

**JOURNAL**

*of the TWENTY-FIRST SESSION of the*

**SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina  
**July 13-15, 2016**



*Hope and Unity*

**IN CHRIST**

2016 SEJ Conference

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

The SEJ Program and Arrangements Committee expresses deep gratitude to Kathy Williams, Communications Assistant/Graphic Designer, Kentucky Conference, for her logo design that so beautifully expressed the theme of *Hope and Unity in Christ* in the Southeastern Jurisdiction.

2016 Journal of Proceedings

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Held in  
George R. Stuart Auditorium  
Lake Junaluska, North Carolina

July 13-15, 2016

Edited for the Conference by  
Anne Travis, Secretary

# Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

## CERTIFICATION

This certifies that the following pages constitute the official Journal of the twenty-first session of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church held in the George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, from July 13-15, 2016. Included are listings of officers, personnel, commissions and committees, proceedings of business, reports, and other matters ordered printed by the Jurisdictional Conference.

*Hope Morgan Ward*

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward  
Senior Bishop, College of Bishops

*Anne Travis*

Anne Travis  
Conference Secretary

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**THE COLLEGE OF BISHOPS – 2016 SEJ CONFERENCE**

*(Photo credit Matt Brodie, SC)*

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference



### **ELECTED BISHOPS 2016**

*(Left to Right):* Bishop Sharma Lewis, Bishop David Graves, Consecrating Bishop Larry Goodpaster, Bishop Leonard Fairley, Bishop Lawson Bryan, Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson.  
*(Photo credit: Michael Rich, WNC)*



**SECTION I. 2012-2016 Southeastern Jurisdiction Quadrennial Organization**

**Committee on Appeals**

(Term Ends December 31, 2016)  
(¶2716)

Chairperson: Connie Clark  
Vice-Chairperson: *Chuck Savage*

Primary Members  
(4 Clergy in Full Connection)

*Sue Hauptert-Johnson* FL  
*Warren Black* MS  
*Chuck Savage* NGA  
*Susan Padgett* TN

(1 Diaconal Minister)  
Steve Rumford SGA

(1 Full-Time Local Pastor)  
*Michael Densmore* NAL

(3 Laity)  
Kaye Crowe SC  
Richard Shinhoster SGA  
Connie Clark TN

Alternate Members  
(4 Clergy in Full Connection)  
*Paul Butler* FL  
*David Comperry* MEM  
*Mattie Gipson* MS  
*Sherrie Ferguson* NAL

(1 Diaconal Minister)  
Ellen Marmon KY

(1 Full-Time Local Pastor)  
*Bobby Black* HOL

(3 Laity)  
John Eldridge HOL  
Shirley Cauffman VA  
Martha Thompson SC

**Committee on Coordination and Accountability**

Bishops  
*Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor* HOL  
*Bishop James King* SGA  
*Bishop William McAlilly* TN

Conference Lay Leaders  
Steve Lyles NAL  
Gary Locklear NC  
Charlotte Davis RBM

Directors of Connectional Ministries  
*Cory Smith* AWF  
*Sharon Austin* FL  
*Julie Hager Love* KY

At-Large Members  
*Roger Hopson* MEM  
*Ricky James* MS  
*Sharma Lewis* NGA  
Joe Heyward SC  
Shirley Cauffman VA  
Connie Locklear WNC

**Committee on Finance and Administration**

Frank Dunnewind AWF  
Tony Prestipino FL  
*Dan Taylor* HOL  
Rich Royster KY  
Claire Nash MEM  
David Stotts MS  
Charlie Carlton NAL  
Christine Dodson NC  
Dianne Spencer NGA  
Vacant RBM  
Earline Ulmer SC  
*Bob Moon* SGA  
Jim Allen TN  
*Mary Beth Blinn* VA  
**Ex-Officio:**  
David Dommissie VA

Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

**Committee on Investigation**

(Term Ends December 31, 2016)

(¶2703)

Primary Clergy Members

<i>Jeremy Pridgeon</i>	AWF
<i>June Jernigan</i>	AWF
<i>Sharon Austin</i>	FL
<i>David Dodge</i>	FL
<i>Adam McKee</i>	HOL
<i>Sue Lynn Johnson</i>	HOL
<i>Julie Hager Love</i>	KY
<i>Jean Hawxhurst</i>	KY
<i>Roger Hopson</i>	MEM
<i>Sky McCracken</i>	MEM
<i>Lisa Garvin</i>	MS
<i>Connie Shelton</i>	MS
<i>Julie Holly</i>	NAL
<i>Thomas Mukumba</i>	NAL
<i>Patricia Archer</i>	NC
<i>Tim Russell</i>	NC
<i>John Simmons</i>	NGA
<i>Jane Brooks</i>	NGA
<i>Charles Jack</i>	RB
<i>Timothy Rogers</i>	SC
<i>Frederick Yebuah</i>	SC
<i>Jimmy Cason</i>	SGA
<i>Ben Martin</i>	SGA
<i>Lynn Hill</i>	TN
<i>Tommy Ward</i>	TN
<i>Clarence Brown</i>	VA
<i>Iliana Rosario</i>	VA
<i>In-Young Lee</i>	WNC
<i>Arnetta Beverly</i>	WNC

**Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order**

<i>Eliseo Mejia-Leiva</i>	KY
<i>Ricky James</i>	MS
<i>Emily Innes</i>	NC
<i>Tanya Murphy</i>	NGA
<i>Ken Nelson</i>	SC

**Committee on Program and Arrangements**

(for 2016 Session)

<i>Bishop Lindsey Davis, Senior Bishop</i>	KY
<i>Robin Dease, District Superintendent</i>	SC
<i>Anne Travis, Conference Secretary</i>	HOL
<i>David Dommissie, Conference Treasurer</i>	VA
<i>Steve Lyles, Coord. &amp; Accountability</i>	NAL
<i>Larry Price, SEJ UMM</i>	SGA
<i>Patty Stricklin, SEJ UMW</i>	NC
<i>Robert Upchurch, Assoc. Lay Leaders</i>	WNC
<i>Emily Innes, Comm. on Episcopacy</i>	NC
<i>Tonya Elmore, At-Large</i>	AWF
<i>Rinaldo Hernandez, At-Large</i>	FL
<i>Dedric Cowser, At-Large</i>	NAL
<i>Nora Colmenares, At-Large</i>	NGA
<i>Denise Walton, At-Large</i>	SGA

**SECTION II. Personnel of the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference**

**2016 CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP AND STAFF**

**The College of Bishops**

*(in order of election)*

Carlton P. Minnick, Jr. (1980)	Retired	Larry M. Goodpaster (2000)	Charlotte
R. Kern Eutsler (1984)	Retired	B. Michael Watson (2000)	North Georgia
L. Bevel Jones (1984)	Retired	James R. King, Jr. (2000)	South Georgia
Thomas B. Stockton (1988)	Retired	Timothy W. Whitaker (2001)	Retired
H. Hasbrouck Hughes, Jr. (1988)	Retired	Hope Morgan Ward (2004)	Raleigh
Richard C. Looney (1988)	Retired	William H. Willimon (2004)	Retired
Robert H. Spain (1988)	Retired	James E. Swanson, Sr. (2004)	Mississippi
Clay F. Lee (1988)	Retired	Alfred W. Gwinn, Jr. (2004)	Retired
Robert E. Fannin (1992)	Retired	Richard J. Wills, Jr. (2004)	Retired
Kenneth L. Carder (1992)	Retired	Mary Virginia Taylor (2004)	Knoxville
Marshall L. Meadors, Jr. (1992)	Retired	Paul L. Leeland (2008)	Alabama-West Florida
G. Lindsey Davis (1996)	Louisville	L. Jonathan Holston (2012)	Columbia
Joe E. Pennel, Jr. (1996)	Retired	Kenneth H. Carter (2012)	Florida
Charlene P. Kammerer (1996)	Retired	William T. McAlilly (2012)	Nashville
J. Lawrence McCleskey (1996)	Retired	Debra Wallace-Padgett (2012)	Birmingham
Ray W. Chamberlain (1996)	Retired	Young Jin Cho (2012)	Richmond

**Southeastern Jurisdiction  
Judicial Council Alternate Members**

*Diana DeWitt (TN)*

*F. Belton Joyner (NC)*

Warren Plowden (SGA)

Joe Kilpatrick (NGA)

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Secretarial Staff, Pages, and Tellers

#### Conference Secretary

Anne Travis

#### Assistant Secretaries

##### Balloting

*Brad Brady* (SGA)

Meredyth Earnest (SGA)

##### Communications and

##### Media Relations

Jasmine Haynes (MS)

##### Conference Minutes

##### Assistant

*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 Team

*Dawn Chesser*, Coordinator

*Sam Persons-Parkes*

Stanton Adams

Robert McMichael

##### Worship Musicians

Chuck Newman

Jarvis Wilson

Jeff Kile

Jerome Stephens

Trevin Wilson

##### Other Servants

Josh Collier, Option

Technologies

Fred Cantler, Help Desk

*Angela Hollar*, Help Desk

##### Other Servants (cont.)

*Lisa DeGrenia*, liturgical acts  
for worship

Kay Free, Signing

Interpretation

*Martha Rovira-Raber*,

Spanish worship

translation

Matt Brodie, Photography

Becky Hall, Stage Manager

Kathy Williams, Logo

Design

##### Ballot Tellers

*Herzen Andone* (NGA), Head  
Teller

Hanna Berg (NC), Head  
Teller

*Emily Kincaid* (AWF)

Gene Floor (AWF)

*Audrey Warren* (FL)

Paulette Monroe (FL)

*Kristen Burkhart* (HOL)

Charlotte McKee (HOL)

*David Garvin* (KY)

Josiah Brock (KY)

*Autura Eason-Williams*

(MEM)

Elyse Bell (MEM)

*Bill Beavers* (MS)

Brian Jones (MS)

*Julie Holly* (NAL)

Zac Riddle (NAL)

*Laurie Hays Coffman* (NC)

Hanna Berg (NC)

*Herzen Andone* (NGA)

Lathem Postell (NGA)

*Robert Amundsen* (RBM)

Marilyn Osborne (RBM)

*Sara White* (SC)

Lollie Haselden (SC)

*Scott Hagan* (SGA)

Richard Shinhoster (SGA)

*Stephen Handy* (TN)

Angela Overstreet (TN)

##### Ballot Tellers (cont.)

*Clarence Brown* (VA)

Michael Monge (VA)

*Laura Beach* (WNC)

Reynaldo Rodriguez (WNC)

##### 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* (MS)

Connie Walters (MS)

*Richard Stryker* (NAL)

Zollie Holt (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* (WNC)

Betty Jo Hardy (WNC)

##### At-Large Pages

Victor Dingus

Linda Holland

*Mark Hollar*

Mary Savage

*Mike Sluder*

Sherrie Wilson

**Delegates from the Annual and Missionary Conferences**

*Voting delegates are listed in lay and clergy groups in order of election.*

*Names of clergy are in italic font.*

**ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA (20)  
Section 6, Rows A-D**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

Steve P. Furr (Physician)  
Pat Luna (President, Compass Consultant)  
Beverly Maddox (Retired)  
Clara Ester (Retired)  
Dawn Hare (General Secretary, GCSRW)  
Frank Moore, III (Retired)  
Robert Powell (Development)  
Frank Dunnwind (Conference Treasurer)  
Tripp Gullledge, III (Student)  
Gene Floore (Real Estate Developer)

**Clergy**

*Lawson Bryan, Jr.* (Senior Minister)  
*Larry Bryars* (District Superintendent)  
*Jeremy Pridgeon* (Dir. Ministerial Services)  
*Robin Wilson* (Senior Minister)  
*John Brooks* (District Superintendent)  
*June Jernigan* (District Superintendent)  
*Rurel Ausley, Jr.* (Senior Minister)  
*Cory Smith* (Dir. Connectional Ministries)  
*Tonya Elmore* (Senior Minister)  
*Emily Kincaid* (Associate Minister)

**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Susan Hunt (Dir. Mission and Advocacy)  
Antonius Barnes (School Administrator)  
Duane Keck (Retired)  
Paulette Thompson (Retired)

**Clergy**

*Dan Morris* (Senior Minister)  
*Jackie Slaughter* (Senior Minister)  
*Allen Newton* (Senior Minister)  
*Rob Couch* (Senior Minister)

**FLORIDA (36)  
Section 2, Rows H-L**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

Molly McEntire (Assoc. Children's Director)  
Derrick Scott, III (Campus Minister)  
Alice Williams (HR Consultant)  
Mickey Wilson (Retired)  
Russ Graves, Sr. (Retired Professor)  
Jeremy Hearn (Worship Leader)  
Rachel Sumner (Preschool Director)  
Carlene Fogle-Miller (Student)  
Janet Earls (Congregational Vitality Specialist)  
Tiffania Icaza-Willetts (Student)  
Alexia Valle Velez (College Student)  
Martha Gay Duncan (Retired)  
Marie Pierre-Louis (Nursing)  
Paulette Monroe (Retired Educator)  
Rod Groom (Retired)  
Joyce Waldon Bright (Retired Engineer)  
Rodney Akers (Retired)  
Benjamin Spangler (Student)

**Clergy**

*Sue Hauptert-Johnson* (District Superintendent)  
*Alex Shanks* (Pastor)  
*Rinaldo Hernandez* (District Superintendent)  
*Dionne Hammond* (Pastor)  
*Harold Lewis, Sr.* (Dir Multicultural/Justice Min)  
*David Dodge* (Assistant to the Bishop)  
*Cynthia Weems* (District Superintendent)  
*Jacqueline Leveron* (Pastor)  
*Sharon Austin* (Dir Connectional Ministries)  
*Joanes Martin* (Pastor)  
*Geraldine McClellan* (Pastor)  
*David Allen* (Exec Chaplain, Bethune-Cookman)  
*David McEntire* (Pastor)  
*Audrey Blaine Warren* (Pastor)  
*Jay Therrell, Jr.* (Pastor)  
*Bob Bushong* (District Superintendent)  
*Armando Rodriguez* (Pastor)  
*Kevin James, Sr.* (Pastor)

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### RESERVES

#### Lay

Rushing Johnstone Kimball (Student)  
Kelly Rebecca Minter (Youth Minister)  
Walter Dry (Med Lab Admin & Training)  
Brittany Erin Cott (Children's Ministry)  
Frances Jennings (Retired)  
Michael Reed Coffey (Director of Outreach)  
Gary Sanders (Attorney)

#### Clergy

*Vicki Renee Walker* (Minister Missions & Outreach)  
*Wayne Wiatt* (Dir Clergy Excellence)  
*Catherine Anne Fluck-Price* (Co-Pastor)  
*Melissa Ann Cooper* (Program Coordinator)  
*Jamie Westlake* (Pastor)  
*Annette Stiles Pendergrass* (Pastor)  
*Joe Richard MacLaren* (Pastor)

### HOLSTON (24) Section 2, Rows L-N

### DELEGATES

#### Lay

Del Holley (Assistant District Attorney)  
Emily Ballard (Student)  
Becky Hall (Dir of Ministries)  
John Tate (Financial Advisor)  
Robert Lockaby (Attorney)  
Karen Wright (Conn Ministries Staff)  
Joyce Moore (Retired)  
John Eldridge (Attorney)  
Charlotte McKee (Case Manager, State of TN)  
Carolyn Kidd (Children's Ministries)  
Anne Travis (SEJ Conference Secretary)  
Sam England (Student)

#### Clergy

*David Graves* (Pastor)  
*Kim Goddard* (Pastor)  
*Sandra Johnson* (District Superintendent)  
*Carol Wilson* (Exec Assistant to Bishop)  
*Wil Cantrell* (Pastor)  
*Randy Frye* (Pastor)  
*Mark Flynn* (Pastor)  
*Paul Seay* (Pastor)  
*Dennie Humphreys* (Pastor)  
*Eddie Fox* (Retired)

*Jerry Russell* (Retired)  
*Lauri Jo Cranford* (District Superintendent)

### RESERVES

#### Lay

John Powers (Church Music Director)  
Justin Haynes (Church Music Director)

#### Clergy

*Kristen Burkhart* (Pastor)  
*Catherine Nance* (Pastor)

### KENTUCKY (20) Section 6, Rows H-J

### DELEGATES

#### Lay

Lewis Nicholls (Retired Judge)  
Janis Brown-Thompson (Educator)  
Linda King (Educator)  
John Denham (Farmer)  
Michael Watts (Self-Employed)  
Ed Shytle (Retired)  
Josiah Brock (Student)  
Paul Whalen (Attorney)  
Tim Roach (Cost Accountant)  
Cierra Patterson (Student)

#### Clergy

*Bill Arnold* (Professor)  
*Tom Grieb* (Pastor)  
*Maxie Dunnam* (Retired)  
*Iosmar Alvarez* (Pastor)  
*Jean Hawxhurst* (Ofc of Christian Unity & Interreligious Concerns)  
*Julie Hager Love* (Dir Connectional Ministries)  
*David Grout* (Pastor)  
*Michael Powers* (Pastor)  
*John Hatton* (Pastor)  
*Eric Bryant* (Pastor)

### RESERVES

#### Lay

Mary Watley Suntken (Guidance Counselor)

#### Clergy

*Esther Jadhav* (Dir Intercultural Programs)  
*James Williams* (District Superintendent)  
*David Garvin* (Pastor)

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**MEMPHIS (8)**  
**Section 4, Row M**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

David Reed (Retired)  
Elyse Bell (Lay Resource Leader)  
Sandra Burnett (Consultant)  
Isabelle Dillard (Student)

**Clergy**

*Sky Lowe-McCracken* (District Superintendent)  
*Eddie Bromley* (Pastor)  
*Autura Eason-Williams* (Pastor)  
*Johnny Jeffords* (Pastor)

**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Delores Smith (Admin Assistant)  
Debbie Watlington (Univ Professor)

**Clergy**

*Cynthia Davis* (District Superintendent)  
*Steven Douglas* (Pastor)

**MISSISSIPPI (24)**  
**Section 8, Rows H-J**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

Timothy Crisler (Public Relations)  
Turner Arant (Retired Farmer)  
Ann LaSalle (Mathematician)  
Anne Harrington (Retired)  
David Beckley (College President)  
Lauren Sledge (Student)  
David Stotts (Conference Treasurer)  
Bo Gabbert (Retired Physician)  
Connie Walters (Retired)  
Kay Barksdale (Retired)  
Bill Scott (Retired)  
Stephen McAlilly (Management)

**Clergy**

*Mattie Gipson* (District Superintendent)  
*Stephen Sparks* (Elder)  
*Fred Britton* (Elder)  
*Zachary Beasley* (Elder)  
*Mitchell Hedgpeith* (Elder)

*Mike Childs* (Elder)  
*Bob Rambo* (Elder)  
*Bill Beavers* (Elder)  
*Leanne Burris* (Elder)  
*Jim Genesse* (Elder)  
*Bryan Collier* (Elder)  
*Timothy Prather* (Elder)

**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Yolander Jones (Retired Social Worker)  
Martin Butler (Management)  
Brian Jones (Attorney)

**Clergy**

*Connie Shelton* (District Superintendent)  
*Joe May* (Elder)  
*Barry Male* (Elder)

**NORTH ALABAMA (16)**  
**Section 6, Rows E-G**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

Steve Lyles (Retired)  
Scott Selman (Conference Treasurer)  
Zac Riddle (Accountant)  
Carol Toney (Retired)  
Charlie Carlton (UMC Foundation)  
Pat Meadows (Lawyer)  
Emily Chastain (Leader Dev Coord)  
Judy Poole (Deaconess)

**Clergy**

*Robin Scott* (District Superintendent)  
*Dale Cohen* (Elder)  
*Mary Henley* (Elder)  
*TK Kufarimai* (Elder)  
*Glenn Conner* (Elder)  
*Robert Sparkman* (Elder)  
*Mark Parris* (Elder)  
*Julie Holly* (Chaplain)

**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Keith Russell (Legal Investigator)  
Donald Johnson (Attorney)  
Reid Turner (Student)

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Clergy

*Wade Griffith* (Elder)  
*Richard Stryker* (Elder)

### NORTH CAROLINA (32) Section 6, Rows K-N

#### DELEGATES

##### Lay

Gary Locklear (Missionary)  
Emily Innes  
Duncan McMillan IV (Camp Program Director)  
Christine Dodson (Conference Treasurer)  
Mack Parker (Self-employed)  
Steve Taylor (Dir Connectional Ministries)  
Eston Brinkley (Self-employed)  
LaNella Smith (Retired Computer Systems)  
Jacob Beasley (Student)  
Ellen Beasley (Student)  
Tom Walden (Retired)  
Dick Morrison (Corporate Board Member)  
Lynn Shuffler (Retired)  
Hanna Berg (Student)  
Ann Davis (Retired)  
Claire Cox-Woodlief (Asst to DS)

##### Clergy

*Gray Southern* (Pastor)  
*Beth Hood* (Pastor)  
*Tim Russell* (Assistant to Bishop)  
*Leonard Fairley* (District Superintendent)  
*Lisa Yebuah* (Pastor)  
*Bob Bergland* (Pastor)  
*Trish Archer* (Deacon)  
*Tim Reaves* (Pastor)  
*Laura Ledford* (Ofc Min Relations)  
*Edgardo Colón-Emeric* (Extension Ministry)  
*Herbert Lowry, Jr* (Pastor)  
*Ben Williams* (Pastor)  
*Bruce Stanley* (Exec Dir, MH for Children)  
*Gil Wise* (District Superintendent)  
*Laurie Coffman* (Chaplain)  
*Liz Roberts* (Pastor)

#### RESERVES

##### Lay

Mary Hunt  
Phil Isaacs (P&L Electric)  
Sam Isley (Educator)

Jacob Blount (Student)  
Fred Hight (Self-employed)

### Clergy

*Powell Osteen* (Pastor)  
*Ismael Ruiz-Millan* (Extension Ministry)  
*Branson Sheets* (Pastor)  
*Connie Stutts* (Pastor)  
*Kevin Baker* (Pastor)

### NORTH GEORGIA (44) Section 2, Rows A-G

#### DELEGATES

##### Lay

Mathew Pinson (University Administrator)  
Jane Finley (Laity Development Volunteer)  
Keith Cox (Conference Treasurer)  
Jeff Jernigan (Contractor)  
Bill Stikes (Teacher)  
Randy Brown (Retired Systems Analyst)  
Lathem Postell (Student)  
Rachel Fullerton (Exec Asst to Pastor)  
Joe Kilpatrick (CPA)  
Tonya Murphy (Physical Therapist)  
Gary Fuller (Retired)  
Jasper Russell (Retired Software Dev)  
Leon Jourolmon (Retired)  
Tom Cook (Attorney)  
Lee Highsmith (Executive Director, JA)  
Bill Martin, Jr. (Business Owner)  
Beth Corrie (Professor)  
Sue Raymond (Volunteer)  
Janet Sligar  
Dianne Spencer (Educator)  
Linda Culpepper (Retired Teacher)  
Lily Berrios (Architect)

##### Clergy

*Sharma Lewis* (District Superintendent)  
*Phil Schroeder* (Dir, Congregational Dev)  
*Jane Brooks* (Dir Min Svcs, Asst to Bishop)  
*Alice Rogers* (Pastor)  
*Jim Cantrell* (Pastor)  
*Steve Wood* (Pastor)  
*Richard Winn* (District Superintendent)  
*Chuck Savage, II* (President/CEO GA UM Fdn)  
*Ed Tomlinson* (Pastor)  
*Herzen Andone* (District Superintendent)  
*Byron Thomas* (Pastor)



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*Nora Colmenares* (Asst Gen Sec Global Min)  
*Bridgette Ross* (Dean of Chapel/Spiritual Life)  
*Dalton Rushing* (Pastor)  
*David Walters* (Pastor)  
*Bernice Kirkland* (District Superintendent)  
*Olu Brown* (Pastor)  
*Rodrigo Cruz* (Pastor)  
*Beth LaRocca-Pitts* (Pastor)  
*Mike Cash* (Pastor)  
*Juan Quintanilla* (Assoc Dir Hispanic Ministries)  
*Dave Allen Grady* (Pastor)

**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Deloris Carhee (Retired)  
Kathryn Schroeder (Girl Scout Event Planner)  
Bob Fincher (Retired)  
Dick Williamson (Retired)  
Debby Stikes (Director of Discipleship)

**Clergy**

*Leon Mathews* (Pastor)  
*Jim Lowry* (District Superintendent)  
*Kate Floyd* (Pastor)  
*John Beyers* (Pastor)  
*Ben Cathey* (Pastor)

**RED BIRD MISSIONARY (4)  
Section 8, Row G**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

Charlotte Davis (Retired)  
Marilyn Osborne (Retired)

**Clergy**

*Farley Stuart* (District Superintendent)  
*Robert Amundsen* (Pastor)

**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Glenn Saylor (Retired)

**Clergy**

*Charles Jack* (Pastor)

**SOUTH CAROLINA (32)  
Section 8, Rows K-N**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

Barbara Ware (Tourism Director)  
Jim Salley (Assoc Vice-Chancellor, Africa Univ)  
Joe Heyward (Retired Educator)  
Herman Lightsey (Retired)  
Jackie Jenkins (Magistrate)  
Mike Cheatham (Landscape)  
Martha Thompson (Retired Educator)  
Dave Braddon (Retired Business)  
Lollie Haselden (Secretary)  
Emily Evans (Teacher)  
Donald Love (Engineer)  
Jennifer Price (Sales Associate)  
Chris Lynch (Congregational Specialist)  
Carolyn Briscoe (Retired Educator)  
Linda Durant (Retired TV Producer)  
Lou Jordan (Wesley Foundation)

**Clergy**

*Tim McClendon* (Pastor)  
*Ken Nelson* (Coord Clergy Svcs/Conf Sec)  
*Tim Rogers* (District Superintendent)  
*Robin Dease* (District Superintendent)  
*Tiffany Knowlin* (Pastor)  
*Narcie Jeter* (Campus Pastor)  
*Mel Arant* (Pastor)  
*Susan Leonard-Ray* (District Superintendent)  
*Telley Gadson* (Pastor)  
*Michael Turner* (Pastor)  
*Kathy James* (Dir Connectional Ministries)  
*George Ashford* (Pastor)  
*James Friday* (District Superintendent)  
*Sara White* (Dir Congregational Development)  
*Emily Sutton* (Pastor)  
*Jeff Kersey* (Pastor)

**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Cynthia Williams (Retired Judge)  
Marilyn Murphy

**Clergy**

*Connie Barnes* (Wesley Foundation)  
*Cathy Joens* (Congregational Specialist)

Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

**SOUTH GEORGIA (16)**  
**Section 4, Rows N-O**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

Bill Hatcher (Businessman)  
Allison Lindsey (Associate Director)  
Larry Price (Businessman)  
Carl Childs (Businessman)  
Marianne Wright (Therapist)  
Richard Shinhoster (Businessman)  
Kelly Roberson (Communications Dir)  
Miriam Hagan (CPA)

**Clergy**

*Don Adams* (Pastor)  
*Jay Hanson* (Pastor)  
*Bob Moon* (Pastor)  
*Jim Cowart* (Pastor)  
*Denise Walton* (Pastor)  
*Scott Hagan* (Pastor)  
*Robert Beckum* (Pastor)  
*Doreen Smalls* (Pastor)

**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Gloria Morgan (Teacher)  
Rus Black (Army)

**Clergy**

*Stacey Harwell-Dye* (Pastor)

**TENNESSEE (16)**  
**Section 8, Rows D-F**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

Jim Allen (Conference Treasurer)  
Holly Neal  
Connie Clark  
George Brown  
Joy Lewter  
Angela Overstreet  
Kent Mcnish  
Sarah Matthews

**Clergy**

*Harriet Bryan* (District Superintendent)  
*Jacob Armstrong* (Pastor)  
*Stephen Handy* (Pastor)  
*Jackson Henry* (Pastor)  
*Max Mayo* (District Superintendent)  
*Bryan Brooks* (Pastor)  
*Tommy Ward* (Pastor)  
*Cherie Parker* (Pastor)

**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Deen Thompson  
Todd Cox  
Michael Giffin

**Clergy**

*Ken Murray* (District Superintendent)  
*Paul Purdue* (Pastor)  
*Michael Williams* (Pastor)

**VIRGINIA (44)**  
**Section 4, Rows A-G**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

Martha Stokes (Dir, Church & Comm Rel)  
Warren Harper (Retired)  
Shirley Cauffman (Retired)  
Nathaniel Bishop (College President)  
Virginia Greer (Student)  
Darlene Amon (Retired)  
Joyce Winston (Retired)  
Gene Mims (Retired)  
Beth Christian (Dir Congregational Resources)  
Alison Malloy (University Administrator)  
Marshall Bailey  
Larry Burian  
Neill Caldwell (Journalist)  
Willard Douglas (Retired Judge)  
Jake Paysour (Student)  
Olivia Hinton (Retired Educator)  
Michael Monge (Engineer)  
Vicki Boger (Homemaker)  
Ginger Turner  
Brenda Brooks (Retired)  
Aimee Hong  
Rachel Wright (Student)

**Clergy**

*Tom Berlin* (Pastor)  
*Meredith McNabb* (Dir Ctr for Clergy Excellence)  
*Denise Honeycutt* (UMCOR)  
*Clarence Brown* (Pastor)  
*Tammy Estep* (Pastor)  
*Ted Smith* (Clergy)  
*Ileana Rosario* (Clergy)  
*Peter Moon* (Pastor)  
*Kendall Soulen* (Academic)  
*Mark Ogren* (Pastor)  
*Rob Vaughn* (Clergy)  
*Seonyoung Kim* (Clergy)  
*Keith Boyette* (Pastor/Attorney)  
*Bob Cooper* (Pastor)  
*Alex Joyner* (Pastor)  
*Beth Givens* (Pastor)  
*Tommy Herndon* (District Superintendent)  
*Marc Brown* (Dir Connectional Ministries)  
*Jason Stanley* (Youth Pastor)  
*Jeff Mickie* (District Superintendent)  
*Greg West* (Chaplain, Evangelist)  
*Bruce Johnson* (Pastor)

**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Zach Ferguson  
 Lori Valentine de Segovia (Educator)  
 Nancy Yarborough (Retired)  
 Nina Winkler (Retired)  
 Carlos Liceaga (NASA)  
 Joel Joyner (Camp Employee)

**Clergy**

*Brenda Biler* (Pastor)  
*Alan Combs* (Pastor)  
*Tom Barnard* (Pastor)  
*Won Un* (Pastor)  
*David McAlister-Wilson* (Seminary President)  
*Kathleen Overby Webster* (District Supt)  
*Ed Walker* (Pastor)  
*David Rash* (Retired Pastor)  
*John Copenhaver, Jr.* (Retired)  
*Paulo DaSilva* (Pastor)

**WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA (40)  
 Section 4, Rows G-L**

**DELEGATES**

**Lay**

Jennifer Davis (Consultant/Coach)  
 Jennifer Burton  
 Lynne Gilbert (District Admin Asst; CPA)  
 Coley Hooker, Jr. (Retired Principal)  
 Amy Johnson (District Admin Assistant)  
 Shannon Sherfey (Family Physician)  
 Sandy Hieronymus (Retired Teacher)  
 Hank Dozier (Insurance Manager)  
 Robert Upchurch (Retired Educator)  
 Tonya Lanier (Paralegal)  
 Sarah McKinney (Independent Consultant)  
 Andrew Woods (Youth Minister)  
 Neffie Locklear (Retired Banking Admin)  
 Cindy Thompson (Nonprofit Exec Dir)  
 Jane Wood, (Pres, Fdn for Evangelism)  
 Wade Loftin (Sr Sales Manager)  
 Rey Rodriguez (Estate/Fin Planner)  
 Kathy FitzJefferies (Social Worker)  
 Joseph Williams (Student)  
 Ann Aldridge (Sign Language Interpreter)

**Clergy**

*Kim Ingram* (Dir Min Svcs/Conf Secretary)  
*Amy Coles* (Assistant to the Bishop)  
*David Christy* (Pastor)  
*Ashley Crowder Stanley* (Pastor)  
*In-Yong Lee* (Pastor)  
*James Howell* (Pastor)  
*Jeremy Troxler* (Pastor)  
*Sam Moore, Jr.* (Pastor)  
*John Boggs* (District Superintendent)  
*Jeff Patterson* (District Superintendent)  
*Sally Queen* (Assoc Dir Ministerial Svcs)  
*Shelly Webb* (Exec Dir, Transylvania Child Min)  
*David Hockett* (Pastor)  
*Angela Pleasants* (Pastor)  
*Stephanie Hand* (Church Vitality Strategist)  
*Lory Beth Huffman* (Pastor)  
*Chris Westmoreland* (Pastor)  
*Laura Beach* (Pastor)  
*Dawn Hand* (Pastor)  
*Jan Brittain* (Pastor)

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**RESERVES**

**Lay**

Fred Cantler (Retired Univ Administrator)  
Harry Underwood (Retired Finance Exec)  
Rebekah Lisk (Massage Therapist)

**Clergy**

*Uiyeon Kim* (Pastor)  
*Talbot Davis* (Pastor)  
*Andy Lambert* (Associate Pastor)  
*Charles Kyker* (Pastor)

**Chairs of Delegations**  
(2016 Jurisdictional Conference)

**Alabama-West Florida**  
Steve Furr

**Mississippi**  
Timothy Crisler

**South Carolina**  
*Tim McClendon*

**Florida**  
Molly McEntire

**North Alabama**  
Steve Lyles

**South Georgia**  
Bill Hatcher

**Holston**  
*David Graves*

**North Carolina**  
*Gray Southern*

**Tennessee**  
Jim Allen

**Kentucky**  
Lewis Nicholls

**North Georgia**  
Mathew Pinson

Virginia  
Martha Stokes

**Memphis**  
David Reed

**Red Bird Missionary**  
Charlotte Davis

**Western North Carolina**  
Jennifer Davis

**2016 Administrative Committees**

**Committee on Journal**

Eston Brinkley (NC)  
*Rodrigo Cruz* (NGA)  
*Jackie Slaughter* (AWF)

**Agenda Committee**

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward*  
Anne Travis (HOL)  
*Cynthia Cross* (MS)  
Rachel Fullerton (NGA)  
*Kristopher Roof* (MEM)

**2016 Jurisdictional Standing Committees**

**Committee on Episcopacy**

Chairperson: *Jorge Acevedo*  
 Vice-Chairperson: Emily Innes  
 Secretary: *Tom Berlin*

<i>Larry Bryars</i>	AWF
Steve Furr	AWF
<i>Jorge Acevedo</i>	FL
Sharon Luther	FL
<i>Carol Wilson</i>	HOL
Del Holley	HOL
<i>Bill Arnold</i>	KY
Carol Ackley	KY
<i>Randy Cooper</i>	MEM
Sandra Burnett	MEM
<i>Mattie Gipson</i>	MS
Turner Arant	MS
<i>Mark Parris</i>	NAL
Scott Selman	NAL
<i>Beth Hood</i>	NC
Emily Innes	NC
<i>Sharma Lewis</i>	NGA
Jane Finley	NGA
<i>Farley Stuart</i>	RBM
Charlotte Davis	RBM
<i>Tim McClendon</i>	SC
Joe Heyward	SC
<i>Robert Beckum</i>	SGA
Larry Price	SGA
<i>Harriet Bryan</i>	TN
Don Ladd	TN
<i>Tom Berlin</i>	VA
Shirley Cauffman	VA
<i>Kim Ingram</i>	WNC
Jennifer Davis	WNC

**Committee on Nominations**

Chairperson: *Dennie Humphreys*  
 Vice-Chairperson: *Sharon Austin*  
 Secretary: Gloria Morgan

<i>June Jernigan</i>	AWF
Robert Powell	AWF
<i>Sharon Austin</i>	FL
Alice Williams	FL
<i>Dennie Humphreys</i>	HOL
Carolyn Kidd	HOL
<i>James Williams</i>	KY
Michael Watts	KY
<i>Sky Lowe-McCracken</i>	MEM
David Reed	MEM
<i>Fred Britton</i>	MS
Kay Barksdale	MS
<i>Robert Sparkman</i>	NAL
Charlie Carlton	NAL
<i>David Williams</i>	NC
Ann Davis	NC
<i>Alice Rogers</i>	NGA
Gary Fuller	NGA
<i>Robert Amundsen</i>	RBM
Marilyn Osborne	RBM
<i>Robin Dease</i>	SC
James Salley	SC
<i>Donald Adams</i>	SGA
Gloria Morgan	SGA
<i>Jacob Armstrong</i>	TN
George Brown	TN
<i>Peter Moon</i>	VA
Darlene Amon	VA
<i>Lory Beth Huffman</i>	WNC
Henry Dozier	WNC

Connie Clark replaced Don Ladd (TN), who was unable to attend.

*James Cantrell* replaced *Sharma Lewis* (NGA) upon her election as Bishop.

**SECTION III. 2016-2020 Quadrennial Organization**

**The College of Bishops**

**2016-2020**

*(in order of their election)*

Carlton P. Minnick (1980)	Retired	Timothy W. Whitaker (2001)	Retired
R. Kern Eutsler (1984)	Retired	Hope Morgan Ward (2004)	Raleigh
L. Bevel Jones III (1984)	Retired	William H. Willimon (2004)	Retired
Thomas B. Stockton (1988)	Retired	James E. Swanson, Sr. (2004)	Mississippi
H. Hasbrouck Hughes, Jr. (1988)	Retired	Alfred W. Gwinn, Jr. (2004)	Retired
Richard C. Looney (1988)	Retired	Richard J. Wills, Jr. (2004)	Retired
Robert H. Spain (1988)	Retired	Mary Virginia Taylor (2004)	Holston
Clay F. Lee, Jr. (1988)	Retired	Paul L. Leeland (2008)	Charlotte
Robert E. Fannin (1992)	Retired	L. Jonathan Holston (2012)	Columbia
Kenneth L. Carder (1992)	Retired	Kenneth H. Carter (2012)	Florida
Marshall L. Meadors, Jr. (1992)	Retired	William T. McAlilly (2012)	Nashville
G. Lindsey Davis, Jr. (1996)	Retired	Debra Wallace-Padgett (2012)	Birmingham
Joe E. Pennel, Jr. (1996)	Retired	Young Jin Cho (2012)	Retired
Charlene P. Kammerer (1996)	Retired	Sharma D. Lewis (2016)	Richmond
J. Lawrence McCleskey (1996)	Retired	David W. Graves (2016)	Alabama-West Florida
Ray W. Chamberlain (1996)	Retired	Leonard E. Fairley (2016)	Louisville
Larry M. Goodpaster (2000)	Retired	R. Lawson Bryan (2016)	South Georgia
B. Michael Watson (2000)	Retired	Sue Hauptert-Johnson (2016)	North Georgia
James R. King, Jr. (2000)	Retired		

**Jurisdictional Conference Secretary**

Anne Travis (HOL)

**Jurisdictional Conference Treasurer**

David Dommissie (VA)

## 2016 Journal of Proceedings

### Committee on Appeals

*(Effective January 1, 2017)*

Chairperson: *Ron Schultz*  
 Vice-Chairperson: *Laura Fine Ledford*  
 Secretary: *Sue Raymond*

#### Primary Members

(4 Clergy in Full Connection)

<i>Laura Fine Ledford</i>	NC
<i>Ron Schultz</i>	NAL
<i>Ed Walker</i>	VA
<i>Maxine Bolden</i>	MS

(1 Diaconal Minister)

<i>Mark Christy</i>	WNC
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(1 Full-Time Local Pastor)

<i>Valrei Tyson</i>	NC
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(3 Laity)

<i>Linda King</i>	KY
<i>Sue Raymond</i>	NGA
<i>Lisa Carson</i>	TN

#### Alternate Members

(4 Clergy in Full Connection)

<i>Emily Kincaid</i>	AWF
<i>Kathy James</i>	SC
<i>Jay Therrell</i>	FL
<i>Bryan Brooks</i>	TN

(1 Diaconal Minister)

<i>Sue Ellen Nicholson</i>	NC
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(1 Full-Time Local Pastor)

<i>Ricky Bishop</i>	MS
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(3 Laity)

<i>Donald Love</i>	SC
<i>Kelly Roberson</i>	SGA
<i>John Eldridge</i>	HOL

### Committee on Coordination and Accountability

Three Bishops:

<i>Bishop Sharma Lewis</i>	VA
<i>Bishop Bill McAlilly</i>	TN
<i>Bishop Dindy Taylor</i>	HOL

Three Conference Lay Leaders:

<i>Gary Locklear</i>	NC
<i>Steve Lyles</i>	NAL
<i>Jane Wood</i>	WNC

Three Directors of Connectional Ministries:

<i>Sharon Austin</i>	FL
<i>Julie Hager Love</i>	KY
<i>Denise Walton</i>	SGA

At-Large Members:

<i>Jeremy Pridgeon</i>	AWF
<i>Roger Hopson</i>	MEM
<i>Zachary Beasley</i>	MS
<i>Phil Schroeder</i>	NGA
<i>Robert Amundsen</i>	RBM
<i>Tim Rogers</i>	SC

Ex Officio Members:

<i>David Dommissie</i>	SEJ Treas.
<i>Frank Dunnewind</i>	CFA Chair
<i>Anne Travis</i>	SEJ Sec.

Officers to be elected at first meeting, Fall 2016.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Committee on Episcopacy

Chairperson: Steve Furr  
Vice-Chairperson: *Tom Berlin*  
Secretary: *Kim Ingram*

<i>Larry Bryars</i>	AWF	<i>Phil Schroeder</i>	NGA
Steve Furr	AWF	Mathew Pinson	NGA
<i>Alex Shanks</i>	FL	<i>Robert Amundsen</i>	RBM
Molly McEntire	FL	Marilyn Osborne	RBM
<i>Kim Goddard</i>	HOL	<i>Tim McClendon</i>	SC
Del Holley	HOL	Barbara Ware	SC
<i>Bill Arnold</i>	KY	<i>Don Adams</i>	SGA
Lew Nicholls	KY	Bill Hatcher	SGA
<i>Sky McCracken</i>	MEM	<i>Harriet Bryan</i>	TN
David Reed	MEM	Jim Allen	TN
<i>Mattie Gipson</i>	MS	<i>Tom Berlin</i>	VA
Timothy Crisler	MS	Martha Stokes	VA
<i>Robin Scott</i>	NAL	<i>Kim Ingram</i>	WNC
Steve Lyles	NAL	Jennifer Davis	WNC
<i>Gray Southern</i>	NC		
Gary Locklear	NC		

### Committee on Finance and Administration

Chairperson: Frank Dunnewind  
Vice-Chairperson: Charlie Carlton  
Secretary: *Autura Eason-Williams*

Frank Dunnewind	AWF	Marilyn Osborne	RBM
Tony Prestipino	FL	Barbara Ware	SC
Rick Cherry	HOL	<i>Bob Moon</i>	SGA
<i>Eric Bryant</i>	KY	<i>Max Mayo</i>	TN
<i>Autura Eason-Williams</i>	MEM	<i>Jeff Mickle</i>	VA
<i>Tim Prather</i>	MS	<i>Jan Brittain</i>	WNC
Charlie Carlton	NAL		
Emily Innes	NC	Ex Officio	
Gary Fuller	NGA	David Dommissie	Conf Treas



## 2016 Journal of Proceedings

### Committee on Investigation

(Effective January 1, 2017)

Chairperson: *John Brooks*  
Vice-Chairperson: *Cynthia Davis*  
Secretary: Lynn Taylor

(7 Clergy in Full Connection)

*Edgardo Colón-Emeric* NC  
*Sherrill Clontz* NAL  
*Joe Landrum* MS  
*Ken Murray* TN  
*Cynthia Davis* MEM  
*John Brooks* AWF  
*Tim Rogers* SC

(6 Alternate Members)

*Tammy Estep* VA  
*Jean Hawxhurst* KY  
*Nita Crump* SGA  
*Jay Therrell* FL  
*David Walters* NGA  
*Pat Luna* AWF

(2 Professing Members)

Angela Griffin MS  
Lynn Taylor TN

### Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order

*Cory Smith* AWF Ex Officio  
*Vicki Landrum* MS David Dommissie Conference Treasurer  
Jan Brown Thompson KY Anne Travis Conference Secretary  
*Max Mayo* TN  
Lathem Postell NGA

### Committee on Program and Arrangements

Senior Effective Bishop: *Bishop Hope Morgan Ward*  
Conference Secretary: Anne Travis (HOL)  
Conference Treasurer: David Dommissie (VA)  
District Superintendent: *Ray Broadwell* (NC)  
Chair, Committee on Coordination and Accountability: To Be Determined  
President, United Methodist Men: Henry "Hank" Dozier (WNC)  
President, United Methodist Women: Betty Helms (AWF)  
Chair, Association of Conference Lay Leaders: Steve Lyles (NAL)  
Chair, Committee on Episcopacy (or designee): Barbara Ware (SC)

At-Large Members:

*June Jernigan* AWF  
*Rini Hernandez* FL  
*Susan Leonard-Ray* SC  
*Juan Quintanilla* NGA  
*Stephanie Hand* WNC

**SECTION IV. Daily Proceedings of the 2016 Session**

**Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference  
July 13-15, 2016  
Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center**

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**First Day of Conference Session  
Wednesday, July 13, 2016  
(Schedule as adopted by the 2016 SEJ Conference Session)**

**Opening Session**

*All Sessions in Stuart Auditorium*

9:00 a.m. Opening Worship with Holy Communion  
Bishop James R. 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

**Bishop L. Jonathan Holston, Columbia Area  
Presiding**

10:30 a.m. Opening Business Session  
Gathering Hymn  
Call to Order  
Opening Prayer  
Roll Call, Quorum Certification  
Secretarial Staff Election  
Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order  
Adoption of Agenda  
Committee on Program and Arrangements  
Welcome to Lake Junaluska  
Nominations from Bishops  
Committee on Episcopacy  
Balloting Instructions and Testing  
Centering Hymn and Prayer  
Ballot 1  
Laity Address  
Results of Ballot 1  
Introduction of any new Nominee  
Ballot 2  
UMW Video

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Results of Ballot 2  
Ballot 3  
Monitoring Report  
Results of Ballot 3  
Ballot 4  
Announcements

12:15 p.m.

