

REMEMBER &  
Be Faithful



TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
of the United Methodist Church  
2011 Journal



**DAILY PROCEEDINGS**  
**42<sup>nd</sup> SESSION**  
**TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**George R. Brown Convention Center; Assembly Theater**  
**Houston, Texas**  
**May 29 – June 1, 2011**

Day One

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**A CELEBRATION OF LIFE**  
**Sunday, May 29, 2011**  
**7:30 PM**

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Texas Annual Conference gathered at the George R. Brown Convention Center for worship and Holy Communion under the leadership of Bishop Janice Riggle Huie. The 2011 service was planned by Taylor Davis, Holy Covenant UMC, Katy; Rev. David Henry, First UMC, Bryan; Lahonda Sharp, Christ UMC, Sugar Land; and Dr. Craig Gilbert, First UMC, Sugar Land. The service liturgies were compiled by David Henry and Lahonda Sharp. The chairman of the conference worship team was Rev. DeAndre Johnson, Westbury UMC, Houston, Texas.

The choral anthems were presented by the Chancel Choir, St. Luke's UMC, Houston, under the direction of Sid Davis, Director of Music and Fine Arts. They were accompanied on the organ by Rob Landes, Artist in Residence, and on the piano by B.B. "Barbara" Bamberg, Associate Director of Music and Fine Arts. The service pianist was Dr. Hangfong Au, Associate Accompanist at Christ UMC, Sugar Land.

Special Guests were the Marian Anderson String Quartet in Residence at FUMC, Bryan. On the violins were Marianne Henry and Nicole Cherry. Deidre Lawrence played the viola, and Prudence McDaniel was the cellist. The Brass Ensemble was under the direction of David Galasso, St. Peter's UMC in Katy. The liturgical dancers were Ballet Grace, under the direction of Cookie Joe and Tran Pham Rich.

The liturgists were Dr. Gail Harrelson, Secretary of the Texas Annual Conference and the alumni of the Texas Youth Academy: Brant Burns, Trinity UMC in Beaumont; Taylor Wingfield, St. Paul's UMC in Houston, and Madelyn (Maddie) Smith of First UMC in Ore City. The message was brought by Rev. Jerry House, Jr., Senior Pastor of Christ UMC in College Station. Rev. House's text was Genesis 1:1-7 and the message was entitled, "When OK Isn't Enough." The evening offering was designated to offset expenses incurred at the 2011 Texas Annual Conference.

During the service, Dr. Gail Harrelson read the names of the dearly departed while the Marian Anderson String Quartet performed Antonin Dvorak's "String Quartet #12 in F Major, Op. 96, Movement 2." The congregation stood as the following names were read: **Willie Mae Beckendorf, Spouse of Harvey O. Beckendorf; Kathryn R. Blackwell, Spouse of Derwood L. Blackwell; James W. "Jim" Bradley; James E. "Jim" Butler; Oramae B. Cannon, Spouse of John L. Cannon; Jean Cammack Cragg, Spouse of H. Eugene "Gene" Cragg; Marjorie P. Felder; Spouse Roy L. Felder; E. Glynn Ferguson; Lurlyn Fleming, Spouse of Durwood Fleming; Victor H. Garoutte; Mary Goodell, Spouse of Kenneth W. "Ken" Goodell; Larry J. Howard; Michael Hunter; Henry F. Hynson; Robert B. Langham, Jr.; Asbury Lenox; Edwin Earl Lock; Helen Lowe, Spouse of Robert B. Lowe; Nathaniel H. McGinnis; Douglas E. Meyer; Florence Morson; Stanley Y. Nabona; Fern Nielsen, Spouse of Howard F. Nielsen; Ernest C. Phifer; Phyllis Dixon Ross, Spouse of George W. Ross; Beatrice "Bea" Smith, Spouse of S. Burton Smith; Lyda R. Stivers, Spouse of Paul J. Stivers; Lonnie B. Strong, Spouse of E. Jewel Strong; and Gladys Walker, Spouse of Robert Walker.**

Bishop Huie and the communion assistants served the bread and cup following the offering. Bishop Huie offered the benediction. The conference was invited to a Memorial Service reception for friends and family in the Hilton Hotel Americas, Room 335. The entire worship service was recorded on DVD. The DVD's were available for purchase and a copy was archived in the Conference Library.

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**Day Two**

**TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
CLERGY EXECUTIVE SESSION  
Monday, May 30, 9:00 AM  
George R. Brown Convention Center, Assembly Theater  
Houston, Texas**

**Opening Hymn and Prayer:** At 9:00 a.m., the Rev. DeAndre Johnson led the clergy in singing the hymn, "My Hope is Built," which was followed by a prayer given by Rev. Mary Tumulty.

**Nominations Workshop:** Rev. B.T. Williamson described the nominations process for the coming quadrennium and referred to page 16 in the preconference journal. The application and job descriptions for all the boards and committees may be found on the conference website: [www.txcumc.org](http://www.txcumc.org). Rev. Williamson stated that all completed forms must be submitted electronically by December 1, 2011 in order to present the nominations to the preconference meetings in preparation for the 2012 annual conference for election to serve in the new quadrennium. The nominations booklet will be prepared by February 1, 2012. The nominations committee will review the information prior to February 15<sup>th</sup> and send it to the Commission on Religion and Race for review by March 1<sup>st</sup>. The nominations then will be submitted for the preconference journal publication by March 15, 2012. All nominations information must be completed in time to place it before the district preconference meetings across the annual conference next year. Rev. Williamson asked for questions and then thanked the clergy members for their attention. Rev. Williamson referred to the list of clergy names who were ineligible for election. He asked the body to use the list as a guide when voting and not to include the numbers of those clergy when casting votes. For anyone who did not receive a copy of that list, additional copies will be available on the late registration table on the second floor of the hotel. Rev. Williamson turned to Dr. Tom Pace, Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Dr. Pace called for a recess until Bishop Janice Riggle Huie could complete her welcome and greetings to the laity session convening in the hotel.

**Call to Order:** Bishop Huie called the clergy session to order at 9:30 a.m. by leading the body in prayer. Following a welcome and greeting to the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of the Texas Annual Conference, the Bishop explained that the goal of the annual conference is for inspiration, learning, and business. The reports are placed on the consent agenda unless they require action items and all were printed in the preconference journal. She mentioned the process for voting with the electronic devices and pointed out that our procedure was the same electronic mechanism used at the General Conference for the last two quadrennia. Next Bishop Huie spoke to the clergy as president of UMCOR. She encouraged pastors to prayerfully consider receiving a special offering this summer for "Spring Storms 2011." The spring storms of April 27<sup>th</sup> in Alabama have been classified by FEMA as the 7<sup>th</sup> worst disaster in U.S. history, but this was before the Joplin, Missouri tornado. None of these statistics include the flooded areas along the Mississippi River.

Our Bishop spoke about things that concern pastors, primarily financial issues. She acknowledged that this past year has been worse than the previous year. She mentioned that when families in local churches feel the stress of financial issues in the home, those tensions tend to contribute to a level of high stress in local congregations. As churches sought to balance budgets, there have been more church closures of associate positions than openings. Churches with a full time elder status moved to become churches with part-time elder status or to local pastor or part-time local pastor status. There were many salary resets in 2011, which resulted in the loss of aggregate pastor salaries somewhere between \$250,000 to \$400,000, not including pension and insurance benefits. The Cabinet

and Center Directors are working to support pastors by granting more sabbaticals and have used the interim pastor program to lead the churches while pastors are away. The focus on wellness has enabled this annual conference to avoid large increases in health insurance. Bishop Huie mentioned that economists and folks who track charitable contributions say that “Churches are the last institution into a recession and the last one out.” The Bishop affirmed the clergy of the Texas Conference and the work each pastor does in his or her appointed mission field in leading our churches in good and positive ways in a difficult season.

**Board of Ministry Report:** Bishop Huie turned to Dr. Tom Pace for the Board of Ministry report. He asked the presenters, Rev. Josh Hale, Rev. Shelli Williams, Rev. Richard Bauman, Rev. Danny Barrett, Rev. Gail F. Smith, Rev. Judy Tefeller, and Rev. Pam Besser, to come forward. Dr. Pace encouraged clergy to talk to people in local congregations who feel called to ministry about the Candidacy Summit that is scheduled every summer. The annual conference is the deadline for applying to the summit and candidates must meet with District Superintendent to be able to attend Candidacy Summit. Dr. Pace then turned to the questions pertaining to ministry.

#### PART 11 PERTAINING TO ORDAINED MINISTERS AND LOCAL PASTORS

**17: Are all the clergy members of the conference blameless in their life and official administration?**  
“Yes, by the grace of God.”

**18 (a): The Committee on Investigation:**

<u>Clergy:</u>	<u>Clergy Alternates:</u>
Suzan Carter	Lorraine Brown
Francis Guidry	Don Meador
Dan Hannon	Homer Williams
Darrell Houston	
<u>Lay:</u>	<u>Lay Alternates:</u>
Billy Wayne Flanagan	Betty Owen Geary
Robert Harris	Ann Olson
Jerry Massey	Greg Waller

Bishop Huie asked the body to approve the members on the Committee on Investigation by raised hands. It was so approved.

**18 (b). The Administrative Review Committee:**

<u>Clergy:</u>	<u>Clergy Alternates:</u>
Rodney Graves	James Flagg
Bill Jones	Lewis Jackson
Bobbie Maltas, Chair	

Bishop Huie asked the clergy to approve the persons presented for the Administrative Review Committee by raised hands. They were approved.

**19 (a), (b): Certified Candidates.** Rev. Josh Hale presented the report on certified candidates and local pastors and asked all certified candidates and all clergy mentors to stand and be recognized.

**19 (c): Who have had their candidacy for ordained or licensed ministry accepted by District Committee on Ordained Ministry in another annual conference?**

Josh Amerson, from Central South District to North Georgia Conference  
Alfred Njau, from Northwest District to Petanga Conference  
Elizabeth Tatum, from Southeast District to Southwest Texas Conference

**19 (d): Who have been discontinued as certified candidates for licensed or ordained ministry?**

Richard Alsobrook	5/1/2011	Northwest District
Michael Ervin	4/7/2011	Central South District
Diana L. Fabre	2/5/2011	South District
Rhonda Fronk	4/15/2011	Central North District
Paula Harrison	1/20/2011	South District
Julia Mills-Douglas	2/8/2011	South District
Richard Newton, Jr.	4/7/2011	Central South District
Ross Reynolds	4/6/2011	East District
Silverio Teran Sanchez II	2/1/2011	South District

**20: Who have completed the studies for the license as a local pastor, are approved, but not now appointed?** Rev. Danny Barrett referred the body to read this part of the Board of Ministry report.

**21 (a): Who are approved and appointed as Full Time Local Pastors?** Rev. Barrett noted there was one correction. Ricky Carl Nance was listed as completing 17 Course of Study classes. He actually has completed the entire required 5 year Course of Study. Rev. Barrett asked all local pastors who have completed the course of study to stand.

**21 (b): Part time local pastors?** Rev. Barrett noted the progress of the part time local pastors in completing the Course of Study.

**21 (c):** There were no students from other annual conferences or denominations serving as local pastors and enrolled in a school of theology listed by the University Senate.

**21 (d):** There were no persons serving as local pastors while seeking readmission to conference membership.

**22. Who have been discontinued as local pastors?**

Richard Alsobrook	4/13/2011	Northwest District
Robert Jefferson	3/31/2010	Southeast District
Donald Risenger	2/25/2011	Central North District
Larry Roberman	2/11/2011	West District

**23. Who have been reinstated as local pastors?** None.

**Additions to Question 21:** Before the report on local pastors was approved, several additions were included under Question 21. Jairo Ortiz was moved from Question 19 (a) to Question 21(a) as full time local pastor, effective 06-01-11 in the Central South District. Stephen Newcomb in the Northwest District, and Vera Lewis in the West District, were added as part-time local pastors under Question 21(b), effective on 06-01-11. Dr. Pace moved the adoption the report of the local pastors. Bishop Huie asked the clergy to vote for the persons as local pastors in the various categories by raised hands and they were so approved.

**24. What ordained ministers or provisional members from other Annual Conferences or Methodist denominations are approved for appointment in the Annual Conference while retaining their conference or denominational membership.**

**24 (a). Annual Conferences**

Bryan Keith Dalco, Central South, OE Central Texas  
 Leroy-Lee Elder, Central North, OE North Texas  
 Nadine Graham, Central South, OE Western New York  
 Paul Porter, Northwest, OE Central Texas  
 Kay Reed, West, OE Northwest Texas  
 Ruby Sosa, West, OE Central Pennsylvania  
 Dave Dinneen , Central South, OE New Mexico

**24 (b). Other Denominations?** None

**25. What Clergy in good standing in other Christian denominations have been approved to serve appointments or ecumenical ministries within the bounds of the Annual Conference while retaining their denominational affiliation?** None.

**26. Who are affiliate members?** None.

**27. Who are elected as associate members?** None.

**28 (a). Provisional Deacon coming before the conference for commissioning.** Dr. Pace presented those coming for commissioning.

Ellen Watson Kent

Dr. Pace explained that she was absent due to keeping vigil at her seriously ill father's bedside in North Carolina. He asked the clergy members to keep her and her family in our prayers.

**28 (b.1) Provisional Elders coming before the conference for commissioning.**

Steffon Keith Arrington	James R. Littleton, Jr.
Jacqueline Ford Collins	Clifton H. Ritter
Deborah Ann Giles	John William Seaton
Karen Lee Koch Jones	Jason Byron Smith
Paula Lynn Kirby	Matthew Brian Smith
Vera Muckleroy Lewis	Adam Dean Straznicky

**28 (b.2) Provisional Elders under provisions of ¶324.6.**

Richard Duane Luna

Bishop Huie and the clergy welcomed them with a standing ovation. The Bishop asked for the candidates to be voted in with a loud "Hallelujah!" and they were so elected.

**29 (a), (b), (c), (d).** Rev. Shelli Williams noted the provisional members who are continued.

**29 (e). Provisional Members who transferred from other conferences or denominations?**

Laralee DeHart, (PD)

**32 (a). Who are elected for ordination as deacons in full connection and what seminary did they attend?**

Dr. Pace presented the candidates for ordination as deacons in full connection.

Sunny Brown Farley	Brite
Cynthia Foster Serio	Garrett

**32 (b). Who are elected for ordination as elders and what seminary did they attend?**

Dr. Pace also presented the candidates for ordination as elders in full connection.

Mary Elaine Delmore Balagia	Perkins
Robyn Kay Bishop	Perkins
Develous Alfred Bright	Perkins
Debra Moton Brown	Perkins
Tommy Earl Burton	Perkins
Anjelita Helaine Dirden	Brite
Elizabeth Matthews Duffin	Duke
Seann Michael Duffin	Duke
Jeffrey Joe Dungan	Perkins
Russell Andrew Hall	Perkins
Melissa Amy Maher	Asbury
Steven Bradley Morgan	Perkins
Silverio Gea Sanchez	ADV COS
Jacob Sean Smith	Perkins
Andrew Royce Thomspen	Perkins
Jon King Thornsbery	Asbury
Matthew Stephen Weaver	Asbury
Gary Davis White, Jr.	Perkins

Douglas Hampton Wintermute Perkins

Following a standing ovation, Bishop Huie asked the body to vote again with a loud “Hallelujah!” and the candidates were so elected. She then stated that the traditional historic questions would be asked in the afternoon session before the full body of the annual conference.

**37. Who have been received by transfer from other annual conferences of The United Methodist Church?**

Bishop Huie called the names and asked each one to stand for recognition.

Heather Sims, (FE), Northwest Texas Conference, effective 01-01-2011

Jonathan Sims, (FE), Northwest Texas Conference, effective 01-01-2011

Gregg Taylor, (FE), Arkansas Conference, effective 06-01-2011

**41. Who have been transferred out to other annual conferences of The United Methodist Church?**

Bishop Huie read the names of those who were transferred.

Frank Alegria, (FE), North Texas Conference

Burt Palmer, (FE), Northwest Texas Conference

**43 (a). Who has been granted honorable location this year:**

Rev. Richard Bauman presented the name of:

David Persons, (FE), effective 08-15-2010.

**43 (c). Who has been placed on administrative location?**

Dr. Pace announced the pastor who had been placed on administration:

James L. White, effective 03-23-2011

Dr. Pace called upon Rev. Bobbie Maltas for a report from the Administrative Review Committee, who stated that the process was evaluated and determined to be in order.

**48 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f). What associate members, provisional members, elders in full connection, retired elders, local pastors, and retired local pastors have died during the year?**

Rev. Bauman asked the body to stand as the names were read.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of Birth</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>
Henry F. Hynson	07-17-1945	07-20-2010
James E. “Jim” Butler	11-04-1941	11-09-2010
Carl K. Bray	12-04-1927	04-29-2011
John H. Cartwright	08-18-1933	04-22-2011
E. Glynn Ferguson	10-09-1925	11-12-2010
Victor H. Garoutte	01-12-1929	07-17-2010
Robert B. Langham, Jr.	06-02-1916	06-07-2010
Asbury Lenox	10-02-1925	01-18-2011
Edwin Earl Lock	07-30-1925	07-18-2010
Nathaniel H. McGinnis	07-21-1928	10-19-2010
Douglas E. Meyer	11-28-1928	11-06-2010
Stanley Y. Nabona	01-23-1923	12-28-2010
Ernest C. Phiifer	12-05-1919	09-22-2010
James W. “Jim” Bradley	07-09-1957	04-14-2011
Larry J. Howard	(None Reported)	10-11-2010
Florence Morson	03-24-1947	02-10-2011
Michael Hunter	01-15-1951	08-27-2010

Rev. Bauman offered a prayer of thanksgiving for the lives and service of these dearly departed saints.

**50 (a). Voluntary Leave. Who are the provisional or ordained members on leave of absence and for what number of years consecutively has each held this relation?**

Rev. Bauman reported that two clergy had passed the five year mark of leave.

Rosemary Behrens, Full Elder, 6 years

Patricia Ricks,(DM), 10 years

Bishop Huie asked the body to approve these persons for continued leave by raised hands. They were so approved.

**50 (c). Who have been placed on leave of absence since the last session of the annual conference?**

Sam Jones	Patricia McGinn Pasquarello
Truc Thanh Nguyen	Linda O'Neal
Ray Lamar Reed	Kelly Lowery Sullivan

Bishop Huie asked the body to grant these persons leave by raised hands and it was so granted.

**50 (d). Who on leave of absence have had their leaves terminated since the last session of the annual conference?**

Richard Dale Anderson	Mary Shivers Bates
Elizabeth Elizardo	Frank Guidry
Jason Jouett	Catherine Meyenberg.

**53 (a), (b). What members in full connection have been retired?**

Janet A. Imig	J. Randall Zercher
James M. Crabbe	Thomas W. "Tom" Crowe
David W. Diller	Jerry F. House, Sr
Lewis L. Jackson, Sr.	Michael "Gary" Leinhart
Mary Callaway Logan	Nita L. Newman
James "J.D." Phillips	Michael L. "Mike" Schutz
Don A. Storey, Sr.	Terry T. Teykl
William G. "Bill" Webb	Lynn L. Wilhite
Maggie P. Young	

Bishop Huie asked the body to grant retired status to these clergy by raised hands and it was so approved.

**54 (a). What associate members have been retired:**

James B. "Jim" Jones	John R. Tyler.
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Bishop Huie called for raised hands to grant retired status to the associate members and it was granted.

**56 (a). Who have been recognized are retired local pastors:**

Lloyd J. Betar, Jr.	Jackie Hering	Pauline Harvey Storey.
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Bishop Huie asked for a raised hand vote if the body granted retired status. They were approved. Rev. Bauman offered a prayer of gratitude for these who have given years of service to Jesus Christ and the Church.

**Part III CERTIFICATION IN SPECIALIZED AND CERTIFIED LAY MINISTRY**

Dr. Pace called upon Rev. Judy Tefteller to present the report.

**60. Who are the candidates in process for certification in specialized ministry?** Rev. Tefteller called attention to the names listed in the report.

