by God, and following Christ.

2012 Budget - Howard Hudson, President: Council on Finance and Administration

This had been a very challenging year and CFA had worked very closely with the Conference Leadership Team, matching their extra meetings with our own extra meetings in order to maintain sound fiscal control over our Conference budget. We as the CFA had appreciated this cooperative and collaborative spirit, as we had worked with both the Leadership Team and the proposed Essential Ministry Team groups to prepare the Apportionment budget recommendation that we were bringing to you.

Much of the challenge in preparing the budget for you this year had come from the revision in the proposed Conference structure utilizing the EMT Groups, taking advantage of the accountability it entailed, and reformatting the budget to accommodate that structure. To help you understand the budget during this transition, we developed two formats, which would be handed out to you on back-to-back green sheets as we concluded this presentation.

The Conference Staff would be reduced by 9 positions. While the apportioned request for each EMT did not change, some of the categories within each EMT had been rearranged in order for you to see more clearly the financial resources we were dedicating to our missional priorities. These reports present the budget in a way that just one report could not. There was no way, we could adequately express our appreciation to our Conference Treasurer, Dan Gara who had done so much to configure and reconfigure the formats of this budget, so they would coincide with the Conference as structured under the EMT's. With Dan's pending retirement, we would all miss him and the guidance he had provided not just to CFA, but to the entire Conference during his sixteen years as Conference Treasurer.

2011 had also been a very challenging year as our local churches had come to grips with the lingering impact of the recession. Our faithful members had a great strain on their ability to give as there had been much anxiety about their future and the future of their churches. Since we were all United Methodist church members, we understood the anxiety and strain in local congregations.

As of the end of May this year, our apportionment giving had come in at the rate of 27.8% of the apportioned total for the year. This time last year, apportionment giving was 27.1%. This was good news we had based our budget for 2010 assuming apportionment giving to be at a level of 82.95% and 84.3% in 2011. We did not feel this was an unrealistic expectation as over the last 10 years, apportionment giving averaged 82.9%. However, last year we did fall far short of that mark.

Because of this shortfall in the percentage of apportionment giving, the actual dollars received by the Conference in 2010 were more than \$675,000 short of our expectation, causing a severe cash flow shortage.

Looking to the future, in 2012, we WERE PROJECTING a significant rise in the costs in some of the areas that we might consider our “entitlement” programs:

Medical Premiums for our retired clergy would be increasing by a projected \$150,000.

For our existing Conference employees, there was a projected increase of 11% in medical premiums together with a long delayed 3% pay and benefit packages increase for a combined projected cost increase of \$179,000 more than 2011.

It would be good to point out that because of budget constraints, our Conference staff had not had an increase in the past 3 years.

In the spirit of our shared Christian community, our Executive Directors along with our District Superintendents had chosen to forgo any raises for the 2012 year (cost of living or otherwise) in order that the balance of our staff received these much needed increases.

Elsewhere in our budget, with the guidance and recommendation of the Conference Leadership Team, our 2012 Conference staff would be reduced by 9 positions in 2012, resulting in a reduced cost of \$613,430. This had been accomplished by reducing staff costs in 4 of the five EMT areas together with using some of our non-apportioned funding from our Campus Ministry funds.

Working together with the Conference Leadership Team, other cuts had been made in the area of programming and resourcing.

It was important to note several members of the staff at Annual Conference were paid with non-apportioned funds. These included 6 people in accounting, pensions, and health benefits areas and an additional 2 in the area of Congregational Loans.

With all that put together, we were pleased to report that the apportionment budget we were recommending, amounted to a total of **\$12,060,826** – a significant reduction from the apportionment asking for 2011. Because of recent adjustments that had been made since the publication of your preliminary reports, this amount was **\$159,934** less than the amount that was published on page 84 of your preliminary report. We were also pleased to report this is **\$410,841, or 3.3%** lower than 2011 and **\$812,087 or 6.3%** lower than 2010.

Since the budget was a critical roadmap for our Conference, we did not want to present this to you without your understanding. As such, there would be time to discuss this along with the EMT proposal tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 during the Table Forums.

We bring this proposal to you as a budget, we felt was faithful to the mission and vision of our church and Conference.

With this presentation, we were asking for your support for this apportionment budget proposal for 2012.

Camping Task Force Report - Rev. Myron Wingfield

This was a follow-up to the Motion from 2010: To conduct a review and report to 2011 to “Rethink Camping”.

A motion from the floor of the 2010 session of Annual Conference called for a Task Force that would “conduct a comprehensive review of Conference camping and report to the 2011 Annual Conference with considerations of how we might rethink camping”. What followed was the report of the Camping Task Force (CTF) and your invitation to rethink camping.

Membership: The members of the CTF included: Sharon Smith & Chuck Ward from BCORM; James Park & Kathi Ellis from Trustees; Howard Hudson & Jeff Casey from CFA; Orville Benjamin & Rev. Allison Mark from CLT; Dan Gara, Rev. Sue D’Alessio, and Rev. Gary Keene from Conference staff; and Rev. Myron Wingfield as Convener.

Beginning in September 2010, the CTF met a total of 7 times (including two conference calls). As we began our work, it was immediately clear that we were all deeply committed to the ministry of camping. Whether as campers, counselors, or volunteers supporting camping, we all had a critical experience of camping that shaped our lives for good, and we were committed to promoting a vital camping ministry for Cal-Pac.

During our first meetings, we conducted a comprehensive review of camping in Cal-Pac, starting with a review of the 10-year-old *Strategic Plan for Ministry for the Board of Camping, Outdoor, and Retreat Ministries of the California-Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church*. Authored and published by Kathy Trotter of Kaleidoscope, Inc. in October 2000, the Strategic Plan provided a thorough outline for our review.

We quickly reached consensus that an update of the Strategic Plan was central to our task. We were also pleased to learn that Kathy Trotter, the consultant who authored the first Strategic Plan in 2000, was available and enthusiastic about revisiting Cal-Pac camping to produce an updated Strategic Plan. For practical reasons, the members of the CTF agreed to share the \$4,000 cost of updating the plan. More important, we appreciated the symbol of each group – BCORM, Trustees, CFA, and the Camping Task Force – contributing \$1,000 each to tangibly demonstrate that we were all invested in and responsible for a future of vital conference camping, and that mutually supportive cooperation and collaboration was required to fulfill our vision of camping in Cal-Pac.

To accomplish her task, Kathy Trotter came to Cal-Pac in December 2010 and met with the BCORM, the Board of Trustees, the Camping Task Force, and Conference Staff related to Camping. She reviewed all of our camping-related statistics – finances, usage rates, number of churches, Conference membership, and much more – and, soon thereafter, presented to us *The Strategic Plan for Ministry for the Board of Camping, Outdoor & Retreat Ministries UPDATE 2010*. We presented this 10-page Strategic Plan for your careful consideration as an addendum to this report.

In addition to the *Strategic Plan UPDATE 2010*, Kathy Trotter also provided us with two key documents to guide BCORM, in collaboration with Trustees and CFA, in the implementation of the plan, and they were also presented for your careful consideration as an addendum to this report. Those documents are:

1. “Affording the Ministry We Can’t Afford to Lose” white paper
2. “Balancing Your Dollars & Sense” (PowerPoint printout).

The CTF was compelled to highlight the following key observations in order to fulfill its task of providing “considerations of how we might rethink camping” for Cal-Pac:

The *primary responsibility and accountability* for the leadership and management of the camp and retreat program and operation was delegated to BCORM and to no other body or individual. *Secondary* responsibility and accountability was with the Board of Trustees, which must always work in collaboration with and following the lead of BCORM in camp-related matters. BCORM: “Take thou authority!” We support you!

In pursuit of the 2000 version of The Strategic Plan, BCORM had accomplished much, including unification and coordination of a Conference-wide camping program, making significant strides toward fulfillment of some camp master plans, reduction in the number of BCORM members to yield a more effective board, and reduction in the number of Conference-level staff positions related to camping.

Between 2000 and 2010 in the Cal-Pac Conference, there had been an 11% decrease in the number of churches, a 24% decrease in the number of members, a 47% decrease in the number of District campers, and a 27% decrease in the number of total camper days, but the planning, strategy, and resulting action of BCORM had not changed to keep pace with these decreases. An “as-is” operation was not sustainable.

For a variety of reasons, Conference camping ministries had an accumulated debt of nearly \$3 million, which, in turn, limited other Conference funding needs and opportunities.

All Cal-Pac camp properties were suffering from deferred maintenance and postponed improvements.

More generally, and in line with “best practices”, the Conferences across the United Methodist

connection that were providing the most vital and sustainable camping ministries were the Conferences that were divesting of their underutilized, least effective camp properties, and reallocating their resources to improve fewer, more vital and sustainable camp sites. Thriving United Methodist Conference camping programs also required strict adherence to the “best financial practices” outlined in *Affording the Ministry We Can’t Afford to Lose* and *Managing Our Dollars and Sense*.

Finally, UM Conference camping ministries that maintained strong monetary support were able to clearly articulate and demonstrate how they served local congregations. To “rethink camping” and to promote a vital conference camping, retreat, and outdoor ministry for Cal-Pac, the Camping Task Force offered the following conclusions and recommendations:

BCORM must first, as it concurred with consultant Kathy Trotter, clearly articulate its primary ministry, and establish specific practices for monitoring the health and progress of the camping ministry on behalf of Cal-Pac (see p. 3 of *Strategic Plan UPDATE 2010*).

Second, BCORM must set an action timeline that began now and included benchmarks for critical decisions and resulting actions.

In collaboration, with the Trustees, BCORM must take challenging but necessary action regarding the disposition of camp properties and the reallocation of resources, in line with its stated primary ministry, occupancy rates vis-à-vis occupancy capacities, current financial realities, and other critical indicators outlined in *The Strategic Plan UPDATE 2010* and supporting documents.

In order to control expenditures, BCORM must employ the best financial practices outlined in this report’s supporting documents. A few specific examples include funding a Director of Camping position and its supporting positions through Apportionments, funding all on-site staff through site fees, and developing long-term income streams. This should include a capital campaign that was planned and implemented as part of a broader Cal-Pac Conference effort.

BCORM must set “S.M.A.R.T” goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timed) with and for all Site Directors and provide careful, supportive oversight toward their accomplishment of those goals.

Following the lead of BCORM and the Trustees, the Cal-Pac Conference must begin to invest appropriate capital to develop and maintain inviting, quality, updated facilities. To accomplish this, we recommend that BCORM and Trustees develop a *Prioritized List of Capital Improvements*.

Generally, we urge close adherence to the recommendations of consultant Kathy Trotter as stated in *The Strategic Plan UPDATE 2010*.

Finally, we urge all Cal-Pac members to GO TO CAMP!

Board of Camping And Retreat Ministries: Sharon Smith, James Kang, Rev. James Dollins

- a) Re-redistricting
- b) Theme-based
- c) Missional

Fiscal Responsibility: evaluate each campsite

Motion for AC 2010: Which campsites would be closed and retained?

Charter for the Deployment of Superintendents and the Establishment of Mission Areas for the California-Pacific Annual Conference -- Rev. Mark Ulrickson

Over the last decade the cabinet has endeavored to assess the most faithful and effective practices of superintendency. According to the Book of Discipline,

“The task of superintending in The United Methodist Church resides in the office of bishop and extends to the district superintendent....The purpose of superintending is to equip the Church in its disciple-making ministry....

“It is also their task to facilitate the initiation of structures and strategies for the equipping of Christian people for service in the Church and in the world in the name of Jesus Christ and to help extend the service in mission” (§ 401, The United Methodist Book of Discipline, 2008).

In carrying out this responsibility the cabinet has reflected on both practices, what we pay attention to, as well as structures, the number and alignment of districts. We approach the superintending task, recognizing the changing realities and emerging possibilities in local ministries. We have all rehearsed the AC statistics of change. Suffice it to say that we need to adapt to a new context.

The cabinet also recognizes the stresses on our fiscal resources as we meet with local congregations and the need as a whole conference to find optimal use of God’s gifts. In 2011, the cost of maintaining eight district offices (including superintendents and district staff), even with a salary freeze, is approximately **20%** of the entire budget for the California-Pacific Annual Conference.

Learnings

We have researched other Annual Conferences who have also reduced the number of superintendents. We have discovered that this reduction was accompanied by partnerships with regional groupings of congregations and a pastor who led that grouping.

Approach

We are moving to **5 DS** as of **July 1, 2012**. (Included in budget proposal). The number of districts will be determined by Annual conference next year.

Whether there are 8 or 5 districts, the Bishop and cabinet are aware that our mission requires that we enter into more dynamic partnerships with and between congregations in their mission fields. Following this session of Annual Conference our congregations and ministries will be organized into regional units called Mission Areas for the purpose of greater cooperation, collaboration, and fruitfulness in mission and ministry. In each Mission Area there will be a Mission Area Leader who will operate as partner with the DS.

As Superintendents we have observed churches whose potential has been limited by isolation: feeling alone, defensive. On the other hand, we have seen great potential realized through mission collaboration. Several districts have initiated regional mission collaborations and have already seen fruitful endeavors: for instance, the San Diego District Katrina Rebuild Team, with team members from ___ churches, will once again go to work in Mississippi, and there are many other partnerships in service, joint youth and adult work teams, shared Vacation Bible School outreach ministries...

As District Superintendents, we hear the ideas and aspirations, and see examples of effective efforts that arise from each congregation, and we often find ourselves passing those ideas, inspirations, and examples along to other churches as we do our work. But wouldn't it be more effective...wouldn't our "methodism" be more "united"...if we, the lay and clergy leaders, were sharing them more directly with one another?

