

# Daily Christian Advocate

Proceedings of the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference  
of The United Methodist Church



## “Hope and Unity in Christ”

VOLUME XIX, No. 2

Lake Junaluska, N.C.

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

## Welcome to the SEJ Conference



Under the theme “Hope and Unity in Christ,” the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference began July 12 with two sessions offered by the Committee on Episcopacy for delegates to get better acquainted with persons who have been nominated for the episcopacy.

The Conference officially opens with worship at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, July 13. An offering will be collected at that service to support the Pan Methodist Campaign for Children in Poverty.

The five jurisdictional conferences of The United Methodist Church meet once every four years to cover business related to their regional jurisdictions in the United States.

The Southeastern Jurisdiction will elect five new bishops.

Any United Methodist ordained elder may be elected a bishop by any jurisdictional conference. Each jurisdiction establishes the percentage of votes needed for election. In the SEJ, 60 percent is needed. This year the balloting will be electronic.

In addition to the election of bishops, the Conference will hear reports from agencies and approve a jurisdictional budget.

The Conference will hold several special worship services. The service of remembrance will be 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 14. A service honoring retiring bishops will be Thursday evening.

The SEJ Conference session will conclude on Friday, July 15, with the Service of Consecration for newly elected episcopal leaders.

## Today’s Schedule

### OPENING SESSION

9:00 a.m. Opening Worship with Holy Communion  
Bishop James King, Jr., preaching;  
Bishop B. Michael Watson, celebrant

*An offering will be taken for  
Pan-Methodist Campaign for  
Children in Poverty*

10:15 a.m. Transition Break  
10:30 a.m. Opening Business Session, Bishop L. Jonathan Holston, Columbia Area, Presiding  
12:15 p.m. Adjourn for Lunch  
12:30 p.m. Organizational Meeting for Journal Committee

### AFTERNOON SESSION

2:15 p.m. Reconvene Business Session, Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, Florida Area, Presiding  
4:00 p.m. Standing Break  
4:30 p.m. Bishop William T. McAlilly, Nashville Area, Presiding  
5:30 p.m. Supper Break

### EVENING SESSION

7:30 p.m. Reconvene Business Session, Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett, Birmingham Area Presiding  
9:00 p.m. Evening Recess

**Inside:** A Pastoral Letter from the Southeastern Jurisdictional College of Bishops (page 3)

# SEJ Room Assignments

## Wednesday, July 13

Opening Worship/Session	Stuart Auditorium	9:00 a.m.
Bishops Secretaries' Luncheon	Terrace Auditorium	Lunch
Committee on Journal	Terrace Dining Room	Lunch
Box lunches for sale	Tent beside Stuart	Lunch
Business Session	Stuart Auditorium	2:15 p.m.
Business Session	Stuart Auditorium	7:30 p.m.
FL Conference Celebration	Lambuth International	8:00 p.m.
NGA Conference Reception	Harrell Auditorium A-B	8:30 p.m.
HOL Conference Meeting	Terrace 213	9:00 p.m.
Duke Divinity Ice Cream Social	Terrace Auditorium	9:00 p.m.
SGA Delegation Reception	Lambuth 104	9:00 p.m.
VA Delegation Ice Cream Social	Lambuth 100	9:00 p.m.

## Thursday, July 14

Morning Business Session	Stuart Auditorium	9:00 a.m.
Service of Remembrance	Stuart Auditorium	10:30 a.m.
Morning Business Session	Stuart Auditorium	11:15 a.m.
Box lunches for sale	Tent beside Stuart	12:30 p.m.
Committee on Appeals	Terrace 213	2:00 p.m.
Committee on Investigation	Terrace 211	2:00 p.m.
Reconvene Business Session (if needed)		2:30 p.m.
Virginia Delegation Dinner	Lambuth International	5:30 p.m.
Evening Business Session	Stuart Auditorium	7:30 p.m.
AWF Reception	Lambuth 103	9:00 p.m.
FL Reception	Foundation for Evangelism	9:00 p.m.
HOL Reception	Private Residence	9:00 p.m.
KY/RBM Reception	Lambuth International	9:00 p.m.
MEM/TN Reception	Lambuth 102	9:00 p.m.
MS Reception	Harrell Center 105 (Bistro)	9:00 p.m.
NAL Reception	Heritage Center	9:00 p.m.
NGA Reception	Harrell Auditorium A-B	9:00 p.m.
SC Reception	Bethea Center Gaines Aud	9:00 p.m.
SGA Reception	Lambuth 104	9:00 p.m.
VA Reception	Lambuth 100	9:00 p.m.
WNC Reception	Terrace Auditorium	9:00 p.m.

