

C. Daily Proceedings of the Seventh Session of the Arkansas Conference

Sunday - Wednesday, June 14-17, 2009

to be held at Hammons Conference Center & Central UMC in Rogers, Arkansas.

“Transforming the World”

— SUNDAY, JUNE 7 —

3:00 pm **MUSIC REHEARSAL**, Northwest District Choir Rehearsal with Guest Conductor Paul Smith, Central UMC, Rogers.

— SUNDAY, JUNE 14 —

3:00 pm **CABINET MEETING** Hammons Convention Center, Trammell Board Room

3:00 pm **Conference Secretary Staff & Registration Volunteers**

Meet to review registration details for Conference.

Place: Hammons Convention Center, entrance rotunda

4:00 pm **REGISTRATION OPENS**

Registration at the door: \$90 ; closes at 7:15 pm

Pre-Conference Journal Booklet: \$10 , Place: Hammons Convention Center

4:00 pm **INFORMAL GATHERING & FELLOWSHIP**

Place: Hammons Convention Center

• Displays and Cokesbury bookstore open

• Concession stand {hotdogs, hamburgers, soft drinks}

4:00 pm **MUSIC REHEARSAL**

Northwest District Choir Rehearsal

Place: Sanctuary, Central UMC, Rogers, guest Conductor Paul Smith, Dir. of Choral Music, John Brown University. All conference choir singers are welcome to join.

Contact: Les Oliver (479) 636-1630 or les@cumcrogers.com

5:00 pm **BLACK METHODISTS FOR CHURCH RENEWAL BANQUET**

Cost: \$30, Embassy Suites Ballroom (5:00 pm to 6:30 pm)

5:30 pm **Usher & Communion Rehearsal**, Central UMC, Rogers

7:30 pm **OPENING WORSHIP** Place: Central UMC, Rogers

Worship, Commemoration, & Holy Communion

Gen. Sec. Rev. Edward Paup, GBGM, preaching

Commemoration Service coordinated by Pat Bodenhamer and Edna Morgan

Holy Communion coordinated by Leon Gray and Les Oliver

Prayer shawls coordinated by..... Libby Gray

Shawls are made by church members.

9:00 pm **YOUNG ADULT COFFEE HOUSE**

Place: Central UMC, Rogers, Contact: Rod Hocott (501) 324-8008

Page numbers refer to the
Pre Conference Journal.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE 2009 JOURNAL

— MONDAY, JUNE 15 —

- 7:00 am BREAKFAST GATHERINGS (page 10)
- 7:00 am CONCESSION STAND OPENS {muffins, coffee, juice}
- 7:00 am INFORMAL GATHERING & FELLOWSHIP
Place: Hammons Convention Center
 - Displays and Cokesbury bookstore open
 - Concession stand {muffins, coffee, juice, soft drinks}

Page numbers refer to the Pre Conference Journal.

- 8:00 am REGISTRATION OPENS
Registration at the door: \$90 Place: Hammons Convention Center
- 8:00 am "The Path of Life," Harriett Akins-Banman
Place: Prayer & Spiritual Life Room (page 6)
- 9:00 am ANNUAL CONFERENCE BEGINS: CALL TO ORDER
- 9:00 am OPENING HYMN
- PRAYER Mackey Yokem
- WELCOME TO ROGERS
 - Rogers Mayor Steve Wommack
 - Bentonville Mayor Robert McCaslin
 - Official Welcome Local Host Committee
- 9:15 am COMMISSION on STATUS & ROLE OF WOMEN
monitoring announcement Lynn McClure
- 9:20 am ORGANIZATION of the CONFERENCE Bob Crossman
 - Rules of Order (pages 16 and 17)
- Consent Calendar Items Bob Crossman
{Consent Calendar Reports on page 3 of PC Journal}

"Are any reports to be removed from the consent calendar?"
 {Reports may be lifted off the Consent Calendar and given agenda time on Wednesday. Such action requires the signature of five members of the conference, and it may only be for the purpose of amending or altering the report.}

- Items To "Lay On The Table" Overnight:**
- Constitutional Amendments from General Conference (page 39)
 - Proposed changes in our structure (if any)
 - Sponsored & Unsponsored Petitions, Resolutions (page 49, line 44-62)

From our structure, 8.c., page 491 of the 2008 Journal

RESOLUTION FOOTNOTES

All resolutions, sponsored or non-sponsored, shall contain footnotes that clarify the source of any facts, quotes, or generalizations made within the proposed resolution. These footnotes shall include enough information to allow the Conference some level of confidence that the content of the proposed resolution is accurate and reliable. These footnotes shall also include enough information to allow the content of the proposed resolution to be double checked for accuracy. All resolutions not printed in the Pre-Conference Journal must be accompanied by a rationale.

PRE-CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

Non-sponsored resolutions or petitions, as well as those sponsored by any regular board or standing committee or task force of the Conference, may be included in the Pre-Conference Journal with the approval of the Vision Team.

FLOOR RESOLUTIONS

Any resolution or petition not printed in the Pre-Conference Journal must be signed by at least two members of the Annual conference, and distributed in writing to the delegates and lay on the table for twenty-four hours before being debated and acted upon. Such items for general distribution shall be prepared and distributed by the sponsoring person or agency at their own expense.

DAILY PROCEEDINGS "MINUTES"

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE 2009 JOURNAL

CONCURRENCE / NON-CONCURRENCE

All resolutions that call for a change in the structure or standing rules, must be submitted to a review by the Committee on Review and Research which will recommend concurrence or non-concurrence.

All resolutions that have financial implications must be submitted to a review by the Council on Finance and Administration which will recommend concurrence or non-concurrence.

All resolutions that have Social Principle implications, must be submitted to a review by the Board of Church and Society which will recommend concurrence or non-concurrence.

THE VISION OF THE ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

“A church alive in the grace of God, offering Christ, transforming lives, and changing the world through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

9:25 am EPISCOPAL ADDRESS Bishop Charles Crutchfield
Introduction of Bishop Crutchfield Episcopal Committee

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

To identify, enlist and retain gifted young pastors who are passionate about making disciples for Christ.

10:00 am ORDAINED MINISTRY (See page 25) Biff Averitt
• Presentation of new clergy and diaconal ministers
• Presentation of chaplains & related ministries
• Greetings from one of our chaplains Chaplain Scott Shafer

CLERGY SESSION Two items only:

- vote on requests for retirement, and to ask the Historic Questions

10:30 am BREAK

(Refreshments may be purchased at the concession stand.)

- New retiring clergy with spouses, meet in the Hammons Board Room for group photo and instructions.

- ORDER OF THE DAY -

11:00 am RETIREMENT OF CLERGY

- Worship service coordinated by John Wilcher
• Presentation of Retiring Clergy & Diaconal Ministers
• Retirees Address the Conference

12:10 pm PRAYER & LUNCHEONS

See page 10 for groups and details.

RETIREE LUNCHEON

Place: Ambassador Ballroom Convention Center

Cost: Free for retired pastors, their spouses, and surviving spouses. Cost: \$20 for all others.

2:00 pm ANNUAL CONFERENCE CONTINUES: CALL TO ORDER

Gathering Singing

Conference Secretary Announcements Bob Crossman

2:05 pm VISION TEAM REPORT (See page 68)

- The Strategic Vision of the Arkansas Conference
• Recognition of Professions of Faith
• Recognition of Worship Growth
• Recognition of Apportionment Support
• Recognition of New Churches (page 58)

2:45 pm Adjourn business session for Lay & Clergy Sessions

Page numbers refer to the Pre Conference Journal.

DAILY PROCEEDINGS "MINUTES"

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3:00 pm CLERGY SPOUSE GATHERING hosted by Karen Crutchfield
Place: Hammons Convention Center, Commerce Ballroom

3:00 pm LAY ORIENTATION SESSION Asa Whitaker
Place: Grand Ballroom, Hammons Convention Center

3:00 pm CLERGY SESSION Bishop Charles Crutchfield
Place: Grand Ballroom 1-4, Hammons Convention Center

- Those who may participate in the Clergy Session are set by the Book of Discipline ¶ 605.6
- with vote - Only the ordained clergy in full connection, lay members of the Board of Ordained Ministry may vote. ¶605.6; 602.1a When associate members, full-time and part-time local pastors are members of the Board of Ordained Ministry they have the right to vote on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. ¶602.1.c; ¶602.1.d.
- voice without vote - provisional members, associate members, affiliate members, and local pastors under full-time and part-time appointment to a pastoral charge. ¶605.6 and 602.1b.c.d.
- Upon vote by the session, others may be admitted without vote- Others may be admitted by express action of the clergy session, but shall not have vote, nor, unless specifically granted by the clergy session, shall have voice ¶605.6 (student local pastors; retired local pastors; those to be elected to probationary or full membership; and, clergy from other annual conferences or Methodist-related denominations under appointment by this conference.)

5:15 pm PRAYER & EVENING BANQUETS
See page 10 for groups and details.

5:15 pm LAITY DINNER
Place: Pinnacle Ballroom 1-5, Embassy Suites,
Cost: \$31 Place: Pinnacle Ballroom

7:30 pm EVENING WORSHIP Place: Central UMC, Rogers
"Theme: To Transform the World"
Gen. Sec. Rev. Edward Paup, GBGM preaching

Service coordinated by Rebecca Boggan & Greg Taylor

Guest musician and worship leader, Jorge Lockwood, staff member at the General Board of Global Ministries & coordinator of the Global Praise Project.

Page numbers refer to the Pre Conference Journal.

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— TUESDAY, JUNE 16 —

6:30 am HOLY HEALTHY UM 5k Walk / Run

6:45-7:00 am BREAKFAST GATHERINGS (page 10)

7:00 am CONCESSION STAND OPENS {muffins, coffee, juice}

8:00 am LATE REGISTRATION OPENS

Registration at the door: \$90

Pre-Conference Journal Booklet: \$10

Place: Hammons Convention Center

8:00 am INFORMAL GATHERING & FELLOWSHIP

Place: Hammons Convention Center

• Displays and Cokesbury bookstore open

• Concession stand {muffins, coffee, juice, soft drinks}

8:00 am "Speak, Lord, for Thy Servant is Listening," Bill Buchanan

Place: Prayer & Spiritual Life Room (page 6)

9:00 am CONFERENCE CONTINUES: CALL TO ORDER

MORNING DEVOTIONAL JJ Galloway

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STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

To recruit a new generation of lay leaders and equip all laity to be providers of ministry in making disciples of Jesus Christ.