A Mission Area is determined by a strategic, mission-field-focused grouping of **four to ten** congregations within that region. We have decided to call them "Mission Areas" because the name *says* what we *intend*: for congregations to coordinate and collaborate their efforts in order to be more fruitful in **mission** in their **area**.

So, again, our vision is that our common efforts will lead to more fruitful congregations, more fruitful collaborations, and more fruitful Mission Areas. As George Barna said, "We are not called to go to church; we are called to *BE* the church," or, as our own Bishop has often said, "Live the Wesleyan code in your zip code." As Bishop Robert Schnase (Missouri) points out in his book, Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations, that means we are called to engage in risk-taking mission and service that leads us into new places where we will meet, serve, and be blessed by new people.

In this framework, the priorities of the district superintendents will be:

1. to focus on the appointment process to provide effective leadership;
2. to train and support mission area leaders;
3. to foster collaborative engagement in the mission field;
4. to develop and maintain a structure of support and accountability for clergy and congregations.

One way to look at this change is to focus on the reduction of Superintendents. Another is to see instead the multiplication of leaders. In the Conference as in the local church our endeavor is to multiply leaders and avoid creating dependencies.

While reduction of Superintendents addresses financial realities, the true effectiveness of these changes will be measured by the answer to the question asked of each Mission Area, each congregation, and each United Methodist: What have you accomplished for the sake of the Church's mission?

Actions

Later in the Conference sessions, you will be acting on a motion to create a task force to report to next annual conference regarding district boundaries and the transitions involved. The Book of Discipline divides the authority for establishing districts in an annual conference between the Office of Bishop and the Annual Conference Session.

The Bishop draws district lines, assigns Superintendents, and establishes structure for administration of districts. The Annual Conference assigns the number of Districts.

So with grace and hope, we move forward to strengthen our connection and build on our collaborative mission and ministries, so that we can make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Ken Ellis, Conference Lay Leader, encouraged the members of the Annual Conference to avail themselves of Lay Speaking training. He transitioned to the idea of balance through the use of a skateboard. Balance between internal church work and work with our neighbors.

Rev. Joel Hortiales offered the Prayer of Peace and Benediction.

Friday, June 17, 2011

California-Pacific Annual Conference
2011 Annual Conference Sessions

Plenary # 3 Friday, 8:30 a.m.

The Session was called to order with opening prayer and the singing of “Beautiful One” and “All Creatures of our God and King,” led by Dave Roberts. The gathering joined together in a Unison Litany of Welcome. Matthew 10:40-42 was read by Rev. Brian Suk-Boo Lee in Korean.

Stories of Grace: Rev. Mary Scifres invited Rev. John McFarland to share his story of grace. He gave his witness and talked about the power of the Holy Spirit. He shared Acts 1:4 & 8. The gathering sang “Amazing Grace”.

Orders of the Day: Rev. Dan Lewis moved the Orders of the Day and **they were approved.**

Announcements: Rev. Dan Lewis moved to suspend the rules for longer than 24 hours, so the legislation passed out last night might be discussed in the morning’s legislative session. **This motion passed.**

Courtesies: Rev. Lee Carlile introduced our Courtesies: (1) Neil Macready from the University of Redlands shared words of welcome, (2) Rev. Sunyoung Lee (UM Publishing House) & Gregg Cady (Cokesbury’s Pasadena Manager) shared about the value of bring quality publications to the United Methodist Church. Greg shared that the Pasadena store was moving to the Fuller Seminary Bookstore on July 1st. Nicole Aragon and Alex Boling, shared a report from Youth Day Shantytown, which was scheduled to bring awareness to homelessness Friday evening.

Ballot # 1: Rev. Dan Lewis explained that California-Pacific Annual Conference would elect **8 delegates to General Conference: 4 laity and 4 clergy**. Dan clarified who was eligible to vote of the clergy and laity and how that was represented with the colored name badges. Laity would vote first, immediately followed by the clergy. The number on the ballot associated with the name of the nominee would remain constant throughout the voting process. According to Conference Rules, write-in names were permissible on any ballot, so long as the total number of votes casted did not exceed the number needed to elect. A majority was needed to elect on the first ballot. Bishop Swenson read the names of the candidates for laity and asked each to stand and be recognized. 34 names were read. The Bishop asked Rev. Kathey Wilborn to offer prayer before the vote for laity delegates was taken. The vote was taken and Bishop Swenson declared the first laity ballot closed.

Bishop Swenson read the names of clergy and asked each to stand and be recognized. 37 names were on the ballot. Bill Lazarte offered prayer before the vote, the vote was taken, and Bishop Swenson declared the first ballot of clergy closed.

Board of Ordained Ministry: Rev. Anna Mulford, representing the Board of Ordained Ministry, presented the 2011 class of candidates for provisional and full connection membership in the California-Pacific Annual Conference. Bishop Swenson asked the historic questions for Paragraph 336 from *The Book of Discipline*.

Rev. Lee Cook presented Billy Stempson as a certified candidate to be appointed to extension ministry in camping ministries. Bishop Swenson asked all those who have been involved and blessed by camping ministries to stand as she offered prayer.

Rev. Mulford presented the three candidates for Certified Lay Ministers: Theresa Erb, Francis Fukumoto, and Candace Holsenback-Smith.

Bishop Swenson called for a vote of approval from the whole body and **the motion was passed**. Three new Certified Lay Ministers **were approved**.

Rev. David Richardson presented the corrections to the Navigation portion of the Nominating Committee's Report regarding the Committee on Investigation. Rev. Amelia Finau would be removed for the Committee on Investigation--Constitutional Amendment Committee and Rev. Charlene Zuill should be listed in the class of '08. Gretchen Keeler's name needed to be corrected. The Board of Ordained Ministry moved to approve the Committee on Investigation. Bishop Swenson called for a vote and **the motion passed**.

Rev. Afrie Songco Joye requested Bishop Swenson ask those being ordained into Full Connection the following question: "Will you reach out intentionally, prayerfully, and assertively to the unchurched people?"

Orders: Rev. Greg Norton explained "Orders" as a convenient community within the church that supported clergy in their relation to the church. Rev. Molly Vetter reminded clergy of the "Elder's Pastors Ministry." She also mentioned funding for continuing education. Her A-B-C's of ministry were "Ask" each other how they were doing, "Bless" each other, and "Consider" each other.

Nominating Committee Report: Rev. Stephanie Toon Glassman presented the Nominating Committee's report of the Essential Ministry Teams, which would be voted upon Sunday morning. Stephanie called for nominations from the floor for the election of 1 clergy and 1 lay member for the Navigation Essential Ministries Team. For this year only, there would be 1 clergy and 1 lay elected. They would be elected for a 4-year term and would meet 6 times per year.

Rev. Richard Bentley raised a question regarding the election of members for the Navigation Team: Is it possible to elect 8 people from the floor of the Annual Conference rather than having only 2 people elected from the floor this year, with the rest being filled by members of the Conference Leadership Team?

Debbie Haustedt explained the thinking for the nominating process for this year. The nominations were to come from the District Pre-Conference briefings for members, but we needed representatives for this year of transition.

Bishop Swenson suggested we take nominations today and take time to determine how best to proceed for our ballot later in the week. This suggestion was accepted.

Rev. Marilyn Huntington asked that clergy in the retired connection be considered for service when nominating.

Clergy Nominees: Rev. Floyd McKeithen, Rev. Bill Johnson, Rev. Frank Wulf, Rev. Charlene Zuill, Rev. Marilyn Huntington, Rev. Camille Mattick, Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin

Lay Nominees: Suanne Ware-Diaz, Paul Ames, Krystle Wheeler

Explanation of Learning Circles were introduced by Rev. Kirsten Oh and Rev. Jennifer Gutierrez.

Explanation of Legislative Sections: Bob Rhodes and Rev. Dave Stambaugh presented the structure of the Legislative Sessions and where to find their section number on their name badges. A consent calendar would be presented for voting at the general session.

Rev. Chris Carter offered a Prayer of Peace and Benediction.

Plenary #4 Friday, 5 p.m.

Gathering music was led by Dave Roberts prior to the session being called to order.

Bishop Swenson gave the Call to Order at 4:58 p.m. She presented the Lay Leader, Vicky Cook from the Santa Ana District, and Bishop Charles Jordan was invited to join her in presiding over the plenary session.

Rev. Karin Ellis led a Litany of Welcome which was followed by a prayer in unison and a reading from Matthew 10:40-42. The Conference body sang the last verse of “Amazing Grace” plus 1 new verse as an introduction to the story of grace.

Stories of Grace: Rev. Jerry Owyang was invited to share his story of grace. He paraphrased a line from the movie “Transformers 2”. “God rarely appears at a moment of our choosing.” Jesus, in times of hardship or wonder, remained ever present. Jerry offered stories of hardship and how each one gave him a chance to demonstrate how Jesus remained ever present in all of our lives. He also asked the session to join him in singing “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know,” a song he sang to a young woman that sought him out for a story to tell her children.

Orders of the Day: Rev. Dan Lewis moved the Orders of the Day and **they were approved.**

Announcements: Rev. Dan Lewis presented the announcements. He explained there was a set of house keys at “Lost and Found.”

Motion: Rev. Jennifer Gutierrez presented a motion to incorporate brief stories of the realities of working with the poor into the UM Daily. The motion read: “In light of the theme of this year's Annual Conference I move that each edition of the 2011 Annual Conference UM Daily include a section entitled “Ministry with the Poor - Naming the Reality.” This section in each edition would feature a different story of ministry with and of the poor from around our Conference. These stories would be featured in the UM Daily even though they had not been read on the floor of the Conference.” **The motion was supported.**

Jen Jacques spoke for the Conference Youth, who were passing out fish with the request that all who were present sign them. These fish would be used in the Young Voices worship on Saturday as a reminder for all of us to share the good news.

Ballot # 1 Results: Rev. Dan Lewis quoted the Conference Rules while explaining the voting procedures for the next ballot. Bishop Swenson read off the names of those on the ballot and the number of votes they received. **498 lay ballots** were cast with **no one receiving more than 50%;** therefore, no one was elected. Rev. Lewis reported that 4 people may be voted for. As there was no one elected, the nominee that carried the majority of the votes in subsequent ballots would be elected. Rev. Tonya Harris offered a prayer for the balloting. Lay ballot #2 was then received and closed.

Bishop Swenson announced the results of clergy balloting. **302 clergy ballots** were cast with no one was elected. Rev. Lewis reported that ballots could have no more than 4 votes. As there was no one elected, the nominee that carried the majority of the votes in subsequent elections would be elected. Becky Haase offered a prayer for the balloting.

Rev. Sarah Heath asked a point of clarification regarding the possibility of Provisional Members voting. Bishop Swenson clarified that elected Provisional Members were permitted to vote. Clergy balloting occurred and ballot #2 was closed.

Rev. Allison Mark suggested placing demographics on the ballots. Bishop Swenson instructed the Conference Secretaries to look into what could be done.

Rev. Dan Lewis announced the Consent Calendar would be posted outside the cafeteria, below the steps of the chapel, and online by the Conference Secretaries on their website.

Rev. Jim Brewster spoke regarding a point of personal privilege regarding Baker Home, a retirement community for retired ministers. Baker Home was celebrating their 100th anniversary this year. They had a booth in the courtyard.

Rev. Ed Hansen introduced a special offering for “Strength for the Journey,” a charitable organization dedicated to helping those who had contracted HIV/AIDS. Volunteers would be standing at the exit doors to accept donations.

Krista McVey asked to include General Conference nominees’ Districts be placed on the ballot. Bishop Swenson instructed the Conference Secretaries to look into what could be done.

Suanne Ware-Diaz reported the Committee on Native American Ministry would be hosting their 2011 Native Days National Day of Observance for Native American Sites. A Native American prayer service would be held on Saturday morning, 7:15 a.m. in the quad.

Rev. Cynthia Abrams lifted up a concern about Conference Wellness Task Force when considering our Social Principles directive to avoid the temptations of gambling, including raffles.

Rev. Bob Miyake-Stoner offered a prayer of peace and a benediction.

**Memorial and Communion Service
Friday, 7:30 p.m.**

Rev. Greg Norton played the prelude on the organ. The Call to Worship invited those gathered to meet together “down by the riverside,” utilizing the following scripture passages: Psalm 42, Deuteronomy 8:6-8, Isaiah 43, Isaiah 55, John 4 & Matthew 5 in a responsive litany.

Bishop Mary Ann Swenson shared the first “Tale by the Riverside.” We Methodists knew how to get things done, but we were not so good at slow and quiet and deep. Under the bridge was the only place deep enough to wade in the water, only place deep enough for a baptism. Friends we need to go into the deep places, go out of our way, to the deep water.

Bishop Charles Jordan and Rev. Ken McMillan led the gathering in the Memorial Liturgy to remember those who had passed away and to celebrate how important they were to our lives. During this part of the service, family members lit candles in remembrance as members of the congregation stood in honor of those whom they had known and loved.

Bishop Jordan celebrated our United Methodist Bishops who had passed away in the past year: William Dew, James K. Mathews, James Thomas, and Edsel A. Ammons.