Adjourn for Lunch

12:30 p.m.

Organizational Meeting for Journal Committee  
Terrace Dining Room

**Wednesday, July 13, 2016**  
**Afternoon Session**

**Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, Florida Area**  
**Presiding**

2:15 p.m.

Reconvene Business Session  
Gathering Music and Prayer  
Results of Ballot 4  
Ballot 5  
Committee on Coordination and Accountability  
Resolution on Dissolution of SEMAR (brought by CCA)

Results of Ballot 5  
Ballot 6  
Unfinished Business  
Emory University Video  
Introduction of President James Wagner, Emory University  
Results of Ballot 6  
Ballot 7  
Hinton Rural Life Center Video  
Results of Ballot 7  
Ballot 8  
Report on Move of General Board of Global Ministries to SEJ

4:00 p.m.

Standing Break

**Bishop William T. McAlilly, Nashville Area**  
**Presiding**

4:30 p.m.

Gathering Music  
Results of Ballot 8  
Ballot 9  
Gulfside Assembly Video

Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

Results of Ballot 9  
Ballot 10  
Lake Junaluska Assembly Video  
Results of Ballot 10  
Ballot 11  
Unfinished Business

5:30 p.m.

Supper Break

**Wednesday, July 13, 2016  
Evening Session**

**Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett, Birmingham Area  
Presiding**

7:30 p.m.

Reconvene Business Session  
Gathering Hymn  
Candler School of Theology Video  
Results of Ballot 11  
Ballot 12  
Committee on Finance and Administration  
Results of Ballot 12  
Ballot 13  
Monitoring Report  
Results of Ballot 13  
Ballot 14  
UMM Video  
Report of Ballot 14  
Ballot 15  
Archives and History Video  
Results of Ballot 15  
Ballot 16  
Intentional Growth Center Video  
Unfinished Business

9:00 p.m.

Evening Recess

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**Second Day of Conference Session  
Thursday, July 14, 2016**

**Morning Session**

**Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, Raleigh Area  
Presiding**

- 9:00 a.m.                    Gathering Hymn  
                                  Call to Order and Prayer  
                                  Results of Ballot 16  
                                  Ballot 17  
                                  Committee on Journal  
                                  Results of Ballot 17  
                                  Ballot 18  
                                  Ministry with Young People Video  
                                  Results of Ballot 18  
                                  Ballot 19  
                                  Youth/Young Person's Address  
                                  Results of Ballot 19  
                                  Ballot 20  
                                  Unfinished Business
- 10:00 a.m.                    Morning Break
- 10:30 a.m.                    Service of Remembrance  
                                  Bishop Young Jin Cho, Homily  
                                  Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, Liturgist and Reading of the Names
- Transition Break with Music

**Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr., Mississippi Area  
Presiding**

- 11:15 a.m.                    Results of Ballot 20  
                                  Ballot 21  
                                  Love Offering for At-Large Pages  
                                  Results of Ballot 21  
                                  Ballot 22  
                                  Bishop Eduard Khegay, Council of Bishops' Representative  
                                  Results of Ballot 22  
                                  Ballot 23  
                                  Gammon Theological Seminary Video  
                                  Results of Ballot 23  
                                  Ballot 24  
                                  UMVIM video

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

Results of Ballot 24  
Ballot 25  
Unfinished Business  
Results of Ballot 25  
Balloting will continue as needed  
Unfinished business as needed

1:00 p.m. Lunch Break

### **Thursday, July 14, 2016 Afternoon Session**

2:00 p.m. Committee on Investigation Organized  
Terrace Hotel, Room 211

Committee on Appeals Organized  
Terrace Hotel, Room 213

2:30 p.m. Business Session (If Needed)

Committees meet to complete their work for final reports on  
Thursday evening.

- Nominations Committee in Harrell Center, Susan Todd Lounge
- Committee on Episcopacy in Harrell Center, Room 202

5:30 p.m. Supper Break

### **Thursday, July 14, 2016 Evening Session**

#### **Bishop Paul Leeland, Alabama-West Florida Area Presiding**

7:30 p.m. Reconvene Business Session  
Celebration of Retiring Bishops – Bishop Paul Leeland, presiding  
Reflect, Rejoice, Reclaim – A Musical Celebration  
Monitoring Report  
Committee on Nominations

8:45 p.m. Committee on Episcopacy  
Episcopal Assignments for 2016-2020  
Adjourning Prayer  
  
Area Receptions

2016 Journal of Proceedings

**Third Day of Conference  
Friday, July 15, 2016**

10:00 a.m.

Consecration of Bishops  
Bishop Lindsey Davis, Preaching  
Bishop Larry Goodpaster, Consecrating  
Bishop Eduard Khegay, Representing Council of Bishops

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Daily Minutes

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

#### Opening Worship

9:00 a.m.

Delegates and guests gathered in Stuart Auditorium on the campus of Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center for opening worship service of Word and Table. Bishop James King was the preacher, and Bishop Michael Watson was the celebrant. Active and retired Bishops served the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

#### Opening Plenary Session

10:30 a.m.

**Gathering Music:** Robert McMichael, Jarvis Wilson, and Chuck Newman led the conference in singing as it gathered for the opening business session.

**Presiding:** Bishop L. Jonathan Holston, Columbia Area, presided.

**Call to Order:** Bishop Holston called the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference session to order. Bishop Richard Looney offered the opening prayer.

Bishop Holston read a statement on behalf of the College of Bishops of the SEJ regarding recent killings in Baton Rouge, Minnesota, and Dallas.

**Roll Call and Quorum Certification:** Bishop Holston called on Anne Travis, Conference Secretary, to lead the Conference through the roll call.

The Conference paused to remember the following Bishops who died since the 2012 session: Mack B. Stokes, November 12, 2012; Robert C. “Bob” Morgan, March 16, 2014; J. Lloyd Knox, April 13, 2014; Roy C. Clark, May 27, 2014; C. W. “Handy” Hancock, March 13, 2015; William W. “Bill” Morris, January 14, 2016.

The Conference also remembered the following 2012 delegates who died in the interim between their election and this Conference: Rev. Greg Wingo, Red Bird Conference; Charles Pearre, Virginia Conference.

Delegation leaders reported the delegate count from each of their Annual Conferences:

Alabama-West Florida – 20  
Florida – 36  
Holston – 24  
Kentucky – 20  
Memphis – 8  
Mississippi – 24



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North Alabama – 16  
North Carolina – 32  
North Georgia – 44  
Red Bird – 3  
South Carolina – 32  
South Georgia – 16  
Tennessee – 16  
Virginia – 44  
Western North Carolina – 40

The Conference Secretary certified the presence of a quorum.

**Secretarial Staff:** Conference Secretary Anne Travis nominated the following persons to serve as members of the secretarial staff: Rev. Sharon Austin (Minutes), Meredyth Earnest (Balloting), Rev. Dedric Cowser (Delegate Relations), Rev. Julie Hager Love (Nominations), Jasmine Haynes (Media Relations), Jennifer Davis (Monitoring), Rev. Dawn Chesser (Worship), Sybil Davidson (DCA Editor), Becky Hall (Stage Manager), and David Dommissie (Treasurer). The secretarial staff was elected.

Other persons who are serving in assisting positions this week include the Delegation Pages and the Ballot Tellers.

**Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order:** Rev. Ken Nelson brought the report on behalf of the committee. The committee moved suspension of Rule V.C. (Nominations Committee) because information needed for their work was not received two weeks prior to the beginning date of SEJ Conference. The motion to suspend Rule V.C. was approved. The committee moved adoption and immediate implementation of all proposed changes.

Beth LaRocca-Pitts, NGA Delegate, made a motion to delete the amendment proposed to Rule 17.1 on page 45, lines 875-879 of the ADCA. The motion was seconded. Following discussion, the amendment was defeated.

The Conference adopted the report as recommended by the committee. (See report.)

**Agenda:** Bishop Holston called on Anne Travis to present the agenda for adoption. The agenda was adopted by the conference.

**Committee on Program and Arrangements:** Rev. Nora Colmenares offered the report of the Committee on Program and Arrangements which summarized the work of the Committee in preparation for the 2016 SEJ Conference. The bar of the conference was approved as Sections 2, 4, 6, and 8. (See report.) The report was received.

**Welcome:** Dr. Jack Ewing, Chief Executive Officer of Lake Junaluska, welcomed the members of the 2016 SEJ Conference to the Lake Junaluska campus.

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**Nominations from College of Bishops:** Bishop William McAlilly, President of the College of Bishops, presented the slate of nominations originating from the College of Bishops, in accordance with *The Book of Discipline* and our Conference Plan of Organization and Rules of Order. These leaders were elected. (See report.)

**Committee on Episcopacy:** Rev. Jorge Acevedo, chair of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented the report on behalf of the committee. He reported the work of the Committee during this quadrennium, their emphasis on the election process, and their evaluation process with the Bishops and the tool they created for that evaluation.

**Balloting Instructions and Testing:** Bishop Holston called on Anne Travis to prepare the conference for voting using hand-held voting devices. Anne Travis offered the orientation, including testing on several sample ballots. Josh Collier from Option Technologies was introduced to the conference.

**Centering Hymn:** Robert McMichael and Jarvis Wilson led the conference in a centering hymn prior to the first ballot.

**Ballot Prayer:** Bishop Dick Wills led the conference in prayer prior to the ballot.

**Ballot One:** Bishop Jonathan Holston guided the conference through five intervals of 30 seconds each for voting. Upon conclusion, Bishop Holston closed the ballot.

**Laity Address:** Mr. Timothy Crisler, Mississippi Conference Lay Leader and President of the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders in the jurisdiction, presented the laity address.

**Ballot Results:** Bishop Holston read the results for ballot one.

Number of ballots: 374

Number of valid ballots: 362

Needed to elect: 217

Election -- Sharma Lewis was elected with 258 ballots. She was escorted to the stage with members of her family.

The following balloting results were read:

Lewis, 258; Hauptert-Johnson, 188; Graves, 183; Fairley, 167; Bryan, 153; McClendon, 146; Howell, 143; McCracken, 106; Grieb, 83; Scott, 83; Smith, 68; Sparks, 60; Stuart, 56; Shelton, 16; Lewis, Sr., 13.

**Introduction of New Nominees:** Harold Lewis, Sr., from Florida Conference and Connie Shelton from Mississippi Conference each addressed the conference in accordance with the SEJ Committee on Episcopacy Election Process.

**Blessing of the Meal:** Bishop Al Gwinn offered a prayer to close the session and bless the meal.

**Lunch Recess:** The conference was in recess.

**Afternoon Session**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Gathering Music:** Robert McMichael, Jarvis Wilson, and Chuck Newman led the conference in singing as it gathered for the opening business session.

**Bishop Ken Carter** called the session to order.

**Bishop Will Willimon** offered prayer for the session.

**Bishop Carter** called for delegates to take ballot two.

**Ballot Prayer:** Rev. Jackie Slaughter, Alabama-West Florida Conference, offered a prayer as the conference prepared for ballot two.

**Ballot Two:** Bishop Carter guided the balloting process for four intervals. Upon conclusion, Bishop Carter closed the ballot.

Because of the need to switch the electronic balloting system to conduct the electronic Monitoring Report and our desire to continue with balloting, Bishop Carter announced that the Monitoring Report would be postponed until later in our agenda.

**Celebration of Ministry:** The conference celebrated the unique contributions of United Methodist Women in the Southeastern Jurisdiction through a video presentation.

**Ballot Results:** Bishop Carter read the results for ballot two.

Number of ballots: 376

Number of valid ballots: 352

Needed to elect: 212

There was no election.

The following balloting results were read:

Hauptert-Johnson, 183; Graves, 182; Fairley, 155; Bryan, 145; McClendon, 142; Howell, 130; McCracken, 84; Shelton, 68; Grieb, 61; Scott, 55; Smith, 44; Sparks, 34; Stuart, 33; Lewis, Sr., 15; Frye, 10.

**Introduction of New Nominees:** Randy Frye addressed the conference and thanked them for their votes but indicated he was withdrawing his name from consideration.

**Ballot Prayer:** Mr. Coley Hooker, Jr., Western North Carolina Conference, led the conference in a time of prayer prior to ballot three.

**Ballot Three:** Bishop Carter guided the conference in four balloting intervals. Upon conclusion, Bishop Carter closed the ballot.

Robert McMichael and Jarvis Wilson led us in singing as the ballot was tabulated.

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**Ballot Results:** Bishop Carter read the results for ballot three.

Number of ballots: 372

Number of valid ballots: 367

Needed to elect: 221

There was no election.

The following balloting results were read:

Graves, 206; Hauptert-Johnson, 195; Fairley, 181; Bryan, 169; McClendon, 161; Howell, 126; Shelton, 83; McCracken, 77; Grieb, 54; Scott, 50; Smith, 40; Sparks, 30, Stuart, 30; Lewis, Sr., 10.

**Ballot Prayer:** Bishop Tom Stockton led in prayer as the conference prepared for ballot four.

**Ballot Four:** Bishop Carter guided the conference through four balloting intervals.

**Committee on Coordination and Accountability:** Steve Lyles, Lay Leader of North Alabama Conference, and Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor gave the report of the Committee on Coordination and Accountability. They reported the work of the CCA for the quadrennium, including the use of Chrissy Parke Rosen as a consultant who was hired based on action of the 2012 SEJ Conference to conduct Board training and development for the six agencies and ministries of the SEJ. The SEJ is now incorporated in the State of North Carolina. Bishop Taylor and Steve Lyles moved acceptance of the report, including the Final Report of SEMAR and the Resolution of Dissolution of SEMAR. The report was approved.

**Ballot Results:** Bishop Carter read the results for ballot four.

Number of ballots: 375

Number of valid ballots: 345

Needed to elect: 207

Election – David Graves was elected with 221 votes. He was escorted to the stage with his family.

The following balloting results were read:

Graves, 221; Fairley, 190; Hauptert-Johnson, 184; Bryan, 173; McClendon, 153; Howell, 108; Shelton, 95; McCracken, 65; Scott, 43; Grieb, 37; Smith, 32; Sparks, 30, Stuart, 26.

Rev. Stephen Sparks asked to address the conference. He thanked the conference for its support and asked that his name be withdrawn from balloting.

**Ballot Prayer:** Kevin James, Florida Conference, led in prayer as the conference prepared for ballot five.

**Ballot Five:** Bishop Carter guided the conference through three balloting intervals.

**Emory University Video:** The conference celebrated the ministry of Emory University through a video report.

**President James Wagner:** Following the video, Bishop Carter invited President James Wagner of Emory University to the stage for remarks. President Wagner remarked on his thirteen-year tenure as the President of Emory University and the relationship between Emory and The United Methodist Church. The SEJ delegates expressed appreciation for President Wagner's service. Bishop Carter recognized those four SEJ Bishops who serve on the Emory University Board of Directors: Bishops Lindsey Davis, Bill McAlilly, James Swanson, and Mary Virginia Taylor.

**Ballot Results:** Bishop Carter read the results for ballot five.

As Bishop Carter began reading the results, he immediately recognized that the ballot could not be correct because 381 votes were cast; we have only 376 delegates. Ballot 5 was declared invalid.

Anne Travis provided additional instruction for using the hand-held voting devices and reminded delegates to turn off the wifi on their phones.

Rev. Harold Lewis thanked the conference for allowing him the opportunity to be considered and withdrew his name from balloting.

**Ballot Prayer:** Aimee Hong, Virginia Conference, led in prayer as the conference prepared for ballot six.

**Ballot Six:** Bishop Carter guided the conference through three balloting intervals.

**Celebration of Ministry:** The conference celebrated the ministry of Hinton Rural Life Center with a video report.

**Ballot Results:** Bishop Carter read the results for ballot six.

Number of ballots: 375

Number of valid ballots: 365

Needed to elect: 219

There was no election.

The following balloting results were read:

Fairley, 213; Hauptert-Johnson, 200; Bryan, 179; McClendon, 161; Shelton, 91; Howell, 84; McCracken, 44; Scott, 29; Grieb, 28; Smith, 26; Stuart, 16.

**Bishop Carter** turned the chair over to **Bishop William McAlilly**.

Rev. Tom Grieb addressed the conference, thanked them for their support, and asked to be removed from consideration for the episcopacy.

**Ballot Prayer:** Bishop Hughes led in prayer as the conference prepared for ballot seven.

**Ballot Seven:** Bishop McAlilly guided the conference through three balloting intervals.

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**Report on the Move of Global Ministries to Atlanta and the SEJ:** Bishop Hope Morgan Ward gave a report on behalf of General Secretary Thomas Kemper on the move of Global Ministries offices from New York to Atlanta. She recognized the following Global Ministries staff persons who were present: Denise Honeycutt (delegate), Paulette West (UMVIM SEJ), Jim and Bernice Keech (Mission Advocates for GM), David Makobo N'shikala (Missionary), Nora Colmenares (delegate), and Scott Parish.

**Ballot Results:** Bishop McAlilly read the results for ballot seven.

Number of ballots: 375

Number of valid ballots: 369

Needed to elect: 221

Election – Leonard Fairley was elected with 246 votes. He was escorted to the stage.

The following balloting results were read:

Fairley, 246; Hauptert-Johnson, 209; Bryan, 188; McClendon, 168; Shelton, 87; Howell, 75; McCracken, 44; Scott, 28; Grieb, 28; Smith, 26; Stuart, 16.

Rev. Farley Stuart thanked the conference for allowing him the opportunity to be considered and withdrew his name from balloting.

Because of a significant thunderstorm outside, the conference chose to continue balloting and not take a break.

**Ballot Prayer:** Rev. Sandra Johnson, Holston Conference, led in prayer as the conference prepared for ballot eight.

**Ballot Eight:** Bishop McAlilly guided the conference through two balloting intervals.

Robert McMichael and Jarvis Wilson led the conference in singing as the ballots were tallied.

**Ballot Results:** Bishop McAlilly read the results for ballot eight.

Number of ballots: 375

Number of valid ballots: 371

Needed to elect: 223

There was no election.

The following balloting results were read:

Hauptert-Johnson, 218; Bryan, 194; McClendon, 158; Shelton, 56; Howell, 49; McCracken, 26; Smith, 16; Scott, 15.

**Ballot Prayer:** Rev. Stephen Handy, Tennessee Conference, led in prayer as the conference prepared for ballot nine.

**Ballot Nine:** Bishop McAlilly guided the conference through two balloting intervals.

Robert McMichael and Jarvis Wilson led the conference in singing as the ballots were tallied.

Rev. Sky McCracken asked to be recognized. He thanked the conference for support and withdrew his name from further consideration.

**Ballot Results:** Bishop McAlilly read the results for ballot nine.

Number of ballots: 375

Number of valid ballots: 374

Needed to elect: 224

There was no election.

The following balloting results were read:

Hauptert-Johnson, 223; Bryan, 220; McClendon, 155; Howell, 53; Shelton, 36; McCracken, 25; Smith, 14, Scott, 13.

**Ballot Prayer:** Bishop Goodpaster led in prayer as the conference prepared for ballot ten.

**Ballot Ten:** Bishop McAlilly guided the conference through two balloting intervals.

Robert McMichael and Jarvis Wilson led the conference in singing as the ballots were tallied.

**Ballot Results:** Bishop McAlilly read the results for ballot ten.

Number of ballots: 375

Number of valid ballots: 369

Needed to elect: 221

There were two elections – Lawson Bryan with 256 votes was elected and escorted to the stage with his family, and Sue Hauptert-Johnson with 230 votes was elected and escorted to the stage with her family.

The balloting results were:

Bryan, 256; Hauptert-Johnson, 230; McClendon, 142; Howell, 46; Shelton, 24; Scott, 20; Smith, 11.

**Announcements and Closing Prayer:** Following announcements by the Conference Secretary, Bishop McAlilly called on Bishop Mike Watson to close the session with prayer and a blessing for our meal.

**Dinner Recess:** The Conference was in recess.

**Evening Session  
7:30 p.m.**

**Gathering Music:** Robert McMichael, Jarvis Wilson, and Chuck Newman led the conference in singing as it gathered for the opening business session.

**Bishop Debbie Wallace-Padgett** called the session to order.

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**Bishop Clay Lee** offered prayer for the session.

**Schedule Adjustment:** Bishop Wallace-Padgett announced adjustments to the agenda resulting from the completion of balloting.

**Monitoring Report:** Jennifer Davis, lay delegate from Western North Carolina Conference, explained our self-monitoring process and led the delegates through a guided series of questions using the hand-held voting devices for responses.

**Celebration of Ministry:** Following an afternoon celebration of our relationship with Emory University, the conference celebrated the ministry of Candler School of Theology with a video presentation.

**Celebration of Ministry:** Bishop Wallace-Padgett reminded us a video on the United Methodist Women was viewed during the morning session. We then celebrated our United Methodist Men, also with a video presentation.

**Celebration of Ministry:** The ministry of memory is an important part of our work together. The Conference celebrated the work of SEJ Archives and History through video story.

**Committee on Finance and Administration:** Jim Allen, chair of SEJ Committee on Finance and Administration, gave the report of the CFA. He explained how changes in the economy have influenced the SEJ budget in the past eight years. Mr. Allen presented the budget recommendation for 2017-2020 and the recommended apportionments for each Annual Conference. The report was approved. Upon recommendation of CFA, Mr. David Dommissie, Virginia Conference, was elected SEJ Treasurer for the coming quadrennium. Bishop Wallace-Padgett thanked Jim Allen for his eight years of service as chair of CFA.

**Celebration of Ministry:** The Conference completed the evening celebration of ministry with a video report from the Intentional Growth Center.

**Announcements:** Announcements were given by Conference Secretary Anne Travis.

**Closing Prayer:** Bishop Wallace-Padgett invited Bishop Charlene Kammerer to offer the closing prayer for the evening.

**Evening Recess:** The Conference was in recess for the evening.

**Thursday, July 14, 2016**  
**Morning Session**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Gathering Music:** Robert McMichael, Jarvis Wilson, and Chuck Newman led the conference in singing as it gathered for the opening business session.



**Bishop Hope Morgan Ward** called the session to order.

**Bishop Ken Carder** offered prayer for the session.

**Prayer Beads:** Bishop Ward explained that prayer beads had been provided for delegates by Upper Room prayer ministries. These beads were also distributed at General Conference. We want to cover the world in prayer.

**Celebration of Ministry:** We continued our celebration of ministries of the Southeastern Jurisdiction by celebrating our young people's ministries across the Jurisdiction with a video.

**Young People's Ministry:** Todd Cox, a young adult from the Tennessee Conference, gave the Young People's Ministry address.

**Episcopacy Committee Report:** Rev. Jorge Acevedo, chair of the SEJ Committee on Episcopacy, made the following recommendations from the SEJ Committee on Episcopacy:

1. For the work of the COE during this SEJ Conference, replace Don Ladd with Connie Clark in the Tennessee Conference and replace Sharma Lewis with Jim Cantrell in the North Georgia Conference.
2. The following Bishops have requested retirement: Bishop Lindsey Davis, Bishop Larry Goodpaster, Bishop Mike Watson, Bishop James King, and Bishop Young Jin Cho.

The report was approved by the Conference.

**Monitoring Report:** Jennifer Davis led the delegates through part two of the self-monitoring exercises using the hand-held voting devices.

**Love Offering:** Bishop Ward requested the Conference take a Love Offering to assist our At-Large Pages, who attend the Conference to serve at their own expense. Jarvis Wilson played music as the offering was taken.

**Offering for Pan-Methodist Campaign for Children in Poverty:** Bishop Ward announced that our Communion offering yesterday taken for the Pan-Methodist Campaign for Children in Poverty was \$6,000.

**Celebration of Ministry:** We are privileged to have Gammon Theological Seminary in the bounds of our Jurisdiction. Bishop Ward asked Gammon alumni who were present to stand. We celebrated the ministry of Gammon with a video report.

**Council of Bishops' Representative:** Bishop Ward called upon Bishop Eduard Khegay of the Eurasia Area to speak as a representative of the Council of Bishops. Bishop Khegay spoke to the Conference.

**Celebration of Ministry:** We concluded our celebrations of the ministries of Southeastern Jurisdiction with a video report from United Methodist Volunteers in Mission.

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**Recognition of Agency Staff Persons Present:** Bishop Ward recognized the following Agency staff persons who were present: Dawn Hare (GCSRW, a delegate); Amy Valdez-Barker (Connectional Table); Gary Graves (incoming Secretary of the General Conference); Jean Hawxhurst (Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, a delegate); from GCFA, Dana Joki; from GBHEM, James Salley (a delegate); from Discipleship Ministries, Dawn Chesser (leading our worship this week), Jackson Henry (a delegate), Candace Lewis, Cheryl Walker, Rory Blakeney, and Joseph Bethea Wall; and persons from Global Ministries were acknowledged yesterday afternoon, along with Susan Henry Crowe (GBCS) and Erin Hawkins (GCORR).

**Question from the Floor:** Kathy FitzJeffries, lay member of the Western North Carolina delegation, asked to be recognized. She reflected on our monitoring report and the CFA presentation of the previous evening. Bishop Ward invited Jim Allen, chair of CFA, to the podium to respond. Ms. FitzJeffries expressed concerns about the long-term financial status of some of our SEJ agencies and ministries. Mr. Allen responded with information about audits. Bishop Ward invited Ms. FitzJeffries to be in conversation with persons from CFA and Committee on Coordination and Accountability (CCA) to express her concerns and ask her questions.

**Disciple Bible Study:** Bishop Ward celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Disciple Bible Study and announced a gathering at the Foundation for Evangelism from 5:30 to 7:30 tonight. Everyone is welcome, and refreshments will be served. During that gathering, Bishop Wilke will share the history of Disciple; Susan Fuquay will tell about Disciple Fast Track at 5:40 and 7:10 p.m.

**Other Episcopal Elections:** Bishop Ward announced results of episcopal elections in other Jurisdictions. North Central Jurisdiction has elected Tracy Smith Malone, Frank Beard, and David Bard, and Northeast Jurisdiction has elected Cynthia Moore-KoiKoi.

**Women's Celebration:** Bishop Ward announced a celebration and sending forth of newly elected Bishops Sharma Lewis and Sue Hauptert-Johnson immediately after the session in the Susan Todd Lounge.

**Announcements:** Anne Travis read a series of announcements.

**Recess:** Bishop Ward closed the session and announced a recess until the Memorial Service at 10:30 a.m.

### **Service of Remembrance 10:30 a.m.**

The conference gathered for worship to remember the lives and ministries of Bishops and Bishops' spouses who died during the last quadrennium.

Bishops remembered were Bishop Mack B. Stokes, Bishop Robert C. Morgan, Bishop J. Lloyd Knox, Bishop Roy C. Clark, Bishop Charles W. Hancock, and Bishop William W. Morris.

Bishops' Spouses remembered were Mrs. Mariam Hancock, Mrs. Mary Ann Minnick, Mrs. Eva Eutsler, Mrs. Mildred "Tuck" Jones, and Mrs. Louise Short.

Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor led in the naming of the honored dead. Bishop Young Jin Cho was the preacher for the service.

**Recess:** The conference was in recess until the 7:00 p.m. business session.

**Evening Session**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Gathering Music:** Robert McMichael, Jarvis Wilson, and Chuck Newman led the conference in singing as it gathered for the evening business session.

**Bishop James Swanson** called the session to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Bishop Richard Looney** led an opening prayer for the session.

**Statement from the SEJ College of Bishops:** Bishop William McAlilly, current President of the SEJ College of Bishops, read a statement to the Jurisdictional Conference from the SEJ College of Bishops.

A Missional Initiative of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference  
From  
The Southeastern Jurisdictional College of Bishops

The Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction recognize the unique strengths, characteristics, and challenges of our Episcopal Areas. As leaders of the Church in the SEJ, we see a timely opportunity to increase our strategic thinking and action with regard to our context in the Southeast. Further, it is our hope to continue to focus on the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In Article V Paragraph 27.1 of the constitution of the 2012 *Book of Discipline*, the jurisdictions are given responsibility to:

*Promote the evangelistic, educational, missionary, and benevolent interests of the Church and to provide for interests and institutions within their boundaries.*

To that end, the Bishops of the SEJ recommend the following:

Forming a Southeastern Jurisdictional Missional Initiative for the purpose of focusing on the following:

- 1.) new forms of church beyond the walls,
- 2.) children and poverty,
- 3.) unity and human sexuality,
- 4.) making disciples,

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5.) structure, finance and the future church.

At the 2017 College of Bishops meeting in January, we will collaborate with the Conference Lay Leaders, the Committee on Episcopacy, and Directors of Connectional Ministries on this initiative. It is our hope that our collaboration will offer input to the commission being formed by the Council of Bishops. We also will connect this work to the Four Areas of Focus for the United Methodist Church.

We will assign a bishop and appropriate lay leaders to convene and guide the work of these five initiatives. We hope to then invite every delegate here this week to a gathering which will be held within the next eighteen months where recommendations will be received from the leadership of the Initiative. Expenses will be the responsibility of individual delegates. We encourage each conference to provide scholarships as needed.

The Southeastern Jurisdictional College of Bishops

Bishop Swanson stated that the College of Bishops is asking the 2016 SEJ Conference to affirm this Missional Initiative coming from the College.

Kendall Soulen, clergy delegate, Virginia Conference, moved that body endorse the proposal as read and spoke in favor of the motion. The motion was seconded. Laurie Hayes Coffman, clergy delegate, North Carolina Conference, proposed an amendment of the motion to include racism and white privilege as part of what is studied. Bishop McAlilly said the College would receive that proposed amendment as a friendly amendment. Steve Lyles, lay delegate, North Alabama Conference, spoke in favor of the motion. The motion was approved. Bishop Swanson thanked the delegates on behalf of the College of Bishops.

**Recognition of Retiring Bishops:** Bishop Swanson called on the delegates to begin a time of recognition for the retiring Bishops: Bishop G. Lindsey Davis, Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster, Bishop James R. King, Bishop B. Michael Watson, and Bishop Young Jin Cho. A worship service of recognition and celebration of their ministries followed.

Following the time of worship and recognition, Bishop Swanson shared that gifts presented to the retiring Bishops were beautiful unique art creations from Jaime Winton, a member of St. John's UMC in Memphis, TN. The Conference expressed appreciation to Jaime Winton.

**Musical Celebration of the Africana Hymnal:** Robert McMichael led the SEJ Conference in a joyful, spirit-filled celebration of the new Africana Hymnal. Music was provided by an Ensemble from the Central UMC in Atlanta, Georgia. The new hymnal is a celebration of black sacred music, and the effort to prepare this hymnal was chaired by Dr. Cheryl Walker, Discipleship Ministries. As a part of the musical program, Cheryl Walker explained about the various formats for the resources available to congregations as a part of the Africana Hymnal Project.

Bishop Swanson led the Conference in expressing appreciation to the Ensemble, Robert McMichael, and Cheryl Walker for the musical celebration.

**Committee on the Journal:** Rodrigo Cruz, clergy delegate from the North Georgia Conference, gave the report of the Journal Committee. The Journal Committee certified that the minutes of Wednesday and Thursday morning sessions were correct. The Conference received and approved the report.

**Final Monitoring Report:** Jennifer Davis, lay delegate from the Western North Carolina Conference, gave the final monitoring report for the Conference. She thanked the delegates for their participation in the self-awareness monitoring done electronically. Jennifer shared the monitoring report prepared by Dawn Hare, General Secretary of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, on the work of the Nominating Committee. Jennifer found joy in sharing the monitoring report because of the positive results of the self-awareness monitoring. The results of the monitoring report will appear on the SEJ web site and in the 2016 SEJ Journal.

**Nominating Committee Report:** Dennie Humphreys, clergy delegate from the Holston Conference, presented the Nominating Committee report. He thanked Julie Love, Gary Graves, Dawn Hare, and Erin Hawkins for their work with the Nominating Committee. Nominations for affirmation by the Conference appear in the Advance Daily Christian Advocate on pages 131 through 137 for the Boards of the SEJ Agencies and Ministries. Over 500 names were submitted for 47 positions to be filled by the SEJ Nominating Committee. Those names for the 47 positions were handed out in the morning session on Thursday.

Bishop Swanson asked the Conference to affirm those who are part of the Boards of the SEJ Agencies and Ministries (ADCA, pages 131-137). That list was affirmed.

Bishop Swanson then led the Conference through voting on the report submitted by the Nominating Committee that was handed out in written form on Thursday morning. The Conference approved the Nominating Committee report as submitted.

**Recognitions:** Bishop Swanson recognized those persons who work with our SEJ Agencies and Ministries: Mrs. Mollie Stewart (Gulfside Assembly), Dr. Jacqueline Gottlieb (Hinton Rural Life Center), Dr. Jack Ewing (Lake Junaluska), Mrs. Nancy Watkins (SEJ Archives and History), Rev. Larry Ousley (IGC), and Mrs. Paulette West (UMVIM SEJ). These persons stood and were recognized for their servant nature by the SEJ Conference.

Bishop Swanson thanked Anne Travis for her service as Conference Secretary.

Bishop Swanson also recognized Sergei Nikolaev, the President of the Moscow Seminary, who was present at the Conference.

**Announcements and Closing Motion:** Following announcements, Anne Travis made a motion that the SEJ Conference adjourn *sine die* at the close of the Service on Consecration on Friday morning, July 15, 2016. The motion was approved.

**Break:** Bishop Swanson called for a brief stand-up break.

**Committee on Episcopacy Report:** Following a short stand-up break, Bishop Swanson called the delegates to order. Rev. Jorge Acevedo, Chair of the Committee on Episcopacy, shared the assignments for the Bishops for the 2016-2020 quadrennium. He presented the following report:

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Bishop Lawson Bryan	South Georgia Area
Bishop Ken Carter	Florida Area
Bishop Leonard Fairley	Louisville Area
Bishop David Graves	Alabama-West Florida Area
Bishop Jonathan Holston	Columbia Area
Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson	North Georgia Area
Bishop Paul Leeland	Charlotte Area
Bishop Sharma Lewis	Richmond Area
Bishop William McAlilly	Nashville Area
Bishop James Swanson	Mississippi Area
Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor	Holston Area
Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett	Birmingham Area
Bishop Hope Morgan Ward	Raleigh Area

The Committee on Episcopacy makes this motion and recommends its acceptance. Bishop Swanson called for a vote. The motion was approved with a “yes” vote.

**Closing Prayer:** Bishop Swanson invited Bishop Joe Pennel to close the evening business session with prayer.

**Recess:** The Conference was in recess until the Service of Consecration on Friday morning at 10:00 a.m.

**Friday, July 15, 2016**

**10:00 a.m.**

### **Service of Consecration of Bishops**

The Conference gathered for worship in Stuart Auditorium for the Consecration of Bishops. Bishop G. Lindsey Davis was the preacher. Bishop Larry Goodpaster was the presiding bishop for the service of consecration. Bishop Eduard Khegay represented the Council of Bishops.

The following Bishops were consecrated: Sharma Lewis, David Graves, Leonard Fairley, Lawson Bryan, and Sue Hauptert-Johnson.

**Adjournment:** The 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference was adjourned *sine die* following the conclusion of the Service of Consecration.

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**Presiding Officers  
2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference**

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Morning Session Jonathan Hobbs  
Afternoon Session W. H. Catron  
Evening Session William T. McHugh  
Debra Kaye Walbre-Parsons

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Morning Session Hope Morgan Ward  
Evening Session James S. Scaris

Hope Morgan Ward  
Senior Bishop, College of Bishops

James S. Scaris  
Conference Secretary

# Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

## Ballot Results

Ballot No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Cast	374	376	375	375	INVALID	375	375	375	375	375
Valid	362	352	367	345		365	369	371	374	369
Needed	217	212	221	207		219	221	223	224	221
Lewis, S.	<b>258</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>								
Haupt-Johnson, S.	188	183	195	184		200	209	218	223	<b>230</b>
Graves, D.	183	182	206	<b>221</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>					<b>ELECTED</b>
Farley, L.	167	155	181	190		213	<b>246</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>		
Bryan, L.	153	145	169	173		179	188	194	220	<b>256</b>
McClendon, T.	146	142	161	153		161	168	158	155	<b>ELECTED</b>
Howell, J.	143	130	126	108		84	75	49	53	
McCracken, S.	106	84	77	65		44	44	26	25	
Grieb, T.	83	61	54	37		28	28	15	13	
Scott, R.	83	55	50	43		29	28	15	13	
Smith, T.	68	44	40	32		26	22	16	14	
Sparks, S.	60	34	30			16	16			
Stuart, F.	56	33	30	26		16	16			
Shelton, C.	16	68	83	95		91	87	56	36	
Lewis, Sr., H.	13	15	10							
Frye, R.		10								

\* All votes below 10 are not shown in this report.



## SECTION V. Reports

### COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM AND ARRANGEMENTS

The 2016 Committee on Program and Arrangements, under the able guidance and direction of Bishop G. Lindsey Davis, held three meetings during this quadrennium to plan for the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. Two meetings were held by conference call (July 2014 and January 2016) and one was held in Nashville, TN (July 2015).

Because of the excellent reorganization work done in 2012 around a shortened conference schedule and a reduced number of committees, the work of the combined Program and Arrangements Committee was made much easier in preparation for our 2016 Conference.

Membership on this committee included the following persons, for whose work we are most grateful:

Senior Effective Bishop: *Bishop Lindsey Davis*

Conference Secretary: Anne Travis

Conference Treasurer: David Dommisie

District Superintendent: Robin Dease

Committee on Coordination and Accountability Chair: Steve Lyles

Jurisdictional President UMM: Larry Price

Jurisdictional President UMW: Patty Stricklin

Association of Conference Lay Leaders Chair: Robert Upchurch

Committee on Episcopacy Representative: Emily Innes

At Large:

<i>Denise Walton</i>	SGA
<i>Tonya Elmore</i>	AWF
<i>Nora Colmenares</i>	NGA
<i>Rinaldo Hernandez</i>	FL
<i>Dedric Cowser</i>	NAL

#### Theme

The Committee began our work by discussing a theme for this 2016 SEJ Conference. Our prayer as we worked together was and remains that our United Methodist Churches in the Southeast can remain hope-filled and unified as we seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Our theme was determined to be Hope and Unity in Christ, and Kathy Williams of the Kentucky Conference staff was commissioned to design our logo.

#### Jurisdictional Conference Schedule

Following the guidelines of the 2012 Conference, a draft schedule was prepared and discussed. The College of Bishops, in an effort to reduce awkward transitions during business sessions, recommended to the Committee a plan for presiding Bishops that would use all active Bishops in some leadership role during 2016 SEJ Conference without the rule or tradition of the Southeastern Jurisdiction that each would preside in order of election at some point during the conference. Therefore, some active Bishops will preside, while other active Bishops will lead in worship. Based on this recommendation from the College of Bishops, the Program and Arrangements Committee recommended to the Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order that wording regarding presiding officers be revised in our Plan and Rules, and the recommendation was accepted.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

The College of Bishops in January approved the schedule with some minor adjustments. A format of short video reports will again aid us in completing our primary work of electing new bishops in one less day. The College of Bishops also called for an offering to support the Pan-Methodist Campaign for Children in Poverty as a part of our opening worship to reflect our quadrennial emphasis on being in ministry with children in poverty.

### **Official Dates of the Conference**

As set by the General Secretary for the General Conference, the opening date for 2016 SEJ Conference will be on Wednesday, July 13, at 9:00 a.m. in the Stuart Auditorium at Lake Junaluska, NC. Following opening worship, the business will begin at 10:15 a.m. The schedule calls for work to be completed and the Consecration of Bishops to be held on Friday morning, July 15.

In keeping with the SEJ method of meeting episcopal nominees, the SEJ Committee on Episcopacy will host activities on Tuesday, July 12, beginning at 10:30 a.m. in Stuart Auditorium and continuing in Shackford Hall and the Children's Building following lunch.

### **Balloting**

The committee again selected Option Technologies of Florida to guide our electronic balloting in 2016. Because of changes in the software used by Option Technologies for the electronic balloting, wireless devices will not be allowed to be using WiFi during sessions in which balloting is occurring. Each delegation will be asked to have a page to handle the electronic voting devices and another page to monitor wireless devices to ensure they are off or in "airplane mode" during all business sessions.

### **Per Diem and Travel**

The per diem and travel were recommended at \$96/day based on double occupancy onsite at Lake Junaluska using the American Meal Plan. The per diem will begin following dinner on Monday, July 11, and will conclude following breakfast on Friday, July 15. This extension of the per diem allows delegates to attend the Committee on Episcopacy activities on Tuesday, July 12.

The travel allowance will be \$0.54 per mile for automobile travel. For delegates flying to Asheville, NC, the ground transportation reimbursement rate will be limited to the round trip mileage (80 miles) from/to the Asheville Airport and Lake Junaluska Conference Center at the IRS mileage standard in effect during the 2016 SEJ Conference.

### **Delegate Seating**

Heads of delegations were convened in Portland, OR, in January to select seating using a lottery system. Because of a reduced number of delegates in 2016, all delegate seating will be in Sections 2, 4, 6, and 8 of Stuart Auditorium.

### **Child Care**

Child care will be provided through a service used by Lake Junaluska. Persons desiring child care should contact Lake Junaluska directly. Pre-registration is required, with the cost being paid by the users of the services. The 2016 SEJ Conference web site has additional information (<http://www.sejumc.org/2016sejconf>). Questions may be directed to Tammy McDowell ([tmcdowell@lakejunaluska.com](mailto:tmcdowell@lakejunaluska.com)).

### **Paperless Work**

Pre-Conference work will all be done using the SEJ Conference web site. The ADCA and other pertinent documents will be posted on this web site ([www.sejumc.org/2016sejconf](http://www.sejumc.org/2016sejconf)).

## 2016 Journal of Proceedings

To further our efforts at being paperless, during our time at SEJ Conference all delegates will be given an option to receive the 2016 SEJ Journal either electronically or in hard copy. Hard copy will only be provided to those delegates specifically requesting such; all other delegates will be sent a link to receive the Journal in .pdf format.

### **Secretarial Staff**

Anne Travis, Conference Secretary, has recruited a highly capable staff to assist with the many details associated with the planning and administration of the 2016 SEJ Conference. The following persons will be serving on the Secretarial Staff:

*Sharon Austin* (Conference Minutes)

Meredyth Earnest (Elections)

*Dedric Cowser* (Delegate Relations)

Jasmine Haynes (Media Relations)

*Julie Hager Love* (Nominations Liaison)

Jennifer Davis (Monitoring)

David Dommissie (Treasurer)

*Dawn Chesser* (Worship)

Sybil Davidson (DCA Editor)

Many other persons will assist this secretarial staff as volunteers throughout the Conference to attend to all details and needs of the attendees. We are grateful to each of these persons for their willingness to serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Travis, Conference Secretary  
2016 SEJ Conference Planning Group

### **COMMITTEE ON PLAN OF ORGANIZATION AND RULES OF ORDER**

The Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order conducted a thorough review of the structure and rules of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, and we propose several changes to the rules. We conducted our work by meeting in conference calls and sharing comments and proposed revisions electronically. You can find the final proposed changes as accepted at the conclusion of this 2016 Journal.

The proposed changes reflected in our report fall into one of four categories:

1. Ensuring that the Plan of Organization and Rules of Order are consistent with the 2012 *Book of Discipline* and the rules adopted by the 2012 SEJ Conference.
2. Continuing to adapt and refine the plan and structure that were approved by the SEJ Conference in 2008.
3. Clarifying relationships between the Committee on Coordination and Accountability, the Committee on Finance and Administration, the SEJ Agencies, and the Ongoing Ministries based on the Plan of Organization developed and adopted in 2008.
4. Making a change proposed by the Southeastern Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy related to episcopal residences.

To ensure that the Plan of Organization and Rules of Order are consistent with the Book of Discipline and the rules adopted by the 2012 SEJ Conference, we propose the following changes:

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

1. In all references, 2008 is changed to 2012. We further propose that this change be made from the 2012 Book of Discipline to the 2016 Book of Discipline without further action by the SEJ Conference in 2020.
2. Based on a request from the SEJ College of Bishops, we propose to change the rule governing the order in which Bishops preside. Because of a shorter conference schedule occurring as a result of the speed of electronic voting, the current SEJ College of Bishops prefers to determine who will preside (as allowed by the *Book of Discipline*) rather than being bound by the current SEJ rule that states that “the conference shall be called to order by the senior effective Bishop, who shall preside during the first session of the same.”
3. Add the Committee on Investigation to the Plan of Organization as per the 2012 *Book of Discipline*.
4. The SEJ practice is to provide per diem and travel to SEJ Conference for delegates and first lay and clergy reserves. This proposed rule change aligns our written rules with our practice by providing per diem for first lay and clergy reserves.
5. Based on a vote taken in 2012, we are adding a rule regarding speeches during the voting process. This rule was voted and approved by the 2012 SEJ Conference.

Perhaps the most significant changes we are proposing this year reflect ongoing experience and relationships between the Committee on Coordination and Accountability (the CCA), the Committee on Finance and Administration (the CFA), and the SEJ Agencies and ongoing ministries. The six agencies and ministries that relate directly to the CCA and CFA are Gulfside Assembly, Hinton Rural Life Center, Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center, SEJ Archives and History, Intentional Growth Center, and United Methodist Volunteers in Mission SEJ.

1. The changes proposed by the CCA seek to clarify the role of the CCA and the CFA based on the Plan of Organization adopted in 2008 related to reporting requirements for the SEJ Agencies and Ongoing Ministries. The proposed rule change clarifies that written program ministry reports and annual audits may be requested by CCA and CFA.
2. The CCA proposes establishing a Covenant Agreement between the Committee on Coordination and Accountability and the SEJ Agencies, Ongoing Ministries, and Disciplinary Groups per the 2012 *Book of Discipline*. These proposed Covenant Agreements are under consideration now by the Boards of each of the ministries and will be finalized in Fall 2016. A first draft of the proposed Covenant Agreement appears in your ADCA on pages 101 to 103.

Our Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order received a request from the SEJ Committee on Episcopacy to add recommendations on minimum housing standards for episcopal residences. These minimum standards will be shared with each Annual Conference Committee on Episcopacy for their use in purchasing and maintaining the episcopal residences.