- 9:20 am **LAITY ADDRESS** *Asa Whitaker Conference Lay Leader*
INTRODUCTION OF CONFERENCE CHANCELLORS
- 9:45 am **COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS #1** *Jerry Eubanks*
(The report will be 'laid on the table' at this time. If there are any nominations from the floor, they will be received at this time.)
(Any errors in spelling, address or phone may be handed to the secretary or chair this afternoon.)
- 9:50 am **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN** (page 67) *Judy Mattox*
- 10:10 am **PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE REPORT** (page 77) *Dr. Walter Kimbrough, President*
- 10:20 am **HENDRIX COLLEGE REPORT** (page 71) *Wayne Clark*
 • *Hendrix College Youth Ministry Award* *presented by Wayne Clark*
- 10:30 am **LYDIA PATTERSON INSTITUTE REPORT** (page 72) *Socorro DeAnda, President*
- 10:35 am **Mount SEQUOYAH CONFERENCE CENTER** (page 76) *John & Sheri Altland*
- 10:40 am **BREAK** (*Refreshments may be purchased at the concession stand.*)

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

To emphasize the importance of self-care for clergy, staff and laity and to facilitate intentional health ministries for body, mind and spirit in and through our churches.

- 11:05 am **CALL TO ORDER / GATHERING SINGING**
- 11:10 am **GROUP INSURANCE** (page 29) *Chris Newell*
- 11:30 am **Holy Healthy Task Force** (page 54) *Bob Burton*
www.HolyHealthyUMC.org • Holy Healthy Church Award
- 11:40 am **PENSION** (page 33) *Bill Shirron*
- 12:00 pm **Conference Secretary Announcements** *Bob Crossman*
- 12:00 pm **PRAYER, RECESS & LUNCHEONS** (page 10 for groups and details)
- 12:10 pm **CELEBRATING GOD'S MISSIONS LUNCHEON**
Place: Convention Center Commerce Ballroom, Cost: \$15

Page numbers refer to the
Pre Conference Journal.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Ed Paup

(General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries UMC)

- 2:00 pm **CONCESSION STAND OPEN** (*hot dogs, hamburgers, soft drinks*)
- 2:00 pm **CONFERENCE CONTINUES:**
GATHERING MUSIC / SINGING & PRAYER
- 2:05 pm **FOUR AREAS OF FOCUS** express the vision and yearnings of the people of The United Methodist Church. Over the next four years, the church will seek to focus the work of making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world around these areas of ministry:
- *Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world.*
 - *Creating new places for new people and revitalizing existing congregations.*
 - *Engaging in ministry with the poor.*
 - *Combating the diseases of poverty by improving health globally.*
- 3:40 pm **ITEMS TAKEN "OFF THE TABLE" FROM MONDAY**
- **Proposed Structure Changes** (if any) *Buddy Ratliff*
 - **Ballot - Constitutional Amendments from General Conference** (page 39 to 48) *Rodney Steele*
 - **Outdoor Ministry Recommendations** (page 37) *David Fleming*
 - **Tanako By-Laws & Articles** (page 37) *David Leach*

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• **Petitions and Resolutions**

- Endorsed / sponsored petitions & resolutions (none)
- Unendorsed petitions and resolutions (page 49)

If this process is not completed at this time, we will continue on Wednesday morning.

4:40 pm **Conference Secretary Announcements** Bob Crossman

4:45 pm **PRAYER, RECESS & BANQUETS**

4:45 pm *“Conversations for Congregations: Making Sacred Spaces for Nourishing the Spirit”*

Group Discussions Place: Prayer & Spiritual Life Room (page 6)

5:00 pm **EVENING BANQUETS** (page 10)

Church Awards & Church of the Year Banquet

Place: Rogers High School, 2300 S. Dixieland Road, Cost \$16

5:15 pm **REHEARSAL FOR ORDINATIONSERVICE**, Central UMC

6:00 pm **CHOIR REHEARSAL**, Choir Room, Central UMC

7:00 pm **CLERGY/DIACONAL MINISTERS GATHER FOR ROBING**

Central UMC, 2535 West New Hope Road, Rogers

7:30 pm **WORSHIP SERVICE**

Ordination and Commissioning Service

Recognition and Passing of the Mantle

Bishop Charles N. Crutchfield, preaching

Central UMC, 2535 West New Hope Road

Service coordinated Cecilia Kelly & Bd. of Ordained Ministry

9:00 pm **RECEPTION**

for newly ordained Deacons, Elders and Associate Members, Place: Central UMC

Reception coordinated Libby Gray

Page numbers refer to the
Pre Conference Journal.

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— WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17 —

Wednesday agenda times are subject to change based on Tuesday's progress.

BREAKFASTS - Breakfast gatherings, (page 10)

7:00 am **CONCESSION STAND OPENS** {muffins, coffee, juice}

8:00 am **“Prayer and Creative Expression,”** Helen Stegall
Place: Prayer & Spiritual Life Room, (page 6)

9:00 am **CONFERENCE CONTINUES: CALL TO ORDER**

MORNING DEVOTIONAL Ronnie Miller-Yow

Blessing of Phone Cards for UM Chaplains to Distribute Walter Smith

9:20 am **Conference Secretary Announcements** Bob Crossman

- Report from Tuesday's nomination ballots, if needed

- Conference Secretary announcements

- Church of the Year Awards (from last evening's banquet)

9:25 am **NOMINATIONS REPORT #2 and vote**

{Also District Committees} {Any errors in spelling, address,
or phone may be handed to the secretary or chair this afternoon.}

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STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

To recruit a new generation of lay leaders and equip all laity to be providers of ministry in making disciples of Jesus Christ.

9:30 am AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS #1

(WITHOUT ACCEPTANCE SPEECHES)

- Horizon's Stewardship Award by Clif Christopher
- E. Christian Education Certificates by Laverne Keahey
- Recognition by Comm. on Status & Role of Women by Lynn McClure

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

To evangelize and disciple children, youth, and young adults.

9:45 am UM YOUTH (page 68) Jill Kinslow

9:55 am Division on Ministries for Young People Will Green

10:00 am AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS #2

(WITHOUT ACCEPTANCE SPEECHES)

- Lina McCord Scholar by _____

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

To Move from Maintenance Mode to the Mission Mode (Renewing Existing Congregations & Starting New Churches) and To Evangelize and Disciple Children, Youth and Young Adults.

10:10 am EQUITABLE COMPENSATION (page 36) David Moore

10:15 am AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS #3

(WITHOUT ACCEPTANCE SPEECHES)

- Presentation of Widow's Mite Award by Gary Lumsford
- Recognition of our Newest CIC Churches by Mike Roberts
- Denman Evangelism Awards by David Bush and Jack Ewing CEO of Evangelism Foundation

10:30 pm TRUSTEES (page 67) Bill Reed

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

To Expand Participation in Global and Local Mission to Change the World on Behalf of the Kingdom of God.

10:35 am HUNGER TASK FORCE (page 57) Stephen Copley

RUSSIA INITIATIVE Mike Morey

10:40 am BREAK (Refreshments may be purchased at the concession stand)

11:10 am AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS #4

(WITHOUT ACCEPTANCE SPEECHES)

- Jay Lawhon Volunteers in Mission Award by Don Weeks
- Micah Mission Award by Diane Clark Vogler
- Peace with Justice Grant by Susan Ledbetter
- Jim Beal Barnabas Award by Tom Sullinger
- 7th Annual Interfaith Award by Stephen Copley and JJ Galloway

PETITIONS/ RESOLUTIONS

If this process is not completed by Tuesday afternoon, we will continue at this time.

11:25 am CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS Bob Crossman

(if any were removed from the list on Monday morning)

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

(list of Consent Calendar Reports on page 3 of PC Journal.)

Page numbers refer to the Pre Conference Journal.

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(These reports are grouped on pages 49 to 68 of this PC Journal.)

“Bishop, I move that the annual conference receive the Consent Calendar reports as printed in the Pre-Conference Journal.”

11:30 am CONFERENCE FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION REPORT

(pages 19 to 24) Clefton Vaughan

11:55 am Announcement of Annual Conference & Locations and Dates

The 2010 session will be at Hot Springs, June 6-9, 2010

The 2011 session will be at Hot Springs, June 5-8, 2011

The 2012 session will be at Fort Smith, June 9-13, 2012

The Conference Session Planning Committee is looking for additional convention center sites across Arkansas to host our future annual conference sessions.

(The Conference Session Planning Committee sets the location; the Bishop sets the date.)

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MOVING DAY: June 24, 2009 (Set by the Cabinet)

The first Sunday to preach in new appointment is June 28, 2009.

Covering Motion, Reports and Minutes Bob Crossman

“I move that we receive all the reports that have been properly before this session of the annual conference. I further move that the following forty people be empowered to perfect and edit the reports and minutes of this conference session:

Presiding Bishop: Charles N. Crutchfield

Lay Leader: Asa Whitaker

Administrative Services Team Leader: David Orr

Leadership Team Leader: Jeff Standridge

Council on Finance and Admin.: Clefton Vaughn

Assistant Treasurer: Diane Denham

Vice Chair Board Ordained Ministry: Maxine Allen

Executive Registrar B.O.M.: J.J. Whitney

Secretary, Nominations: *LaDonna in North District*

Church and Society Chair: Doni Martin

Secretary, Board of Global Ministries: Ed Wyers

The Nine District Administrative Assistants

Episcopal Secretary to the Bishop: Sheila Vancura

Conference Director of Ministry: Roy P. Smith

Discipleship Team Leader: Steve Pulliam

Review & Research: Buddy Ratliff

Treasurer/Statistician: Todd Burris

Ordained Ministry Chair: Biff Averett

Secretary Board Ordained Ministry: Rose Kuonen

Memoirs Secretary: Carole Teague

Editor, Arkansas Methodist: Heather Hann

Conference Pension Secretary: Mona Williams

The Nine District Superintendents

Conference Secretary: Robert Crossman

Conference Secretary Announcements Bob Crossman

BREAK: We will have a brief break at this point to allow laity and clergy from each appointment time to find seats next to each other.