Rev. Ken McMillan read the names and biographies of the following Ordained and Diaconal Ministers of the California-Pacific Annual Conference who passed away this past year: Grover Bagby, Frank Butterworth, Henry Gaylor, Jr., Glendon Harris, Sun Kyu Huh, Kenneth Johnstone, B. Rhodes Martin, W. Lance Martin, Bronnie McNabb, Jr., Donald Meier, David Pasamonte, Kundun Peter, Edwin Reeves, James Roan, E. Clark Robb, M. Andrew Robinson-Gaither, James “Sam” Sallie, Paul Scharer, Frank Witman, and Jaye Watson.

Jan Hanson read the names of the spouses of the Ordained and Diaconal Ministers of the California-Pacific Annual Conference who passed away in the past year. They were: Dorothy Bagby, Lois Davis Butterfield, Nancy Cooney, Eileen Hildebrand, Ruby Lormor, Anita Painter, Jeannette Simmons, Ruth Smith, Catherine Stover, and Bette Wood.

Bishop Swenson remembered with the congregation, laity and church members who were now present with the Lord. A video of those being memorialized was shown to those present.

Rev. Rick Uhls introduced the evenings offering which went to support the Japan Emergency Advance Special, supporting the work of our United Methodist Committee on Relief to provide assistance and long-term rehabilitation throughout Asia and the Pacific Region following this spring's Tsunami emergency.

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving was sung to the tune of “Here I am Lord” with District Superintendents singing the verses in various languages and the congregation singing the refrain. The congregation sang hymns while communion was taken at stations throughout the chapel sanctuary. The gathering was sent forth by Bishop Swenson.

"Ministry with the Poor - Naming the Reality."**Story # 1**

By Susan Stouffer, Director of the Peace Center at United University Church, Los Angeles

Our current model of developing self-sustaining churches discourages us as a denomination from focusing on ministries of and with the poor.

Omar*, Judy* and Jose* come to our church most every week. They all love our church and its people. Omar loves being involved in the service by reading the lectionary passage. Omar also suffers from mental illness and is intermittently homeless. Judy* loves helping to do things such as cooking for church meals. Judy also has a drug addiction problem and has recently been arrested for it. Jose* will offer a hand with any task that needs help. Jose is also undocumented and is awaiting a hearing to see if he will be deported.

As we live in beloved community with Omar, Judy, and Jose, we pray and advocate and struggle with their issues. We struggle with our country's drug laws which often punish people for drug addiction instead of treating them. We struggle with our country's lack of treatment options for people with mental illness, particularly those who don't recognize they have a mental illness. We struggle with our country's immigration laws which punish hard working people who are trying to raise families and contribute to the good of the whole. Our church is called to wrestle with these important issues because we live in authentic community with those who are affected. Despite what they offer of their gifts and abilities to our church, they are not baptized members for various personal reasons. They do not have much to contribute financially. They won't help our bottom line very much on the statistics that are used to gauge whether a church is growing and thriving. Yet, having been a member of this church for over 11 years, our church has never felt more alive and authentic. How do we as a denomination find ways to account for these authentic ministries and relationships with the poor?

*Names have been changed

Story # 2

Stories from The Neighborhood La Vecindad by Rev. Sandy Olewine

Last summer, the staff planned a leadership development training program for the participants in our community following requests from them earlier in the spring. As time drew close to begin and we were sharing with the community what we would do together, there was some noticeable reticence in the group. Finally, one of the young mothers spoke up. "We really aren't sure we're ready to lead. We don't have enough confidence and we are unsure of what to do. We think we would be better leaders if we believed in ourselves more. So, we would rather start with self-esteem classes so we can feel good about who we are and what we can offer. Would that be okay?" Needless to say, a new experience was created.

On Easter Sunday, a man named Michael wandered in from the street for our pancake breakfast and stayed for worship. Since then, each Sunday he has arrived about an hour before worship, helping to set-up for service. During this time, he openly shares his struggles and challenges in life. After about four weeks, he announced that he had never been baptized and desperately wanted to be. "I have a schedule. I write down where I need to go and fill it up so I don't do the wrong things or hang out in the wrong places. See – here I wrote church 9 am. I'm here every Sunday. God wants me here to help me be strong and safe." I met with Michael a couple of times to talk about baptism. When I asked him what it meant to him, he replied, "Jesus is the

one who helps me stay on the right path. I need him in my life and I want Jesus to know I trust him.” On June 5, Michael was baptized. In the world, Michael doesn’t count for much. Even in the church, many might dismiss him. Will he ever be a passion-filled leader? Probably not - but Michael knew he was a child of God and was eager to be known as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to our God who watches over even the least in the world...

Saturday, June 18, 2011

California-Pacific Annual Conference
2011 Annual Conference Sessions

Plenary # 5 Saturday, 8:30 a.m.

Gathering Music performed by Dave Roberts and musicians from Santa Margarita United Methodist Church.

Phil Freeman led the Call to Worship and the Opening hymn --"Cuando El Pobre". Connee Freeman led the Opening Prayer. Phil and Connee Freeman read Matthew 10: 40-42.

Stories of Grace: Rev. Mary Allman-Boyle shared a story of grace about a film in which she was sobbing and then began to pray. She asked God to show her God’s purpose and out of the blue, she heard voices of a heavenly choir singing *Amazing Grace*. The next day, she shared with her choir members what she had heard. What does it matter and how it all came to you? What matters is that they heard you and you responded? 6 years later, as she read the “vine and branches” scripture, she realized that she was called to bear witness to the children of God. It was her hope that we would share our stories with one another and with those who were hurting and broken in the world. The gathering sang *Amazing Grace*.

Bishop Swenson introduced The Los Angeles District Lay Leaders, Phil and Connee Freeman and the Layman of the Year, Harry Kuruma from Centenary UMC in Los Angeles.

Orders of the Day: Rev. Dan Lewis moved that the Orders be approved. Bishop Swenson read them out loud. **Orders of the Day were approved.**

Announcements: Rev. Dan Lewis asked that everyone speaking into a microphone on the floor state their name and then he gave instructions on which colored paddle (blue, red or green) to use to indicate whether they were for or against or had a question.

Courtesies: Rev. Lee Carlile introduced the Courtesies: 1) Joe White who gave information regarding the Bishop’s tour to Israel. 2) Dan Gara shared about his work as Conference Treasurer for 15 years. Final request - he quoted a paper by Gail Randall who wrote that it was time for leadership not management. Management continued the status quo. Let us be led into transformation.

Point of Personal Privilege: Karen Ginoza reported that June Shimokawa, a member of the Peace with

Justice Committee, had passed away in May. Bishop Swenson responded saying June was a witness for peace with justice. The Bishop offered prayer on her behalf.

Ballot # 3: General Conference: Rev. Dan Lewis offered an explanation about the election process and the balloting process. The Conference Staff was unable to comply with the requests to list demographics, because the demographic information was not collected and balloting had already began. Bishop Swenson reported Lay Ballot #2 results. **523 votes were cast. 267 were needed to elect.** Ken Ellis and Leanne Nakanishi were elected. Rev. Adiel DePano prayed before taking the lay ballot. Dan gave instructions for Lay Ballot #3. 2 persons could be voted for. The person(s) who received the majority vote would be elected on all future ballots. Lay voting was taken and then Bishop Swenson closed the ballot. Bishop Swenson reported on the clergy ballot. **294 ballots were cast. 147 were needed to elect.** Rev. Tom Choi was elected. Rev. Lewis instructed the clergy to vote for up to 3 persons. Martina McRae offered a prayer for this ballot. Clergy balloting was closed.

Consent Calendar Presentation: Dave Stambaugh thanked and recognized Legislative Section leaders. The Consent Calendar had been made available on Friday night online, and posted in three places around campus. The Consent calendar follows:

Consent Calendar – 2011

FOR CONCURRENCE

(Voting percentages from legislative sections in bold following each item):

Recommendations

REC 11-1	Associate Conference Lay Leader Position	98%
REC 11-2	Pension 1 – CPP Billing	100%
REC 11-3	Pension 2 – Setting 2012 Service Rate	100%
REC 11-4	Pension 3 – Funding Plan Supplement One Retirement	100%
REC 11-5	Pension 4 – Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP)	100%
REC 11-6	Pension 5 – Comprehensive Protection Plan	97%
REC 11-7	Pension 6 – Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired or Disabled Clergy Persons	100%
REC 11-8	Addition to Personnel Records	100%

Resolutions

RES 11-2	Call to End Exploitation of Trafficked Workers from the Philippines	100%
RES 11-3	In Support of Living Wages and the Right to Organize	92%
RES 11-4	Moratorium on the Death Penalty in California	90%
RES 11-5	In Support of Peace Talks between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines	97%
RES 11-8	GC: Nurturing Relationships	91%
RES 11-12	GC: Death with Dignity	89%
RES 11-13	GC: Bullying as a Form of Violence	100%
RES 11-15	GC: A Call for Peacemaking	100%
RES 11-17	GC: Director of Connectional Ministries	90%

Rules

Rules 11-5	Workers' Compensation Clarification	100%
Rules 11-6	UMC Landmark Properties	100%

Items NOT on the Consent Calendar - 2011

Resolutions

RES 11-1	GC: Against Building Land Based Nuclear Power Plant	63%
RES 11-6	GC: Saying No to Nuclear Weapons	63%
RES 11-7	GC: Pastor's Authority in Affirming Readiness for Church Membership	69%
RES 11-9	GC: Interfaith Advocacy in Support of Israel-Palestine Peace	64%
RES 11-10	GC: Human Sexuality	78%
RES 11-11	GC: End discrimination against homosexual clergy	70%
RES 11-14	GC: Academic Freedom	67%
RES 11-16	GC: Aligning UMC Investments	77%
RES 11-18	Changes to Personnel Policy 1.B.	N/A
RES 11-20	Changes to Personnel Policy IV.B.1.a.	72%
RES 11-21	Changes to Rule VII. AF.	N/A

Rules

Rules 11-1	Tenure for Board of Ordained Ministry	78%
Rules 11-4	Conference Compensation Assistance (Amended)	100%

-----End of Consent Calendar-----

Rev. Molly Vetter moved to remove Resolution 11-17. **Removal was supported.** The Consent Calendar was **approved** with removal of RES 11-17.

Legislative Items not on the Consent Calendar: Bob Rhodes moved Resolution 11-1 for discussion and action. 2 arguments for and 3 against were heard. **The vote for Resolution 11-1 was taken and it was not supported.** Bob Rhodes reported that the rest of the items NOT on the Consent Calendar would be taken care of at a later time.

Board of Trustees: Rev. Roy Riggs presented the Board of Trustees report. "We were throwing money away." Rev. Riggs encouraged the Conference to make our facilities safer. He reminded the Conference that we were all required to have Workers' Compensation insurance. Roy Riggs thanked members of the Trustees.

Board of Pensions: Rev. Ken McMillan presented the Board of Pensions report. He reported the Board had worked diligently to support and assist clergy and their families, other church workers, and lay employees related to the Annual Conference responsibly and effectively. Health care for clergy and their families continued to be the major focus of the board. Only about **50%** of our conference clergy participate in our health care plan. For retirees, the Medicare plan offered some options that worked better for some retired clergy. Other Medicare Supplement plans were available for little or no cost. Retirees now pay part of the cost for their health insurance costs in the church's health plan. United Health Care was the only plan that would cover our denominational needs. The plan was now once again fully funded. A year ago, the Health and Wellness Task Force inaugurated a new walking program for all our clergy and spouses - both active and retired - and all the lay employees of our Conference. Almost 500 people were now wearing their pedometers, and hopefully over the years we would indeed have a more healthy Conference. Rev. McMillan then thanked a number of people who

have worked on pension, including staff.

Certified Lay Minister Recognition: Judy Lewis recognized the special ministry of Lay Speakers and Certified Lay Ministers: Theresa Erb (San Diego District); Francis Fukumoto (Hawaii District); and Candace Holsenback-Smith (Santa Barbara District). Bishop Swenson introduced the Certified Lay Ministers approved today and pronounced a blessing on each of them. 2011 Graduates and past Graduates of the Lay Ministry Academy were recognized.

Leadership Reports and Budget: Q & A discussion - Debbie Haustedt shared feedback from her Table discussion and reported on the Leadership Team vision. The goal of the EMT structure was to bind together people with a commonality of function goal and purpose and passion for the church. EMT structure prioritized around function. Burning questions: How did this affect the local congregations? The answer was the binding together of like-minded people with like passions to drive the mission forward. Rev. Paige Eaves shared an example of this by talking about her experience with her Table Forum where citizen programs were being conducted by churches. Rev. Kelvin Sauls lifted up another example from his experience with the Board of Congregational Development. Kelvin reported on the passion for recovering ministry working with the recovering community. Not all ministries could be funded. However, there were resources to support these broader ministries seeking to serve our communities. Congregations and ministries needed to be able to access resources and to find out what other resources were available. Debbie Haustedt pointed out the EMT plan gave us more options for resources and broadens our ability to do what we needed to do in ministry.

Lay Ballot # 3 Results: Bishop Swenson paused the Leadership Team report to hear the results of Lay Ballot #3. 537 votes were cast. 269 votes were needed for a majority. JoAnn Yoon Fukumoto was elected. There would be another ballot taken for the final delegate. New ballots were distributed. A prayer was offered by Rev. Thomas Hill. Lay Ballot #4 was taken. A report from the floor stated that some ballots had already been marked. Bishop Swenson declared the balloting invalid and had the ballots collected to be discarded. Ballot #4 would be taken this afternoon.