**61. Who is certified in specialized ministry?**

Rev. Tefteller announced that two persons were being recognized this year for ministry in two specialized areas of ministry.

Katie Solomon Eichler	Youth Ministry
Cynthia Foster Serio	Spiritual Formation

**63. Who are transferred out as a certified person in specialized ministry?**

Kimberly Kay Anderson	Christian Education
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Dr. Pace introduced Rev. Pam Besser to give the report on diaconal ministers.

**72 (b). At this session of the Annual Conference who have been granted continuing leave of**

**absence:**

Patricia Ricks, Diaconal Minister  
 Rev. Besser noted that the body had approved continued leave in a previous question.

**Part V APPOINTMENTS AND CONCLUDING BUSINESS****76 (a). Who are approved for less than full-time service?**

Dr. Pace called the following names:

Deborah Giles (PE)	½	1 year
Frank Guidry (FE)	½	1 year
Chung-Soo Park (FE)	¾	9 years
Carolyn Robinson (FE)	½	3 years
Royce Scott	½	9 years

**76 (b). What deacons in full connection and provisional deacons are approved for appointment to less than full-time service?**

Janet Stilwell (FD)	½	3 years
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**77. Who have been appointed as interim pastors under the provisions of ¶338.3 since the last session of the annual conference and for what period of time?**

Dr. Pace referred the body to the printed report.

**79, 80, 81, 82, 83. Appointments.**

Dr. Pace stated that all appointments will be listed in the Conference Journal.

**84 .What other notations should be made?**

(a) Robert J. Meyers is a diaconal minister discontinued as a diaconal minister, effective June 1, 2010, but was not listed in the 2010 Business of the Annual Conference.

Dr. Pace presented the entire Board of Ministry with amendments and changes before the annual conference clergy session for adoption. Bishop Huie asked the body to vote by raised hands and it was so adopted.

**Closing Prayer:** Bishop Huie asked Dr. Pace to offer a prayer for the conclusion of the 2011 Clergy Session. The body recessed at 10:25 a.m.

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**Day Two**

**TEXAS CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
 LAITY SESSION**

**Monday, May 30, 2011, 9:00 am  
 Hilton Americas Hotel, Houston, Texas**

**Minutes taken by:  
 Mrs. Jill Krone, Associate Secretary**

**Opening:** The Innovators (Acapella Choir from Zimbabwe) brought our pre-session music.

**Call to Order:** Conference Lay Leader, Leah Taylor, opened the Memorial Day session with words of welcome, information about Tweeting, prayer and an offering for The Innovators. "It is a joy to be in a place we've never been before because we are going to do work we've never done before."

Tweet tag: #txac

**Prayer:** Ms. Taylor opened the laity session with prayer at 9:03 am. She told the body, "We have been graced by the presence of The Innovators this morning from inner city churches in Zimbabwe. Their journey was arduous but by the grace of God they are here and we are grateful. Please keep traveling mercies for these young men as they travel and for their host family as they tour." The Group members were introduced: Tatenda Sithole, Michael Sithole, Leopold Chipatiso, Struggle Chatsama,

Marvellas Nhubu, and Knowledge Radyo. They recently recorded a CD, "Many Things to Thank For," which is available for sale today. It would make a good thing to take back to your church. The group uses the funds raised to support young heads of families in their home country, children heads of households due to aids and other issues. Offering checks should be made to the *Texas Annual Conference* with a memo notation of *The Innovators*. Ms. Taylor stated she would be available to take checks for the group all week and encouraged attendees to please give generously.

**Offering for The Innovators:** The offering music was provided by The Innovators.

**Bishop's Welcome to the Laity:** Bishop Huie stated, in her address to the laity, that it reminded her of being in Zimbabwe except that everybody wasn't dancing. Bishop Huie offered her welcome to this 42nd Texas Annual Conference. We hope we have an inspiring conference, which is a time of learning and doing the business of the church.

Bishop Huie noted we have a powerful teaching tool, as Adam Hamilton joins us to teach about discipleship: what it means and how we lead for discipleship. Bishop Huie continued by noting, "I think you will be blessed by what he has to say." Bishop Huie noted some schedule changes in order to give the time for Adam, sharing that Bible Study time was folded into his time. Space for voting was opened up by moving the non-action items. We are using a new type of voting machine which the Bishop believes Lay will find easy to use so that voting can proceed in an efficient manner.

Bishop Huie focused on a comment to the Extravagant Generosity Task Force which many stated a lack of knowledge as to where apportionments go. Information is on web and the team has prepared an apportionment magazine with stories, pictures and a chart to tell where the money goes. The intent is to make this information more accessible to you.

Bishop Huie shared, that as President of UMCOR, she would like to call attention to the spring storms across the south, particularly the storms in Joplin. Having had the most storm related deaths since 1950, the destruction is overwhelming. She asked every church in this conference to respond as you normally do, with generosity. There is an Advance number available for "spring storms" to help us to give. We need the money here in the U.S. most now due to these spring storms. Rev. Cynthia Harvey is here to share more.

A personal word from Bishop Huie regarding Ms. Nancy Hinshaw, Administrative Assistant to Bishop, who is being treated for breast cancer: on her behalf I ask for your prayers, support, patience, but most of all keep her in your prayers. I'm confident God will bring her through to complete recovery. Again, welcome to conference.

**Candidates for Certification in Specialized Ministry:** Ms. Taylor introduced candidates for Certification. Judy Tefteller introduced the two candidates and shared a bit about their process. They enter into being professional certification experts in our church. There are 9 areas you can certify. Katie Solmonson Eichler, who comes this conference to be certified in Youth Ministry, would tell you that youth ministers need to be certified. Cindy Foster Serio comes to be certified in Spiritual Formation. Cindy has Mosaic Spiritual Formation Ministry and will be ordained this Conference. A warm welcome was offered.

**Nominations Workshop:** Rev. B T Williamson, Assistant to the Bishop, came forward to speak about Quadrennial Nominations and the Election Process. Rev. Williamson shared that he has the responsibility to conduct workshop in year prior to election of quad officers. Please reference your Pre-conference Journal, Section 4 part 2 on page 16, for information and description. Your handout is electronic, on our website [www.txcumc.org](http://www.txcumc.org), as we go green this year. Please find these 2 important documents there. Follow the red banner for TAC 2011 and this opens to Nominations Information location. This offers you information and the forms. Rick Goodrich has done a good job with identifying and describing the gifts and graces of these 60 different areas and 500 positions as we seek ½ clergy and ½ lay to serve as described in over 30 pages. The second place to click is a nominations profile sheet, one page to indicate information about you and where you are interested in serving and your goals for serving on a specific committee. We will send out emails on a regular basis to keep this

before you. December 1st is the deadline for receiving these nomination indication sheets back in the Conference Office. We will prepare a profile book for Nominations Committee. Nomination Committee info will be available in our pre-conference journal. Please prayerfully consider how you might be called of God to share in the ministry of the UMC.

**Election Process Information:** One of the steps the planning team took this year was to prepare a list of names of those who wish to seek election as a delegate. There is a table on the way to George R. Brown, which list names of those who have received positive support of candidates. We are trying to create a positive experience. With regard to procedures we are using, the company IML will coordinate the voting process. You will pick up handheld units as you enter session. Laity will pick up units with Green Lanyards. Bishop Huie will walk us through practice ballots. First ballots will likely be the clergy followed by the laity. Delegates must vote for the number needed. If a wrong number is entered then your ballot is invalid but the machine will not give feedback to this effect. You can start over by hitting clear unless sent has been indicated. How can we be assured machine is functional? It will “talk” to you. It will indicate vote sent. We will be happy to get a new machine to any whose machine isn’t functioning. Don’t put your card by your cell phone. If lost, we can reissue. Not all clergy are eligible but all lay, who have been a member in good standing for 2 years, are eligible. We encouraged submitting information for the profile book. Additional names and numbers will be on the screen in the near future. If any additional persons wish to enter they will need to be assigned a number. Today we will be voting in the afternoon and after the service tonight. First voting session is at 3pm.

Ms. Taylor resumed her portion of the session by noting that earlier this year she did a survey online regarding laity luncheon and got 6 responses. Many of these also noted they’d like to hear more about UMCOR. When the Haiti earthquake occurred it killed three (3) of the top UMCOR representatives. Cynthia Harvey filled in and it quickly became clear that she was the right person for the job and became Deputy General Secretary for UMCOR. If you are curious about what UMCOR is up to, go to their website and you will be amazed.

**UMCOR Video Presentation.** “You are hope. You are UMCOR.” Rev. Cynthia Harvey shared that it is because of your generosity that we (UMCOR) are able to do what we do. “I remind my staff to never forget that we come to work because of the church’s extravagant generosity. You are UMCOR. You are the people who do the work. I’m more convinced than ever before that I have the privilege to represent you around the world and that I can stand here and say thank you. You are not just doing the church, friends, you are being the church. I’m here today to simply say thank you.” Rev. Harvey continued to share about UMCOR: “We are the humanitarian arm of the UMC. UMCOR operates solely from your gifts, as UMCOR receives no apportionments. We rely on the gifts of congregations and people like you. Our budget is about 11 million dollars and the staff remains about the same. Our undesignated gifts are making up the difference of offering being down about 30%. UMCOR is responsible for managing some of the advances and we are committed to using 100% of your donation and nothing goes to administration but goes directly to benefit those who are survivors of disaster. It has been hard these past weeks. UMCOR is best known for quick responses in a disaster. Tom Hazelwood was in Joplin on Monday. He arrived on church property where the district superintendent’s office was located and all windows and doors were gone.” Rev. Harvey grabbed credentials and few other things as Mr. Hazelwood offered the ministry of presence. We are there because of you. We are deeply involved in health, providing and helping build clinics, training doctors and Traditional Birth Attendants (TBA), water and sanitation – working side by side to educate them about safe water.” In Liberia, Rev. Harvey recalled being with a 12-year old who told her to take off her shoes as she went to the well since she and her sister scrub the base of the well daily. UMCOR works in sustainable agriculture and teaches the people how to produce more yields. UMCOR also offers clinics to provide help for those navigating immigration. UMCOR has field offices throughout the world and help displaced persons around the world. UMCOR does more than respond to disasters. They are now

in the middle of strategic planning process. Rev. Harvey noted her hope is that we can be about the business of a holistic approach. Haiti is progressing well but slowly. The plan is a 10 year plan but Rev. Harvey's hunch is that it will take much longer than that. UMCOR has 2 to 1 ratio of Haitians to Americans so the work doesn't stop when we leave. UMCOR hired Haitians to clear debris. Often when we send supplies it isn't practical and it compromises the local economy. Needs are better met by purchasing medications with directions in their native language. We are affirming their gifts. UMCOR has raised over \$44 million and has been criticized for not spending the funds more quickly, but Rev. Harvey reminded attendees that UMCOR is in Haiti for the long haul.

Japan is requesting no teams. We have raised over \$4 million and are granting them funding to be our boots on the ground there.

Cote d'Ivoire – UMCOR is working to identify the greatest needs and have provided funding, even in unorthodox fashions. Bishop Huie and Rev. Harvey attended the installation of the new president but this event was not as wonderful as praising God in a church which housed refugees. The schools are totally ransacked, stripped. So, UMCOR work is cut out for us. Together we can do more than individually.

Spring Storms – funding of ½ million dollars is needed to date requiring Rev. Harvey to go to the UMCOR board and ask for release of reserve funds as we've spent more than received. At this time, funds from the advanced reserves have been replaced but more is needed.

Four areas of Focus from General Conference – UMCOR is about the work of ministry to the poor and we have become clear that at one point or another, we are all poor and we go about our ministry with greater grace as we serve. UMCOR is working and engaging with the community as they listen to the community on what their greatest needs are rather than being well-intentioned Americans. It is about being there, listening to their needs and wants, being in ministry with, not for, the people. Rev. Harvey noted that in many places they serve and teach her. She encouraged those present to think about what it means to be in ministry with people, walking side by side. It will take time but as you affirm them you also will be affirmed. Rev. Harvey closed the UMCOR report with a DVD which she encouraged all to watch closely and carefully because it moves really fast.

#### **DVD presentation.**

Ms. Taylor noted, "Doesn't it make you proud? She is doing this work because so many of you have given so generously. It is a good day to be a United Methodist."

**Special Guests:** Ms. Taylor introduced Richard Hearn, North Texas Conference Lay Leader, here today as director of development of Lydia Patterson, booth 630. Dr. Ted Smith, Coordinator of Congregational Care for Krist Samaritan Center, was not present to be introduced but had given Ms. Taylor a Public Service Announcement to share regarding Pastoral care as an art, not a formula. Workshops will be available for congregations, led by Dr. Ted Smith. Dr. Smith will have cards available regarding this training.

Ms. Taylor introduced the delegation from Cote d'Ivoire: Samuel Koffi who serves as Assistant to Bishop Benjamin Boni, Madame Lydia Acquaiy serves the Cote d'Ivoire Annual Conference as Director of the Methodist Radio Station, Bernadette Enokou and Valentine Amonkou. Appreciation was expressed for their presence.

Ms. Taylor reminded attendees that last year, fabric made for us in Cote d'Ivoire was introduced. Feedback received noted a desire to purchase items made with the fabric rather than just the fabric. Seamstresses from around the conference made all kinds of things which are for sale in room 351, booth 310. Proceeds from the sale of fabric and items made from the fabric, goes to the adopt-a-student program in Cote d'Ivoire. \$600 a year supports a student for a year.

**Board of Laity:** Ms. Taylor introduced the Board of Laity: Scott Atnip (West); Alfred Calloway (Central South); Reggie Clemons (South); Roy Follmer (Southeast); Carol Greenwaldt (North); Stephanie Griffin (Northwest) outgoing and John Royar (Northwest) incoming; Kathi Paul (Central North); Mary Reed (West); and Bill Teague (East). Teresa Fagan serves as the Conference Director of

Lay Speaking Ministry.

Ms. Taylor asked those who have put their names forward for election as delegates to go to their district area so people can put the name and face together, at the end of the session. We will have to get voting numbers before the first ballot for those newly submitting their names for consideration. Slides were presented listing the names of those who have previously put their name forward for consideration.

**Lay Delegates for Election to General and Jurisdictional:** As displayed on slides - Lay Candidates for Election to General and Jurisdictional Conference:

**Central North District:** Eddie Erwin (Houston Lakewood); Harlan Hartman (The Woodlands); Andy Hernandez (Conroe FUMC); Donna Schlitt (Houston, The Foundry); Tom Wussow (Kingwood) and Oscar Garza.

**Central South District:** Georgia Barrett (Houston, St. Andrew's); Eleanor F. Colvin (Houston, St. Mark's); Clarence Estes, Jr. (Houston, Abiding Faith); Corky Fowler (Houston, St. Luke's); Tahieta Gosey-Bailey (Houston, St. John's); David Martin (Bellaire); Melanie McDonald-Williams (Houston, St. John's); Carl W. Sandlin (Chapelwood); Frances Dunlap; Georgia Nolan; William J. Rice, Jr., Stephanie Wilkins; Gwendolyn Smithheart (Houston, St. Timothy's); Gib Walton (Houston, St. Luke's); Tom Weir (Houston, FUMC); Tiffin Wilsford (Houston, St. Paul's); John W. Worsham (Houston, FUMC).

**East District:** Don Clark (Bonita); Helen Dubcak (Crocket FUMC); Gil Hanke (Nacogdoches Perritte Memorial); and Carolyn Huntsman (Lovely).

**North District:** Lester Colley (Nash); Jerry Massey (Pittsburg FUMC); Don Morriss (Texarkana, Williams Memorial); Sue Sullivan (Redwater); Marty Vaughan (Waskom, FUMC); Laura Young (Linden); Tim Holland; Nita Clark; and Danny McCain.

**Northwest District:** William E. Brown (Tyler, Pollard); Jill Krone (Emory/Alba); and Beverly Rodgers (Van).

**South District:** Virginia Gill (Dickinson, Faith); Robert F. Harris (Pasadena, Sunset); Ralph E. Holm (Texas City, FUMC); Raymond Turner (Galveston, Wesley Tabernacle); and Reggie Clemons (Pearland, FUMC).

**Southeast District:** Melba Wilson (Port Arthur, Barnes Memorial); Mak Young; Ken Lewis; Judy Graham; Mary Lou Adams; and Donna West.

**Southwest District:** John Campbell (Houston, St. Peter's); Don Cooper (Missouri City); Beverly Deerhake (Houston, St. Peter's); Marquice D. Hobbs (Houston, Jones Memorial); Ben Lohmer (Sugar Land, FUMC); Leah Taylor (Katy, St. Peter's); Bryan Tullos (Sugar Land, Christ); Sonny Tutt (Sugar Land, Christ); and Helen Williams.

New delegates for consideration and corrections to slides: Oscar Garza (Central North District); Frances Dunlap, Georgia Nolan, William J. Rice, Jr., Judy Graham, Mary Lou Adams, and Stephanie Wilkins (Central South District); Mak Young, Donna West, and Ken Lewis (Southeast District); Tim Holland, Nita Clark, and Danny McCain (North District); and Helen Williams (Southwest District).

**West District:** Sterling Allen (College Station, A & M UMC); Scott Atnip (Huntsville, Wesley Memorial); Don House (College Station, A & M UMC); Donel King (College Station, FUMC); Kathy Koffman (College Station, A & M UMC); and Mattie Ordaz (Navasota, FUMC). Correction: Mattie Ordaz is in Central North District.

Profile sheets on those who indicated they were running after the booklet was produced are not available. Delegates vote for anyone you want to, not by district. How many openings are there? We will send 10 lay to General Conference, the first 10 elected. We will send 10 more (plus General Conference) to Jurisdictional Conference and additional 4-5 as alternates to Jurisdictional Conference. The first 4-5 to Jurisdictional Conference serve as alternates to General Conference.

Ms. Taylor noted that if there is anyone here today who wants to put their name forward for consideration, to go to the stage at the close of the session so that their name might be included on the

ballot. Delegates were reminded that materials are not to be distributed in the voting area but may be shared at this time.

Ms. Taylor noted that she will ensure that Bishop Huie knows the apportionment booklet wasn't in the registration packet and she will also talk to Jan Ervin about this. Thelma Jones came forward as willing talk to Jan Ervin immediately. Delegates were encouraged to check back at the registration tables before the afternoon session.

**Closing Prayer:** Leah Taylor closed in prayer and encouraged delegates to stop and visit each candidate at their district markers. The session closed at 10:37 am.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Jill Krone, Associate Secretary

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**Day Two**

**AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION**  
**Monday, May 30, 2011, 1:00 p.m.**  
**George R. Brown Convention Center, Assembly Theater**  
**Houston, Texas**

**Opening of the Session:** The opening worship began with the singing of "Fishing Again," written by Rev. Linda Summers Pierce, Executive Associate Pastor at Christ UMC, Sugar Land especially for the 2011 Texas Annual Conference. The hymn "Cast Your Nets" was written especially for this service by Barry Barrios, Director of Music and Worship Arts at First UMC, Katy. The scripture reading was John 21:1-14. A video clip entitled "What Do You Remember about the Day You were Baptized?" was shown to the body. The liturgists were Susan Kent, The Woodlands UMC, The Woodlands; Rev. Lance Richards, Lexington and Blue UMC, Lexington; and Dr. Derrick Noble, Impact UMC, Part Arthur.

**Call to Order:** At 1:11 p.m., Bishop Janice Riggle Huie called the session to order and offered the Episcopal Address.