— ORDER OF THE DAY —

12:15 pm WORSHIP coordinated by Roy Smith

“Called to Ministry” - “Celebration of an Appointment”

READING OF THE APPOINTMENTS Bishop Crutchfield

1:00 pm ADJOURNMENT



Attend these breakfasts, lunches, dinners & special events.

Most events require advance ticket purchase.

*Tickets for events marked with an asterisk**

are conveniently available through the on-line or mail-in registration process.

SUNDAY, June 14

2:30 pm Informal Gathering & Fellowship

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Convention Center Lobby

- Displays and Cokesbury Bookstore
- Concession Stand (Coffee, Soft Drinks, Snacks)

5:00 pm ***Black Methodists for Church Renewal Dinner**
Embassy Suites Ballroom; Cost: \$30, (5:00 to 6:30 pm)
"A New Church For A New Day"
Contact: Jo Webber (501) 375-4895, jwebber63wesley@aol.com

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SUNDAY EVENING, June 14

9:00 pm **Young Adult Coffee House**, Place: Central UMC; Contact Person: Rod Hocott (501) 324-8008

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MONDAY BREAKFASTS, June 15

6:45 am ***Confessing Movement of Arkansas Breakfast**; Place: Embassy Suites Commerce Ballroom, Cost: \$15
Speaker: **Dr. James Heidinger**, President Good News,
Contact: Carolyn Elias (501) 525-2944, CarolynEli@msn.com

7:30 am **Informal Gathering & Fellowship** - Convention Center Lobby

- Displays and Cokesbury Bookstore
- Concession Stand (Coffee, Sweet Rolls)

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MONDAY LUNCHEONS, June 15

12:10 pm ***Retired Clergy Lunch**; Place: Pinnacle Ballroom 1-5, Free for retired pastors, their Spouses, & Surviving Spouses. Cost: \$20 for all others
Contact: Mona Williams (501) 324-8003

12:10 pm ***United Methodist Women's Lunch**; Place: Embassy Suites, Commerce Ballroom, Cost: \$20
Contact: Judy Mattox, jemattox@sbcglobal.net

12:10 pm ***Clergywomen's Lunch**; Place: Convention Center, Pinnacle Ballroom 8, Cost: \$15
Contact & RSVP: J.J. Whitney (501) 450-4590; whitney@hendrix.edu

12:10 pm **Asbury Seminary Alumni & Friends Lunch**
Place: Whole Hog Cafe, 1400 SE Walton Blvd., Bentonville
Guests Welcome; Cost: \$10, (All You Can Eat Buffet)
Contact: Daniel Kirkpatrick (501) 224-6047
RevKirk@hucumc.org

12:10 pm **Saint Paul Seminary Graduates, Students & Friends Lunch**; Place: Copelands of New Orleans
Guest Speaker: **Dr. Myron McCoy**, President
Contact: Leigh Precise, leighp@spst.edu

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MONDAY AFTERNOON, June 15

3:00 pm **Clergy Session Meeting**, Bishop Charles Crutchfield; Place: Ballroom 1 to 4

3:00 pm **Laity Session Meeting**, Asa Whitaker, Conference Lay Leader; Place: Grand Ballroom

3:00 pm **Clergy Spouse Gathering**, Host: Karen Crutchfield
Place: Embassy Suites / Convention Center, Commerce Ballroom
Contact: Libby Gray, lgray@arumc.org

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MONDAY DINNERS, June 15

5:15 pm ***Laity Dinner** Place: Pinnacle Ballroom 1-5, Embassy Suites, Cost: \$31
Contact: Asa Whitaker, alwhitaker@suddenlink.net

5:30 pm **Gen-X/Y Dinner**
Place: The Mad Pizza Company, Cost: \$10, No reservations required.
Contact: Eric VanMeter for directions (870) 219-6255
or astatewesley@yahoo.com

5:30 pm ***Clergy & Laity: Have You Ever Thought of Starting a New Church? Dinner**
Place: Pinnacle Ballroom 8, Cost: \$30 London Broil Steak, Vegetable, Dessert, Coffee, Tea
Contact: Bob Crossman, bcrossman@arumc.org

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TUESDAY MORNING, June 16

6:30 am *5k Walk / Run Special Event Sign Up: When you register on line or by mail.
Contact: Karen Wilson (501) 324-8000

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TUESDAY LUNCHEONS, June 16

12:10 pm *Celebrating God's Missions Luncheon

Place: Convention Center Commerce Ballroom, Cost: \$15
Guest Speaker: Rev. Ed Paup Gen. Sec. of the General Board of Global Ministries. Contact: Diane Vogler, dcvogler@yahoo.com
Spon. by the Sending Team; Bd. of Global Min.; Bd. of Church & Society; Comm. on Christian Unity & Interreligious Concerns; Comm. on Disaster Preparedness & Response; Comm. on Mission Personnel; Comm. Parish & Com. Dev.; and Volunteers in Mission.

12:10 pm *Partners in Ministry, Minister's Spouses Lunch

Place: Central UMC, Rogers, Cost: \$13, Host: Northwest District
For transportation, call Central UMC at (479) 636-1630

12:10 pm *Perkins School of Theology Alumni, Students & Friends Lunch

Place: Convention Center Razorback Room, Cost: \$20, Pork Loin or Vegetarian Meal
Contact: Harriett Akins Banman, hakinsbanman@phumc.com (501) 664-3600

12:10 pm Memphis Theological School Alumni & Friends Lunch

Place: Grace UMC, Cost: \$14, Contact: Carlton Cross (870) 935-4243

12:10 pm *Order of Deacons, Diaconal Ministers & Certified Persons

Place: Rogers, Mercy Hospital, 2710 Rife Medical Lane, Cost: \$11, Contact: Pamela Cicioni.

12:10 pm Candler School of Theology Alumni, Students, & Friends Lunch

Place: Mimi's Cafe, 2105 Promenade, Rogers, (Pay Your Own Way)
Contact: Jessica Durand (870) 230-1307, jessicadurand@hotmail.com

12:10 pm Conference Finance & Administration Members Lunch

Place: Pinnacle Ballroom III, Contact: Todd Burris (501) 324-8004

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TUESDAY EVENING, June 16

5:00 pm *Church Awards & Church of the Year Banquet

Place: Rogers High School, Cost: \$16
Contact: Bennie Harmon (501) 730-0498

9:00 pm Reception for Newly Ordained Deacons, Elders and Associate Members

Place: Central UMC, Rogers
Contact: Libby Gray (501) 324-8000

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WEDNESDAY BREAKFASTS, June 17

7:00 am Duke Univ., School of Theology Alumni, Students & Friends Breakfast

Place: Mimi's Cafe, 2105 Promenade, Rogers
Contact: Todd-Paul Taulbee (870) 265-2289, dukerev@cei.net

7:00 am Phillips Theological Seminary Alumni, Students & Friends Breakfast

Place: Embassy Suites, Cost \$ 11
Contact: Angela Gage (870) 897-4962, pastor.angie@gmail.com

7:00 am *Fellowship of Associate Members & Local Pastors Breakfast

Place: Living Waters UMC in Centerton, AR (a few miles west of Bentonville), Cost: \$10
Contact: Gary Lunsford, glunsford@cox.net

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DAILY PROCEEDINGS "MINUTES"

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE 2009 JOURNAL

**Daily Proceedings of the
Seventh Session of the Arkansas Conference**

Sunday - Wednesday, June 14-17, 2009

Held at Hammons Convention Center & Central UMC of Rogers, Arkansas

Bishop Charles N. Crutchfield, President

Roy Smith, Director of Ministries and Assistant to the Bishop

Robert Owen Crossman, Secretary

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SUNDAY EVENING, JUNE 14, 2009, SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP

The Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion began at 7:30 pm at Central United Methodist Church, Rogers, AR. Carness Vaughn, pastor, welcomed the Conference to Central. Bishop Charles N. Crutchfield called the Conference to order and led in the singing of the traditional opening hymn, "And Are We Yet Alive?" Worship participants were: Edward W. Paup, General Secretary, General Board of Global Ministries, Conference Preacher; Bishop Crutchfield, Celebrant; Kara Wilkins, Wesley Chapel UMC, LR; Dawn Spragg, Central UMC, Rogers; Ryan Rush, First UMC, England; and Ronnie Miller-Yow, Wesley Chapel UMC, LR, Liturgist; Paul Smith, Director of Activities, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, Choral Director; Dennie Palmer, First UMC, Elm Springs, Northwest District Children's Choir Director; Marilyn Lee, Central UMC, Rogers, Organist; Leon Gray and Laity of Central UMC, Rogers, Communion Servers and Ushers. The choir was made up of members from around the state. The service was coordinated by Pat Bodenhamer and Edna Morgan.

Bishop Crutchfield read the names of those clergy and spouses who had died from May 1, 2008 through May 1, 2009. Those remembered were: Ardath K. Anderson, Robert G. Rob Bailey, Katherine Barger, Virgil Bell, Paul M. Bumpers, Maurice F. Burroughs, Mildred Cleary, Janet T. Canada, Julia Frances Dodson, Barbara Dorman, Julia Ernest, Cagle E. Fair, Linda C. Fox, Joe Max Gramling, Glen Keeley Green, Mildred L. McKelvey, JoAnn Miles, Loveila H. Miller, Jeaneane Nipper, Doris Norman, Gerald David Pearce, William "Bert" Powell, Sarah Rodena Richardson, Bettie Riffin, Penny Sherman, Bernice A. Smith, Hazel Vanlandingham.

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MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 15, 2009, GENERAL SESSION

CALL TO ORDER: The morning session was called to order by Bishop Charles N. Crutchfield at 9:00 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Mackey Yokem offered the following opening prayer.

Lord, when the invitation came to pray, someone said to make it brief. But how can we be brief when so much is at stake? There is much before us and if prayer is the forming moment of all that we do, how can we move too quickly with our prayer? There are human moments to consider for once again we are among friends. "What troubles have we seen, what mighty conflicts past, fightings without, and fears within, since we assembled last!" We need to talk about our journeys. We need to attend each other's stories, there are new friends to make and plans to dream, and that cannot be rushed.