Return to Leadership Reports and Budget: Q & A discussion: Rev. Catie Coots spoke about the Mission Areas. As we decreased the number of District Superintendents, Mission Areas would grow in importance. Ana-Haydée Urda spoke to the budget for the Hispanic Plan, which was a 10-year plan. It had not been determined where the money would come from specifically for years 2 and 3. Money for year one would be used from Hispanic funds already in existence. The President of CF&A, Howard Hudson stated that a collaborative effort was now standard procedure to develop a budget. With the EMT plan, this had changed. Now each EMT had responsibility for its own budget.

Ballot #4 - General Conference Report: Rev. Dan Lewis explained that Ballot #4 was invalid due to machine error that marked the ballots. This error also appeared on Ballot #3, so the results were declared invalid as well. Rev. Lewis explained that the remaining blank ballots that the tellers had in their locked room would be checked to make sure they are unmarked and can be used.

Announcements: Rev. Dan Lewis announced the workshop “Building homes, Building hope” had been cancelled for this afternoon. He invited people who signed up for this workshop to attend another of their choice. Wanda Bethea and Tricia Hamilton, Co-Deans shared about the special offering for Urban Kids Camp and it was taken at the door.

Monalisa Tu'itahi share a Prayer of Peace and Benediction.

Plenary # 6
Saturday, 2 p.m.

Gathering Music led by Dave Roberts and musicians from Santa Margarita UMC.

Rev. Mary Dang led the Call to Worship and opening prayer. The body sang “Cuando El Pobre.” Rev. Mary Dang led the Opening Litany and read Matthew 10:40-42 (in Vietnamese).

Stories of Grace: Tonia and Rafael Rios of Baldwin Park UMC shared how a church learned to reach out into the community. The gathering sang *Amazing Grace*. Bishop Swenson shared of her trip with Tonia to El Salvador. Rev. Jennifer Gutierrez spoke to the blessings and the hardships of serving in a setting such as the one that Tonia and Rafael Rios served in.

Orders of the Day: Rev. Dan Lewis moved the Orders of the Day and **they were approved.**

Announcements: Rev. Dan Lewis announced that car keys were found.

Courtesies: Rev. Lee Carlile introduced the Courtesies. 1) Rev. Won Kie Kim, District Superintendent of the Western Jurisdiction Korean Mission announced that 70 leaders were going to Korea for Leadership Center. He also shared about the vision of the mission to build a mission center for the purpose of the disciples training, evangelism program, and mission outreach. Rev. Kim asked for prayers and support of the project. 2) The General Board of Church & Society introduced Linda Bales Todd and Katey Zeh and encouraged the Conference members to visit www.ministrywith.org. Bishop Swenson and Rev. Cynthia Abrams announced participants who would be interning at the General Board of Church and Society this Summer. Giovanni Arroyo of the General Commission Religion and Race gave the Bishop a T-shirt. The Bishop introduced Skip Keating, the Pasadena District Lay Leader.

Ballot #5 General Conference – Laity: Rev. Dan Lewis explained the balloting procedures. The Annual Conference retook the third laity ballot, because of a computer error that caused the other ballots to be inaccurate. Bishop Swenson offered prayer before the vote was taken. The vote was for two delegates as two delegates had been elected from previous ballots. Bishop Swenson declared Laity Ballot # 5 **closed.**

Ballot #4 General Conference – Clergy: Bishop Swenson announced the election of Rev. Molly Vetter with 104 votes. Bishop Swenson then read the names of the candidates with 10 votes and higher. Bishop Swenson offered prayer before the clergy vote. The clergy were instructed to vote for 2 delegates. Bishop Swenson declared Clergy Ballot #4 **closed.**

Point of Personal Privilege: Rev. Bill Jenkins introduced Gladys Martinez, special agent with ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement). She spoke about her work to create a kinder ICE, offering prayers and help for families who were being deported.

Equitable Compensation: The co-chairs, Rev. Cindy Huskey and Jay Sowell presented the report of the Committee on Equitable Compensation (CEC). Equitable Compensation was mandated by *The Book of Discipline*, and set the minimum standards for clergy compensation. Page 27 of the preliminary report had the standards for 2012 Equitable Compensation. Jay Sowell shared about the financial grants

that were given to local churches in 2011 to support the Equitable Compensation of their pastors. Churches that could not afford to pay their pastors could get financial support for up to five years.

Jay Sowell discussed the location of CEC in the EMT structure: Equitable compensation would be maintained by the CEC in consultation with the Resource EMT, and grants would be administered by the New Ministries Team. This allowed the Equitable Compensation grants to become investments rather than costs. The team had set a goal by 2012 to help 5 churches become self-sustaining.

United Methodist Men (UMM): UMM President Richard Kim introduced a video outlining the work of the UMM throughout the denomination.

United Methodist Women (UMW): UMW President Leanne Nakanishi presented the United Methodist Women report. United Methodist Women donated a total of 25 millions dollars for 2010: \$20 million for national and international missions and an additional \$5 million for local projects. The amazing United Methodist Women of our Cal-Pac Conference donated \$310,000 for mission giving to spread God’s love and help women, children, and youth. Leanne Nakanishi noted ¶ 256.5 of *The Book of Discipline* stated, “In every local church, there shall be an organized unit of United Methodist Women.”

Action on Hispanic Plan, Study of District Boundaries, EMT, Budget: Bishop Swenson introduced the Conference Leadership Team to come forward to present the action on the Hispanic Plan.

As the team came forward, Bishop Swenson announced that Leah Switzer received the award for United Methodist Communicators across the denomination for her work in interpretation. Leah shared about her work and experience interviewing for the award. Leah was the first Hispanic woman to receive her certification in communication and thanked the Annual Conference for their support.

Hispanic Plan: Ana-Haydée Urda moved the Conference Strategic Hispanic Plan before the body.

Motion from the Floor from Rev. Cathleen Coots from the Santa Barbara District: “As we accept the Hispanic Plan, we ask the Conference Hispanic Committee to further refine the plan and bring back to the 2012 Annual Conference 2 - 3 priorities for each year of the plan and that before funds were raised, a detailed financial plan and a schedule of fundraising will be presented annually to the Navigation and Resource EMTs.” The Conference Hispanic Committee gave its affirmation of the amendment. The body voted, and the Hispanic plan was **passed as amended**.

Point of Personal Privilege: Ana-Haydée Urda requested prayer for her aunt who was in the ICU. Bishop Swenson offered prayer.

PROPOSED TRANSITIONAL MOTIONS TO APPROVE EMT CHARTERS “IN PRINCIPLE,” TO BEGIN TO ORGANIZE THE EMT’S, AND TO TRANSITION FROM THE OLD STRUCTURE - Debbie Haustedt

Transitional Motion #1: I move to suspend the rules describing the makeup, responsibilities, and duties of all Annual Conference committees, boards and agencies, except for those required by *The 2008 Book of Discipline*, specifically, the Board of Ordained Ministry, the Administrative Review Committee, the Committee on Investigation, and the Rules and Policies of Conference Personnel and Policy Committee, so that we might consider the following motions regarding the proposed restructuring and organization of the Annual Conference. (Note: this motion will require a 2/3 majority to pass.) **The**

body voted on Transitional Motion #1 and the motion was supported.

Transitional Motion #2: I move that the proposed charters of the five Essential Ministries Teams identified by the Conference Leadership Team and approved by the 2010 session be approved as ‘roadmaps’ for our Annual Conference to begin to implement a new structure for the Annual Conference during the 2011-2012 Conference year.

Amendment to Transitional Motion # 2: Rev. Sharon Rhodes-Wickett offered an amendment to “eliminate lines 127-130 on page 3 of the Navigation Addendum.” The motion was seconded. Discussion from the body followed the motion. Bishop Swenson clarified that the amendment to the motion from the floor was being voted upon. The body voted on the first amendment to the EMT of Transitional Motion #2, which was **not supported**.

Transitional Motion #2 was presented before the body again, without the amendment. Carla Bailey moved an amendment in the Resource EMT Charter. The motion was seconded. “I move the following amendments to the Resource EMT charter:

153 Core Team: The Core Team of the Resource EMT shall consist of the Team Leader,
154 Secretary, President of the Board of Trustees, President of the Council on Financial
155 Resources, ~~and~~ the Chairperson of the Human Resources Council, and the Chairperson
of the Board of Pensions.

135 4. Three (3) Members from the Human Resources Council
136 a. One Member being the Chairperson of the Human Resources Council
137 b. ~~Two~~ One Members being selected from the Human Resources Council
the Chairperson of the Board of Pension
c. One Member being selected by the Human Resource Council.

280 Officers & Representatives to the Resource EMT: At the beginning of each
281 appointment year (July), the Council is to elect, by simple majority, its Leader
282 and Secretary. Additionally, the Council is to elect, by simple majority, ~~two~~ one
283 representatives to serve on the Resource EMT. The Chairperson of the Board of
Pensions will sit on the Resource EMT.

290 Standing Committee is to be ~~populated and approved by the Human Resources~~
291 ~~Council. The Council shall report on the membership of each of its Standing~~
292 ~~Committees to the Resource EMT on an Annual Basis~~ selected by the Conference
Nominating Committee and elected by the Annual Conference for a 4 year term

Discussion from the body followed the motion. The amendment was voted on and
supported. Transitional Motion #2 was voted on **as amended and supported**.

Transitional Motion #3: I move that this Annual Conference session direct each of the existing Annual Conference committees, boards, and agencies to work with transitional leaders designated by the Conference Leadership Team for each of the five designated Essential Ministries Teams to move and integrate its current tasks into the organizing Essential Ministries Team which names, in its charter, the work of that currently existing committee, board, or agency.

Transitional Motion #3 was brought before the body. The motion was **supported**.

Transitional Motion # 4: I move that the Conference Nominating Committee be directed a) to cease filling any vacancies on currently existing committees, boards, and agencies (old structure) as of July 1, 2011; and b) persons nominated to serve on the respective Essential Ministry Teams (new structure), elected by 2011 Annual Conference action, begin service through the new structure as of July 1, 2011. In no case shall a 2010-2011 Conference Leadership Team member be allowed to serve as a voting member on the Essential Ministry Team that s/he has led during the July 2010-June 2011 developmental year. Furthermore, no District shall be allowed to submit any new names to the Conference Nominating Committee as District representatives to old structure committees, boards, or agencies after July 1, 2011.

Transitional Motion #4 was brought before the body. The motion was **supported**.

Transitional Motion # 5: I move that each implementing Essential Ministries Team, either through a committee elected from its own membership or as a committee of the whole, draft proposed rules for its own operation as of July 1, 2012, pending approval as to form and lack of conflict with *The Book of Discipline* or other Conference rules by the Conference Rules Committee, and pending approval by the 2012 Session of the Annual Conference. If approved by that session of the Annual Conference, they shall replace the cConference rules of the existing committees, boards, and agencies that feed into each approved Essential Ministries Team.

Transitional Motion #5 was brought before the body. Discussion followed. The motion was **supported**.

Transitional Motion # 6: I move that if, in the process of organizing, an Essential Ministry Team discovers that provisions in its approved Charter needs to be changed, it is authorized to draft proposed changes; to submit them to the Navigation EMT for review and approval; following such approval to submit the proposed charter amendments to the Conference Secretary as motions to the 2012 Annual Conference session; and to operate on those proposed amendments to its charter on an ad interim basis once the proposed change has been received by the Conference Secretary, pending approval by the 2012 Annual Conference session.

Transitional Motion #6 was brought before the body. The motion was **supported**.

Transitional Motion #7: The Conference Leadership Team recommends, upon the approval of the 5 Essential Ministry Team Plan by the 2011 Annual Conference, that the Conference Leadership Team be dissolved, effective July 1, 2011.

Transitional Motion #7 was brought before the body. The motion was **supported**.

Motion by Rev. Frank Wulf: Bishop and beloved members of the Annual Conference, Giving thanks for the faithful work of the Conference Leadership Team that has brought us to this moment and seeking to move the spirit of that work forward, I move that the Annual Conference direct the five Essential Ministry Teams to develop goals and benchmarks for their own work and for the work of the staff under their supervision that are specific, measureable, motivating, achievable, relevant, and time-bound and to report these goals and benchmarks to the 2012 session of the Annual Conference for review and ratification. **This motion was seconded, moved, and supported.**

Liz Roark move to revisit CLT Transitional Motion #2 and it was seconded. **The motion was not supported.**

Conference Policies and Procedures Committee: Chairman Rev. George Hooper put forward Recommendation 11-13A (2012 Salary Ranges) and withdrew Recommendation 11-13B of the Conference Policies and Procedures.

The body voted on Recommendation 11-13A (2012 Salary Ranges), which was supported.

Recommendation 11-14 (Personnel Policies) was presented to the body for approval. Discussion followed. Bishop Swenson called for a vote from the body and the motion was **supported.**

Conference Budget: Howard Hudson moved the Conference budget for 2012 be approved. Discussion followed regarding campus ministries concerns, children and youth, reallocations of funds. Bishop Swenson called for a vote from the body and the budget was **supported.**

Motion from Rev. Amy Wake: Rev. Amy Wake moved that “the Leadership EMT prepare a plan to present to the 2012 Annual Conference to reengage Campus Ministries in the Apportioned Budget.” Discussion followed.