**2011 EPISCOPAL ADDRESS**  
**Bishop Janice Riggle Huie**  
**"Called to Act"**  
**John 21: 1-14**

*Grace and peace to you in the name of our Resurrected Savior Jesus Christ.*

*We gather today in the season of Easter. In the early church, the Great 50 days of Easter were a time when new believers were plunged beneath the waters of baptism symbolizing dying and being raised to new life with Christ. The Texas Annual Conference is a vital part of the Risen Body of Christ, and we rejoice today in new life, transformation and glorious hope. In a time of profound transition in our congregations, conferences and the general church, we proclaim with confidence, Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. We remember our baptisms and are faithful.*

*Just as the Risen Christ appeared to the disciples, the Risen Christ is appearing among us today. Everywhere that Christ appears, lives are transformed and futures are re-shaped toward God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. However, friends, there are challenges. The entire United Methodist Church is fishing in a sea of change.*

*In this address today, I want to begin by describing the current reality, ferment and hope of resurrection within the larger United Methodist Church. Then I will report specifically on the state of the Texas Annual Conference in 2010. Finally, let us reflect on some of the qualities of human leadership*

*through which God often surprises the world with resurrection.*

### ***I. The State of The United Methodist Church***

*In Episcopal addresses over the last seven years, the primary focus has been on the life and work of Jesus Christ through the congregations of Texas Annual Conference. Congregations are the primary place where disciple-making occurs. However, neither an individual congregation nor an annual conference is an isolated entity. We are part of a connection, a larger whole. When one part of the connection is strengthened, all of us are strengthened together. When one part of the connection is frail, the whole body is weakened.*

*The United Methodist Church in the United States is our mother, and our mother is not well. We are fishing in a turbulent sea of change. Let me explain.*

*From the 1830's, the Methodist movement has been a vital force in Texas. Then Bishop Hedding of the Methodist Episcopal Church in conjunction with the Missionary Board in New York, appointed the Reverends Martin Reuter, Littleton Fowler and Robert Alexander to pursue "a vigorous prosecution of missionary work in Texas." That story of United Methodist bishops sending missionaries into the mission fields has been replicated over and over again around the world. At its best, sending a missionary into the mission field is what happens every time a bishop appoints a pastor.*

*Since those early years, the Texas Annual Conference has grown to become a strong, vital conference. The UMC has grown to become a global church with 11.3 million members around the world.*

*However, those global numbers can be deceiving. All is not well with our mother. In the last 40 years, United Methodist Church here in the United States. In the last 40 years, The United Methodist Church has declined precipitously in the United States to fewer than 8 million members. The percentage of the American population associated with the United Methodist Church has fallen well below 5%. I invite you to see for yourself.*

#### ***Show video: "UMC Realities" produced by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits***

*Sobering, isn't it? We are fishing in a sea of change. Please remember the last frame: "God isn't through with us yet." I believe that. Standing idly by, waiting for others to act, is not what United Methodists do or who we are. By the grace of God, some of the leaders of The United Methodist Church are working with God to offer the hope of resurrection for our beloved church. They are focusing on the purpose of the church: "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."*

*Shortly after the close of the last General Conference, the Council of Bishops and the Connectional Table worked together to create "The Call to Action." They authorized two major research studies: one on vital congregations in the United States and the other on an operational assessment of The United Methodist Church. Evaluation based on a solid foundation of facts rather than the shifting sands of individual opinions provides a more accurate direction for leadership, time, talent and resources.*

*What did they learn?*

#### **Study of Vital Congregations**

*I shared detailed findings of the vital congregations study this fall in 18 different district meetings with pastors and laity so I only summarize here. Based on data from over 32,000 congregations (that means your congregation was included), the researchers concluded that high vitality churches: small, medium or large; rural, urban or suburban; conservative, liberal or center theologically; African American, Anglo, Hispanic or Asian, high vitality churches regardless of circumstances, were characterized by the following four qualities:*

- *Effective pastoral leadership including inspirational preaching, mentoring laity and effective management*
- *Multiple small groups and programs for children and youth*

◦ *A mix of traditional and contemporary worship*

◦ *A high percentage of spiritually engaged laity who assumed leadership roles.*

*Vital congregations are clear about their purpose. The bad news is that only 17% of congregations were characterized as vital, growing congregations. The good news is that Christ is calling us to throw our nets on the other side of the boat.*

*You can read the details of the study at [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org).*

### **The Operational Assessment Study**

*The second study, an operational assessment, looked at the structure and processes of The United Methodist Church. It identified two key threats to our future. The first is what they termed a “creeping crisis of relevancy.” The second threat is an unsustainable economic model. The researchers point out that both realities are linked to frailties in the United Methodist Church’s culture. Those frailties include*

- *the absence of common definitions of the meaning of our mission statement,*
- *lack of trust,*
- *low levels of mutual respect,*
- *frequent absence of civil dialogue,*
- *insufficient clarity about the precise roles and responsibilities of leaders, and a lack of agreed ways to measure success or assure collaboration.*

*Here is the core challenge they identified.*

*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.*

*They made five key recommendations:*

1. *Increase the number of congregations effective in making disciples of Jesus Christ.*
2. *Reform how clergy are developed, deployed, evaluated and held accountable.*
3. *Use statistical information to improve our approaches to leadership, policies and resources.*
4. *Hold bishops responsible for improving results and establishing a new culture of accountability.*
5. *Consolidate the general agencies to become more efficient and effective in empowering congregations.*

*You can read the full report at [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org).*

*Clearly, we need to cast our nets on the other side of the boat. But which side? How deep? What kind of net? What fish do we keep? What do we throw back in the sea? How much do we spend? On what? Those questions and others will be part of the work of General Conference to be held next April in Florida.*

*In times like these God gives us the opportunity to rediscover the redemptive work of God in Jesus Christ. By God’s grace, I believe we shall look back on the next few years as a time when, amid so much loss of capacity in the United States, we experienced anew the presence and power of the Risen Christ. I am more hopeful for the United Methodist Church than any time in my 15 years as a bishop.*

## **II. State of the Texas Annual Conference**

*How is the Texas Annual Conference “fishing in a sea of change?” An exclusive focus on congregations can become self-centered and consumed with institutional survival. Our purpose is larger than that. Vital congregations exist for the purpose of changing lives and re-shaping futures in our neighborhoods, our nation and the world. The good news is that six years ago you adopted many of the changes being recommended by the Call to Action.*

*Let us revisit those Calls to Action and compare them to the Texas Annual Conference.*

**Recommendation #1 Increase Disciple-making Congregations**

*The Texas Annual Conference is clear that our mission is: To equip congregations to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world to the glory of God.*

*Our vision: Vital, growing congregations changing lives and re-shaping futures for Jesus Christ.*

*We committed ourselves to starting new churches and transforming existing congregations. Our goal was 10 new church starts per year.*

**Recommendation #2 Empower and Equip Clergy**

*We began to reform our processes to develop clergy leaders by intentionally recruiting young pastors and increasing training opportunities for every pastor. The cabinet changed the way it makes appointments. Today we do our best to appoint to the mission field—not just the existing congregation. And, we are working hard on clergy and congregational accountability.*

**Recommendation #3 Evaluate, Evaluate, Evaluate**

*You authorized the conference to begin collecting, reporting and acting on statistical information from every congregation every month to measure progress in key performance areas. Those Evidences of Fruitfulness are reviewed by independent consultants and the Core Leadership Team. Beginning in June, we expect to undertake a quadrennial assessment to adjust our approaches to leadership, processes, and the use of human and financial resources.*

**Recommendation #4 Hold Bishops Accountable**

*During every annual conference session, your bishop documents publically—as a way of holding herself publically accountable to you—reports of the Evidences of Fruitfulness. We've shared successes as well as failures, and we've learned from both. Fruitfulness takes work.*

**Recommendation #5 Become more Efficient and Effective**

*We consolidated annual conference program and administrative agencies as much as possible given the limits of the Discipline. New, smaller boards were reconstituted with the goal of improving outcomes in their areas. You authorized the Core Leadership Team to implement the decisions of the annual conference in accordance with our mission, vision and values, to hold conference bodies accountable for action. You re-aligned the conference budget to focus on our key priorities.*

*The changes have been difficult and controversial in our conference. They will be difficult and controversial in the larger church. There are honest differences of opinions among individuals, groups, regions of the country and regions of the world.*

*The conference changes have sometimes been upsetting—especially for pastors. That will be true at the General Church level as well. Every change brings loss, and with that often goes grief, hurt and sometimes anger. My heart goes out to those who are bearing the brunt of the loss.*

*The good news is that once again, as you have done for decades, The Texas Annual Conference is leading the church. I'm incredibly proud to serve as your bishop. We continue to gain clarity about God's purpose and to become more fruitful in our actions. We will need to continue to make adjustments, but the first, and I hope and pray, most painful steps have already been taken.*

**Evidences of Fruitfulness**

*Let me turn to outcomes of the Four Evidences of Fruitfulness for 2010.*

**I. Attendance**

**Average Worship Attendance-Existing Congregations**

**2010 103,483**

**2009 104,100**

<b>2008</b>	<b>105,016</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>106,902</b>
<b>2006</b>	<b>105,877</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>106,269</b>

**Average Worship Attendance with New Church Starts**

<b>2010</b>	<b>103,483</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>2481</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>105,964</b>
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Increasing attendance by 1000 members per year was a key goal six years ago. Unfortunately, attendance in existing congregations slowly continues to decline. Even though that decline has lessened somewhat, reversing the current trend is incredibly challenging.

*New church start attendance*

However, all is not bleak. Here is the good news. Look at what happens when we add the attendance from our new church starts. The average total worship attendance for our new starts in 2010 was 2,481 which we add to existing congregations. As with the last three years, new church starts are the difference between growth and decline in this conference. On Easter Sunday last month, over 5,000 people worshipped in a new church planted by the Texas Annual Conference.

**2. Professions of Faith**

<b>2010</b>	<b>National Average</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>TAC Average</b>	<b>63%</b>

You can see that the Texas Annual Conference continues well above the national average in congregations with at least one profession of faith at 63% in 2010. Again, as a reminder our goal was 75% by 2010. 100% of our new church starts had professions of faith.

**3. Apportionments**

**Apportionment Payout Percentages**

<b>2010</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>91%</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>89%</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>2006</b>	<b>93%</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>91%</b>

Here are the last six years of apportionment payout for the Texas Annual Conference. This is where we lost significant ground in 2010. Our payout last year was only 84%, the lowest in memory. Our goal was 95%. This decline has significantly impacted our ministry capacity. Most of the shortfall comes from a small number of congregations, and we are working diligently with each of them so that they and we can recover.

However, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of thousands of United Methodist people, over 552 of our congregations paid their apportionments in full. I want to thank each pastor and layperson who worked so diligently to do the best they could on apportionments.

To help you talk with your congregations about where their money goes, this informative magazine has been prepared for you—attractive enough for you to put on your coffee table. It is filled with picture and stories of your money at work. You will also find an accounting of the major categories in the conference budget. In a connectional system, we all contribute for the common good.

**4. Hands on Mission**

A historic strength of this conference is personal involvement in mission. Last year nearly 110,000 United Methodists in the Texas Annual Conference were involved in some form of mission. That number is actually higher than our average worship attendance. On Change the World Day just two weeks ago, 3,000 were involved. People want to do good in all the places they can, in all the ways

they can.

### **5. New Church Starts**

*I turn now to new church starts.*

*Lakeside UMC is served by Reverend Steven Rhoades. It was mothered by Kingwood United Methodist Church and is located in the Atascocita area. Their average worship attendance in March was 140.*

*Watershed UMC is served by Reverend Matt Neely. It was mothered by Clear Lake UMC and is located in the Clear Lake area. Its average worship attendance in March was 130.*

*Hope Community UMC is served by Reverend Jack Womack. Its mission field is primarily the recovery community. It began out of Golden Acres, a small congregation south of Houston. Hope chartered and immediately merged with Golden Acres with the new name of Hope Community United Methodist. Hope UMC averaged 121 in March and reported 35 professions of faith last year.*

*This conference year the conference is starting six new congregations: one Hispanic, one African American, and four Anglo.*

*In the last six years, the Texas Annual Conference has begun 36 new faith communities. Seven have chartered. Four have closed. There is at least one new church in every district. I want to say thank you to the dedicated pastors and laity in the mission field and the mother churches who are making this possible. New church plants are a great example of your apportionment dollars at work. Again, thank you.*

### **III. Qualities of Leadership**

*Jesus' third resurrection appearance takes place by the Sea of Galilee. The disciples, like us, were fishing in a sea of change. The old had passed away. The new had not yet been recognized. These folks were ordinary people who, after Pentecost, did extraordinary things. So, what were some of the qualities that enabled these dispirited disciples to be transformed from business as usual to leaders in God's movement? In a sea of change, what is the Risen Christ asking of us?*

#### **1. Spiritual maturity**

*While they were fishermen, tax collectors and laborers by trade, over their three years with Jesus, the disciples had developed a spiritual and emotional maturity that they didn't realize until after the resurrection. They had experienced Jesus presence. They learned from Jesus' teaching. They had learned to depend on God. Remember those times there was no food, and Jesus took bread, blessed, broke and gave it away? And it was enough.*

*The disciples had experienced both success and failure. Remember those times Jesus sent the disciples out two by two to practice what they learned? Sometimes people responded positively. Sometimes they didn't. Jesus taught the disciples to "shake the dust off their feet" and move on to a place where people were ready.*

*The disciples had become clearer and clearer about God's purpose for them. Remember when Jesus taught them to pray, "Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven." When they lost their vision and squabbled over who would be first at the table? Jesus patiently re-focused their vision on the cost of discipleship.*

*They had betrayed Jesus and been forgiven. Over time, they matured in faith and as they matured their capacity for leadership expanded. They became increasingly obedient to God and embodied a humility born of deep spiritual maturity and strength.*

#### **2. Urgent Desire**

*After the resurrection, the disciples discovered within themselves such a burning passion and love for Jesus Christ that it translated into an urgent desire to share that good news with others. Notice how quickly John, the beloved disciple, recognizes Jesus. "It's the Lord," he says. Peter takes his clothes off and jumps in the sea so that he can propel himself through the water more quickly in order to reach Jesus. The other disciples get to the shore as fast as they can drag those heavy nets*

behind them. After Pentecost, it was no longer business as usual. The urgent desire that others might experience this amazing grace of God made known in Jesus Christ propelled them into the world.

### **3. Costly Courage**

These disciples and early Christians were incredibly courageous. I've wondered if that was not one of the innate qualities that Jesus recognized in them as he was calling them. From the beginning, they were not "play it safe" people. Jesus called them and they said, "yes." There were no "ifs" or "ands" or "buts." They left their families. They left their livelihoods. They left their homes and followed Jesus. It was remarkable. After Pentecost, they didn't even back down in the face of death. I think it was Tertullian who said, "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church." The courage of the early Christians was infectious, and it empowered them to be obedient to a way of life that was a glimpse of the reign of God.

### **4. Spirit-led Adaptability**

Particularly after Pentecost, the disciples discovered that God had placed within them an ability to adapt to changing circumstances in unimaginable ways. On Pentecost they spoke in languages other than their own. Unheard of in their day. Peter dreamed about unclean food, and knew he was called to go the home of a Gentile, Cornelius to tell him and his family about Jesus. Unheard of in his day. Lydia, Pricilla, Eudora and the other women became leaders in the early Christian movement. Unheard of in their day. The Apostle Paul moved all over the Mediterranean seaboard preaching and teaching, including that great sermon in Ephesus directed at "an unknown God." Unheard of for his day. Apparently, none of them said, "We've never done it that way before." They didn't say, "Well, even you did, it wouldn't make any difference." Instead they were flexible in their approach, nimble in their task, and adaptable to a changing environment.

Spiritual maturity. Urgent desire. Costly courage. Spirit-led adaptability. Those were also four key qualities of the leaders in the early Methodist movement. I believe they are qualities of leadership needed today—for both clergy and laity. One of John Wesley's great theological insights was that transformation most often occurs with the joining together of God's grace and our human response. To use an image from Origen, a fourth century theologian the Wesley particularly liked, we human beings are like a sailing ship out on the sea. Without the wind of God's grace, we are becalmed in the water. However, when God sends the wind, the ship needs both the captain and the crew leaning into the wind to steer the ship safely to port.

My friends, our congregations, our conferences and our mother church are facing serious challenges in adapting to a changing culture and turbulent seas. I believe that God has already prepared leaders for God's future of resurrection for the United Methodist Church. You are among them.

In our baptism, we have already died and been raised with Christ. We have been blessed to be with Jesus. Our mission, our purpose, is clear and compelling. In this conference, at General and Jurisdictional Conferences, we are called to act to throw those nets on the other side of the boat into deeper waters. May God's grace uphold each of us as we seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Business of the Annual Conference:** Following applause from the delegates, Bishop Huie called upon the Conference Secretary, Dr. Gail Harrelson, for the roll call. Dr. Harrelson stated that roll call will be taken by registration that will close at 6:00 p.m. on Monday afternoon. She mentioned the forms for greetings and making amendments that are found in the back of the preconference journal.

**Information for General and Jurisdictional Elected Delegates:** Dr. Harrelson requested the elected delegates pick up information forms from the secretary's table upon their election in order to expedite the submission of the information to the General Conference and Jurisdictional Secretaries.

**Motion for the Voting Bar:** Dr. Harrelson moved that the voting bar be the lower left side, the lower right side, and entire center section, as the voting bar of the conference. Bishop Huie asked for a voice vote and noted there were several loud "no" voices. When she asked if there was a problem, several expressed a desire for the entire house to be the bar. The Bishop explained the issues with inability to see everyone seated in the wings of the assembly area and declared Dr. Harrelson's motion

for the bar would be where she would be watching and was approved.

**Board of Ordained Ministry:** Bishop Huie asked Dr. Tom Pace, Chair of the Board of Ministry to present the report. Dr. Pace introduced those persons elected in the clergy session as Provisional Members. He stated that although Ellen Kent was elected, she was not present due to the serious illness of her father in North Carolina. He asked the conference to be in prayer for her and her family during this time of personal crisis. The annual conference welcomed them with applause.

He next introduced two persons to be ordained as deacons in full connection who were elected in the morning clergy session. He also introduced those who elected in the clergy session for ordination as an elder in full connection. Following a round of applause, Bishop Huie asked them the historic questions that have been asked of ministers since the days of John Wesley. The Bishop asked one of the ordinands to state the General Rules. Bishop Huie then invited one or two of the candidates to share what they would preach if they were asked to deliver a sermon on the one doctrine needed for this day and time. Brad Morgan stated he would preach on the doctrine of entire sanctification in this life because we need to be empowered by the Holy Spirit to be the Church of Jesus Christ and need the boldness of our convictions to let our witness be seen by the world. Another person mentioned he believed it was important to lift up entire sanctification because it gives him hope that the resurrection power that regenerated us will lead us closer and closer to Christ to be made perfect in love.

Bishop Huie welcomed the new clergy into the Texas Annual Conference as we all seek to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Dr. Pace then turned attention to the candidates coming for professional certification and called upon Rev. Judy Tefteller to make that presentation. She introduced Katie Solmonson Eichler, Youth Ministry, and Cynthia Foster Serio, Spiritual Formation, to the annual conference. Bishop Huie quoted the Apostle Paul who wrote that there are many gifts to be used in service to the church and the world. They have met all the requirements for specialized ministry and have been approved by the Board of Higher Education and Ministry and Board of Ministry for certification. She asked them to kneel for an Episcopal blessing.

Dr. Pace stated this concluded the Board of Ministry report. The Bishop then asked for the first series of retirement videos.

**Retirement Video #1, David Diller:** In retirement, he will be helping his wife, who is a rancher. In his ministry, he enjoyed teaching in the local church. He realized later in years what the whole Gospel was. Jesus accepted all people and we are to imitate his example. God's love is for the whole world and for all people.

**Retirement Video #2, Janet Imig:** Being a disciple of Jesus Christ is to make a commitment of the entire life to Him. She has learned that being open to the power of the Holy Spirit will help us in ministry. She loves working with teams of lay people and watching them bring their dreams for ministry to the table. God calls us to make a difference even when life is difficult.

**Pastoral Summer Interns:** Bishop Huie recognized the summer interns who are serving on local church staffs to determine if they have been called to ordained ministry. The intern experience gives them the experience of what it's like to be in full time ministry in a local congregation.

**Break:** The Bishop called for a 15 minute break and asked the body to return at 2:45 p.m.

**Prayer:** Bishop Huie called the body back to order by asking Rev. Paul Polk to offer the prayer. He is appointed to Extension Ministry at the Northwest Medical Center and was deployed to Iraq earlier in the year. Rev. Polk offered a special Memorial Day prayer.