Today we celebrate those entering ministry and those leaving active ministry. We will talk of injustice, inequity, hunger and illness in our world and how we might share in healing in near and far away places. Congregations will be recognized for growth and new congregations will be celebrated. There are amendments to be considered, budgets to be set and appointments announced. In the midst of all that, we will hear of places where disciples are being made and worlds transformed, and that cannot be rushed.

What is most disturbing is we may, if we are not careful, miss the whole point of why we have gathered: to talk - to listen - together, to hear what you have to say to us. To lean into essential questions: Who are we? What do you expect of us? How can we measure our success to your expectations? Surely, this cannot be rushed.

In all of the business that will swirl around us in these days, keep us honest and faithful to the task you call us to share with you: making disciples and transforming worlds, and most importantly, keep our conversation "holy" so that we may do good, do no harm, and stay in love with you.

Forgive us for being brief when so much is at stake. But in a simple gesture, we lift each other up with this word: Come Holy Spirit, fill us with your wisdom and compassion and take as much time as you need so that your will may be known through us.

Make our words holy, this time holy, and this place holy. And spare no miracle or power for it to be so. In Jesus name. Amen.

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WELCOME TO ROGERS: Greg Hines of the County Judge's Office, introduced the mayors of Rogers and Bentonville. Steve Womack, Mayor of Rogers, and Robert McCaslin, mayor of Bentonville, welcomed the Conference to the area. Biff Averitt gave the welcome on behalf of the host committee.

ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE:

CONFERENCE SECRETARY:

Bob Crossman, Conference Secretary, led the Conference through the Rules of Order.

BAR OF THE CONFERENCE: The Bar of the Conference shall be the Grand Ballroom of Hammons Convention Center. Members desiring to have voice and vote must be seated within the bar. Color-coded identification ribbons will be given to all voting delegates and shall be worn at all times as an indication of voting privileges. If space allows, visitors and guests will be given the privilege of sitting within the Bar of the Conference on the main floor, but without vote or voice.

AGENDA: The Agenda for the Arkansas Annual Conference meeting June 14-17, 2009, will be the agenda printed in this Pre-Conference Journal, with the provision that it may be adjusted as the need arises.

SECRETARIAL STAFF: Worship Coordinator: Rebecca Boggan; Registrar: Fonda Kirkman; Ticket Table: Trina Russell; Reports Typist: Tammy Garrison; Minutes Typist: Margaret Taverner; Minutes Editor: Aubrietta Jones; Recycling Paper: Rod Hocutt, Coordinator; Photocopy Service: Marcia Crossman, and Glenda Bell; Photography: Heather Hahn; Audio: Kevin Wade; Video & Powerpoint: Patrick Shownes; Daily Digest Editor: Paul Strang; Display Space: Martha Taylor; Child Nursery: Tracy Hillis; Facility and Stage Manager: Rob Walker; Assistant Stage Manager: Gloria Connell; Registration Staff: Volunteers from the Rogers UM Churches and District Administrative Assistants.

FLOOR TELLERS: Head Teller: Danyelle Trexler Dimer
(one from each district, nominated by the district superintendents)

Northwest: Charley Kerr North: Glen Busby South Central: Ted DeWeese
Northeast: Sheila Jones West: Ben Smith Southeast: Cayce Guy
North Central: Polly Hardin Central: Karen Wilson Southwest: Leon Dixon

THE OFFICIAL ROLL: The Official Role will be taken from the registration cards. This information will be used to record names, addresses, and attendance for the 2009 session of the Arkansas Annual Conference.

GENERAL PROCESS: Anyone desiring the floor of the Conference shall be within the Bar of the Conference and upon recognition by the Chair, shall move to a microphone stating name, local church or area of responsibility. All motions, resolutions, reports, or amendments not already submitted shall be submitted in duplicate to the Conference Secretary's desk before the time of presentation. All motions and resolutions made on the floor of Annual Conference shall be legibly written and signed on forms supplied by the Conference Secretary and shall be in the hands of the Secretary and Presiding Officer before any action or vote can be taken by the Conference.

DEBATE: Debate on each motion or resolution shall be limited to three three-minute speeches for the motion or resolution and three three-minute speeches against the same (excluding persons rising for points of order, amendments, or final summations.)

RESOLUTIONS: All resolutions not printed in the Pre-Conference Journal must be distributed in writing to the delegates and lay on the table for 24 hours before being brought back for debate and decision. If the floor resolution calls for a change in the structure or standing rules of the Conference, it must be submitted to a review by the Committee of Review and Research, which will recommend concurrence or non-concurrence.

RESOLUTION PROCEDURE: The procedure for resolutions is set by our Standing Rules. For your convenience, a copy of that procedure is printed on the bottom right-hand side of page 11, and continued on page 12 in this Pre-Conference Journal.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Reports and other items for which no changes are anticipated are placed in the Consent Calendar section of this Pre-Conference Journal. An item so placed may be removed from the Consent Calendar by a petition which has been signed by five voting members of this Conference, and given to the Conference Secretary before 8:00 a.m. on Monday, June 15, 2009. It may be removed only for the purpose of amending or altering the report. The item or report that has been removed from the Consent Calendar will then be worked into the Wednesday morning agenda of the Conference.

HANDOUTS: All items for general distribution shall be prepared and distributed by the sponsoring person or agency at their own expense.

JOURNAL: All reports, budgets, addresses and data for the publication in the 2009 Conference Journal shall be in the hands of the Conference Secretary not later than the close of the Annual Conference session. All material to be published in the Journal, which does not meet this deadline, shall be excluded unless specific permission for delay is granted by the Annual Conference. The Conference Secretary shall be authorized to edit all reports for printing in the Journal. Addresses delivered to the Conference, except for the Episcopal Address and the Conference Lay Leader's Reports, shall not be printed in the Journal unless clear instruction to do so is given by the Annual Conference to the Conference Secretary.

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER: The Annual Conference sessions shall be governed by the Standing Rules (printed in the Pre-Conference Journal); otherwise, Roberts Rules of Order, all of which shall comply with the 2008 Discipline of the United Methodist Church.

TO MAKE A MOTION, TO OBTAIN THE FLOOR

- Send a written copy of your motion to the Conference Secretary through a Floor Teller. Forms are available from the secretary staff tables.
- Raise your hand (perhaps holding your Pre-Conference Journal high will help your hand to be seen.)
- When recognized by the Bishop, go to the nearest microphone.
- Tell us your name, church, and position for the record.
- Make your motion and wait for the Bishop to recognize that it has been seconded.
- Briefly, explain the rationale for your motion.
- Follow the Bishop's directions during any discussion or debate.
- Make sure the Secretary receives a copy of any changes or amendments to your motion.

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VOTING RIGHTS {The following voting rights are consistent with the 2008 Book of Discipline.}

BLACK RIBBON Name Tags, Lay Members and Diaconal Ministers:

"The lay members of the annual conference shall participate in all deliberations and vote upon all measures except on the granting or validation of license, ordination, reception into full conference membership, or any question concerning the character and official conduct of ordained ministers, except those who are lay members of the board of ordained ministry." ¶602.6 The lay members shall vote on the election of lay delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference, but may not vote on the election of ordained ministerial delegates. ¶36.

DARK BLUE RIBBON Name Tags, "Clergy-Full Connection"

Elders in Full Connection and Deacons in Full Connection {active & retired}: "Clergy members in full connection shall have the right to vote on all matters in the annual conference except the election of lay delegates to General and Jurisdictional or Central Conferences and shall have sole responsibility for all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy." ¶602.1.a

LIGHT BLUE RIBBON Name Tags, "Clergy"

a) Probationary, Associate, Retired Associate, Affiliate, Full-time and Part-time Local Pastors under appointment to a pastoral charge: "... shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except Constitutional amendments, election of clergy delegates to the general and jurisdictional or central conferences, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy." ¶602.1b,c,d

b) Elders or Ordained Clergy from other Christian denominations under Annual Conference appointment:

"When the board of ordained ministry certifies that their credentials are at least equal to those of United Methodist elders, they may be accorded the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except the following: (a) constitutional amendments; (b) election of delegates to the general and jurisdiction or central conferences; (c) all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of ministers." ¶346.2

GREEN RIBBON Name tags

a) Student Local Pastors, "They shall have the right to voice, but not vote in the annual conference" ¶341.7 - 2000 Discipline

b) Retired Local Pastors: "Retired local pastors may attend annual conference sessions with voice but not vote." ¶320.5 2004 Discipline

c) Ordained Clergy or Probationary Members from other Annual Conferences or Other Methodist denominations under Annual Conference appointment: "...upon the recommendation of the board of ordained ministry, clergy in such appointments may be granted voice but not vote in the annual conference to which they are appointed." ¶346.1 2004 Discipline

ORANGE Name Tags, "Alternate"

Alternate Lay Members. No privilege of the floor, voice or vote.

PURPLE RIBBON Name tags, "Guest" or "Spouse"

Visitors, Guests, and friends. No privilege of the floor, voice or vote.

MOTION by Bob Crossman: Crossman moved adoption of the rules of order. The conference approved the rules.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS: The consent calendar reports as listed in the Pre-Conference Journal were laid on the table to come before the Conference on Wednesday morning. There were no requests to remove items from the calendar.

ITEMS REQUIRED TO LAY ON THE TABLE OVERNIGHT: Sponsored and unsponsored petitions and resolutions and changes in our structure will lay on the table overnight. Bob Crossman noted the resolution in the Pre-Conference Journal, the proposed Constitutional Amendments, and the report of the Nominating Committee.

COSROW MONITORING ANNOUNCEMENT: Lynn McClure, chairperson of the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, announced that commission members will be monitoring the business sessions and worship services of the annual conference for inclusiveness and participation by gender, ethnicity, clergy, and lay status.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bob Crossman made various announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Lu Harding, Director of Mount Eagle Christian Center, encouraged the attendees to recycle and to use their refillable water bottles, which were in the conference packets received at registration, instead of individual bottles.

THE VISION OF THE ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

**"A church alive in the grace of God, offering Christ, transforming lives,
and changing the world through the power of the Holy Spirit"**

EPISCOPAL ADDRESS: The Bishop expressed his and Karen's pleasure on continuing to serve in the Arkansas Conference. They were given a standing ovation from the Conference. The Bishop delivered the Episcopal Address (see REPORTS).

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STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

To identify, enlist and retain gifted young pastors who are passionate about making disciples for Christ.

