

VIII. DAILY PROCEEDINGS

SUNDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING

June 5, 2011

Laity Session

St. Paul United Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas, 3:30 p.m.

The laity session of The North Texas Conference was held at St. Paul United Methodist Church, Dallas. Conference Lay Leader, Richard Hearne, welcomed the lay members of annual conference and opened the session with prayer.

Thalia Matherson served as mistress of ceremony, and the agenda included 3-minute speeches by those persons running for the General Conference delegation.

The closing prayer was offered by Leslie Bledsoe, wife of Bishop Bledsoe and first lady of the annual conference.

Clergy Session

Munger Place United Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas, 3:30 p.m.

The North Texas Conference clergy gathered at Munger Place United Methodist Church, Dallas, and Bishop Bledsoe called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. Munger's worship leader Kate Miner and the band and choir at Munger led clergy in singing familiar hymns in a way they had never sung before. It was rousing, hand-clapping, and ended with Miner's own style of "And Are We Yet Alive?"

Paul Rasmussen welcomed everyone to Munger Place, and was interrupted by himself on video to demonstrate how both the old and the new are incorporated at Munger Place. He thanked the Bishop for believing in the transformation and Highland Park UMC for investing in it. He then showed a video demonstrating who Munger Place is today and called on Andrew Forrest to pray.

Bishop Bledsoe welcomed everyone and recognized Bishop John Innis of Liberia. He thanked Munger, Paul, and Andrew for making the long journey, and for taking the Lord Jesus Christ seriously. He then called on Gary Mueller, chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, for the Board's report. (Note: The details of the complete report can be found in Section X. BUSINESS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.)

The chairperson thanked the members of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the members of all the District Committees on Ordained Ministry, Duane VanGiesen, Karen Karch, and Janet Thompson. Mueller said that the board is constantly striving to improve, working more closely with districts, and working to shift the interview process toward fruitfulness as well as recruit younger, more diverse candidates.

Gary Mueller and the committee heads of the Board of Ordained Ministry walked the session through the reporting structure having to do with all matters of the clergy, as prescribed by the General Conference.

Jill Jackson-Sears, candidacy registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry, noted that the names of those who were certified candidates for ministry, question 19, were printed in the handout document and asked that any corrections to the list be submitted in writing.

James Minor, chair of the Committee on Certifications, presented those in specialized ministry.

Mike Miller, chair of the Local Pastors Division, presented the names of local pastors in answer to questions 20 – 23. The names, part-time and full-time, were approved unanimously. Mueller provided information concerning Local Pastors' eligibility to vote for General and Jurisdictional Conference delegates.

Larry George, Assistant to the Bishop, presented the names of those appointed from other conferences and other Christian denominations as well as associate members and elders serving less than $\frac{3}{4}$ time. The names were approved unanimously.

Dennis Wilkinson, chair of Conference Relations, reported on all changes in clergy persons' relationships to the conference. The names of the clergy members who had died since the last conference session were read. Wilkinson announced that Jim Palmer, whose death was recent, would be memorialized in 2012 and that Kenneth Shamblin, who served the North Texas conference for many years, would be recognized in Tuesday's Memorial service. Bishop Bledsoe asked Bill Lawrence to lead a memorial prayer. (See also Memorial Service in Section VIII. DAILY PROCEEDINGS for Tuesday, June 7, and Section XIV. MEMORIALS.)

Wilkinson read the names of the clergy retiring this year, and each came forward. They were honored with applause and Bishop Bledsoe shook the hand of each retiree.

Mike Miller read the names of all local pastors retiring this year, and invited each to come forward. They were honored with applause and Bishop Bledsoe shook the hand of each.

Gary Mueller presented paragraph 361.1c, who have been suspended, and the dates of suspension. He then asked who are the ordained members on involuntary leave of absence. Bishop Bledsoe invited Derrick Wright to speak. He did, and with Ron Henderson standing with him, he thanked the Annual Conference. Motion to grant involuntary leave of absence for a year passed.

Todd Harris, chair of the Committee on Preparations and Qualifications, presented to the clergy session the candidates for provisional membership and commissioning. Harris said that for some, the process takes a long time, but the Committee on Preparations and Qualifications is always prayerful. The candidates came and stood before the Bishop and each received a favorable vote by the membership.

Patricia Miller Froehlich, Georgia McDowell Harrison, Elizabeth Ethun Moseley, and Rebecca David Walker were presented for provisional membership and commissioning for the ministry of deacon in preparation for ordination.

The following were presented for provisional membership and commissioning in preparation for ordination on the elder track: Dennis Lynn Cates, Stephen Joel Cotton, and John Jordan Wilks.