Finally, as is the practice, our Committee made minor editorial edits without change of intent or practice.

As presented in the Advance Daily Christian Advocate, the proposed changes or additions appear in **bold print**, while items to be deleted appear with a ~~strike through~~. Without notation, the committee has included editorial changes to disciplinary paragraph numbers so we are in harmony with the 2012 edition of *The Book of Discipline*. We propose that the Conference Secretary be granted authority to update any disciplinary references when the 2016 edition is published.

We again asked the Conference Secretary to publish in the Advance Daily Christian Advocate the texts of all petitions and reports received by the publication deadline, and those reports have been made available as a PDF document on the jurisdictional website ([www.sejumc.org](http://www.sejumc.org)).

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We authorize the Conference Secretary to renumber the Plan of Organization and Rules of Order following this 2016 session of the Jurisdictional Conference based on action taken by the Conference.

Finally, we recommend suspending Rule # V.C, Nominating Committee. Because of a problem assembling information in the needed timeframe following General Conference and because of software problems entering information into the database, we did not place all the necessary information into the hands of members of the Nominating Committee at least two weeks prior to today. They did receive the information as soon as it was provided to the SEJ, but that was less than two weeks prior. Therefore, we recommend as a part of our action, suspension of this rule for the 2016 SEJ Conference.

We move the adoption and immediate implementation of all proposed changes.

This report is respectfully submitted to the Jurisdictional Conference by your Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order.

***Editor's Note:** Please see the final version of the approved Plan of Organization and Rules of Order published later in this document.*

### **Committee on Coordination and Accountability**

#### **Introduction**

In 2008, the SEJ Conference approved a structure that created the Committee on Coordination and Accountability (CCA), a group to oversee the work and ministry of The United Methodist Church across the Southeastern Jurisdiction. During the 2008-2012 quadrennium, the CCA worked to understand its role and function, the scope of its work, and its relationship with the agencies and ministries of the Jurisdiction.

During this second quadrennium under this structure, the CCA has continued living into its understanding of responsibilities, as outlined in the 2008 Journal and reported in the 2012 Journal:

1. Having limited power, but with authority, to act between sessions of the Jurisdictional Conference on matters such as elections of Trustees or Directors for entities requiring such action (e.g., Emory University Trustees and SEJ Agencies and ministries).
2. Being the legal body of the Jurisdiction and guardian of the SEJ title and logo.
3. Focusing on the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church within the Jurisdiction.
4. Coordinating and/or confirming the programs of the General Agencies within the Jurisdiction (§528).
5. Receiving regular reports from the Committee on Finance and Administration and jurisdictional groups for mission and ministry.
6. Relating to and holding accountable groups mandated by *The Book of Discipline*, Networking Groups, Monitoring Groups, and existing groups organized and functioning within the Jurisdiction.

During this quadrennium and according to the SEJ Plan of Organization, 15 persons (one from each Annual Conference) were elected to serve on this committee:

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- Three Bishops: Bishop James King (SGA), Bishop William McAlilly (TN), and Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor (HOL).
- Three Conference Lay Leaders: Charlotte Davis (RBM), Gary Locklear (NC), and Steve Lyles (NAL).
- Three Directors of Connectional Ministries: Sharon Austin (FL) (Rev. Beth Fogle-Miller served until 2013 and was replaced by Rev. Sharon Austin), Julie Hager Love (KY), and Neil McDavid (AWF) (Rev. McDavid retired in 2015 and was replaced by Rev. Cory Smith).
- At-Large: Shirley Cauffman (VA), Joseph Heyward (SC), Roger Hopson (MEM), Ricky James (MS), Sharma Lewis (NGA), and Connie Locklear (WNC).
- Ex-officio (without vote): Anne Travis (Conference Secretary), David Domnisse (Conference Treasurer), and Jim Allen (Chairperson of SEJ Committee on Finance and Administration).

Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor was elected chairperson for the first two years of the quadrennium and Steve Lyles served as Vice-Chair. Bishop Taylor and Mr. Lyles switched roles for the second two years of the quadrennium. Shirley Cauffman ably assisted as the secretary.

The SEJ CCA has met twice each year. Attendance and participation have been high throughout the quadrennium. The CCA met with the Director and chairperson (or representative) of the Board from each agency and ministry once each year during the summer meeting (moved to a fall meeting in 2015 to avoid the most busy ministry times for the Directors). Each time we met with Directors of the agencies and ministries, the meeting was a joint meeting with SEJ Committee on Finance and Administration (CFA) so that all were hearing the reports together. Written reports were received and reviewed at these meetings, as well as financial information. SEJ CCA and CFA found these joint meetings to be most helpful, and these will continue in the coming quadrennium.

One major item of business that was accomplished during this quadrennium with assistance from SEJ CFA was the completion and filing of Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws in the State of North Carolina. These documents are included at the end of this report as Attachments A through D, and the official signed documents are housed in the SEJ Archives and History Heritage Center.

During this quadrennium, meetings were held at the following ministry locations: Emory University Candler School of Theology, Gulfside Assembly, Hinton Rural Life Center, and Lake Junaluska (where we visited the SEJ Archives and History Heritage Center and viewed the Intentional Growth Center). We believe it is important for members of CCA and CFA to experience these ministries in person, and we will strive to continue this pattern of meetings in the future.

### **Celebration of Ministries**

The CCA affirms the ministries of the Southeastern Jurisdiction. We are grateful for the faithful leadership that each ministry executive and governing board offers for the sake of these ministries. We appreciate the time and attention they give to annual reporting and financial accountability to our CCA and CFA.

In the pages following the CCA report, you will find individual reports from each of these jurisdictional ministries, which have been a part of CCA's ongoing review:

*Agencies*  
Gulfside Assembly  
Hinton Rural Life Center  
Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center

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*Disciplinary Group*  
Archives and History (Heritage Center)

*Existing Ministries of SEJ*  
Intentional Growth Center  
United Methodist Volunteers in Mission

We affirm the fruit of each ministry and invite local churches, districts, and annual conferences to explore more fully the resources each ministry offers. Some of their resources would enhance the disciple-making ministry in your local church, while other ministry offerings would expand the reach of your local ministry. Each of these ministries needs financial support to carry out their work, and most of that support comes from those who receive benefits and feel connected to these ministries.

### **Two Significant Changes Affecting the Work of CCA During this Quadrennium**

Two significant changes occurred during this quadrennium that affected the oversight responsibility of the SEJ CCA.

The first change occurred at the 2012 General Conference, when the wording of ¶533, “Jurisdictional Youth Ministry Organization Convocation,” was revised. The wording within this paragraph now states, “There *may* [emphasis added] be a jurisdictional youth ministry organization convocation to be held at least once every other year in each jurisdiction (not in the same year as the Global Young People’s Convocation).” With the change from a required “shall be” to a “may be,” the Ministries with Young People in the Southeastern Jurisdiction began to function more as a networking group than as a required Disciplinary Group. As also stated in ¶533, “There shall be a jurisdictional youth ministry organization for the purpose of networking youth throughout the region, supporting youth ministries in the annual conferences, and supporting youth workers in their ministry.” Thus, the youth workers from the annual conferences are functioning as a networking group. By the definition in our SEJ Plan of Organization, networking groups are “informal, ad-hoc groups [that] arise among conference leaders and staff. They share common interests, concerns, and ministry-related areas. These groups may gather periodically to benefit from interaction with peers, to develop contacts, and to exchange information. The understanding is that all Annual Conferences will be invited to participate but doing so will be strictly voluntary. Funding for travel and expenses shall be the responsibility of each participating Annual Conference. Each Networking Group will be responsible for its own life and will have no jurisdictional staff persons assigned.”

The second significant change that occurred during this quadrennium was with the Southeastern Jurisdiction United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation (SEMAR). The CCA was informed by report in July 2013 that the SEMAR Board of Directors had voted in November 2012 to end the ministry and in April 2013 had completed steps to dissolve the Incorporation in the State of North Carolina and end the ministry of SEMAR, and we were presented with a certificate of dissolution. A copy of that report and the Article of Dissolution can be seen as Attachment E to this report.

Because of this dissolution, the CCA has not received further reports from SEMAR during this quadrennium. We received the July 2013 report with deep sadness and regret but with a tremendous sense of appreciation for the many years of ministry across the Southeastern Jurisdiction provided to the annual conferences by SEMAR.

Because SEMAR was an ongoing ministry of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, the 2016 SEJ Conference will be asked to receive their final report and act on a resolution of dissolution as an act of our business. A copy of the final SEMAR report and resolution is Attachment F to this CCA report.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### **Support Provided to the Agencies and Ministries**

At the 2012 SEJ Conference, the body approved a line item of \$75,000 to hire a consultant who could assist the boards of the agencies, disciplinary group, and ministries with better understanding their roles as a board of directors for a non-profit organization. Following a search process, Chrissy Parke Rosen was selected as the consultant to assist CCA in fulfilling the desire of the 2012 Conference. At the time of her hiring, Chrissy was serving as the Vice President for Planned Giving and Development for The United Methodist Foundation for the Memphis and Tennessee Conferences; she is currently the Executive Director for Individual Engagement at Georgia Gwinnett College. Chrissy has met regularly with CCA and CFA to keep us apprised of her work with the various boards. A complete report of her work is included as Attachment G at the end of this report. CCA and CFA want to extend heartfelt appreciation for Chrissy and for the significant time and attention she has given to these jurisdictional ministries. Chrissy not only provided board training on the meaning of board membership, but she also assisted with by-laws revisions, structural reorganizations, board committee strengthening, and in various other ways. Based on feedback we have received, the agencies and ministries have very much appreciated her training, her counsel, and her support of their work during this quadrennium. We believe providing her consult to the agencies and ministries was a wise investment of jurisdictional funding that was beneficial to the boards as these ministries transitioned from significant funding support from the jurisdiction to receiving no program ministry funding support from the jurisdiction.

### **Concerns of the CCA During this Quadrennium**

As members of CCA met during this quadrennium, we have experienced concerns about the fragile state of some agencies and ministries of the SEJ. In the 2012 SEJ CCA report, concerns were expressed about mission creep, financial stress, and governance in several of our agencies and ministries. Despite the support provided by the Board consultant, ministries and agencies continue to struggle with a clear understanding of the role of the Board in supporting the various ministries with their time, talents, gifts, service, and witness. Some agencies and ministries underutilized the services of the consultant who was provided for them. Some ministries and agencies continue to struggle with having a clear, well-defined, and achievable mission and/or the structure to achieve that mission toward which they are working. Not having a clear mission or effective board structure hampers work toward a future with hope for the ministry.

Our prayer is that each of the agencies and ministries will continue the work begun during this quadrennium to have strong boards of directors who can faithfully and fruitfully lead these ministries forward to provide disciple-making leadership in our local churches, districts, and annual conferences across this jurisdiction.

### **Recommendations from the 2013-2016 SEJ CCA**

1. As stated previously, the work of our Board Training consultant, Chrissy Rosen, recommended by the 2012 CCA report and approved by the 2012 SEJ Conference has been beneficial to the agencies and ministries during this quadrennium. We believe that continued support should be provided by the SEJ to the work of our agencies and ministries. Toward that end, the CCA strongly encourages delegates to the 2016 SEJ Conference to support the recommendation of the SEJ CFA for funding in the 2017-2020 SEJ budget for Agency/Audit support.
2. As recommended in 2012, the members of CCA again recommend that the Nominations Committee continue at least one-third of the current membership of CCA into the next quadrennium so that continuity of our work is more easily accomplished.



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3. We recommend adoption of the Resolution for the Dissolution of SEMAR (found in your ADCA on page 99).
4. Finally, as we seek to remain covenant partners with the SEJ agencies and ministries, we recommend changes proposed to the SEJ Plan of Organization to further clarify the relationship between SEJ CCA and the agencies and ministries. These changes are recorded in the report of the Committee on Rules and Order (see pages 32-35 of this ADCA) and are recommended by the SEJ CCA for your support and approval. A draft sample of the Covenant Agreement that we seek to finalize during the coming quadrennium with each agency and ministry is included as Attachment H to this report.

As stated in the 2012 CCA report:

“So, why be connected if not for ongoing operational budget support? First, as covenant partners we share a common mission, and a common journey through faith in Jesus Christ. Second, as covenant partners, we are mutually enriched by what each offers to the whole.

As we move forward into this new age where financial support is reduced or eliminated, it is our prayer that we will explore the richness of our covenantal relationship and therein live more fully as Christ’s representatives in the world.

Each local church, district, annual conference, agency, and ministry within the Southeastern Jurisdiction exists to help people of every description come to know Jesus as Lord and fall more completely in love with the God who sends and empowers us all.”

We who have served the Jurisdiction as members of the CCA during this quadrennium have continually held these words before us as we did our work and sought on behalf of the Jurisdiction to hold all of us accountable for our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world through the ministries of the Jurisdiction.

This mission is our ongoing prayer, just as we pray with great hope for the future of the ministries of the Southeastern Jurisdiction.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Steve Lyles, Chair  
Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, Vice-Chair

Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

Attachment A to CCA Report  
Articles of Incorporation  
Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc.



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
**Department of the Secretary of State**

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To all whom these presents shall come, Greetings:

I, Elaine F. Marshall, Secretary of State of the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify the following and hereto attached to be a true copy of

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

**OF**

**SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH, INC.**

the original of which was filed in this office on the 9th day of April, 2015.



Scan to verify online.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal at the City of Raleigh, this 9th day of April, 2015.

*Elaine F. Marshall*

Secretary of State

Certification# C201508600226-1 Reference# C201508600226-1 Page: 1 of 7  
Verify this certificate online at [www.secretary.state.nc.us/verification](http://www.secretary.state.nc.us/verification)

SOSID: 1438757  
Date Filed: 4/9/2015 2:03:00 PM  
Elaine F. Marshall  
North Carolina Secretary of State  
**C2015 086 00226**

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC.,  
A NONPROFIT CORPORATION**

The undersigned hereby makes and acknowledges these Articles of Incorporation for the purpose of forming a nonprofit corporation under and by virtue of the laws of the State of North Carolina, as contained in Chapter 55A of the General Statutes of North Carolina, entitled "Nonprofit Corporation Act," and the several amendments thereto (hereinafter the "Act"), and to that end do hereby set forth:

**ARTICLE I**

Name

The name of the corporation is Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc.

**ARTICLE II**

Registered Office and Agent and Principal Office

The street address of the corporation's initial registered office and principal office is 700 Waterfield Ridge Place, Garner, Wake County, North Carolina 27529, and the mailing address of said offices is the same address. The name of the corporation's initial registered agent at the corporation's registered office is Christine Dodson. The corporation may have offices at such places, either within or outside the State of North Carolina, as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine.

**ARTICLE III**

Incorporation

The name and address of the incorporator is Spruillco, 301 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1900, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

**ARTICLE IV**

Purposes

The purposes for which the corporation is organized shall include, without limitation, the following:

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

(a) To serve those purposes required or permitted by *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2012*, as it may hereafter, from time to time, be amended (hereinafter "*The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*"), and the plan of organization and rules of order adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church.

(b) To be a nonprofit, religious corporation organized exclusively for religious purposes as a jurisdictional conference of The United Methodist Church, to support the doctrine of The United Methodist Church, and to declare itself and all of its property subject to the law, usages and ministerial appointments of The United Methodist Church as more fully provided in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*.

(c) To receive, hold and disburse gifts, devises, bequests and donations of money and property, both real and personal, from any person, firm, corporation, trust or estate, and to use, administer, invest, donate and distribute such funds and properties for charitable, educational and religious purposes.

(d) To intervene and take all necessary steps to safeguard and protect the interests and rights of the corporation, the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference and its membership in all matters; and

(e) To take any and all actions which are now, and which may during the existence thereof be, conferred by law upon a corporation with a similar character, and which are necessary or incident to the accomplishment of the purposes of the corporation; provided, however, that such activities are limited to those charitable, educational or religious purposes which are permitted to be conducted or carried on by an organization exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as those provisions are now or hereafter amended, and the Regulations now or hereafter promulgated thereunder, and are not inconsistent with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*.

### ARTICLE V

#### Membership and Capital Stock

The corporation shall have members, who shall be the lay and clergy delegates to the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, who shall be qualified, elected or appointed as provided in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*. Voting rights and requirements for members, voting quorum requirements, acceptance of votes, and all related matters shall only be as provided to members of the corporation as they pertain to members of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church in accordance with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, as it may hereafter, from time to time, be amended. The corporation shall have no capital stock.

### ARTICLE VI

Board of Directors

The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by the Board of Directors. The number of Directors constituting the initial Board of Directors shall be three (3), and their names and addresses are as follows:

James R. Allen  
Tennessee Conference of  
The United Methodist Church  
304 S. Perimeter Park Drive, Suite 4  
Nashville, TN 37211

Christine Dodson  
North Carolina Conference of  
The United Methodist Church  
700 Waterfield Ridge Place  
Garner, NC 27529

James D. Stotts  
Mississippi Conference of  
The United Methodist Church  
320 Briarwood Drive  
Jackson, MS 39206

Upon the organization of the corporation by the initial directors, the Committee on Coordination and Accountability of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, or any successor committee or board, regardless of name (hereinafter the "Committee on Coordination and Accountability"), shall serve as the Board of Directors of the corporation, and shall be elected and serve in accordance with the provisions of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, the plan of organization and rules of order adopted by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church. The number, qualifications and constitution of the Board of Directors, the term in office of Directors of the corporation, and their method of election, removal and replacement shall be in accordance with the provisions of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, and of the procedures, rules, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference as they pertain to the Committee on Coordination and Accountability. The Board of Directors shall be the legal governing body of the corporation, but shall at all times be subject and amenable to the direction of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in accordance with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*.

# Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

## ARTICLE VII

### Transfer of Property and Obligations to Corporation

Upon the filing of these Articles of Incorporation in accordance with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, all the property and obligations of corporation under its former name, Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, shall thereupon pass to, vest in, and be the rights, privileges, immunities, powers, franchises, authority, property, and obligations of the corporation; provided, however, that nothing herein shall affect the authority and obligations of Lake Junaluska Assembly, Incorporated, formerly named Southeastern Jurisdictional Administrative Council, Incorporated, in accordance with its articles of incorporation and bylaws and *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*.

## ARTICLE VIII

### The Book of Discipline as Constitution and Fundamental Agreement

*The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* is the constitution and fundamental agreement of this corporation. The business of the corporation shall be conducted in conformity with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* as the same now exists or as may hereafter be amended, changed, or modified. The Bylaws of the corporation shall reference *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, and no Bylaws shall be adopted inconsistent with the provisions of said *Book of Discipline*. In addition to the powers and duties granted to this corporation by *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, the corporation assumes for itself all the rights, powers and privileges and immunities which are now, and which may be during the existence thereof be conferred by law upon corporation with a similar character, provided the same are not inconsistent with said *Book of Discipline*. All amendments, Bylaws, and regulations of this corporation shall at all times be in conformity with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*. Notwithstanding the above, at no time shall any of the amendments, Bylaws, or regulations of the corporation be prohibited by or in conflict with the Act, as it currently exists or may hereafter be amended.

## ARTICLE IX

### Tax-exempt Status

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of any officer or director of the corporation, or any private corporation, association or individual. The foregoing shall not preclude the payment of reasonable compensation and benefits to such persons for services rendered in furtherance of the purposes of this corporation. No part of the activities of the corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation; nor shall the corporation participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office; nor shall the corporation engage in any activities that are unlawful under applicable federal, state

or local laws. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not conduct or carry on any activity not permitted to be conducted or carried on by an organization exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as those provisions are now or hereafter amended, and the Regulations now or hereafter promulgated thereunder.

ARTICLE X

Dissolution and Distribution

Upon the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the corporation for any reason, or if the corporation should cease to exist as a legal entity or its charter expire or be terminated, the Board of Directors, after making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, shall arrange for the title to all of its remaining property both real and personal to be vested and be the property of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church, any successor entity pursuant to *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, or to the annual conferences which lie within the boundaries of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in accordance with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, or to one or more other organizations organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, literary, scientific or educational purposes which qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as those provisions are now or hereafter amended, and the Regulations now or hereafter promulgated thereunder.

ARTICLE XI

Indemnification

The Board of Directors of the corporation shall have the power to make any indemnity, including advance of expenses, to and to enter contracts of indemnity with any director, officer, employee or agent, except that it may not indemnify any person who at the time acted knowingly and clearly in conflict with the best interests of the corporation, or if the person has received an improper personal benefit from said act. Any determination as to any further indemnity shall be made in accordance with applicable sections of the Bylaws.

ARTICLE XII

No Personal Liability

Except to the extent that the North Carolina General Statutes prohibit such limitation or elimination of liability of directors for breaches of duty, no Director of the corporation shall have any personal liability arising out of an action whether by or in the right of the corporation or otherwise for monetary damages for breach of any duty as a Director. No amendment to or repeal of this article shall apply to or have any effect on the liability or alleged liability of any Director of the corporation for or with respect to any acts or omissions of such Director occurring prior to such amendment or repeal. The provisions of this article shall not be deemed

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

to limit or preclude indemnification of a Director by the corporation for any liability that has not been eliminated by the provisions of this article.


### ARTICLE XIII

#### Amendments to Articles of Incorporation

The corporation shall have the right to amend, alter, change, or repeal any provision contained in these articles of incorporation in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by the Act, as it currently exists or may hereafter be amended, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Directors in office, upon at least seven (7) days' written notice of the intention to alter, amend, repeal or adopt new bylaws; provided, however, that under no circumstances shall these articles of incorporation be amended so that the corporation may operate for purposes not permitted for an organization qualified as exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as those provisions are now or hereafter amended, and the Regulations now or hereafter promulgated thereunder; or in violation of the provisions of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*; and provided, further, that no Director or other private individual may participate in the distribution of the earnings, funds, or properties of this corporation. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, these articles of incorporation may not be amended, altered, changed or repealed without the prior written approval of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, as indicated by either a vote of said Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference at a regular or special session thereof held in accordance with *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, or by a vote of the College of Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction or otherwise provided by *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, the plan of organization and rules of order adopted by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has hereunto set his hand, this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015.

SPRUILLCO, LLC, Incorporator

  
Wilson Hayman  
Vice President



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**Attachment B to CCA Report  
Organizational Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc.**

WAIVER OF NOTICE OF  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

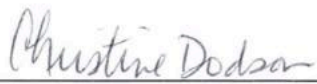
**Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc.**

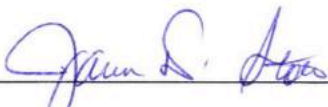
We, the undersigned, being all the Directors of the above named nonprofit religious corporation, do hereby waive notice of the time, place and purpose of the first meeting of the Board of Directors of said corporation.

We designate the 26 day of March, 2015, as the time and the corporation's principal office as the place of said meeting, the purpose thereof being to elect officers, complete the organization of said corporation, and to transact such other business as may be necessary or advisable.

Dated: March 26, 2015

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James R. Allen

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christine Dodson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James D. Stotts

# Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

## MINUTES ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc.**

The organizational meeting of the Board of Directors of the above named nonprofit corporation was held at the principal office with all members participating either in person or by telephone on the

26 day of March, 2015, pursuant to a written waiver of notice signed by all the Directors fixing said place and time and specifying the purpose of the meeting.

There were present the persons whose names appear at the end of this document, constituting the full Board.

James R. Allen was chosen temporary chairperson and James D. Stotts was chosen temporary secretary of the meeting.

The Secretary presented and read the waiver of notice of the meeting, signed by all the Directors.

The Chairperson stated that the first business to come before the meeting was the election of officers to hold office until December 31 of this year, or until their respective successors are elected and qualified, and called for nominations. The following persons were nominated to the offices of the corporation set opposite their respective names:

CHAIRPERSON	James R. Allen
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Christine Dodson
SECRETARY	James D. Stotts
TREASURER	David Dommissie

All the Directors present having voted, the Chairperson announced that the aforesaid persons had been elected to the offices set before their respective names. The duly elected Chairperson thereupon took charge of the meeting and the Secretary entered upon the discharge of his/her duties.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and carried, it was **RESOLVED**, that the seal, an impression of which is herewith affixed (if any) , be adopted as the corporate seal of the corporation.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and carried, it was **RESOLVED**, that the Bylaws, a copy of which was presented to the meeting with copies provided to all Directors, was adopted as the Bylaws of the Corporation.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and carried, it was **RESOLVED**, that the Articles of Incorporation heretofore filed with the Secretary of State of North Carolina by James R. Allen, Christine Dodson, and

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James D. Stotts as Incorporators, on April 9, 2015, be, and are hereby, adopted in all respects as the Articles of Incorporation (Charter) for the corporation.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and carried, it was **RESOLVED**, that, unless otherwise ordered, all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, or any other place in the Southeastern Jurisdiction designated by the directors of the corporation.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and carried, it was **RESOLVED**, that the Treasurer is authorized and directed to continue to use deposit accounts previously opened by the former Treasurers of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference (both as unincorporated and incorporated entities) and to perform any and all acts necessary and incidental thereto, and that all balances and funds shall immediately transfer to and become the balances and funds of the Corporation.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and carried, it was **RESOLVED**, that the current members of the Committee on Coordination and Accountability of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church ("CCA"), are hereby elected as successor directors by these Initial Directors; further, that the duly elected members of CCA or any successor committee or board, regardless of name, shall serve as the Board of Directors of the Corporation ("Board"), and shall be elected and serve in accordance with the provisions of *The Book of Discipline*, the plan of organization and rules of order adopted by said Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. The Board of Directors shall be the legal governing body of the corporation, but shall at all times be subject and amenable to the direction of said Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in accordance with *The Book of Discipline*.

**RESOLVED, FURTHER**, that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to pay all fees and expenses incident to and necessary for the organization of the corporation.

The Secretary was authorized and directed to procure and maintain appropriate corporate books. The Secretary was further instructed to file with the minutes of the meeting:

- (a) Waiver of Notice;
- (b) Copy of Bylaws;
- (c) Charter (Articles of Incorporation).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

APPROVED:   
James R. Allen

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christine Dodson

Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

**Attachment C to CCA Report  
By-Laws  
Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc.**

**BYLAWS  
OF  
SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC.**

ARTICLE I

Offices

Section 1. Registered Office and Principal Office. The corporation shall have and continuously maintain in this State a registered office and a registered agent whose office is identical with such registered office. Such registered office and the principal office shall be located at 700 Waterfield Ridge Place, Garner, Wake County, North Carolina 27529, and the mailing address of said offices shall be the same, or at such other place within the State of North Carolina as may from time to time be fixed and determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Other Offices. The corporation may have offices at such places, either within or outside the State of North Carolina, as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine.

ARTICLE II

Membership

The corporation shall have members, who shall be the lay and clergy members of Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, who shall be qualified, elected or appointed as provided in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2012*, as it may hereafter, from time to time, be amended (hereinafter "*The Book of Discipline*"). Voting rights and requirements for members, voting quorum requirements, acceptance of votes, and all related matters shall only be as provided to members of the corporation as they pertain to members of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church (hereinafter "Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference") in accordance with *The Book of Discipline*, as it may hereafter, from time to time, be amended.

ARTICLE III

Board of Directors

Section 1. General Powers. The property, affairs and business of the corporation shall be managed by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall look to the Articles of Incorporation of the corporation, these Bylaws, *The Book of Discipline*, Chapter 55A of the General Statutes of North Carolina (as it currently exists or may hereafter be amended), and Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as those provisions are now or hereafter amended, and the Regulations now or hereafter promulgated thereunder, for guidance in the operation of the corporation's affairs. Where these Bylaws conflict with provisions of *The Book of Discipline*, said *Book of Discipline* shall control.

Section 2. Number, Tenure, and Qualification. Upon the organization of the corporation by the initial directors, the Committee on Coordination and Accountability of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, or any successor committee or board, regardless of name (hereinafter “Committee on Coordination and Accountability”), shall serve as the Board of Directors of the corporation (“Board”), and shall be elected and serve in accordance with the provisions of *The Book of Discipline*, the plan of organization and rules of order adopted by said Jurisdictional Conference. The Board of Directors shall be the legal governing body of the corporation, but shall at all times be subject and amenable to the direction of said Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in accordance with *The Book of Discipline*.

The number, qualifications and membership of the Board, the term in office of Directors of the corporation, and their method of election, removal and replacement, and voting shall be in accordance with the Bylaws of the corporation, the provisions of *The Book of Discipline*, and the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference as they pertain to the Committee on Coordination and Accountability.

Upon the organization of the corporation by the initial directors, the membership of the Board of Directors shall correspond to the members of the Committee on Coordination and Accountability and shall consist of not fewer than seven (7), nor more than nineteen (19) persons. All said members of the Board shall be elected by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference as members of the Committee on Coordination and Accountability upon nomination by the Nominating Committee of said Jurisdictional Conference in consultation with the Bishops, Directors of Connectional Ministries and lay leaders to ensure that each Annual Conference in the Southeastern Jurisdiction is represented. The Secretary of the Jurisdictional Conference and the Chairperson of the Committee on Finance and Administration of the Southeastern Jurisdiction shall be ex officio members of the Board without vote. The number and qualification of members, manner of nomination and election of the Board shall be changed from time to time to reflect the requirements of *The Book of Discipline*, and the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference from time to time as they pertain to the Committee on Coordination and Accountability.

Section 3. Duties. Each Director shall stand in a fiduciary relation to the corporation and shall discharge his duties as a Director, including his duties as a member of a committee, in good faith, with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances, and in a manner the Director reasonably believes to be in the best interest of the corporation.

Section 4. Regular and Special Meetings. A regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held at least annually. Regular and special meetings shall be called as provided in the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference for the Committee on Coordination and Accountability of said Jurisdictional Conference.

Section 5. Notice of Meetings. Notice of each regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least five (5) days prior thereto. Notice of any special meeting of the

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

Board of Directors shall be given at least two (2) days prior thereto. All notices shall be in writing delivered personally or sent by mail, facsimile transmission or other electronic means to each Director at his address as shown on the records of the corporation. Any Director may waive notice of any meeting as permitted by Chapter 55A of the General Statutes of North Carolina (as it currently exists or may hereafter be amended) and *The Book of Discipline*. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of, any regular or special meeting of the Board need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting, unless specifically required by law.

Section 6. Quorum. The requirement for a quorum to be present for the transaction of business of the Board of Directors shall be consistent with the rules adopted by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference for the Committee on Coordination and Accountability; provided, however, that a quorum for said Board of Directors shall be at least one-third of the number of Directors in office immediately before a meeting begins, or fewer if permitted by law; provided further, if less than a quorum of the Directors shall be present at the time and place of any meeting, the Directors present may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum shall be present, and notice of any adjourned meeting need not be given; provided, that the time and place of reconvening are fixed. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to transact business, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough Directors to leave less than a quorum, so long as any action taken is approved by at least a majority of the required quorum for such a meeting. Any one (1) or more Directors may participate in a meeting of the Board or committee by means of a conference telephone or similar communications device which allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other, and such participation in a meeting shall be deemed presence in person at such meeting.

Section 7. Voting. Except as otherwise expressly provided by either statute, the Articles of Incorporation of the corporation, *The Book of Discipline*, these Bylaws, or the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference as they pertain to the Committee on Coordination and Accountability, the action of a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the action of the Board of Directors. Any Director who is present at a meeting of the Board of Directors at which action on any corporate matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken unless (i) he objects at the beginning of the meeting (or promptly upon his arrival) to holding it or transacting business at the meeting; or (ii) his dissent or abstention from the action taken is entered in the minutes of the meeting; or (iii) he files written notice of his dissent or abstention with the presiding officer of the meeting before its adjournment or with the corporation immediately after adjournment of the meeting. Such right to dissent shall not apply to a Director who voted in favor of such action.

Section 8. Informal Action by Directors. Action taken by a majority of the Directors or of members of a committee without a meeting is nevertheless Board or committee action if written consent to the action in question is signed by all the Directors or members of the committee, as the case may be, and filed with the Minutes of the proceedings of the Board or the committee, whether done before or after the action so taken. If a meeting of Directors otherwise valid is held without proper cause or notice, action taken at such meeting otherwise valid is deemed ratified by a Director who did not attend unless after having knowledge of the action

taken and of the impropriety in question, he promptly files with the Secretary of the corporation his written objection to the holding of the meeting or to any specific action so taken.

Section 9. Resignation of Directors. Any Director may resign at any time by giving notice thereof in writing to the Chairperson or Secretary of the Board of Directors. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or if no time is specified, at the time such resignation is received by the Chairperson or Secretary of the of the Board of Directors, unless it shall be necessary to accept such resignation by its terms before it becomes effective, in which event the resignation shall take effect upon its acceptance by the Board of Directors.

Section 10. Compensation of Directors. Directors shall not receive any compensation for their services as such; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any person who is a Director from also serving the corporation in another capacity and receiving just and reasonable compensation therefor. Directors may be paid reasonable travel allowances to the extent permitted by the Board of Directors and the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference for the Committee on Coordination and Accountability.

Section 11. Vacancies. In the event of any vacancy occurring among the voting membership of the Board of Directors during a Director's term by death, resignation, disqualification, removal or otherwise, said vacancies will be filled by a person otherwise qualified who is elected by the College of Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction or as otherwise prescribed by these Bylaws, *The Book of Discipline*, or by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference as they pertain to the Committee on Coordination and Accountability. The new Director shall serve for the unexpired portion of the term of the person whom the newly elected Director succeeds or until his successor shall have been duly elected and qualified, or until his death, resignation, disqualification or removal.

Section 12. Director's Conflict of Interest. Any corporate transaction in which a Director has a direct or indirect interest must be authorized, approved, or ratified in good faith by a majority, not less than two (2), of the Directors who have no direct or indirect interest in the transaction even though less than a quorum; provided, however, no such transaction shall be authorized, approved, or ratified by a single Director. For purposes of this Section, a Director has an indirect interest in a transaction if:

- (a) Another entity in which he has a material financial interest or in which he is a general partner is a party to the transaction; or
- (b) Another entity of which he is a director, officer, or trustee is a party to the transaction and the transaction is or should be considered by the Board.

Section 13. Certain Director Liability. In addition to other liabilities imposed by law upon Directors, a Director shall be subject to the following liabilities:

- (a) All Directors who vote for or assent to any distribution of assets of the corporation contrary to any lawful restrictions in the North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act (the "Act"), the Articles of Incorporation, or these bylaws, shall be

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

jointly and severally liable to the corporation for the amount of the distribution that exceeds what could have been distributed without violating such restrictions.

(b) All Directors who vote for or assent to the making of any loan or guaranty or other form of security by the corporation to or for the benefit of the Directors or officers of the corporation, or any of them, except loans, guaranties or other forms of security made to full-time employees of the corporation who are also Directors or officers of the corporation and which were made in accordance with Section 2 of Article VI and these Bylaws, shall be jointly and severally liable to the corporation for the repayment or return of the money or value loaned, with interest thereon at the legal rate until paid, or for any liability of the corporation upon the guarantee.

(c) A Director shall not be liable under the provisions of subparagraphs (a) or (b) above if he (unless his actual knowledge concerning the matter in question makes such reliance unreasonable) relied on information, opinions, reports, or statements, including financial statements and other financial data, if prepared or presented by (i) one or more officers or employees of the corporation whom the Director reasonably believes to be reliable and competent in the matters presented; (ii) legal counsel, public accountants, or other persons as to matters the Director reasonably believes are within their professional or expert competence; or (iii) a committee of the Board of which he is not a member if the Director reasonably believes the committee merits confidence.

### ARTICLE IV

#### Officers

Section 1. Officers of the Corporation. The officers of the corporation shall be the same positions, with the same duties, and held by the same individuals, as the officers of the Committee on Coordination and Accountability of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, including initially a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, the Conference Treasurer, and the Conference Secretary, or such other officers and assistant officers as are permitted or required to be officers by *The Book of Discipline*, and by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be either a Bishop or Annual Conference Lay Leader from the Southeastern Jurisdiction, who shall serve on a rotating basis for a two-year term, so that a Lay Leader serves as Chairperson for two years, with a Bishop as Vice-Chairperson, and then a Bishop will serve as Chairperson and a Lay Leader as Vice-Chairperson for the following two-year period. The Conference Secretary shall be the staff person assigned duties for and on behalf of the Committee on Coordination and Accountability and shall be an ex officio member of said Committee, with voice but without vote. The Conference Treasurer shall be bonded through a suitable bond of a surety company of recognized standing and in an amount fixed by said Jurisdictional Conference or its Committee on Finance and Administration. All of the officers of the corporation shall be nominated and elected by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, unless otherwise prescribed by *The Book of Discipline*, or by the procedures, rules of order, or plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.



Section 2. Duties.

(a) The officers of the corporation or of the Board shall have such duties, powers and rights as prescribed by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference and by *The Book of Discipline*. In addition, the Secretary or other officer designated by said Jurisdictional Conference, shall have the responsibility and authority to maintain and authenticate the records of the corporation.

(b) An officer of the corporation or of the Board shall stand in a fiduciary relation to the corporation and shall discharge his duties under that authority in good faith, with the care an ordinary prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances, and in a manner he reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the corporation.

(c) An officer of the corporation or of the Board is not liable for any action taken as an officer, or any failure to take any action, if the officer performed the duties of his office in compliance with subparagraph (a) above, or (unless his actual knowledge concerning the matter in question makes such reliance unreasonable) he relied on information, opinions, reports, or statements, including financial statements and other financial data, if prepared or presented by (i) one or more officers or employees of the corporation whom the officer reasonably believes to be reliable and competent in the matters presented; or (ii) legal counsel, public accountants, or other persons as to matters the officer reasonably believes are within their professional or expert competence.

Section 3. Vacancies. A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, or disqualification, or any other cause, shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term in the manner prescribed by these Bylaws, or by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, or as provided by *The Book of Discipline*.

Section 4. Compensation of Officers. The officers of the corporation and Board of Directors shall serve without compensation, except to the extent that any such officer is employed by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference or an Annual Conference within said Jurisdictional Conference, and his duties of employment include in whole or in part the duties assigned to him as an officer under this Article.

ARTICLE V

Committees

Section 1. Creation and Membership of Committees. The corporation shall have such committees as are required, and may have as permitted, by these Bylaws, or by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, or as provided by *The Book of Discipline*. Initially, such committees shall include the Committee on Finance and Administration, the Nominating Committee, the Committee on Episcopacy, the Committee on Appeals, and a number of

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

additional administrative committees as provided from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference through its plan of organization or otherwise. The membership of each committee shall be elected or appointed as provided by the procedures, rules of order, or plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. By resolution adopted by a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present, the Board of Directors may designate one (1) or more additional committees of the Board not inconsistent with these Bylaws. No committee shall have or exercise the authority of the Board of Directors unless permitted by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference and *The Book of Discipline*. Each committee shall elect its own chairperson and other officers, unless otherwise provided by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

Section 2. Quorum. The requirement for a quorum to be present for the transaction of business of any committee of the corporation shall be consistent with the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference for the transaction of business of its committees; provided, however, that a quorum for said committees shall be at least one-third of the number of committee members in office immediately before a meeting begins, or fewer if permitted by law.

Section 3. Meetings. Meetings of any committee may be called by or at the request of an officer thereof or by the persons granted such authority by these Bylaws, *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, or by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

Section 4. Vacancies. In the event of any vacancy occurring on a committee by death, resignation, disqualification, removal or otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled as provided by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. Positions filled for an interim period shall be for the balance of the remaining term.

Section 5. Removal. Any committee or any member thereof may be discharged or removed as provided by these Bylaws, *The Book of Discipline*, and by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

### ARTICLE VI

#### Contracts, Loans, Deposits, Checks, Drafts, Etc.

Section 1. Contracts. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, the Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents to enter into any contract or to execute or deliver any instruments on behalf of the corporation, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 2. Loans. No loans shall be contracted on behalf of the corporation and no evidences of indebtedness shall be issued in its name, unless and except as authorized by the procedures, rules of order, and plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference and *The Book of Discipline*. Said Jurisdictional Conference may delegate the authority to borrow funds to its Committee on Finance and Administration or its Treasurer, on such terms as the Jurisdictional Conference may prescribe. Any officer or agent of the corporation thereunto so authorized may effect loans or advances for the corporation and for such loans and advances may make, execute, and deliver promissory notes, bonds, or other evidences of indebtedness of the corporation. Any such officer or agent, when thereunto so authorized, may mortgage, pledge, hypothecate, or transfer as security for the payment of any and all loans, advances, indebtedness, and liabilities of the corporation any real property and all stocks, bonds, other securities, and other personal property at any time held by the corporation, and to that end, may endorse, assign, and deliver the same, and do every act and thing necessary or proper in connection therewith. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 3. Deposits. All funds of the corporation shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the corporation in such banks or trust companies or with such bankers or other depositories as the Committee on Finance and Administration of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference may select, unless otherwise provided by the procedures, rules of order, or plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, or by *The Book of Discipline*.

Section 4. Checks, Drafts, Etc. All notes, drafts, acceptances, checks and endorsements or other evidences of indebtedness shall be signed on behalf of the corporation in such manner as the Committee on Finance and Administration of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference may by resolution determine from time to time. Endorsements for deposit to the credit of the corporation in any of its duly authorized depositories will be made by the Conference Treasurer or by any officer or agent who may be designated by resolution of the Council on Finance and Administration of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference or as otherwise as provided by the procedures, rules of order, or plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, or by *The Book of Discipline*.

Section 5. Finances. In order to pursue the purposes herein set forth, the corporation shall have full power to receive donations, bequests, devises and gifts of money and property; to purchase, lease and otherwise acquire and hold, sell, donate, and otherwise dispose of all kinds of property, real, personal, and mixed, which may be deemed necessary in order to carry out the objectives and purposes for which the corporation is created.

No obligation of expense shall be incurred and no money shall be appropriated except in accordance with *The Book of Discipline*.

The accounts of the corporation, if any, shall be audited by a certified public accountant annually as soon as practical after the close of the fiscal year. The audit shall be available at all times to the Council on Finance and Administration of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference and the Board of Directors for examination.

# Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

## ARTICLE VII

### Purposes and Powers

The purposes for which the corporation is organized are set forth in *The Book of Discipline* and the Articles of Incorporation of the corporation. In the event that any provision contained herein is in conflict with any provision of *The Book of Discipline*, the provisions of said *Book of Discipline* shall control.

## ARTICLE VIII

### General Provisions

Section 1. Corporate Seal. The corporate seal, if desired, shall be in such form as shall be approved from time to time by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the corporation shall be the calendar year, or as otherwise provided by the procedures, rules of order, or plan of organization adopted from time to time by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, or by *The Book of Discipline*.

Section 3. Waiver of Notice. Whenever any notice is required to be given under the Act, the Articles of Incorporation of the corporation, or these Bylaws, a waiver thereof by a Director may be made, before or after the date and time stated in such notice, by delivery of a written waiver of such notice signed by such Director to the corporation for filing or inclusion with the minutes or corporate records, or, to the extent provided by the Act, by attendance at the meeting to which such notice relates.

Section 4. Amendment to Bylaws. Except as otherwise provided herein, these Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed, and new bylaws may be adopted only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Directors in office, upon at least seven (7) days' written notice of the intention to alter, amend, repeal or adopt new bylaws; provided, however, that unless the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference has provided otherwise in its rules or plan of organization, no amendment, repeal or adoption of bylaws for the corporation shall be effective without the prior written approval of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, as indicated by a vote of said Conference at a regular or special session thereof, in accordance with *The Book of Discipline*. Notwithstanding the above, under no circumstances shall these Bylaws be amended so that the corporation may operate in violation of the provisions of *The Book of Discipline*.

Section 5. Books and Records. The corporation shall keep a copy of the following records at the corporation's principal office:

- (a) Its Articles of Incorporation or restated Articles of Incorporation and all amendments to them currently in effect.
- (b) Its Bylaws or restated Bylaws and all amendments to them currently in effect.

## 2016 Journal of Proceedings

(c) Resolutions adopted by the Board relating to the number or classification of Directors.

(d) A list of the names and business addresses of its current Directors and officers.

Section 6. Gender. As used in these bylaws, the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine and the feminine the masculine.

### ARTICLE IX

#### Indemnification

Section 1. Indemnification of Directors, Officers, Employees or Agents; General Provisions.

(a) The corporation shall indemnify any director or officer or former director or officer of the corporation against liabilities and reasonable litigation expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by him in connection with any action, suit or proceeding in which he is made or threatened to be made a party by reason of being or having been such director or officer, except in relation to matters as to which he shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to have acted in bad faith or to have been liable or guilty by reason of willful misconduct in the performance of duty or if his activities were, at the time taken, knowing or believed by the person to be clearly in conflict with the best interests of the corporation or if the person received an improper personal benefit. The indemnification authorized by this Section shall be in addition to that permitted by Sections 55A-8-51 through 55A-8-57 of the North Carolina General Statutes, as now or hereafter amended.

(b) Expenses incurred by a director, officer, employee or agent in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding as authorized by the Board of Directors in the specific case upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director, officer, employee or agent to repay such amount unless it shall be ultimately determined that he is entitled to be indemnified by the corporation as authorized in Sections 55A-8-51 through 55A-8-57 of the North Carolina General Statutes, or as authorized in these bylaws in accordance with those statutory provisions cited herein.


(c) As used in this Section, the term "person" includes the legal representative of such person.

Section 2. Right of Corporation to Insure. The corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of an individual who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation against liability asserted against or incurred by him in that capacity or arising from his status as a director, officer, employee or agent, whether or not the corporation would have power to indemnify him against such liability under applicable law.

Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

ADOPTED this 9th day of APRIL, 2015.

SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTIONAL  
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH, INC.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Travis  
Conference Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Lyles  
Chairperson, Board of Directors, and  
President, Committee on Coordination and  
Accountability, Southeastern Jurisdictional  
Conference of The United Methodist Church

**Attachment D to CCA Report  
Group Tax Exemption Ruling  
Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc.**



October 7, 2015

SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC.  
700 Waterfield Ridge Place  
Garner, NC 27529

**Re: Certification of Inclusion in The United Methodist Church Group Tax Exemption Ruling  
Affiliated Organization: Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist  
Church, Inc.**

Affiliated Organization's Employer Identification Number (EIN): 27-0974058

This letter will certify that the affiliated organization named above is included in The United Methodist Church Group Tax Exemption Ruling ("UMC Group Ruling"). In particular, as stated in the group ruling determination letter issued to The United Methodist Church by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"), this affiliated organization is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

This certification letter is issued by the General Council on Finance and Administration of The United Methodist Church ("GCFA"), who is the central organization for the UMC Group Ruling. As the central organization, GCFA has been granted the authority by the IRS to determine which organizations are included in the UMC Group Ruling. (The IRS Group Exemption Number ("GEN") for the UMC Group Ruling is 2573.) Thus, this certification letter, together with the enclosed copy of the IRS group ruling determination letter, serves to verify the tax-exempt status of this affiliated organization.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the GCFA Legal Department at (866) 367-4232 or [legal@gcfa.org](mailto:legal@gcfa.org).

Sincerely,

GENERAL COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OF  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leticia Mayberry Wright".

Leticia Mayberry Wright  
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosures

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### **Attachment E to CCA Report Final Report to SEJ CCA/CFA and Article of Dissolution for SEMAR**

REPORT TO THE SEJ COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY AND SEJ COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

**JULY 2013**

#### **Name of Agency or Ministry**

Southeastern United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation, Inc. (SEMAR)

#### **Core Mission: Why do we exist? What outcomes are we seeking?**

Since 1969, SEMAR has been committed to continuous ministry with persons with disabilities of all types as well as chronic and terminal illness. The Articles of Incorporation of SEMAR contain six purpose statements to which the Board of Trustees has attempted to be faithful:

1. To insure that the world values the gifts of persons with disabilities through community engagement, resource development, education, and training.
2. To develop, provide, operate, manage, or assist in developing protective, affordable and accessible housing that will enable persons with disabilities to maximize their human potential and to live in community as independently as possible.
3. To develop, provide, operate, manage, or assist in developing supportive services to maximize the potential of those with disabilities.
4. To encourage and assist all organizations that are exempt from the Americans with Disabilities Act to provide access to their facilities, churches, and institutions.
5. To develop, provide, operate, manage or assist in developing employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.
6. To defend the rights of and seek justice for persons with disabilities as provided by law.
7. A core mission of SEMAR has been to assist churches in creating accessible environments for persons with disabilities to worship, fellowship, and grow in their Christian faith. Creating an environment of acceptance within our United Methodist communities creates opportunities to share God's grace to all people. SEMAR has attempted to embody the life of Jesus Christ by removing barriers so all people can worship and participate fully in the life of the church.

#### **Fruitfulness: How do you measure the impact of your ministry?**

SEMAR began as a ministry of Dr. Robert Pitzer (Bob) in Atlanta, Georgia, developing programs for children with disabilities within the local church. Bob soon realized the need for continuing care for persons of all ages. Thus began the work of SEMAR in assisting annual conferences in the development of community living options and support services for persons with developmental disabilities. SEMAR celebrates its work with and continuing connections to the following ministries:

- The Baddour Memorial Center within the Mississippi Conference
- UMAR started by the Western North Carolina Conference
- Wesley Glen Ministries established by the South Georgia Conference
- Heart Havens, Inc. of the Virginia Conference
- United Methodist Residential Alternatives (UMRA) of the North Alabama Conference, now operating as Promise Homes
- Asbury Homes, Inc. in the North Carolina Conference



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- Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry of the South Carolina Conference
- Aldersgate Homes, Inc. of the North Georgia Conference.
- Wesley Group Home Ministries developed by the Florida Conference
- SEMAR/Act One of the Tennessee Conference.

In addition to these ministries specifically for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities, SEMAR continues to work in partnership with Givens Estates (Western North Carolina Conference) on The Senior Residences at Lake Junaluska. SEMAR did not create these homes and apartments serving thousands of individuals and families across the jurisdiction, but assisted in developing the vision and leadership to make it all possible. Over the years, SEMAR has continued to support these Conference agencies as community needs and governing regulations have changed. Yet, the charge of SEMAR has been far greater than building homes. The overarching goal has been to build awareness of the need for the Church to include all people without regard to their ability levels. Over the years, SEMAR has:

- Been a resource for Disability Awareness Sunday material shared across the country,
- Worked with local churches to provide Accessibility Audits and assist with design and funding to make their churches accessible for all,
- Provided educational and training resources on general accessibility and disability awareness, and
- Served as an at-large member of the United Methodist Task Force on Disabilities, now the UM Committee on Disability Ministries.

### **Plans and Goals for 2013-2016: What is your ministry plan?**

The SEMAR Board has struggled for many years to overcome difficult challenges which began in the mid-2000s. The faithful few who remain on the Board of Trustees, several of whom have served for 14 or more years, feel we have done our due diligence to work through many trials. While we have attempted with God's help to discern a new vision for SEMAR, identify funding streams, and recruit additional members of the Board of Trustees, we sadly have come to the conclusion that it is time to allow disability ministries in the Southeastern Jurisdiction and across the General Church to emerge in new forms.

With that said, the Board of Trustees met in Atlanta at the end of November, 2012, at which time we seriously began a conversation about dissolution of the corporation. We spent time together celebrating the many years of SEMAR's fruitful work: Sunday School classes and other services for children and adults with intellectual disabilities in local churches, Disability Awareness Sunday materials, accessibility audits and assistance to local churches that helped make them more accessible, recognition of individuals and churches advancing disability ministries, and establishment of residential ministries in many conferences of the jurisdiction. Yet the challenges of the past few years still greatly influence SEMAR's current situation. We see great potential, however, in the fact that more Annual Conferences have active disability committees and that the UM Committee on Disability Ministries is stronger than ever with growing support across the church. There is also a more active caucus for clergy with disabilities on the national church level.

The recommendation to dissolve was formally submitted for consideration to members of the SEMAR Board of Trustees on January 15, 2013, as per the corporation's By-Laws. Formal action was taken on February 6, 2013. With deep regret, there was a unanimous vote to dissolve SEMAR and adopt a plan of dissolution. The Board of Trustees will continue to function for one year to carry out operations and activities related to the transfer of assets, the termination and winding-up of affairs of the corporation in an orderly manner.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### **Financial Plan: How are you financially sustaining this ministry?**

The SEMAR Board of Trustees has reviewed financial data for the last quadrennium. This data has been maintained and all reporting generated by Joint Management and Development, SEMAR's contracted management firm. A copy of the data has been forwarded with this report. SEMAR's inability to carry forward sustained initiatives to fund its ministry is one of the main reasons for the decision to dissolve.

### **Governance: Who are the stewards of this ministry?**

After due deliberation, the Board of Trustees of The Southeastern United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation, Incorporated (SEMAR), a North Carolina non-profit corporation, determined that dissolution of the corporation would be in the best interests of the corporation. At the time of this action, the names and addresses of the Trustees of the corporation were:

Mrs. Martha E. Stokes, Chair, Virginia Conference (Adult Lay – Female - Anglo)

Rev. Eric Pridmore, Vice Chair, Mississippi Conference (Adult Clergy – Male – Anglo – Person with Disability)

Rev. R. Stan Beck, Secretary/Treasurer, Kentucky Conference (Older Adult Clergy – Male - Anglo)

Rev. James Cason, Jr., South Georgia Conference (Adult Clergy – Male - Anglo)

Rev. Roger Hopson, Memphis Conference (Adult Clergy – Male - African American)

Mrs. June Johns, Florida Conference (Older Adult Lay – Female - Anglo)

Management Consultant: Mr. J. Michael Dyson Joint Management and Development

The plan of dissolution filed with and accepted by the North Carolina Secretary of State's Office follows this report. The Board of Trustees is working with the legal firm of Ellinger & Carr, PLLC, in Raleigh, NC, on the transfer of sponsorship of properties owned by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). We continue to be in close communication with Givens Estates (Western North Carolina Conference) and Asbury Homes, Inc. (North Carolina Conference) as we work through this plan for dissolution.

### **Requests**

The SEMAR Board of Trustees expresses our appreciation to all those who have offered support and guidance to our Board, especially since 2005. The jurisdiction has done so very much to ensure that the ministries of SEMAR have continued, and for this, we are most grateful. As a board, we take comfort in knowing that the general purpose of the ministry of SEMAR will continue in new ways, building upon the tremendous legacy of Rev. Bob Pitzer. We ask that you continue to lift the mission and ministry of full participation for all persons with disabilities in the life of our local churches in your prayers as well as the SEMAR Board as we finalize our work and celebrate the many years of fruitful ministry that has impacted thousands of individuals and local churches across the jurisdiction.

**Plan of Dissolution and Distribution of Assets of the The Southeastern United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation, Incorporated (SEMAR)**

The Board of Trustees of The Southeastern United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation, Incorporated (SEMAR), at a special meeting duly convened on the 6th day of February, 2013, pursuant to notice given in accordance with the applicable law, a quorum of the board being present at all times, having considered the advisability of voluntarily dissolving the corporation, and it being the unanimous opinion of the Board that dissolution is advisable and in the best interests of the corporation, and the Board having adopted, by unanimous vote, a plan for a voluntary dissolution of the corporation, does hereby recommend that the corporation be dissolved in accordance with the following plan.

1. Upon resolution of the Board of Trustees adopting this plan of dissolution, the board shall submit the plan and Articles of Dissolution to: a. The Department of the Secretary of State of the State of North Carolina pursuant to §55-14-02, §55-14-03, and §55-14-04 of the General Statutes of North Carolina for nonprofit corporations. b. The Committee on Coordination and Accountability of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church based upon SEMAR's covenantal relationship with the jurisdiction.
2. No approval of the dissolution of the corporation is required by any government agency or officer. In addition, there are no members of the corporation.
3. Liabilities and obligations of the corporation will be paid and/or discharged from remaining funds on hand until the funds are depleted. This includes any accounting and legal fees, incurred related to the dissolution procedure.
4. The following assets held by the corporation will be transferred as outlined below. This transfer is required by reason of the dissolution. These transfers will be carried out in accordance with the article of dissolution in the SEMAR Articles of Incorporation (dated October, 10, 2002). The corporation is currently the sponsor under U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) operations guidelines of three projects: Section 811 projects in Jackson, TN (SEMAR-Act One) and Pembroke, NC (Goremont, Inc.) and a Section 202 project in Waynesville, NC (The Senior Residences at Lake Junaluska, LP). SEMAR will request transfer of the sponsorship of each project to the agencies noted below in order that HUD requirements can be met in a seamless manner.
  - a. HUD sponsorship of SEMAR-Act One and resulting actions of SEMAR as required under the Articles of Incorporation of SEMAR-Act One will be transferred to the current Board of Trustees of SEMAR-Act One (a corporation in the State of Tennessee).
  - b. HUD sponsorship of Goremont, Inc. and actions of SEMAR as required under the Articles of Incorporation of Goremont, Inc. will be transferred to the current Board of Directors of Asbury Homes, Inc., a registered corporation in the State of North Carolina and agency of the North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church. The SEMAR Board of Trustees under its authority in Section 7 of the Articles of Amendment for Goremont, Inc. (dated September 22, 2003) will name a transition board of three members to direct the work of Goremont, Inc. until the transfer of sponsorship is complete. The ultimate goal will be that the Asbury Homes Board of Directors serve as the Board for Goremont, Inc. and become the HUD sponsoring organization.
  - c. HUD sponsorship of The Senior Residences at Lake Junaluska, L.P. and actions of SEMAR as required under the Articles of Incorporation of The Senior Residences at Lake Junaluska, L.P will be transferred to Givens Housing Corporation (Givens Estates), a registered corporation in the State of North Carolina and agency of the Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church and corporation in the

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

4. The SEMAR Board of Trustees will work with the United Methodist Committee on Disability Ministries to transition components of its prior work to the Committee, including continuation of the Pitzer Award which recognizes outstanding leadership, dedication and commitment to persons with disabilities across the southeastern United States.
5. This plan of dissolution will be carried out within one year from the date of the resolution to dissolve. From and after the effective date, the corporation shall not engage in any business activity, except for operations and activities related the transfer of its assets, the termination and winding-up of its affairs in an orderly manner, and its withdrawal from the states or other jurisdictions, if any, in which it is qualified to transact business, all in accordance with this Plan and applicable law.
6. The officers of the corporation, or any of them, shall do all acts and things provided for in this Plan and any and all other acts and things that they, or any of them, may deem necessary or advisable to effectuate the liquidation and dissolution of the corporation and to carry out fully this Plan in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina.

### **Certification**

I, R. Stan Beck, Secretary of the Board of Trustees of The Southeastern United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation, Incorporated (SEMAR) hereby certify under penalties of perjury that a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Corporation was duly held by teleconference on Wednesday, February 6, 2013, at 2:00 PM EST and the within Plan of Dissolution was duly submitted and passed by a unanimous vote of the Trustees.



# NORTH CAROLINA

## Department of the Secretary of State

To all whom these presents shall come, Greetings:

I, Elaine F. Marshall, Secretary of State of the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify the following and hereto attached to be a true copy of

### ARTICLES OF DISSOLUTION

OF

### THE SOUTHEASTERN UNITED METHODIST AGENCY FOR REHABILITATION, INCORPORATED (SEMAR)

the original of which was filed in this office on the 4th day of April, 2013.



Scan to verify online.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal at the City of Raleigh, this 4th day of April, 2013.

*Elaine F. Marshall*

Secretary of State

Document Id: C201309202541  
Verify this certificate online at [www.secretary.state.nc.us/verification](http://www.secretary.state.nc.us/verification)

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### **Attachment F to CCA Report SEMAR Final Report to SEJ Conference Resolution for SEJ Conference**

The Board of Trustees for The Southeastern United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation, Incorporated (SEMAR), struggled for many years to overcome difficult challenges which began in the mid-2000s and attempted with God's help to discern a new vision for SEMAR. However, the board concluded in November, 2012, that it was time to allow disability ministries in the Southeastern Jurisdiction and across the General Church to emerge in new forms. The board members present in Atlanta for this meeting celebrated SEMAR's fruitful work since its establishment in 1969: Sunday School classes and other services for children and adults with intellectual disabilities in local churches, Disability Awareness Sunday materials, accessibility audits and assistance to local churches that helped make facilities more accessible, recognition of individuals and churches advancing disability ministries, and establishment of residential ministries in many conferences of the jurisdiction. Yet by the end of our meeting, we were convinced that SEMAR had reached the end of its ministry and plans were made for dissolution of the corporation.

The SEMAR Board, through the dedication of Rev. Eric Pridmore of Mississippi, worked with the United Methodist Committee on Disability Ministries to transition components of its prior work to the Committee, including continuation of the Pitzer Award which recognizes outstanding leadership, dedication, and commitment to persons with disabilities across the southeastern United States. The sole remaining task continues in working with legal advisors and Givens Estates to transfer sponsorship through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) of The Senior Residences at Lake Junaluska, LP (The Great Laurels) to Givens Affordable Communities.

As the Chair of the Board of Trustees of SEMAR, with fiduciary duties to ensure that the wishes of the last board meeting are carried out according to the Plan of Dissolution, and as a member of the 2016 Conference of the Southeastern Jurisdiction, I submit the following resolution.

Martha Stokes  
Virginia Annual Conference

### **Resolution for the Dissolution of The Southeastern United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation, Incorporated (SEMAR)**

Whereas after due deliberation, the Board of Trustees of The Southeastern United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation, Incorporated (SEMAR), at a special meeting duly convened on 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, pursuant to notice given in accordance with the applicable law, a quorum of the board being present at all times, was of unanimous opinion that dissolution was advisable and in the best interests of the corporation, and

Whereas the Board adopted, by unanimous vote, a plan for a voluntary dissolution authorizing the board to carry out operations and activities related to the termination and winding-up of affairs of the corporation in an orderly manner, and notified the chair of the SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability and the SEJ College of Bishops of this decision on February 7, 2013, and

Whereas, the Articles of Dissolution and Plan of Dissolution for the nonprofit corporation were certified by the Secretary of State of the State of North Carolina on April 4, 2013,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdiction Conference of The United Methodist Church dissolves SEMAR as a separate entity of the Southeastern Jurisdiction.

**Attachment G to CCA Report  
Board Training Final Report  
Report of Chrissy Parke Rosen, Board Training Consultant**

**Purpose**

Provide support and training to SEJ agencies and ministries to strengthen their boards and train their boards and directors to create dynamic boards that provides vision, leadership, and fundraising support to their ministries and agencies: Gulfside Assembly, Hinton Rural Life Center, Lake Junaluska Assembly, SEJ Commission on Archives and History, Intentional Growth Center, and UMVIM SEJ.

**The Plan and Timeline**

*Summer and Fall 2103*

- Conversations with each SEJ Ministry Director and most board chairs to discuss the needs for each ministry and begin planning how we could move each board to become dynamic and impactful.
- Met with each Ministry Director, Board chairs, and members of SEJ CCA and CFA to present a model training the last week of July at Lake Junaluska.

*Winter 2013 – Spring 2016*

- Board trainings were customized and held for the Boards of each SEJ ministry (with the exception of Lake Junaluska – see below).
- Ongoing dialogue with Directors, Board Chairs, and – in some cases – committee chairs.
- Follow-up presentations with each Board

**Results**

**Gulfside Assembly:**

- Trained Board in their role and worked with Board and Director on strategic planning.
- Three trips to Board meetings and many other meetings and calls with Director.
- Saw increased Board participation and ownership of future.

**Hinton Rural Life Center**

- Trained Board in characteristics of highly dynamic board.
- Led Board Restructuring Retreat.
- Led follow-up review on Board restructuring.
- Participated in four board meetings, Board retreat and 6 sub-committee meetings and many other meetings & calls with Director, Chair and Committee chairs.
- Ministry has a more engaged board and active committees. Strategic planning begins in 2016.

**Lake Junaluska:**

- Met with Jack Ewing on numerous occasions.
- Board training not necessary because this Board already had such training.
- Focused dialogue on Capital Campaign strategies.

**SEJ Archives and History**

- Trained Board in characteristics of highly dynamic board.
- Met with Board on committee responsibilities.
- Led two follow-up reviews on highly dynamic board.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

- Participated In three Board meetings, one Board gathering, and many other meetings and calls with Director and Chair.
- Stronger committee structure. Board development tools will be used to orient new quadrennium's Commission members.

### **Intentional Growth Center**

- Trained Board in best practices.
- Led Board in strategic planning.
- Assisted in Board restructuring and by-laws changes
- Participated in five board or sub-committee meetings and calls and many other meetings and calls with Director.
- Ministry has a more engaged board and a five-year strategic plan.

### **SEJ UMVIM**

- Worked with Development Committee to create a board training in the role of fundraising and how to tell their story.
- Led Board Fundraising training.
- Advised the Development Committee.
- Attended 2 Board meetings and 2 Development Committee meetings. Participated in many Development Committee conference calls and many other meetings and calls with Director, Director of Development and Development Chair and committee members.
- Advised staff and Development Committee on many fundraising topics.
- Increased success in annual fundraising. Fundraising for an endowment.



**Attachment H to CCA Report**

**DRAFT**

**A COVENANT OF MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN  
(Insert name of ministry), A \_\_\_\_\_ NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION  
AND  
THE SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION  
COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**PREAMBLE**

The **(Insert name of ministry)**, a \_\_\_\_\_ not-for-profit corporation (hereinafter referred to as the “Ministry”) and **Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference Committee on Coordination and Accountability** (hereafter referred to as the “Jurisdiction”) join in this mutual Covenant Relationship Agreement to more clearly define their shared relationship so as to enhance the mission and ministry work of each.

The mission and purpose of the Ministry is to establish, erect, maintain and operate a **(describe type of ministry)** in **(insert city, state)** which serves **(describe those served)** and reflects *The Book of Discipline*.

**COVENANT**

The SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability will function as the liaison between the Ministry and the Jurisdiction.

- A. The Ministry is to promote furtherance of religious principles for the intellectual, moral, spiritual and physical development of persons including the promotion of the harmony, health and happiness of such persons in accordance with the laws of the State of \_\_\_\_\_ and *The Book of Discipline*.
- B. The Ministry is engaged in a legitimate and appropriate Christian service which is delegated to the Ministry for the sake of greater effectiveness and efficiency. The service performed by the Ministry requires both expert technical skill and Christian love, tenderness and compassion with a concern for the whole person.
- C. The relationship of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church to the Ministry is not one of ownership, operation or control of the Ministry; and further, the management of the operations of the Ministry is clearly vested in its Board of Directors/Trustees. The Board of Directors/Trustees is affirmed by the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church (or the Committee on Coordination and Accountability acting on its behalf between sessions of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference).
- D. Title to property, both real and personal, shall be held solely by and under the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors of the Ministry. The parties will respect any applicable sections of the Trust Clause (Paragraph 2503.4 and 2503.6 in *The Book of Discipline*) and provide evidence that the title to real property as appropriate, contains the Trust Clause or that a statement is included in Articles of Incorporation and/or By Laws of the Ministry which covers distribution of assets upon dissolution of the agency.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

- E. Neither the Jurisdiction nor the Ministry accepts or grants any legal or financial responsibility for the operations or affairs of the other, except as specified in this Covenant of Mutual Relationship as follows.
- F. The Jurisdiction and the Ministry are independent entities each having its own Articles of Incorporation, By Laws, governing bodies and procedures of operations.
- G. The Jurisdiction and the Ministry acknowledge and agree that neither is not and shall never be legally responsible for the acts of omission, debts, contracts, or obligations, or for any other financial commitments or obligations, or for any other financial commitments or obligations of any character or description, created, undertaken, or assumed by either, absent the express consent of both.

<b>GUIDELINES – EXPECTATIONS OF THE JURISDICTION</b>	<b>GUIDELINES – EXPECTATIONS OF THE MINISTRY</b>
1. Communicate to the Ministry the requirements and changes in <i>The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church</i> and the rules and the actions of the Jurisdiction which may affect the Ministry.	1. Conduct the work of the Ministry in harmony with <i>The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church</i> and the rules and the actions of the Jurisdiction which may affect the Ministry.
2. Permit the Ministry to use elements of the name and logo of The United Methodist Church and/or the Jurisdiction, including a reference to the Mutual Covenant Relationship based upon written approval of the appropriate governing and responsible agency.	2. Abide by the rules and regulations established by the General Council on Finance and Administration of The United Methodist Church regarding use of the name “The United Methodist Church” and the “Cross and Flame” insignia of The United Methodist Church. Provide the written approval of the General Council on Finance and Administration to use the name “The United Methodist Church” and the “Cross and Flame” insignia of The United Methodist Church. ¶ 807.11.
3. Review any changes to By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation to insure that the appropriate clauses from <i>The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church</i> are included.	3. Provide to the Jurisdiction CCA a dissolution clause for real property of the Ministry which is consistent with the applicable <i>Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church</i> . In the 2012 <i>Book of Discipline</i> , the relevant paragraph is 2503, item number 4. Such provision is found in the “By-Laws of the Ministry.”
4. Receive an annual report from the Ministry.	4. Furnish an annual report to the Jurisdiction on a timely basis as requested.
5. Receive an annual audit from the Ministry.	5. Provide an annual audit to the Jurisdiction Council on Finance and Administration within 150 days after the end of the Ministry’s fiscal year.

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<p>6. Receive an annual report of members of the Board of Directors and affirm new members of said Board.</p>	<p>6. Provide an annual report of members of the Board of Directors as requested.</p>
<p>7. Indemnify and hold the Ministry harmless from and against any claims, causes of action and costs (including reasonable attorney’s fees) which may arise from any of the Jurisdiction operations.</p>	<p>7. Indemnify and hold the Jurisdiction harmless from and against any claims, causes of action and costs (including reasonable attorney’s fees) which may arise from any of the Ministry’s operations.</p>
<p>8. The Jurisdiction CCA will consult with the Ministry when the Ministry plans to establish a new facility, alter its major purpose or function, or make a plan for expansion of an existing facility. The purpose of such a consultation would be to ensure that the new institution, the new facility, the new purpose, or the expansion be in harmony with the mission of the Jurisdiction and that there not be unnecessary duplication of existing services. The consultation will include a discussion of proposed plans of development, financing and types of services to be rendered with the SEJ CFA present.</p>	<p>8. The Ministry will initiate efforts to consult with the Jurisdiction CCA when the Ministry plans to establish a new facility, alter its major purpose or function, or make a plan for expansion of an existing facility. The purpose of such a consultation would be to ensure that the new institution, the new facility, the new purpose, or the expansion be in harmony with the mission of the Jurisdiction and that there not be unnecessary duplication of existing services. The consultation will include a discussion of proposed plans of development, financing and types of services to be rendered with the SEJ CFA present.</p>

This Covenant of Mutual Relationship shall be subject to review and amendment at such times and in such manner as may be mutually agreeable to the Ministry and the Jurisdiction, provided that such review is undertaken once each four years.

Approved:

By \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Insert Name of the Ministry)  
 a (insert state) not-for-profit corporation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chair, Southeastern Jurisdiction  
 Committee on Coordination and Accountability

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### **Gulfside Association of the United Methodist Church Inc. a.k.a. Gulfside Assembly**

report to  
Southeast Jurisdictional Conference

- I. Agency: Gulfside Association of the United Methodist Church Inc. is also recognized under the Internal Revenue Code as a section 501(c) (3) organization, as confirmed by the Internal Revenue Service.
- II. Gulfside Association, Inc. shall operate with an ecumenical spirit as an integrated auxiliary mission agency of the Southeastern and South Central Jurisdictions of the United Methodist Church.
- III. In carrying out its mission, Gulfside Association, Inc. advocate for justice issues, community, churches, pastors and laity in becoming healthy and effective communities and congregations, provides opportunities for missional involvement and serves as a place of leadership, development, hospitality, spiritual growth and renewal. Missional involvement as Gulfside Association, Inc. includes the use of volunteers, individuals, church groups and civic groups to provide various services to enhance the social and religious life of the communities.
- IV. Gulfside Association, Inc. continues to maintain the covenant of mutual relationship between the Gulfside Association, a Mississippi not-for-profit corporation, and the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church, Inc.
- V. Progression Report: Based on the 2014-15 Board Meetings
  - Strategic Planning for rebuilding is ongoing
  - Financial Capacity and Sustainability are continuously reviewed
  - Partnership Development is being pursued with varying agencies and entities
  - The 2015 Financial Audit is in progress
- VI. Celebrations
  - Completion and dedication of the Bishop Leontine T. C. Kelly Open-Air Chapel as the first building Phase I on February 27, 2016
  - Gulfside Association, Inc. has secured new board members and completed the installation process (see attachment)
  - The Master Plan for the celebration of the 94<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Gulfside Association, Inc. has been scheduled
  - For the past 10 years Gulfside Association, Inc. has supported youth and young adults to the Mississippi Educational Tour in conjunction with the Mississippi Annual Conference
  - Continued missional emphasis on restoration in the Waveland, Mississippi area

## Hinton Rural Life Center

### **Core Mission**

Inspired by Jesus Christ, Hinton Rural Life Center's purpose is to engage individuals, congregations, and communities in transformation through retreat ministry and missional outreach.

**Vision for Hinton's Future:** Our vision beyond 2016 is to have a clear strategic plan through 2020 and broaden our Board of Directors by adding new members with skill sets necessary to strengthen our ministry. We plan to utilize recently awarded grants from The Duke Endowment to assess our building ministry program transitioning it from an individual program to a component of a tri-county collaborative to address poverty. Through this initiative and strategic planning process, we will refine our ministry outreach to our local community and further develop Hinton as a training ground of discipleship to communities of faith across the Southeastern Jurisdiction.

### **Fruitfulness**

**Building Ministries:** For 50 years, we have provided an opportunity for congregations across the SEJ to participate in ministry reaching out to those in need in rural Appalachia. Since 2013, we have hosted over 3,600 individuals who as a part of their faith journey chose to serve those in need. An average of 68 faith communities each year engage Hinton through this ministry outreach as a means of growing disciples for Christ. These volunteers worked to improve energy efficiencies, address issues of safety and accessibility, participate in worship together, and share love with neighbors in need. In recent years, we've expanded to include a firewood ministry that engages our traditional volunteers as well as those often reaching out for assistance to become a part of a team that works to share wood to heat homes in our area. This collaborative effort provides an opportunity for everyone to share in the gift of helping others in need, building relationships and dignity.

**Retreat Ministry:** In our business model, we continue to promote lodging as a means of stabilizing our revenue stream. Starting at 13% occupancy in 2011, we set a goal to increase overnight stays and have done so in each year since. In 2015, we recorded over 21,000 overnight stays at an occupancy of 25.4%. We continue to market our facilities through our website, in person, and through social media. We've also created postcards for advertising our facilities including a special pastor rate of \$40 per night with meal discounts when meals are available. We are in the final year of a three-year capital campaign with a focus on facility improvements and have been able to upgrade mattresses, linens, appliances, HVAC, and vehicles. In addition to these amenities and reputation of Christian hospitality while on campus, guests are invited to use our indoor and outdoor chapels, rocking chair porch overlooking Lake Chatuge, Labyrinth, and other areas for reflection, devotion, and fellowship.

**Volunteer Ministry (Not Including Our Building Ministry Volunteers):** Through the generous funding of The Duke Endowment, we have employed an Outreach Coordinator who recruited and tracked volunteer hours. In 2015, we logged 3859 volunteer hours not including our mission volunteers. Volunteers including NOMADS, 268 in all, have worked on campus in the kitchen, housekeeping, firewood ministry, facilities maintenance, garden, landscaping, and business office. Volunteers have even led mission teams in our community. These individuals are critical to the success of our ministry.

**Church Vitality:** Our Congregational Vitality Ministry, based on our rich history of serving the rural church, engages small and rural congregations through transformation ministries in a year and a half long process. We have provided consultation for church vitality to churches and districts in North Carolina, South Georgia, and Northwest Florida. We are currently working with 4 districts and 22 churches. Although we are seeing successes in the churches with whom we are working, we are concerned that there are a multitude of resources addressing church vitality. Therefore, we are re-evaluating the future of this ministry.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Stories

**Firewood Ministry:** Our firewood ministry continues to yield fruitful stories in more than its original intent of alleviating the cost of heating homes in the winter. In 2015, we distributed over 100 loads of wood. Each time, we'd ask if the family receiving the wood would like to share the gift with another family if they were able. From this opportunity, we have families who began to help each other. Those with trucks would deliver wood to those who didn't have transportation and several would meet at the wood lot and chop a load for another family in need. A few have become regular volunteers! It appears to be a ministry in which everyone can be involved not solely a ministry in which those with resources provide to those without.

**Poverty Initiative:** In an effort to learn and share knowledge about poverty in our community, we've hosted 11 poverty simulations utilizing volunteers from three congregations and various organizations. The greatest strength of the project is the impact the poverty simulation experience has on the participants. With new perspective, many participants come away from the experience sharing conversation and thinking differently about how the new perspective will impact their interactions with neighbors, friends, students, and even strangers. The following first-hand reflections by educators who participated exemplify this noted strength. "Opened my mind to how people in our community may be suffering [with] these issues more than we realize." – "I hope to be able to recognize a few clues to poverty not just bad behavior." – "I wish all teachers [would] take this into consideration when they have these students." – "Survival can trump everything else." – "It was very eye-opening as to the difficulty of accessing resources." – "I will be more aware of what my students and parents deal with on a daily basis to make ends meet." From these experiences, we are now moving into phase two of this community engagement with the development of a resource asset map to be shared throughout the community as well as leadership training for those who strive to meet the needs of those in poverty.

**Church Vitality:** Based on our rich history of church vitality, Hinton launched a new church vitality initiative in 2013. Our model included consultations in rural and medium churches across and retreats to be held at Hinton. To date, we have provided consultation for church vitality to churches and districts in North Carolina, South Georgia, and Northwest Florida. In this process, we help the churches start by looking at their history. First Franklin in North Carolina launched its DARE initiative through its consultation with Hinton's Next Step Ministry. After learning about a church fire many years early, the congregation learned just how resilient they could be and adopted food insecurities as a need to address in their community. Also, in western North Carolina, Bryson City UMC continues to show intentional direction in meeting the needs in their community by opening a free medical clinic under the leadership of the Next Step Leadership Team, a catalyst of their work with Hinton's Next Step Vitality Initiative.

### Plans and Goals for 2016

- Continue to strengthen financial position.
  - Increasing overnight stays through marketing and positive guest experiences
  - Decreasing debt
  - Economic forecasting to ensure long-term financial stability
- Develop Strategic Plan for 2016-2020
- Increase the presence and visibility of Hinton Center among key UMC constituents
  - In person presentations at multiple annual conference sessions
  - Dissemination of materials including videos to annual conferences
  - Continued commitment to social media
- Recruit new board members that broaden our skillsets to strengthen the organization
- Engage additional opportunities promoting discipleship and leadership development
- Enhance On Campus Technology Accessibility and Usage

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- Update data tracking software for registrations, donors, and facilities management
- Improve Wi-Fi access throughout campus with updated technology

### **Ministries Interaction with Consultant Chrissy Rosen**

Our new Board structure seems to be taking hold. We anticipate that board members feel more engaged and knowledgeable about the organization. The full board has two in-person meetings and two conference calls in addition to small group committee meetings held throughout the year. Chrissy Rosen plans to meet with the Board at the Spring 2016 meeting in order to facilitate our Board of Directors in a session reflecting on our newly designed board structure and preparation for a strategic planning process for the organization scheduled for the Fall 2016.

### **Financial Plan**

Fortunately, our year ended better than it began in 2015. We were able to forge through our serious cash flow issues with assistance from the SEJ and grants in excess of \$500,000 from The Duke Endowment. Some of these funds were used to pay off a debt we had incurred with the Housing Assistance Council generated from the USDA Self-Help Housing Ministry. Additional funds were used to bring in a financial consultant and ultimately hire a CFO to bring our accounting back in house after several years of outsourcing accounting in efforts to save money that proved unsuccessful. Remaining funds are being used to cover personnel for our poverty and building ministries and expand our building ministries.

### **Governance**

The Board shall consist of not fewer than eighteen (18) or more than twenty four (24) persons with the exact number from year to year to be set by the Board. The Board shall be responsible for the establishment of policies governing the Corporation. Individual directors shall receive no honorarium or compensation for their Board service. Members of the Board of Directors are expected to support the Hinton Rural Life Center with their time, treasure and talent.

The President/CEO shall be appointed by the Board and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation and, subject to oversight by the Board, shall have the general responsibility and authority for the supervision, management and administration of the Corporation. The President/CEO's performance is reviewed annually.

### **Requests**

Although, we continue to improve our financial stability, it continues to remain challenging. In order to provide oversight and transparency of our financial position and provide the requested annual audit to the SEJ, we request that the cost of our financial audit is covered on an annual basis. The cost for a full audit is \$15,000 per year.

### **How can we help to support your ministry in the next quadrennium (2017-2020)?**

In 2009, our total debt was \$1,260,231. We have been able to reduce the debt by over 1/3. At the end of 2015, our total debt is \$805,486 which continues to burden our financial stability and opportunity to expand our ministry. We have approached several institutions to refinance our debt. Although we show improvements in our financial position, these institutions have been unwilling to help us refinance at this time. We are currently at 6.0%. With the Methodist Foundation of Western North Carolina, we have the potential of cutting this rate in half. Their concern is that we have "no reserve." They indicated that we could approach them again as our financial position continues to improve. If SEJ could continue to help with debt reduction, or help us build a financial reserve, we would be able to continue to improve our financial sustainability for a solid ministry future.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### **Report of Lake Junaluska Assembly Inc. to the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church**

#### **Core Mission: Why do we exist? What outcomes are we seeking?**

- The mission of Lake Junaluska is to be a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind, and body.
- How does this mission connect directly with the church's mission of making disciples for the transformation of the world?

Almost all of the events designed and carried out by Lake Junaluska are for the specific purpose of fulfilling the church's mission to *make disciples Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*. We see Lake Junaluska as being one of the primary places in The United Methodist Church where disciples of Jesus Christ experience growth. There may be no other place in all of United Methodism that has as many unique participants each year as Lake Junaluska who are transformed by their experiences here. Lake Junaluska is not only responsible for designing and carrying out events to fulfill our mission and that of the church but it hosts many other events, planned and carried out by other groups, that also fulfill these missions. Being a place of Christian hospitality for these conferences and retreats is a very important part of our reason for being.

#### **Fruitfulness: How do you measure the impact of your ministry?**

- **What numbers demonstrate your work?**
  - Youth Program Participants – Youth programming in both the winter with ski weekends and the summer continue to be an important way that we fulfill our mission of transformation and renewal. In the last four years (2012-2015) there were 14,587 youth who participated in Lake Junaluska sponsored events.
  - Room Nights – Since we are first and foremost a conference and retreat center the number of nights one or more person stayed in one of our 400+ rooms is a foundational metric. In the last four years (2012-2015) Room Nights totaled 150,873.
  - Lodging Revenue – 65% of the profit for the Conference Center comes from Lodging. Lodging revenue is critical to the future success of Lake Junaluska. In the last four years (2012-2015) Lodging Revenue totaled \$12,794,240.
  - Charitable Giving – Total Charitable Giving in the last four years totaled \$3,644,479 from nearly 4,000 donors. Of that total, \$1,266,411 was given to the Annual Fund for unrestricted purposes.
  - Balanced Budget – As pointed out in the financial section we are very proud that we are “living within our means.” Over the last four years the cumulative balance for Conference Center operations is \$492,022.
- **What stories demonstrate your work?**
  - Summer Worship – We continue to hold summer worship services in Stuart Auditorium from the middle to June to the middle of August. The Summer Worship experiences in Stuart Auditorium in the last four years have been amazing. The preachers have been outstanding and have represented a wide diversity of gender, age, and ethnicity.



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- Lake Junaluska Singers – For over 60 years the Lake Junaluska Singers have been inspiring guests and worshipers at Lake Junaluska. Many long-time Singers fans have said that they get better and better. Dr. Melodie Galloway has done an incredible job over the last six years following the 55 year legacy of Dr. Glenn Draper.
- Hosting – Lake Junaluska has been hosting many large non-United Methodist events over the years including the Seventh Day Adventists, the Salvation Army, and the Church of the Brethren. These groups are incredibly loyal to Lake Junaluska and we enjoy having them on the grounds. The 2015 Church of the Brethren National Older Adult Conference was particularly wonderful. The participants were so complimentary of the quality of the experience that they had.

### **Plans and goals for 2013 - 2016**

- The most significant goal for the quadrennium was the renovation of the Terrace. The interior phase of this project was completed during the months of January through March of 2015. The response of our guests to the renovation has been overwhelmingly positive. The total cost of the project was \$3.2 million with \$2.5 million being financed. The SEJ CFA authorized this debt in 2014.
- The renovation of the youth dining hall has also been a high priority with the installation of new windows, insulation, and a first ever heating and air conditioning system. This project has been paid for entirely by charitable giving.
- The Board of Trustees of Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc. approved a Strategic Vision and Plan at its October 2011 Board meeting. It continues to guide our focus and efforts. A copy is attached.

### **Provide a report on your agency/ministry's interaction with our consultant, Chrissy Rosen**

- Jack Ewing, the Executive Director, has interacted with Chrissy on multiple occasions with face to face meetings, email communication, and phone calls. Chrissy affirmed that the leadership of Lake Junaluska, along with its governing body, was not as in need of her counsel as some of the other organizations within the SEJ. It was determined that it would not be necessary to have her meet with our Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees participates in regular good governance educational experiences and Lake Junaluska has been working with an excellent development consultant.

### **Financial Plan: How are you financially sustaining this ministry?**

- We are doing very well! In 2009 Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc. received over \$1 million from the Southeastern Jurisdiction supporting administrative overhead and ministry programming. Beginning in 2013 the amount received for these purposes was \$0. For the fourth year in a row we were able to end 2015 with more revenue than expenses. For the third time in the last four years we were able to share our “profits” with the staff. All 2015 full-time staff received \$1,000 of additional compensation in January 2016.
- The 2015 audit has not yet been completed. As of December 31, 2014 the total assets of Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc. were \$25,145,298. Of this total \$5,007,305 were in investments and \$18,119,470 were in property and equipment. The total liabilities at the same time were \$4,147,408.
- The 2014 draft audit is attached. This has not yet been approved by our Board of Trustees. A copy of our 2015 Financial Statements, prepared for our Board of Trustees, is also attached.
- Since our organization does not function on a quadrennial basis we have not presented to nor had the Board approve a budget for the quadrennium.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### **Governance: Who are the stewards of the ministry?**

- Description of Board – The Board of Trustees of Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc. is made up of 32 members. Seven of these are by virtue of office (ex-officio) and 24 are elected. The list of Board members is attached. We currently have two vacancies among the elected members of the Board. The profile of the 2016 Board is as follows:

- Gender – 18 males and 11 females
- Age – 3 under the age of 40, 21 between the ages of 40 and 70, 5 over the age of 70
- Ethnicity – 3 African Americans, 1 Asian American, 1 Native Americans, and 24 Caucasians

#### Notes:

- Goals have been set by the Governance Committee to increase female presence, to increase minority presence, and to increase younger members.
- The Executive Director reports directly to the Board of Trustees. All other employees are under the Executive Director. The Executive Director meets with the Chairman of the Board, John Russell, regularly and Executive Committee meetings are held, when needed, between Board meetings. The Board of Trustees of Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc. is very engaged in governing the organization.

### **Requests**

- Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc. has respectfully requested that the SEJ consider an annual grant in the next quadrennium of \$25,000 for the purpose of maintaining the lake, our greatest asset. We currently spend around \$250,000 a year to maintain the lake and the areas immediately around the lake.
- The most significant way that the SEJ can support Lake Junaluska is to encourage entities within the jurisdiction to include Lake Junaluska in their places of consideration for holding events. When United Methodist entities hold conferences at locations other than United Methodist facilities, the funds that could support our church's mission and vision are directed to other not-for-profits or to for-profit entities.



## Lake Junaluska Strategic Plan

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### **Mission**

The mission of Lake Junaluska is to be a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind, and body.

### **Vision**

The vision to which Lake Junaluska aspires includes:

1. Hospitality
  - a. To be the standard against which all other institutions will measure themselves for Christian hospitality
2. Programming
  - a. To provide the highest quality of sponsored, partnered, and hosted programming to fulfill our mission. While programming will be provided for a wide range of populations, a special focus will be for youth and young adults, including young families.
  - b. To collaborate with leadership at all levels of The United Methodist Church to offer programming that specifically addresses the goals and foci of the UMC
  - c. To develop and utilize partnerships with experts and practitioners from United Methodist organizations, thriving congregations, and institutions of higher education
  - d. To develop and utilize partnerships with experts and practitioners from the larger Christian community, the non-profit community, and the Haywood County community
  - e. To carry out relevant programming and supporting services in such a manner that will result in a positive balance of funds to be reinvested to better fulfill our mission
3. Value
  - a. To provide value choices for guests with regards to lodging and food. Three levels of lodging and food will be available including low cost, medium cost, and moderately high cost with each being valued as excellent within the respective price range. While at least one food option will be buffet there will also be an “off the menu” option.
4. Environment
  - a. To provide reliable basic community infrastructure, services, and public safety to all property owners, guests, and staff utilizing the most efficient means available
  - b. To practice a commitment to excellence in environmental sustainability by becoming green
  - c. To maintain the grounds in an excellent condition with a balance between beauty and environmental friendliness

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- d. To maintain the lake, its shoreline, and the dam in an environmentally responsible condition, to preserve and protect its beauty, health, and structural integrity for future generations
- 5. Technology
  - a. To provide a very high standard of technological equipment and support, being in the top quartile of all other similar organizations

### **Strategic Goals**

The broad areas and goals of the strategic plan include:

- 1. Marketing
  - a. Develop and implement a short and long-term marketing plan that will generate significantly more reservations and revenues
  - b. Develop and implement a plan to cultivate and increase the percentage of repeat business
  - c. Develop and implement a plan to penetrate new markets
- 2. Finance
  - a. Develop and implement a short and long-term financial plan to fund the strategic initiatives and achieve the financial goals of the corporation
    - i. Produce a positive operational bottom line
    - ii. Fund new projects in the strategic plan
    - iii. Fund the renovation of older facilities
    - iv. Include depreciation in the financial plan
  - b. Sources of Funding
    - i. Charitable Contributions
    - ii. Positive Operational Balance
    - iii. Long-term Debt
  - c. Recommended Guidelines
    - i. Seek charitable contributions for strategic purposes
    - ii. Develop a vertical pricing structure for services provided that provides perceived value
- 3. Facilities
  - a. Using the Facilities Audit as a guide, bring the appropriate existing facilities up to current standards
    - i. Structural
    - ii. Systems (HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing, etc.)
  - b. Renovate the appropriate lodging, meeting, and food service facilities to bring the interior and exterior to a standard that meets or exceeds the expectations of our guests
  - c. Renovate the interior and exterior of the Terrace Hotel to provide core lodging and food
    - i. The standard will be the equivalent of a Hampton Inn or a Holiday Inn Express
  - d. Renovate the interior and exterior of Lambuth Inn to provide a “grand hotel” experience for guests

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- e. After appropriate study, alter or replace Stuart Auditorium to create a facility that meets current and future needs, is architecturally complimentary to the original structure, and will be the signature building for this campus for the next 100 years
- f. Replace the Harrell Center with a building that is complimentary to Stuart Auditorium that will provide the additionally needed flexible meeting space
- g. Renovate or replace Jones Cafeteria with a year round facility that efficiently and effectively meets the needs of the populations that use it
- h. Incorporate “green” technology wherever possible in renovated and new facilities
- i. Fully develop the outdoor “facilities” for recreation, refreshment, and renewal

*Note that this plan does not include some elements that were recommended in the two previous campus planning studies, specifically, new hotels or a convention center.*

- 4. Operations
  - a. Develop and implement a short and long-term operations plan that will support the strategic plan
  - b. Develop and implement a comprehensive plan for hospitality that focuses on “exceeding expectations”
  - c. Invest in opportunities that result in high return on investment (ROI) and high impact
  - d. Develop and implement a programmatic plan that:
    - i. Focuses on “partnered” and “hosted” events
    - ii. Further develops the potential of youth programming
    - iii. Develops initiatives that will attract and retain families
    - iv. Continues to have the United Methodist Church as our primary customer but will include other Christian organizations and Non-Profits

### **Overarching Guidelines**

- 1. Develop a strategic plan that is balanced
  - a. Enough to make a meaningful difference yet not too much that it is impossible to accomplish
  - b. Specific yet flexible
- 2. Develop a plan that is measureable; to which individuals may be held accountable
- 3. Develop a plan that becomes the foundation for all annual staff and Board goals and will be used for annual evaluations

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### **SEJ Commission on Archives and History SEJ Heritage Center**

#### **Our Core Mission**

Our mission is to preserve and keep alive the stories of the remarkable persons, places and events that make up our unique history as United Methodists in the Annual Conferences that comprise the Southeastern Jurisdiction (SEJ).