ORDAINED MINISTRY REPORT: Louis L. "Biff" Averitt perfected the report (see REPORTS).

MOTION: Rebekah Miles offered the following: "I move that we strike the recommendation in the Board of Ordained Ministry report that would require candidates to pay \$50 toward Psychological Exam."

There was one speech given against the amendment.

The question was called and the vote taken by show of hands. **The Motion FAILED.**

Averitt introduced those to be Commissioned and received into Provisional Membership.

Provisional Membership: Gail Cole Baldwin, Candace Barron, Heath Bradley, Teresa E. Chapman, Robert Blackwell Cloninger, II, Cletus Gregory Comer, Roger Allen Crum, Carter Anderson Ferguson, William Joseph Head, David Duane Hoffman, Benjamin Clark Johnson, Lynn Cross Kilbourne, Robert L. Lyons, Brittany Stanton Richardson, Dawn M. Spragg, Melissa Ross Thomas, Heath Alan Williams, Jeanne M. Williams.

The group was recognized with standing ovation.

Certified Ministry Recognition: Connie Thomas was recognized for her certification by the United Methodist Association of Church Secretaries.

John Wilcher spoke for those in **extension ministry** and introduced Chaplain Scott Schafer, serving in Japan, who brought greetings from those who serve as Chaplains.

Those who are or have been chaplains were asked to stand and were recognized by the Conference.

John Wilcher offered prayer for the 22 members of the Conference who will be on **incapacity leave** in the coming year.

Wilcher introduced those who will retire and the conference recognized them with ovation.

Those to be entered into Associate and Full connection were recognized.

Received as an Associate Member: Gary B. Lunsford

To be Ordained as an Elder and received into Full Connection: John Bradley Elrod, Angela Joan Gage, J. J. Galloway, Charles Dewitt Harper, Susan D.M. Howe, Randall D. Ludwig, Ronnie L. Miller-Yow, Carl Adolphus Ownbey, Jr., J. Beth Perdue, Belinda Pelton Price, Wm. Zachary Roberts, Brian Timmons

To be Ordained as Deacons and received into Full Connection: Helen Stegall, Janice Sudbrink

The Bishop asked the **Historic Questions** of those to be received in full connection.

The vote to grant retirement and to accept those coming into full connection will be taken in the Clergy Session.

BREAK: At 10:37 a.m. the Bishop dismissed the conference until 11:00 a.m.

GATHERING: The Bishop called the Conference back into session at 11:00 am.

RETIREMENT OF CLERGY:

The Service of Worship Recognizing the 2009 Clergy Retirees began at 11:00 a.m. Reverend John Wilcher introduced the 2009 Clergy Retirees and their spouses: Sam and Brenda Albright (39 years), Kit L. and Margie Carson (3 years), N. Wayne and Doris Clark (45 years), Roger E. and Louise Glover (38 years), Robert L. and Carol Hager (29.75 years), Linda Anne and Joe Horton (5.5 years), H. E. "Eddy" and Debbie Howell (8.5 years), James and Peggy Lann (15 years), Dana A. and Martha Thomason (31.25 years), Charles T. and Linda Thompson (29.25 years), William Paul and Paulette Woolley (30.75 years). They were greeted with ovation by the Conference. Each retiree was presented with a Retirement Certificate, Retirement Pin, a plaque of appreciation from the Board of Ordained Ministry and invited to address the conference.

RECESS: Bishop Crutchfield dismissed the Conference for lunch until 2:00 p.m.

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MONDAY AFTERNOON

JUNE 15, 2009

RECONVENE: Bishop Crutchfield called the conference back into session at 2:00 pm.

Jorge Lockward, staff member at the General Board of Global Ministries and coordinator of the Global Praise Project, led the conference in singing to begin the afternoon session.

VISION TEAM REPORT: The Vision Team, led by Roy Smith, presented the report (see REPORTS)

RECOGNITION OF WORSHIP GROWTH: The 227 churches which have shown attendance growth in the past year were recognized. The churches in each of 4 church size categories with the largest increase are listed below.

Our 2008 Growing Churches

The Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church wishes to recognize the top churches in the following four categories who are leading the way in worship attendance growth in 2008.

CATEGORY I: CHURCHES WITH 4 TO 24 IN ATTENDANCE

District	Church Name	Pastor, Dec. 2008	2007	2008	Growth
West	Altus	Alex Flores	14	22	8
North	Valley Springs	David M. Smith	17	24	7
Southeast	Chambersville	Mark Rivers	13	20	7
Northeast	Sedgwick	R. Marilyn Neal	16	22	6
Southeast	Wilmot	Terrie Lynn Bunnell	12	18	6
Southwest	Lakeside-Camden	James E. Harris	12	18	6
Southwest	Valley Grove	James J. Fort	8	14	6

CATEGORY II: CHURCHES WITH 25 TO 49 IN ATTENDANCE

District	Church Name	Pastor, Dec. 2008	2007	2008	Growth
Southwest	Bearden	Andrew Wayne Hughes	19	45	26
North	Shirley	Ruth Ann Landon-Mueller	15	30	15
Central	Sweet Home	Barbara A. Douglas	30	45	15
Southwest	Foreman	Oren K. Golden, Jr.	35	48	13
Northwest	Morrow	John M. Moore	19	32	13
North	Oak Grove	Stephen Waggoner	24	36	12
Southeast	Brasfield	David Swift	39	49	10

CATEGORY III: CHURCHES WITH 50 TO 299 IN ATTENDANCE

District	Church Name	Pastor, Dec. 2008	2007	2008	Growth
West	Clarksville	David Hanshaw	223	280	57
Northwest	Elm Springs	Carl D. Palmer	147	200	53
West	Charleston	Mary Susan Hilliard	113	148	35
Southwest	St Mark, El Dorado	Rebecca Searcy Wiseman	20	50	30
N. Central	Bethlehem	Toby Austin	27	55	28
Central	Wesley Chapel	Ronnie Miller-Yow	123	150	27
N. Central	Lonoke, First	Stephen Brizzi	111	136	25

CATEGORY IV: CHURCHES WITH 300 TO 1,400 IN ATTENDANCE

District	Church Name	Pastor, Dec. 2008	2007	2008	Growth
Northeast	Jonesboro, First	John P. Miles	806	919	113
Northeast	Cornerstone, Jonesboro	Thomas Toombs	430	483	53
South Central	Sardis, Bauxite	John Jeffery Jones	364	412	48
Northeast	Paragould, First	Tom M. Letchworth	366	406	40
Northwest	Bentonville, First	Rex Dickey	520	554	34
Northwest	Central, Rogers	Carness Vaughn	538	569	31
Northwest	Bella Vista, First	David Fleming	376	405	29

RECOGNITION OF APPORTIONMENT SUPPORT:

The 583 churches which had paid at least 100% of apportionments for 2008 were recognized. The following churches were recognized for paying more than more than 100% of their apportionments:

The following churches paid more than 100% of their apportionments:

District	Church Name	Pastor, Dec. 2008	% Paid
Northeast	McElroy	William Joe Head	122
Southwest	Greer's Chapel	James Mark Lasater	112
Southeast	Montrose	Tyrone Hill	112
Central	North Pulaski	Carol S. Goddard	110
North	Mount Pisgah	David Doyle	109

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Northeast	Wood's Chapel	Dan Morrison	107
Southwest	St Mark El Dorado	Rebecca S. Wiseman	102
North Central	Wye Mountain	LaNita Anne Daniels	101
Northeast	Leachville	Beverly Watkins	101
Northeast	Mount Carmel	C. Edward Pruett	101

RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONS OF FAITH:

The 315 churches which received Professions on Faith were recognized. The total number of Professions was 2,114. The churches in each of four church size categories with the largest number of professions are listed below.

The Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church wishes to recognize the top churches in the following four categories who are leading the way in receiving professions of faith in 2008.

CATEGORY I: CHURCHES WITH 4 TO 24 IN ATTENDANCE

District	Church Name	Pastor, Dec. 2008	Number Professions	Average Attendance
North	Oak Ridge	Lavon Bloodworth	5	15
South Central	Pleasant Hill	Vince Crawford	5	15
Central	Hope Korean	Ohyeoun Kim	5	20
South Central	Ebenezer, Tull	Robert E. Turner	4	16

CATEGORY II: CHURCHES WITH 25 TO 49 IN ATTENDANCE

District	Church Name	Pastor, Dec. 2008	Number Professions	Average Attendance
West	Lavaca	Lynn David Strang	14	41
West	Newberry Chapel	Robert M. Jeffery	10	30
Southwest	Lisbon	Ralph Gary Riley	9	43
Northwest	Wesley-Springdale	Ramiro Lizcano	7	46

CATEGORY III: CHURCHES WITH 50 TO 299 IN ATTENDANCE

District	Church Name	Pastor, Dec. 2008	Number Professions	Average Attendance
West	Journey	Rob Williams	91	257
South Central	Mountainside	Chris Hemund	30	219
Southwest	Magnolia First	Walter L. Smith	25	227
Northwest	Farmington	Justin Ledbetter	23	164
South Central	Piney Grove	Robert David Jones	23	298

CATEGORY IV: CHURCHES WITH 300 TO 1,400 IN ATTENDANCE

District	Church Name	Pastor, Dec. 2008	Number Professions	Average Attendance
Northwest	Central Fayetteville	J. Anthony Holifield	126	1,374
Northwest	Springdale First	Britt Skarda	58	915
Central	Pulaski Heights	Victor Nixon	49	917
Central	Saint James, Little Rock	Fred Haustein	42	1,062
North Central	Russellville First	Thomas Frase	38	546

The fact that your congregation witnessed professions of faith in your church last year, is a testimony to your faithfulness to the Great Commission's commandment to "go and make disciples of all nations." Matthew 28:19
 "Well done, good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:21

May God continue to bless your ministry of making new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

RECOGNITION OF NEW CHURCHES: Clergy serving in churches established in the last five years were recognized.

THE STRATEGIC VISION OF THE ARKANSAS CONFERENCE:

Roy Smith spoke on the Vision statement of the Conference, noting that the statement crafted several years ago is still viable today.