**Consent Calendar:** Bishop Huie called upon Rev. B.T. Williamson to present the consent calendar for the week. He referred the body to pages 31, and 32 of the preconference journal. He noted that Southwestern University's report could be found on pages 241-249 of the preconference journal. He suggested the report be included in the consent calendar. Rev. Williamson moved the adoption of the consent calendar. The Bishop asked for a raised hand vote and it was approved as printed and explained.

**Request for Suspension of the Rules:** Rev. Williamson presented two items that required suspend-

ing the rules in order to place them before the body. These items were included in the conference packet received at registration.

**Nominations:** There is an addendum to the nominations committee from the Strategic Assessment Team pending passage of the CLT report, the Board of Ordained Ministry, the Conference Youth Council, and from the Emerging Leaders Initiative Endowment. There are also two changes to the Lakeview Board. Matt Stone replaced Matt Idom and Duane Andrews will be moved from serving the class of 2012 to the class of 2020. Rev. Williamson moves the suspension of the rules to consider these items.

Bishop Huie asked for the raised hand to suspend the rules which require a two-thirds vote. It was so ordered to be considered on Wednesday of annual conference.

**Resolutions:** Rev. Williamson mentioned some resolutions to come before the body that were distributed at registration. The resolutions are: the final report of the Task Force considering the implications of Judicial Council #1150, referred to as Resolutions 1,2 and 3; the Just Representation of Petitions to the 2012 General Conference; and last, a resolution from Lon Morris College Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees. These will be presented on Wednesday if the body suspends the rules. The Lon Morris College report will be given as a special report at the time of the resolutions.

Bishop Huie asked the body to vote by raised hands on suspending the rules for these resolutions to be considered on Wednesday. It was so ordered.

**Announcement:** The Bishop announced that she had been approached twice about her comment that the apportionment booklets were in the registrations packet. They were not in the packets because they were held up in shipping. The booklets will be available at the late registration tables on the second floor. Bishop Huie introduced Leah Taylor to give the Lay Leader's address to the conference.

### 2011 Lay Leader's Address

#### Leah Taylor, Conference Lay Leader

*In years past, I have spoken about the Ministry of the Laity and a vision of laity and clergy working together in a seamless partnership. Our Conference theme, "Leading for Discipleship," is another step which connects us in making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Jesus addressed our responsibility for making disciples in the gospel of Matthew. Listen to these words from the Message:*

*"God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near; in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."*

*I love to read scripture from Eugene Peterson's paraphrase of the Bible. For me, it speaks powerfully of the energy of **that** time in the language of **our** time. But in any translation it is clear that for his entire ministry, Jesus was on the road, going, doing, teaching, healing, converting, baptizing, sending.*

*After his death and resurrection, Jesus' followers did the same things! The disciples we know by name and all the others were people of action. Yet, right after Jesus' death they huddled together, hiding from the world, trying to understand what had happened and why. They were scared – they didn't yet know the "end" of the story. But when Jesus returned and joined them for a meal, he transformed them with these words:*

*"You can see now how it is written that the Messiah suffers, rises from the dead on the third day, and then a total life-change through the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed in his name to all the nations – starting from here, from Jerusalem! You're the first to hear and see it. You're the witnesses. What comes next is very important."*

*From that point on, these people, who had left behind families, jobs, homes and most of their possessions, traveled! Everywhere they went they evangelized, they witnessed, they ministered to others*

and they baptized!

Since we were last together, we've heard the sobering statistics from the State of the Church study. In September Bishop Huie traveled to all nine districts. She met with both clergy and laity and shared those results. We learned that the Methodist Church is well into the fourth decade of denominational decline. We faced the projected "Death Tsunami" that will sweep across our churches between 2018 and 2050. And we heard the loss of membership in younger generations described as "the creeping crisis of relevance."

Listening to conversations around the tables a common theme emerged spoken by both clergy and laity, in every district. I heard that we are frightened! We are afraid that the Methodist church is dying. We are afraid that if we don't change, we will contribute to its death. But, we are equally afraid that if we do change, we will lose the things that we love most. Our clergy are fearful that if they act boldly, as courageous leaders are called to act, their congregations will be upset and speak out against them. Lay people are afraid that if we "take the bull by the horns" and act on our own, as Christ calls each of us to act, our clergy may think that we are disloyal, that we don't trust or respect them.

Hearing these dire predictions and fears, the question for us is; "What will we do to change our future?" There is good news and it is cause for celebration. Jesus gave us a blueprint for action. He told us, "... go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." And here is the best news! Jesus told the disciples and US, "I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

There is more good news. We don't call ourselves "Methodists" for nothing! People are already on the job, figuring out how to fix some of this mess that we find ourselves in. The "Call to Action" report tells us, "The United Methodist Church is called to be a world leader in developing existing churches and starting new vital congregations so that we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." It describes what a vital congregation is and tells us that "a vital disciple is a **changed** follower of Jesus." It includes descriptions of what vital churches do, what their small groups look like, and how they develop lay leadership. It also looks at pastoral vitality, excellence in worship and the church as a spiritual mission station. Many of these topics were discussed around those district tables – we are on the right track! The Call to Action gives us a tool to use as we look at what we will do to change our future.

But here is news that may be hard for us to hear. The Call to Action itself is not enough. A few years ago we started looking at statistics for our conference. We looked at church attendance, membership and mission participation. We studied demographics, not just of our churches, but of the mission fields in which they are located. We committed to starting new churches and working on revitalizing existing congregations. For the past few years we have been a little bit ahead of most of the churches in the United States. When you read the report, you'll recognize much of the language as similar to what we've been saying and doing.

Some of our efforts are beginning to bear fruit. We see pockets of innovation and the emergence of new life in many of our churches. Our greatest growth is in our new churches and new faith communities.

But what happened with our Transformation process? In the first year, 225 churches were to participate. By the end of a three year cycle, every congregation was to be a part of transforming the life and ministry of their own church. Some churches embraced the whole idea of transformation. Results show that the most significant accomplishments were in small churches. Why? Because they got on board, they used the survey and visits with the consultant as tools — tools for immediate change to their facilities. They evaluated the relevance of their current ministry in their mission field, and whether the church was outwardly focused or mostly serving those who were already members.

Other churches treated the Transformation Survey as just another form required for Report Day; then filed it away until it needed to be filled out again the next year. If we use the Call to Action in

*that way, if we file it away in the back of our drawers and treat it as yet another thing the “Church” is telling us we should do, it won’t work. But I believe it will work – and here is why.*

*The disciples came out of hiding to share the Good News of the gospel. They were armed with instructions from Christ to take the “life-changing” power out into the world, beginning in Jerusalem; right where they were. Today we are charged to do the same thing. For, intentionally or not, we’ve done a pretty good job of hiding from much of the world for the past 40 years.*

*We already hold the key to change lives! And we don’t have to go far to do it. Whether we call ourselves disciples or missionaries or evangelists, we could walk out of this building today and within just a few blocks find lots people who don’t yet know the saving grace of Jesus Christ. There are roads that will take a few of us to Africa, Asia, Central or South America where we can share Gods love far away from home. But for most of us, if we step out of our churches, if we leave the comfort of our homes and cross the street, there are countless ways for us to be the hands and feet of Christ. Right in our own back yards, people are hurting, searching, wanting, needing.*

*So, I ask you again, “What will we do to change our future?” Friends, we have received the gift of a total life-change. Just like the first disciples we can be people of action – teaching, touching, healing, converting, baptizing! It can start right here in the Texas Annual Conference! Jesus’ words can transform our lives and the lives of others again and again and again. We are the witnesses; and what comes next is very important. Thank you.*

Bishop Huie thanked Mrs. Taylor for her address. She turned to the voting block that was scheduled for the afternoon. The voting will begin with a video.

**Video from the General Conference on Religion and Race:** The Bishop announced that this video is being shown in every annual conference this year. The Texas Conference will see this video several times.

**Voting Instructions:** The Bishop led the body through a brief instructional practice of the way to use the electronic devices. Following a practice run, the conference was ready to vote. A question was raised as to where to obtain a voting machine. Several were brought into the assembly hall and distributed to the delegates. While the devices were distributed, the Bishop asked for retirement videos to be shown.

**Retirement Video #3, Lynn Wilhite:** Her journey to ministry began with mother’s day out program in a Methodist Church. She joined the United Methodist Women and became president of the local unit. After her pastor told her she needed to go into the ministry, she began classes at the Austin Presbyterian Seminary. She found a home in the United Methodist Church.

**Retirement Video #4, Michael Schutz:** He feels indebted to the United Methodist Church for his training and opportunity to respond to God’s grace in Jesus Christ. He served as a Navy chaplain for most of his ministry years. The right to freedom of religion belongs to the men and women in the United States military. He was assigned to Camp David as a presidential chaplain where he provided grace to the first family. He is thankful for the opportunity to share God’s grace with the men and women in the United States military.

**Voting Block:** The clergy ballot will be first. Bishop Huie will read the ballot before turning to the laity ballot. She suggested reading only the top 25 names. The remainder will be scrolled on the screens. At the beginning of each ballot the Bishop will ask someone to lead in prayer. She called upon Rev. Fred Willis to offer the prayer.

**Clergy Ballot #1, General Conference:** The clergy will vote for 10 persons on this ballot. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to read the top 25 votes. The Bishop declared Clergy Ballot #1 open. The results of Ballot #1 were:

**Number of votes needed to elect: 224**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #1: There was no election on this ballot.**

Rev. Matt Idom questioned what made a ballot invalid. The technicians reported when votes were cast for non-existent candidate or one who was ineligible, the entire ballot was invalidated. Rev. Idom

moved that if the entire ballot had more than 10% invalid votes, the ballot be retaken. Following a second, the Bishop asked for a raised hand vote and the motion failed.

**Lay Ballot #1, General Conference:** The laity will vote for 10 persons on this ballot. Rev. B.T. Williamson read the names and numbers of the laity who were nominated in the morning Lay Session. The Bishop asked the laity to make a motion as to the number of names to be read. The motion was made, seconded, and passed by raised hands to read the first 25 names. Following a moment of silence, the Bishop declared Lay Ballot #1 open. The results of Lay Ballot #1 in order of election were:

**Number of votes needed to elect: 383**

**Results for Lay Ballot #1: There were 4 elections.**

1. Don House – 486
2. Gill Hanke – 459
3. Reggie Clemons – 447
4. Andy Hernandez - 393

The laity have elected 4 delegates to General Conference. Bishop Huie announced that in Ballot #2, the Laity would vote for 6 persons and the clergy would vote for 10 persons.

**Order of the Day, Rev. Dr. Adam Hamilton:** The Bishop turned to the Order of the Day at 4:05 p.m. by introducing the keynote speaker, Rev. Adam Hamilton, Senior Pastor, Church of the Resurrection, in Leawood, Kansas City. Rev. Hamilton's presentation was entitled, "Leading Beyond the Walls." Rev. Hamilton used an outline that all delegates received. Dr. Hamilton's focus at the Church of the Resurrection is threefold: 1) reaching out to the unchurched; 2) encouraging and equipping members to be disciples who reach out to their neighbors; 3) to be a positive part of the renewal that is sweeping through The United Methodist Church. The members at the Church of the Resurrection have committed to pray for all the pastors, churches, and members in local churches in the Texas Annual Conference for 30 days. Dr. Hamilton calls his presentations at the annual conferences, "Leadership Revivals." The first session focused on "What Leaders Do and Why." Our task is to figure out what Jesus wants us to do in our location and then to proceed with it.

**Recess:** At the end of Dr. Hamilton's presentation, Bishop Huie reminded the delegates to turn in the voting devices to be recharged and to remind them of worship at 7:30 p.m.

**Day Two**

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### MONDAY EVENING WORSHIP

May 30, 2011, 7:30 p.m.

**Announcement:** Leah Taylor, Conference Lay Leader, began the evening service with an announcement concerning the fabric and fabric items that are available to sale this year in Room 310. All proceeds from fabric sale, along with the evening offering, were designated to support the United Methodist schools in Cote d'Ivoire and the Adopt a Student program. Individuals may also adopt a child to support for education in Cote d'Ivoire.

**Theme:** The theme for the evening incorporated the image of healing water flowing out for the redemption of the world.

**Opening Song:** The worship band, led by Rev. Andrew Thompson, Clear Lake UMC, and Stephen Goldsmith, Covenant Glen UMC, opened the service with the song, "Like a Bridge over Troubled Waters," written by Paul Simon. The band also led the audience in "Indescribable," by Chris Tomlin; "Let the River Flow," by Darrell Evans, and "Wash O God Our Sons and Daughters," in The United Methodist Hymnal; "Fix You," by Coldplay; "Beautiful Things," by Michael Gungor; and "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing," in the hymnal.

The liturgists were Sarah Johnson, Westbury UMC in Houston and Jackie Hook, St. Luke's UMC, in Bryan, Texas. The affirmation of faith was from the Belhar Confession. The video was produced

by Rev. Marty Dunbar of Marvin UMC in Tyler. Rev. Elizabeth Duffin, Lakewood UMC in Houston, Stephen Goldsmith, Covenant Glen UMC, and Nataly Negrete Lopez, staff member at St. Paul's UMC in Houston planned the evening's service.

Dr. Robert Childress, Senior Pastor of Covenant Glen UMC in Houston, brought the message for the evening. He gave the example of the vacations around water that he and his wife enjoyed over the years. He mentioned that while they loved being around the water, he never actually got into the water. His point was being at the water was not the same as being in the water to be cleansed and refreshed.

The worshipers were invited to come forward to a baptismal font and take a small seashell from the water in the font. Following the closing song, "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)," written by John Newton and recently arranged by Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio, worshipers were invited to kneel at the altar for prayer. Following the closing prayer by Dr. Childress, the benediction, which was written by Sarah Vance Goodman, was given. After worship, Bishop Huie called for a ballot to be taken at 9:10 p.m.

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## Day Two

### Monday, May 30, 2011 Voting Block

**Call to Order:** Bishop Huie called the house to order for the second ballot of the day. She explained that the clergy would vote for 10 persons.

**Clergy Ballot #2, General Conference:** At 9:20 p.m. the clergy ballot was closed. The results of clergy ballot #2 were:

- Number of votes needed to elect: 195**
- Results for Clergy Ballot # 2 were: 4 elections**
- 2. Elijah Stansell - 215**
- 3. Chap Temple - 208**
- 4. Morris Matthis - 207**
- 5. Nancy Kellond - 201**

The clergy have elected 4 delegates to General Conference. On the next ballot, they will vote for 6 persons.

**Lay Ballot #2, General Conference:** The Bishop reminded the laity to vote for 6 persons due to electing 4 delegates on their first ballot earlier in the afternoon. The results of Lay Ballot #2 were:

- Number of votes needed to elect: 322**
- Results for Lay Ballot #2: There was no election on this ballot.**

The laity have elected 4 persons to General Conference. On their next ballot they will vote for 6 persons.

Bishop Huie declared that the next ballot would be taken on Tuesday, May 31, 2011. She called on Rev. Doug Wintermute to offer a closing prayer and the session was in recess until Tuesday morning. The Bishop reminded the delegates to leave their voting devices to be recharged overnight.

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**Day Three**

**MORNING BUSINESS SESSION**

**Tuesday, May 31, 2011**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Opening Worship and Song:** Rev. DeAndre Johnson welcomed the conference to the opening of the day's session with a lesson in singing a Spanish hymn. Bishop called on Mr. Tom Abbage to lead in prayer.

**Courtesies:** Rev. B.T. Williamson reminded the body of the greetings forms in the back of the pre-conference journal if anyone wanted to send greetings to a special person. He also mentioned the apportionment booklets that were available. He introduced the IML team that is overseeing the voting machines and ballot tallies, Michael Lund, Chris LeBlanc, and Brandon Russell. Rev. Williamson announced that a set of car keys were turned in.

**Retirement Video #5, Pauline Storey:** Rev. Storey shared her journey into the Methodist ministry and spoke of the joys and sorrows along the way. She loved teaching, weddings, baptisms, but especially found ministry most fulfilling during times of funerals. She reminded everyone to always remember the calling and to be as Christ-like as possible.

**Retirement Video #6, Randy Zercher:** He believes God was calling him into music ministry from the time he was born. When he was five years old, his mother took him to a concert. A man walked onto the stage and people clapped. He thought to himself, "That's what I want to do when I grow up." He is very passionate about Wesley's teaching on salvation and grace, especially sanctifying grace.

**Chancellor's Report:** Bishop Huie called on Gib Walton to bring the chancellor's report.

**CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

*May 31, 2011*

*Good morning! According to our schedule this morning, I think I have been allotted ten minutes. I hope I will be able to give you some of that time back.*

*I should be able to do so for at least two reasons: First, because – thankfully, I do not have to explain a Judicial Council Decision this year. As Don House will explain to us in a few minutes, the Task Force appointed by the Bishop has addressed the issues we discussed last year, and that were raised by Judicial Council Decision No. 1150. That Task Force will bring their recommendations to us in the next report.*

*The second reason that I can save a little time this morning is because my litigation report will again be very brief this year. I am once again delighted to report to you that we have no litigation pending against our Conference! And, again, I must give credit where credit is due. The credit goes entirely to the great leadership of our Conference – from our great Bishop, to our great clergy, to our great lay leadership. Because they all do their jobs so well, and do what is right, they keep us out of the courts and out of trouble.*

*The last thing I want to do this morning is to mention the Bi-Annual Chancellor's Legal Forum that I attended in Seattle this April. At that Forum, we heard from some of our nation's true experts in the field of church law. One of the speakers, who I had heard several times before at these Forums, was Von Keetch. He is probably the country's leading expert on issues of religious liberty and associated constitutional rights. In his lecture, Von Keetch discussed one case that I thought would be of interest to everyone here.*

*It is a case styled **EEOC v. Hosanna-Tabor**. It's an employment case arising out of the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit that the U.S. Supreme Court recently agreed to hear. The Supreme Court's decision in this case could directly impact my future litigation reports to you. I say this, because the case involves what is known as the "ministerial exception." This is an important constitutional defense in employment cases that*

*bars government interference in the relationship between a religious organization (like churches and other religious institutions) and its employees who perform any religious function. This constitutional exception to litigation exposure is not limited to ministers, but also covers church school teachers, music directors, and any employee involved in ministry. If the “ministerial exception” is modified, limited, or worst case, eliminated by the Supreme Court’s decision, we would likely see a significant increase in the number of employment claims filed against churches by unhappy employees. We would also undoubtedly see an increase in the insurance rates for employment claim coverage.*

*So that’s your constitutional law lesson for this morning. But later this year, when you read in the paper or see on TV, that the U.S. Supreme Court has handed down an important case affecting religious freedom under the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, you will know it is a decision that could significantly affect our churches here in the Texas Annual Conference, as well as all churches throughout the country.*

*Bishop, that concludes my report this morning. But before I sit down, I want to thank you and the Conference for the honor and privilege of serving as your Conference Chancellor. Thank you.*

Bishop Huie thanked Mr. Walton for his leadership and legal expertise in matters that pertain to the Texas Annual Conference.

**Report from the Judicial Council Task Force Report:** The Bishop asked Dr. Don House, chair of the Task Force, to bring the final report from the Task Force assigned the responsibility at the 2010 annual conference to review and make recommendations based on the Judicial Council decision #1150 to this year’s conference.

Dr. House began with the background that led to Judicial Council decision #1150 and the resultant formation of a task force to determine the ramifications to the annual conference from that decision. The report coming to this year’s conference is the final task force report. It includes three resolutions to be voted upon this year.

### **FINAL REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE**

#### **Considering the Implications of Judicial Council Decision No. 1150**

The resolution passed by the Texas Annual Conference in 2010 that set forth the charge for this task force required at least five listening sessions to be held in geographically convenient locations. These listening sessions were held in the following locations:

First United Methodist, Conroe  
 St. Paul’s United Methodist, Houston  
 Christ United Methodist, Sugar Land  
 First United Methodist, Longview  
 Trinity United Methodist, Beaumont

Members of the Task Force held three face-to-face meetings and exchanged numerous e-mails with attached drafts of reports. By design, the listening sessions provide a broad input from members of the Annual Conference on issues of structure and function of the Core Leadership Team (CLT).