Our vision is to become, through the work of the SEJ Heritage Center, a primary source of information related to archives and records management for persons responsible for, or seeking access to, records documenting the history and function of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church.

#### **Connecting with the Mission of the Church**

Much of who we are as individuals has come to us through the choices of others. This is often the case when one becomes a member of the United Methodist Church. Through the work of the Heritage Center, persons of all ages can make the United Methodist story and mission their own. When it becomes their story they are better equipped to carry that mission into the future.

The phrase “remember whose we are” may have become trite to some, but it is that remembering that makes the difference. To remember is, according to Webster’s dictionary, to “have in or be able to bring to one’s mind an awareness of someone or something that one has seen, known or experienced in the past.” We could not have a personal awareness of Christ today if not for the Bible and the thousands of persons who have carried the story forward. Likewise, we could not have a personal awareness of Methodism without knowing the stories of so many who have carried that faith and mission forward to where we are today.

Making the history of Methodism real and providing access to records of what has been done in the past creates that awareness – and thus the memory – of persons and events that make us who we are today. We can better see where we are (or should be) going as Christ’s disciples if we know where we have been as people called Methodists.

Remembering is an essential ingredient of our faith journey and appears again and again the scriptures and in our rituals. “... in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ.” “Remember your baptism and be thankful.” Perhaps the most important word about the importance of memory is said when we take the bread and the cup in communion, for Jesus said, “Do this in remembrance of me.”

#### **Fruitfulness: Measuring the Impact of our Ministry**

##### **Numbers, 2012-2015**

- The Heritage Center recorded a total of 6,410 visitors. Approximately 75% of our visitors were youth and their leaders who participated in our confirmation workshops.
- A total of 108 research inquiries were received via mail, telephone, email and in person.
- A total of 60.5 linear ft. of records were received, primarily from Lake Junaluska Assembly. We assisted several Assembly offices with research for reports and publications.

##### **Stories**

- Our confirmation presentations connect both youth and adult attendees with their “family history” as United Methodists, giving them an increased sense of belonging to the community of faith and providing inspiration for carrying that faith forward into the future.

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- Through our museum exhibits and contributions to many projects and publications, we connect visitors with the history of the Southeastern Jurisdiction and its current agencies and ministries. Through our archival collections and research services we provide administrative assistance to SEJ agencies and ministries. Our book collection provides resources for pastors, Sunday School teachers and those researching local history and the history of Methodism in the U.S.
- The Commission has supported the recommendation to the General Conference that Gulfside Assembly in Waveland, Mississippi, and Pearl River Methodist Church near Madison, Mississippi, be granted Heritage Landmark status.

### **Progress toward Major Goals**

#### **The creation and implementation of a records management program for jurisdictional agencies. In addition to the management of paper records, this program will begin to address the many issues related to electronic records.**

The director has completed a draft records retention schedule for the Assembly Public Works department at Lake Junaluska and is assisting with the development of a retention schedule for the Assembly. At this time no other SEJ entities have requested assistance.

**Education across all levels of the jurisdiction as to the many roles of the Heritage Center and its place within the structure of the SEJ Commission on Archives and History.** *The Heritage Center as place is only one aspect.* Consultation, development of policies and procedures, training in archival care and handling and records management, as well as research assistance are included in the services that we provide.

- In addition to conducting numerous confirmation workshops, the director presented workshops on records management for church office staff, consulted with churches on archives and records management issues, and gave advice on care and handling of personal memorabilia to several individuals.
- Behind-the-scenes tours of the Heritage Center are provided on request. These tours demonstrate appropriate archival workspace, material storage and climate control.
- In November of 2013 and 2015 the bi-annual Heritage Preservation Workshops took place at Lake Junaluska.

The 2013 workshop addressed all aspects of maintaining the archives of the local church. Individual sessions covered the basics of maintaining local church archives, organizing Heritage Day celebrations, creation of record retention schedules and ways of dealing with electronic records.

The 2015 topic was disaster preparedness for the local church. Attendees gained hands-on experience with the creation of a disaster response plan for their church as well as techniques for recovery of damaged photographs, documents and other historical objects. This workshop was presented in partnership with the Western Office of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources.

#### **Continued cooperation with and assistance to the SEJ Historical Society and the annual conferences within the jurisdiction, including, but not limited to, preparations for their annual reports and other support services.**

Heritage Center staff continues to assemble and distribute the *Proceedings* of the SEJ Historical Society and provide additional assistance as requested. The Heritage Center promotes the annual meetings of the SEJ Historical Society.

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### **Continued processing of collections to make them accessible to all researchers.**

Heritage Center staff continues to process archival collections and catalog books as time permits. Finding aids (catalogs) to processed archival collections are available as email attachments. A total of 1,193 individual books have been cataloged using ResourceMate© library software.

Information about the Heritage Center's services is disseminated through the use of the SEJ and Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center websites, existing UMC news publications and social media such as Facebook.

### **Financial Status**

The Heritage Center has no liabilities. As of December 31, 2015, our financial assets included:

- United Methodist Development Fund – \$10,000.00
- Money Market – \$28,543.98
- Lake Junaluska – \$28,739.28
- United Methodist Church Foundation – \$340,664.04
- Pax World – \$136,354.44
- Checking – \$6,542.48
- Savings – \$28,318.98

Furnishings and major equipment purchased 2012-2015 are valued at \$10,721.72. The majority of these purchases were funded by charitable donations. There is no established value for older furnishings and equipment or for our museum and library holdings. It is not possible to place a monetary value on the archival holdings. An insurance policy provides \$100,000.00 coverage on the contents of the Heritage Center and general liability coverage. The structure is insured and maintained by Lake Junaluska Assembly.

Efforts have been made to increase the yield of the endowment and some effort has been made to increase the level of charitable contributions. As with any library or archival facility, there is no potential for a revenue stream that would be sufficient to fully sustain the work of the Heritage Center.

### **Governance**

According to the Bylaws of the Commission on Archives and History of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church, the membership of the Commission includes a representative from each Annual Conference within the Jurisdiction, nominated by the Commission and elected by the Jurisdictional Conference, as well as at-large members chosen for their expertise. At-large members are elected by the Commission. The Director of the SEJ Heritage Center and the President of the SEJ Historical Society are members without vote.

The Director is elected by the Commission and is responsible to the Commission for the performance of his or her duties.

The Commission meets annually. The Director and the Chair of the Commission communicate on a regular basis between meetings of the Commission. The Director sends quarterly financial reports and regular email updates on the work of the Heritage Center to members of the Commission.



## **Intentional Growth Center**

### **Core Mission**

- Increasing pastoral and congregational effectiveness in order to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.
- Our mission connects directly with the church's mission of making disciples for the transformation of the world by transforming and equipping leaders within the church to lead the church toward achieving its primary mission.
- All of our approaches and the content of our seminars are directly or indirectly in harmony with the way of Jesus Christ. Our ways of interacting are grace filled and generous. We embody and promote openness, acceptance and maturity in Christ.

### **Fruitfulness**

- At IGC, we always evaluate our events in terms of effectiveness, as well as gauging them against our own institutional goals. Over the past year, the Intentional Growth Center (IGC) has taken broad steps to increase its efficiency in meeting the mission statement, "Increasing pastoral and congregational effectiveness." While these steps are most apparent in the plans and visions created by the current Board, they were actually birthed a few years ago when the Board of directors of IGC made the decision to broaden the Board's base, moving beyond the group of Board members we had at the time, which was primarily made up of pastors of large churches, district superintendents and bishops, to a more representative membership. Further, employing our institutional goals through which our events are evaluated have intensified.
- The effects have been far reaching, especially as the current Board seeks to expand that leadership base even further. These plans will be discussed further in this report, but much of the excitement concerning our future is due to the commitment of the present Board to move past our current offerings to fulfill what we feel is a much needed niche within our jurisdiction and global church. Evaluation is one tool we use to evaluate the fruitfulness of our ministries.
- We evaluate all of our events and receive glowing expressions of appreciation from our participants. It is not unusual to receive comments like, "This is the best continuing education event I have ever experienced" or "This event has changed my life." Even so, we continue to look at our programs with a watchful eye, evaluating their legitimacy and impact.
- True to our legacy, our Transitional/Intentional Interim Ministry Seminars (TIIMS) have trained more than 600 pastors since 2001 to be T/I Interim Ministry Specialists, not only in the SEJ, but across the denomination.
- Requests from various conferences and other jurisdictions continue to increase. In 2014, we partnered with the North Alabama Annual Conference at the request of Bishop Debbie Wallace-Padgett, a recent IGC Board chair, to provide training and coaching for 26 pastors who are moving to better equip them in their new congregations. During 2013-2016, we have also conducted or are planning several projects with the following other Annual Conferences: South Carolina, Western North Carolina, Holston, and Upper New York.
- Partnering with Excellence in Ministry Coaching and The Foundation for Evangelism in 2014 and 2015, we offered two seminars titled "Shifts: Guiding the Congregation Toward Health, Effectiveness and Vitality" and "From Membership to Discipleship." We assisted clergy and lay leaders in learning "best practices" for leading their congregations toward health and vitality.
- We continue our partnership with Excellence in Ministry Coaching and The Foundation for Evangelism in offering Coach Training for Leaders during 2015-2016.
- Each year ministries such as Confirmation Weekends provide resources for local congregations, especially smaller congregations, in their efforts to reach and disciple youth.
- Our current Board has taken a much closer look at our offerings, going so far as to invite outsiders who represent a broader spectrum (younger clergy, for example) than our traditional Board, to help

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ensure that we are utilizing our resources to the fullest and offering events that meet the needs of The United Methodist Church today.

- During our most recent Board meeting, held December 3, 2015, all but one member of the IGC Board made the trip to Atlanta for a day of visioning and planning. Chrissy Parke Rosen led a very effective time of visioning from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., which was continued after her departure. Chrissy skillfully guided the Board in discussions of who we are as IGC, as well as where we need to move to meet the requirements of our mission statement.
- Much of the discussion centered around the nature of our offerings. The question, “Do these meet the criteria established in our mission statement?” was asked again and again. Further, the Board discussed what new ministries and programs might be effective in accomplishing that mission in ways that work well within the structure of IGC. While adequate time was given to discuss matters such as budgets, program reviews, finances and usual Board matters, the bulk of our day was spent taking concrete steps to move forward in our expanded mission statement:

Increasing pastoral and congregational effectiveness in order to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

### **Operational Plans and Ministry Goals for 2017-2020**

- Due in no small part to the urging of the SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability, the Intentional Growth Center has taken a focused look toward the future, involving significant time and effort from our Board and committee members, as well as the assistance of Chrissy Park Rosen.
- Realizing the significance of our mandate to increase pastoral and congregational effectiveness, we decided to create a task force to begin work immediately to identify areas where IGC can be most effective, and to recommend ministries and programs to move us toward fulfilling that mandate. During the December 3 Board meeting, Chrissy Park Rosen said, “IGC’s Board appears to be poised for a season of formal strategic planning.” That’s precisely where we are.
- This task force is made up of Dana Everhart, Larry Ousley, Margaret Wannemacher, Karen Greenwaldt, and Kevin Slimp, plus invited guests.
- An integral part of our planning included creating a succession plan for the executive director position of IGC. A plan was approved by this group, with steps laid out to create a “Succession Task Force.”
- At the first meeting of this task force, in February 2016, part of the discussion revolved around the change in leadership anticipated upon Larry Ousley's retirement. This discussion began with a series of questions distributed to our Board members by IGC chair, Kevin Slimp, prior to the meeting then discussed by the Long Range Task Force. There was an agreement among Board members that the following considerations should be included in our succession plan:

#### Timeline:

Larry is planning to retire in July 2018. There seems to be a consensus that fall 2017 would be the appropriate time to begin our search process.

#### Candidates:

There are thoughts on both sides of the clergy/lay issue. While some feel a clergy person would be better suited, others felt that it depended on the person. It seems that, for the moment, the group is open to further discussion on this topic.

#### Location:

The thinking seems to be that remaining at Junaluska for the foreseeable future would be good thing. Therefore, the candidate should plan to work out of an office at Lake Junaluska.

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### Salary, Etc:

There is a consensus that the position should remain a full-time position as we see the scope and focus of IGC to be similar in the future to our present efforts. Also, there was some thought that the salary might not remain at the level it is at presently.

### Planning:

A Strategic Task Force will be created at the next full Board meeting in July 2016 to begin the necessary steps as we look toward July 2018.

- In addition to the types of programming IGC has been known for, the Board of directors is intent on looking at ways to work “outside the box” of our traditional offerings. Some of these are already in place. This year we were approached by the Upper New York Annual Conference to provide a Transitional/Intentional Interim Ministry Seminar in their area. We began the six-month long training in November, 2015 and will conclude it in April, 2016, having trained 22 pastors in that region. Late in 2015 we began conversations with the Minnesota Annual Conference to provide the same training experience for pastors in their conference to be trained in 2016.
- What IGC looks like five to ten years from now isn’t entirely clear. However, following a full-day meeting of the “Long Range Strategic Planning Task Force” in February 2016, it is clear that we are moving in directions not envisioned just a few years ago. A lot of discussion is going on about the creation of larger single events, with less emphasis on programs that haven’t drawn participants as well in recent years.
- During that meeting, several emphases were agreed upon as we look toward the future of IGC:
  - Expand Confirmation Retreats to include tracts for other constituencies besides youth. The Board sees a real opportunity to expand offerings in this area.
  - Begin work toward offering a clergy and clergy family retreat for the jurisdiction that will be attractive and beneficial to clergy families of all generational groups.
  - Begin developing large-scale events on our own and/or in cooperation with already existing event groups throughout the jurisdiction for youth and youth leaders. Meetings and negotiations have already begun to investigate possibilities in the near future.
  - Create “On-location” menu of training that can be taken “on the road” to annual conferences and jurisdictions who might not have the resources to provide leadership on their own. Our Interim Minister training is one example of the type of offerings IGC will provide.
  - Developing programs and events related to ministerial calling and second-career calling. We envision expanding on current events by offering follow-up coaching for persons involved.
  - Continuing our leadership in Coaching Skills Trainings, and utilizing coaching in many of the new programs being developed.
- The training, programming, coaching and other ministries of IGC as outlined above are, in many cases, unique to IGC and make their strong contributions partly because they bring together persons from across the SEJ, and indeed the whole connection.
- Much work has been done in the area of Board development, and plans are already being developed to expand our Board even further, paying particular attention to further diversifying the IGC Board to represent the entire church more fully.
- While much of our programming will remain at Lake Junaluska, we plan to expand our offerings to “on location” events, as well as utilizing available technologies to meet our core goals.
- There is no doubt that the vision of IGC has expanded exponentially over the past year or two. We have an involved, excited Board of directors that is committed to taking IGC to a new level of ministry. There is agreement that our expanded offerings will generate adequate financial resources to take IGC well into the future.

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### Financial Plan

- We have reduced our budgets in recent years and have had balanced budgets the last two years. We think we have bottomed out on the amount of our budget and anticipate increasing our budget by about 1% per year in the next quadrennium.
- We have secured a line of credit for \$25,000 which helps us manage cash flow given the seasonal aspects of our program income.
- Our Morgan Trust is generating about \$30,000 more in income than 3 years ago which is a big help.
- We continue to have an annual appeal which generates around \$5,000 on average, but the average is this high because of one special appeal with a matching donor that yielded \$21,000 two years ago.
- See attached a quadrennial budget for 2017 – 2020, showing anticipated expenses and revenue sources.

### Governance

- Our Board is made up of ten members representing different conferences in the SEJ. We have been intentional to inclusivity and representation as we have recruited and grown our Board.
- Through the work of a Board appointed Task Force, we updated our By-Laws (attached) in 2015, which were approved by the SEJ CCA.
- Our Executive Director is accountable to our Board. Our Director regularly consults with the Board Chair and committees as needed. There is at least one annual Board meeting in person. There are normally several virtual meetings of the Board and committees each year.
- Regular reports are shared with the Board. The Board sets policies and advises the Executive Director about pertinent matters on an ongoing basis.

### Requests

- Pray for us that we will accomplish our mission.
- Participate and/or recommend our outstanding programs.
- We have requested funding assistance for 2017-2020 the SEJ grant us financial support in the amount of \$50,000 per year to fund a ½ time Director of Development. This is a position we have envisioned for the last several years, but have never been able to fund. Since the SEJ ended its financial support for the programming of the SEJ Agencies and Ministries in 2012, we have been almost completely dependent on income from participant's fees. About 10 years ago, we received on average \$71,000 per year from the SEJ which was approximately 20% of our budget. Relying mostly on participants' fees for our income makes it challenging to offer quality training at a price participants are willing/able to afford. Also, increased planned giving, bequests, and funding campaigns would help us to function more efficiently as better stewards and help us carry out our mission of "increasing pastoral and congregational effectiveness."

**UNITED METHODIST VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION,  
SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION (UMVIM, SEJ)**

**CORE MISSION**

The core mission of UMVIM, SEJ is **to inspire** change in the world, **to inform**, connect and equip volunteers, and **to interact** as servants of Christ in order to transform the world through *Christian love in action*.

UMVIM makes this a reality through education, support and viable opportunities. We believe that faithful discipleship requires responding to people who are in need, thus volunteers share the love of Jesus Christ in tangible ways through word and action. UMVIM, SEJ exists to help Christians fulfill their call to discipleship by connecting them to identified opportunities and preparing them for mission service.

UMVIM, SEJ maintains the International Project list for the denomination and shares that information with the other jurisdictions and Global Ministries Mission Volunteers office. The coordination and accountability provided to volunteers and project volunteer sites is vital. Not only do we serve as the connector in these relationships, but we also create the infrastructures and offer training to both the team leader and the project site leader.

A list of our Core Values can be found on our website: ([http://umvim.org/about\\_us/mission.html](http://umvim.org/about_us/mission.html))

The Board of Directors held a Visioning Retreat in August 2015 to look at the focus and direction for UMVIM, SEJ for the next quadrennial. They will be working on a new strategic plan for that time frame.

**FRUITFULNESS**

Each year, nearly 10,000 volunteers from the Southeastern Jurisdiction serve in short-term mission service. The online process for teams to register their short-term service has allowed for better statistics and data. From 2013 through 2015, 2,117 teams registered who served internationally and 438 teams in the United States reflecting a total of 27,921 volunteers. Most of the short-term volunteers serve in the Caribbean and Central America with the majority of teams serving in Costa Rica, Haiti, Honduras, Bahamas, and Guatemala.

**OPERATIONAL PLANS AND MINISTRY GOALS FOR 2013-2016**

*As related to the four foci of Global Ministries:*

**Congregational Development** - This is the primary focus of most of the short-term volunteer teams. Internationally, there were 1,339 construction teams most assisting in the building of churches. In addition to building new churches, teams and long-term Mission Volunteers provide resources and training for churches, both new and existing, along with their pastors – 396 teams were engaged in education, evangelism, and Bible Schools. UMVIM, SEJ short-term teams continue to serve with Global Ministries Mission initiatives, helping to build new places for worship and ministry, and assisting missionaries with resources and evangelism for planting new churches.

**Leadership Development** - UMVIM, SEJ formalized “Best Practices for UMVIM teams” which are being encouraged by all jurisdictions. These practices provide a standard expectation by church and project leadership, and insure appropriate management and accountability. One of the “best practices” is having a trained team leader. The UMVIM “Train the Trainers” program provides qualified trainers that are equipped to train team leaders in their respective annual conferences. This has allowed UMVIM, SEJ to have trainers in annual conferences to schedule UMVIM Team Leader Trainings as needed. Paulette West has done Team Leader “Train the Trainers” in 13 of the 15 annual conferences (two twice) and there

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are currently 141 trainers in the Southeastern Jurisdiction. UMVIM, SEJ revised the team leader handbook and training resources in early 2015.

**Ministry with the Poor** - Most UMVIM projects are located in areas where poverty exists, and volunteers work in those communities to help people gain access to resources such as food, housing, education and work to empower them to create ways to escape the cycle of poverty. Because one of the major issues encountered is the urgent need for food, teams serve with established projects and initiatives to provide immediate food sources to assist families. More volunteers are involved in creating sustainable agricultural programs that develop techniques and methods to produce better and more diversified crops. During 2014, we highlighted our projects in the Southeastern Jurisdiction that focus on ministry with the poor. You can read the Mission Highlight about Rural Projects that work to end generational poverty on our blog (<http://umvimsej.blogspot.com/2014/08/mission-highlight-rural-opportunities.html>).

**Global Health** - Short-term medical teams from the Southeastern Jurisdiction serve in numerous countries. All aspects of medical care and surgery are performed, including treatment of malaria and AIDS. There is also a new focus on identifying and training a community-based health promoter. Alabama Honduras Medical Education Network (AHMEN) and Servants in Faith and Technology (SIFAT) have partnered together to provide this type of training program in Honduras. Although teams were discouraged to serve during the Ebola crisis, we provided awareness of the situation in the Mission Highlight on Kip and Nancy Robinson, missionaries from the SEJ serving in Sierra Leone before and after the Ebola crisis which can be read on our blog (<http://umvimsej.blogspot.com/2015/01/missionaries-kip-and-nancy-robinson.html>).

**UMVIM, SEJ Strategic Plan goals for the quadrennial include:**

**Implementing Board Restructure Plan** - Restructuring has reduced the board membership from 34 members to fifteen, and reorganized the teams/committees into areas determined by our Strategic Plan. It also created the UMVIM Advisory Team (consisting of two representatives from each annual conference, including the Conference UMVIM Coordinators serving as a pool from which board and committee members may be selected). The restructure has allowed us to focus on orientation for new Conference UMVIM Coordinators and selecting board members with a diversity of leadership skills and backgrounds. The Board of Directors meets at least twice annually. Conference UMVIM Coordinators have become a networking group who meet annually. Thirteen of the fifteen Conference UMVIM Coordinators met at ReelFoot Rural Ministries in the Memphis Conference for the 2015 annual meeting. They will meet in the Alabama-West Florida Conference during 2016.

**Strengthening the Brand** - Creating strategies that will make UMVIM visible to local church congregations, including branding all organizational items such as the website, printed materials and displays for a uniformed and standardized look. UMVIM, SEJ staff speak and have displays at local churches and events. We have visited 14 of the 15 annual conferences since 2013 and plan to intentional visit every annual conference before the end of the quadrennial.

**Building Connectional Relationships** - Maintaining connection through training and resources with the annual conferences and local churches regarding short-term missions is important part of the ministry of UMVIM, SEJ. Providing information and resources for volunteers, missionaries and project leader continues to be needed. Using technology such as Skype to dialogue and communicate with missionaries and church leaders without having to travel will be vital to sustaining connectional relationships.

UMVIM, SEJ suggested changes the forms and format for the **International UMVIM Opportunities for Teams** list putting the focus on the types of opportunities in relation with our missionaries and project

leaders. This list is available for download on our website ([http://umvim.org/send a team/international/select a project.html](http://umvim.org/send_a_team/international/select_a_project.html)).

UMVIM, SEJ collaborates with United Methodist Committee of Relief and the SEJ Disaster Response Coordinators to plan and implement an annual SEJ Disaster Academy. The SEJ Disaster Academy brings together annual conferences to train and discuss better ways of addressing relief, recovery and rebuilding in affected areas. It also allows us to share the continued needs of those areas that are in recovery. Many of the Conference UMVIM Coordinators attend the SEJ Disaster Academy. February 23-27, 2015 at Seashore Assembly in Biloxi, MS, the Academy was an opportunity to remember and share reflections of Katrina (10 Years After Katrina). I encourage you to read our blog post (<http://umvimsej.blogspot.com/2014/07/volunteer-training-it-matters-to.html>). Additionally, we assist annual conference in volunteer management training as part of the recovery process.

Annually, the five jurisdictional UMVIM Coordinators meeting in collaborative with Global Ministries Mission Volunteer staff. Additional, we assist with Global Ministries Mission Volunteer trainings for long-term volunteers which is usually once a year as well as project leaders and missionaries. November 2014, Paulette West assisted Global Ministries Mission Volunteers with training in South Africa for project leaders and missionaries who host volunteers. There were 16 participants from the following countries: Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

During May 2015, Paulette West took an exploratory team to visit with Global Ministries missionaries, Eric and Liz Soard, who serve in Tanzania. The goals in visiting all of the local United Methodist Churches in the Lake Victoria area is to connect them with United Methodist Churches in Alabama. Three churches in the Birmingham, AL area will be collaborating to build relationships with the churches in the Geita District of Tanzania. They will be taking a small group in the fall of 2016 to discuss how to create partnerships between the churches. Churches in the Alabama-West Florida conference will be creating partnerships with churches in the Mwanza area of Tanzania. Visit our blog (<http://umvimsej.blogspot.com/2015/09/eric-liz-soard-building-meaningful.html>) or read the attached article to read more about what the Soards are doing to build meaningful relationships in Tanzania.

In early 2016, Paulette West revisited long-term volunteer missionaries from the Holston Conference, Fred and Libby Dearing, in South Sudan. In addition to visiting potential sites for volunteer teams, she engaged in student health screenings at a couple of the UMC schools with Drs. Lynn and Sharon Fogleman, missionaries serving with the South Sudan UMC. It was encouraging to see the orphanage that was only a piece of land and a vision in 2011 actually functioning and providing a home and family for children with no parents. Danny Howe (Holston Conference) will serve as the South Sudan Coordinator, assisting volunteers with scheduling, logistics and information in their planning. Information is available on the UMVIM International Opportunities for Teams

**Creating Opportunities for a New Generation of Volunteers in Mission** - Recruiting and training youth leaders and providing opportunities that are easy for leadership logistically is a major focus. "GO!", our program for youth and young adults, serves as an introduction to UMVIM for those who have never served with us before. It provides hands-on training and guidance to the team leader during the planning process and gives students the opportunity to serve.

UMVIM, SEJ coordinates the annual Young People in Mission (YPIM) event held at Lake Junaluska. Each year, a Design Team is selected to plan and implement the next year's event. The team is comprised of young people in high school and college. The 2016 YPIM Design Team has met to plan the June 26-30 event. The theme will be "The Living Word, **Living the Word**". Information about the speakers, schedule, workshops and City of Opportunity can be found on our website ([http://umvim.org/go/youth-young-adults/young\\_people\\_in\\_mission/](http://umvim.org/go/youth-young-adults/young_people_in_mission/) 0

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UMVIM, SEJ staff continues to provide information and resources to colleges and universities, helping them discern connection with mission projects. Paulette West met with the Auburn Wesley Foundation director, Rev. David Goolsby, in Auburn, Alabama, who led a student team to serve in Tanzania with the Soards in June 2015. The UMVIM, SEJ Summer College Intern Program gives students an opportunity to engage in both domestic and international mission opportunities, and is a time of encouragement and discernment for them. The first intern was Kylie Foley in 2013. She served as the Imagine No Malaria Coordinator for the Florida Conference until the end of 2015. Our 2014 intern was Laura Kigweba of the Memphis Conference and graduate of Wesley Theological Seminary, is currently serving at Mount Vernon Place United Methodist Church in Baltimore, MD. Lindsey Brown served as the 2015 Intern. Her domestic placement was with Alabama Rural Ministries and Young People in Mission event. She served with Rice and Beans in Costa Rica as her international placement. Returning to complete her senior year as a nursing student at Union University in Jackson, TN., Lindsey hopes to become a missionary after graduation.

### **FINANCIAL PLAN**

Until 2015, almost 70% of UMVIM, SEJ's current revenue is generated through the services offered by our office, such as the insurance and processing fees and the sale of team leader handbooks. In the past, registration fees offset the declining amount of support from the Jurisdiction, and the new online registration process has reduced the need for additional staff to enter data. In 2015, we received an UMCOR grant to assist with a new staff position, Disaster Response Liaison. UMVIM, SEJ received substantial support through "Giving Tuesday" almost meeting our annual goal of \$75,000 and receiving \$16,475 in matching funds from The Advance. We are encouraged that donors are using "Giving Tuesday" as an opportunity to increase their contributions through The Advance matching funds.

Since moving the office to Birmingham, UMVIM, SEJ has experienced several changes in staff. Landon Taylor was hired July 15, 2013 to specifically focus on creating ways for churches and individuals to partner with us financially. We are looking for opportunities using diverse forms of communication, including social media, to offer opportunities for investing in the ministries of UMVIM, SEJ. Landon has worked with the Development Team and Chrissy Rosen to create development strategies and goals. The UMVIM, SEJ board developed an Endowment Plan to continue vital programs for young people and there is \$50,000 of matching funds for contributions made to the Endowment Fund.

UMVIM, SEJ assets are cash and cash equivalents, restricted funds and office furnishings (including computers, printers, and servers). Each year we have an independent audit done and the report is given to the UMVIM, SEJ Board and the SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability.

### **GOVERNANCE**

UMVIM, SEJ has a fifteen member Board of Directors, all with short-term mission experience. The officers, who serve as the Executive Committee, together with the chairs of the standing committee, a representative from the Council of Bishops, Conference Secretary of Global Ministries, two at-large members (one related to one of our international projects) and GBGM Mission Volunteers (ex-officio), make up the board. Current demographics include clergy (6), laity (6), male (10), female (4), 30s (2), 40s (2), 50s (6), over 60 (3), African-American (3), Hispanic (1) and Caucasian (9).

UMVIM, SEJ is an incorporated non-profit organization. The executive director is hired by its Board of Directors. Meeting twice a year, the board approves all by-laws, policies and budgets for the organization. The board sets the vision and goals which the standing committees and staff implement. A list of board members can be found on our website ([http://umvim.org/about\\_us/staff.html](http://umvim.org/about_us/staff.html)).



## REQUESTS

*Promotion is vital in making churches aware of the ministry, training and services that UMVIM, we encourage your church to contact us.*

Prayer is an important part of our ministry. During our staff meetings, we pray for teams and Individual Volunteers serving, Global Ministries mission personnel and staff, and UMVIM and GBGM projects. Please pray for all those serving through UMVIM but especially for our staff.

*Transforming the world through Christian love in action*

## Committee on Finance and Administration

The SEJ Committee on Finance and Administration (CFA) was created by the 2008 SEJ Conference in the Plan of Organization. The initial focus of the work of the SEJ CFA was to watch over jurisdictional finances. That included periodic review of the SEJ Agencies and the existing established ongoing groups as they transitioned from dependence on the SEJ apportionments as a funding source for their program and administrative financial support, to full self-sufficiency. Consistent with the action of the 2008 Conference, the budget approved at the 2012 Jurisdictional Conference provided no operational funding for these groups, but it did provide funds for debt service at Lake Junaluska and Hinton Rural Life Center, for debt that was undertaken with the blessing and anticipated financial support of SEJ. In addition to that debt service, the budget for the current quadrennium included funding for the SEJ's own expenses. With those changes, the apportioned budget for 2009–2012 of \$8,870,315 was reduced 50% for the 2013–2016 quadrennium, to \$4,435,156.

**Apportionment.** Your CFA recommends a 60% reduction for the coming 2017–2020 quadrennium, to **\$1,774,000**. This amount is projected to be sufficient for the ongoing operational costs of the Jurisdiction and its committees, as well as provide a cushion should there be a need to fund emerging ministries or a special called session of Jurisdictional Conference.

**SEJ Treasurers.** We wish to acknowledge and thank the former Treasurer of the Southeastern Jurisdiction, Jennifer Burton, CPA, for her service to the Jurisdiction from 2012–2014. When she asked to give up this position to concentrate on her other obligations, CFA advertised the vacancy, and after considering a number of applicants, selected David Dommissie as our new Treasurer. CFA is thankful for David's gift of his service; he brings his experience and expertise to our Jurisdiction, and we are thankful that he is now serving our Jurisdiction as Treasurer.

CFA is nominating David Dommissie to continue as Treasurer for the SEJ for the 2017–2020 quadrennium.

**SEJ Audits.** For fiscal years ending December 31, 2013, 2014, and 2015, CFA engaged the services of McGladrey, LLP (which recently changed its name to RSM US LLP) to audit our financials. The most recent financial report by SEJ's auditors is posted on the SEJ website at [www.sejumc.org](http://www.sejumc.org).

We reported in 2012 that, in compliance with generally accepted accounting procedures, the presentation of the SEJ's audited financial statement would be consolidated with the financial reports of the three SEJ Agencies: Gulfside Assembly, Inc, Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc., and Hinton Rural Life Center, Inc. Because of the discontinuation of program funding and changes in

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

the level of governance by the SEJ, financial statement consolidation was no longer required this quadrennium. In the opinion of CFA, this makes the report more “user friendly,” and it also helped keep our audit expense down.

Over the quadrennium, the SEJ CFA and the Committee on Coordination and Accountability (CCA) met jointly with representatives of the SEJ Agencies and Existing Established Ongoing Groups and reviewed their financial reports. We provided feedback to the agencies from our perspective on the ministries to the Jurisdiction. You will find more about that process in the CCA report found elsewhere in this Advanced Daily Christian Advocate.

A detailed Proposed Budget with Apportionments to the Annual Conferences follows this report. That report reflects a faithful commitment to the ministries of the Jurisdiction with collections on apportioned funds which have improved from 80% in the 2009–2012 quadrennium to a projected payment of at least 97% in the current quadrennium.

The Committee on Finance and Administration of The Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church presents the following recommendations to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference for action:

1. We recommend a budget for the 2017–2020 quadrennium in the total amount of \$1,774,000 allocated as provided in the Proposed Budget which follows.
2. We recommend that this amount be apportioned to the annual conferences as also provided in the Proposed Budget which follows.
3. We recommend the election of David Domnisse as Treasurer of the Southeastern Jurisdiction for the 2017–2020 quadrennium.

Please join me in thanking Christine Dodson (NC) for her service as Vice Chair of CFA and Chair of the Audit Committee; and David Stotts (MS) for his service as Secretary of CFA.

I have been honored to serve the Jurisdiction in this role, but I believe I speak for all of us whose terms are ending: eight years is enough! I pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to lead the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference and its Committee on Finance and Administration in its important work.

Jim Allen, *Chair*

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**Committee on Finance and Administration  
Proposed Budget and Apportionments  
2017—2020**

	Budget 2009-2012	Actual 2009-2012	Budget 2013-2016	Actual 2013-2016 Projected	Budget 2017-2020 Proposed	
<b>REVENUES</b>						1
Apportioned	@82%		@82%	@97%	@95%	2
less Allowance for uncollected apportionments	8,870,315		4,435,156		1,774,000	3
Projected Receipts from Conferences	(1,596,657)		(532,219)		(89,000)	4
Income from Renfro Trust	7,273,658	7,094,198	3,902,937	4,625,630	1,685,000	5
Interest and Investment income	0	543		23,850		7
				4,756		8
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>7,273,658</b>	<b>7,094,741</b>	<b>3,902,937</b>	<b>4,654,236</b>	<b>1,685,000</b>	12
						13
<b>EXPENSES</b>						14
<b>COMMITTEE AND SEJ OPERATIONAL EXPENSES</b>						15
Committee on Coordination and Accountability		53,520	60,000	54,773	69,000	16
Board Training and Executive Coaching			75,000	49,327		17
Website / IT Expense		(2,223)	22,500			18
Conference Secretary/SEJ CCA Staff and related expense			60,000	60,800	80,000	19
Pre-GC Educational Program for SEJ Delegates					10,000	20
Committee on Finance and Administration	18,000	20,111	27,000	46,664	38,000	21
SEJ Treasurer	20,000	20,000	80,000	80,340	80,000	22
Audit		19,659	27,000	67,515	60,000	23
Insurance (General liability/Property/D&O)			40,000	2,366	10,000	24
Legal Fees				10,360		25
Agency audit support/reimbursement					200,000	26
Committee on Episcopacy	72,000	47,125	72,000	70,529	82,000	27
Court of Appeals	8,000	11,570	8,000	8,000	25,000	28
Commission on Archives and History	233,960	233,960	123,000	235,335	240,000	29
Committee on Program and Arrangements	10,000	6,923	7,500		15,000	30
Committee on Rules and Review	1,000	0	1,000			31
Miscellaneous Admin Expenses				20,904	31,000	32
Reimbursement to LJA for SEJANAM (one time)				102,960		33
Allowance for uncollectable obligations (one time)				118,047		34
Renfro Grants				23,850		35
<b>TOTAL COMMITTEE/OTHER EXP.</b>	<b>362,960</b>	<b>410,644</b>	<b>603,000</b>	<b>943,770</b>	<b>940,000</b>	36
<b>SEJ AGENCIES &amp; EXISTING, ESTABLISHED, ONGOING GROUPS</b>						37
Lake Junaluska Assembly	5,791,801	5,676,995	2,000,000	2,000,000	0	38
Hinton Rural Life Center	103,218	100,085	351,200	351,200	0	39
Gulfside Assembly	120,420	116,769	0	0	0	40
Intentional Growth Center	120,420	116,769	0	0	0	41
UM Volunteers in Mission of the SEJ	120,420	116,769	0	0	0	42
SEMAR	111,820	108,434	0	0	0	43
						44
<b>TOTAL SEJ and EEOG EXPENSES</b>	<b>6,368,099</b>	<b>6,235,821</b>	<b>2,351,200</b>	<b>2,351,200</b>	<b>0</b>	45
						46
Jurisdictional Conference Session	442,599	435,376	492,000	500,000	500,000	47
Called Sessions, Operations, and Contingency	100,000	2,463	450,000		245,000	48
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>7,273,658</b>	<b>7,084,305</b>	<b>3,896,200</b>	<b>3,794,970</b>	<b>1,685,000</b>	49
						50
<b>NET REVENUES / (EXPENSES)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,436</b>	<b>6,737</b>	<b>859,266</b>	<b>0</b>	51
						52
<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>392,834</b>	<b>392,834</b>	<b>403,270</b>	<b>403,270</b>	<b>1,262,536</b>	53
						54
<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>392,834</b>	<b>403,270</b>	<b>410,007</b>	<b>1,262,536</b>	<b>1,262,536</b>	55

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Proposed Annual Conference Apportionments 2017-2020

		Per GCFA	2017-2020	Annual
<b>ANNUAL CONFERENCE APPORTIONMENTS</b>	Alabama - West Florida	6.2313%	\$110,543	\$27,636
	Florida	11.9050%	211,194	52,799
	Holston	5.6330%	99,930	24,983
	Kentucky	4.4043%	78,132	19,533
	Memphis	2.9881%	53,009	13,252
	Mississippi	5.4902%	97,396	24,349
	North Alabama	6.2132%	110,223	27,556
	North Carolina	7.0822%	125,638	31,410
	North Georgia	12.4834%	221,455	55,364
	Red Bird Missionary	0.0285%	506	127
	South Carolina	7.3402%	130,215	32,554
	South Georgia	4.6703%	82,851	20,713
	Tennessee	4.2116%	74,714	18,679
	Virginia	10.7461%	190,636	47,659
	Western North Carolina	10.5726%	187,558	46,890
	<b>Southeastern Total</b>		<b>100.0000%</b>	<b>\$1,774,000</b>

### Committee on Episcopacy 2012-2016

*The 2012 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* describes the work of the Jurisdictional Committees on Episcopacy as:

1. Responsibilities of Jurisdictional Committee on the Episcopacy (§524)
2. Duties of the Jurisdictional Committee on the Episcopacy (§524.3)
3. Election and Consecration of Bishops (§405)
4. Assignment Process (§406)
5. Vacancy in the Office of Bishop (§407)
6. Termination of Office (§408)
7. Status of Retired Bishops (§409)
8. Leaves (§410)

At the January 9-11, 2013, meeting of the SEJCOE in Atlanta, Georgia:

1. We reaffirmed our SEJ Committee on Episcopacy Team Covenant:

*With God as our witness and help, we covenant together as the Southeastern Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy to labor for the whole good of the Southeastern Jurisdiction by:*

- *Prayer: committee members will pray for one another and for the Bishops by name each Friday.*
- *Participation: committee members will be fully present and fully attentive at each meeting. We will turn cell phones off or silent when in session as a committee. We will complete assignments between meetings in a timely fashion.*

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- *Faithfulness: committee members will attend each meeting unless illness or crisis prevents participation. Notification of absence will be given to the Chairperson. The Executive Committee will give ample notification of meetings to committee members.*
- *Accountability: committee members will speak the truth in love and receive the truth in grace. When discussing situations in Annual Conferences and the work of each Bishop, we will be fully honest throughout the quadrennium when we meet. We will be transparent in our discussions, and enable other committee members to understand the state of each Annual Conference as well as the leadership of each Bishop.*
- *Confidentiality: committee members will practice discretion of speech and not discuss confidential matters outside of the committee so that we can be fully honest with each other. Matters that are to be shared with the Bishops or others will be made explicit so that committee members can share them freely.*
- *Spiritual Discernment: committee members will rely on a process of spiritual discernment for the assignment of Bishops. The needs and opportunities of each Annual Conference will be the priority of the assignment process while considering the gifts of each Bishop. This process will happen during the meetings of the SEJ COE. There will be no deliberations regarding episcopal assignments among committee members except during official meetings.*

2. We adopted the Episcopal Review and Evaluation process.
3. We met with the College of Bishops as a whole and in our relational teams.

At the January 8-9, 2014, meeting of the SEJCOE in Pensacola, Florida:

1. We celebrated the life of Gloria Holt, Chair of the SEJ Committee on Episcopacy.
2. Jorge Acevedo, Clergy from the Florida Annual Conference, was unanimously elected the new Chair and Emily Innes, Laity from the North Carolina Conference, was unanimously elected Vice Chair.
3. We continued our refining work for the Episcopal Review and Evaluation process.
4. We met with the College of Bishops as a whole and in our relational teams.

At the January 7-8, 2015, meeting of the SEJCOE in Charleston, South Carolina:

1. We reviewed an Episcopal Residence policy.
2. We met with the College of Bishops as a whole and in our relational teams.
3. We continued our refining work for the Episcopal Review and Evaluation process.
4. We reviewed elections and assignment process.

At the January 5-7, 2016, meeting of the SEJCOE in Lakeland, Florida:

1. We met with the College of Bishops as a whole and in our relational teams.
2. We adopted an Episcopal Residence policy (Attachment A to this report).
3. We finalized elections and assignment process.
4. We met with eight returning Bishops.

At all our gatherings, we have attempted to love God and one another, learn and lead together so that we might live into the standard set by Acts 15:28a (NLT) when it was said of the first followers of Jesus: *“For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us...”* It has been our honor to serve God and the SEJ these four years.

Respectfully submitted,

Jorge Acevedo, Chair

Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

**Attachment A to Report of the SEJ Committee on Episcopacy**

**EPISCOPAL RESIDENCE GUIDELINES  
SOUTH EASTERN JURISDICTION  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Adequate housing for resident Bishops shall be provided by the Episcopal Area to which the Bishop is assigned. As per Paragraph #638 of the 2012 *Book of Discipline*, an Episcopal Residence Committee shall be formed as outlined in Paragraph #638, and the care and upkeep of the Episcopal Residence shall be monitored by this committee.

Adequate housing shall be defined as meeting or exceeding the following minimum standards:

The location of the house should be in reasonable proximity to the Conference office, airport and basic shopping venues should be within reasonable distance.

**MINIMUM STANDARDS:**

Three or more Bedrooms (It has been suggested that four bedrooms would be better to allow for out of town family and guests to stay as most Bishops are away from family.) **ONE OF THESE BEDROOMS SHOULD BE ON THE GROUND/MAIN LEVEL WITH DISABILITY ACCESS.**

Two or more full bathrooms

Family room

Living room

Adequate dining room

Kitchen with all appliances: Refrigerator; Stove; Dishwasher; Microwave

Laundry Room with Washer and Dryer

Hot Water Heater of at least 40 gallons

Dry and secure Storage area

Smoke alarms and Carbon monoxide detectors

Fire extinguishers

Storm window or insulated windows and doors

Quality window coverings in neutral colors that insure privacy

Quality floor coverings in neutral colors which are durable and easily maintained

Deadbolts on all exterior doors

Double Garage or Carport

Heating and Air Conditioning throughout the parsonage

When possible a room for an at-home study should be considered.

**If parsonage is fully or partially furnished, furnishings should be in new or good condition, monitored for wear or discoloring and adequate for active family life and hosting visitors. When it is deemed necessary to replace furniture the Episcopal Family should be consulted in the process of the decision. It is also understood that some Episcopal families will have some personal furniture they may want to use which may require other furniture to be stored.**

**UTILITIES:** (These should be in the name of the Conference as to not have lapses in transitions.)

Local phone service and Long distance call applicable to the Episcopal duties

Basic internet service

Basic Cable or Satellite television Service

Electric

Gas

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Sewage  
Water  
Garbage

**MAINTENANCE:** (Scheduling of these maintenance areas should be done in consultation with the Episcopal Family)

Inspection and cleaning of ductwork as needed  
Landscaping should be representative of the neighborhood  
Regular schedule for both inside and outside painting  
Timely repairs as needed  
Regular carpet cleaning  
Regular maintenance and cleaning of chimneys, if they exist  
Windows maintained to be operative  
Regular pest control inspection and provide any needed treatment  
Annual termite inspection and provide any needed treatment  
Suitable and maintained driveway  
Regular inspection for mold and any needed treatment  
Lawn maintenance shall be provided

NOTE: It is the responsibility of the Episcopal family to inform the Episcopal Residence Committee of any needed repairs or maintenance. The committee should also follow the guidelines of the Discipline and review the parsonage annually for needed updates, maintenance and repairs.