Roy Smith introduced Heather Hahn, the new editor of the Arkansas United Methodist, who greeted the conference and expressed her hopes for the continued growth of the paper. She announced that starting in July the paper would change to a once monthly publication that will be included in The United Methodist Reporter, giving readers more local news as well as denominational news. Smith introduced Sarah Wilkie, who is currently the editor of The United Methodist Reporter and will soon be the editor of The Upper Room. She expressed her thanks that the Arkansas United Methodist would now be published by the UM Reporter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Crossman made announcements.

ADJOURNMENT: The business session was adjourned so that the members could attend the Lay & Clergy Sessions. Rodney Steele offered the dismissal prayer.

LAITY ORIENTATION SESSION: The laity session was held in the Grand Ballroom on Monday afternoon beginning at 3 pm.

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CLERGY EXECUTIVE SESSION: An executive session of the clergy was held at the Hammons Convention Center, on Monday afternoon beginning at 3 pm. The report of the Board of Ordained Ministry of the Arkansas Conference, dated June 15, 2009, was approved as corrected. (See Business of the Annual Conference report in section D of this Journal.)



Biff Averitt
Board of Ordained
Ministry Chair



Rose Kuonen
Board of Ordained
Ministry Secretary



Charles N. Crutchfield
Bishop

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MONDAY EVENING JUNE 15, 2009

EVENING WORSHIP: The Monday night worship service began at 7:30 pm Central UMC, Rogers. Worship participants were: Edward W. Paup, whose sermon was titled "When the Giver Becomes the Gift"; Liturgists were Ashley DeVenney of Bentonville First UMC, Tyshon Miller of Hoover UMC in Little Rock, Judd Burns of Beebe First UMC, and Hanna Barton of Conway First UMC. The benediction was given by Bishop Crutchfield. The service was coordinated by Rebecca Boggan and Greg Taylor. Guest Musician and worship leader was Jorge Lockward, staff member at the General Board of Global Ministries and coordinator of the Global Praise Project. Organist was Jonathon Story, Central UMC, Fayetteville.

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TUESDAY MORNING JUNE 16, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Crutchfield called the Conference into session at 9:00 a.m.

OPENING SINGING: A quartet made up of Local Pastors led singing of gospel songs to open the session.

MORNING DEVOTIONAL: J. J. Galloway led the morning devotion. Zachary Roberts offered the opening prayer.

CONFERENCE SECRETARY ANNOUNCEMENTS: Crossman made announcements.

Strategic initiative:

To recruit a new generation of lay leaders and equip all laity to be providers of ministry in making disciples of Jesus Christ.

LAITY ADDRESS: Asa Whitaker, Conference Lay Leader, gave the address (see REPORTS).

RECOGNITION OF CONFERENCE CHANCELLOR: Bishop Crutchfield recognized the years of service of Bill Waddell as General Chancellor to the Conference. His work has been so outstanding that he has been asked to serve as the Chancellor for the Council of Bishops. Bishop Crutchfield introduced Tony Hilliard and Robin Webb, who will serve as Conference Co-Chancellors.

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COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS #1: Jerry Eubanks, chairperson of the Committee on Nominations, presented and made changes to the report. (See REPORTS) Nominations received from the floor were: Russ Breshears for Chairperson of the Committee on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns Trent Hubbard for the Conference Board of Pensions, Class of 2016 The report will be perfected and voted on at Wednesday's session.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: Judy Mattox, Conference UMW President, and Karon Mann, Director of the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Missions, brought the report (see REPORTS). The report was received.

PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE REPORT: Dr. Walter Kimbrough, President of Philander Smith, brought the report (see REPORTS). He outlined some of the advances made at the college during the last year. The report was received with gratitude.

HENDRIX COLLEGE YOUTH MINISTER OF THE YEAR: Wayne Clark brought greetings from Dr. Timothy Cloyd, President of Hendrix College, who was unable to attend. Clark introduced Kate Robinson and Chase Green, who spoke on their experiences at Hendrix. J. J. Whitney announced the 2009 recipient of the Hendrix College Youth Minister of the Year award, Ruth Carter, Director of Children and Youth at First United Methodist Church of Marianna. The report was received.

LYDIA PATTERSON INSTITUTE: President Socorro DeAnda, brought greetings from Lydia Patterson. She reported that this year 72 students graduated, 70 of whom have been accepted into a college or university. On graduation night, students received \$1.3 million in scholarships from United Methodist Churches. President De Anda thanked the Conference for their support.

MOUNT SEQUOYAH CONFERENCE CENTER: John & Sheri Altland presented the report (see REPORTS).

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Crossman made announcements

BREAK: The conference was dismissed for a 15 minute break at 11:00

RECONVENE: The Bishop brought the conference back to order at 11:15 am

INTRODUCTION: Jim Argue, Chairman on the United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas, announced the hiring of Clarence Trice, a member of Trinity UMC, as Chief Financial Officer of the Foundation.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

To emphasize the importance of self-care for clergy, staff, and laity and to facilitate intentional health ministries for body, mind and spirit in and through our churches.

GROUP INSURANCE: Chris Newell presented the report (see REPORT). Newell noted problems confronting the insurance program. The report was received.

MOTION: A motion was offered by David Orr.

Motion to Change In reference to: Committee on Group Insurance Arkansas Conference

WHEREAS: The Committee on Group Insurance is a valued and trusted committee of the Arkansas Conference; and,

WHEREAS: Those insured under the Group Insurance are grateful and indebted to the Committee for their diligent and capable service; and,

WHEREAS: The Annual Conference is the owner of the Health Insurance Plan; and,

WHEREAS: The owner of the Plan, the Annual Conference, determines the components of the Plan (i.e.

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coverage, deductibles, eligibility, etc.), making the floor of the Annual Conference the appropriate place for changes in the Plan to be openly and fairly discussed.

THEREFORE: I make the following motion to change:

By Deletion

Refer to the 2008 Arkansas Conference Journal p. 285, Conference Committee on Group Insurance report. In the third paragraph, delete sentences 3ff of the paragraph (begins with "Implied consent").

By Addition

Refer to the 2008 Arkansas Conference Journal p. 288, continuation of the Insurance report. Add the following as new #2, #3, and #4 to follow #1.E.3:

2) The Committee brings proposed Plan changes to the floor of the Annual Conference for action a. Proposed changes will include projections of cost.

3) Proposed changes to the Plan may be made by members of the Annual Conference.

a. Recognizing that changes to the Plan may produce premium increase/decrease results, the Committee will be informed of proposed changes 60 days before Annual Conference in order to study the proposal and to bring accurate information to cost and other implications of a proposed change.

4) The Committee furnishes premium rate recommendations for the fiscal year to the Bishop and Cabinet. Upon agreement between the Committee, the Bishop and Cabinet, the Committee informs the premium paying units of the rates by October 15th each year.

5) As a member of the Administrative Services Team (Arkansas Conference Structure), the Chairperson of the Committee provides timely updated information to the Administrative Services Team Leader on matters of claim utilization, efficiency of the TPA, and potential changes to the Conference Group Insurance Plan. The Team Leader keeps the Vision Team informed.

MOTION: A motion was made by David Wilson: "I move that David Orr's motion re: Group Insurance be referred to CFA, Pensions, and the Insurance Committee and that a report be given to the 2010 session of A.C." Motion **CARRIED.**

MOTION TO AMEND GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE REPORT: A motion to amend was made by Donna Alberts. "Amend Conference Group Medical Monthly Premium to remain the same as paid in 2008. (page 30 – lines 63-65) Reasoning – the "Out-of-Pocket" expense limit is to be raised from \$4,000 to \$8,000. If the benefits are to be cut to reduce the cost to the Conference, then the cost to the churches should not be raised."

This would have financial implications and must be referred to CF&A for consideration.

PENSION: Bill Shirron presented and perfected the report (see REPORTS). The report was received.

RECESS: The Conference was in recess for lunch till 2:00 pm. Blake Bradford offered a prayer of dismissal.

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TUESDAY AFTERNOON
JUNE 16, 2009

RECONVENED: The Bishop called the Conference back to order at 2:00 pm. Rebecca Boggan led the singing of "Spirit Song."

FOUR AREAS OF FOCUS: Four areas express the vision and yearnings of the people of the United Methodist Church. Over the next four years, the church will seek to focus the work of making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world around these areas of ministry.

Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world.

HOLY HEALTHY: www.HolyHealthyUMC.com: Bob Burton presented the report see (Reports). A video highlighting the program was shown. Burton moved the adoption of the report. Representatives of the 51 churches which received Holy Healthy Church Awards were asked to stand and be recognized by the Conference. The report was received.

Creating new places for new people and revitalizing existing congregations

RETHINK CHURCH: Martha Taylor, Conference Director of Communications, introduced Dr. Ken Sloan, Director of Communications Ministry at United Methodist Communications in Nashville. Sloan outlined the Rethink Church campaign.

NEW CHURCH PASTORS: Bob Crossman introduced pastors of new church starts.

CATCH THE VISION: This annual offering provides funds for new church starts and church revitalization. Will Choate, pastor of Argenta UMC, a new church start, addressed the Conference on the need for looking at church in new ways and being willing to change.

Engaging in ministry with the poor

VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION TRIPS AND RICE & BEANS MINISTRY: A video was shown on the building of a church in Costa Rica, which has been a project of Conference VIM teams for several years, and Rice & Beans Ministry, a ministry sharing food with those in need.

Don Weeks, Conference VIM coordinator, introduced Daniel Trowbridge, from Costa Rica, who had served as interpreter for the VIM group and is interested in attending Hendrix College.

Smith asked attendees to turn to each other in groups of three to pray, asking God "How are you calling me? Who are those in need in our midst?" He then asked them to think of ideas they might be called to do.

Combating the diseases of poverty by improving health globally

3-for-1 CHALLENGE: David Freeman introduced a program to fight the three diseases of /aids/HIV, malaria and tuberculosis, which are leading causes of poverty worldwide. This is a three year commitment asking churches to give \$3 per member over the course of the three years to fight these diseases.

BREAK: A three minute standing stretch break was declared.

ITEMS TO BE TAKEN "OFF THE TABLE" FROM MONDAY:

PROPOSED STRUCTURE CHANGES: Buddy Ratliff moved adoption of the statement indicating that our structure is in compliance with the Discipline of the United Methodist Church. The Conference adopted the statement.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS FROM GENERAL CONFERENCE: Rodney Steele, head of the General Conference delegation, presented the Proposed amendments from the 2008 General Conference.