The Task Force agrees with the rule changes adopted by the 2010 session of the Annual Conference, as reported by the predecessor Task Force that was also charged to consider the implications of Judicial Council Decision No. 1150. The substance of these rule changes include the appointment of the Bishop to the Core Leadership Team as an Ex-Officio member (without vote), the elimination of the “make decisions” language describing the role and function of the CLT, and the expanded language describing the role and function of the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CF&A).

The Task Force recognizes that the major issue posed by the Judicial Council is satisfying the Annual Conference’s quest for continuing progress between Annual Conference sessions, while still honoring the inherent authority of the Annual Conference. The Model for Ministry assigns to the CLT the responsibility for implementing the Annual Conference’s decisions. The CLT is not to make deci-

sions that belong to the Annual Conference. One way to satisfy this requirement is for the CLT to seek prior approval of a 12-month action plan each year at Annual Conference. As a result, each CLT report to the Annual Conference would focus more on future actions and less on past actions. After a meeting of the Annual Conference, the approved CLT report would provide the blueprint for CLT action for the next twelve months. CLT reports to the Annual Conference would contain as much specificity as is practical

The Task Force recognizes the CLT's challenges in implementing and coordinating its work with the work of the District Leadership Teams (DLT). Although district representatives on the CLT also serve on DLTs, many believe that the DLTs remain detached from the work of the CLT. The Task Force urges the CLT to develop more active working relationships with the DLTs and the DLTs with the CLT. The Task Force recommends no increase in CLT membership, but members of the DLT's could productively serve on sub-committees or task forces of the CLT to address issues that are district-specific and/or conference-wide.

The Task Force understands the Judicial Council's view that proposals from the Board of Pensions should be referred to CF&A for comment in advance of sessions of Annual Conference. All proposals with Annual Conference financial implications should be referred to CF&A for comment. This includes proposals from the Board of Pensions, the CLT, and the Centers, among others.

The Judicial Council Decision seeks to prohibit the Annual Conference from assigning decision-making authority to any other part of the Annual Conference structure, including CF&A. Because the annual budget of the Annual Conference is approved up to seven months before the fiscal year begins, there are times in which the budget needs modification between sessions of Annual Conference. The 2008 *Book of Discipline*, ¶613.8, invites the CF&A to submit, for Annual Conference approval, procedures for making modifications to the budget for "meeting emerging missional needs or unforeseen circumstances."

The Task Force prepared an initial draft of a set of procedures under ¶613.8 and submitted this draft to CF&A for comment. CF&A assembled its own task force to prepare comment and recommendations for change as further input for our own Task Force. A member of our Task Force met with legal counsel of the General Council on Finance and Administration to receive additional input. A final draft of the procedures was forwarded to CF&A for further comment. The formal resolution is being submitted to this Annual Conference as **Resolution 1**.

***Task Force Considering the Implications of Judicial Council Decision Number 1150  
Resolution 1***

**BACKGROUND:** *The 2008 Book of Discipline in ¶613.8 provides methods by which the Council on Finance and Administration (CF&A) may modify the annual budget adopted by the Annual Conference between sessions of Annual Conference. According to this paragraph, CF&A may:*

*"... recommend to the annual conference for its action procedures for dealing responsibly with situations in which budgeted funds, as approved by the annual conference, are inadequate to meet emerging missional needs or unforeseen circumstances."*

*The General Conference clearly anticipated the need for limited budget modification since the expenditures from an approved budget do not take place for at least seven months and at most nineteen months after budget is approved.*

*Recent Judicial Council rulings (Decision No. 1161 and Decision No. 539) offer useful explanations as to the limited types of budget modifications that would be permitted under ¶ 613.8. CF&A must have an Annual-Conference-approved set of procedures in place. Approved budget line items may be increased by CF&A if budgeted funds are "... inadequate to meet emerging missional needs or unforeseen circumstances." Designated funds may not be diverted for causes for which they were not designated.*

**WHEREAS:** *The Judicial Council Decision No. 1150 emphasizes the authority of the Annual*

*Conference and the prohibition against any transfer of decision-making authority to a committee.*

**WHEREAS:** *Without the permission granted under ¶613.8, the CF&A does not have the authority to modify the Annual Conference approved budget between sessions of Annual Conference.*

**WHEREAS:** *The Annual Conference has not yet approved a set of procedures as required under ¶613.8,*

**RESOLVED,** *that the CF&A of the Texas Annual Conference, consistent with ¶613.8, shall have limited authority to modify a budget approved by the Annual Conference between its sessions but only in accordance with the following procedures:*

1. *Budget modifications are limited to instances in which budgeted expenditures are inadequate to meet emerging missional needs or unforeseen circumstances.*
2. *Departments, councils, boards, commissions, or any other organization seeking modifications in an approved budget must make a specific request to CF&A for change, including the affected line items and amounts, the rationale for the change, and the consequences of the change.*
3. *CF&A shall establish a Budget Review Committee consisting of the Treasurer of the Texas Annual Conference, the President of CF&A, the Vice President of CF&A, the Secretary of CF&A, and one additional voting member of CF&A. Three members of this Committee shall constitute a quorum.*
4. *The Budget Review Committee shall have the authority to approve a request for budget modification that either a) does not result in an increase in total budgeted expenditures and does not require expenditures from the Contingency Fund, or b) requires expenditures from the Contingency Fund of no more than \$5,000 per request.*
5. *Approval of a modification that requires expenditures from the Contingency Fund of over \$5,000 must be approved by the full CF&A.*
6. *The CF&A shall always honor the intent of designated funds by recommending that designated funds are spent for their intended purposes.*
7. *Minutes of Budget Review Committee meetings shall be presented at the subsequent CF&A meeting, and all modifications to the budget shall be noted and explained in the CF&A report to the Annual Conference.*

The Task Force's Preliminary Report included in the 2011 Pre-Conference Journal states: "The Task Force recommends the re-establishment of a Rules and Structures Committee which would return to the Annual Conference a committee that has a specific, narrow charge of the oversight of the rules and structure." The Task Force received quite varied inputs from members of the Task Force and from attendees of the listening sessions. The specific recommendations regarding duties, scope, and size of membership could not be finalized by this Task Force and must remain beyond its scope. Instead, the Task Force is submitting the following resolution.

***Task Force Considering the Implications of Judicial Council Decision Number 1150  
Resolution 2***

**BACKGROUND:** *With the adoption of the Model for Ministry the duties of the Rules and Structure Committee of the Annual Conference were assigned to the Core Leadership Team. The Judicial Council Decision No. 1150, as have other Judicial Council decisions, states that the Annual*

Conference cannot delegate its decision-making authority to a committee, council, or team. The Task Force authorized by the 2009 Annual Conference recommended rule changes which were adopted by the 2010 Annual Conference. This Task Force, authorized by the 2010 Annual Conference, is recommending further rule changes. Both task forces reviewed the structure and operations of the Model for Ministry in developing their recommendations. For the future, there is no task force responsible for further review.

This Task Force conducted the five listening sessions and held several face-to-face meetings of its members. Yet, the challenge of perfecting language describing the duties and membership of a new committee must remain beyond the scope of this Task Force's work.

**WHEREAS**, the future demands upon the Model for Ministry may require changes in operation and structure, and

**WHEREAS**, the Core Leadership Team is continually engaged in other assigned duties, including the implementation of Annual Conference decisions, and

**WHEREAS**, the Task Force recommends the establishment of a new committee to recommend, when appropriate, changes in structure and rules to the Annual Conference, and

**WHEREAS**, the specific duties to be assigned to this new committee and the size of its membership have not yet been developed,

**RESOLVED**, that the Quadrennial Assessment Committee be assigned the responsibility of bringing a recommendation to the 2012 Annual Conference that defines the purpose, scope, and size of membership of a new committee as it deems appropriate.

Finally, the Task Force recognized inconsistencies in the rules of the Annual Conference. One additional resolution is proposed.

### ***Task Force Considering the Implications of Judicial Council Decision Number 1150***

#### ***Resolution 3***

**BACKGROUND:** The 2010 Texas Annual Conference established a second Task Force Charged to Respond to Judicial Council Decision Number 1150 to further investigate the implications of this decision and report back to the 2011 Texas Annual Conference. This second Task Force recommends the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Task Force held five listening sessions within the boundaries of the annual conference, held several face-to-face meetings, communicated many times through e-mails and telephone calls, and completed its preliminary report that was published in the pre-conference journal, the Task Force recommends the following:

**RESOLVED**, the Texas Annual Conference adopts the following changes in the Rules:

1. In Item I. B. 2. f. of Section 3: Model for Ministry in the Texas Annual Conference change the word "chair" to "preside over."

**RATIONALE FOR RULES CHANGE #1:** To make the language consistent with ¶ 403 1.f. in the Book of Discipline.

2. On Page A-9, Core Leadership Team, move the fifth bullet point under "Voting Members" to become the sixth bullet point under "Ex-Officio Members without vote", changing the word "chair" to "preside over."

**RATIONALE FOR RULES CHANGE #2:** To be consistent with Section 3, Model for Ministry in the Texas Annual Conference.

3. Delete Page A-10 and Page A-12.

**RATIONALE FOR RULES CHANGE #2:** Resolution adopted in 2010 and its required task completed.

4. Replace Page A-11 with the attached revision:

**RATIONALE FOR RULES CHANGE #3:** To be consistent with Section 3, Model for Ministry in the Texas Annual Conference. To add the word "approved" in new item 2 to be consistent with the emphasized role of CF&A.

Dr. House thanked the members of the Task Force and the many who attended the five listening sessions. They all humbly seek the conference's support of their resolutions.

Members of the Task Force:

Rev. Kirbyjon Caldwell  
 Rev. Elizabeth Duffin  
 Henry Edison, III  
 Donald R. House  
 Rev. Matt Idom  
 Thomasine Johnson  
 Jerry Massey  
 Jan McCauley  
 Rev. Audrey Mitchell  
 Rev. Suzanne Reedstrom  
 Leah Taylor  
 Bill Teague  
 Rev. Jim Welch

Following a clearly explained report and the Task Force recommendations, Dr. House placed the resolutions on the table for vote on Wednesday morning.

Bishop Huie thanked Dr. House for the report and asked if there were questions. Rev. Scott Dornbush inquired about the difference in the words "chair" and "presiding over" in Resolution #3.1. Dr. House explained the recommendation to use "preside over" was consistent with the language used in The Book of Discipline. Again, the Bishop thanked Dr. House for the clarity in the explanation of the background and resolutions in the report.

**Retirement Video #7, Lewis Jackson:** He always made sure to minister to the shut-ins, the bereaved, and the sick in the congregation. He was always available if they needed to contact him, either at the church or at home. He believes that being a disciple is living a life like Jesus. He described his ministry of 42 years as 'beautiful.'

**Retirement Video #8, John Tyler:** He mentioned that he was a second career pastor and wrestled with his call for three years. On day on the way to work with one of his colleagues, his friend asked him if he'd ever considered full time Christian ministry. He resigned and entered seminary in Kansas City. He was ordained an elder in the Nazarene Church. He moved to Texas where he met Dr. Pat Day, who assisted him in transferring his orders into The United Methodist Church. He believes he was called to teach, administer the sacraments, and to be true to God's calling in his life. He knows that he has always walked where God led him and done what the church asked him to do. He is proud to be a minister in The United Methodist Church.

**Voting Block:** As an introduction to the morning voting block, Bishop Huie asked the video assistants to cue up the one minute video from the General Commission on Religion and Race entitled, "I am the church. Together we are the church." Following the video, the Bishop turned to clergy ballot.

**Clergy Ballot #3, General Conference:** Bishop Huie asked Rev. Rhett Ansley to lead in prayer before the clergy cast their votes. The clergy voted for six delegates.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 205**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #3: There was no election on this ballot.**

The clergy previously elected 4 delegates to General Conference. On the next ballot, the clergy will vote for 6 persons.

**Lay Ballot #3, General Conference:** The laity needed to vote for six delegates.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 340**

**Results for Lay Ballot #3: There were 3 elections.**

1. Gib Walton – 398
2. Leah Taylor – 381
3. Eleanor F. Colvin - 361

The laity have elected 7 delegates to General Conference. They will vote for 3 delegates on the next ballot.

**Clergy Ballot #4, General Conference:** The clergy have elected 4 delegates to General Conference. They cast votes for 6 persons on this ballot.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 215**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #4: There were 2 elections.**

1. Steve Wende – 230

2. Jim Welch - 215

The clergy have elected 6 delegates to General Conference. On the next ballot they will vote for 4 persons.

**Lay Ballot #4, General Conference:** The laity voted for 3 persons on ballot #4.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 359**

**Results for Lay Ballot #4: There was 1 election.**

1. Tom Wussow – 372

The laity have elected 8 delegates for General Conference. They will vote for 2 persons on their next ballot.

**Clergy Ballot #5, General Conference:** On this ballot, the clergy cast votes for 4 persons.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 223**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #5: There was 1 election.**

1. Kenneth Levingston – 228

With this election, the clergy have elected 7 delegates to General Conference. They will vote for 3 persons on the next ballot.

**Lay Ballot #5, General Conference:** The laity voted for 2 persons.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 367**

**Results for Lay Ballot #5: There was 1 election.**

1. Donna Schlitt – 399

The laity have elected 9 persons to General Conference. They will cast votes for 1 person for General Conference on their next ballot.

**Break:** Bishop Huie called for a 15 minute break and asked that the Board of Pension and Group Health Benefits be ready to report when the body returns. The Bishop stated proceedings would begin promptly at 9:45 a.m.

**DVD Presentation on Safe Sanctuary:** The video reminded the delegates of the importance and need for policies to be established within the local congregations to offer safety for children, youth, and vulnerable adults. Bishop Huie mentioned that delegates can get copies of the DVD at the information desk.

**Question about the bus for the Lon Morris College Luncheon:** Bishop Huie referred them to the contact person who could give them the information.

**Board of Pensions and Group Health Benefits:** Bishop Huie asked Rev. Gail Ford Smith, Director of the Center for Clergy Excellence, to introduce the whole report, which has action items to be voted on. Rev. Smith mentioned the presenters who would bring various parts of the report. She stated that all items had been submitted to the Council on Finance and Administration for approval before being presented. She referred the delegates to page 47 of the preconference journal. Tony Pierce, Chair of the Group Health Benefits and Rev. Deborah Proctor, Chair of the Board of Pensions brought the action items to the body.

**Group Health Benefits Report:** The report was found on page 64 of the preconference journal. Mr. Pierce reported on the 2012 recommendations from Group Health found on page 71. The first recommendation was to change the out of network expense. This will increase the out of pocket expense to the PPO. This reimburses the plan for monies lost when an out of contract facility is used. The second recommendation is to give the retirees and surviving spouses more choices for health care.

There are three choices: 1) the Medicare Advantage plan; 2) the full insured plan; and 3) can request a stipend to purchase their own insurance. The third recommendation supports wellness. For those who attend the Day of Wellness, there will be a \$200 credit toward the deductible. There will be a 7.25% high deductible rate adjustment that brings the plan closer to the reality of the cost of the program. Rev. Deborah Proctor will cover the retiree medical cost which will be paid out of the unrestricted reserve fund. Mr. Pierce moved the adoption of the Group Health Benefits report. Bishop asked for questions or discussion. There were no questions and the Bishop asked the body to vote by raised hands. It was so approved.

**Board of Pensions Report:** Rev. Proctor presented the report, which was found on page 93 of the preconference journal. The Board of Pensions has voted to pay the registration fee for clergy and their spouses to attend a General Board of Pension and Health Benefits Financial Academy that will be offered in October 2011 in San Antonio and in February 2012 in Mesquite. The information about the seminar may be found on the General Board of Pensions website and the annual conference will be providing local churches with the information.

Rev. Proctor brought the recommendations to raise the 2012 service rate for those retirees on the pre-1982 pension plan to \$799, which was found on page 94. On page 97 was the housing resolution that is brought before the annual conference each year so that 100% of the pension and disability payments to our retirees can be put toward the housing allowance. On page 100, there are recommended changes to the sustentation fund. The rationale for the change, which was found on page 102, is that there is an increased cost in the Group Health benefit cost to clergy on incapacity leave. Therefore, this part of the sustentation fund runs at a deficit while other parts are fully funded. To provide appropriate funding support for clergy on incapacity leave, the Board of Pensions recommends the removal of the percentage allocation from the sustentation fund, retrospective to January 1, subject to approval by the annual conference. On page 102, concerning the Group Health and Benefits recommendation to offer stipends to the retirees to have choices in their medical benefits, the resolution from the Board of Pensions is that the pension unrestricted reserve fund shall provide, beginning in 2012, reimbursement of the stipend to the Group Health Benefits for retiree health benefits. On page 103, there was conversation last year about the growing post retirement health care liability the conference is required to carry on the books to indicate the conference's ability to cover it, the Board of Pensions recommends designating 95% of the 2010 and 2011 investment earnings from two retirement trust funds for retiree health care liability. Finally, when the conference voted in 2007 to form the pension unrestricted reserve account, the Board of Pensions stated there would be a quadrennial report brought before the conference about the purpose, the spending and focus of the unrestricted reserve fund. That assessment will be brought to the conference in 2012. Rev. Proctor moved for the adoption of the entire Board of Pensions report.

Bishop Huie asked if the body had any questions or discussion. She asked the body to vote to approve the entire report by raised hands and it was so approved. The Bishop asked the body to give the Board of Pensions and Group Health Benefits a round of applause in appreciation for their work.

**Order of the Day, Dr. Adam Hamilton:** During the setting of the stage for Dr. Hamilton's presentation, a duet sang "To God be the Glory." Dr. Hamilton gave some background on the history of the Church of the Resurrection. This morning's focus was on "Effective Worship and Preaching." He taught that worship is the central focus of helping unchurched people become disciples of Jesus Christ. The best time to reach non-religious people is at Christmas and Easter. John Wesley called the goal of the Christian life 'sanctification.' The mission of a United Methodist is to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." The vision is to help persons in the local congregation understand what being a Christian looks like in your community and to develop a plan to intentionally help people get there.

The most important part of a pastor's work is preparing effective sermons that help persons become disciples of Jesus Christ. Design the Sunday worship service around the focus of what is

expected to be achieved that day. The emergent generation knows truth by experience. There are five components of preaching that connects with people. First, teach people something they didn't know before. Second, call people to action and always ask them to do something with the message. Third, tell interesting stories or metaphors. Fourth, deliver sermons that have relevance in people's lives. Fifth, make sermons biblical rather than personal. There are five types of sermons Dr. Hamilton preaches at Easter each year. First, is the sermon that reaches unchurched and non-religious people. He calls them "fishing expeditions." Second, is on discipleship. The third type is pastoral care by asking the congregation what they are dealing with each year. Dr. Hamilton will finish this section on preaching in the afternoon session and then closed the session in prayer.

Bishop Huie thanked Dr. Hamilton for blessing the body with his teaching and wisdom. The Bishop asked for a five minute break to reset the stage for the Retirement Service.

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**Day Three**

**HONORING OF RETIREES SERVICE**

**Tuesday, May 31, 2011**

**Honoring of the Retirees:** The organist was Susan Riddell, Organist at West University UMC, Houston, Texas. The song leader, Rev. DeAndre Johnson led the body in singing "I Shall not be Moved." The opening prayer was written by Kelsey Johnson, Westbury UMC, Houston, Texas, and offered by Rev. Randall Zercher, the liturgist for the service. The scripture was taken from Ecclesiastes 3:1-15, followed by the Litany of Call and concluding with prayer offered by Rev. Johnson. Bishop Huie read Psalm 1 and led the congregation and retirees in Prayers of Penitence. The Bishop offered the Praise and Pardon, which was followed by the hymn, "Down to the River to Pray." The Bishop offered a prayer of thankfulness for the retirees.

Bishop Huie called the names of the retirees and their spouses to come forward to be recognized.