### **ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR NEW OR REPLACEMENT PARSONAGES:**

- One room that can be used as a bedroom by a person with a disability, one fully accessible bathroom and fully accessible laundry facilities on the ground-floor level.
- A Fenced-in backyard is the preference (It is understood some subdivisions do not allow fencing.)

### **RECORDS:**

- A file should be maintained by the Episcopal Residence Committee of all warranties, repair information and service records for the appliances, heating and cooling systems and plumbing.
- Adequate insurance shall be maintained for replacement value of the house and the furnishings. The Episcopal family is encouraged to maintain insurance for their personal property

### **TRANSITIONS:**

- When there is a change of residents, the Episcopal family is personally responsible for repairs for any damage caused by a pet that has been kept in or around the parsonage. These expenses may include but not limited to: physical damage repair to lawn, structure, or furniture; environmental cleaning services including air filtration, painting, upholstery and/or drapery cleaning.
- The Episcopal Family is also responsible for damage caused by smoking inside the parsonage.
- Arrangements between the Episcopal Family and the Episcopal Residence Committee for thorough cleaning and repairs should be made prior to the move to determine if repairs are the responsibility of the Episcopal Family or normal maintenance and repairs.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Episcopal Area Reports

#### ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA AREA REPORT

**Bishop Paul L. Leeland**

During the 2012-2016 quadrennium, the congregations of the Alabama-West Florida Conference have continued to embrace the intent of our Call To Action by shifting our interest, resources and energy toward vital congregations and fruitful ministries. The vision of our conference has been the clear belief that every congregation can be a missional (serving) and evangelistic (inviting) congregation regardless of location or size. As a result the leadership of our conference has been intentional in seeking spiritual leaders who will engage their present context, providing appropriate nurture and preparation to be strategically placed to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

This quadrennium our Annual Conference embraced the covenant set by our denomination to be guided by the Four Areas of Ministry Focus:

1. Engaging in Ministry with the Poor;
2. Improving Global Health;
3. Developing Principled Christian Leaders; and
4. Creating New and Renewed congregations.

As conference leaders we have held each other responsible through our core values of transparency, encouragement, and trust, as we celebrated six cities within the conference who are engaged in our Communities of Transformation allowing us to be involved in “Ministry with the Poor.” This year, 2016, we will have communities of transformation opened in all the poorest areas of our conference. We have been advocates and friends while listening, understanding, and working together to achieve personal goals that improve lives and lift up both individuals and communities.

Our commitment to “Improving Global Health” guided us to raise over one million dollars in cash for Imagine No Malaria. This was accomplished while the conference built new conference offices and adopted the lowest conference budget in 16 years, while giving thanks for the largest response to our missional giving since 2001 (15 years)! The difficult decisions regarding our stewardship now offers evidence of a renewed commitment to the missional covenant set by our sisters and brothers at every level of the Church with increased trust and support of our missional priorities.

Alabama-West Florida’s focus on “Developing Principled Christian Leaders” has found expression in multiple ways. As conference leaders we have embraced the mission of the church as our first priority. The hope of our denomination to dramatically reform clergy leadership development has been encompassed by the expansion of our Academy for Congregational Excellence (for both clergy and lay leaders) where continued attention to pastoral leadership and ministerial gifts can be shaped to meet the changing needs of our communities. In addition to this academy, the Committee on Pastoral Effectiveness moves into its second quadrennium to offer continued support and guidance for those who have found the demands of ministry to be overwhelming.

Developing principled Christian leaders has helped shape our understanding of the district superintendent as the “missional strategist” who is more intimately engaged within their respective district. To facilitate this mutual commitment, we have utilized professional coaches for each district superintendent. As a result, this is how we have lived into it: This area of coaching, as it relates to leadership development, is aimed at supporting 4 to 5 clergy within each district who may be effective, but could be exceptional if they had additional coaching. Each district developed missional teams that addressed their specific context. Each superintendent has invested significant time (one full day every month for one year) in



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Appreciative Inquiry in order to shift away from a “problem oriented approach” of working with churches, to a “strength based approach” of building on what we believe God would have us to do.

In addition, our commitments to diversity and young clergy have shaped our efforts to develop a Comprehensive Plan of Inclusiveness; strengthened our partnership with the Stegall Scholarship Fund which now has raised over 5 million dollars and offers a gift to every seminarian preparing to serve the Alabama-West Florida Conference \$10,000 each year for their education; fostered a Young Clergy Initiative who meet with the bishop one day a month for a year; and the increasing partnership of 35 spiritual directors trained by Dr. Wendy J. Miller, Professor of Spiritual Formation at Eastern Mennonite Seminary.

“Creating New and Renewed Congregations” has allowed us to celebrate the formation of 17 new faith communities and churches bringing greater awareness to our commitment to birth new congregations. Presently we are finalizing a formal partnership with Fresh Expressions to create new faith communities to touch more lives and make new disciples of Jesus. Our newly formed “Antioch Project” focuses on renewed congregations and congregational liveliness where we work directly with churches using lay and clergy coaches to increase their fruitfulness and vitality. Presently we have 18 congregations engaged in this initiative. As a result we have “changed our mindset so that our primary focus and commitment are on fostering and sustaining congregational vitality” (The Call to Action).

At the conclusion of this second quadrennium, my wife, Janet, and I offer thanks for cherished friendships and emerging places of service. We are blessed by the gracious reception and encouragement of this annual conference. May God’s presence, power and love continue to be manifested in the faithful and fruitful work of these wonderful congregations and church leaders. In the words of John Wesley, “The best of all is God is with us.”

### **BIRMINGHAM AREA REPORT** **Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett**

North Alabama’s focus in the 2012-2016 quadrennium has been on spiritual leadership. Our vision is spiritual leaders empowering life-giving congregations to transform the world. Our mission is to discover, develop and deploy spiritual leaders to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Conference teams and staffing have been restructured toward this emphasis on leadership development, utilizing the operational team model of transformational leadership.

This work of transformational leadership has included gaining clarity on the meaning of a spiritual leader.

Spiritual leaders are called by God to courageously challenge the church to make disciples. As servant leaders, they humbly accept their call with responsibility, integrity and grace. As lifelong learners, these lay and clergy persons are growing Christ-followers who foster fruitful and healthy relationships. Not fearing failure, they are distinguished by their gifts, vision and passion for developing other Christ-followers who transform the communities they serve.

Our Conference continues to align its budget and staff to fully support our priorities of Church Health, Ethnic Ministries, Ministry with the Poor and New Church. Our leadership team has also utilized five years of Conference metrics to discern strategic locations for potential turn-around churches and new faith communities.

As a conference, it is our practice to celebrate “glory sightings,” times when we see God’s amazing work in our world. Glory sightings from this quadrennium in North Alabama include:

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

New Church – The North Alabama Conference started 15 new communities of faith in 2013, 13 in 2014, 21 in 2015 and anticipates 32 in 2016. These include new worship services, multi-site campuses, Celebrate Recovery, House Church networks, new sites and strategic restarts. We are aggressively recruiting future church planters, intentionally training launch teams and proactively planning for new places and sites.

Healthy Church – The North Alabama Conference is utilizing several processes to revitalize declining churches. ABIDE is a part of the strategy for use with small membership churches, with Natural Church Development continuing to have significant impact in several churches. Our newest initiative, 3D Regeneration, utilizes the SLI (Spiritual Leadership Inc.) system of Discover, Develop and Deploy.

Ethnic Church – The Ethnic Church team is focusing on discovering young adult spiritual leaders through Ignite, an initiative launched in December 2015. Ignite discovers and develops young adult spiritual leaders who will in turn discover and develop other young adult disciples and spiritual leaders.

Ministry with the Poor – The North Alabama Ministry with the Poor Team led leadership training for more than 250 people in Christian Community Development. The team conducted poverty simulations at several locations throughout the Annual Conference and has established a staff position to implement the priority. The team's desire is to see every church engaged in significant ministry with the poor and to embed within each ministry a path to Christian discipleship.

Imagine No Malaria – \$1 million in pledges and gifts was contributed in one year to Imagine No Malaria.

Prayer Emphasis – We have renewed our emphasis on prayer including forming a confidential covenant prayer team with the sole purpose of praying consistently for the needs and concerns of the annual conference, its communities, churches, clergy and laity.

Spring Storms 2011 – We completed the recovery efforts from the storms of April 2011, including \$2.5 million in UMCOR grants, \$1 million donated by local churches and \$2 million of in-kind service (volunteer hours).

As we look toward the next quadrennium, with God's help we will continue working in the North Alabama way, utilizing the following principles:

Team matters

Spiritual leaders respond instead of react

What we do is of critical importance; how we do it is of equal importance

The higher the expectations the greater the outcome

We will move as quickly as we can, as slowly as we need to, for as long as it takes

We will follow the process and honor the integrity of all levels of the system

Lee and I are honored to serve alongside the extraordinary United Methodists in the Birmingham episcopal area. We are inspired by the deep commitment of North Alabama clergy and laity to make a positive difference in the church, community and world.

### **CHARLOTTE AREA REPORT**

**Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster**

The Western North Carolina Conference began this quadrennium (2012-2016) with the challenge of making a radical shift from 15 to 8 districts. Adopted in 2011 and fully implemented in 2012, this decision was designed to reset the financial baseline of the conference, to redefine the role of the District Superintendent as missional strategist, and to refocus connection at the grassroots level where the mission is carried out daily. Over these last four years we have invested time and energy in aligning our resources

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and structure with our core purpose, *“to increase the number of vital churches fully engaged in God’s mission in the world.”*

Missional Networks. All but one of the districts doubled geographically and in the number of churches. We designed an approach that would bring together several churches in a defined area around a common mission field. Initially churches were assigned to a network with the understanding that these would be flexible and fluid as new relationships and partnerships emerged. Over the last four years we have witnessed an increase in the number of missional engagement projects happening across the conference. There has been a wide range of projects launched: working in schools with children both tutoring and providing supplies; visiting in jails and prisons; creating feeding programs; starting outreach centers.

While not all of the networks are functioning as originally envisioned, the results continue to inspire us all with stories of lives being changed because of the involvement of churches. We have also witnessed a number of small membership churches come alive with activity and hope where there had been very little or none. The networks have also created a vehicle for District Superintendents to connect with all the churches and to lead as missional strategists.

Church Vitality Strategists. Believing that the role of the conference is to resource and support the ministry of the local church we moved toward a “deployment model” of staffing. In addition we recognized that with a larger territory and more churches the superintendent would benefit from an additional staff person. Our team of Church Vitality Strategists (CVS) came together under the leadership of the Director of Church Vitality and began working directly with local churches for visioning, strategic planning, developing resources, designing unique programs, and identifying missional opportunities in the neighborhood and community.

We have learned that having a team of four CVS members, each assigned to two districts, was not sufficient for the demand or the needs expressed. By rearranging already approved dollars in the budget we are expanding the team to eight members in the summer of 2016, with each CVS assigned to one district while continuing to bring skills and expertise that will be utilized across district lines. We believe that this model of resourcing and supporting local churches will expand our capacity and have a positive impact on churches and communities.

Permission-giving culture. Over the last eight years, and particularly in the last quadrennium, we have encouraged churches to become a missional movement in the community where a church building happens to be located. The emphasis has been on responding to needs locally with the district and conference serving as a resource to undergird their work. The conference “vision and goals budget” has shifted from line items supporting conference-level programming to providing grants for creative outreach and disciple-making in churches and networks. As we continue to adapt we are beginning to push many of those funds for grants to the districts in order to be closer to the local church.

We have seen a dramatic increase in the number of vital mergers, new partnerships, and missional outreach as a result. A growing number of our mid-size and larger congregations are “adopting” smaller struggling churches to create new mission possibilities and/or worship venues to reach new, younger people. Rather than being mandated from the Conference or the Cabinet, we have witnessed the merger of churches to be in ministry for Christ Jesus; several of those have been cross-racial mergers either as a new place for new people or as a new charge. All of this has resulted in many new faith communities that may grow into new churches. We are learning that the new norm for planting churches is in partnerships and in repurposing existing buildings and facilities.

Much to celebrate. It is amazing to see what God has done and continues to do through the lay and clergy members of the Western North Carolina Conference. Working together with the North Carolina

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Conference we launched “C4C” (Congregations for Children), a statewide emphasis on making a difference in the lives of our children and our schools. We have witnessed a growing number of cross-racial and cross-cultural appointments, charges, and cooperation. Many homeless, poor, hopeless, or trapped people are finding hope and healing through the ministries of our churches. Over the last four years we have become a major participant and partner with the Missional Wisdom Foundation led by Dr. Elaine Heath. A number of our lay and clergy members have participated in the Academy and started new models of “mainline monastic” communities.

In the last four years our conference has received a number of major grants from various Foundations, General Agencies, and The Duke Endowment to support and expand our work. With those grants we have reshaped our Residence-in-Ordained-Ministry program for provisional members; we have continued our work in thriving rural communities and our transition into ministry program; we have created and successfully launched a number of initiatives designed to strengthen leadership capacity of both clergy and lay. “Flame Builders” has just completed (May, 2016) its second cohort of young adult lay persons who spend a full year in developing leadership skills.

Into the future. We have only just begun to make a difference. As the next quadrennium begins we are moving toward an intense and robust focus on vital discipleship and creating disciple-making systems that will result in deeply committed followers of Jesus for the twenty-first century. With the appointment of a Director of Vital Discipleship we will discover and design new strategies for resourcing local churches in this important work of “making disciples.” Together with the CVS team, the Director will continue the momentum of finding fresh expressions in an ever-changing and expanding mission field. We know that one of our challenges continues to be overcoming long-standing habits that have resulted in “membership” over “discipleship.”

In April 2016 we announced a new initiative, The Vitality Project. Fully funded by The Duke Endowment for the next five years, this project, with a team of up to five people, will work directly with the superintendents and our local churches to find new ways of doing and being church. The outcomes may include a variety of possibilities from vital mergers, to repurposing, to leaving a legacy for the next generation.

Deborah and I have been richly blessed to have been given the privilege of working and serving among God’s people in Western North Carolina for the last eight years. Our prayer is that God “who started a good work in you will stay with you to complete the job by the day of Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 1:6, CEB)

### **COLUMBIA AREA REPORT Bishop L. Jonathan Holston**

For the South Carolina Conference, the mission continues to be making disciples for Jesus Christ and transforming the world through our quadrennial theme of "A More Excellent Way." The leadership challenge in South Carolina has centered in engaging laity and clergy around the importance of organizational health. Our initial focus on organizational health engaged conference and local church leaders in a conversation on how we develop trust as the foundation of our life together in the congregation, the community and beyond. Therefore, the first year involved me visiting all twelve districts in a time of sharing and listening which was essential in advancing this emphasis.

In preparing for the 2013 annual conference meeting, we began to dream God-sized dreams, asking the question, "What would it be like if our annual conference meeting was a place for United Methodists from around the state to gather to make a difference while the business meeting was taking place?" With the theme of "A More Excellent Way: Sharing Stories of Serving, Giving, and Living," South Carolina

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United Methodists rose to the challenge of packaging a truckload of meals for Stop Hunger Now and raising \$470,000 to fund the Stop Hunger Now shipment as well as to support hunger ministries around the state. It was an acknowledgement of the significant need close to home even as we expect God to work through us to address issues of poverty and health around the world.

As the second year of the quadrennium unfolded, a clear vision for how South Carolina United Methodists fulfill our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world began to take shape. The decades of court battles over the inequalities in funding public education once more made the news with word of an imminent South Carolina Supreme Court ruling on the "Corridor of Shame" case. With the 2014 annual conference theme of "A More Excellent Way: Creating Corridors of Faith, Hope and Love," congregations were encouraged to collect books for preschool and elementary children in a conference-wide Million Book Effort. The Million Book Effort raised awareness about the depth of need in our state related to children living in poverty and the systematic issues that impact education in rural counties. Local churches responded well to the encouragement to connect with the schools in their communities and see the children in their community as their children as well. The Pan-Methodist Campaign for Children in Poverty Task Force has worked diligently to keep the concerns about education before our congregations and to remind them to be agents of transformation. We continue that work ecumenically with the Bishop's Initiative on Public Education which includes Lutheran, Episcopal, Roman Catholic and Pan-Methodist bishops. Not only does Ministry with the Poor include relationships with those caught in the cycle of poverty but also advocacy for changes needed to address systematic injustice.

In the spring of 2014, we held the first Bishop's Laity Retreat for district lay leaders, lay servant directors and other conference lay leaders for the purpose of engaging laity in the conversation around organizational health. From this retreat came the vision of meeting in each district directly with local church lay leaders and lay servants. It was during 2013-2014 that the "Bishop's Road Show" was born. Along with my team of conference staff and key leaders, I met with over 1500 lay leaders around the conference on twelve (12) different Saturdays to talk about trust, healthy conflict and commitment.

Developing Principled Christian Leaders, both lay and clergy, continued into the third year of the quadrennium as we utilized "The Leadership Contract" by Vince Molinaro. Focusing on leadership as behavior rather than position, teams of local church leaders along with their pastor met together in districts to wrestle with how to lead well and how to effectively connect the congregation with the community. Planned by district leadership teams, the "Bishop's Barbeque Bash" was developed to challenge congregational leadership teams to pursue church renewal by re-engaging the community. The theme for the 2015 annual conference was "A More Excellent Way: Becoming Disciples God can Use." Lay and clergy leaders rose to this challenge as over 3000 persons from over 600 churches participated in one of the twelve district Bishop's Barbeque Bashes.

The year 2015 was also a challenging year for the people of South Carolina. In the spring, a North Charleston police-involved shooting made national news and raised concern about how the community would respond. Reverend Clementa Pinckney, South Carolina State Senator and pastor of Emmanuel AME Church, helped to organize a Pan-Methodist Prayer Service bringing together the faith community to acknowledge the need for justice and healing. Not long after that service, Reverend Pinckney and eight (8) others were killed in a racially-motivated shooting at the historic Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston. The response of the "Emmanuel Nine" family members, the Charleston community and the state of South Carolina was something no one thought would happen. Soon after, state leaders made the long-overdue decision to remove the Confederate Battle Flag from the State House grounds. This witness to justice, forgiveness and community positioned South Carolina for leadership in a global arena. As United Methodists continue to wrestle with the legacy of racism in the state and church, we seek a more excellent way to love one another and witness faithfully in our communities about God's healing love.

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In October, an unprecedented weather event caused extensive damage across the Palmetto State. The rains came early and continued throughout the month resulting in devastating flooding that impacted 24 of the 46 counties and affected over 100,000 households. United Methodists with the guidance of UMCOR continue to lead in the response and recovery effort. More than 40 of our churches experienced damage. Because of the generosity of our neighbors, we have been able to assist 13 of those churches in returning their facilities and property to wholeness.

As we come to the close of the quadrennium, we share in the 2016 annual conference theme of "A More Excellent Way: Making Space for God to Work." This has been a time of dreaming the God-sized dream of raising \$1 million for Imagine No Malaria in order to address this significant Global Health issue. Even with the devastating floods and the generous giving to address that need, this effort continues to help our local churches learn how they can make a difference in impacting this preventable, treatable, and beatable disease. We continue to make space for God to work by cultivating new places for new people. Our goal of 50 new places for new people includes new church starts, additional sites of existing congregations, new worship services in strategic congregations, strengthening the African-American United Methodist presence in small cities and resourcing opportunities for Hispanic-Latino ministry. Each year, our apportionment giving has increased even as we dreamed God-sized dreams and sought the financial resources to fund them. God has been faithful as our local congregations have embraced a more excellent way of making disciples and transforming the world. Each challenge to step out on faith and trust that God can use us beyond our expectations has resulted in new opportunities for local churches to make a difference in their communities.

Looking back on the ministries of this quadrennium, it becomes clear that the four areas of focus are interrelated. Developing principled Christian leaders involves engaging in ministry with the poor. An annual conference focus on improving global health can be a vehicle for renewing existing congregations. Disciples are formed and grow when we challenge our state to address the root causes of poverty. Working to transform the world can transform our congregations and communities. Dreaming God-sized dreams in a more excellent way invites generous giving and enthusiastic commitment to being a movement-oriented Body of Christ.

In closing, it has been a privilege and blessing for Felecia and me to be in ministry with the laity and clergy of the Columbia Area. We have rejoiced in the opportunity to share God-sized dreams with United Methodists across this wonderful state. Thank you for helping us to envision a more excellent way of mission and ministry.

Grace and Peace.

### **FLORIDA AREA REPORT** **Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, Jr.**

I begin with a word of gratitude to the amazing followers of Jesus Christ, laity and clergy, who lead local churches and extension ministries across the Florida Conference. In addition, I want to express my indebtedness to the bishops who preceded me in this episcopal area; I have inherited many strengths and gifts, and I give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve. Mostly I depend upon the promises of God, in particular, that the *"One who began a good work in us will be faithful to complete it."* (Philippians 1. 6).

The 2012-2016 quadrennium began with the affirmation that the General Conference, as a body, had affirmed the wisdom of the **"Call to Action,"** which was summarized as follows:  
*"The adaptive challenge for The United Methodist Church is to redirect the flow of attention, energy, and resources to an intense concentration on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of vital*

*congregations effective in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”* And so we begin with attention to the local churches, scattered across the diverse mission field that is our annual conference.

We embraced the language of the 2012 Book of Discipline’s designation of the **district superintendent** as “**chief missional strategist**,” this is particularly helpful in Florida, where cities across our state (Jacksonville and Miami, for example) are so vastly different. We centralized many of the administrative functions of district offices toward the annual conference, in order to prioritize the strategic and missional work at the district level; at the same time we have clearly defined the role of conference staff as resourcing the work of district superintendents. To borrow Alan Roxburgh’s image, we are moving away from a “hub and spoke” model of ministry; we believe the wisdom, diversity and capacity is present in local contexts, and our calling is to give permission for experimentation, innovation and growth. The ongoing work of the Strategic Leadership Team has helped us to align our resources, particularly at the conference level, with the needs of local churches and the nine districts.

Given this background, the following initiatives began to emerge during this quadrennium:

An “**Over-Investment in the Young**,” the awareness that our Camping and Campus ministries are strong and in need of continuing support; the development of a Young Adult Missional Movement which creates a one to two year intentional community of service, spiritual discernment and local church engagement; a major endowment, created through the collaboration of our Foundation, Pension and Health Benefits Committee, and Office of Clergy Excellence, to make grants to clergy for debt reduction upon their ordinations; a major gift that funded a Bishop’s Pilgrimage to Israel and Palestine for those ordained during this quadrennium; an innovative Board of Lay Ministry focus on intergenerational and next-generations lay leadership; and a “Younger Clergy of Color Leadership” fund that has supported pilgrimages to South Africa and an Hispanic Spiritual Leadership Inc. cohort.

The “**Fresh Expressions**” movement, modeled after the renewal work done in Great Britain over the last two decades and in significant partnership with Fresh Expressions U.S., whereby new communities of disciples are formed in the culture, beyond the walls of the church, and yet in a “mixed economy” of church that honors ongoing traditions. This movement of laity and clergy is bearing fruit within twenty-three widely diverse settings.

The “**Nehemiah Project**,” which is an intentional process that assists congregations in assessing their past, present and future, with an openness to either revitalization, merger, adoption, or a legacy gift to birth new ministries. This work honors the emotional processes that are inherent in the closure of churches, while at the same time refocuses attention on the mission field that surrounds the congregation and the human needs that are unmet as leaders become more internally focused.

A “**Leaders in Transition**” process, with spiritual direction, coaching and peer training, was a part of the Florida Conference’s response to a significant number of retirements among our senior pastors of large regional churches (the estimate is that 18 of our 20 largest churches, each among the 100 largest in the connection, will experience retirement in this role during 2012-2020). The Florida Conference is also a leader within our connection in clergywomen serving in these senior pastorates.

Our churches are seeking to be engaged with the human needs of our state through a newly established Office of **Missional Engagement**. This is bearing fruit in the growth of the Young Adult Missional Movement, in strengthened covenant relationships with Cuba (a nation in the midst of historic political changes), Haiti and East Angola, in resourcing Volunteer in Mission teams and in seeking to address the institutional racism present in our structures and communities. We rejoice that \$1.2 million was

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raised for Imagine No Malaria, with over 75% of our congregations participating, and that 1.8 million meals were packaged in a conference partnership with Stop Hunger Now.

The **themes** of the Annual Conferences have been “Becoming Disciples of Jesus Christ” (2013), “The Mission of God” (2014), “Next Generations” (2015) and “Leading Like Jesus” (2016). Our diverse leadership in these gatherings has included Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey, Adam Hamilton, Robert Tuttle, Robert McMichael and Jarvis Wilson, Bill Hybels, Bishop Janice Huie, James Salley, Thomas Kemper, Kim Cape, Jim Harnish and the Africa University Choir.

We continue to pay attention to the **metrics** that tell a part of the story of our fruitfulness as an annual conference. Our average worship attendance is at 129,788, and professing membership is 245,575. Over the past ten years, the former represents slightly less than a 2% decline annually, while the latter is slightly more than a 2% decline annually. Our apportionment giving is at 85%, up 7% over the past five years. Our conference has 661 Local Churches and 23 Fresh Expressions of Church, and 13 new congregations were planted during this quadrennium. We rejoice that three of the twenty-five fastest growing United Methodist churches are within our annual conference: Community of Hope in Loxahatchee, New Covenant in The Villages, and Anona in Largo. During the 2012-16 period Florida was recognized by the Lewis Center as one of the five annual conferences with the strongest gain in the percentage of clergy under the age of 35.

I conclude by thanking an extraordinary cabinet and conference staff, and the local churches that have given me the honor of preaching and teaching the gospel and celebrating our connection in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

### **KNOXVILLE AREA REPORT** **Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor**

The Knoxville Area (Holston Conference) is at a pivotal time. With many changes taking place in society, Holston Conference is also looking at where we are and what direction we want to go for the future as we continue to make disciples for the transformation of the world.

In doing so, a Conference Strategy Team has been put into place to evaluate our current situation and find a more effective way to express a contemporary and relevant vision for bringing people into a transformative relationship with Jesus Christ. This is not a fast process by any means. The Conference Strategy Team has met with consultant Tom Bandy, using MissionInsite to focus on learning about and blessing our neighbors. We will be working into this next quadrennium to put a plan in place to continue making disciples for Jesus Christ.

Holston Conference has always been a strong leader in missions locally, nationally, and around the world. We continue to be so. Our mission focus over the past 2 years has been on Children and Poverty in the conference. Every day children in our communities experience the stresses of poverty. Hungry tummies, sleepy bodies, tired minds, and worries for daily needs face over 78,000 children within the bounds of the Holston Conference every single day. You don't have to go far in Tennessee, Virginia, or Georgia to find children in poverty. In 2015 members of our congregations were challenged to contribute \$10 and 10 hours of service on behalf of children in poverty in our communities. The response was over the top. The money received has been distributed through a grant process back into our local churches to serve the children in their communities. Many stories have been shared of new ministries and ministries being rejuvenated in communities across Holston Conference. Most importantly, new relationships have formed and we continue to make disciples for Jesus Christ! We will continue this ministry throughout the next year.



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We achieved the goal of raising \$1.2 million for Imagine No Malaria and continue our strong missional partnerships with Zimbabwe, Liberia, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, and South Sudan. In South Sudan, we have begun 20+ new churches, drilled 35+ wells, conducted clergy training, medical clinics, educational opportunities for children, and built and maintained two orphanages.

For approximately 20 years the members of Holston Conference have prepared food buckets, health kits, and sewing kits that are loaded on 3 semi-tractor trailers and sent to Zimbabwe and Liberia. These are life-sustaining provisions for the communities served. A highlight of Annual Conference each year is the celebration of sending off the trucks filled with kits from churches in every corner of the conference.

In the area of congregational development and revitalization, we have developed partnerships between strong churches and struggling congregations in order to strengthen the ministries of both. Two new faith communities have begun in store fronts for persons who are not comfortable in our traditional church buildings. We also have begun many recovery ministries across Holston Conference.

The areas of Sevierville, Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg, Tennessee receive millions of visitors each year. The Holston Conference Congregational Development team is developing a new ministry located in Sevierville, Tennessee called, The Connexion. The vision for the site includes a bookstore and coffee café; a Saturday-night “vacation church” worship service; Christian concerts; hosting of Holston events such as Divine Rhythm, Jubilation, and Convocation; a recovery ministry; and livestreaming and podcasts of on-site programming. This ministry will have many opportunities to witness and share our faith with others.

Other developing cooperative efforts for ministry include:

- Exploring and developing new ways to share congregational ministries
- Implementing a grant from the National Plan for Hispanic Ministries to respond to our growing Hispanic/Latino population
- Implementing community partnerships through the leadership of Church and Community Workers
- Reaching local neighborhood communities, especially through church-school partnerships

There are many ministry highlights happening in Holston, too many to name. However, Resurrection and Divine Rhythm continue to be a shining light in the conference. These annual events reach 10,000+ teenagers and young adults for Christ. As a result of this, each quadrennium Holston continues to be a leader in annual conferences that have the highest percentage of clergy under the age of 35 serving as ordained clergy.

Holston Conference is moving into a new quadrennium with excitement as we continue to expand existing ministries and as we look for new ways to serve that will bring people into a relationship with Jesus Christ to make even more disciples for Him for the transformation of the world.

### **LOUISVILLE AREA REPORT** **Bishop Lindsey Davis**

The Louisville Area covers ninety percent of the state of Kentucky and includes the Red Bird Missionary Conference and the Kentucky Annual Conference. Jennifer and I have been blessed to serve this wonderful area for the past eight years.

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In the Kentucky Conference we have witnessed significant improvement in several critical categories. From a financial perspective we have been able to move to a very positive position. We have overfunded the conference budget each of the last three years. The extra funds have allowed us to pay off debts on our Conference camps, Episcopal residence and other facilities. We have now over 3 million in reserves and have been able to pay our General Church apportionments at 100%. We have overfunded our clergy pension, and have ample reserves for our healthcare commitment.

From a leadership development perspective we have made significant progress in discovering young clergy leaders. This emphasis has been led by Rev. Kevin Burney, Director of Ministerial Services and our Board of Ordained Ministry. For the last two years, according to the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, the Kentucky Conference has ranked third among conferences for the highest percentage of young clergy. With the implementation of Conference candidacy retreats, we continue to experience an influx of certified candidates for ministry. We have averaged 49 participants in Candidacy retreats each year. In our efforts to reach young adult clergy leadership, we have continued to emphasize the Isaiah Project, an internship program for young people to spend their summers working in churches and church related institutions. Our experience has been that a high percentage of Isaiah Interns ultimately pursue licensed or ordained ministry. This quadrennium, through a Young Clergy Initiative Grant (YCI), we have added components to reach out to high school and college students through Discover Retreats and Explore Retreats. These retreats are designed to be age appropriate in helping participants discern if God is calling them to vocational ministry.

We have continued our efforts in New Church Development, led by Dr. Paul Brunstetter and our NCD team. The Kentucky Annual Conference New Church Development (NCD) team's vision is to see, "A Generative Church Planting system of flourishing new faith communities advancing the Kingdom of God and transforming Kentucky." By mid-March, 2016 the NCD Team has supported the formation of 28 New Faith Communities (NFC's) this quadrennium. These new churches currently account for 2268 persons in average worship attendance every week, and have received 1796 persons into membership of the church through professions of faith. Additionally, the NCD Team plans to launch another 12 NFC's in 2016. We have established strong New Church teams in every district, and are working with each district to start at least one new faith community every year!

In this quadrennium we have also refined our exploratory, leadership development, and coaching systems (see [www.churchplantingkyumc.org](http://www.churchplantingkyumc.org)). We are partnering with Fresh Expressions and have trained a team of 10 persons (lay and clergy) to help conference churches and leaders process the development of these pioneering communities. We have also entered into a missional partnership with the Methodist Church of Cuba.

Another exciting area of development has been in our Connectional Ministries led by Rev. Julie Love. Connectional Ministries exists as a relational extension to equip local church leaders and to empower ministries led beyond the local church. Connectional Café is an area on our conference website where local church leaders can find leadership development help in the form of webinars as well as leaders who will travel to local churches to lead training events. Our LACE (Lay Academy of Church Excellence) continues to provide both classes on a district level and webinars for laity around the conference. Conference wide VIM trips to Thailand, Belize and Serbia continue to forge lasting partnerships with these ministries. One of the most exciting changes to our ministry this quadrennium is the addition of high commitment Operational Teams which provide space for us to address adaptive and systemic issues. These have proven very fruitful in the areas of Camp & Retreat ministry; Youth Ministry; Connectional Ministries; Church Health (vitality) and Higher Education as high capacity leaders (lay and clergy) have helped us forge vision, mission and strategies for ministries in these areas.

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### **Red Bird Missionary Conference**

Under the leadership of Rev. Farley Stuart, the Red Bird Missionary Conference has seen many changes in the past four years. After many cuts and changes we finally reached a balanced budget in 2013 and anticipate that 2016 will be the fourth year with a balanced budget. The reduction of staff has changed the way we do many things, especially the offering of training. But thanks to the partnership with the Kentucky Conference, the adjacent district for that conference helps us with training our laity for discipleship and offering CEU opportunities for our clergy. We have more of our churches growing enough to be considered stable, vital churches, and through this time we closed a couple of churches mostly due to decreased attendance because of lower population due to the lack of jobs available. Our support base continues to spread and we have developed partnerships with the Kentucky conference and the Alabama/West Florida Conference where the Red Bird Churches are partnered with a district in each of those conferences. The partnership between our churches and these districts is varied but relationships are being nurtured for long-term ministry together in Red Bird and from Red Bird to these partner conferences.

Our VIM teams have been on the road each of the last four years, two years in the panhandle of Florida with hurricane recovery, in Alabama to help with tornado restoration, and this year in South Carolina to help with flooding victims. We even purchased a new VIM trailer to carry supplies for these trips so more work could be done in the future. We continue to pay 100% of our General and Jurisdictional apportionments and in this quadrennium, for the first time our churches are contributing apportionments to the conference budget. There is still much to be done and many needs to be addressed but our pastors and churches strive to be in ministry where the incomes are low, the population is declining and there is little hope the economy is going to change in the near future. Our pastors are true servants with some Elders, some FTLP who have finished the COS and the others are PTLP's having started the COS and been to Licensing school.

### **MISSISSIPPI AREA REPORT**

**Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.**

The 2012-2016 quadrennium was a time of transition for the Mississippi Annual Conference as we received a new bishop, completed our move to a new conference center, began a process of discovering our Core Values, and restructuring around those values. We clearly heard in all of this the voice of God calling us to live together around the theme of The POWER of We. The emphasis is squarely on the POWER, the Holy Spirit, God actively moving among us developing us into We. We as United Methodists are called to be transformed and we affirmed our Lord's command to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This wonderful vision for Mississippi is now being lived out and directed through these four ministry areas: Spiritual Leadership, Forming Faith Communities, Connecting Ministries, and Administration.

The crying need within the Church today is for spiritual leaders. Over these four years, the bishop and cabinet have been engaged in an intentional and intense process introduced by Spiritual Leadership Inc (SLI) - Loving, Learning and Leading - to help us navigate the adaptive challenges facing the Church today. We then introduced the model to the laity and clergy during a conference-wide day apart by a team of SLI coaches. Following this event, nine of our eleven districts offered a class on the 3L approach, led by our Director of Spiritual Leadership who is a SLI coach in training. During these conference and district events approximately 1000 of our lay and clergy were exposed to the 3L approach. One experiment that has created a lot of excitement is "The Next Phase". This is an orientation to ministry that is a required event for those serious in becoming a certified candidate. The retreat is modeled on the 3L principle and is designed with the end result being spiritual formation and not just working the steps of candidacy. A goal of 12 people was set for the first event and 43 attended. Plans are

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now to host the event twice a year. Overall, we are seeing our lay and clergy working together in new ways that focus on beginning and ending with our spiritual formation as we seek to make disciples for the transformation of the world. We find that focusing on Loving (God and each other), Learning (about best practices forward), and Leading (to transformation) has given a new vitality to our call from God.

Change within any organization is difficult and that it is particularly so within an organization that consists of over 1,000 churches and over 179,000 members served by over 600 clergy from every corner of the state of Mississippi. 2014 began a new chapter in Student Ministry with the development of two new opportunities of spiritual growth and leadership: “The Gathering” and Student Ministry Initiative Cohort. “The Gathering” is a movement of our student ministry living in the POWER of We! to connect students, churches, and youth workers with the purpose of growing in community together. Attendance has grown from approximately 850 young people in 2014 to 1500 participants. The goal for 2020 is for 5,000 persons to come together as one body! The foundation of our four building blocks (Vision, Relationship, Spiritual Truth, and Systems) has become the cornerstones of student ministry. SMI (Student Ministry Initiative) Cohort is a yearlong coaching program for life and ministry: ministry coaching, personal sharing, and cultural examination for the church and the leader’s role to develop youth leaders and children ministry workers.

The Disaster Response Team has responded to flooding, tornados, tropical storm/hurricane threats and hail damage. Mississippi has received disaster declarations repeatedly these past four years. UMVIM teams responded to a number of domestic disasters affecting thousands of people in the southeast and northeast. Missioners responded to the call for assistance offering home repair, needed maintenance at a number of Conference related missions and more. Mississippi UMVIM teams traveled to offer hope and continue to assist in rebuilding of Haiti, sending medical teams to Africa and Central America, building churches, engaging in pastoral training and teaching throughout the world. At home in Mississippi, Delta Grace Ministry is working with residents and teams to rebuild homes, education offered to missioner and partner alike, and relationships formed throughout the MS Delta. The continued covenant between the Seashore District and the Nicaraguan Methodist Church encouraged and supported a second year of construction involving teams from the Mississippi Conference and the Southeastern Jurisdiction. The Mississippi Conference hosted the annual jurisdictional meeting of UMCOR and UMVIM known as Disaster Academy at Seashore Assembly in Biloxi.

New ministry areas were formed with focus on domestic violence and conference parsonages. The members of the Domestic Violence Task Force, representing both clergy and lay, have set a course of action designed to educate all persons within the Conference about the scourge of domestic violence and provide resources to assist those caught in situations, both victims and perpetrators. The Parsonage Task Force was formed for the expressed purpose to review and compile a conference housing policy and parsonage standards.

The Faith Community Formation Committee (FCF), established in March 2015 to transform the Conference to a culture of vitality by forming new faith communities and revitalizing existing congregations, set a goal of starting twenty new faith communities by 2020. FCF is committed to being a vital resource, by equipping churches and new faith community planters with the tools they need to produce vital and effective mission and ministry.

In this effort to fulfill this 20-20 vision, the FCF:

- Created a process of assessing potential new faith community leaders and churches.
- Identified three new church planters who are successfully establishing new faith communities (one in 2013, two in 2014 and three in 2015) with plans to launch three additional new faith communities in 2016.

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- Are accessing and vetting 30+ clergy and lay who expressed an aspiration to church planting or revitalization at a Day of Discovery and Discernment.
- Identified three churches for revitalization grants. These churches are creating a culture and structure for healthy growth by reaching new people for Christ and intentionally engaging their members in transformative faith formation.

In 2016, several committees (Committee on Religion and Race (CORR), Committee on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW), Disability Ministry Committee (DMC), Church & Society, and Peace with Justice) joined together around a shared vision for advocacy in our annual conference. Believing that a fully engaged and empowered membership is vital, this shared ministry is to equip our districts and churches with the knowledge and information needed to create a culture of opportunity and inclusiveness.

We have seen great strides in the areas of financial administration (Administry) during this quadrennium. We have held our mission share budget basically flat since 2012-1 % increase from 2011-2016; begun the process of direct invoice for employer's share of health insurance; increased our payout of direct invoice to 99%+ in 2016; increased our giving percentage to the General Church and Jurisdiction mission shares. Local Churches have paid out their combined missions shares and Clergy benefit at an increased rate to the highest point since 2006 (year after Katrina and above the 2009-2010 recessions. Across the districts there has been established a uniform way to sell and care for abandoned and closed local church property as well as an accounting system which provides better reporting and oversight by the cabinet and CFA. There has been developed a strong way of reviewing and holding mission share recipients accountable for the apportionments they receive from the local churches and covenant agreements obtained for our missional work with all our partners flying cross and flame in Mississippi. The Property and Casualty insurance program and the self-insured Medical Benefits program are financially stronger and have funded reserves on target as set by the Boards with oversight for the work of these programs.

This report is only a small representation of what God has accomplished through the people of the Mississippi Annual Conference. We continue every day to witness Glory Sightings and accomplish what we thought were impossible dreams – all because we have discovered The POWER of We.

### **NASHVILLE AREA REPORT** **Bishop William T. McAlilly**

One of the first questions asked of the newly assigned bishop in the Nashville Episcopal Area in 2012 was, “Are the Memphis and Tennessee Conferences going to merge?” Much of the work of interim Bishop Ben Chamness had been to lay the groundwork for such a possibility. A unity committee had been formed, and the two appointive cabinets had begun collaborative work. Appointments had been made across conference lines with positive results.

The FACT study from GCFA had been scheduled in the fall of 2012 for each conference. By December, that work was completed and three glaring issues were presented:

1. There needed to be a clear, identified mission for each conference.
2. There was concern raised about the level of trust throughout both conferences.
3. The merger conversation needed to be laid aside until the first two items could be addressed.

Immediately following the FACT report, at each 2013 Annual Conference Session, consultant Gil Rendle presented the challenges facing the Tennessee and Memphis Conferences. As a result, in 2014 during each Annual Conference, the Strategic Mapping Team presented the proposed Mission, Four Areas of Focus, and Values, all of which were adopted. The first phase of this work is outlined below.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Mission

The mission of the Memphis and Tennessee Conferences is to Discover, Equip, Connect and Send lay and clergy leaders who shape congregations that offer Jesus Christ to a hurting world, one neighborhood at a time. The **four areas of focus** are: invest in young people, engage the mission field, create transforming lay and clergy leaders, grow fruitful and faithful congregations. **Our values are:** unrelenting love for all people, integrity, excellence, faithfulness and fruitfulness, innovation.

Focused energy on mission and ministry, clarity of mission, and the work of a unified cabinet has allowed each conference to begin to align our resources and energy toward this common vision. Perhaps the most significant aspect of the shared mission, vision and values of the two conferences is the multiplying effect of the leadership capacity of the appointive cabinet. We have found great strength in having an area-wide cabinet that has embraced the role of mission strategist so that each district is developing a mission strategy based on the mission of the conference.

The second phase of developing this strategy was to engage the work of Spiritual Leadership, Inc.(SLI). Under their guidance, the appointive cabinet has continued to implement our mission by developing strategic teams within each district. These teams focus their energy on covenant and accountability with the goal of helping congregations increase their capacity to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Based on our mission, we are creating alignment between the appointive cabinets, the connectional ministry teams, and the boards of ordained ministry. We now have clarity that the primary task of each conference is to increase the capacity of local churches to make disciples of Jesus Christ. In addition to this foundational work, the Orders of Elders, Deacons, and the Fellowship of Local Pastors coordinated intense work around living in a covenantal relationship with one another and the commitments made at baptism, ordination and licensing.

We see growth and creativity emerging based on our four areas of focus:

- By **Investing in Young People**, our camping ministries are thriving, Next Gen Disciples are being developed, and church-school partnerships ([www.partnertoday.org](http://www.partnertoday.org)) are growing. Additionally, college students are given the opportunity to explore ministry and service through internships with Project Transformation (<http://projecttransformation.org/tennessee>), which is currently in its fifth year in Nashville and launching in the summer of 2016 in Memphis.
- We are **Engaging the Mission Field** through schools, food pantries, health clinics, being in ministry alongside those with disabilities, recovery ministries, relationships with those who are incarcerated including their re-entry into the community, and developing Missional Faith Communities. Through our justice ministries, we have been proactive in working with legislators to provide healthcare for all persons as well as advocating for affordable housing.
- To **Transform lay and clergy leaders**, we have developed and implemented several innovative models. One example is our 72+U initiative that included teaching through Luke 10 at annual conference and developing resources ([www.72plusyou.com](http://www.72plusyou.com)) for local congregations to discover, connect, equip and send lay and clergy leaders into their mission field. The **Generative Leadership Academy**, an initiative of two of our neighboring districts, has focused on making disciples among lay leadership. Through a generous grant, twenty young clergy have engaged and will complete a Doctor of Ministry program and become resources for teaching Wesleyan Theology with a focus on mission and evangelism. Peer learning groups have emerged and a number of pastors are now involved in proactive coaching relationships seeking to focus on the mission.
- As we **Grow Fruitful and Faithful Congregations**, we are experiencing: large churches supporting new church plants, strong churches in partnerships with missional faith communities, a

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8-year-old plant worshipping over 1000, existing congregations growing in fruitfulness and faithfulness—loving, learning and leading. We have planted 21 new faith communities.

Through worshipping in numerous churches across the Episcopal Area and being present in each district, the trust level has improved. With a focus on **authenticity, candor and transparency**, relationships have deepened. Through **missional appointment-making**, congregations have been strengthened.

We are moving toward new structures in each conference by aligning resources and services across the area. Each Board of Ministry is creating congruent procedures and processes for a unified approach. Connectional Ministries is adapting its structure and strategy to support our mission. Deep conversations are ongoing within each Council on Finance and Administration to create alignment with the mission of our conferences and we are beginning to explore opportunities for creating shared services.

The Memphis Conference, over the last three years, has downsized the number of districts, from seven to four. These shifts will allow us to focus our energy on local congregations to increase their capacity to make disciples of Jesus Christ, concentrate resources, and explore where God is leading us to create **Fresh Expressions** of our faith and reach the unaffiliated in the mission fields around us. One of our ongoing goals is to work with the General Commission on Religion and Race to discover ways to connect with new ethnic pastors and train laity for leadership.

Across the area, churches are connecting globally in East Congo, Haiti, Uganda, Malawi, Honduras, Nicaragua and other locations. In addition, we have raised \$655,913.44 for the Imagine No Malaria initiative and have packed thousands of meals through our connection with Stop Hunger Now. In 2013, the area raised funds to build the episcopal residence and offices for Bishop Gabriel Yemba Unda in the newly formed conference in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The result of these last four years is that the Spirit of God is moving across the Nashville Episcopal Area. Signs and wonders are emerging where God is at work.