Clergy in Full Connection and Lay Members from Local Churches, were given Ballots and #2 lead pencils. The amendments were grouped as to subject and debated and voted on individually. There was lengthy discussion on some amendments. The process was halted at 5:00 pm to allow the banquets and Ordination Service to proceed as scheduled. The remainder of the items will be voted on in the morning.

CONFERENCE SECRETARY ANNOUNCEMENTS: Crossman made announcements

RECESS: The conference was recessed for dinner and Worship Service of Ordination and Commissioning at

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†††
TUESDAY EVENING
JUNE 16, 2009

SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION: The service of Worship for Commissioning and Ordination began at 7:30 pm at Central UMC, Rogers. Participating Bishops were Charles N. Crutchfield, Bishop of the Arkansas Conference, presiding and preaching, and Bishop Felton May. The Northwest Arkansas Conference Choir provided music leadership. Organist was Kerry Johnston, First United Methodist Church, Springdale. Choir Director was Paul Smith, Director of Choral Activities, John Brown University, Siloam Springs. Worship Coordinators were the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry Subcommittee, Cecilia Kelly, Chair, Lu Harding, Rose Kuonen, Les Oliver, Rodney Steele and J. J. Whitney.

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WEDNESDAY MORNING
JUNE 17, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Crutchfield called the conference to order at 9:00 a.m.

MORNING DEVOTIONAL: Rebecca Boggan led the singing of “When the Saints Go Marching In”, complete with trumpet, hand clapping, and New Orleans style hankie waving. The opening prayer was offered by Beth Perdue. Maxine Allen read the scripture, Mark 2: 1-5. The morning devotion was led by Ronnie Miller-Yow.

BLESSING OF PHONE CARDS: Col. Walter Smith presented the report on the phone cards to be distributed to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, which were available for purchase during the Conference. In the past two days, those attending Annual Conference donated more than \$1,500 to the United Methodist Endorsing Agency phone-card program, providing more than 3,600 free minutes for military personnel to contact their families and loved ones. The cards were brought forward and blessed.

PRESENTATION TO THE BISHOP: On behalf of Ron Clark, Rodney Steele presented Bishop Crutchfield with an Arkansas license plate that reads “BISHOP”.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS FROM GENERAL CONFERENCE CONTINUED: Voting on the remaining Constitutional amendments continued. Those who were ordained into full connection last night were allowed to vote on the Amendments being considered this morning, but not those considered yesterday. The amendments were debated and voted on individually. There was lengthy discussion on some amendments. At the conclusion of the voting the ballots were collected and read electronically. The results will be announced before the Conference recesses if possible. The ballot was declared closed.

PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION #1: “Concerning the General Board of Church and Society” submitted by Rev. Bob Sanders, Manchester UMC and Friendship UMC, South Central District.

MOTION TO AMEND: Cheryl J. Baker, FUMC Rogers, offered the following amendment:

I move to amend Resolution #1 to read: THEREFORE be it resolved that we urge GBCS to focus on Gospel-centered issues that would unite our church.

Changed – add period (.) after “church”. Strike comma and all following.

Phrase to be struck: “, such as affirming marriage and families, defending human life, speaking out for persecuted Christians around the world, espousing virtuous living and a virtuous society, and advocating ministries that help the poor, the homeless, and the sick”

The Amendment PASSED.

The main motion as amended **FAILED**.

OUTDOOR MINISTRY RECOMMENDATIONS: David Fleming gave the report. He noted that this is the 50 year anniversary of the opening of Shoal Creek Camp and recognized Herschel McClurkin, who was the first

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director of Shoal Creek. McClurkin presented commemorative T-shirts to the Bishop. All those who had been involved in camping at Shoal Creek were asked to stand.

Fleming moved that the Conference rescind the Standards for Camping and Retreat Centers adopted in 2006 and that all camps move toward accreditation through the American Camp Association. The motion **PASSED**.

TANAKO BY-LAWS AND ARTICLES: The committee preparing the by-laws realized that changes still need to be made and the perfected report will be presented at the 2010 Annual Conference. The proposed Tanako by-laws and articles printed in the pre-conference journal were withdrawn from consideration, without any action being taken.

NOMINATIONS REPORT #2: The amended Nominations report was considered.

There were two withdrawals: Russ Breshears for Chairperson of the Committee on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns

Trent Hubbard for the Conference Board of Pensions, Class of 2016

Nominations were made from the floor: To the Commission on Communications: Rod Rodimick and Veda Gunter. Both were accepted.

Editorial change: Committee on Status and Role of Women, remove J.J. Galloway and replace with Love Loftis. The report as amended was accepted.

Strategic initiative:

To recruit a new generation of lay leaders and equip all laity to be providers of ministry in making disciples of Jesus Christ.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS #1:

7TH ANNUAL HORIZONS STEWARDSHIP AWARD: On behalf of Horizons Stewardship Inc., Clif Christopher presented a gift of \$1,500 to Karen Crutchfield for the Congo Well project. A check for \$1,500 for the Central Conference Pension Fund was also pledged. The Horizon Stewardship Award was presented to Chris Cooper, First UMC, Blytheville, for his outstanding leadership in increasing giving to the operating fund of FUMC Blytheville.

The Bishop announced that with the gift from Horizons and the bids received on the paintings donated for sale to benefit the project, a total of \$7,000 has been raised for the Congo Well Project at this session of the Annual Conference.

E. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CERTIFICATES: Cecilia Kelly announced the names of those who had completed the Basic course this year. They are: Leann Freeman, Lakewood, NLR; Cissy Green, First UMC, Beebe; Jessie Griffon, First UMC, NLR; Shannon May, First UMC, Jonesboro; Ellen Pollack, First UMC, Jonesboro, who was present at Conference and was recognized.

RECOGNITION BY THE COMMISSION ON STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN: Lynn McClure presented the COSROW award to John Miles, Sr. and the late Joan Miles for their work in encouragement and empowerment of women.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

To evangelize and disciple children, youth and young adults.

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH REPORT: Jill Kinslow, Conference Council on Youth Ministries president, spoke on the activities and events of the Arkansas Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM). She announced that the Youth Service Fund raised over \$ 10,700, which was distributed through grants to churches and a donation to Nothing But Nets. She announced that Brandon Bates will resign as Conference

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Council on Youth Ministries Coordinator this summer. Michelle Moore of First UMC, Conway, will serve in that position. Her report was warmly received by the Conference.

BREAK: The Bishop called a 10 minute break.

RECOGNITION OF THE CHURCH OF THE YEAR AWARDS: Bob Burnham asked all those who were District Churches of the year to stand and be recognized by the Conference. He then announced the Conference Church of the Year winners. **Those named as District Church of the Year were:**

Category I

New Haven UMC, Little Rock, Central District, Norma Gillerson, pastor
Quitman UMC, Quitman, North District, David Caswell, pastor
Chickalah UMC, Chickalah, North Central District, Larry Johnson, pastor
Wilson Chapel UMC, Warren, Southeast District, L. T. Marks, pastor
Sedgwick UMC, Walnut Ridge, Northeast District, Marilyn Neal, pastor
L'Eau Fraiz UMC, Hot Springs, South Central District, Dale Diffie, pastor
Newberry Chapel UMC, Alma, West District, Robert M. Jeffery, Jr., pastor
Richmond UMC, Ashdown, Southwest District, Jim Cross, pastor
Betel UMC, Springdale, Northwest District, Ramiro Lizcano, pastor

Category II

Shiloh UMC, Paragould, Northeast District, Larry Hughes, pastor
Brightwater Memorial UMC, Pea Ridge, Northwest District, Matt Daniels, pastor
First UMC, Prescott, Southwest District, Carlton N. Cross, pastor
Mt. Olive UMC, Van Buren, West District, Barry D. Morton, pastor
Oaklawn UMC, Hot Springs, South Central District, Bonda Moyer, pastor
St. Luke UMC, Pine Bluff, Southeast District, James Conn, pastor
Pottsville UMC, Pottsville, North Central District, Millie Bryant, pastor
Clinton UMC, Clinton, North District, Vaughn Marsden, pastor
Oak Forest UMC, Little Rock, Central District, Russ Breshears, pastor, Amanda Moore, Associate

Category III

First UMC, Blytheville, Northeast District, Chris Cooper, pastor, Missy Langston, Associate
Elm Springs UMC, Elm Springs, Northwest District, Carl D. Palmer, pastor
First UMC, Monticello, Southeast District, Bill Eason, pastor
First UMC, Magnolia, Southwest District, Walter Smith, pastor
First UMC, Clarksville, West District, David R. Hanshaw, pastor, Carter Ferguson, associate
First UMC, Mountain View, North District, Steve Johnson, pastor
Grand Avenue UMC, Hot Springs, South Central District, Pam Estes, pastor
Mabelvale UMC, Little Rock, Central District, Bob Marble, pastor

Category IV

St. James UMC, Little Rock, Central District, Fred Haustein, pastor, John Embry, Gregory Schick,
Jenni L. Duncan, Bill Sardin, Hank Atkins, associates
Cabot UMC, Cabot, North Central, Stephen Coburn, pastor
Piney Grove UMC, Hot Springs, South Central District, David Jones, pastor
First UMC, Jonesboro, Northeast District, John Miles II, pastor, Scott Gallimore, Patty Soward, associates
First UMC, Mt. Home, North District, Siegfried Johnson, pastor, Randy Ludwig, associate
First UMC, Springdale, Northwest District, Britt Skarda, pastor, David C. Freeman,
Judy S. Van Hoose, Mike I. Felder, associates

Conference Church of the Year Award winners were:

Category 1: L'Eau Fraiz UMC, Hot Springs, South Central District, Dale Diffie, pastor

Category 2: Pottsville UMC, Pottsville, North Central District, Millie Bryant, pastor

Category 3: Elm Springs UMC, Elm Springs, Northwest District, Carl D. Palmer, pastor

Category 4: First UMC, Jonesboro, Northeast District, John Miles II, pastor, Scott Gallimore, Patty Soward, associates

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STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

To move from Maintenance Mode to the Mission Mode
(Renewing Existing Congregations and Starting New Churches)
And to Evangelize and Disciple Children, Youth and Young Adults

EQUITABLE COMPENSATION REPORT: David Moore highlighted items from the report (see REPORTS). The report was adopted.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS #3:

WIDOW'S MITE AWARD: This award is presented each year by the Arkansas Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors to the small church which best represents the ideal of the giving spirit of the widow who gave "*everything she had, all she had to live on.*" (Mark 12:41-44) Gary Lunsford presented the 2009 Widow's Mite Award to Mt. Zion UMC, Carla Thompson, pastor.