<b>Rev. James M. Crabbe</b>	<b>Rev. Thomas W. "Tom" Crowe</b>	<b>Rev. David W. Diller</b>
<b>Rev. Jackie Hering</b>	<b>Rev. Dr. Jerry House, Sr.</b>	<b>Rev. Janet A. Imig</b>
<b>Dr. Lewis L. Jackson, Sr.</b>	<b>Rev. James B. "Jim" Jones</b>	<b>Rev. Michael "Gary" Leinhart</b>
<b>Dr. James "J.D." Phillips</b>	<b>Rev. Michael L. "Mike" Schutz</b>	<b>Rev. Pauline Harvey Storey</b>
<b>Rev. Don A. Storey, Sr.</b>	<b>Dr. Terry T. Teykl</b>	<b>Rev. John R. Tyler</b>
<b>Rev. William G. "Bill" Webb</b>	<b>Rev. Lynn L. Wilhite</b>	<b>Rev. Maggie P. Young</b>
<b>Rev. Mary Callaway Logan</b>	<b>Rev. Nita L. Newman</b>	<b>Dr. J. Randall "Randy" Zercher</b>

The congregation gave the retirees a standing ovation as an expression of appreciation. Dr. Zercher led in the Affirmation of Faith, which was followed by the closing hymn. Bishop Huie gave the benediction.

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**Day Three**

**AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION**

**Tuesday, May 31, 2011**

**2:15 p.m.**

**Opening Prayer:** Bishop Huie called upon Rev. Matt Idom to open with prayer for the afternoon session.

**Retirement Video #9, Dr. J.D. Phillips:** Dr. Phillips mentioned his autistic only child. He eventually realized that everything he dreamed for his son, he already had. Dr. Phillips appreciates The United Methodist Church for being so inclusive. He has enjoyed every bit of his ministry.

**Retirement Video #10, Gary Leinhart:** Rev. Leinhart's great grandfather was a circuit rider. When he began to teach in the church, especially with children, he found his area of specialization. He chose to remain in an associate pastor position because of his love for teaching. He plans to retire to a home in Navasota.

**Retirement Video #11, Don Storey:** Rev. Storey's years as a chaplain in Hospice have been some of his best years. He loves the work of pastoral care. He also became involved in spiritual formation and contemplative prayer. He has a deep hope in the resurrection. He taught people in need that God can even use the tough times in life to grow. Rev. Storey is thankful to the Texas Annual Conference for the opportunity to serve and he is also thankful for the opportunity to retire.

**Retirement Video #12: James Crabbe:** Rev. Crabbe gave God everything he had during a time of great trial. He felt God told him to tell his wife he's been called to preach. He has had opportunities to work with at risk youth, and to the homeless. He thanked the unsung heroes who loved him and taught him about God's grace. He has a great ride as a pastor in the local congregation.

**Ballot:** The Bishop asked Rev. Russell Hall to come forward for the prayer. Bishop Huie recognized Christi Hale, who asked for a moment of personal privilege. She asked the body to look at the diversity of the body, and asked the body to consider the young adults when voting.

**Clergy Ballot #6, General Conference:** The clergy voted for 3 persons on this ballot.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 231**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #6: There was one election.**

**1. Tommy Williams – 232**

The clergy have elected 8 delegates to General Conference. They will vote for 2 persons on the next ballot.

**Lay Ballot #6, General Conference:** The laity voted for 1 person.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 372**

**Results for Lay Ballot #6: There was no election on this ballot.**

The laity have elected 9 delegates to General Conference. They will vote for 1 person on the next ballot.

**Clergy Ballot #7, General Conference:** The clergy voted for 2 persons.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 238**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #7: There was one election on this ballot.**

**1. Janice Gilbert – 240**

The clergy have elected 9 delegates to General Conference. They will vote for 1 on the next ballot.

**Lay Ballot #7, General Conference:** The laity voted for one person.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 371**

**Results for Laity Ballot #7: There was one election on this ballot.**

**1. Sue Sullivan – 420**

This concluded the Lay Vote for General Conference Delegates: The persons elected, in order of their election are:

**2012 Lay Delegates for General Conference**

- 1. Don House**
- 2. Gil Hanke**
- 3. Reggie Clemons**
- 4. Andy Hernandez**
- 5. Gib Walton**
- 6. Leah Taylor**
- 7. Eleanor F. Colvin**

8. Tom Wussow
9. Donna Schlitt
10. Sue Sullivan

Bishop Huie congratulated the lay delegates and stated she would take several clergy ballots to catch up before beginning the lay election for the Jurisdictional Conference delegates.

**Clergy Ballot #8, General Conference:** The clergy voted for 1 person.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 241**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #8: There was no election on this ballot.**

**Clergy Ballot #9, General Conference:** The clergy need to vote for one person for General Conference.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 240**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #9: There was 1 election on this ballot.**

1. Matt Idom – 281

The Bishop congratulated these delegates and declared the voting for General Conference delegates was completed.

**2012 Clergy Delegates for General Conference**

1. Elijah Stansell
2. Chap Temple
3. Morris Matthis
4. Nancy Kellond
5. Steve Wende
6. Jim Welch
7. Kenneth Levingston
8. Tommy Williams
9. Janice Gilbert
10. Matt Idom

Bishop Huie declared voting for Jurisdictional Conference delegates to begin.

**Lay Ballot #1, Jurisdictional Conference:** The laity voted for 10 persons on this ballot.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 303**

**Results for Lay Ballot #1: There were 4 elections on this ballot.**

1. Eddie Erwin - 353
2. Donel King - 350
3. Sterling Allen - 345
4. Carolyn Huntsman - 312

The laity will vote for 6 persons on the next ballot.

**Clergy Ballot #1, Jurisdictional Conference:** The clergy will vote for 10 persons.

**Invalid Clergy Ballot #1, Jurisdictional Conference:** Due to the confusion in trading out voting devices during the process and the number of invalid ballots, Bishop Huie declared the entire ballot void. The clergy balloting for Jurisdictional Conference delegates will begin anew with Ballot #1 in the next voting block after the order of the Day.

**Order of the Day, Dr. Adam Hamilton:** Sherri Waters led the congregation in the hymn, “Here I Am, Lord.” Following a prayer, Dr. Adam Hamilton began the last presentation, “Mission, Evangelism and Methodism.”

Dr. Hamilton mentioned that the Leadership Institute brochure was included in the registration packet. He offered a description of his new book, “The Journey.” He visited the Holy Land to gain first hand knowledge of the birthplaces of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus for the Advent emphases at Church of the Resurrection last year. The entire Christmas Eve offering was designated for digging water

wells for the children of Malawi. For several years the congregation has voted to give away all the money donated in the Christmas Eve services.

How do you get people to go to church? The best time to reach non-religious and nominally religious people is Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday. A team of members stay after the services on Christmas Eve and into the early hours of Christmas day to log in the contact information of first time visitors to the services.

Dr. Hamilton believes that the only answer to the longing of the human heart is Jesus Christ. People need Jesus Christ and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit that changes them from the inside out. Why do people need the Church? The church was Jesus' idea and Paul said the church is the Body of Christ.

In offering tips for preparing for visitors, Dr. Hamilton believes clean well maintained facilities are important. Greeters must be welcoming to those who attend for the first time.

In missional outreach, the United Methodist Women is important, but needs to be reinvented. Dr. Hamilton states that mission outreach needs to also include evangelism outreach to younger women who need mentors. Womens' ministries, healing ministries, weddings and funerals can be evangelistic in nature.

Evangelism and social justice are two halves of one Gospel. John Wesley said that we are saved by faith for works and these two must be held together. So often Methodists are accused of salvation by works, but Methodists are also saved by grace through faith so that we might be the hands and Jesus of Jesus Christ in the world to redeem and save the world. United Methodists are both liberal and conservative. We emphasize the personal Gospel and the social Gospel. We are committed, passionate followers of Jesus Christ. We bring together reason and experience. And when we do this, we find vibrant congregations that draw non-religious people to Jesus Christ.

Dr. Hamilton encouraged the Texas Annual Conference to claim our heritage so that the future of Methodism in the Texas Annual Conference will look bright because we are followers of Jesus Christ.

Bishop Huie thanked Dr. Adam Hamilton for his thoughts and presentation. The Bishop next turned to the afternoon voting block.

**Clergy Ballot #1, Jurisdictional Conference:** The clergy voted for 10 persons.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 185**

**Results of Clergy Ballot #1: There was 1 election on this ballot.**

**1. Keith Whitaker – 192**

The clergy will vote for 9 persons on the next ballot.

**Lay Ballot #2, Jurisdictional Conference:** The laity voted for 6 persons on this ballot.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 297**

**Results of Lay Ballot #2: There was no election on this ballot.**

Bishop Huie asked Sue Sullivan to come forward. The laity will vote for 6 persons on their next ballot.

**Clergy Ballot #2, Jurisdictional Conference:** The clergy voted for 9 persons on this ballot.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 144**

**Results of Clergy Ballot #2: There were 2 elections on this ballot.**

**1. Justin Coleman -171**

**2. B.J. Hightower - 162**

The clergy will vote for 7 persons on the next ballot. The voting will begin on Wednesday morning with Clergy Ballot #3.

**Lay Ballot #3, Jurisdictional Conference:** The laity voted for 6 persons on this ballot.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 283**

**Results of Lay Ballot #3: There were 4 elections on this ballot.**

**1. Ben Lohmer - 378**

**2. John Worsham – 338**

**3. Melba Wilson – 309****4. Scott Atnip – 299**

The laity previously elected 8 delegates to the Jurisdictional Conference. They will vote for 2 persons on the next ballot.

Bishop Huie read the results for Lay Ballot #3. She declared the body was dismissed and reminded them of the Service of Commissioning and Ordination at 7:30 p.m. The Bishop called upon Rev. Tori Butler to dismiss the afternoon session with prayer.

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**Day Three**

**THE SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION**

**Tuesday, May 31, 2011**

**7:30 p.m.**

The evening's service was planned and executed by Dr. Sterling M. Allen, Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministries, A&M UMC in College Station; Rev. Kim Meyers, Associate Pastor, St. Peter's UMC in Katy; and Charlotte Newton, First UMC in Houston. The inspirational music was provided by the choir and orchestra of First UMC, Houston, and directed by Dr. Terry Morris, interim Director of Music and Fine Arts. They were accompanied by organist, Dr. Ellen Walters. Dr. Brian Wren wrote the processional hymn, entitled "Glory to God," in honor of the evening's celebration. Special contributions to the service were given by the following persons who wrote these hymns used in the service: "God of History – Recent, Ancient," by Jane Parker Huber, "Mighty God Who Called Creation," by Carl P. Daw, Jr., and "Go to the World," by Sylvia G. Dunstan. The Altar Guild of A&M UMC in College Station provided that flower arrangements. Bishop Huie brought the message based on the scripture Exodus 17:1-7. The offering for the evening was designated to support "Collide," a conference youth ministry.

Bishop Huie was assisted in the service by Dr. Tom Pace, Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, and Mrs. Leah Taylor, Conference Lay Leader. Bishop Huie gave the General Examination questions to those before her for commissioning and ordination. Following the hymn "God of History – Recent, Ancient," the Bishop examined the Provisional Members. The commissioning of called persons is the first step toward ordination as either a deacon or elder in full connection. Since commissioning is not equal to ordination, those who will be serving as pastors in local congregations must also be licensed for pastoral ministry. Following the examination, Bishop Huie commissioned the following persons: **Steffon Keith Arrington; Jacqueline Ford Collins; Deborah Ann Giles; Karen Lee Lock Jones; Paula Lynn Kirby; Vera Lewis; James R. Littleton; Richard Duane Luna; Clifton H. Ritter; John William Seaton; Jason Byron Smith; Matthew Brian Smith; and Adam Dean Straznicky.**

In The United Methodist Church, those persons who continue in the process of seeking membership and ordination as a deacon in full connection, must have been provisional members and commissioned to serve. Bishop Huie examined those coming for ordination as deacons while an assistant lifted symbols of service. The Bishop ordained the following persons as deacons in full connection: **Sunny Brown Farley and Cynthia Serio Foster.**

Following the examination as an assistant lifted symbols of an elder's ministry, Bishop Huie ordained the following persons as elders in full connection: **Mary Elaine Delmore Belagia; Robyn Kay Bishop; Develous Alfred Bright; Debra Moton Brown; Tommy Earl Burton; Anjelita Helaine Dirden; Elizabeth Matthews Duffin; Seann Michael Duffin; Jeffrey Joe Dungan; Russell Andrew Hall; Melissa Amy Maher; Steven Bradley Morgan; Silverio Gea Sanchez; Jacob Sean Smith; Andrew Royce Thompson; Jon King Thomsbury; Matthew Stephen Weaver; Gary Davis White, Jr.; and Douglas Hampton Wintermute.**

Dr. Pace invited all who were newly ordained to stand and face the congregation. He invited the

clergy and laity to join in the exhortations. Bishop Huie invited those who were newly commissioned to stand and face the congregation as she led in a unison prayer.

The Bishop invited all who may feel called to ministry and desire to know more about the process, to come forward during the choral benediction. There were members of the Board of Ordained Ministry at the chancel to speak with those persons.

The Dismissal with Blessing was given by Rev. Sunny Farley. Bishop Huie presented to the congregation all those who were newly commissioned and newly ordained deacons and elders of the Texas Annual Conference. The congregation applauded these pastors and servants. They recessed to the congregational hymn, "Go into the World."

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#### **Day Four**

### **MORNING BUSINESS SESSION**

**Wednesday, June 1, 2011**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Opening of the Session:** Bishop Huie called the body together and asked Lance Richards to lead in a hymn, "Great is Thy Faithfulness." Rev. Kabamba Kiboko offered the morning prayer.

**Courtesies:** The Bishop asked Rev. B.T. Williamson to make announcements and for Rev. Noel Denison, Rev. Jesse Brannen, Bill Hardt, and Rev. Dan Conway to make their way to the podium. Rev. Williamson reminded the delegates to pick up the apportionment brochures that were available. The Safe Sanctuary CD's may be found at the information table. He asked the delegates to complete the conference evaluation forms that were in the registration packets. The elected delegates to the General and Jurisdictional will have a brief meeting to organize after the adjournment and to meet at the podium.

Bishop Huie asked for prayers for Nancy Hinshaw, the Administrative Assistant in the Episcopal Office, who has been ill and undergoing chemotherapy. She has been texting the Bishop and misses being at annual conference. The Bishop praised Mrs. Hinshaw for her efficiency and competency. The Bishop asked for continued prayers for Mrs. Hinshaw in the weeks ahead. The Bishop then turned to the business of the morning.

**Conference Advance Special 2012:** Rev. Noel Denison presented the recommendation for the Advance Special. Rev. Denison mentioned ¶655 in the Book of Discipline that permits the annual conference to take a special gift for a project, which extends the mission of the church. The Sending Ministries Team in the Center for Missional Excellence prayerfully considered and recommended the Advance Special for 2012 be designated for UMCOR's "Justice for Our Neighbors Program," which works with refugees. The program provides free, quality, immigration legal services for immigrants and refugees. The clinics assist low income immigrants by helping them to achieve legal status and offers education of immigrants and their communities of their rights and responsibilities. Rev. Denison moved the acceptance of the 2012 Advance Special. The Bishop asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. Bishop Huie asked the conference to approve the 2012 Advance Special by raised hands and it was so approved.

**Commission on Equitable Compensation:** Rev. Jesse Brannen referred the delegates to pages 55-64 in the preconference journal. The only action item in the report was found on page 56 that pertains to the equitable compensation minimum conference salary. Bishop Huie stated the recommendation was before the body and asked for questions or discussion. Rev. Bert Bagley, Senior Pastor of Moody Memorial First UMC in Galveston, thought the minimum salary for a full time pastor was reduced by \$5,000 at the 2010 annual conference. Rev. Brannen explained that the decrease was adopted at the 2009 annual conference. The salary schedule listed was approved by the annual conference for 2010 through 2014. He explained that the salary is in line with other conferences across the denomination.

Rev. Bagley thought a decrease for pastors just beginning their ministries was a burden and should be rectified. Rev. Bagley asked the Commission on Equitable Salary to review the salary level and bring back to the 2012 conference a better recommendation. Rev. Brannen understood the sentiment, but reminded Rev. Bagley that there is no equitable salary fund and every increase in the salary is also an increase in the equitable salary apportionment. The salaries come from the operating fund of the annual conference. Rev. Bagley said for him it was a matter of justice. Bishop Huie stated that she did not hear a motion from Rev. Bagley, but heard it as a request to the Commission on Equitable Salary to review the minimum salary during this next year. Rev. Bagley said it would be acceptable to him. The Bishop asked the body to approve the report for minimum equitable salary as it was printed to vote by voice of yes or no. The Bishop stated that the record would show there weren't any no votes voiced.

**Resolutions:** Bishop Huie moved to resolutions and stated there were 10 on the table to be acted upon. She began with Archives and History.

**Resolution from the Commission on Archives and History:** Bill Hardt brought the resolutions to the floor that were printed on pages 33-36 in the preconference journal. Three of the resolutions pertain to churches to be approved as historic sites. Each church has completed the application process prescribed by the General Commission on Archives and History for registration as a United Methodist Historic Site. The churches are: Grace UMC, Central South District; Greggton UMC, North District; and Pasadena FUMC, South District. Mr. Hardt presented these churches to the conference for approval as a block. Bishop Huie asked the body to vote to designate these churches as historic sites by raised hands and it was approved. Mr. Hardt presented the next resolution on page 135 of the preconference journal concerning the requirement that each annual conference maintain a fire safe archive for foundational documents and historical items of importance. Mr. Hardt brought an amendment to the printed resolution on page 135. As printed the resolution reads: *"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Texas Annual conference shall build a Heritage Center that would combine both museum and archival functions"*

**Amendment to the Archives and History Be it Resolved Clause:** *"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Texas Annual Conference authorize the Commission on Archives and History to develop a plan for a Heritage Center that combines archival and museum functions and also to develop a funding plan for such Center."*

Mr. Hardt explained that the Commission on Archives and History was asking the conference for authorization to develop plans to build a center and to devise a funding plan for it. He moved the adoption of the amended resolution. Bishop Huie asked the body to vote by raised hands on the resolution as it was amended by the chair. It was approved.

**Resolution from the Conference Youth Council:** Rev. Dan Conway presented the resolution and referred the body to page 37 of the preconference journal. The resolution would bring the council membership in compliance with the Book of Discipline ¶ 649.2, which states: "No more than one-third of the membership shall be adults." This amendment would fix those portions of the Youth Council structure so that they can be correctly inserted into the Rules and Structure and Model for Ministry. The Bishop asked if there was discussion. She asked the body to vote on the amendments that pertain to the structure of the Youth Council by raised hands. It was approved.

**Resolutions to 2011 Texas Annual Conference concerning the Just Representation Petition to 2012 General Conference and from the Task Force on Judicial Council Decision #1150:** Dr. Don House, chair of the Task Force, brought the resolutions to the floor. Dr. House first presented the petition from the delegation.

**Just Representation Petitions to 2012 General Conference:** Dr. House explained that this resolution came from the 2008 delegation that no longer exists at the beginning of the 2011 annual conference. Dr. House had two friendly amendments to make from himself. The first amendment pertains to the second paragraph that reads "compared to 13,762 members," be amended to read, "14,416 members."

In the same sentence, amend the phrase written as “per delegate for North Georgia,” to read as “per delegate for the Texas Annual Conference.” In the next sentence, remove the word “reported” from the petition. Dr. House explained that the North Georgia Annual Conference authored the petition and asked the Texas Conference to also consider recommending the same resolution.