## Friday, July 15

COE Organizational Meeting	Harrell Center 202	9:00 a.m.
CFA Organizational Meeting	Susan Todd Lounge	9:15 a.m.
Service of Consecration	Stuart Auditorium	10:00 a.m.
College of Bishops Luncheon	Lambuth International	12:30 p.m.
New Bishops Orientation	Terrace 319	3:00 p.m.

# Offices and More

## SEJ Offices

Conference Secretary  
Terrace Business Center

Daily Christian Advocate Editor  
Harrell 103

Conference Communicators  
Harrell 103

GCFA Representative (Dana Joki)  
Terrace 210

College of Bishops  
Terrace 319

## Cokesbury

Harrell Auditorium (Ground floor of Harrell Center)  
Wed. 8:30 am-9 pm  
Thurs. 8:30 am-9 pm  
Fri. 9 a.m.-noon

## SEJ Agency Displays

Find displays from our Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference agencies in the Terrace Hotel Lobby

## SEJ Heritage Center

The Southeastern Jurisdictional Heritage Center, Museum and Archives, is located in Room 102 of the Harrell Center.

# A Pastoral Letter from the Southeastern Jurisdictional College of Bishops to the United Methodists in the Southeastern Jurisdiction

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We celebrate the way God is working through you and the churches you represent to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Your witness is making a difference in the lives of individuals and communities around the world.

We write this pastoral letter with hope in Jesus Christ. Yet our hearts are heavy as we recognize that as a result of our denominational conflicts we stand at a fragile place. Our Christian witness is defined, not by an absence of conflict, but by how we act in our disagreements.

Many in our church are working to change our *Book of Discipline's* current position on human sexuality, believing that it is exclusive, unjust and based on a misinterpretation of Scripture. These actions are being done through processes our polity has in place for making such changes.

Many others in our denomination are working to maintain our *Book of Discipline's* current position on human sexuality, believing that it is grace-filled, orthodox and biblically-based. These actions are also being done within the context of our church's polity.

Still others in our denomination, including some Boards of Ordained Ministry and Annual Conferences, are acting in nonconformity to our church's legislation about marriage and ordination standards. These actions are not within the bounds of our church's polity.

We, the Southeastern Jurisdictional College of Bishops, grieve over the deep divisions in our beloved United Methodist Church. We recognize the pain felt both by those advocating for and those opposing change. We also view the acts of nonconformity as a violation of our covenant and as divisive and disruptive.

As a College of Bishops, we are fully committed to keeping the promises we made at our ordinations and consecrations, including:

- shepherding all persons committed to our care;
- leading our areas in mission, witness and service;
- ordering the church, including administering processes for handling complaints about violations of our Book of Discipline that occur within our episcopal areas;
- and seeking unity in Christ, including the work the General Conference requested the Council of Bishops do in relation to the Commission on Human Sexuality;

We invite you to join us in prayer as we strive to faithfully and compassionately fulfill our covenant with God, the church and one another. We also encourage you to stay the course in your covenant relationship with God, The United Methodist Church and each other.

In Christ,  
The Southeastern Jurisdictional College of Bishops

# Nominations from the Southeastern Jurisdiction College of Bishops

KEY: C - Clergy | L - Laity | AA-African American | H - Hispanic | W - White | M - Male | F - Female

## Secretary Designate

Anne Travis

## Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order (2016-2020)

Five members; Conference Secretary and Conference Treasurer are ex-officio.

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Cory Smith	C	W	F	NAL
Vicki Landrum	C	W	F	MS
Jan Brown Thompson	L	AA	F	KY
Max Mayo	C	W	M	TN
Lathem Postell	L	W	M	NGA
Conf Secretary				
Conf Treasurer				

## Committee on Journal (2016)

Three members

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Eston Brinkley	L	W	M	NC
Jackie Slaughter	C	AA	F	AWF
Rodrigo Cruz	C	H	M	NGA

## Agenda Committee (2016)

Five members; Senior Effective Bishop and Conference Secretary are two of five.

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Bishop Hope Morgan Ward	W	W	M	KY
Anne Travis	L	W	F	HOL
Cynthia Cross	C	AA	F	MS
Rachel Fullerton	L	W	F	NGA
Kristopher Roof	C	PI	M	MEM

## Committee on Program and Arrangements (2020)

Ex-officio Members: Senior Effective Bishop - Hope Morgan Ward; Conference Secretary; a District Superintendent - Ray Broadwell; Coordination and Accountability Chair; President, UMM; President, UMW; Association of Conference Lay Leaders, Chair; Committee on Episcopacy, Chair (or designee)

## Five At-Large for Inclusivity and Expertise

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
June Jernigan	C	W	F	AWF
Rini Hernandez	C	H	M	FL
Susan Leonard Ray	C	W	F	SC
Juan Quintanilla	C	H	M	NGA
Stephanie Hand	C	AA	F	WNC

## Committee on Investigation (2016-2020) ¶ 2703

The 2012 Book of Discipline calls for the following committee structure when Bishop is a respondent.