### **NORTH GEORGIA AREA REPORT** **Bishop B. Michael Watson**

North Georgia has just celebrated our 150th Annual Conference session. It is such a joy for me to report that this remains a blessed conference. The spirit of the conference is so contagious that I can once again report that the membership has grown across this last quadrennium and is now at 361,503 – remaining the largest United Methodist Annual Conference in the country.

However, the real joy is the growth in excitement and enthusiasm that continues to enable our clergy, laity, local congregations, and ministries to flourish. It is this spirit that makes for vital ministries, and this spirit is felt all across the conference in rural and urban areas; in new and old congregations; in local churches large and small; in diverse ministries in languages such as English, Spanish, Korean, Portuguese, and Vietnamese; and among a wide variety of ethnicities.

The conference has had some rather remarkable financial achievements. On January 1, 2009, the conference had only \$118,000 in General Reserves. On December 31, 2015, our General Reserves were up to \$2,790,000. In that same period our Third Party Debt, including loan guarantees, has been reduced from \$6,900,000 to zero. The conference's Net Benefits Liabilities have been reduced by almost \$82,000,000 from a staggering \$93,300,000 down to \$11,441,000.

The North Georgia Conference loves and cares for retired pastors. This conference really wants to care for those who serve and their families. After years of faithful effort, North Georgia was able to realize the

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

goal of fully funding the Pre-1982 Retirement Plan liability 5 years ahead of schedule. Apportioned giving, along with proceeds from the sale of the Simpsonwood property and a generous gift from the Retired Ministers Foundation made this possible. As a result, the 2015 and 2016 budgets both reflected substantial reductions in the amount apportioned for the Pre-1982 plan.

Annual Conference budgets have been reduced each year of the quadrennium but with an increase in the percentage of those budgets being expended on actual ministry. The percentage of apportionments paid is the highest in over 10 years and reflects a consistent increase each year of the quadrennium.

After the sale of Simpsonwood Conference and Retreat Center, the Annual Conference offices were relocated to beautiful, spacious, new facilities in Century Center on Interstate 85, nearer downtown Atlanta, Emory University, and the Atlanta airport.

A robust Connectional Ministries office has led to advances in Camp and Retreat Ministries, Bridges of Mission, Vital Congregations, Children's Ministries, and Leadership Ministries. We completed \$5.2 million dollars of enhancement to Camp Glisson. This provided a new dining hall that seats more than 400, a new retreat Cabin, a new leaders Cabin, and several waterfront improvements. This has all been necessary because of steady growth in the number of campers. In 2010, our Conference resolved to double our number of campers in ten years. After 5 years, we are precisely 50% closer to our goal of 5,000 summer campers. With the new facilities and expanded programs like the week-long *Grow* day camps held at 32 church sites throughout our annual conference last year, we are making good on our conference goal. This year, our 90th summer of conference camping, we will have more campers than any year in that storied history.

Our Bridges of Mission outreach program continues to blossom fully based on the 50/50 Partnership model of mission promoted by United Methodist Global Ministries. We led a spiritual life retreat each of the past four years with the clergy of the Moscow District in Russia. We provided support and training for evangelism in both Portugal and El Salvador. In the Manila Area of the Philippines, we helped create four avenues of engagement: campus, youth, health, and ministry with the poor. We continue to work with water projects in Kenya and home labor teams in the Bahamas. We are seeing new mission initiatives with more of our congregations participating every year. And now, with Global Ministries locating in Atlanta later this year, we see more possibilities ahead.

Our *First Faithful Steps* and *Next Faithful Steps* programs are just coming out of pilot phases and beginning to get real traction with various healthy church models. *First Steps* is a readiness phase for churches not yet ready for the larger work of self-study and examination, and *Next Steps* is a three-year process of moving vital churches into the highly vital category. Additionally, we have instituted a self-evaluation process called *Facing the Mirror*, meant to help a church honestly examine where it is in terms of health of leadership, purpose, finance, facilities, and vision. Each district is looking at one of these three models as consideration is given to moving congregations to greater health and vitality.

Children's ministries have expanded along with a renewed emphasis on *Safe Sanctuaries*. We now offer online training and a quick reference for how to get workers with children, youth, and older adults, trained and certified quickly, yet thoroughly. We have a larger number of congregations in compliance with *Safe Sanctuaries* guidelines than ever before. We have recently added a new retreat weekend for 3rd-6th graders that has been wonderfully well received - so much so, that extra weeks have been added to accommodate the crowds.

The *Continuum of Call* is a wholistic approach to leadership and discipleship development beginning with 3rd grade and offering programming and Christian ministry development options for every age from that point forward. The leaders that emerge from this culture of helping new disciples identify their call, claim



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and cultivate their gifts, and enter the world equipped to transform it for Jesus Christ, will make a difference for generations ahead.

Margaret and I are grateful for the privilege of serving Christ, for the last 8 years, with the wonderful people of the North Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church

Grace and peace.

### **RALEIGH AREA REPORT Bishop Hope Morgan Ward**

United Methodist people in the North Carolina Conference celebrate the abundance of God's grace and provision as we live out our mission: *Healthy Congregations and Effective Leaders in Every Place Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.*

We embrace Psalm 84 with the beautiful description of the life of God's people: *They go from strength to strength.* Together we explore the rich scriptural image of *strength*, living with annual themes for worship, Bible study, prayer life, discipleship and mission engagement:

2013: *From Strength to Strength: Grow!*  
2014: *From Strength to Strength: Thrive!*  
2015: *From Strength to Strength: Serve!*  
2016: *From Strength to Strength: Give!*

It is clarifying for us to interpret the role of leadership using the Disciplinary description of district superintendents as mission strategists. The bishop is the chief mission strategist for the annual conference. Lay and clergy leaders are mission strategists in local, district, conference and general church settings.

We work in alignment with the focus areas of the United Methodist Church – church planting, leadership development, global health and ministry with the poor. John Wesley formed new communities of faith; called, equipped and sent leaders; engaged in ministries of health and wellness; and developed ministry with persons who were excluded and impoverished. In our own time, the clear call continues as we engage in Christ's ministry in all the world.

We create new places for new people. Twenty new faith communities were birthed in this quadrennium. We continue to see a pattern of fruitfulness in multi-site ministries – the planting of new churches out of strong missional churches.

God is calling forth leaders and we seek to equip them. Partnerships of the North Carolina Conference, the Academy of Leadership Excellence, the Duke Endowment and Duke Divinity School offer leadership training for laity and clergy. Academy Fellows, clergy and lay teams from 50 churches, experienced intensive training and coaching in annual cohorts. Project Bountiful has engaged church laity and clergy from 29 churches in self-assessment, visioning and mission development. Days of Learning have offered thirty inspiring and life-changing days of engagement around diverse areas of ministry including Soul Care for Military Families, Conflict Transformation, Leading in Anxious Times and Reaching the Young without Losing the Seasoned. The now-annual Spring Preaching Festival, focused particularly on young preachers, offers stellar preaching, worship and workshops across three days in April. The Connectional Ministries staff leads churches in very helpful "Disciple-Making Way" congregational coaching. We have 50 Conflict Transformation Ministers and 25 Trained Intentional Interim Ministry Specialists who help churches navigate conflict in life-giving ways.

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Young leaders are a strong focus of our efforts. An endowment has been established for the reduction of seminary debt, with recipients engaged in stewardship and development training. An annual mission journey is created for those making the journey toward ordination.

We are committed to health, well-being and abundant life for all. Through the Spirited Life initiative of the Duke Endowment, over 1,000 United Methodist Clergy in the North Carolina and Western North Carolina Conferences have had the benefit of 23 months of learning, coaching and engaging in wellness. We now move this learning and these practices out into churches, particularly through renewal of the theology and practice of Sabbath, a cornerstones of health, life-balance, joy and effectiveness.

We engaged with enthusiasm Imagine No Malaria, setting as a goal \$1,000,000 and receiving (at the time of this writing) over \$1,100,000 for life-saving bed nets, interventions and treatment. The creativity and energy of children, youth and adults in this 18-month journey of generosity was delightful.

A large portion of our Conference is rural and poor. Working with the Western North Carolina Conference, we are strong advocates for children through Congregations for Children (C4C). 82% of our churches partner helpfully with a public school in one or more of these ways: providing books and helping children learn to read, providing supplies and weekend nutrition, helping parents and other adults engage in the school and increasing understanding of the impact of poverty upon children.

Our continued and new partnerships with Liberia, Armenia (Project AGAPE), El Salvador, Sierra Leone and ZOE Ministries are means of connection and generosity beyond the bounds of the U.S.

A Mission Endowment has been established, with over \$1,200,000 (at the time of this writing) to ensure into perpetuity funds for new mission to meet the needs of people in eastern North Carolina.

A new communications plan was embraced in 2014. We now offer Christ to the world through Every Day Grace Magazine and Every Day Grace TV. We provide platforms for people to tell their stories of transformation, extending God's welcome to all. Stepping up and out in to new technologies and new modes greatly increases our communication reach and impact.

It is our deep desire to be more effective in engaging with all of the people in our communities. We have created a plan and process to help lay and clergy leaders grow in intercultural competency. Lenten writing projects have yielded inspirational life stories, heart-felt confession and expressions of profound yearning for a more just and welcoming world. The convening of groups continues, as we seek to live well together and with all people. Unity dialogues, now into an 18<sup>th</sup> year, create space for us to find ways to live with differences as we ask John Wesley's probing question, "Though we cannot think alike, might we not love alike?" A nearly unanimous affirmation of a "Plea for Unity" at the 2014 Annual Conference Session gives witness to our love for one another and for the mission we share as United Methodist people.

The journey continues, with gratitude to God for all our life together in Christ.

### **RICHMOND AREA REPORT** **Bishop Young Jin Cho**

It has been a great joy and privilege to serve my beloved home conference during this quadrennium. I am deeply grateful to God for guiding the Virginia Annual Conference and to the clergy and laity of the conference for working together for the Kingdom of God.

In the beginning of my ministry as Bishop we reviewed our conference mission statement and adopted a new one in 2013, which was based upon the Book of Discipline ¶601: *The mission of the Virginia*

*Annual Conference* is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God. We made it clear that two words, equipping and connecting, are the key components of our mission.

We adopted our strategic plan *All Things New* in 2008. This plan has two invitations: Invitation to Plant, starting 250 new faith communities in 30 years, and Invitation to Harvest, revitalizing existing churches. Since we adopted this plan, we have been working to change the culture of our churches from maintenance to fruitfulness. In 2011 *Vital Congregations* was initiated by the Council of Bishops. We combined these two initiatives and put a new name *All Things New-Equipping Vital Congregations (ATN-EVC)*. During this quadrennium the Virginia Conference started 17 new faith communities, and provided 7 training events by the 5 Talent Academy for the revitalization of existing churches.

We also discerned that the transformation of clergy leadership would be the key for our new future. The Board of Ordained Ministry created the Virginia Clergy Leadership Program to help the clergy to grow from good to great. Twenty clergy journeyed together for 18 months as the first cohort group, and now those clergy forming the second group have been on their journey. I am deeply grateful to the CF&A of our conference for fully funding this program.

My office also developed another program for the transformation of clergy leadership: *The Pilgrimage for Spiritual Renewal*. The goal of this program is to learn and experience mission and ministries based upon strong prayer by visiting churches in S. Korea. This trip also provides an opportunity for participants to develop a global perspective on the churches in the world. More than 100 clergy joined this pilgrimage, and it has been one of our most effective programs for the transformation of clergy leadership.

The cabinet continued to work together to improve the appointment-making process. Because of the decline of the churches we had to deal with financially challenging situations and sometimes had to make a very painful decision. We take the question of fruitfulness seriously and work hard to match the missional needs of the church and the gifts and graces of the pastors. But most of all, we try to honor the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to prayerfully discern the will of the Lord at our appointment-making table.

One of the great joys we experienced during this quadrennium was that the churches began paying more attention to the basics of our faith, especially prayer. We believe that the fundamental issue we face today is more than a lack of new programs or insufficient skill-sets of the clergy. It is a spiritual issue and a faith issue. And our efforts to turn around our church from decline should be more than a reactive plan to save our denomination. It should be a movement to restore a biblical, authentic and vital church.

So, the catch phrase for my ministry for the past four years has been “No spiritual vitality, no vital congregation.” We worked hard to spread the culture of prayer to the churches. Annually we had a Bishop’s Convocation on Prayer and set one Sunday each year, around Aldersgate Day (May 24), as a conference-wide Day of Prayer for the renewal and revival of our churches.

We also challenged the clergy and laity of the conference to dedicate at least one hour daily for our spiritual disciplines. The cabinet developed the Covenant for Spiritual Discipline which asks the churches to strengthen their prayer ministry and to work toward increasing the number of people who dedicate at least one hour daily for spiritual disciplines. Since the fall of 2013 the cabinet has been inviting the churches to join this covenant. By the end of April 2016, 536 churches became a Prayer Covenant Congregation, and more than 3,400 people made a commitment to dedicate one hour daily for their spiritual discipline. We thank God for this progress.

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Another area in which we worked hard during this quadrennium was to nurture the culture of coordination and cooperation. The Virginia Conference is one of the largest conferences in the United States. We have many boards and agencies. All of them work hard, but we have not been effective in working together as a team. Sometimes we experience silos and lack a balcony view of all ministries of our conference.

To address this situation we restructured the Common Table and began meetings of the chairs of all boards and agencies regularly for sharing and coordination. The creation and work of the Bishop's Long-Term Financial Advisory Task Force was another effort we instituted to address this issue of a lack of coordination among conference boards and agencies. This Task Force reviewed the financial situation of our conference and presented recommendations including a plan to stabilize the pension liability and to set the priority of financially supporting our conference ministries. This task force has done its work, and another team is now reviewing the overall ministry of our conference with three questions: Since we adopted our strategic plan *All Things New-Equipping Vital Congregation*, where are we now?; Are we on the right track?; If we need improvements, what will they be?

Although the Virginia Conference is still in decline numerically and has many challenges, I think we have chosen the right direction and are on the move. We discerned that strengthening the spiritual foundation of our mission and ministry would be the most important preparation for our better future and worked hard together to plant these seeds and water them. It may take more time to see buds coming out and the bearing of fruits. But if we keep on seeking and following the will of the Lord, we will be fine.

Looking back to the time we began working together, I cannot but give thanks and praise to God for God's presence and guidance to this moment. I cannot thank enough the clergy and laity of this conference for their prayers and support. With this deep gratitude, I would like to close my report with one of my favorite prayers, which was offered by Bobby Richardson: Dear God, your will. Nothing more, nothing less, nothing else. Amen.

### **SOUTH GEORGIA AREA REPORT** **Bishop James R. King, Jr.**

Over the past eight years, I have had the blessing of working together with the Beautiful People of South Georgia. Our emphasis has been growing a Christlike world through disciple-making.

During several yearly Disciple Covenant Conferences, teams from our local churches gathered together to develop Disciple Plans based on the Ten Timeless Values.

In 2014 we reduced the number of districts from nine to six. Each district was subdivided into eight geographical clusters. In the midst of a structural change we made a concerted effort to sharpen and strengthen our focus on discipleship.

A significant part of our story as a conference is in the leadership given by some of our cutting edge churches. Harvest Church, started just fifteen years ago, now averages more than 2,800 a weekend. Gateway Community started ten years ago now averages over 600 in worship attendance. The Ridge, in its third year, averages 370 in worship and is already self-sustaining. Grace Corner is helping unchurched people discover church in new ways through ministries like Grace Corner Café and "God on Tap." A number of churches across our conference are redeeming souls as well as churches. The Chapel, for example, averages over 1,200 a weekend. In addition to being a vital congregation it has identified new satellites and recently birthed a new congregation.

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On the mission front, we continue to find new ways to reach those beyond our conference and our country. There is also renewed focus on Hispanic Ministry through realignment with Connectional Ministries and the creation of a new Hispanic Ministry Task Force Team.

On the leadership development front, the Board of Ordained Ministry began a Young Clergy Academy. Young adults considering ministry are given the opportunity to “try on” ministry through a nine-month internship.

To address our financial crisis, Project Turnaround was created and we have now turned the corner. As a young episcopal area we were not able to break ground on our first Conference Center but we are closer to our goal.

As we continue to grow in South Georgia we are called to remember:  
*God's will for us is good. We must do the rest.*

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Committee on Nominations

The following members of Agencies and Ministries of the Southeastern Jurisdiction, as presented in the Advance Daily Christian Advocate, are presented for affirmation of the SEJ Conference.

#### Boards of Directors of SEJ Agencies and Ministries

##### Gulfside Association Board of Directors

DIRECTORS	ANNUAL CONFERENCE	L/C	ETHNICITY	CLASS	JURISDICTIONAL AFFILIATION
JOE CONNELLY	LOUISIANA	C	AAM	2016	SOUTH CENTRAL
VINCENT HARRIS	TEXAS	C	AAM	2016	SOUTH CENTRAL
WILLIAM B. MCCLAIN	NEW ENGLAND	C	AAM	2016	NORTHEASTERN
CHERYL THOMPSON	LOUISIANA	L	AAF	2016	SOUTH CENTRAL
JACQUELINE ROSE-TUCKER	NORTH GEORGIA	C	AAF	2016	SOUTHEASTERN
BISHOP W. EARL BLEDSOE	ALBUQUERQUE NM	C	AAM	2017	SOUTH CENTRAL
ORA FRANKLIN-RODGERS	MISSISSIPPI	L	AAF	2017	SOUTHEASTERN
CHARLENE GAINES	NORTH ALABAMA	L	AAF	2017	SOUTHEASTERN
CHARLES REED	NORTH TEXAS	L	AAM	2017	SOUTH CENTRAL
JIM FISHER	MISSISSIPPI	C	AM	2017	SOUTHEASTERN
JAMES H. SALLEY	SOUTH CAROLINA	L	AAM	2017	SOUTHEASTERN
ELIJAH STANSELL	TEXAS	C	AAM	2017	SOUTH CENTRAL
**ERIN HAWKINS	CALIFORNIA PACIFIC	L	AAF	2018	WESTERN
**BISHOP JANICE HUIE	TEXAS	C	AF	2018	SOUTH CENTRAL
**BISHOP CYNTHIA HARVEY	LOUISIANA	C	AF	2018	SOUTH CENTRAL
VERA THOMAS	MISSISSIPPI	L	AAF	2018	SOUTHEASTERN
**BISHOP JAMES SWANSON	MISSISSIPPI	C	AM	2018	SOUTHEASTERN
DAVID STOTTS	MISSISSIPPI	C	AM	2018	SOUTHEASTERN
DELMAR ROBINSON	MISSISSIPPI	L	AAM	2018	SOUTHEASTERN
BEENE-VENSON, STELLA	TENNESSEE	L	AAF	2018	SOUTHEASTERN
MOLLIE M. STEWART	NORTH ALABAMA	L	AAF	N/A	PRESIDENT/CEO
					SOUTHEASTERN
<b>ADVISORS TO THE BOARD</b>					
ABRAHAM R. CAREY	WISCONSIN - NC	C	AAM		FORMER CHAIRPERSON
					NORTH CENTRAL
CHESTER JONES	ARKANSAS - SC	C	AAM		SOUTH CENTRAL
BISHOP FELTON E. MAY	ARKANSAS - SC	C	AAM		SOUTH CENTRAL
BISHOP ALFRED NORRIS	LOUISIANA - SC	C	AAM		PAST CHAIRPERSON
					SOUTH CENTRAL
<b>** BASED ON POSITION WITH GENERAL CHURCH</b>					

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**Hinton Rural Life Center Board of Directors**

Last	First	Clergy/ Laity	Annual Conference	Initial Year	Final Year	Years Remaining
Amis	Ann	Laity		2010	2018	2
Baughn	Harry	Laity		2012	2018	2
Harry	Randy	Clergy	Western NC	2015	2018	2
Crooks	Marion	Clergy	South Carolina	2004	2017	1
Everett	Alfonza	Clergy	Western NC	2009	2016	
Griffiths	Dan	Clergy	Red Bird	2009	2017	1
Hopson	Roger	Clergy	Tennessee	2008	2017	1
Houff	Mike	Clergy	Virginia	2011	2017	1
Kyker	Jacob	Clergy	Western NC	2013	2016	
McIntyre	Drew	Clergy	Western NC	2015	2017	1
Meldram	Bill	Laity		2016	2018	2
Pope	Adrienne	Laity		2011	2017	1
Stewart	Mollie	Laity		2013	2016	
Stuerman	Jeff	Laity		2006	2017	1
Tiger	Bob	Laity		2012	2018	2
Ward	Al	Clergy	Western NC	2007	2017	1
Gottlieb	Jacqueline	Ex Officio		2011		

**Officers:**

Al Ward                      Chairman  
 Mike Houff                Vice Chair, Planning  
 Adrienne Pope          Vice Chair, Assessment  
 Harry Baughn          Secretary  
 Jeff Stuerman          Chair for Board Development  
 Marion Crooks          At-Large

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center Board of Directors

Last	First	Clergy/ Laity	Annual Conference/ State	Position	Initial Year	Final Year	Years Remaini ng
Berwager	Steve	Laity	WNC	Pres, Junaluskans	2015	2016	1
Bowling	Bob	Clergy	NGA	Pres, Associates	2013	2018	3
Brown	Snookie	Laity	SGA	Elected	2014	2022	7
Chan	Eun	Laity	FL	Elected	2015	2023	8
Conforti	Mary Ellen	Laity	WNC	Elected	2013	2021	6
Gattis	Grace Gaines	Laity	SGA	Elected	2013	2021	6
Goodpaster	Bishop Larry	Clergy	WNC	Bishop, WNC	2008	2016	1
Hand	Stephanie	Clergy	WNC	Elected	2014	2022	7
Holston	Bishop Jonathan	Clergy	SC	Bishop, SEJ CoB	2013	????	?
Jenkins	Ken	Laity	SC	Elected	2015	2023	8
LaFountain e	Ed	Laity	WNC	Pres, LJ Property Owners	2014	????	?
Lowry	Robby	Laity	NC	Elected	2008	2016	1
McLaughlin	Tom	Laity	NGA	Elected	2008	2018	3
Melton	Joy	Clergy	NGA	Elected	2008	2017	2
Musgrave	Bill	Laity	WNC	Elected	2015	2023	8
Partin	Ken M	Laity	WNC	Elected	2008	2017	2
Paysour	Joanna Marcy	Clergy	VA	Elected	2008	2018	3
Pennell	Jimmy	Clergy	NGA	Chair, Comm Council	2015	????	?
Rainwater	Mickey	Clergy	HOL	Elected	2016	2024	9
Russell	John	Laity	NC	Elected	2008	2018	3
Scott	John	Laity	KY	Elected	2016	2024	9
Shelton	Connie	Clergy	MS	Elected	2015	2023	8
Smith	Sally Gray	Laity	WNC	Elected	2013	2021	6
Stokes	Arch	Laity	AWF	Elected	2012	2020	5
Stowe, Jr.	Joe	Laity	WNC	Elected	2013	2021	6
Taft	Robert	Laity	WNC	Elected	2016	2024	9
Taylor	Bishop Mary Virginia	Clergy	HOL	Bishop, HOL	2008	????	?
Tucker	Mary Frances	Laity	HOL	Elected	2008	2017	2
Warren	Mike	Laity	NAL	Elected	2013	2021	6



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**SEJ Commission on Archives and History  
SEJ Heritage Center Board of Directors**

Last	First	Clergy/ Laity	Annual Conference/ State	Position	Initial Year	Final Year	Years Remaini ng
Gantt	Jerry L.	Laity	AWF		2016	2020*	4
Pittard	Leah	Laity	FL		2016	2020*	4
St. Clair	David	Clergy	HOL		2016	2020*	4
Ockerman	Foster	Laity	KY		2016	2020*	4
Davis	Larry	Laity	MEM		2016	2020*	4
Webb	Rob	Clergy	MS		2016	2020*	4
Cobb	George	Clergy	NAL		2016	2020*	4
Lamm	Dennis	Clergy	NC		2012	2020	4
Hendrickson	Hugh	Clergy	NGA	Secretary, 2016-2020	2012	2020	4
Riddle	Steven	Clergy	Red Bird		2016	2020*	4
Gramling	Roger	Clergy	SC		2012	2020	4
Packard	Anne	Laity	SGA		2016	2020*	4
Martin	David	Laity	TN		2016	2020*	4
Preston	Laurie	Laity	VA		2016	2020*	4
Pyatt	James	Clergy	WNC	Chairperson 2016-2020	2012	2020	4
Alegria	Raul	Laity	At-Large		2016	2020*	4
Hawkins	Natalie	Laity	At-Large		2016	2020*	4
Lyles	Steve	Laity	At-Large		2016	2020*	4
Thrift	Nell	Laity	At-Large		2012	2020	4
Williamson	Sandrea	Laity	At-Large		2016	2020*	4
Huff	A.V.	Clergy	Ex Officio	Pres, SEJ Historical Society	NA	NA	
Watkins	Nancy	Laity	Ex-Officio	Director, SEJ Heritage Ctr	NA	NA	

\* Will be eligible for a second quadrennium.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Intentional Growth Center Board of Directors

Last	First	Clergy/ Laity	Annual Conference/ State	Initial Year	Final Year	Years Remaini ng
Duncan	Mont	Clergy	FL	2016	2019	4
Everhart	Dana	Clergy	NGA	2012	2017	2
Gaither	Donna	Clergy	TN	2014	2018	3
Greenwaldt	Karen	Clergy	Central TX	2016	2019	4
Henley	Mary Bendall	Clergy	NAL	2016	2019	4
Holston	Bishop Jonathan	Clergy	SC	2002	2017	2
Lewis	Sharma	Clergy	NGA	2014	2018	3
Slimp	Kevin	Laity	HOL	2007	2016	1
Wannemache r	Margaret	Clergy	NC	2016	2019	4
Wolfe	Paul Douglas	Clergy	AWF	2004	2016	1

### Board Officers

Chair	Kevin Slimp
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Board Development Chair	Donna Gaither

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**United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, SEJ, Board of Directors**

Last	First	Clergy/ Laity	Annual Conference/ State	Position	Initial Year	Final Year	Years Remaini ng
Gross	Bill	Laity	NC	President	2013	2019	4
Moses	Daphne	Clergy	MEM	Vice Pres	2013	2017	2
Gantzhorn	Alan	Clergy	AWF	Secretary	2015	2018	3
Presley	Carl	Laity	NGA	Treasurer	2011	2016	1
Swanson	Bishop James	Clergy	MS	COB Rep	2011		
Gonzalez	Aldo	Laity	VA	At-Large	2011	2017	2
Holston	Bishop Jonathan	Clergy	NGA	At-Large	2012	2019	4
Huffman	Virgil (Butch)	Clergy	NC	Administra- tive Chair	2011	2016	1
Lacey	Matt	Clergy	NAL	Communica- tions Chair & CSGM Rep	2011	2017	2
Newton	David	Clergy	MS	Developmen t Chair	2012	2018	3
Overstreet	Angela	Laity	TN	Disaster Chair	2015	2019	4
Dunn	Jane	Laity	FL	Medical Chair	2015	2018	3
Scott	Derrick	Laity	FL	New Generations Chair	2013	2017	2
Jones	Una	Laity	GBGM Mission Volunteers		2011		Ex Officio
West	Paulette	Laity	UMVIM, SEJ Executive Director		2009	2017	2 Ex Officio

Members will serve to the end of the calendar year indicated.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Emory University Board of Trustees

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5.25.2016

**Nominations to General Agencies  
Presented for Approval of the SEJ Conference**

**Definition of Acronyms Used**

AWF = Alabama-West Florida  
FL = Florida  
HOL = Holston  
KY = Kentucky  
MEM = Memphis  
MS = Mississippi  
NAL = North Alabama  
NC = North Carolina  
NGA = North Georgia  
RB = Red Bird Missionary  
SC = South Carolina  
SGA = South Georgia  
TN = Tennessee  
VA = Virginia  
WNC = Western North Carolina

Asterisk \* = Incumbent  
LW = Lay Woman  
LM = Lay Man  
CW = Clergy Woman  
CM = Clergy Man  
WA = White Anglo  
AF = African American  
HA = Hispanic American  
NA = Native American  
AS = Asian American  
A = Adult  
OA = Older Adult  
Y = Youth  
YA = Young Adult  
PD = Person w/ Disabilities

**CONNECTIONAL TABLE**

*Brad Brady	SGA/WA/CM/A
Ken Nelson	SC/AF/CM/A
Amy Coles	WNC/WA/CW/A
Robin Scott	NAL/WA/CM/A
Tonya Murphy	NGA/AF/LW/A
Michelle Hettman	VA/WA/LW/YA
Dana Lyles	WNC/AF/LW/A
Andrew Postell	NGA/WA/LM/YA

**GENERAL BOARD OF DISCIPLESHIP**

Robert (Tripp) Gullledge III	AWF/WA/LM/YA/PD
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**GENERAL BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES**

*Ismael Ruiz-Millan	NC/HA/CM/A
*Timothy Crisler	MS/AF/LM/A
Mary Newman	TN/NA/LW/A
Molly McEntire	FL/WA/LW/YA

**GENERAL BOARD CHURCH & SOCIETY**

*Lisa Garvin	MS/WA/CW/A
*Bill Stikes	NGA/WA/LM/A
*Pat Luna	AWF/WA/LW/A
*Don Hanshew	HOL/WA/CM/A
Robin Dease	SC/AF/CW/A
Rob Vaughn	VA/WA/CM/A
Sharon Austin	FL/AF/CW/A
Otto Harris	WNC/AF/CM/A

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

Alison Malloy	VA/WA/LW/A
Isabella Dillard	MEM/WA/LW/YA
Esther Jadhav	KY/AS/CW/A
LaNella Smith	NC/AF/LW/A

### Nominations Committee for GBCS

Pat Luna  
Bill Stikes  
Robin Dease

### GENERAL BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION & MINISTRY

\*Ted Brown TN/WA/LM/A

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*Robby Lowry	NC/NA/LM/A
Herman Lightsey	SC/WA/LM/OA
David Stotts	MS/WA/LM/A
Neal Wise	VA/WA/LM/A
Matthew Pinson	NGA/WA/LM/A

### UNITED METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE

*Anne Travis	HOL/WA/LW/A	Class of 2024
*Michael Watts	KY/WA/LM/A	Class of 2024
Dale Cohen	NAL/WA/CM/A	Class of 2028
Robert Amundsen	RB/WA/CM/A	Class of 2028
June Jernigan	AWF/WA/CW/A	Class of 2028

### GENERAL COMMISSION ON COMMUNICATIONS

*Alice Rogers	NGA/WA/CW/A
Iosmar Alvarez-Alfonso	KY/HA/CM/A
Kelly Roberson	SG/WA/LW/A

### OFFICE OF CHRISTIAN UNITY AND INTERRELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS

Cindy Thompson	WNC/WA/LW/A
Brian Burch	HOL/WA/CM/A/PD

### GENERAL COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE

Rinaldo (Rini) Hernandez	FL/HA/CM/A
Ben Adams	NC/WA/LM/A

### GENERAL COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

\*Cathy Mitchell SC/AF/CW/A

### DIVISION ON MINISTRIES WITH YOUNG PEOPLE – Adult Worker

Derrick Scott FL/AF/LM/A

### DIVISION ON MINISTRIES WITH YOUNG PEOPLE – Young Adult

Sarah Belles WNC/WA/CW/YA

**JURISDICTIONAL COMMITTEES**

**SEJ – Committee on Coordination and Accountability (CCA)**

*Sharon Austin	DCM	FL/AF/CW/A
*Julie Hager Love	DCM	KY/WA/CW/A
Denise Walton	DCM	SGA/AF/CW/A
*Gary Locklear	Lay Leader	NC/NA/LM/OA
*Steve Lyles	Lay Leader	NAL/WA/LM/OA
Jane Wood	Lay Leader	WNC/WA/LW/A
Robert Amundsen	At-Large	RB/WA/CM/A
Philip Schroeder	At-Large	NGA/WA/CM/A
Jeremy Pridgeon	At-Large	AWF/WA/CM/A
Timothy Rogers	At-Large	SC/WA/CM/A
*Roger Hopson	At-Large	MEM/AF/CM/A
Zachary Beasley	At-Large	MS/AF/CM/A
*Bishop William McAlilly	Bishop	TN
*Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor	Bishop	HOL
*Bishop Sharma Lewis	Bishop	VA

**SEJ – Council on Finance and Administration (CFA)**

*Frank Dunnewind	AWF/WA/LM/OA
*Tony Prestipino	FL/WA/LM/A
Rick Cherry	HOL/WA/LM/A
Eric Bryant	KY/WA/CM/A
Autura Eason-Williams	MEM/AF/CW/A
Tim Prather	MS/WA/CM/A
*Charlie Carlton	NAL/WA/LM/A
Emily Innes	NC/WA/LW/A
Gary Fuller	NGA/WA/LM/OA
Marilyn Osborne	RB/WA/LW/A
Barbara Ware	SC/WA/LW/A
*Bob Moon	SGA/WA/CM/A
Max Mayo	TN/WA/CM/A
Jeff Mickle	VA/WA/CM/A
*Jan Brittain	WNC/WA/CW/A

## WHAT WE LEARNED FROM MONITORING AT THE SEJ

We are grateful to all of you who embraced and participated in or first attempt at electronic monitoring at our 2016 SEJ Conference. The monitoring questions as well as the bar graphs and percentage charts are being posted for you to review at your leisure. However, below are some possible conclusions that can be drawn from the data along with some suggestions for increasing your individual cultural proficiency. If you have questions or want more information, you may contact Jennifer Davis, Monitoring Coordinator for the 2016 SEJ Conference at [jennifer@jpdavisonline.com](mailto:jennifer@jpdavisonline.com).

### Results

Participants seem to:

- Embrace this form of monitoring
- Feel comfortable approaching others who look different/have different opinions than they do
- Be intentional in seeking opportunities to engage with those who are different
- Have taken the opportunity to engage with others and will continue to do so
- Have noticed the intentionality of the SEJ Conference to embrace our diversity

### Suggestions for increasing our individual cultural proficiency and embracing our diversity:

- Use the monitoring questions that have been provided in your cultural settings; church, work, organizations which you are involved with; or create a series of your own questions relevant to your setting.
- Invite others to participate in this journey to improve personal and group relationships.
- Advocate for small group discussions. Tell your story and invite and encourage others to tell theirs. Be willing to be vulnerable.
- Make it a point to help others be comfortable with your differences. Ask and answer questions.
- Invite people you trust to hold you accountable for your comments and/or actions. Do the same for others.
- Challenge your assumptions about others; pay attention to your thoughts and feelings about them; ask yourself “what was I thinking and why?” and then evaluate your motives.
- Ask yourself “do I have any implicit biases that affect how I treat others?” (We all have some implicit biases. We must be intentional about raising our awareness of what they are and determining what, if anything, we should do about them)
- Invest in your own personal development by reading a book or attending an event that helps you learn more about others, their background, history, beliefs.
- Always seek to be kind to others. Be patient with yourself.
- Pray without ceasing. Spend time with God. Always choose Hope. It will not disappoint,



## Seminary Reports

### Candler School of Theology Report to the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

For more than 100 years, **Candler School of Theology** at Emory University has prepared *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world. Since our founding in 1914, over 10,000 students have graduated from Candler, where they have been shaped as Christian leaders who put faith and love into action, transforming the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

One of 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church, Candler is also one of seven graduate professional schools of Emory University, a top-tier research institution offering extensive resources and a rich context for study. Our location in Atlanta provides a learning environment that reflects the highly diverse communities of the 21st century. Simply put, there is no better place for ministry preparation that addresses our major denominational priorities: developing leaders, starting and growing churches, ministry with the poor, and improving global health.

In order to keep pace with the needs of the church and the world, Candler now offers 17 degrees: seven single degrees and ten dual degrees pairing theology with bioethics, business, development practice, law, public health, or social work. One of our newest degrees is a retooled Doctor of Ministry that is 90 percent online, so students can remain in their places of ministry as they study—and apply what they learn in real time. We’ve also partnered with the University of Georgia’s School of Social Work to create an MDiv/MSW where students learn to maximize their effectiveness by combining pastoral skills such as spiritual counseling with social work practices such as family therapy and community assessment.

Our student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful. 466 students are enrolled, with 48 percent women, 34 percent people of color (U.S.), and a median age of 29. Students represent 44 denominations, with 51 percent coming from the Methodist family. 82 percent of students are seeking a degree to prepare them as ministry professionals.

Candler has a deep commitment to alleviating student debt and employs a multi-pronged approach to tackle this issue. In 2015-2016, we awarded nearly \$5.5 million in Candler scholarships, with 92 percent of MDiv students and 84 percent of all students receiving support. And our comprehensive financial literacy program teaches money management skills that serve our students now and will continue to serve them—and the churches they serve—well into the future.

At the end of the 2015-2016 academic year, Candler says goodbye and Godspeed to a handful of noted faculty as they retire: Barbara Day Miller, Luke Timothy Johnson, Steve Tipton, and Bishop Woodie White. Yet even as these legends take their leave after distinguished careers of scholarship and service, we look forward to welcoming a new crop of scholar-leaders who will join us in the coming months and grow with us in the coming years. We are especially pleased to welcome Bishop Larry Goodpaster, who will join the faculty as bishop-in-residence in the fall of 2016.

Candler draws considerable strength and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of educating faithful and creative leaders for the church’s ministries in the world depends upon your support, gifts, and prayers. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. Visit us in person in Atlanta or online at [candler.emory.edu](http://candler.emory.edu) to see firsthand how Candler prepares *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world.

Jan Love  
Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics  
Candler School of Theology

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### Duke Divinity School

The academic year 2015–2016 has been one of transition as Dean Richard Hays was diagnosed with cancer and forced to step down from his role as dean a year sooner than anticipated. Ellen Davis, Amos Ragan Kearns Distinguished Professor of Bible and Practical Theology, accepted the invitation from Duke University President Richard Brodhead to serve as interim dean this year. A robust search committee to select candidates for the dean position had already been assembled, and they have spent this year conducting a thorough and thoughtful process to present final nominations to the president and provost of Duke University, who will make the final decision. The final slate of candidates was presented to the president and provost on Feb. 1, 2016, and we anticipate a final decision later this spring.

In the midst of this year of transition, we continue to engage with the church, academy, and society on important ecclesial and cultural issues. The heart of our work remains the preparation of men and women for Christian ministry and leadership within the church. This year we welcomed students from a range of backgrounds who are called to serve God and the church. In 2015, our total enrollment was 626 students: 449 are enrolled in the M.Div. degree program; 36 in the M.T.S.; 19 in the Th.M.; 44 in the Th.D.; 71 in the D.Min.; 33 in the M.A.C.P.; 16 in the M.A.C.S.; and 12 who are special students. Thirty-eight percent of our students are United Methodist, with an additional 4 percent from other Wesleyan traditions, and 43 percent of our M.Div. students are United Methodist. Fourteen percent of all students are Baptist, 8 percent are Anglican or Episcopalian, 3 percent are Roman Catholic, 8 percent are Presbyterian or Reformed, with the rest from 22 other denominations or nondenominational churches.

This year we made a number of strategic staffing decisions to ensure that we are meeting the priorities of the Divinity School. Lacey Warner, associate professor of evangelism and Methodist studies, has been named our senior strategist for United Methodist collaborations. Warner, whose background includes academic administration, parish ministry, theological teaching, and denominational leadership, will bring oversight, guidance, and new ideas about ways that the Divinity School can work with our United Methodist partners in the work of serving local churches and local pastors. She has been named interim regional director and head of Course of Study at Duke, one of the largest Course of Study programs. She will build on the strong existing curriculum to explore new forms of pastoral formation, as well as develop more formal assessments about the effectiveness of Course of Study to ensure that it delivers the best preparation for local pastors and churches.

Warner has also worked with Pastor David McNitzky of Alamo Heights UMC in San Antonio, Texas, to create a certificate program. People in the church were interested in learning more about theology, church history, and biblical studies. The church offers courses and helps people use this training to be transformational leaders in their church and community, and Duke Divinity School recognizes this training with an approved certificate.

Jeff Conklin-Miller, the E. Stanley Jones Assistant Professor of the Practice of Evangelism and Christian Formation and Royce and Jane Reynolds Teaching Fellow, has been named the new associate dean for academic programs. He is also the director of the master of arts in Christian practice (M.A.C.P.) program. Conklin-Miller is an ordained elder in the California-Pacific Conference and has served local churches as an associate pastor, co-pastor, and senior pastor. In addition to his extensive church ministry, he has experience in academic administration and Christian formation. In his role as academic dean, Conklin-Miller draws on these various aspects of his experience in order to ensure that academic and other formation programs at the Divinity School equip our students to further God's work in the church and the world.

We are well aware of the changing landscape in theological education: fewer people express interest in pursuing theological degrees, and the costs of education continue to rise. As part of strengthening our commitment to the priorities of recruitment and financial aid, we have appointed Todd Maberry to the

new position of senior director of admissions, recruitment, and student finance. Maberry, who earned an M.Div. from Duke Divinity School and an M.P.A. degree from North Carolina State University, has served in academic administration and church leadership. Most recently he was the community pastor at the Church of the Resurrection (Downtown) in Kansas City, Mo., and he comes to Duke under appointment of Bishop Scott Jones in the Great Plains Conference.

Another notable new hire is the appointment of Meghan Feldmeyer Benson as Divinity School Chaplain, following the retirement of Sally Bates. An ordained elder in the Rocky Mountain Conference, she served for nine years as Director of Worship at Duke Chapel. Shortly after Rev. Benson began her chaplaincy last summer, both Richard Hays and Professor Kate Bowler were diagnosed with cancer, and she immediately demonstrated her gift for offering comfort and guidance to the Divinity School community through both skillfully designed worship and pastoral care. In the months since, Benson has continued to foster a spirit of prayerfulness, while also overseeing the Divinity School's worship life and opportunities for spiritual formation.

Our initiatives, centers, and programs are a vital resource for us in connecting the work of Duke Divinity School with other disciplines and constituents. Our Thriving Rural Communities initiative hosted "Fan the Flame," a weekend retreat on growth and sustainability for small-membership churches. In partnership with the Western North Carolina and North Carolina Conferences, they also sponsored the 2015 Convocation on the Rural Church, "Living in Community," to discuss issues important for transforming rural churches and communities. The Hispanic House of Studies, supported by both North Carolina Conferences, hosted a retreat for pastors serving the Hispanic and Latino/a community. Duke Divinity School remains committed to supporting local churches and local pastors, particularly in under-resourced communities.

Spirited Life, a holistic wellness program and behavioral health study conducted by the Clergy Health Initiative, has concluded its direct services to pastors, after working with more than 1,100 United Methodist clergy in North Carolina since 2010. The program provided resources for improving mental, spiritual, and physical health through evidence-based programs, coaching, and support. The initiative will continue to conduct and publish research, and will continue to offer information for clergy, congregants, and denominational officials to support the well-being of pastors.

Since 1979, the Center for Studies in the Wesleyan Tradition has been a source of internationally acclaimed research and support for Methodist and Wesleyan studies. The Center hosts the Wesley Works Editorial Project, which this year published a new volume of the works of John Wesley and launched a new website. The new volume, *The Works of John Wesley Volume 27: Letters III (1756–1765)*, is the third of seven volumes devoted to Wesley's correspondence. The new website provides information on the previously published work as well as other resources for the study of John and Charles Wesley.

Several initiatives, specifically in the areas of health care, reconciliation, and the arts, provide opportunities for theological reflection to intersect with the pressing needs in our world today. Duke Initiatives in Theology and the Arts (DITA), Theology, Medicine, and Culture (TMC), the Office of Black Church Studies (OBCS), and the Center for Reconciliation (CFR) each sponsored numerous speakers and events during this past year. *Faith & Leadership*, the online magazine published by LEADD, continues to reach over 300,000 readers and provide a resource for theological reflection and "traditioned innovation" for all in ministry. Their continued excellent work was recognized again this year with awards from the Associated Church Press "Best of the Christian Press" contest.

Our faculty continue to be recognized for their scholarship and interdisciplinary expertise. Xi Lian and J. Kameron Carter were both named Henry Luce III Fellows for 2015–16. Ross Wagner, Kate Bowler, and Jennie Grillo each received prestigious research grants and fellowships to support their book projects.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

Faculty continue to be in demand as preachers, speakers, lecturers, and conference presenters all over the world, from academic conferences to leading Sunday school classes, to preaching in churches.

We remain deeply grateful for the relationships among the United Methodist Church, this Annual Conference, and Duke Divinity School. We look forward to working with you in the task of preparing men and women for Christian ministry. To learn more about Duke Divinity School, please visit our website at [www.divinity.duke.edu](http://www.divinity.duke.edu).

Respectfully submitted by Interim Dean Ellen F. Davis

### **GAMMON Theological Seminary**

Gammon Theological Seminary, located in Atlanta, GA, is The United Methodist constituent member of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), a consortium of six historically African American theological schools. Gammon/ITC is a co-educational, professional graduate school of theology. Its faculty personifies vigorous scholarship, rigorous academic discipline, and significant research in the service of the church and other communities in the world. Gammon/ITC is the world's premier resource for black church scholarship and faith-based solutions to the spiritual and socio-economic challenges confronting the African American community and beyond.

Founded in 1883 by the Methodist Episcopal Church and with assistance from the Freedman's Aid Society, today Gammon Theological Seminary is one of the 13 theological schools of the United Methodist Church. The faculty and administration of Gammon/ITC create an environment in which critical thinking, investigative reflection, decision making, and responsible action are fostered. Gammon/ITC is a member of the Atlanta University Center Complex, the world's largest enterprise of African American higher education. It is also a member of The University Center of Georgia and the Atlanta Theological Association. The school is fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Gammon/ITC offers the following degree programs: the Master of Divinity, the Master of Arts in Religious Education, the Master of Arts in Church Music, the Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) in Pastoral Counseling, and the Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.). There are also a number of dual degree programs offered in cooperation with seminaries and schools in the Atlanta Theological Association. Admission is open to qualified men and women of the United Methodist Church.