Amendment to the Wake Motion was supported: Rev. Erin McPhee amended the motion to “not only address financial support of campus ministries, but also seek ways that Campus Ministries might work with local congregations to use resources more effectively and cooperate in ministry.” The amendment was seconded, voted on, and **supported.**

Vote on Wake Motion was supported: Rev. Sue D’Alessio explained the plans already in work for the coming year to address the issues of Campus Ministries. Bishop Swenson called for a vote on Amy’s motion. The motion was **supported.**

Motion by Rev. George Crisp: Rev. George Crisp moved that “this Annual Conference session direct the Council on Financial Resources to prepare and present at next year’s (2012) Annual Conference, a comprehensive operating budget for 2013, to include but not be limited to the apportioned budget; said budget for 2013 would be developed using real dollars and without a shortfall allowance; the process for developing the 2013 budget would be publicly transparent and collaborative with the Essential Ministry Teams (if that structure was adopted) and the Conference Staff.” Howard Hudson presented an argument against this motion.

Amendment to the Crisp Motion was not supported: Rev. Sandie Richards made an amendment to motion to “include the shortfall budget into George’s proposal was offered.” The amendment was voted on and was **not supported.**

Vote on Crisp Motion was not supported: The original motion put forth by George was voted on and was **not supported.**

Ballot #5 General Conference - Laity Results: Bishop Swenson reported that Mele Maka was elected with 211 votes. Because of the time, Bishop announced that another Lay Ballot would have to be postponed until tomorrow morning.

Ballot #4 General Conference - Clergy Results: Bishop Swenson reported that Rev. Cedrick

Bridgeforth was elected with 91 votes.

As a result of the postponing of the voting tomorrow, Rev. Dan Lewis announced that the morning plenary would begin at 7:30 a.m. tomorrow morning (Sunday, June 19, 2011) and breakfast would begin at 6:30 a.m. (at the University of Redlands). The morning session would begin with a vote for one more lay and one more clergy delegate to General Conference.

Motion by Rev. Richard Bentley: Rev. Richard Bentley moved that the Annual Conference take another General Conference ballot at the end of the young people's service today. The Conference Secretaries announced the morning session would still meet at 7:30 a.m. The body voted and the motion was **supported**.

Closing prayer was offer by Bert Mendoza.

Young Voices Service Saturday, 4 p.m.

Fernando Alcantar began clapping to catch the attention of the congregation. Emphasizing the importance of praise in the midst of Conference business, Fernando Alcantar led the congregation in prayer. The theme was "Share". Youth participate in their local congregations and Conference events throughout the year. At Annual Conference, they had participated in the final planning for the Young Voices Service, youth day, and voted as members!

Beginning by sharing joys, the Conference Council on Youth Ministries presented several awards: the Susannah Wesley scholarship of \$1,000 to Kimberly Evert; two scholarships of \$500 to June Lee and Lauren Whitman; and Youth Worker of the Year was awarded to Caroline Dawes of 1st United Methodist Church of Redondo Beach.

After lifting up the joy that youth participated in a witness on the lawn in the form of a Shantytown, the youth transitioned into sharing concerns. Various youth reported on the number of homeless. **1.6 million people used shelters. 1/3 are members of households with children. 3.5 million people (1.3 million) are likely experience homelessness in any year.** Reading from Galatians.

Dave Roberts led singing, encouraging "outward signs" of praise to God: (1) "Woah oh oh oh." (2) "Beautiful One I Love" and (3) "Open Up the Doors". Responding to the enthusiastic leadership of the young voices, the congregation sang enthusiastically.

Three youth offered a skit. Carrying cardboard signs indicating the need for food, two youth walked toward the piano and drums, huddling together for support. A third youth offered bread.

Chris Legleiter offered a mini message to interpret the skit as an illustration of giving. The overflowing cup, giving to the less fortunate, as Jesus fed the crowd. Sometimes the littlest gifts were the biggest. The idea was to give: cash, your time, anything. This skit represented "letting your cup overflow". He closed in prayer.

The Tongan Youth Dance Team of St. Marks United Methodist Church (Anaheim) danced to "You are my Strength" which began with a recitation of Psalm 28.7. Wearing masks and hats, the dancers began with low movements indicating suffering, pain, oppression, and hiding. Dancing to the lyrics, "You are my strength, my sword, my shield, my joy," movements progressively opened up and masks and hats

were discarded. The congregation responded with enthusiasm as the dancers removed their masks and moved into the congregation. The dancers ended in prostrate prayer and a standing ovation followed.

The story of Jesus feeding the crowd, (John 6:1-15), was recited in multiple languages: 1-3 Spanish, 4-6 Hawaiian, 7-8 Sign Language, 9-10 Tongan, 11-13 Korean, and 14-15 Samoan.

Langi Lolohea, from Trinity United Methodist Church, Hawaii, served as the preacher for the day. He began with the responsive greeting: “God is good...All the time” and followed with prayer. He told the Mark version of Jesus feeding the 5,000. Then he retold the story from the perspective of “the people who are like sheep without a shepherd,” or a “generation that is all about me...me...me.” The disciples were tired and hungry and wanted to send the people away to find their own food. But Jesus said, “The people are hungry. You give them something to eat.” We were called to be disciples. We were called to be Christians. The world had an excuse to waiver. We were the church; we could not waiver. We stood firm in the truth and proclaimed the good news. We were asked to stand tall. At this point two dancers, Hila Tavlava and Fale Gisa-Penisoni, began interpreting the message to stand tall. We were told to go out of the church and proclaim the “Good News”. All we had been given was 5 loaves and two fish and that was enough. We stood tall together and proclaimed the “Good News”. There was a muscle that was weak in the United Methodist Church: the gift of the Spirit. Langi invited the congregation to stand, raise hands and close eyes in prayer for youth. Pray for us, the new (now? as in now and future?) generation of the church. God is good; all the time. The congregation prayed aloud, as the Spirit gave them utterance. The youth on the stage sang “I owe you my worship” as two dancers did an interpretive dance.

An offering was collected to fund youth services (Ema, Jen A.). The congregation was also asked to place the paper fishes (which were distributed earlier in the conference) in the basket. “SoulyHis”, a Hawaii district-wide choir, sang as the offering was collected. A prayer of thanksgiving was offered.

The congregation was invited to join in the youth benediction from Numbers 6.24-26. Crossing their feet, with their right arm over their left, and holding the hand of the person standing next to them, the congregation recited the Benediction in unison, then turned around and released their hands.

Plenary # 7 **Saturday, 2 p.m.**

Gathering Music led by Dave Roberts and musicians from Santa Margarita United Methodist Church.

Bishop thanked the young people for the young voices worship and proclaimed that the future has hope! Rev. Dan Lewis reported that the Conference will need to meet at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday morning to complete the work of the Conference. Both Lay and Clergy were instructed to vote for up to one person. Langi Lolohea prayed that God’s wisdom direct the vote.

Ballot #6 General Conference - Laity: Rev. Dan Lewis instructed the ballots to be distributed and instructed the lay to vote. Rev. Dan Lewis called the ballot **closed**.

Ballot #5 General Conference - Clergy: Rev. Dan Lewis instructed the ballots to be distributed and instructed the clergy to vote. Rev. Dan Lewis called the ballot **closed**. Rev. Dan Lewis offered a prayer for the Conference and our food.

Service Of Commissioning and Ordination
Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

After the prelude, Rev. Derek Nakano, Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, welcomed the congregation and gave instructions about the service. This worship service is not like a graduation, as — “we were here to witness to the Holy Spirit anointing your loved ones” for service in ordained ministry. This was a solemn and holy occasion.

The service began with a Call to Worship, then continued with the processional hymn, “Lord, You Give the Great Commission.” Bishop Swenson led the Greeting & Prayer and the Recognition of our Common Ministry. Rev. Melissa Roux MacKinnon (Assistant Registrar for Provisional Membership) introduced those to be commissioned, Rev. John Kwan presented the candidate for ordination as Deacon, and Rev. Doug Williams (Assistant Registrar for Full Connection) introduced those who were to be ordained as Elders in Full Connection.

Candidates answered questions about their call, their faith in Jesus, and their willingness to serve. Prayers for the candidates were offered by Bishop Swenson and Bishop Charles Wesley Jordan, Rev. Lopeti Taufa, and the people.

Bishop Swenson introduced special preacher Rev. Darryl Fairchild, United Methodist minister from Dayton, Ohio, and community organizer for “Lift Greater Dayton.” Bishop Swenson also introduced the Rev. Lopeti Taufa, retired President of the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga and uncle of one of the ordinands. Rev. Lopeti Taufa offered words of greeting. He hoped to be a living demonstration of our oneness in Christ.

Isaiah 42:1-4 (NRSV) was read by Rev. Lopeti Taufa and John 20:1-18, was read by Eva Thai-Erwin.

Rev. Darryl Fairchild’s delivered the message, “Courage or Convenience.” Darryl addressed the congregation and the candidates in turns. He expressed that decisions would hinge on convenience or courage. Courage would build faith towards life while convenience would lead away from faith towards death. Darryl said there were three great sins of our nation: 1) we tend to love things more than people 2) the sin of imperialism and 3) trust the power of violence over the power of love. The candidates would need a lot of courage. It would be difficult to walk out right now, but it took more courage to fulfill their ordination.

During the offering for UMCOR, “Cry Out, Zion” (Isaiah 40:9) and “Leaning on Everlasting Arms” was sung by the Choir of Altadena UMC. The congregation sang the Doxology, and Rev. Joel Hortiales offered a prayer of dedication.

The congregation sung the invitational hymn “Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters.” Bishop Jordan, Bishop Swenson, the Rev. Lopeti Taufa addressed the congregation, then led the prayer of commission of the candidates with laying on of hands.

The following were commissioned as Provisional Elders – Elaine Hisu Cho, M. Andrew Davis, Melinda Teter Dodge, Min-Kyu Park, Christopher Drake Spearman, Eva Chi Than Thai-Erwin, Gary Williams, J. Andre Wilson. One person was ordained as Deacon in Full Connection – Camille Garmon

Mattick. The following were ordained as Elder in Full Connection – Anna Claire Crews Camphouse, Joel Hortiales, Alma Lee Johnson-Hawkins, Stephen B. Kim, Brian Keith Long, Allison Kanani Mark, S. Dianna Masters, Kirsten Sonkyo Oh, Diane Wood Rehfield, Siosaia Fonua Tu’itahi.

Bishop Swenson led the prayer for the sending forth. The congregation closed in singing the recessional hymn “For the Healing of the Nations.”

"Ministry with the Poor - Naming the Reality"

By: Pastor Ivan Sevillano, La Trinidad UMC, Los Angeles

It is a blessing to serve La Trinidad United Methodist Church in East Los Angeles. La Trinidad is a church full of energy and hope in the midst of the financial hardships and legal status of most of its people. In my experience at La Trinidad I have built the congregation more than 3 times and hundreds of people have passed through our doors, going forth to another destination in the United States or going back to their original countries of origin. In our experience, poverty and lack of opportunities makes the new generation of Latinos a transient community, which at the same time makes us Latinos invisible and powerless in society.

This reality also sets us back in our desire of having new leadership and making the congregation stronger because when we are training them they need to move on to another destination. However, people at La Trinidad do give as much as they can to keep our church financially sound; but sometimes it is not possible. For example, Brigida a very active member of our congregation is a poor single undocumented woman with four children who is very ill with cirrhosis. Every day she goes around the community with a market cart to look into the trash cans for bottles and cans that she might sell to make a few dollars. She cannot give financially much to the church but her commitment, perseverance and service make her a real disciple of Christ.

By Jeanne Roe Smith, Wesley Foundation Director, UCLA

Students carry so much hope, excitement, energy, for the things they are involved in and the people they care about.. They come with dreams and aspirations, some of their own, some of their families. They come from great distances, and great expense and sacrifice of families who struggle to simply put food on the table and provide shelter for them. They come because they are academically talented students, yet challenged by systems of poverty that have made access to education an unlikely possibility. They come to the 580 Cafe, a ministry of Wesley Foundation serving UCLA to find the simple things that make their studies and travel a bit more manageable. At the "580" they can get something to eat, study, share their thoughts and dreams, sorrows and worries. They come because they are hungry, without adequate resources to buy food, often choosing to go hungry so they can stay later to study on campus. At the "580" they become part of something more than just a free lunch program. They enter into community, where they begin to develop relationships with other students, explore their faith and beliefs, experiences, learn about other's struggles, and find they are not alone. It takes time for some to trust, to believe that they are invited without expectation, to be part of the daily activities at the Cafe. As they experience the welcome and care freely offered, they begin to put down roots, to form relationships that go beyond casual. Initially they may come for the food, but they stay for the friendships and opportunities to express themselves and be part of something beyond their studies, culture, creed, or identity label. Their struggle with poverty and the lack of resources, access and affordability are no longer limitations, as they learn to reach out, reach up and achieve their potential as God's beloved

children. In our writers' circle that meets weekly, students share their creativity, their wisdom and wounds. In the sharing and writing, hope is born, and healing begins. The roots of leadership begin here, when we can identify our brokenness and need, we begin to move forward to share and learn how to reach out to others, and take those first steps toward helping others become whole. A poem by David Velazquez, one of our student writers, best shares the challenge many of our students come with. It is our prayer and commitment to support their process of claiming hope and success as they pursue their path to education and break the cycle of poverty in their lives.

Infinitesimally thin, brown, paper bag.
 Wrinkled, grease-stained, paper bag.
 Everyday enduring within it the realities of an impoverished family.
 Revealing to no one but its owner the paroxysmal nature of hunger;
 A sandwich with no mayo, no lettuce, no tomato.
 Ink-tainted with the calculations of a family's debt--
 Every month at around the same time the bag gets lighter but never empty.
 If only hugs could be kept in my brown paper bag.
 If dreams! If love! If..
 Brown paper bag, infinitesimally thin, wrinkled, ink-tainted and grease-stained.
 Brown paper bag, speak!
 Let 'em know.
 Brown paper bag, it's just you and me.
 Brown paper bag, you are my plea.