1. When respondent is a bishop—.... The committee shall consist of seven clergy in full connection (with not more than one clergy person from each annual conference, if possible), two lay observers, and six alternate members, five of whom shall be clergypersons in full connection (with not more than one clergy person from each annual conference, if possible), and one of whom shall be a layperson. If additional members or alternates are needed, they may be named by the College of Bishops. Committee members shall be in good standing and should be deemed of good character. The committee should reflect racial, ethnic, and gender diversity. The committee shall elect a chairperson from among its members and organize at the jurisdictional or central conference. Seven clergy or alternates seated as members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

Elected by JC; Nominated by COB; Elect chair at Jurisdictional Conference from among their members.

Primary Members: 7 clergy in full connection; no more than 2 from each Annual Conference

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Edgardo Colón-Emeric	C	H	M	NGA
Sherill Clontz	C	W	F	NAL
Joe Landrum	C	W	M	MS
Ken Murray	C	AA	M	TN
Cynthia Davis	C	AA	F	MEM
John Brooks	C	AA	M	AWF
Tim Rogers	C	W	M	SC

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# Nominations from the Southeastern Jurisdiction College of Bishops

KEY: C - Clergy | L - Laity | AA-African American | H - Hispanic | W - White | M - Male | F - Female

*Continued from page 4*

## 2 Professing Members

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Angela Griffin	L	AA	F	MS
Lynn Taylor	L	W	F	TN

## 6 Alternate Members

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Tammy Estep	C	W	F	VA
Jean Hawxhurst	C	W	F	KY
Nita Crump	C	W	F	SGA
Jay Therrell	C	W	M	FL
David Walters	C	W	M	NGA
Pat Luna	L	W	F	AWF

### Committee on Appeals ¶ 2716

*No change in 2012 Book of Discipline for any respondent; Elected by Jurisdictional Conference; Nominated by COB; Elect chair at Jurisdictional Conference*

## Primary Members

### 4 Clergy in Full Connection:

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Laura Fine Ledford	C	W	F	NC
Ron Schultz	C	W	M	NAL
Ed Walker	C	W	M	VA
Maxine Bolden	C	AA	F	MS

### 1 Diaconal Minister:

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Mark Christy	L	W	M	WNC

### 1 FLP:

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Valrei Tyson	C	W	F	NC

### 3 Laity (6+ years successively as members of UMC):

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Linda King	L	W	F	KY
Sue Raymond	L	W	F	NGA
Lisa Carson	L	W	F	TN

### Alternates:

#### 4 Clergy in Full Connection

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Emily Kincaid	C	W	F	AWF
Kathy James	C	W	F	SC
Jay Therrell	C	W	M	FL
Bryan Brooks	C	W	M	TN

### 1 Diaconal Minister:

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Sue Ellen Nicholson	L	W	F	NC

### 1 FLP:

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Ricky Bishop	C	W	M	MS

### 3 Laity:

Name	Clergy/ Laity	Ethnicity	Male/ Female	Conf
Donald Love	L	W	M	SC
Kelly Roberson	L	W	F	SGA
John Eldridge	L	W	M	HOL

### Balloting Head Tellers

Laity: Hanna Berg (NC)

Clergy: Herzen Andone (NGA)

# 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference Servants

*(Names of clergy appear in italic type)*

## **SECRETARIAL STAFF**

### **Secretary**

Anne Travis (HOL)

### **Secretary Designate**

Anne Travis (HOL)

### **Balloting**

Meredyth Earnest (SGA)

### **Communications and Media Relations**

Jasmine Haynes (MISS)

### **Conference Minutes**

Sharon Austin (FL)

### **Delegate Relations**

Dedric Cowser (NAL)

### **Editor of the Daily Christian Advocate**

Sybil Davidson (NGA)

### **Jurisdictional Conference Treasurer**

David Dommissie (VA)

### **Monitoring**

Jennifer Davis (WNC)

### **Nominations Liaison**

Julie Hager Love (KY)

### **Worship Coordinator**

Dawn Chesser (HOL)

### **News Coverage**

SEJ Association of Conference Communicators

### **Nominated to Serve as Head Tellers**

Herzen Andone (NGA)

Hanna Berg (NC)

## **DELEGATION PAGES**

*Rob Couch (AWF)*

Antonius Barnes (AWF)

*Wayne Wiatt (FL)*

Michael Coffey (FL)

*Catherine Nance (HOL)*

Justin Haynes (HOL)

*Esther Jadhav (KY)*

Cierra Patterson (KY)