Because of the support of annual conferences within the Southeastern Jurisdiction, Gammon/ITC students carry on a proud tradition. They are taught to think independently and communicate effectively. They are also challenged to become involved in finding solutions to problems that affect the human condition, and to become active in the community beyond this campus. Additionally, graduates of this institution are encouraged to maintain a lifelong desire for intellectual growth, spiritual development, and the acquisition of skills for the practice of ministry.

Gammon/ITC has had a very exciting and busy year living out its mission, which is to recruit, support and educate pastors and leaders for The United Methodist Church. There are several significant ways that we have lived out our mission and furthered our vision:

#### **1) Strengthened and Diversified the Board**

Added eight new members from various industries and professions, including a former Vice President for the Coca Cola, a former Executive Vice President for United Way of

Metropolitan Atlanta, a former Vice President for Grants and Sponsored Research at Grambling State University, et al. These individuals, along with Gammon's current Board members, bring a wealth of gifts and talents that will enable Gammon to re-position itself to weather the formidable storms occurring in theological education.

**2) Strategic Realignment of Resources**

After significant negotiation and numerous rounds of discussion, the Gammon Board approved the strategic realignment of the institution's resources by selling a significant piece of property to the Friendship Baptist Church of Atlanta. The proceeds from the transaction, nearing \$4.5million, have enabled Gammon to significantly increase its endowment.

**3) Reaffirmation by SACSCOC**

At the December 2015 annual meeting of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the ITC's reaccreditation was fully reaffirmed without any further recommendations or sanctions. This is joyous news for Gammon and the ITC, and this announcement follows 4 years of warning and probation status for the ITC. ITC's successful reaffirmation by SACS was due in large part to a substantial gift from Gammon in the amount of \$500,000 to help shore up the ITC's finances.

**4) Implementation of the Pathways Program**

Over the course of the summer, Gammon began the implementation phase of the Gammon Pathways Program by welcoming five Pathways Scholars to campus. These scholars included students from Wiley College, Rust College, and Paine College. The students spent 6 weeks of the summer serving in internships in the following churches and agencies in Atlanta: Central UMC, Warren Memorial UMC, Impact UMC, and BMCR.

**5) Ebony Exploration**

This past October, Gammon welcomed 65 undergraduate seniors and pre-seminary students from Bethune-Cookman University, Claflin University, Paine College, Rust College, Wiley College, Alcorn State University, the North Georgia Black Church Development Office, and the Baltimore-Washington Conference for its first ever Ebony Exploration. This was an innovative event for young African Americans (ages 18-35) to hear, discern, and respond to God's call to ordained ministry and to explore their gifts and graces for service in The United Methodist Church. Gammon, as the epicenter of black leadership for this denomination, is reasserting its historic role in producing principled and called leaders for the church and society.

Gammon Theological Seminary is extremely grateful to all of the annual conferences within the Southeastern Jurisdiction for their support of theological education, and for their commitment to ensuring that God's church will be served by persons who are called and trained to lead us forward.

*Albert D. Mosley, President-Dean*

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### SECTION VI. Historical Material

#### Sessions of the Jurisdictional Conference

<b>Session</b>	<b>Where Held</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
First	Municipal Auditorium Asheville, NC	May 22-27, 1940	Lud H. Estes
Second	Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, Atlanta, GA	June 22-26, 1944	Lud H. Estes
Third	Township Auditorium Columbia, SC	June 30-July 4, 1948	Lud H. Estes
Fourth	American Legion Auditorium Roanoke, VA	June 25-29, 1952	Lud H. Estes
Fifth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 11-15, 1956	Lud H. Estes
Sixth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 13-17, 1960	Don A. Cooke
Seventh	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 8-12, 1964	Charles D. White
Eighth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 24-28, 1968	W. Carleton Wilson
Ninth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 11-16, 1972	Charles D. White
Tenth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 13-15, 1976	Charles D. White
Eleventh	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 15-19, 1980	Alvis A. Waite, Jr.
Twelfth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 17-22, 1984	Alvis A. Waite, Jr.
Thirteenth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 12-16, 1988	Alvis A. Waite, Jr.
Fourteenth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 14-18, 1992	Charles D. White, Jr.
Fifteenth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 16-19, 1996	Charles D. White, Jr.

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Sixteenth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 12-15, 2000	Joetta F. Rinehart
Seventeenth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	February 26-28, 2001	Joetta F. Rinehart
Eighteenth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 14-17, 2004	Joetta F. Rinehart
Nineteenth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 16-19, 2008	Joetta F. Rinehart
Twentieth	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 18-20, 2012	Remer L. Brady III
Twenty-first	George R. Stuart Auditorium Lake Junaluska, NC	July 13-15, 2016	Anne S. Travis

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### **PLAN OF ORGANIZATION**

*(As adopted by 2016 Conference)*

#### I. OPENING SESSION

The Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church shall assemble according to the provisions of the 2012 *Book of Discipline* (§§ 24, 26, 27) and the law of the Church at a place within the bounds of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church.

##### A. Presiding Bishop

Following the administration of Holy Communion by the Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction, the conference shall be called to order by a Bishop of the Southeastern Jurisdiction as determined by the College of Bishops; this Bishop shall preside during the first session of the same.

##### B. Seating of Special Groups

Members of the Judicial Council of the United Methodist Church residing within the bounds of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference shall be seated on the platform of the Jurisdictional Conference and allowed the same Per Diem and travel as elected delegates, and they shall be without vote.

The general or executive secretaries of the general boards and agencies of the church who are members of the annual conferences within the bounds of the Southeastern Jurisdiction and who are not elected members of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference shall be seated within the area of the conference and shall have the privileges of the floor on matters affecting the interests of their boards and agencies, but without vote, and at the expense of their respective boards and agencies.

##### C. Roll Call and Order of Business

The following order of business shall be observed:

1. The secretary of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference shall call the roll in the following manner:
  - a. The names of the Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction and of the delegates-elect of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference who have died since the adjournment of the preceding Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.
  - b. The names of the Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.
  - c. The roll of delegates shall be called by annual conferences. The chairperson of each delegation shall be provided with a blank form on which to report in writing the attendance of its members, noting absentees and substitutions, which reports shall be tabulated by the secretary and published in the *Daily Christian Advocate*. Any reserve seated in the place of a regular delegate by his/her Annual Conference shall meet the requirements set forth in *The Book of Discipline* 2012 of The United Methodist Church (§§ 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 514). Delegates, including reserves, when the latter are substituted for a delegate or delegates, shall be seated in the order of their election. Each Delegation Head will certify daily that his/her delegation is properly seated on a form provided by the Conference Secretary.



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2. A majority of the whole number of delegates elected to the Jurisdictional Conference shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business (§ 518, 2012 *Discipline*). At the conclusion of the roll call, the secretary shall announce whether or not a quorum is present.
3. The Plan of Organization and Rules of Order, prepared by the Committee on Plan of Organization, shall be submitted to the conference for its action and determination.
4. The College of Bishops shall present a nomination from the clergy or laity membership of the United Methodist Church within the Southeastern Jurisdiction for secretary designate. Other nominations shall be permitted from the floor. The Agenda Committee shall schedule the time of election. The election, if there are two or more nominees, shall be by ballot with a majority of the votes cast being required for an election. The secretary designate shall assume the responsibilities of the office of secretary as soon after the adjournment of the Jurisdictional Conference as all work in connection with the session, including the preparation, printing, and mailing of the journal, has been completed. The exact date of the transfer or responsibility to the secretary designate shall be determined by the College of Bishops, but shall not be later than six (6) months after the adjournment of the Jurisdictional Conference. Other details about the Conference Secretary position include:
  - a. That the Conference Secretary shall be a part-time, paid position.
  - b. That the Senior Effective Bishop, the CCA Chair and CCA Vice-Chair serve as the direct supervisors of the Conference Secretary.
  - c. That the Conference Secretary:
    - i. Coordinate the considerable functions associated with planning, executing and reporting on the quadrennial session;
    - ii. Act in executive/administrative role assisting the Committee on Coordination and Accountability as it fulfills its important work; and,
    - iii. Oversee a communications system to connect jurisdictional constituents.
    - iv. Respond to the frequent inquiries for information or action that comes from persons located within the Jurisdiction. (Inquires range from complaining about a position of the church, about some media story, about some action by a pastor, district superintendent or Bishop. Also, calls are received from persons who have some desire to purchase abandoned church property.)
5. The College of Bishops shall present nominations for the administrative committees, and such other nominations as are hereinafter committed to them, for election by the conference.
6. Election of Bishop(s) (2012 *Discipline*, § 27.2).
7. Election of Committee on Episcopacy for the ensuing quadrennium (2012 *Discipline*, § 50).
8. Election of the Committee on Appeals for the ensuing quadrennium (2012 *Discipline*, § 2716.1) and the Committee on Investigation for the ensuing quadrennium (2012 *Discipline*, § 2703).
9. Miscellaneous business.
10. Adjournment.

# Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

## II. EPISCOPAL MESSAGE

The College of Bishops and the Program Committee may schedule the hearing of the quadrennial message of the College of Bishops.

## III. LAITY ADDRESS

The Program/Arrangements Committee may schedule a Laity Address for the quadrennial session. When scheduled, the Jurisdictional Association of Conference Lay Leaders will designate the presenter(s) for the address.

## IV. PRESIDING OFFICERS AND SECRETARIAL STAFF

A. The effective Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction shall preside over the sessions of the conference in an order determined by the College of Bishops.

B. The secretary of the Jurisdictional Conference as elected shall serve as herein provided.

C. The conference shall elect, upon the nomination of the secretary, such assistant secretaries from the clergy or laity membership of the United Methodist Church within the Southeastern Jurisdiction, as it may deem wise.

D. If in the interim of the Quadrennial Sessions of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, the office of secretary shall for any reason be vacated, the College of Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction shall elect a successor.

## V. COMMITTEES

A. The SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability

The SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability is assigned the task of overseeing the work and ministry of the United Methodist Church across the jurisdiction (2012 *Discipline*, ¶530). The responsibilities and function of the committee will include:

1. Having limited power, but with authority, to act between sessions of the Jurisdictional Conference on matters such as ratifying the election of Trustees or Directors for entities requiring such action (e.g., Emory University Trustees and SEJ Agencies and ongoing ministries) and ratifying By-Laws changes of SEJ Agencies and Ongoing Ministries.
2. Being the legal body of the Jurisdiction and guardian of the SEJ title and logo
3. Focusing on the mission and ministry of the United Methodist Church within the Jurisdiction
4. Coordinating and/or confirming the program of the General Agencies within the Jurisdiction (2012 *Discipline*, ¶529)
5. Receiving regular reports from the Committee on Finance and Administration, the SEJ Agencies, and jurisdictional groups for mission and ministry
6. Relating to and holding accountable groups mandated by *The Book of Discipline*, Jurisdictional Agencies, Networking Groups, Monitoring Groups, and Existing Groups organized and

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functioning within the Jurisdiction (See below, “Definitions”) and maintaining Covenant Agreements with the Jurisdictional Agencies and Existing Ministries.

The membership of this committee will be fifteen (15) persons:

- 3 Bishops
- 3 Conference Directors of Connectional Ministries or equivalents
- 3 Conference Lay Leaders
- 6 At-large members with expertise and for inclusiveness

All 15 members shall be elected by the Jurisdictional Conference upon nomination by the SEJ Nominating Committee in consultation with the Bishops, Directors of Connectional Ministries and Lay Leaders, to identify their representatives and ensure that each annual conference be represented on the committee. Vacancies occurring during the quadrennium shall be filled by the College of Bishops.

The Secretary of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference shall be the staff person assigned duties for and on behalf of the committee (ex officio membership, with voice but without vote). The SEJ Committee on Finance and Administration Chairperson and the SEJ Treasurer shall be ex-officio members, without vote, on the CCA.

The Executive Directors of the three Agencies and Disciplinary Groups and Ongoing Groups (Ministries) may be invited to attend meetings of the SEJ Committee for connections, accountability, and information sharing (voice but without vote).

The Committee shall elect its own officers. Either a Bishop or lay leader shall serve as the chairperson on a rotating basis for a two-year term. (For example, if a lay leader is chairperson for two years, a Bishop will serve as vice-chairperson, with the next two-year term reversed.) The Jurisdictional Conference Secretary shall arrange an organizational meeting at a time and place determined by the President of the SEJ College of Bishops, who shall be or shall name the convener of the meeting.

The committee shall meet at least annually, with called meetings held as necessary. Telephone conference meetings and audio-conferencing are acceptable. Those present at a duly announced meeting will constitute a quorum.

### Definitions

A number of groups, committees, and councils across the jurisdiction will be related to and accountable to the Jurisdictional Conference through the SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability. These groups fall into one of five categories.

1. Disciplinary Groups – Two primary groups and/or events are mandated by *The Book of Discipline*: there “shall be” a jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History, and there “may be” a jurisdictional Ministries with Young People Convocation. A system for regularly reporting, coordinating, and overseeing their work will be developed in consultation with the SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability.

There are also jurisdictional organizations for United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men. However, according to *The Book of Discipline*, these two entities are directly accountable to the national United Methodist Women and the General Commission on United Methodist Men, respectively.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

2. Agencies—Three agencies shall be located within the bounds of the Southeastern Jurisdiction: (1) Lake Junaluska Assembly; (2) Hinton Rural Life Center; and, (3) Gulfside Assembly. Each one of these three agencies own property within the bounds of the Jurisdiction and will maintain its own Board of Directors (ratified by SEJ Conference and – between sessions – by the Committee on Coordination and Accountability) that will function as trustees of the property and the ministry. Each Board of Directors will determine the plan of organization and structure for the work and the mission of the agency and will follow all reporting requirements of the jurisdiction. By-Laws changes are to be reviewed and ratified once per quadrennium by the Committee on Coordination and Accountability.

In this jurisdictional plan, each of the three agencies will have its own Executive Director. Working with the Board of Directors, this person will assist in determining and hiring the appropriate number of staff persons, along with determining the necessary position descriptions. Ultimately, each agency – through its Board of Directors – will be accountable to the Jurisdictional Conference through the Committee on Coordination and Accountability and shall file a quadrennial report, including a budget, a business plan, a ministry plan, and Board of Directors for the upcoming quadrennium to be ratified by the Jurisdictional Conference. When requested by the Committee on Coordination and Accountability, these Agencies shall also file an annual report of the same information.

The three Agencies shall be asked to maintain a Covenant Agreement with the SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability for mutual understanding of roles and responsibilities.

3. Monitoring Groups – The Book of Discipline requires a jurisdictional organization for both the Commission on Religion and Race and the Commission on the Status and Role of Women and requires a Jurisdictional connection with these two General Commissions.

Lines of accountability and oversight of their monitoring work will be through the SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability. In addition, it is expected and requested that the monitoring function also be applied to SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability, both in its membership and participation.

4. Networking Groups – These informal, ad-hoc groups arise among conference leaders and staff. They share common interests, concerns, and ministry-related areas. These groups may gather periodically to benefit from interaction with peers, to develop contacts, and to exchange information. The understanding is that all Annual Conferences will be invited to participate but doing so will be strictly voluntary. Funding for travel and expenses shall be the responsibility of each participating Annual Conference. Each Networking Group will be responsible for its own life and will have no jurisdictional staff persons assigned.

5. Existing, Established, Ongoing Ministries – Several groups and organizations provide much needed ministry, training and outreach within the jurisdiction. There are currently two established ministries: (1) Intentional Growth Center and (2) UVMIM. These ministries will be accountable to the Jurisdiction through the Committee on Coordination and Accountability. Each ministry will have its own Board of Directors and/or Advisors, which will be reviewed and ratified annually by the Committee on Coordination and Accountability. By-Laws are to be reviewed and ratified once per quadrennium by the Committee on Coordination and Accountability. Each group will be self-supporting and will file annual reports on the ministry, vision, and results of their programming with the Committee on Coordination and Accountability and a quadrennial report to the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference..

B. The SEJ Committee on Finance and Administration

1. The ministry of the jurisdiction requires a unified budget with one Treasurer's office, which will serve as the primary place for receipts and disbursement of funds. The Committee on Finance and Administration shall receive and review audits of the Agencies and Jurisdictional groups for mission and ministry and any other matters approved in the Covenant Agreements. Finally, the Treasurer's office will work with the Committee on Finance and Administration to propose a quadrennial jurisdictional budget and will provide for the operations and financial expenses for the meeting of the Jurisdictional Conference.

2. This committee will be composed of a representative and inclusive group of fifteen (15) persons, nominated by the SEJ Nominating Committee and elected by the Jurisdictional Conference. The committee will elect its own officers at its organizational meeting which will take place at a time determined by the President of the SEJ College of Bishops, who shall be or name the convener of the meeting. For the purpose of information and sharing mutual concerns, the Chairperson and the Treasurer of the Jurisdiction shall make full and regular reports to the Committee on Coordination and Accountability.

a. There shall be a Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference Committee on Finance and Administration, consisting of fifteen (15) members including one representative from each Annual Conference. The Committee shall be constituted quadrennially and shall be composed of eight lay persons and seven clergy persons.

It is recommended that considerations of ethnic background, the place of both men and women, the place of adults and youth, and ability and experience be recognized. Members of the Committee shall take office upon adjournment of the Jurisdictional Conference electing them and shall serve until the adjournment of the next succeeding quadrennial session of the Jurisdictional Conference and until their successors are duly elected. Vacancies occurring during the quadrennium shall be filled by the College of Bishops.

b. The Committee, when elected, shall elect from its members a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and recording secretary, and it shall nominate to the Jurisdictional Conference currently in session a treasurer who, on being duly elected by the conference, shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee. If for any reason the office of treasurer shall become vacant during the interim of the sessions of the Jurisdictional Conference, the Committee shall elect a treasurer, following due consultation with the College of Bishops. The Committee may at any time remove the treasurer from office for cause.

c. The Committee shall have general oversight of all funds included in the Jurisdictional Conference budget. The treasurer shall render to the ~~officers~~ of the Committee an annual statement of receipts and expenditures at the end of each fiscal year and a quadrennial report to each succeeding quadrennial session of the Jurisdictional Conference covering in detail receipts and expenditures for the quadrennium preceding. The treasurer shall be bonded through a suitable bond of a surety company of recognized standing and in an amount fixed by the Committee.

d. The Committee shall meet at least annually, or on the call of the chairperson or of a majority of the members thereof. Telephone conference meeting and audio-conferencing are acceptable.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

e. No member or employee of any group or any trustee or employee of any institution, which is a beneficiary of the Jurisdictional Conference budget, shall be eligible for membership on the Committee. The expense of the Committee shall be paid out of the Jurisdictional Conference Expense Budget.

f. It shall be the duty of the Committee to make a careful study of the expense of administration and the causes that may properly be included in the annual Jurisdictional Conference budget, and to recommend to each succeeding quadrennial session of the Jurisdictional Conference for its action and determination an annual budget, showing the share of each Annual Conference in the total. The budget as adopted shall be the Jurisdictional Conference budget for the ensuing quadrennium, including annual budgeted amounts for the ensuing quadrennium, and the apportionment to each Annual Conference as finally determined by the Jurisdictional Conference shall be its annual share in the said budget. Only such items as are distinctly related to the work of the jurisdiction shall be included in the Jurisdictional budget. The jurisdictional treasurer shall transmit annually to the treasurer of each Annual Conference, not less than 120 days prior to the regular annual meeting of each Annual Conference, a statement of the amount apportioned such Annual Conference for Jurisdictional causes. The Annual Conference shall apportion the same among the charges of the conference in such manner as it may determine. The Annual Conference treasurer shall remit each month to the treasurer of the jurisdiction the amount on hand for Jurisdictional causes.

g. The fiscal year of the Southeastern Jurisdiction shall be January 1 through December 31. All accounts of the Committee on Finance and Administration shall be kept accordingly.

h. The Committee on Finance and Administration may give authority to its treasurer to borrow funds from any reputable bank or trust company to meet any obligation of the Jurisdictional Conference duly authorized in the regular annual budget of the conference; provided, the outstanding indebtedness shall at no time exceed twenty-five percent of the annual budget.

i. Should any urgent and pressing need arise that had not been anticipated in fixing the jurisdictional budget, and should the same in the judgment of the Committee constitute an emergency, the Committee on Finance and Administration may alter the percentage allowance to any or all agencies or causes receiving funds from Jurisdictional Conference apportionments, or may increase the apportionments to the several annual conferences of the jurisdiction to meet the emergency; provided, such action must be approved by a three-fourths vote of the Committee.

j. The Committee shall include in the proposed Jurisdictional budget recommended to the Jurisdictional Conference for its actions and determination the following items:

i.) The Jurisdictional Conference Expense Budget, which shall provide for the expense of the quadrennial meeting of the Jurisdictional Conference or any called meetings of the same, and the expense incurred in the preparation of such meeting.

ii.) The Jurisdictional Operating Budget, which shall make provision for the expense of the Jurisdictional personnel in the performance of the stated duties and for the expense of meetings of the committees of the Jurisdiction as defined in Section V. Items in the Administrative Committee budget for salaries and

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other administrative costs shall be a prior claim against the jurisdictional fund each month.

iii.) Other items which in the judgment of the Committee should be included in the annual Jurisdictional Operating Fund.

### C. Nominating Committee

There shall be a committee of thirty persons who will serve as a Nominating Committee to consider nominations for the general boards and agencies, and designated Jurisdictional Committees. There shall be two persons from each conference, one of whom shall be a laity delegate and one of whom shall be a clergy delegate, elected to this committee by the Annual Conference delegation. At least two weeks prior to the conference, the members of the Nominating Committee shall be provided with:

1. A list of the names of the persons being offered by each Annual Conference to the Jurisdictional pool for consideration as members of the respective program boards, commissions, councils, and agencies. These shall be listed by categories on a form prescribed by the General Conference Secretary. Each person's ethnic background shall be indicated (e.g., Native American, Asian, African-American, etc.). An asterisk shall be placed by the name of any person who is an incumbent and who is eligible for re-election, together with the name of the agency on which he/she is serving.
2. A recommendation of procedure to be followed by the Nominating Committee.
3. A reminder that the Nominating Committee shall not only seek to maintain insofar as possible the recommendations of the 2012 *Discipline* for having one-third representation each of clergy, lay women, and lay men on general church agencies, with attention given to including youth, young adults, older adults, racial and ethnic persons, persons with handicapping conditions, and persons from small-membership churches, but that these same provisions shall be applicable to the total number of nominations made from each Annual Conference to the agencies of the general church.
4. A list of the total number of nominees to which each Annual Conference is entitled to the agencies of the general church other than those which the *Discipline* specifically mandates. These numbers shall correspond to the percentage of members, rounded off to the nearest whole, which each Annual Conference has of the total members of the jurisdiction; notwithstanding the above, the Red Bird Missionary Conference shall be represented in the nominations. In compiling this list, the following nominations shall not be included: those which come from recommendation of the United Methodist Women for the General Board of Global Ministries, those for the National Council of Churches, and those which come from another agency or group and are only reported by the Nominating Committee. The information from the annual conferences shall be in the hands of the Jurisdictional Conference Secretary no later than June 20. The members of the committee shall bring preference sheets and biographical data for prospective nominees to the first meeting of the committee from the respective conferences. The Nominating Committee shall be convened for organizational purposes at the site of the conference by the president of the College of Bishops of the jurisdiction at 2:00 p.m. three days prior to the opening of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. Per Diem expenses for the Nominating Committee shall be provided for the extra days. Nominations shall be in the hands of the conference at a minimum of-three-hours before being presented for election.

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

### D. Committee on Episcopacy

The membership of the Committee on Episcopacy shall consist of one clergy and one lay delegate to the Jurisdictional Conference from each Annual Conference elected by the Jurisdictional Conference upon nomination of their respective Annual Conference delegations (§524.1 of *The Book of Discipline* 2012). Each quadrennium, the Committee shall officially constituted with the election of officers and begin its work at the conclusion of the previous quadrennium's jurisdictional conference session. The committee will continue its work through the conclusion of the following jurisdictional conference when the new committee is constituted.

The sitting Committee on Episcopacy shall report to the conference the church membership statistics of the Southeastern Jurisdiction and the number of Bishops to which the Jurisdiction is entitled on the basis of church membership and shall recommend to the conference the number of Bishops to be elected and the process and manner of their election (cf. Rule 17). The committee shall perform such other duties as are set forth in §§406.1, 524 of *The Discipline* 2012.

The Committee will recommend minimum housing guidelines for every episcopal residence committee in the Jurisdiction.

### E. Committee on Appeals

There shall be a Committee on Appeals elected in accordance with §2716.1 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* 2012.

### F. Committee on Investigation

There shall be a Committee on Investigation elected in accordance with §2703 of *The Discipline* 2012.

### G. Administrative Committees

Nominations to the administrative committees shall be printed in the first edition of the Daily Christian Advocate.

#### 1. Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order

There shall be a committee of five, known as the Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order, of which the secretary and treasurer of the conference shall be ex-officio members. The committee shall be convened by the conference secretary or designee until a chairperson is elected. To this committee shall be referred any proposed amendments to the Plan of Organization and Rules of Order (see Rule 38). This committee shall restudy the Plan of Organization and Rules of Order between sessions of the Jurisdictional Conference and, after making such needed changes and adaptations therein as in their judgment are necessary, shall present them to the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference for consideration and final action. Any recommendation by the committee as to the organization of the standing committees, their names, number, and responsibilities (except the Committee on the Episcopacy) shall be transmitted to the secretary prior to the convening of the Jurisdictional Conference. The secretary shall notify the head of each delegation the standing committees as recommended by the Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order so that delegates may make their choice of committee assignments. The committee shall have the authority to consult with various persons and agencies in the exercise of this authority. The Plan of Organization and Rules of Order of the preceding Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, thus adopted and published in the journal, shall be the Plan of Organization and Rules of Order until they have been altered or amended by the action of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.



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### 2. Committee on Journal

There shall be a committee of three, known as the Committee on Journal, which shall examine the record of the secretary daily during the session. Any error subsequently discovered in a section of the journal materials, which has been verified, shall be corrected.

### 3. Agenda Committee

There shall be a committee of five, known as the Agenda Committee. The senior effective Bishop and the Conference Secretary shall be two of the committee members. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to see that all items of business required by The Discipline of the church are brought to the attention of the Jurisdictional Conference. Any consideration, proposal, resolution, or communication, which does not clearly refer to the business of the Jurisdictional Conference, as prescribed in the Discipline shall be referred to the Agenda Committee, which shall determine whether or not it shall be presented to the conference and also whether it shall be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate. The Agenda Committee shall report to the Jurisdictional Conference the disposition made of all matters, which have been referred to the Committee. The Agenda Committee shall consult with the Committee of Chairpersons regarding the inclusion of standing committee reports on the agenda of the conference.

No petition shall be assigned to any Jurisdictional Conference committee unless it comes from some organization, clergy person, or member of The United Methodist Church and contains information essential to the verification of the alleged facts concerning its origin. All petitions shall be presented to the Conference Secretary. Each should deal with only one general subject. All petitions requiring funding shall be so designated and the amount to be specified. Petitions with financial implications shall be referred to the Southeastern Jurisdictional Committee on Finance and Administration for their review and recommendation to the conference. All petitions shall be in the hands of the secretary of the conference no later than fourteen days prior to the opening of the conference.

The Agenda committee shall receive all petitions dealing with the regular business of the conference and, after ascertaining that they meet the requirements herein specified, shall distribute them among the several committees according to their respective responsibilities. It may also withhold from reference or publication any document it shall deem improper, promptly advising the author or authors thereof of its action in order that an appeal may be made to the conference, if desired.

When the Agenda committee determines that the particular item of business does not naturally flow toward an existing committee, it shall authorize the creation of an ad hoc committee to deal with this particular item. Upon authorization, the Conference Secretary will contact each delegation leader with a description of the business item and a meeting time and place for the committee (including the possibility of a conference call prior to the convening of conference). The delegation leader will be asked to designate one delegate to represent his/her annual conference on the ad hoc committee. The Conference Secretary or designee shall convene the meeting until a chairperson is elected. The ad hoc committee will consider the item of business and prepare a recommended action for conference's consideration.

### 4. Committee on Program and Arrangements

There shall be a Jurisdictional Conference Program and Arrangements Committee composed of one Bishop, who shall be chairperson; a district superintendent designated by the Bishop; the

## Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference

Secretary of the Jurisdictional Conference; the Treasurer of the Jurisdictional Conference; the chairperson Committee on Coordination and Accountability; the president of the jurisdiction United Methodist Women or designee; the president of the jurisdiction United Methodist Men or designee; and the chairperson of the Jurisdictional Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders or designee; the chairperson of the sitting Committee on Episcopacy or designee; and five (5) others who may be selected to insure inclusivity and expertise. The Bishop serving on this committee shall be selected in the order of seniority from the effective Bishops of the jurisdiction. The duties of the committee shall be to arrange the program and logistics for the Jurisdictional Conference, other than that covered by the Plan of Organization. It shall be established policy of the Southeastern Jurisdiction to have a program that will present to the conference a challenge on behalf of the work of the church in its worldwide mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The Conference Secretary will organize a team to execute the program planned and the logistical needs of the conference following the guidance of the Committee on Program and Arrangements. Members of this team will be invited to Committee meetings as determined by the senior Bishop and Conference Secretary.

### 5. Committee on Chairpersons

There may be one or more meetings of all committee chairpersons as determined by the Agenda committee. Such meetings may seek to coordinate and streamline the business of the conference or seek to resolve inter-committee disagreements or difficulty. The secretary of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference shall convene the Committee of Chairpersons.

### 6. Tellers

There shall be a committee of thirty to act as tellers for the purpose of assisting with the ballots ordered by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. The committee shall be composed of one clergy and one laity delegate from each of the annual conferences in the Southeastern Jurisdiction. For purposes of this committee only, reserve delegates may be nominated by their delegation and elected as balloting tellers. The committee shall be divided into two groups of fifteen each. In case of emergency, additional tellers may be drafted into service from among the delegation membership.

### H. Financial Implications

The SEJ Conference shall submit any petition or proposal requiring funding from committees, organizations or individuals to the Committee on Finance and Administration (CFA) for study and recommendations prior to consideration. Submissions shall be made no later than 6:00 PM of the day prior to the CFA report.

## VI. DELEGATES' EXPENSE ACCOUNTS

A. The report of the Delegation Head shall be the basis for settlement with principal and reserve delegates for their Per Diem allowance.

B. Travel expense for delegates and first lay and clergy reserve to the conference shall be reimbursed as directed by the conference upon recommendation of the Committee on Finance and Administration. The total travel expense shall be payable to the principal delegate if he/she be present and seated. If during the session of the conference a reserve beyond the first lay or clergy reserve must be seated in his/her place, he/she shall adjust the travel expense with such reserve on the basis of the time served by each.

VII. EDITORIAL CHANGES

The Conference Secretary may make editorial changes to the Plan of Organization or Rules of Order whenever there is a need to update Disciplinary references or law, or to clarify language without changing the meaning or intent. Any proposed editorial changes must be approved by two-thirds of the Rules Committee.

**RULES OF ORDER**

I. AGENDA

Rule 1. Agenda.

- (1) The senior effective Bishop and the Conference Secretary, in consultation with the College of Bishops and the Program/Arrangements Committee, will develop the agenda.
- (2) The proposed agenda will be published in pre-conference materials and placed before the conference for adoption in the opening session.
- (3) Once adopted, the Agenda Committee may propose modifications as circumstances may dictate. The conference will be notified of foreseen adjustments in as timely as fashion as possible.

Rule 2: Worship. Each quadrennial session will begin with an opening worship service. Additional worship experiences will be conducted periodically during the session.

II. PRESIDING OFFICERS

Rule 3. The Bishop presiding shall be legal chairperson of the Jurisdictional Conference. He/she shall decide points of order raised by the members as he/she deems necessary to conform to these Jurisdictional Conference Rules of Order, subject to an appeal to the conference by any member without debate; except that the chairperson and the appellant, in the order here named, shall each have three minutes for a statement in support of his/her position. A tie vote in the case of an appeal shall sustain the chair. When any member raises a point of order, he/she shall cite by number the rule he/she adjudges to have been violated. The Bishop presiding when the committee is created, unless otherwise directed by the conference, or as directed by the plan of organization, shall name the members of any special committee. (See Rule 38.)

Rule 4. When the chairperson stands in his/her place and calls the conference to order, no member shall speak, address the chair, or stand while the chairperson stands.

III. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

Rule 5. Attendance and Seating Reserves. No member unless hindered by sickness or otherwise, from being present shall be absent himself/herself from the sessions of the conference without permission of the conference, and all absentees shall be reported by the chairperson of the several Annual Conference delegations to the Conference Secretary. Reserve delegates will be seated as necessary. Each Delegation Head will certify daily that his/her delegation is properly seated on a form provided by the Conference Secretary (Plan of Organization, I. C. (1) c).

Rule 6. Directions for Securing the Floor. When a delegate desires to speak to the conference, he/she shall arise at his/her seat, respectfully address the presiding officer, and, after recognition, proceed to the

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speaker's platform or to the nearest microphone, where, before speaking, he/she shall state his/her name and the Annual Conference from which he/she comes.

Rule 7. Interrupting the Speaker. No member who has the floor may be interrupted except for a breach of order, or misrepresentation, or to direct the attention of the conference to the fact that the time has arrived for a special order, or to raise a very urgent question of high privilege.

Rule 8. Speaking More Than Once. No member shall speak a second time on the same question if any member who has not spoken desires the floor, nor more than twice on the same subject under the same motion, nor longer than three minutes unless his/her time shall be extended by the conference, except as provided in Rule 37. This three-minute limit may be reduced by a majority vote of the conference at any time, and for any period of duration. Note: Any eligible elder, who is not a nominee in the episcopal election process and who receives 10 or more votes on any ballot, will be permitted to address the conference for no more than 10 minutes.

Rule 9. Question of High Privilege. A member claiming the floor at any time for what he/she believes is a very urgent question of high privilege shall be allowed to indicate briefly the nature of the question, as if it be adjudged by the chair to be such he/she may proceed at his/her pleasure, or until the chair judges that he/she has exhausted the privilege.

Rule 10. Voting Area of Conference. Only delegates within the area of the conference when the vote is taken shall be entitled to vote. All delegates within the area at the time a question is put shall vote, except such as have been excused for special reasons by the conference.

Rule 11. Method of Voting. Voting shall be by a show of hands unless otherwise ordered by the conference. An "Aye" and "No" vote by written ballot or a count vote may be ordered on call of any member and supported by one-third of the members present and voting. Ballots and count votes will be taken by electronic voting device when available at the conference session. No other business shall be in order when a vote is being taken, or when the previous question has been called, until the process is completed, except such as relates to the vote itself, or that which can be appropriately fitted into the time while waiting for the report of the secretaries on a count vote, or an "Aye" and "No" vote (see Rule 26 (2)). When a count vote is ordered, and electronic voting devices are unavailable, the count shall be made by the chairperson of the delegation, who shall report to the secretary of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference the number of those in the delegation voting for and voting against a motion or a report.

Rule 12. Division of Question. Before a vote is taken, any delegate shall have the right to call for a division of any question, if it is subject to such division as he/she indicates. If no delegate objects, the division shall be made, but if there is an objection the chair shall put the question of division to vote, not waiting for a second.

### IV. BUSINESS PROCEDURE

Rule 13. Motion for Adoption of Reports and Resolutions Unnecessary. Whenever a report of a committee, signed by the chairperson and secretary thereof, or a resolution signed by two or more members of the conference shall be presented to the conference for its action, it shall be deemed in proper order for consideration by the conference without the formality of a motion to adopt and a second thereto.

Rule 14. Required Forms for Reports, Resolutions, Motions, and Amendments. All resolutions and committee reports shall be presented in triplicate and electronically, and when requested by the secretary, motions, including amendments, shall be presented in writing.

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Rule 15. Reading of Reports and Resolutions. All resolutions, committee reports, and communications of the conference may be read by the secretary if determined by the conference, except as otherwise provided in Rule 31.

Rule 16. Alteration of Motions, Etc. When a motion is made and seconded and stated by the chair, or a resolution is introduced and seconded, or a committee report is made or is published in the Daily Christian Advocate, it shall be deemed in possession of the conference and may not be altered except by action of the conference (see Rule 31). Introductory, accompanying or explanatory, material shall not be subject to debate or amendment, nor be considered to have been acted upon by the conference upon adoption of the motion or proposal itself, unless accompanied by a specific motion that such material is included in the action of the conference.

Rule 17. Episcopal Election Process

(1) The sitting Committee on Episcopacy has oversight of the election process for that quadrennium. Specifically, the Committee on Episcopacy will determine and oversee the processes, policies, and covenants related to the declaring of nominees and the familiarization with nominees from the various conferences and groups. The Program/Arrangements Committee, in consultation with the Committee on Episcopacy and the College of Bishops, will determine the balloting process and logistics. Once balloting begins, the presiding Bishop shall certify the fairness of the balloting process. Once the balloting process (beginning with the first ballot and concluding with the election of the final bishop) has begun, neither committees nor persons who are not nominees shall be allowed to make reports or speeches designed to influence the balloting.

(2) An elder is elected a Bishop when that elder has received the votes of 60% of the delegates casting valid ballots in the jurisdictional conference.

Rule 18. Non-debatable Motions. The following motions shall be acted upon without debate:

- (1) To adjourn, when unqualified, except to adjourn the conference finally.
- (2) To suspend a rule or rules or any provisions of the Rules of Order.
- (3) To lie on the table, except as provided in Rule 35.
- (4) To take from the table.
- (5) To call for the previous question.
- (6) To reconsider a non-debatable motion.
- (7) To limit or extend the limits of debate.
- (8) To call for the orders of the day.

Rule 19. Rights of the Main Question. The main question may be opened to debate under the following motions: To adopt, to commit, to substitute, to postpone, and to reconsider. No new motion, resolution, or subject shall be entertained until the one under consideration shall have been disposed of, except as provided in Rule 11. The foregoing does not apply to secondary motions if otherwise allowable in the existing parliamentary situation.

Rule 20. Precedence of Secondary Motions. If any one or more of the following motions shall be made when one or more other motions are pending, the order of their precedence in relation to one another shall be the same as the order of their listing below:

- (1) To fix the time to which the conference shall adjourn. (This motion is subject to amendment, or it may be laid on the table.)
- (2) To adjourn.
- (3) To take recess.

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- (4) To raise a question of privilege.
- (5) To call for the orders of the day.
- (6) To lie on the table.
- (7) To order the previous question.
- (8) To limit or extend the limits of debate.
- (9) To postpone to a given time.
- (10) To refer.
- (11) To amend or substitute (one amendment being allowed to an amendment).
- (12) To postpone indefinitely.

Rule 21. Tabling Related Motions. No motion, which adheres to another motion, or has another adhering to it, can be laid on the table by itself. Such motions, if laid on the table, carry with them the motions to which they respectively adhere, or which adhere to them.

Rule 22. Referring a Section of Report. It shall be in order for the conference to refer to a committee a section or part of a report or resolution which is before the conference for consideration or any amendment offered thereunto.

Rule 23. Procedure for Consideration of Substitutes. When a resolution or committee report is properly before the conference for consideration and action, even if amendments thereto are pending, a delegate may offer a substitute for the resolution or report under consideration. The substitute must be an alternative to what is before the body and not simply a negation of the main motion.

The conference will first consider the substitution/alternative before the body. Debate on the motion to substitute will be limited to the question of substitution only. No amendments to the main motion or the substitute will be considered during this period of initial consideration. Following the debate on the motion to substitute, a vote on substitution will occur. If the motion to substitute prevails by majority vote, the substitute motion becomes the main motion. If the motion to substitute fails to receive a majority vote, the original main motion remains on the floor for consideration. Debate, including the offering of amendments, moves forward on the main motion as per the rules of procedure.

The previous question may not be put on the adoption of the report or resolution, or making the proposed substitution, until two members (including the chairperson of the committee presenting the report and the member presenting the substitute shall have spoken.

Rule 24. Previous Question (see Rules 18 (5), 23, 25, 35). When any member moves the previous question (that is, that the vote be now taken on the motion or motions pending), he/she shall indicate to what he/she intends it to apply, if any secondary motion or motions are also pending. If he/she does not so indicate, it shall be regarded as applying only to the immediately pending question.

This motion shall be taken without debate and shall require a two-thirds vote of those present and voting for its adoption, and if adopted the vote shall be taken without debate and shall require a two-thirds vote of those present and voting for its adoption, and if adopted the vote shall be taken on the motion or motions to which it applies without further debate, except as provided in Rule 35.

Rule 25. Unlawful Motion after Speech. It shall not be in order for a member immediately after discussing a pending question, and before relinquishing the floor, to make a motion whose adoption would limit or stop debate.

Rule 26. Exceptions to Majority Vote. A majority of those voting, a quorum being present, shall decide all questions with the following exceptions:

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- (1) A tie vote sustains the chair, if an appeal is made from his/her decision (Rule 3).
- (2) One third of those present and voting shall suffice to sustain a call for an “Aye” and “No” vote or a count vote (Rule 11).
- (3) A two-thirds vote shall be required to sustain a motion to suspend or amend a rule or rules or any provision of the Rules of Order (Rules 37, 38); to sustain a motion for the previous question (Rule 24); to set aside a motion for the previous question (Rule 24); to set aside a special order; to consider a special order before the time therefore; or any motion whose adoption would limit debate.

Rule 27. Reconsideration. A motion to reconsider an action of the conference shall be in order at any time if offered by a member who voted with the prevailing side. If the motion proposed for reconsideration is non-debatable, then the motion under reconsideration may not be debated.

Rule 28. Motion to Adjourn in Order, Except. The motion to adjourn, when unqualified, shall be taken without debate, and shall always be in order, except

- (1) When a delegate has the floor.
- (2) When a question is actually put, or a vote is being taken, and before it is finally decided.
- (3) When the previous question has been ordered and action there under is pending.
- (4) When a motion to adjourn has been lost, and no business or debate has intervened.
- (5) When a motion to fix the time to which the conference shall adjourn is pending. The foregoing does not apply to a motion for final adjournment of the conference.

### V. COMMITTEES: DUTIES AND PREROGATIVES

Rule 29. Preparation and Presentation of Committee Reports. Every committee of the Jurisdictional Conference is hereby authorized to delegate to the chairperson and secretary of the committee the duty of preparing and presenting to the Jurisdictional Conference the action taken by the committee on any given subject, and every committee is authorized to grant to a minority of the committee the right to draft and to present to the Jurisdictional Conference a minority report without reading the same before the full committee, providing the substance of the said minority report has been stated to the committee.

Rule 30. Alterations in Restrictive Rules. Reports from committees and all other papers which propose an alteration in the restrictive rules of the church shall state that alteration proposed to be made, and the form of the motion shall be: “Will the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference recommend to the General and Annual Conferences the change indicated above?”

Rule 31. Published Reports in Possession of Conference. A report of any committee signed by the chairperson and secretary thereof shall be regarded as in possession of the conference when posted to the conference website, published in the Daily Christian Advocate, or distributed on the floor of conference. The business shall be in order for consideration at the pleasure of the conference anytime thereafter. The same rule shall apply to a report of a minority of any committee signed by one tenth of the members of the committee or by ten members thereof (see Rule 16 and Rule 23).

Rule 32. Preparation and Printing of Reports. Reports of the standing committees shall be posted to the conference website and distributed in the Daily Christian Advocate with as much advance notice as possible given the abbreviated duration of conference prior to being presented for consideration by the conference, and they shall not be read unless by its order. Reports of minorities of committees adopted by them with a view to their being offered as substitutes for committee reports shall likewise conform to this rule so far as it is applicable, indicating clearly to what committee the respective minorities belong and for what report or reports, by serial numbers, etc., they propose the respective substitutes.

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Rule 33. Committee on Chairperson Not in Harmony with Report. When a chairperson of a committee is not in harmony with a report adopted by the committee, it shall be his/her duty to state the fact to the committee, which shall elect one of its members to represent the committee, and said representative shall have all the rights and privileges of the chairperson in relation to such report.

Rule 34. Presentation of Report of Minority. A member selected by the signers of a minority report of a committee to present the same shall have the same rights and privileges in relation thereto which belong to the chairperson in the presentation of the regular (majority) report of the committee.

Rule 35. Speakers For and Against. When the report of a committee is under consideration, it shall be the duty of the presiding officer to ascertain which side a speaker proposes to speak. The speaker shall not be granted the floor to speak on the same side of the pending question as the speaker immediately preceding if any member desires to speak on the other side. Except for non-debatable motions, no report shall be adopted or question relation to the same decided without opportunity having been given for a least one speech for and one against the said proposal, provided this right is claimed before the chairperson or duly authorized member representing the committee's report, of the minority report if there be such, is present to close the debate. When all have spoken who desire to do so, or when (and after) the previous question has been ordered, the chairperson and/or duly authorized member or members presenting the committee's report (and the minority report, if there be one) shall be entitled to speak before the vote is taken. This right of the chairperson and/or other member or members to close the debate shall prevail in like manner to a limit of three minutes when a vote is about to be taken on a motion to amend, to substitute, to postpone, to refer, to lay on the table, or any other motion whose adoption would vitally affect the report under consideration, provided that this five minute limit shall not apply to a motion to substitute a minority report for a regular (majority) report of a committee.

Rule 36. Legal Enactment. All actions of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church shall become effective upon the adjournment of the present session of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church, unless otherwise specified.

### VI. SUSPENDING, AMENDING, AND SUPPLEMENTING

Rule 37. Suspension of Rules. The operation of any of the provisions of the Plan of Organization or the Rules of Order may be suspended at any time by a two-thirds vote of the conference (see Rule 26 (3)).

Rule 38. Amending Rules. The Plan of Organization and these Rules of Order may be amended or changed by two-thirds vote of the conference, provided the proposed change or amendment has been presented to the conference in writing and referred to the Committee on Plan of Organization and Rules of Order, which committee shall report thereon not later than the day following (see Rule 26 (3)).

Rule 39. Roberts Rules of Order, Revised: Supplemental Authority. In any parliamentary situation not clearly covered by this Plan of Organization or these Rules of Order, the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference shall be governed in its actions by *Roberts Rules of Order, Revised*.