RECOGNITION OF CONNECTED IN CHRIST CHURCHES: Michael Roberts recognized churches associated with Connected In Christ in the Arkansas Conference. Roberts asked all pastors and laity who had participated in CIC to stand for recognition.

PRESENTATION OF DENMAN EVANGELISM AWARD: Daniel Bush introduced Dr. John L. Ewing, Executive Director of the Foundation for Evangelism in Lake Junaluska, N.C., who spoke on the work of the Foundation. Through the financial support of Bob & Nadine Miller of Ft. Smith, over \$250,000 in grants were awarded in 2008. Ewing announced the winner of the Youth Denman Award: Jared Waylon Guinn, Sardis UMC. The Laity Award winners were Jerry & Amy Buckingham, Cherokee Village UMC. The 2009 Clergy winner was Rev. Carlton Cross.

BALLOT REPORT:

The report of voting for the Constitutional Amendments was reported:

<u>Amendment</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Yes</u>
1	196	363*
2	170	395*
3	142	418*
4	102	460*
5	142	420*
6	248	314*
7	150	413*
8	432*	135
9	429*	139
10	135	422*
11	144	414*
12	146	415*
13	95	462*
14	147	412*
15	377*	189
16	147	412*
17	334*	230
18	149	412*
19	484*	81
20	149	413*
21	151	407*
22	479*	86
23	119	440*

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24	143	416*
25	149	411*
26	136	424*
27	145	411*
28	146	413*
29	144	415*
30	147	412*
31	146	412*
32	145	414*

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

To Expand Participation in Global and Local Mission to Change the World on Behalf of the Kingdom of God

REPORT OF THE HUNGER TASK FORCE: Steve Copley gave the report (see REPORTS). He named the 14 churches that received Change for Change grants of \$500 each.

RUSSIA INITIATIVE: Mike Morey presented the report (see REPORTS). He presented a slide show on mission work in Russia, past and present. The report was received by the Conference.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS #4:

JAY LAWHON VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION AWARD: Roy Smith presented the Jay Lawhon Volunteers in Mission Award to Gwen Efird.

MICAH MISSION AWARD: Diane Clark Vogler introduced the award, which recognizes local churches that exhibit outstanding leadership and support of second-mile giving. This year's awards were presented to Shorewood Hills UMC, Malvern, Bob Clark, pastor; First UMC, Jacksonville, Mark McDonald, pastor; First UMC, Springdale, Britt Skarda, pastor. Each of these churches paid 100% of their apportionments in addition to other mission and service to their communities. The report was received.

PEACE WITH JUSTICE GRANT AWARD: Susan Ledbetter presented the awards. Grant recipients for 2009 are: Arkansas Tech Wesley Foundation Age-to-Age program; Shepherd Center of Beebe; Think Justice: Empowering African American Men at Philander Smith College; Conway Cradle Care; Pioneer Club of Hamburg; Madres de ninos of DeWitt; the Charter for Racial Justice 2 day workshop in the West District.

JIM BEAL BARNABAS AWARD: Maxine Allen presented the Barnabas Award for 2009, which is given in recognition of efforts as an encourager of persons in the ministry, to Joe Jerry Nichols.

7TH ANNUAL INTERFAITH AWARD: Stephen Copley presented the church award to Quapaw Quarter UMC. The individual award was presented to Bishop Ken Hicks

CF&A RESPONSE TO ALBERTS MOTION: The motion to amend the Insurance report made by Donna Alberts on Tuesday was reviewed by CF&A. The motion to hold the insurance premiums at 2008 levels was made on information in the Pre-Conference Journal which was incorrect. There will no change in the out of pocket expenses. The maker of the motion did not wish to withdraw the motion. The motion FAILED.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS: As no items had been removed from the calendar, Bob Crossman moved acceptance of the Consent Calendar; seconded. The Calendar was accepted.

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: Clefton Vaughan perfected the report (see REPORTS).

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The District Superintendents have asked that their salaries be returned to 2008 levels. This plus other cost cutting measures resulted in a 2010 budget that is 3.34% less than in 2009. The decimal needed to fund this budget is less than the 10% of the Financial Considerations of the local churches mandated by the constitution. Adoption of the budget as presented will require a suspension of the rules.

Cleifton Vaughan's verbal CFA report:

"The 2008 Annual Conference referred a resolution to CF&A regarding pastor's moving expense. The council found that the amount paid in reimbursement for moving costs was extremely low. However, we did not feel that this year was the appropriate time to increase the conference budget. CFA is recommending the 3-year plan found on the bottom of page 21 of your Pre-Conference Journal.

The council would like to call attention to a change made by the 2008 General Conference. Paragraph 258-4-d calls for the local church finance committee to make provisions for an annual audit. This is not new, but further language was added to define what constitutes an audit. Provisions were also added that require the audit, along with a copy of the churches internal controls, be included in the charge conference report. We know many churches do not currently have written internal controls. We cannot stress enough the importance of the creation and use of these documents. You can find a sample policies and procedures manual on our website or by contacting the Conference Finance Office.

There has been a lot of discussion regarding how the economic downturn of 2008 has affected your pension funds. The Pre-1982 fund had reached 113% funding status at the start of 2008, at the end of 2008 that funding status had shrunk to 79%. While we have until 2021 to get back to our 100% funded status, annual payments will be required starting at the end of 2011. The amount of extra funding is subject to market changes as well as actuarial gains and losses, but could be as much an extra 1.4 million dollars. The defined benefit portion of the CRSP plan is also in arrears, but the deficit is considerable less. The Conference Board of Pensions plans to fund as much as they can out of their roughly \$5 million in reserves, but we feel that an increase in the Pension budget will be inevitable.

According to the rules of the conference, funding for Ministries Beyond the Local Church shall be set at 10% of the total financial consideration items reported on the 2008 year-end statistics. That figure was \$69,845,480 – therefore the total ministries beyond the local church budget should be 6,984,548. That figure represents a 0.66% increase over the 2009 budget. When the first proposed budget was developed, CF&A deliberated carefully and the CF&A felt that figure was in excess of what the churches in the conference should be asked to fund. Many churches were forced to reduce their budgets by cutting programs and personnel in 2009. Therefore CF&A asked all of the conference committees to reconsider their budget requests and find more areas to reduce those requests.

To help committees lower their budget CF&A is requesting a reduction in the mileage rate. This can be found on the top of page 21 in your Pre-Conference Journal. The new rate would be 50% of the IRS standard mileage rate for conference volunteers and 80% of the standard mileage rate for employees of the Conference.

The District Superintendents have requested their salary be reduced to the 2008 level. This reduction in salary combined with the reduction in the mileage rate represents a savings to the conference budget of nearly \$35,000 and we should acknowledge their personal sacrifice.

The 2006 Arkansas Annual Conference passed a resolution to develop a plan to equalize the funding of our two United Methodist Colleges by 2010. The funding plan had called for each institution's budget to be set at \$350,000 in 2010. However that plan was based on a projection of better economic times than we are currently in. Therefore we are equalizing the amount given to Hendrix College and Philander Smith College at \$320,000 each.

As you can see, nearly all of the budgets that are set by this conference show a reduction. Many of these are reduced by 10% or greater. While these cuts were not easy. Many new programs were postponed for another year. Salaries for conference staff have been frozen. All in all this represents

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a 6% reduction of all the budgets excluding General and Jurisdictional Apportionments and Conference Pension funds - and a 3.34% decrease of the bottom line.

In order for these reductions in the conference budget to be passed on as reduced apportionments to local church, we must make a change to our standing rules. Item "4-b" on page 490 of the 2008 Arkansas Conference Journal states: "... The amount of money apportioned by the Annual Conference for Ministries Beyond the Local Church would be determined by a 10% tithe of the "financial considerations" spent by the churches. Therefore we move that for the 2010 apportionment calculation, the 10% tithe be reduced to 9.4%."

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: Clefton Vaughan made a motion that we suspend the rules for one year, allowing the CFA to present a 2010 budget that is lower than the structure requires. The Conference voted to suspend the rules. The budget was adopted.

WHERE SHALL THE 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE BE HELD?

The 2010 session will be at Hot Springs Convention Center, June 6-9, 2010

The 2011 session will be at Hot Springs Convention Center, June 5-8, 2011

The 2012 session will be at Fort Smith, June 9-13, 2012

The Conference Session Planning Committee is looking for additional convention center sites across Arkansas to host our future Annual Conference sessions. *{The Conference Session Planning Committee sets the location; the Bishop sets the date.}*

WHEN SHALL MOVING DAY BE?

Bishop Crutchfield announced that moving day shall be June 24, 2009. *(Date set by the cabinet.)*

The first Sunday to preach in a new appointment is June 28, 2009.

COVERING MOTION: Bob Crossman: "I move that we receive all the reports that have been properly before this session of the Annual Conference. I further move that the following 40 persons be empowered to perfect and edit the reports and minutes of this conference session." Crossman read a list of the persons who would receive a proof copy of the Journal.

The motion was seconded. The Motion CARRIED.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE: A request was made that those involved in the Lay Speaking Ministry in the Conference be recognized. All those who are or have been Lay Speakers were asked to stand and were greeted with applause.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Crossman made various announcements and prayer requests.

BREAK: The Bishop dismissed the conference for a 5 minute break to allow persons to sit with their pastor for the Celebration of Appointment.

A CELEBRATION OF AN APPOINTMENT AND BEING IN MINISTRY TOGETHER: The Bishop read the Appointments for the 2009-10 Conference year. The reading was followed by the traditional singing of "A Charge to Keep I Have".

CLOSING PRAYER: Bobby Bell offered closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT: The Conference was adjourned at 1:08 p.m.





John Miles II, senior pastor of First UMC in Jonesboro, voices his objections to proposed amendments dealing with the worldwide nature of the United Methodist Church.



Pam Estes, senior pastor of Grand Avenue UMC in Hot Springs, voices her support for the proposed amendments dealing with the worldwide nature of the church.