*Steve Douglas (MEM)*

Debbie Watlington (MEM)

*Mike Childs (MISS)*

Connie Walters (MISS)

*Richard Stryker (NAL)*

Zollie Holt (non-delegate) (NAL)

*Kevin Baker (NC)*

Phil Isaacs (NC)

*John Beyers (NGA)*

Kathryn Schroeder (NGA)

*Charles Jack (RBM)*

*Cathy Joens (SC)*

Marilyn Murphy (SC)

*Stacey Harwell-Dye (SGA)*

Rus Black (SGA)

*Paul Purdue (TN)*

Todd Cox (TN)

*Thomas Barnard (VA)*

Carlos Liceaga (VA)

*Laura Beach (also Ballot Teller) (WNC)*

Betty Jo Hardy (non-delegate) (WNC)

# 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference Servants

*(Names of clergy appear in italic type)*

## **BALLOT TELLERS**

(One Clergy and One Laity from Each Conference)

Alabama-West Florida

*Emily Kincaid*

Gene Floore

Florida

*Audrey Warren*

Paulette Monroe

Holston

*Kristen Burkhardt*

Charlotte McKee

Kentucky

*David Garvin*

Josiah Brock

Memphis

*Autura Eason-Williams*

Elyse Bell

Mississippi

*Bill Beavers*

Brian Jones

North Alabama

*Julie Holly*

Zac Riddle

North Carolina

*Laurie Hays Coffman*

Hanna Berg\*

North Georgia

*Herzen Andone\**

Lathem Postell

Red Bird

*Robert Amundsen*

Marilyn Osborne

South Carolina

*Sara White*

Leslie "Lollie" Haselden

South Georgia

*Scott Hagan*

Richard Shinhoster

Tennessee

*Stephen Handy*

Angela Overstreet

Virginia

*Clarence Brown*

Michael Monge

Western North Carolina

*Laura Beach*

Reynaldo Rodriguez

# Monitoring at SEJ Conference

The 2016 SEJ Conference offers a unique opportunity for every delegate to be engaged in the monitoring process. Following the method employed by GCORR at the 2016 General Conference held in Portland, SEJ delegates will be invited to participate in a self-awareness and self-monitoring practice using the voting instruments made available this year.

The intent is to allow delegates to reflect on their individual behaviors, thoughts, and feelings as we strive to become a more inclusive Christian community seeking to transform the world with our presence. On two occasions, delegates will be asked questions and will use their voting pads to respond. This will allow everyone to see the responses of the body and reflect on what the results might mean.

## *Suggested Self-Monitoring Questions*

### FIRST REPORT

Q1 – How comfortable are you in candidly sharing your opinions in this electronic process?

- 1 – *Very Comfortable*
- 2 – *Somewhat Comfortable*
- 3 – *Not comfortable at all*

Q2 – Are you comfortable expressing your questions and/or opinions from the Conference floor?

- 1 – *Very Comfortable*
- 2 – *Somewhat Comfortable*
- 3 – *Not comfortable at all*

Q3 – Rate your level of confidence that your comments matter and will be welcomed.

- 1 – Very Confident
- 2 – Somewhat Confident
- 3 – Not confident at all

Q4 – Do you feel equipped to actively engage in dialogue with others whom you may not know and appear different than you?

- 1 – Yes
- 2 – No

Q5 – How likely are you to intentionally seek out such an opportunity?

- 1 – Very Likely
- 2 – Not Very Likely

Q6 – Will you seek to listen with a discerning and sensitive ear to the voices of others particularly those whose opinions and feelings are different than your own?

- 1 – Definitely yes
- 2 – I will try

### SECOND REPORT

Q1 – Have you had an opportunity to practice engaging in dialogue with others you did not know?

- 1 – Yes
- 2 – No

Q2 – Rate your comfort level during this experience.

- 1 – I was very comfortable
- 2 – I was somewhat comfortable
- 3 – I experienced some discomfort

Q3 – Do you feel your thoughts and opinions have been accepted and respected by others?

- 1 – Yes
- 2 – No

Q4 – Have you learned something new about yourself that will help you grow in your faith walk?

- 1 – Yes
- 2 – Not really

Q5 – Do you feel better equipped/prepared to continue this type of self-awareness in other areas i.e., at church, work, etc.?

- 1 – Yes, Definitely
- 2 – Somewhat
- 3 – Not really

Q6 – Have you been aware of our efforts to be inclusive and embrace the diversity of our Conference such as in Worship and Administration?

- 1 – Yes
- 2 – No

Q7 – Lastly, do you consider this self-monitoring process to be helpful enough that we should continue its use?

- 1 – Yes, Definitely
- 2 – Possibly
- 3 – No. Continue the former process.