WORSHIP THANK YOU'S

To our Conference Musician Rev. Greg Norton and to our Conference Praise Band Dave Roberts & his musicians from Santa Margarita UMC – Dave's C.D.'s are available for purchase at the Youth & Young Adults Booth!

To Our Worship Planners: Rev. Nestor Gerente, Rev. Karin Ellis, Rev. Mary Scifres, Rev. Mark Wiley, Rev. Rick Uhls, & Rev. Sue D'Alessio

To our Visual Artist Rev. Sue D'Alessio and her assistants Rev. Karin Ellis & Rev. Sue Oeffler

To our Early Morning Worship Coordinator Rev. Brian Suk-Boo Lee

To our Worship Design Team Chair Rev. Mary Scifres

To our Liturgists Almita Cash, Rev. Orlando Rivera, Rev. Saia Tu'itahi, Ruben Esponda, Jennifer Alas, Phil & Connee Freeman, Rev. Mary Dang, Mele Maka, and Elaine Cho.

To our Samoan translator Tone Tosi, for preparing our written Samoan translation of Matthew 10:40-42.

To the musicians of Holliston UMC, Altadena UMC, Rosewood UMC, Trinity UMC, Bell Memorial UMC, and North Hollywood UMC, for sharing their talents in worship this week.

To our many wonderful storytellers and preachers for bringing inspiration through God's word and your personal stories of amazing grace and ministry with the poor!

To our patient and enduring volunteers on video, sound, and stage management!

To Josephine and her gentle, efficient ushers!

Sunday, June 19, 2011

California-Pacific Annual Conference
2011 Annual Conference Sessions

Plenary # 8

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.

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.

Orders of the Day: Rev. Dan Lewis moved the Orders of the Day and **they were approved.**

He emphasized clarity should members require use of the microphones and the importance of the paddle system in order to expedite this morning's business.

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

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

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.

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.

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.

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

Rules 11-4 passed with 100% in its legislative section, but was amended. Bob moved 11-4 as amended. The amendment for Preliminary Report page 88, line 27 changed: "Superintendent for the purpose of strengthening the congregation; and 5) ***attempt to remain current in paying***" The original proposed amendment is **bold** with the Legislative Section amendment in ***bold italic underline***. No discussion.

Rules 11-4 was supported as amended.

Resolution 11-16 passed with 77% in its legislative section. Bob moved Resolution 11-16. Discussion took place. Dan Gara moved an amendment by exclusion in deleting Lines 38-41, 45 & 47 "If these

companies do not change their involvement within two years, they should be removed from United Methodist Portfolios.” Discussion took place. 2 speeches in favor & 3 against in discussion. **Amendment not supported. Resolution 11-16 was supported.**

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

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

Resolution 11-11 passed with 70%. Bob moved Resolution 11-11, Discussion took place. **Resolution 11-11 was supported.**

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

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

Resolution 11-9 passed with 64%. Bob moved Resolution 11-9. Discussion took place. **Resolution 11-9 was supported in legislative session.**

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

“Replace “may” with “shall” on line 38 so that the last sentence reads:

The director shall be amenable to an elected leadership body of the Annual Conference which **shall** consult with the Bishop.

Lines 32 to 38 previously read:

The director shall serve as an officer of the Annual Conference and shall sit with the cabinet when the cabinet considers matters relating to coordination, implementation, or administration of the Conference program, and other matters as the cabinet and director may determine. ~~Whether appointed or elected to this position, the director shall be amenable to the bishop, in consultation with the appropriate annual conference personnel body.~~ **The director shall be amenable to an elected leadership body of the Annual Conference which shall consult with the Bishop.”**

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 could vote for up to, but more than 8 people. After the voting, Rev. Lewis declared this election closed.

Motion by Liz Roark: Liz Roark moved “to suspend the rules in order to elect the top two vote getters beginning with the current ballot.”

Amendment to Roark Motion: 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.**

Amendment to Roark Motion: Jim Monk moved to amend the motion to affect the next ballot. **That amendment was supported.**

Roark motion as amended was supported. On the next ballot, there would 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 and 2 speeches in favor.

Amendment by Dale McCart: Dale McCart 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 and 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 headed off to Nebraska for a new appointment.

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

Amendment to CF & A Recommendation # 6: Rev. Richard Bentley moved to amend the recommendation to add \$50,000 for a special offering for campus ministry. **The amendment was supported.**

Recommendation # 6 was supported as amended.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cabinet Matters: Rev. Mark Ulrickson brought Cabinet Matters to the body.

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

RESOLUTION 11-22 ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE REGARDING THE ALIGNMENT AND NUMBER OF DISTRICTS IN THE CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SUBJECT: Establish a Task Force Regarding the Alignment & Number of Districts in Cal-Pac
SUBMITTED BY: The Bishop and Appointive Cabinet
ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:
ESTIMATED STAFF TIME:

The Book of Discipline divides the authority for establishing districts in an annual conference between the Office of Bishop and the Annual Conference Session.

The Bishop draws district lines, assigns superintendents, and establishes structure for administration of districts. The Annual Conference assigns the number of districts.

(Paragraph 415.4 of *The Book of Discipline* includes, under the responsibilities of the bishop, the duty “to form the districts after consultation with the district superintendents and after the number of the same has been determined by vote of the annual conference.”)

Therefore, in line with Bishop Swenson’s call to “live the Wesleyan Code in our zip codes”, the Appointive Cabinet makes the following MOTION:

We move that the 2011 Session of the Annual Conference form a Task Force to develop a plan that would create new district boundaries for California. In addition to creating new district boundaries, the Task Force will recommend appropriate structures for district committees, and develop plans for the distribution of resources in the new districts. The Task Force will work collaboratively with the Appointive Cabinet, Navigation EMT, and current district leadership to develop this plan. The work of the Task Force will not affect the Hawaii District, as it will remain intact. We further MOVE that the Task Force consist of thirteen (13) members: two (2) representatives from the Appointive Cabinet; two (2) representatives from the Navigation EMT; one (1) representative from the current district leadership in each of the seven (7) California districts to be designated by their district superintendents; and two (2) at large representatives for balance and inclusivity to be named by the Nominating Committee. The Dean of the Appointive Cabinet will convene the first organizing meeting of this Task Force. The recommendations of the Task Force will be presented to the 2012 Session of the Annual Conference.

**Charter for the Deployment of Superintendents and the Establishment of Mission Areas
for the California-Pacific Annual Conference**
June 2011
A Brief Introduction

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.

Background and Context

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

When the California-Pacific Annual Conference was formed in 1985, there were 505 congregations. Today, in 2011, there are 361 churches. During the same period of time, the total membership of the Cal-Pac Conference has declined from 138,926 to 82,667, and the average weekly attendance has gone from 64,262 to 48,664. Only 10% of United Methodist churches across the country

are growing at a rate of 5% or more per year. In the context of fewer congregations, fewer members, and declining attendance, the Bishop and Cabinet are clear that, if we want a different outcome, we have to change what we are doing. It is time to change structures and strategies in order to more effectively serve our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

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

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

What Drives This Change

“The task of superintending in The United Methodist Church resides in the office of bishop and extends to the district superintendent....The purpose of superintending is to equip the Church in its disciple-making ministry....

“It is also their task to facilitate the initiation of structures and strategies for the equipping of Christian people for service in the Church and in the world in the name of Jesus Christ and to help extend the service in mission” (§ 401, The United Methodist Book of Discipline, 2008).

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, so the primary reason for these changes is to “initiate structures and strategies” that serve that purpose effectively. We believe that this approach will focus our efforts on the four foci of our denomination, helping us to develop new leadership, new places for new people, and ministries of compassion and justice that will have a broader, transformative impact on the communities we serve.

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

Biblical and Theological Reflections

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

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

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

“In a world that has embraced the ‘myth of scarcity’ in a ‘culture of consumption,’ God offers abundant life through Jesus Christ.... However, too often we live as if we had just one small cup to receive God’s gift. When used faithfully, the cup becomes Christ’s vessel for mission and ministry. When it is empty,

its purpose is to be filled; when it is filled, its purpose is to be emptied. It receives only so it can pour out. “As people of faith...we are the cup. Our purpose is to have God’s life-giving abundance flow through us, pouring out into the world, running over the four corners of the world, transforming the world. We do this when we move beyond the myth of scarcity to the reality of God’s abundance. God has poured out everything needed for ministry in this time, in this place and for all the people of God. Let us be the cup overflowing in a thirsty world.”

The Learning Process

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

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

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

The Proposal

Change the Focus of the Superintendents

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

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

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

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

The priorities of the district superintendents will be:

1. to focus on the appointment process to provide effective leadership;

2. to foster collaborative engagement in the mission field;
3. to develop and maintain a structure of support and accountability for clergy and congregations.

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

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

Establish Mission Areas

Beginning July 2011, we will see the introduction of Mission Areas. A Mission Area is a region within a district determined by a strategic, geographic grouping of four to ten congregations within that region. The purpose of each Mission Area is to coordinate, encourage, and facilitate mutual support among clergy and laity in making a transformative impact on the people in their region. The objectives include, but are not limited to: 1) developing cooperative support among clergy and congregations; 2) identifying the assets, strengths, and opportunities available to meet the needs within their shared mission field, and; 3) collaborating and partnering in fruitful mission and ministry.

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

Identify and Train Mission Area Leaders

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

Mission Area Clergy

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

Mission Area Laity

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

The lay leaders best suited to take the lead in this effort may not be the currently elected officers of the congregation. Instead, identify key participants by asking, “Who has a passion for the mission of the

church and a proven track record of leadership?”

Outcomes and Measurements

Four Foci & Essential Ministry Areas (MA)

- How is your MA developing more spiritual & principled leaders? List achievements.
- Given the report from the “Call to Action,” what steps is your MA taking in assessing and strengthening the vitality of existing congregations? List achievements.
- Where does your MA envision the possibility developing new ministries? List timeline(s).
- How is your MA actively engaging in ministries of justice and compassion with the poor? List local, regional, national & global deployments of servant disciples.

Mission Area Demographic Realities

- What are the assets in your MA for possible partnership in ministry?
- What are the primary and secondary needs in your MA? What are the short and long-term needs in your MA?
- How are the congregations in your MA a reflection of your demographic reality?

Congregational Realities

- What are the assets and resources individual congregations bring to enhance the effectiveness of the MA?
- How are you re-envisioning and re-directing your resources towards vitality?
- How is your MA utilizing congregational strengths and assets to meet community needs?
- What are the challenges in individual congregations? How are you collectively working on transforming congregational challenges into opportunities to strengthen and enhance your MA?

District Alignment

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

District Staff & Offices

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

- The five districts will be staffed by five administrative assistants.
- The district offices will be located within their respective geographic regions.
- The need for additional district or transitional staff (part time or temporary) will be assessed as part of the planning and implementation process.

June 2011

Transition and Implementation Timeline

Superintendent transitions

July 1, 2011

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

July 1, 2012

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

July 1, 2013

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

Districts

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

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

Mission Areas

Spring 2011

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

Mission Area Leaders

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

Financial Impact of Changes in Superintendent & District Staff Compensation

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

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

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

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

**Amendment to 2008 Resolution for Discontinuance
of Fontana United Methodist Church
for the Purposes of the
Fontana Hispanic Ministry Initiative**

WHEREAS the Fontana United Methodist Church located in the Riverside District was founded in April 8, 1948, where over 740 individuals were baptized and where the congregation had a long and proud history in the community, was discontinued at the 2008 Annual conference per the Resolution of Discontinuance of Fontana United Methodist Church;

WHEREAS the approved 2008 Resolution of Discontinuance provided that all assets of Fontana United Methodist Church "...shall be transferred to the Riverside District Union of the California-Pacific Annual Conference to be liquidated and assets to [be] distributed and used as recommended herein."

WHEREAS the approved Resolution of Discontinuance provided that the net proceeds from sale of the real property be distributed 50% to the Riverside District Union in trust "...for the purposes of purchasing land, construction of new facilities and the redevelopment of existing properties..." 15% to the Annual Conference Board of Congregational Development Endowment Fund," and 10% to the Annual conference Board of Congregational Development, and 25% to the Riverside District Union "...for purposes of congregational development and revitalization," as more particularly set forth in said Resolution.

WHEREAS the approved Resolution of Discontinuance provided that the net proceeds from the non-real property assets be conferred 50% to the Annual Conference "Board of Congregational Development Fund" and 50% to the Riverside District Union, as more particularly set forth in said Resolution.

WHEREAS the Riverside District Board of Congregational Development in conjunction with District Superintendent Bau Dang and the Riverside District Union have identified the Fontana community as a primary focus for a new United Methodist Hispanic Ministry which is a priority of the district;

WHEREAS the demographics reflect a 70% Hispanic population with over 49,000 Hispanics living in the target area;

WHEREAS the Fontana Hispanic Ministry Initiative was established in 2008, has been funded by the Conference Board of Congregational Development in conjunction with the District Board of Congregational Development and has been meeting the benchmarks set by said Boards.