The representation to the General Conference from the United States, or what is known as the jurisdictional annual conferences, has been declining because the membership has been declining. The representation from the central annual conferences has been increasing due to their membership increases. There is a provision in the Book of Discipline that states that the minimum guaranteed number of delegates shall be one lay and one clergy delegate from every annual conference. When this is applied to the central conferences, they also look at the missional and provisional annual conferences, which they use to bring mission and ministry to their area. Those central conferences that use provisional and missional conferences have substantial increases in their delegation although their membership is declining. This may not have been the intent, but the central conferences find their ministry is more effective if they organize into many small provisional conferences. The consequence is a shift in the number of delegates to the General Conference toward the central conferences that use this model away from the representation from the other conferences. Two central conferences use this model extensively. The Philippines is one example. Between the 2008 General Conference to the 2012 General Conference they will have reported a 27% decrease in membership but because they have added provisional annual conferences, they have a 4.9% increase in the number of delegates to General Conference. In Europe, there was an 8.5% decrease in membership but a zero change in the number of delegates. When one considers the Philippines and Europe, there is only one annual conference that has a membership greater than our smallest district. There are provisional conferences in the Philippines that have less than 400 members. We have many churches that are larger than that. The result is a shift in the representation to General Conference away from the jurisdictional conferences to the Philippines and Europe. What this does to the representation is that while the United States has a 4% decrease in membership, there is a 13.9% decrease in the number of delegates to General Conference.

On the basis of just representation, the financial health of the Church is largely dependent upon the jurisdictional conferences within the United States. For the health of the World Church, we have to turn our membership decline around. Dr. House believes the turnaround will occur in the South Central Jurisdiction and most likely in the Texas Annual Conference. When the membership in the South Central Jurisdiction and the Texas Conference declines, we have less impact on the decisions made at General Conference. Because of the formula used for representation, the number of delegates grows smaller. Therefore, Dr. House offers the resolution to the body.

Bishop Huie stated that the resolution was properly before the body and recognized someone who wanted to speak. Chris Reeves, a lay delegate from Trinity UMC in Beaumont, rose in opposition to the resolution. He encouraged the body not to cast a vote in anxiety but to remember that The United Methodist Church has a worldwide connectional structure. He encouraged the body not to give in to anxiety but to vote down the resolution. Judge Ewing Werlein spoke in favor of the resolution. He believes there is a need around the world for fair voice proportionate to their members. He does not believe anyone would support a resolution that denied the voice of anyone. Rev. Taylor Furst asked if the resolution would impact the conferences in Kansas East and West, Nebraska, and the West that are sharing a Bishop in one Episcopal area. Dr. House replied no, the passage of the resolution would not have any affect on their representation because their membership is large enough that representation by formula takes effect. Rev. Josh Hale questioned whether the missionary conferences would still have their representation to General Conference. Dr. House answered that this resolution determined representation based upon the membership in an Episcopal area. The annual conferences that have missionary conferences within their boundaries determine the apportionment of the delegates to represent them. The total number of delegates is governed by the membership within that Episcopal area.

The missionary conferences within the United States may not get the guaranteed 2 delegates and that would be one of the consequences of passing this resolution. The number of delegates from the Philippines and Europe will be based on the membership within the area to which one Bishop is assigned, which may represent multiple annual conferences. Nadine Graham from Christ UMC spoke against the resolution. Bishop Huie asked if the body was ready to vote and they said yes. The Bishop asked for a vote by raised hands and the resolution was adopted. The annual conference secretary will petition the 2012 General Conference on behalf of the Texas Annual Conference.

**Resolutions from the Task Force resulting from Judicial Council Decision 1150:** Dr. House brought the three resolutions to the conference floor.

**Resolution 1:** According to ¶613.8, the annual conference may give permission to CF&A the authority to modify the budget approved by the annual conference between conference sessions with specific procedures that were spelled out in the resolution. Dr. House stated that funds up to \$5,000 may be expended from the Contingency Fund. Any modification over \$5,000 must be approved by the full CF&A. In addition, CF&A shall always honor the intent of designated funds by recommending that designated funds are spent for their intended purposes. The CF&A shall establish a Budget Review Committee consisting of the conference treasurer, president of CF&A, the vice president and secretary of CF&A, and one voting member of CF&A. A quorum shall be three members of the committee. All minutes of the Budget Review Committee meetings shall be presented the next CF&A meeting, and all budget modifications shall be noted and explained in the CF&A report to the next annual conference.

Dr. Don Waddleton asked if this resolution allowed him to take money from one area within his budget and allocate it to another need. Dr. House answered yes, as long as a fully explained request was submitted to CF&A to do so. The Bishop asked the body to vote to approve the resolution by raised hands and it was so approved.

**Resolution 2:** Dr. House turned to the second resolution that is a recommendation for the establishment of a Rules and Structure Committee. The specific purpose, scope, and size of the new committee's membership shall be referred to the Quadrennial Assessment Committee and a recommendation be brought to the 2012 annual conference. The Bishop asked for questions or discussion. Rev. Scott Dornbush, FUMC in Huntsville, asked that the new committee review the structure to consider the several paragraphs in the Book of Discipline, ¶51, ¶403.1.f, and ¶608 that connect the annual conferences to the General Church and the local church. Bishop Huie asked if Rev. Dornbush was making a suggestion to be sent to the Quadrennial Review Committee. Rev. Dornbush answered that he was. The Bishop asked the body to vote to approve the formation of the Rules and Structure Committee, or whatever it will be named, to raise hands. The resolution was approved.

**Resolution 3:** This resolution recommends corrections that were adopted in 2010 in the following areas of the structure and Model for Ministry. These adopted changes were not reflected in the 2010 conference journal.

To be consistent with the language in the Book of Discipline ¶403.1.7, the Task Force recommends under the Model for Ministry, Item I.B.2.f of Section 3 the word "chair" to be changed to "presiding over" the Core Leadership Team.

On Page A-9, Core Leadership Team, move the fifth bullet point under "Voting Members: to become the sixth bullet point under "Ex-Officio Members without vote," changing the word "chair" to "preside over." This recommendation is made to be consistent with Section 3, Model for Ministry in the Texas Annual Conference.

Delete Page A-10 and Page A-12 since the resolution adopted in 2010 has completed its required task.

Replace Page A-11 with a revision to be consistent with Section 3, Model for Ministry in the Texas Annual Conference. This adds the word "approved" in new item 2 to be consistent with the emphasized role of CF&A.

Bishop asked the body to vote on the recommended changes by raised hands and it was so approved. Rev. Paul Kethley, First UMC in Fairfield, asked if there would be a supplement published that reflects all the approved changes. Dr. House stated that all the changes will be published in the 2011 Conference Journal. Bishop Huie announced that the other resolutions would be considered after the voting block.

**Voting Block:** The Bishop turned to the first voting block scheduled for the morning.

**Lay Ballot #4, Jurisdictional Conference:** The laity will vote for 2 persons.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 281**

**Results of Lay Ballot #4: There was no election on this ballot.**

Bishop Huie called upon Rev. Steffon Arrington to lead in prayer before the clergy cast their ballot.

**Clergy Ballot #3, Jurisdictional Conference:** The clergy will vote for 7 persons. .

**Number of votes needed to elect: 168**

**Results of Clergy Ballot #3: There was 1 election.**

**1. Ben Trammell -168**

The clergy have elected 4 delegates to Jurisdictional Conference and will cast votes for 6 persons on the next clergy ballot.

**Lay Ballot #5, Jurisdictional Conference:** The laity will vote for 2 persons.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 291**

**Results of Lay Ballot #5: There were 2 elections.**

**1. Marquice Hobbs - 357**

**2. Bill Brown -340**

This completed the election for Lay Jurisdictional Delegates and they turned their attention to electing alternate or reserve delegates. Bishop Huie explained the process for electing alternates and asked the laity to think about how they wished to proceed while the clergy cast their next ballot.

**Clergy Ballot #4, Jurisdictional Conference:** The clergy will vote for 6 persons.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 177**

**Results of Clergy ballot #4: There were 2 elections.**

**1. Pat Sparks - 190**

**2. Cynthia Harvey - 190**

The clergy will vote for 4 persons on their next ballot.

**Clergy Ballot #5, Jurisdictional Conference:** The clergy will vote for 4 persons.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 175**

**Results of Clergy Ballot #5: There was 1 election.**

**1. Tom Pace - 210**

The clergy will vote for 3 persons on their next ballot. Bishop Huie turned to Lay Ballot #6 in which the laity would vote for their alternate delegates.

**Motion for the Number of Reserve Delegates:** The Bishop recognized Rev. Jim Welch who stated that the conference's tradition was to elect 5 alternate delegates. Bishop Huie explained that she had been told 4 delegates and accepted the correction. Rev. Welch explained the need for additional reserves delegates at General Conference, especially on the last day. He believed it would be beneficial to the annual conference to elect 6 reserve delegates this year on both the clergy and laity side. Rev. Welch put it in the form of a motion. The motion received a second and the Bishop asked for further discussion. She recognized a delegate who wanted to make a separate motion and the Bishop explained the body must vote first on the motion that was before the body. Bishop Huie asked to body to vote on the Welch motion by raised hands and it was approved. The Bishop recognized the lay delegate who made a motion to accept the next 6 persons with the highest number of votes to be declared the Lay Reserve Delegates for 2012. Bishop Huie declared this motion was for laity only and asked the lay delegates if there was discussion. Bill Koons, Lay Delegate from Methodist Temple in Port

Arthur, spoke against the motion and believed the alternates should be elected by the same method as the delegates to give everyone a fair chance. The Bishop asked for a speech for the motion and then asked the lay delegates to vote by raised hands. The vote was too close to call and the Bishop stated the vote on the motion would be cast electronically.

**Vote on Lay Motion for Accepting the Next 6 persons on their Ballot the Reserve Delegates:** The Bishop explained the delegates vote either yes or no. The motion carried. The Bishop moved to voting for the Lay Top 6 for Alternates.

**Ballot for Lay Reserve Delegates:** The Bishop asked the laity to vote for 6 persons to serve as reserve delegates.

**Results of The top 6 persons who received votes as Alternates:**

1. **Bryan Tullos - 242**
2. **Laura Young - 218**
3. **Mellany McDonald-Williams - 198**
4. **John Campbell - 169**
5. **Corky Fowler - 165**

The Bishop recognized a delegate who suggested that the conference keep track of the total number of votes cast over the course of all the ballots and use those as alternates the next time there is an election so that everyone has opportunity to be elected. Bishop Huie thanked the delegate for the suggestion but explained that one annual conference cannot bind another annual conference and this becomes a suggestion to the body.

**Next Year's Annual Conference Location and the Nominations Report:** The Bishop called upon Rev. B.T. Williamson, who gave two reports. The first was the location of the 2012 annual conference and referred to the information that was placed in the registration packets. The Texas Annual Conference will meet in Galveston June 4-7, 2012, which is one week and one day later than usual. The conference host facility is the Galveston Convention Center. The hotels available are the San Luis, the Hilton Galveston Island Resort, and the Holiday Inn. Bishop Huie reminded the laity who were leaving to return their voting machines and smart cards to the proper depository before leaving the convention center.

Rev. Williamson continued with the Nominations Report that the delegates received electronically and noted these proposed nominations were for a one year term to complete the quadrennium. He lifted up two changes to be made. Under the Center for Clergy Excellence, remove the name of Larry Moore under the area of Clergy Development and Spiritual Formation Ministries. Under the Center for Clergy Excellence, substitute the name of Carol Turner in place of Carol Bruse. He reminded the body that the proposed nominations the delegates received at registration had been on the table for 24 hours. Two of these changes were to be made during the reports from the Core Leadership Team and the Emerging Leaders Endowment Program. Those persons would be elected if the resolutions were approved. There was one change coming from the Lakeview Board of Directors. Under the Class of 2012, replace the name of Matt Idom, who is now the Superintendent of the Lakeview Methodist Conference Center, with name of Matt Stone. Under the Class of 2020, add the name of Duane Andrews. Rev. Williamson moved the adoption of the nominations report. Bishop Huie asked if there was any discussion.

**Substitute Motion to the Nominations Report Concerning the Council on Finance and Administration:** Rev. Mike Deaton rose to speak to the nomination of a second District Superintendent to the Council on Finance and Administration and referred to ¶612 in the Book of Discipline, which states that there shall be "a District Superintendent" rather than two. Rev. Deaton offered a substitute motion that was seconded to replace the name of Dr. Jerry Pennington with the name of Rev. Scott Dornbush. Dr. Elijah Stansell, Conference Staff, rose to speak to the rationale of nominating a second District Superintendent to the CF&A. The intent is not to have two District Superintendents present at every meeting but to have at least one present. The second person would

ensure that a District Superintendent was present at the meeting, as required by the Discipline, in the event that the other superintendent was unavailable. Bishop Huie asked if anyone wished to speak for the substitute motion. The Bishop recognized Rev. Bert Bagley who again pointed out that the Discipline states there shall be “a District Superintendent” but does not mention two to be present. Rev. Bagley observed that there are persons from the cabinet or extended cabinet who are always present and that seems to be enough. Rev. Williamson explained that the Nominations Committee inquired of CF&A what their preference was in filling the position. The group as a whole expressed they wished to maintain the tradition of keeping the two District Superintendent positions. Due to the vacancy created when one of the Superintendents rotated into a new position, the CF&A preferred to fill the vacant District Superintendent position but not to fill the other vacant positions until the new quadrennium.

The Bishop place the substitute before the body. She asked the body to vote by raised hand to substitute the name of Rev. Scott Dornbush for the District Superintendent. The Bishop ruled that the substitute failed, but there was a call by the body to vote electronically. The Bishop declared the vote on the substitute would be conducted on the voting devices.

**Point of Order:** Dr. Randy Smith rose to remind the body that if they do not approve the substitute there is a danger of violating the Book of Discipline. There possibly could be a request for a ruling from the Bishop, which would then be sent to the Judicial Council. He asked if the conference would want to go through that process again. Bishop Huie explained that Dr. Smith was making a speech. The business before the body was a simple vote on the substitute nomination.

**Vote for Substitute Nomination:** The results of the vote on the motion to substitute the name of Rev. Scott Dornbush for Dr. Jerry Pennington on the nominations for CF&A were: 390 votes for the substitute and 388 votes against the substitute. The Bishop declared that the substitute prevailed by 2 votes. Rev. Scott Dornbush was included in the nominations for CF&A and the name of Dr. Jerry Pennington was removed. Bishop Huie placed the entire report from nominations before the body for approval. She asked the body to vote by raised hand and the nominations report was approved.

**Break:** Bishop Huie called for a fifteen minute break and stated the business would resume promptly at 10:20 a.m.

**Call to Order:** The Bishop called the body back to continue the morning’s business and asked for courtesies.

**Courtesies:** The Bishop called upon Rev. Rick Goodrich for introductions of the delegation from Cote d’Ivoire: Samuel Koffi, Assistant to Bishop Boni; M. Lydia Acquaiy, who is director of the radio station; Bernadette Enokou, who is head of hospitality for the Cote d’Ivoire Conference; and Valentine Amonkou, who heads up the Adopt a Child program. Rev. Goodrich shared some of the successes of the radio station during the political upheaval in Cote d’Ivoire earlier in the year. Sam Koffi brought greetings from Bishop Boni. He asked for continued prayers for the people of Cote d’Ivoire. Rev. Goodrich mentioned that the “Adopt a Student” brochures were available at the rail.

**Committee on Episcopacy:** The Bishop asked Dr. Jim Bankston, Chair of the Committee on Episcopacy, for an introduction. Dr. Bankston thanked Bishop Huie for her leadership in the Texas Annual Conference. Dr. Bankston introduced Rev. Bob Huie, spouse of our Bishop, who thanked the annual conference for the love and support given to his wife. Rev. Huie delighted the body with his sense of humor and winsome personality.

**Core Leadership Team Report:** The Bishop recognized Stephanie Griffin, who referred the body to the CLT Quadrennial Assessment Report found on pages 43-45 of the preconference journal. She began by quoting the purpose of securing outside consultants with specific tasks that were approved at the 2007 annual conference. These tasks were listed in the printed report. The consultants who will be leading the evaluation process are Dr. Greg Jones, Dr. Ken Griffith, and Dr. Lovett Weems. Their role may be found on page 44-45 of the preconference journal. A Strategic Assessment Team nominated by the Conference Nominations Committee, will consist of 2 members from the CLT, 2 mem-

bers from CF&A, 5 at-large members from the annual conference, the consultants, and ex-officio without vote will be the Bishop and Assistant to the Bishop. Funding needed to complete the Quadrennial Assessment will come from the Contingency Fund account of the conference budget. At the spring meeting, CF&A authorized up to \$30,000 to conduct the assessment. The Strategic Assessment Team will be responsible for developing a budget and will be accountable to CF&A. The assessment process will accomplish two objectives. First, it will review all strategic initiatives in all conference centers, districts, and local congregations. Second, the assessment will review the allocation of all financial and personnel resources used to accomplish the initiatives. The process will include a self-assessment by all conference and district committees and teams, as well as the Senior Consultants' assessment. This process will include previous assessment data from the Alban Institute and Clergy Zoomerang Surveys. Documents from Bound for Greater Things and the Episcopal Addresses will be incorporated into the assessment. Other information used for consideration will be statistical assessments furnished by Dr. Don House, including DNA evaluations, end of year report compilations, and relocation versus new church start analysis. The CF&A will provide a longitudinal analysis of the financial records of the past two quadrennia. They will coordinate this analysis with the senior consultants' report to include budget and/or financial recommendations for 2012 – 2016. The Strategic Assessment Team will submit reports to the 2012 annual conference. Mrs. Griffin placed the report before the conference. Bishop Huie asked for a vote by raised hands to approve the report for action and it was so approved.

**Lon Morris College Report and Resolution:** Rev. Tommy Williams welcomed members of the LMC Board of Trustees, President Dr. Miles McCall, Vice-president Scott Gilpin, and other students and friends of the college who were present. This past year Lon Morris had the highest enrollment in history, historic highs in enrollment in the Church Careers program, and added new programs and facilities on campus. However, Lon Morris College is struggling financially due to the 2008 economic collapse, a faster than expected growth, the need to build facilities to house students, and the addition of a football team and agriculture and hospitality administration programs. The college also awarded more scholarships than they could afford long term, which increased as the student body increased. Lon Morris College sought advice from 2 outside consultants, one from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and one from the Texas Annual Conference and banking institutions, who made recommendations. The college recommends the following resolution to begin the fall semester: 1) raise the tuition rate; 2) reduce the scholarship discount; 3) some employee layoffs; and 4) consolidate some college loans. The Executive Committee of Lon Morris brings a resolution to the conference to authorize a Task Force of 7 members as follows: 2 members from CF&A; 2 members of the Lon Morris Executive Committee; 1 member of the Conference Board of Trustees; 1 at-large member to be named by the Bishop; and 1 at-large member to be named by the LMC President to examine and clarify the responsibility and liability to and with one another. The Task Form will complete their work within 60 days beginning on June 1, 2011, and report the conclusions to the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, the Lon Morris College Board of Trustees, and The Texas Conference Board of Trustees. The CF&A has seen the resolution and recommends proceeding forward with it. Rev. Williams moved the adoption of the resolution to create the task force as outlined. The resolution comes as a recommendation from CF&A and the Executive Committee of Lon Morris College. Bishop Huie asked the body to vote on the creation of a task force by raised hands and it was so adopted.

**Courtesies:** The Bishop made an announcement that child care was extended with no additional cost to parents.

**Question about the Lon Morris Resolution:** Dr. Elijah Stansell asked who the person in charge would be to move the adopted LMC resolution forward since there was a 60 day timeframe. Since Bishop Huie has authority to appoint one person, she named Dr. Stansell to convene the group. The Bishop asked if the appointment was acceptable to the body and they answered yes.

**Council on Finance and Administration Report:** Bishop Huie called upon Rev. Marlin Fenn to bring to the report to the conference that included several areas for action. The entire report was found in the preconference journal beginning with page 141. He turned to Dr. Richard Burnham to present the resolution on the Emerging Leaders' Endowment resolution.