WHEREAS the Fontana Hispanic Ministry Initiative has a leadership team in place, has average worship attendance of 80 individuals each week and is working towards the goal of being a chartered local church of the California-Pacific Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2011 Annual Conference amend the 2008 approved Resolution of Discontinuance to provide that all of the net assets, including the real property of Fontana United Methodist Church continue to be held in the corporation named "First United Methodist Church of Fontana," which formerly did business as Fontana United Methodist Church, to be used in supporting the ministry of Fontana Hispanic Ministry Initiative, under the supervision of the Riverside District Board of Congregational Development; provided, however, that if said ministry shall no longer be active or viable, or shall no longer be connected to The United Methodist Church, said assets shall be governed by the 2008 Resolution of Discontinuance.

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

Property Matter – Resolution for Discontinuance Of Christ United Methodist Church

WHEREAS the Christ United Methodist Church located in San Diego County was founded by the merger of two congregations - First United Brethren in Christ of San Diego (founded 1908) and Emmanuel Church of the Evangelical Association (founded 1911) – in 1946 as First Evangelical United Brethren Church of San Diego, then became Christ United Methodist Church when the EUB and Methodist Church merged in 1968; and

WHEREAS all three congregations together represent a long and proud history of mission and ministry in San Diego; and

WHEREAS the building and grounds of Christ United Methodist Church have been, and continue to be, a vital outpost for mission and ministry by housing a variety of ministries that directly serve the surrounding neighborhood and the broader community of San Diego; and

WHEREAS the church conference of the Christ United Methodist Church voted on May 21, 2011 to discontinue the church; and

WHEREAS the district superintendent has recommended discontinuance of the Christ United Methodist Church and the retention of the remaining membership as a mission congregation of the San Diego District; and

WHEREAS the superintendent has recommended that all of the real and personal property of Christ United Methodist Church be held in trust by the mission congregation, in the same corporate entity as was formerly used by Christ United Methodist Church when it was a chartered local United Methodist Church, and utilized as Christ United Methodist Ministry Center; and

WHEREAS the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding bishop, a vote of the majority of the district superintendents, and the District Committee on Church Location and Building, and all proper *Disciplinary* requirements have been complied with;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Christ United Methodist Church be discontinued effective on a date after July 1, 2011, that date to be determined by the District Superintendent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the site be designated as Christ United Methodist Ministry Center following the date of discontinuance.

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

**Property Matter – Resolution for Discontinuance
Of Rolando United Methodist Church**

WHEREAS the Rolando United Methodist Church located in San Diego County was founded in 1941 and has had a long and proud history; and

WHEREAS the church conference of the Roland United Methodist Church voted on February 20, 2011 to discontinue the church; and

WHEREAS the District Committee on Church Location and Building of the San Diego District has also voted unanimously to support the recommendation for discontinuance; and

WHEREAS the district superintendent has recommended discontinuance of the Rolando United Methodist Church and the transfer of membership by individual choice to various United Methodist churches of the San Diego District; and

WHEREAS the superintendent has recommended that the real and personal property of Rolando United Methodist Church be sold and the proceeds of the sale be distributed in accordance with action taken by the 2007 Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference (Resolution 40): 15% to the California-Pacific Annual Conference Board of Congregational Development, 10% to the Conference Congregational Development Fund within the California-Pacific United Methodist Foundation for use in accordance with its purposes, 25% to the San Diego District Union for the purposes of congregational development and revitalization as authorized by the District Planning and Strategy Committee, and the remaining 50% to be determined by the district superintendent in consultation with the leadership of Rolando United Methodist Church prior to the date of discontinuance; and

WHEREAS the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding bishop, a majority vote of the district superintendents, and the District Committee on Church Location and Building, and all proper *Disciplinary* requirements have been complied with;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rolando United Methodist Church be discontinued effective on a date after September 1, 2011, that date to be determined by the District Superintendent, and that the proceeds from the sale of the property shall be paid to the designated recipients upon final resolution of the sale of the properties.

A Few Notes in Opposition to Discontinuance

“When they came for the Jews, I said nothing because I wasn’t a Jew. When they came for the homosexuals, I said nothing because I am not a homosexual. When they came for the Catholics, I said nothing because I had long since denied the religion of my parents. When they came for all the others, I said nothing because I wasn’t one of them. And when they came for me, nobody said anything because there was nobody left.”

When I saw that my church was one of 8 on the District Assessment List given out last year during this part of the Conference, I asked what that means. “Oh, it’s nothing.” I was told. “We do this to all the churches occasionally, it’s no problem.” And so, I went back to my congregation to report on my experience here at Annual Conference and told them that our church was on the list and that it was no problem.

Here we are a year later facing the vote of the Conference for discontinuance. I have gone from “no problem” to “there is an issue” to “this might be a problem” to “we have a problem.” In the whirlwind of activity surrounding the assessment team and the process of evaluating the church, I have experienced the stages of denial and come out the other side assured that there is nothing I can do now except look for a new church home. I have pledged that if my church is discontinued, that I will be the one who turns off the lights and locks the doors.

But I will be jaded in looking at a new church home for myself. I will wonder how much longevity I can establish. How many friends can I make? How much confidence can I put into the faith that I share with this new family of loyal Methodists.

And my first questions will be, “Are you on the list? Has anyone told you, you’re on the list? Do you fully understand what it means to be on the list?

Do any of you?

Thom Hogan

Lay Member to California-Pacific Annual Conference representing the Rolando UMC

Motion: Rev. Gilbert Stones moved “The Annual Conference direct the Cabinet and Board of Trustees to find alternatives to selling the properties of churches that had closed.” **It was supported.**

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

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

(5) **Mid-City Korean UMC and La Palma Korean UMC merger:** Rev. Mark Ulrickson, Santa Ana District Superintendent presented a Resolution regarding the merger of Mid-City Korean United Methodist Church and La Palma Korean United Methodist Church. **Motion was supported.**

**Resolution regarding the Merger of
Mid-City Korean United Methodist Church
And
La Palma Korean United Methodist Church**

WHEREAS the Mission Assessment Team of the Santa Ana District conducted a study of the missional opportunities of Mid-City Korean United Methodist Church, and

WHEREAS the assessment proposed the merger of Mid-City Korean United Methodist Church with La Palma Korean United Methodist Church as of July 1, 2011 and the sale of the Mid-City Korean United Methodist campus, and

WHEREAS the Charge Conferences of Mid-City Korean United Methodist church and La Palma Korean United Methodist Church approved the merger and sale and use of the assets, and

WHEREAS the Santa Ana District Congregational Development team (Building and Location), the District Superintendent and the cabinet have approved the merger, sale and use of the assets, and

WHEREAS the Conference Board of Congregational Development has approved the plan for the use of the assets, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this session of the Cal-Pac Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, received the report of this merger, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this session also approve the sale of the Mid-City Korean United Methodist property and the allocation of the assets in the following manner:

Stage One

Pay

- all arrearages and outstanding obligations of the Mid-city Korean UMC
- 2011 and 2012 apportionments
- Costs accompanying sale of the property
- \$50,000 to the Santa Ana District Hispanic Ministry Fund (or successor) recommended for use in supporting ministry with the mission field near Norwalk and Downey.

Stage Two

Of the remaining funds:

- 75% to La Palm Korean UMC
 - o Half directly
 - o Half held by the Santa Ana District Urban Society, which La Palma Korean UMC can draw upon when a plan is approved by the Congregational Development Team for the strategic use of these funds and worship has exceeded 200 (if target is not reached by 2014 the funds revert to New Ministries EMT and Conference Ethnic Ministries Council)
- 15 % to the Conference Congregational Development channel (New Ministries EMT)
- 10 % to SA District for support of new ministries

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

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

**Resolution For Establishing
The Santa Ana Cooperative Parish
Of The United Methodist Church**

WHEREAS the El Getsemani, Santa Ana First, Grand Avenue, and Spurgeon United Methodist Churches (“four congregations”) trace their beginnings in the City of Santa Ana to 1869 through varied antecedents of the United Methodist Church and share a long history for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and advancing the Kingdom of God in the Santa Ana region, and

WHEREAS, each congregation has a unique witness within the City and desires to maintain that uniqueness, though no longer as autonomous bodies, seeking rather to be joined cooperatively for the purpose of continuing the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, voted May 15, 2011, to form the Santa Ana United Methodist Cooperative Parish (“Cooperative Parish”), effective July 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Spurgeon Memorial United Methodist Church Charge Conference also voted May 15, 2011, to discontinue ministry at their current site and transfer all members to the current Grand Avenue United Methodist Church location for the purpose of supporting and being full participants within the Cooperative Parish, and

WHEREAS, the intent of the Cooperative Parish is to combine fiscal and spiritual resources to allow for the Parish to give birth to and support ministries that are reflective of the current and evolving demographic realities of Santa Ana; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Ana District Board of Congregational Development and Board of Church Location and Building has consented to the formation of the Cooperative Parish and discontinuance of Spurgeon Memorial UMC; and

WHEREAS, the Bishop of the California-Pacific Conference and the majority of the District Superintendents therefore have consented to the formation of the Cooperative Parish and discontinuance of Spurgeon Memorial United Methodist Church; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Santa Ana United Methodist Cooperative Parish be established in accordance with The United Methodist Book of Discipline 2008, Paragraph 206.3c, and be it further

RESOLVED that the Spurgeon Memorial United Methodist Church be discontinued as a United Methodist Church, effective September 30, 2011, pursuant to paragraph 2548, and the church property held by Spurgeon Memorial UMC be sold by the Cooperative Parish Board of Trustees, and net proceeds distributed in accordance with action taken by the California-Pacific Annual Conference 2007 session (Resolution 40), 50% of proceeds would be held by the Cooperative Parish for the purpose of supporting existing ministries and facilities, 25% directed to the District Board of Congregational Development with preference given to new and existing ministries with the City of Santa Ana, 15% to the California-Pacific Conference Board of Congregational Development, and 10% to the California-Pacific Conference Endowment for new church starts, and be it further

RESOLVED That the California-Pacific Conference expresses thanksgiving to God for the Christian ministry rendered across the years in all four locations by countless, faithful members who passed on to us a legacy and resources that shall be used for the purpose of making disciples within and around Santa Ana, California, and be it further

RESOLVED That the duly elected Cooperative Parish Board of Trustees are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the transfer and conveyance of the four congregations' Real and Personal property consistent with the direction of this resolution.

**Resolution For Discontinuance
Calvary United Methodist Church
Los Angeles, California**

WHEREAS the Calvary United Methodist Church located in Los Angeles, California traces its beginnings to 1922, and has been served by 31 Senior Pastors and four Associate Pastors; and

WHEREAS, Calvary UMC was established as a congregation within a predominantly Caucasian neighborhood, it received its first appointment of an African-American Senior Pastor (Rev. Cornish Rogers) in 1958 in response to the changing demographics in the community and within the congregation; and

WHEREAS, the community demographics have changed drastically in the past five decades, the congregation remains predominantly African-American and the community is majority Hispanic/Latino; and

WHEREAS, several District Superintendents have made attempts to expand the congregation's capacity for ministry through the establishment of the Crenshaw-Calvary Parish (1992-2003), reduction of pastoral staff time, supported salary subsidy grants, and several training opportunities, but the fiscal and missional capacity of the existing congregation continues to decline; and

WHEREAS, The District Superintendent, Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth, formed a Task Force to conduct a ministry assessment in accordance with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2008)* ("The Book of Discipline"), paragraph 213, to determine the viability of current ministries of Calvary and potential for future growth of the current congregation, and

WHEREAS, The Task Force recommended merger for Calvary, the congregation rejected that recommendation and further unanimously rejected the District Superintendent's subsequent recommendation for discontinuance during the May 31, 2011, charge conference, and

WHEREAS the District Superintendent, Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth, affirms the goodwill and long history of those present at Calvary United Methodist Church, but recommends discontinuance, to take effect December 31, 2011, and **WHEREAS**, The Los Angeles District Board of Congregational Development and Board of Church Location and Building have consented to the discontinuance of Calvary UMC; and

WHEREAS, The Bishop of the California-Pacific Annual Conference and the majority of the District Superintendents therefore have consented to the discontinuance of Calvary UMC; now therefore be it

RESOLVED That the California-Pacific Annual Conference does hereby declare Calvary UMC discontinued, effective December 31, 2011, pursuant to paragraph 2548, *Book of Discipline*, and be it further

RESOLVED That the California-Pacific Annual Conference expresses thanksgiving to God for the Christian ministry rendered across the years by the members and pastors of Calvary UMC, and be it further

RESOLVED That the membership of Calvary UMC shall be transferred to a church or churches of their choosing; and be it further

RESOLVED That all properties held by Calvary UMC be sold by the duly elected Trustees and any net proceeds distributed in accordance with action taken by the California-Pacific Annual Conference 2007 session (Resolution 40), 50% of proceeds would be held by United Methodist Ministries – Los Angeles District ("UMM-LAD") for the purpose of establishing or supporting ministries of existing congregations within the area, 25% directed to the District Board of Congregational Development with preference given to support new and existing ministry projects governed by strategic initiatives of Conference Committee to Strengthen the Black Church, 15% to the California-Pacific Conference Board

of Congregational Development, and 10% to the Conference Congregational Endowment Fund for new church starts, and be it further; and be it further

RESOLVED, that any/all gifts and grants made from these funds would be accompanied by a letter stating the source of the funds, ensuring the people served in the future know the sacrifice made by the men and women who knew Calvary United Methodist Church as their spiritual home. (7) **Calvary UMC**: Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth, Los Angeles District Superintendent presented a Resolution for Discontinuance of Calvary United Methodist Church. Discussion took place. **It was not supported.**

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

**Resolution For Discontinuance
Crescent Heights
United Methodist Church
Of West Hollywood, California**

WHEREAS Crescent Heights United Methodist Church of West Hollywood traces its origins to 1914 when, on the eve of the first World War a handful of the faithful from Hollywood First UMC, concerned for the welfare of neighborhood children pitched an old mess tent at the corner of two dirt roads in the middle of a barley field and opened a Sunday School, which within one year was chartered as Crescent Heights Methodist Episcopal Church, and

WHEREAS, The church itself came of age with a fledgling new industry called “motion pictures;” and for almost five decades played host to mogul and migrant alike while shining a beacon of God’s grace and hope over fields of abundant harvests and the broken dreams of Hollywood hopefuls chasing the stars of their fondest dreams, and

WHEREAS, Over the last forty years, during perhaps some of its finest and most desperate hours of “being the church”, CHUMC threw open its doors amidst the human wreckage of cultural excess by providing a “room at the inn” for a wide variety of self-help, 12-step, and health and wellness programs and a “manger of mercy” as West Hollywood became a “Mecca” for an increasingly gay and lesbian population who came by the thousands with aspirations of freedom and self realization serving as a center of local community organizing in response to historic discrimination and the tragic emergence of the AIDS pandemic, and

WHEREAS, For all the thousands who have passed through the doors of Crescent Heights Church over the years seeking healing and wholeness, the transitional nature of the resident ministries serving them has resulted in no appreciable growth in worship attendance, disciple-making, or financial endowment. In May of 2009, the pastor of Crescent Heights Church reported to the Bishop and District Superintendent preliminary conversations with the City of West Hollywood regarding potential redevelopment of the church property as affordable housing for disadvantaged youth and young adults and other community uses and subsequently filed a written request with the District Superintendent – pursuant to Paragraph 213 of the 2008 Book of Discipline (*BOD*)– to conduct an assessment of the congregation’s capacity to see a project of such scope through to completion, and

WHEREAS, The District Building and Location Committee and the District Board of Congregational Development recommends discontinuance of the congregation and that the property be held to further explore future ministry development by United Methodist Ministries-Los Angeles District (UMM-LAD) or be sold and net proceeds from the sale of property be used to continue Crescent Heights’ legacy within the immediate community; and

WHEREAS, Despite the Charge Conference of Crescent Heights United Methodist Church voting eleven (11) to two (2) not to affirm the District Superintendent’s recommendation of discontinuance, but expressed their firm

commitment to honor the movement of the Holy Spirit as discerned by the appropriate bodies of the Los Angeles District, a majority of the District Superintendents, pursuant to *BOD* paragraph 2548, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the California-Pacific Annual Conference does hereby “discontinue” Crescent Heights United Methodist Church as a local United Methodist Congregation, and be it further

RESOLVED, That if the property is sold, in accordance with action taken by the California-Pacific Annual Conference 2007 session (Resolution 40), net proceeds would be distributed as follows: 50% would be managed by UMM-LAD for the purpose of establishing or supporting ministries with underserved populations within the West Hollywood/Hollywood area, 25% directed to the District Board of Congregational Development with preference given to new and existing ministries within the City of West Hollywood, 15% to the California-Pacific Conference Board of Congregational Development, and 10% to the California-Pacific Conference Endowment for new church starts, and be it further

RESOLVED, That any/all gifts and grants made from these funds would be accompanied by a letter stating the source of the funds, ensuring the people served in the future know the sacrifice made by the men and women who knew Crescent Heights United Methodist Church as their spiritual home and pathway to Christ’s love.

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

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

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

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

1. fundamental Disciplinary contradictions inherent to Crescent Heights’ ministry with the gay and lesbian community,
2. The potentially compromised integrity of the process by which this decision has been derived,
3. And manipulation of that process by those with conflicted interests who set out to intentionality undermine this ministry. . . .

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

While we understand a lot about itinerant pastors, and have well developed metrics for measuring their

success in making disciples, we have little understanding of the itinerant congregant and no metrics for evaluating their success in obedience to commandment or execution of commission once they have departed the fold, which in my estimation in a world as mobile as ours is important to have.

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

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

The only rules are mutual respect, attend Sunday service, and show up for the Tuesday morning fellowship. We have a chore-wheel, but you know how boys are about doing chores -- they hate 'em and they don't do 'em. So we cook breakfast every Tuesday morning, take turns sharing a scripture or a thought for he check in about their progress, work on a group project that require more than two hands, and squawk at them about doing chores. And they still don't do them -- right up until the day it dawns on them that they want to do them -- because once again want to give of themselves -- and then it's not a chore at all something for their brothers, to improve the collective lot. Once that threshold is crossed, we suddenly find them fixing broken furniture to put in their rooms, framing tattered photos long buried in their backpacks, ironing a shirt to wear on Sunday morning, playing Chess, reading books, keeping journals, playing music; taking up old hobbies, rekindling their dreams. Their eyes begin to shine again, smiles replace the sullen frowns, laughter filling our quiet church, infectiously spreading all around. The two in particular that sadly we lost forever in the last month: one who was gay, who was never able to break the grip that crystal meth had on his bed to bed existence, died at County USC of lymphoma on May 11th, and the other straight, who escaped his brief time here in L.A. for the University of Hawaii to get a teaching credential, where he met the love of his life and who tragically died last Thursday after accidentally falling through a plate glass window and bleeding to death. He was to begin his new job with autistic kids today, but instead donated his organs that others might live - leaving behind his young wife and their baby son, Koa. It is Stephan's and Tyler faces I see this morning, woven as a beacon of hope, a beacon that has been kept alive by thousands of faithful souls upon whose shoulders we have stood for the last six years, who loved Crescent Heights Church through the trials and storms of their own times, and who passed the oil of that beacon to a new generation of light-keepers, who would do the same for the next, and they the next, for 97 years now. That this progression of light-bearing, this rite of remembrance, will come to an end on my watch will be my greatest and most abiding sorrow.

But genuine Christic ministry of, by, and for the *“itinerant congregant”* is a lifetime adventure; a privilege, and a challenge, as we each come to know both the lambs and the shepherds within us. While the way of traditional Christian discipleship is a well-marked path, leading to an ordered faith, a disciplined peace, and a studied assurance, a Christic disciple’s ministry -- self-determined and divinely inspired in any given moment -- is more often risky than not and requires that we encounter the world *AS IT IS*, at times playing Red Rover at the crossroads of sin and death, at other times Catchers In The Rye on the edge of an abyss. Yet always with an eye for the awe and wonder of God's hand; will we bear witness to both the beauty and the beastly, without compulsion for judgment, heroics, or coercion to remake the world in our own image, but rather to love and lift up those who will rebuild the world in God’s.

And in so doing, as we necessarily sacrifice the certainty of “how we’ve always done it,” we will undoubtedly be bounced and buffeted, perhaps even ridiculed, certainly misunderstood, but will be all-the-more compelled to wrestle with the overwhelming kindness and unfettered cruelty of the human condition as we know it – discovering along the way that we are capable of either and culpable for both.

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

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

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

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

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

Lay Ballot #8 Results: Lay Ballot #8 results were read and there were two elections. Norma Kehrberg and Marjorie Suchocki.

Clergy Ballot #7 Results: Clergy Ballot #7 results were read and there were two elections: Rev. Frank Wulf and Rev. Mary Elizabeth Moore.

Motion: Rev. Dan Lewis moved, “ With heart-filled consideration of what had been previously shared,

I would like to sense the will of the body. So, I move that this next ballot be our final ballot and that the top recipients of lay and clergy fill our delegate slate to Jurisdictional Conference including two reserves.” **Motion was supported.**

Lay Ballot #9 (FINAL): Lay Ballot #9 was cast.

Clergy Ballot #8 (FINAL): Clergy Ballot #8 was cast. Results of elections will be made available in printed and electronic form for examination following the Annual Conference session. Rev. Dan Lewis declared the election closed. Delegates needed to be meet in the Och Tamale room immediately following the session.

GCORR Monitoring: Dr. William Renfroe, Chair of the Conference Commission on Religion and Race reported on the monitoring of many different demographic categories that was done throughout this session of our Annual Conference, including the make-up of the General and Jurisdictional Conference delegations: “We had gathered this week as the body of Christ to do God’s business. We, the Cal-Pac Annual Conference truly were a tapestry of God’s diversity. The DNA of this Annual Conference engaged us to move forward into inclusive relationships. Throughout our Annual Conference, we celebrated the movement of dialogue that was experienced.

Here are the results of monitoring through the sixth plenary:

- 1) Racial/ethnic members of the Annual Conference contributed to the dialogue of the Annual Conference at a similar rate to white members;
- 2) Throughout the sessions, women addressed the body at the same rate or higher than men, except during our budget deliberations;
- 3) The voice of young adults in our midst was limited;
- 4) The laity lifted their voice more than clergy throughout the plenary and legislative sessions.

As we reflect upon our General Conference delegation:

- We elected 2 first-time delegates.
- We have 6 delegates who have represented us at the last General Conference.
- We elected 3 lay women and one lay man.
- We elected 2 male clergy and 2 female clergy.

This was a preliminary report. A complete report would be made available at a later time which would include today’s plenary and the Jurisdictional Conference delegation [breakdown].”

Motion: Rev. Andy Mattick moved “That our Conference Secretaries in connection with Sessions, examine our balloting process to make significant changes for future Annual Conferences with special emphasis on 2015 for our next quadrennial election.” **It was supported.**

Rev. Tonya Harris, Chair of Sessions, expressed appreciation for the members of Sessions who assisted in planning the logistics and implementing all the details during the week of Conference. Those thanks would be posted online. A link for the online evaluation would be available at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Cal-PacRedlands2011>

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

Jane Matsumoto offered our prayer for peace and benediction.

Sunday, June 19

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ken Ellis, Conference Lay Leader introduced the children to be baptized and their families. Rev. Joel Hortiales and wife Carmen Julia brought their daughters Alicia and Carmen Julia, and their son Joel David. Rev. Colleen and Philip Windham-Hughes brought their son, Sebastian Charles. Rev. Molly Vetter and her husband Matthew Parker brought their son Jonah Charles.

Service of Christian Baptism was celebrated, led by Bishop Mary Ann Swenson.

Mele Maka then led us in the congregational reaffirmation of baptism, and we all said to each other, “Through the waters of baptism, you are called by name to serve God.” As the baptized and their families went back to their seats, we heard a **Solo**, “You are Mine,” sung by Jeffrey L. Thomas.

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

The sermon was introduced by a clip from “Toy Story 3,” in which Andy, going off to college, passes Woody along to another little boy. This was followed by a clip from “Up,” showing the old man remembering his life together with his departed wife, turning the pages of an old photo album showing all the adventures he had with her. These clips were the beginning of the **Message** by Rev. Dr. Mark Ulrickson, outgoing (but not retiring!) Superintendent of the Santa Ana District. His message was entitled, “**The Adventure Book.**” He talked about always being in transition from one stage of our lives to another---always an opportunity for transformation. Jesus also passed through transitions. There are many transitions taking place in the Annual Conference. We should not be going back to the same church---“if it is the same, what have you been doing?” Claim the New Adventure, the next adventure! Are you ready, Cal-Pac Conference, for your next adventure? Thank you for adventure! Now go out to the next one!”

Litany of Celebrating Appointments was led by Bishop Swenson, as all appointed rose to receive a blessing demonstrated by the dance group. We bestowed upon each other and our pastors, **the Blessing of Appointments**. We then sang together the **Song**, “I Know the Lord’s Laid His Hands on Me”,

following the lead of Jeffrey L. Thomas. Mele Maka prayed for the **Offering** which was taken to benefit the Philippine Mission 2012 to build a church and support advocacy work. The offertory was sung by the Rosewood UMC choir. While they sang, we watched pictures taken during a prior mission trip to the Philippines. The theme **Song** for the service, “I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry” was sung again by the congregation.

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

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

Blessing of Retirees and Passing of the Torch

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

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

Also announced were the

General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates:

Lay Delegates to General Conference

1. Ken Ellis
2. Leanne Nakanishi
3. Mele Maka
4. JoAnn Yoon Fukumoto

Lay Delegates to Jurisdictional Conference

1. Norma Kehrberg (1st Alternate to General Conference)
2. Marjorie Suchocki (2nd Alternate to General Conference)
3. Monalisa S. Tu'itahi
4. Ana-Haydee Urda
5. Ralph L. Hogan
6. Carolyn Ingram
7. Krista McVey
8. Mark Stephenson

Jurisdictional Lay Reserve 1 & 2 (tied)

Lauolefiso "Fiso" Ali'ifua and Krystle Wheeler

Clergy Delegates to General Conference

1. Tom Choi
2. Molly Vetter
3. Cedrick Bridgeforth
4. Patricia Farris

Clergy Delegates to Jurisdictional Conference

1. Frank Wulf (1st Alternate to General Conference)
2. Mary Elizabeth Moore (2nd Alternate to General Conference)
3. Bau Dang
4. Charlene Zuill
5. Myron Wingfield
6. Piula Ala'ilima
7. Tonya Harris
8. Cynthia Abrams

Jurisdictional Clergy Reserve

1. Catie Coots
2. A. Paige Eaves

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

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

AMEN!!! Hallelujah!

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify and declare
that the Daily Proceedings
of the Twenty-Seventh Session
of the California-Pacific Annual Conference,
meeting in Redlands, CA June 16-19, 2011
to be the Official Record of the Annual Conference.



Mary Ann Swenson,

Presiding Bishop
The Los Angeles Area
The United Methodist Church



J. Daniel Lewis & Leanne Nakanishi,

Conference Co-Secretaries
California-Pacific Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church