**The Emerging Leaders' Endowment:** Dr. Richard Burnham presented the resolution for the endowment. Dr. Burnham spoke on the conference's emphasis of recruiting younger clergy. Currently all programs are in place to offer opportunities to local church youth and college students to serve on a church staff in the summer as they consider the possibility of full time ministry. The endowment would be established as a 509(c)(3) to carry out the purpose of the Texas Annual Conference. It would be under the oversight of the Conference Council on Finance and Administration and a report would be given each annual conference. The trust would be exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3). Legal counsel in forming the proposal for the endowment was provided by Marvin Peterson, who is an attorney and a member of St. Paul's UMC, Houston. Dr. Burnham noted the resolution printed on page 148 B-10 (b) in the preconference journal and offered an amendment as follows:

Delete the entire liabilities clause and substitute the following Indemnification Clause: **B-10, (b) Indemnification.** *The Trust shall indemnify any director, officer, agent or employee, or former director, officer, agent or employee of the Trust, or any person who may have served at its request as a director, officer, agent or employee of the Trust, against expenses actually and necessarily incurred and any amount paid in satisfaction of judgments in connection with any action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil or criminal in nature, in which the indemnitee is made a party by reason of being or having been such a director, officer or employee (whether or not a director, officer, agent or employee at the time such costs or expenses are incurred by or imposed upon him) except in relation to matters as to which the indemnitee shall be judged in such action, suit, or proceeding to be liable for gross negligence or willful misconduct in the performance of duty. The Trust may also reimburse to any director, officer or employee the reasonable costs of settlement of any such action, suit, or proceeding, if it shall be found by a majority of the committee of the Directors not involved in the matter in controversy, whether or not a quorum, that it was to the interests of the Trust that such settlement be made and that such director, officer or employee was not guilty of gross negligence or willful misconduct. Such rights of indemnification and reimbursement shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which such director, officer, agent or employee may be entitled by law, or under any Bylaw Agreement, or otherwise.*

Dr. Burnham also stated that the amendment added a new paragraph under Section D on page 150 in the preconference journal to read as follows:

**D-6. Registered Office and Agent.** *The registered office of the Trust and the name of the Registered Agent at such address are as filed with the Secretary of the State of Texas. The Trust may also have offices at such other places both within and without the State of Texas as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine, or the business of the Trust may require.*

Dr. Burnham mentioned that the resolution had been reviewed and approved by the CF&A. They bring the resolution as part of the report. Dr. Burnham moved the adoption of the resolution for an Emerging Leadership Endowment as amended. Bishop Huie asked if there were questions. Rev. Mike Fraley asked if funds from the endowment would be available for spiritual growth or formation programs. Dr. Burnham stated that there are dimensions of spiritual growth formation in the program, but does not specifically address spiritual formation programs. The program focuses more on spiritual leadership development of young clergy. Kathy Richardson, Christ UMC in College Station, asked whether the Ambassadors Grant Program has any stipulations on which seminary young commissioned clergy attend. Dr. Burnham answered that the only limitation might be that the seminary be properly authorized by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry. If they are commissioned, then their education has been recognized by the Board of Ministry. Grants have been given to students from seminar-

ies across the country. Chris Reeves, Southeast District, raised a question about the indemnification provision that indemnifies persons for civil or criminal actions. This might be read to include indemnifying people for allegations of criminal fraud, which if it were prolonged could eat into the endowment itself. He was curious if this was the intent of the substitute amendment. Dr. Burnham replied that when Mr. Peterson described the indemnification, he said that anyone who practiced gross negligence or misconduct from their personal side would not be covered. The actions or decisions that happened in relation to the trust would be covered.

Bishop Huie asked the body if they were ready to vote. Dr. Burnham asked the Bishop to also include the names from the nominations report to serve as Emerging Leader's Initiative Endowment Trustees in this vote and suggested Rev. B.T. Williamson might read those names again as a reminder. Bishop Huie explained that the body had already elected those persons if they approve the formation of this endowment. The Bishop asked the body to vote on forming the Emerging Leader's Endowment as amended by raised hands and it was so approved.

**Resolution for Disaster Recovery Site:** Rev. Fenn presented the next CF&A resolution to the annual conference that was found on pages 38-39 and page 152 in the preconference journal. Rev. Fenn explained the need for a storage location for equipment and supplies acquired or needed for disaster recovery projects. A storage center is needed to house these items. There is a proposed site of 6 acres east of Conroe that can be purchased for \$225,000 plus other fees that would total \$246,000. UMCOR has tentatively designated \$494,858 for toward the cost of building a disaster recovery center. There is a contract pending on the property. If the annual conference approves the resolution the Conference Board of Trustees are prepared to move forward with the purchase and construction of the facility. The recommendation is before the body and CF&A offers the motion. The Bishop asked if there were questions or discussion.

Lee Jameson, Huntsville First, was concerned about the location of the proposed site and mentioned that the area had a massive influx of people evacuating in the face of hurricanes. For weeks after a storm, these places are almost inaccessible. He also noted that the area in question was subject to storm damage. He wanted to know if an alternative location further inland would be better for the facility. The Bishop received Mr. Jameson's concern as a statement and not a speech for or against the resolution.

Rev. Bert Bagley, Moody Memorial First UMC in Galveston, questioned the use of the Katrina funds that totaled over \$900,000 in building something when people designated it to help persons who were affected by that particular storm. He wondered if some of that money could be used to help the people in Joplin. Bishop Huie received this as a speech against the recommendation.

A question of clarification was asked about where the funds came from, how they are to be used, and the justification for using these funds so the body might understand the source of the money. Dr. Elijah Stansell explained that Bishop Huie had asked the conference to raise \$1 million to assist those affected by Hurricane Katrina. The conference exceeded the amount by raising \$2.4 million. All but the \$900,000 was utilized to assist in needs related to Hurricane Katrina. Following close behind Katrina were Hurricanes Rita and Ike that hit regions within the bounds of the Texas Conference. UMCOR assisted the conference with millions of dollars. The conference collected money for Rita and Ike, which was also utilized. The Katrina account became dormant because money received for Rita and Ike was used to do the recovery work. Currently, \$242,000 remains in the Ike account. Dr. Stansell also mentioned Rev. Bagley's suggestion about sending aid to Joplin. Bishop Huie has been in communication with Bishop Schnase. Later, there will be a motion brought to the body asking for authorization to contribute \$25,000 out of the Ike fund to Missouri to assist in the Joplin disaster area. The conference has acquired a vast amount of equipment, trucks, dump trucks, and portable showers. The conference has more than \$60,000 worth of tools stored in South Houston. The intent of the resolution is to be prepared for the next disaster. We are in a place where we need to be good stewards in trying to put all of this equipment in a place where it can be mobilized for the disaster work that

would be before us. The Bishop received the comment both as an explanation and a speech.

Rev. Judy Tefteller spoke for the resolution. She stated it would be helpful to have a place to take flood buckets and other items requested to send to disaster areas.

**Amendment from Texas Annual Conference Committee on Relief:** DeWitt Cox offered a friendly amendment to the resolution to read as follows under the “Therefore” section of the CF&A resolution for a proposed storage site:

*“Therefore, we are requesting the Texas Annual Conference session of 2011 to authorize the Conference Board of trustees, CF&A, and the Texas Annual Conference Committee on Relief (TACCOR) to move forward with the final site selection, along with construction and development.”* The substitute received a second. Bishop Huie asked the body to vote by raised hands on the amendment and it passed.

The Bishop turned to the main resolution and asked if there were further questions or discussion. Michael Hall questioned how the maintenance, utility costs and the upkeep for the facility would be funded. Dr. Stansell explained that \$1.3 million was currently available through unused designated funds. The conference would use part of these funds to erect the frame with consideration for the codes for wind and storm. Then conference mission teams would finish the building. The plan is to spend the least amount possible for the land purchase and building the frame. The remaining money would be used for operational and overhead costs and insurance for at least the next 3 to 4 years. Dr. Stansell further explained that although it is not reflected in the report, UMCOR has designated another \$89,000, which the conference received on Tuesday. Just prior to that, UMCOR sent a check in the amount of \$475,000. This is an additional \$564,000 above the \$1.3 million in the various funds. Since this additional money had not been given at the time the report was written, it was not included. Currently, the conference really has \$1.8 million to expend on the land purchase, building a facility, and operational costs to maintain it.

**Motion:** Rev. Mike Fraley stood to be recognized and made the following motion: *I move that we designate \$150,000 of the Texas Annual Conference funds from the Katrina Relief for Gulfside Assembly in Mississippi.* Rev. Fraley wanted to assist Gulfside Assembly in their continued recovery efforts from Hurricane Katrina. A question was raised of whether Gulfside Assembly was a church owned facility. Dr. Stansell, who is a Gulfside Board Member, explained that Gulfside Assembly was a 50(c)3 corporation that works with several annual conferences and is in that jurisdiction but is not owned by the jurisdiction.

Dr. Stansell wanted to make a point of clarification on the motion. He understood from Rev. Tom Hazelwood that the funds received from UMCOR were designated to build the depot. The assumption is that the motion on the floor refers to the annual conference’s \$900,000 that the conference can use in any way the body approves. The Bishop said that was her understanding as well and thanked Dr. Stansell for the clarification that the UMCOR funds will be used for the disaster recovery center. Bishop Huie stated the motion to send \$150,000 to Gulfside was before the body and asked for a vote by raised hands. The motion failed.

Rev. Paul Kethley rose to speak against the main resolution. He is a member of TACCOR and is conflicted about the use of money from the Katrina Relief fund to build the storage facility. He reminded the delegates that the call went forth from UMCOR to relieve human suffering caused by Katrina. He wants the storage site; however, he wonders if the faithful thing to do with the remaining money collected by conference churches should go to areas that are still recovering.

Rev. Mark Bunch asked what the construction cost estimates would be. Rev. Fenn stated that it would cost approximately \$100 per square foot. Dr. Stansell has received plans from the Florida Annual Conference and the Mississippi Annual Conference. The plans were reviewed by an engineer who estimated the cost of building will be about \$100 square foot. The anticipation is to build a 10,000 square foot facility.

This is just a preliminary exploration since the task force will have the responsibility of actually

formulating the plans. Andy Bose, Angleton First, suggested that the conference consider looking at other United Methodist facilities with maintenance departments to house the equipment. Bishop Huie recognized this as a suggestion.

Rev. Cynthia Harvey, Deputy General Secretary of UMCOR, explained the importance of being able to mobilize first responders quickly to go to the disaster site. When the supplies and equipment are housed in one place and ready to go when needed, the expediency of mobilizing first responders makes a difference in the lives of the people who are most affected by the disaster. She urged the passage of the resolution.

Bruce Bailey questioned whether the roads leading to the proposed site were out of the flood plain. Rev. B.T. Williamson stated that the facility is on the north side of the San Jacinto River so the roads coming in from the north, east, and west would not be in the flood plain.

Bishop Huie asked if the body was ready to vote. Receiving an affirmative answer, she asked the delegates to vote by raised hands on the Resolution with the Amendment from TACCOR. The amendment resolution carried. The Bishop recognized Rev. Bert Bagley, who noted the section concerning the site location. He suggested that the Lakeview Methodist Conference Center might be a location to consider as a possible site. The Bishop accepted the comment as a suggestion and turned to Rev. Fenn to continue the CF&A report,

**Extravagant Generosity and Conference Funding Task Force Report:** Rev. Fenn called on Rev. Morris Matthis and Dr. Nathan Hodge to give the report. Rev. Matthis stated that the task force surveyed the annual conference to determine the giving attitudes in local churches concerning conference ministry support. They defined extravagant generosity as giving beyond expectation for the purpose for serving others. The task force will spend the next year sharing the story, their findings and discussing the recommendations with pastors, leaders, and member of local churches in the conference. The team asks the conference for authorization to continue their work for the coming conference year. The Bishop asked the body to vote by raised hands if they approved the continuation of the Extravagant Generosity and Conference Funding Task Force for one year. The task force was so approved.

**Conference Budget for 2012:** Rev. Fenn thanked the Texas Annual Conference for their generosity to the Church. The written report reflected that the Conference Youth/Young Adult Director was moved to Ministry Support – Staff and Office Support, but still under the Center for Congregational Excellence. There was a \$237,270 reduction under the Center for Clergy Excellence – Staff and Office Support due to Group Health Benefits providing support for their staff. There will be an increase of \$50,350 under the Center for Clergy Excellence – Clergy Development and Spiritual Support for participation in “Reviving the Passion” program for clergy with 15 to 20 years of service remaining. The commitment to the Lydia Patterson Institute will be paid in 2011 and the commitment to Wiley College was paid in 2010. The remaining funds from Lydia Patterson and Wiley College will be used to pay off the Perkins commitment. If there is a balance remaining, it will be moved to the Contingency Fund which help pay for apportionments. The Lakeview Fair Share Goal will increase by \$50,000 in 2012 while the Lakeview commitment to camping under the Center for Connectional Resources will be completed.

Rev. Fenn thanked the members of the Texas Conference for continued generosity to changing lives and shaping futures to the glory of God.

**Request to Send Contribution to the Missouri Annual Conference:** The CF&A asked for approval to send a \$25,000 gift from the Reserve Fund to the Missouri Annual Conference to assist them as they recover from the Joplin tornadoes. Bishop Huie stated that this gift would be included in the full CF&A report to the body. If the delegates approve the report, Dr. Stansell will present the check to the Missouri Annual Conference since he’s flying to Missouri when conference is over.

Rev. Fenn reported that out of the 690 congregations reporting at the end of 2010, 17 churches gave over 100% of their apportionments, 558 congregations paid at least 100% of their apportion-

ments; 20 congregations paid at least 80%; 60 churches paid at least half; and 80 congregations paid less than 50%. These are challenging times; however, in 2010, Texas Conference churches gave over \$20 million dollars to benevolent causes beyond the funds sent to the conference treasurer.

Rev. Fenn moved the adoption of the 2012 budget, found on pages 172-176 of the preconference journal that is a decrease of 1.65% from 2011. Bishop Huie asked the body to vote on the 2012 budget by raising hands and it was approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bishop Huie called on the Conference Treasurer, Dr. Elijah Stansell, to bring the report of the treasurer. Dr. Stansell presented the staff in the Fiscal Office for recognition and appreciation. He mentioned that the financial challenges of society had presented challenges in the fiscal office in 2010. For the sake of saving time he presented to the Secretary of the Conference his written report. The written report reflected that all conference owned properties are insured with appropriate replacement coverage. Adequate flood insurance coverage was on property when applicable. The conference received a dividend check due to no lost time incidents related to the Workers Compensation Safety program. The Electrical Co-op program has again saved local churches money. Currently there are 166 enrolled in the co-op. The aggregate total savings for 2010 was \$480,000. All outstanding accounts are current and the checkbook is balanced.

Dr. Stansell lifted up 2 highlights to the annual conference. First, the note on the Conference Service Center was \$1.2 million as of December 16, 2004 for construction and renovation. As of May 1, 2011, the remaining balance was \$491,050. Second, although 2010 was the lowest apportionment payout in many years, the Texas Annual Conference was able to pay 100% of our World Service obligation to the General Church. Dr. Stansell thanked the churches for the sacrifices that have made this possible. He said he was very grateful for the support and asked for the local congregations continued help to do our work together. Bishop Huie thanked Dr. Stansell for his leadership as the treasurer of the Texas Annual Conference.

**Recess:** The Bishop declared the business of the conference was completed except for the clergy vote for delegates. She suggested that the body recess to set up for the Sending Forth Service and Celebration of appointments. Immediately following the service, all the clergy would remain for the completion of their election of Jurisdictional Conference and Alternate delegates.

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#### **Day Four**

### **Service of Sending Forth and Celebration of the Appointments June 1, 2011**

The service began with a video entitled, "How Will They Know?" Copies of the appointments for 2011-2012 were given to the delegates. The liturgists for the service were Rev. Vickie Keys, Executive Director of Food for Kids, Inc. in Houston and Ms. Elizabeth Adkisson, lay member of Woodville UMC.

The band was Dayspring UMC in Tyler and was led by Aaron Laird, Director of Worship and Creative Arts. Rev. Emily Chapman, St. Paul's UMC in Houston, brought the message, based on the scripture found in Acts 8:26-39. Bishop Huie led the body in Remembering our Covenant. The Bishop asked the clergy and laity to bless each other. She asked the laity to extend hands over clergy persons standing near them in an act of blessing as she led the prayer. The Bishop then asked the clergy to extend hands in an act of blessing over lay persons standing near them and she led the prayer. The Bishop then offered the Sending Forth Blessing. The Song of Sending was "All Over the World."

**Laity Dismissed:** The Bishop dismissed the laity with her blessing, who had completed all business and delegate elections while reminding the clergy to gather in one area to complete their voting process.

**Extended Clergy Session for Voting Purposes Only  
June 1, 2011**

**Call to Order:** The Bishop reminded the clergy members that they were on round #6 of the vote for Jurisdictional Delegates. They have elected 7 delegates.

**Clergy Ballot #6, Jurisdictional Conference:** The clergy will cast ballots for 3 persons.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 139**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #6: There was no election on this ballot.**

**Clergy Ballot #7, Jurisdictional Conference:** The clergy will vote for 3 persons.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 141**

**Result for Clergy Ballot #7: There were 2 elections.**

**1. Jessica Lagrone - 164**

**2. Rob Renfro - 141**

**Clergy Ballot #8, Jurisdictional Conference:** The clergy will vote for 1 person.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 145**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #8: There was no election on this ballot.**

**Clergy Ballot #9, Jurisdictional Conference:** The clergy will vote for 1 person.

**Number of votes needed to elect: 147**

**Results for Clergy Ballot #9: There was 1 election on the ballot.**

**1. Jim Bankston - 153**

The Jurisdictional Conference delegation was duly elected. The Bishop turned to the election of Alternate Delegates and asked for a motion for the number of alternates the clergy wish to elect.

**Motion for Number of Alternates:** Rev. Mike Fraley moved to elect 6 alternate delegates. There was a second and the motion passed with a raised hand vote.

**Motion to Designate the Persons with the 6 top votes as Alternates:** Rev. Fraley made a motion that on the next ballot, the 6 top vote getters to be the 6 alternates. There was a second to the motion and the Bishop asked the body to vote by raised hands. The motion carried.

While the body waited for the balloting to begin, Bishop Huie gave Rev. B.T. Williamson words of appreciation for the masterful job he has done with the planning of this year's annual conference. The Bishop also thanked Rev. DeAndre Johnson, who is in the first year as Chair of the Conference Worship Committee. The conference met for the first time this year in a convention hall setting. The Bishop was appreciative of the great worship services during the week together.

**Clergy Ballot #1, Alternate Delegates:** The clergy will vote for 6 persons to serve as alternate delegates.

**Results for the Alternates: There was a tie between the 6th and 7th position on the ballot.**

Bishop Huie asked the body how they wanted to proceed at this point. The previous motion that was passed stated the 6 persons with the top votes would be elected as the alternate delegates. She entertained a motion from the floor.

**Motion for Reconsideration of the Number of Delegates from 6 to 7:** Rev. Mike Fraley made the motion to expand the number of alternates from 6 to 7 persons. There was a second and the motion was approved.

**Results for Clergy Alternate Delegates:**

**1. Ken Werlein - 121**

**2. Melody Kraus - 119**

**3. Bill Taylor - 103**

**4. Gail Ford Smith - 97**

**5. Don Waddleton – 92****6. Kip Gilts - 68****7. Jim Bass - 68**

Bishop Huie congratulated these who were elected. She recognized Dr. Elijah Stansell who asked for a moment of personal privilege. He wanted to thank God for all who were elected to represent the Texas Annual Conference in the delegation. He had received emails from persons wanting to know about meeting schedules. He spoke with Dr. Don House, the head of the delegation, who had to leave immediately after the lay session concluded. They agreed that Dr. Stansell would send an email on Monday with addresses provided by the conference secretary, Dr. Gail Harrelson. Dr. Stansell asked the General Conference delegates to give consideration of at least 3 legislative committees on which they would like to serve. Once he received those choices, there would be an announced conference call to make those assignments. The committee selections will be passed to Dr. Harrelson to complete the information to send to the General Conference Secretary by the 30 day deadline.

**Adjournment of the 2011 Texas Annual Conference:** Bishop Huie expressed appreciation for the clergy and the work fulfilled in local churches and especially for the clergy's patience in completing the business of this annual conference. She asked the clergy to stand and sing the Doxology. Following a reminder to turn in the voting machines and smart cards, the Bishop sent the body forth in peace.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Gail Harrelson, Secretary  
Texas Annual Conference  
The United Methodist Church