The following persons were presented for election into full membership and ordination: As a deacon: Janet Lynn Collinsworth, Paul Robert Maletic, Susan Gorham Robb; as elders: John Dixon Baldwin, Jay Frederick Cousino, Wendy Gale Curran, Christopher John Everson, Aleze Michelle Fulbright, Abril Celeste Goforth, Holly Beth Gotelli, David Morgan Lessner, Monty Lyn Moore, Stacey Lynn Piyakhun, Edilson de Assis Volfe, Preston Wayne Weaver, Jackie Lynn Wickware,

and Jessica Kay Wright. Bishop Bledsoe asked these persons the historical questions originating with John Wesley and then the vote was taken. All were approved and greeted with an extended standing ovation by the pastors.

Gary Mueller called for reports from Andy Stoker, who explained the new structure of scholarships for seminary students, granting more money for more decades of potential service; Maxie Moore, Fellowship of Local Pastors, who expressed appreciation that local pastors would be able to vote for delegates; Debbie Chapman, Order of Deacons; and Lisa Greenwood, Order of Elders, who announced the 2011 Clergy Retreat as October 17-19 and encouraged all to attend.

Gary Mueller moved passage of the entire report of the Board of Ordained Ministry and it was approved.

To conclude the meeting Bishop Bledsoe offered a word of thanks to the clergy and encouraged them to keep the light of Christ shining as the conference moves ahead. Bishop Bledsoe offered a blessing of the summer interns and the congregation recognized the interns as ambassadors of Christ and representatives of the North Texas Annual Conference. He said that he was looking forward to this Annual Conference and to changes that will energize. He then asked Bishop John Innis to offer the closing prayer.

The full reports of the divisions of the Board of Ordained Ministry are printed in this journal in Section XIII. AGENCY REPORTS under the heading, Board of Ordained Ministry.

Worship Service **First United Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas, 7:00 p.m.**

At opening worship, John Thornburg, Ministry of Congregational Singing, taught the congregation responses and songs from West Africa, East Africa, and South Africa. John Fiedler welcomed everyone and introduced special guests Leslie Bledsoe, Bishop and Mrs. John G. Innis, and Fiedler's wife Sydney.

The theme of the 2011 Annual Conference, "transformation," was reflected in scripture, music, dance, and song. Bishop Innis spoke to God's doing a "new thing" in Liberia. In response to Bishop Bledsoe's statement that Bishop Innis had risked his life during the Liberian civil war, Bishop Innis said that God was with them during that time. He walked to Buchanan, Liberia, for the birth of a baby. It was a long way, and he would walk five minutes, and rest twenty minutes, for twenty-four hours. Bishop Innis related that during the civil war, a period he described as "a Dead Sea," his district superintendents had no means of transportation to check on their churches, other than walking. Through the grace of God, a United Methodist church in Georgia responded with enough funds to purchase a dozen motorcycles for his district superintendents. Now Liberia is being transformed under a United Methodist president and the leadership of many United Methodist churches and schools as well as Ganta United Methodist Hospital. In a goodwill gesture, Bishop Bledsoe presented a Camcorder and camera to Bishop Innis to take with him back to the Liberian Conference and record all the transforming moments there in Liberia.

Bishop Bledsoe called upon Glen Blackmon, senior minister from Van Alstyne, to join him on the chancel. He asked Blackmon to share an experience. Blackmon said that he and Bishop Bledsoe had been fishing together when Bishop Bledsoe had shared his concern that a child died every 30 seconds from malaria. Blackmon said he had been diagnosed with diabetes and told to lose weight, so he decided to tie the weight loss to helping raise funds for Imagine No Malaria. He challenged his congregation to match dollar for pound, and the net result was that he presented a check for \$2,800 to Bishop Bledsoe for Imagine No Malaria.

A reception following the service honored Bishop and Mrs. Innis and Bishop and Mrs. Bledsoe.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION

June 6, 2011

The Plano Centre, Plano, Texas

Organization of the Conference

The business session of the conference began with John Thornburg and Tim McLemore introducing a new song entitled “OK, I’ll Ask,” led and composed by Suzi Bird. Bishop Bledsoe gavelled to order the 41st session of the North Texas Annual Conference and called on Aleze Fulbright for the opening prayer. Bishop Bledsoe recognized the two guests sitting with him – Chancellor John Croft and Bishop John Innis of the Liberia Conference.

Bishop Bledsoe then called upon Conference Secretary Judith Reedy for the organizational motions. Reedy moved that the bar of the conference be the stage and all seats in front of the platform and that the visitors’ section be the seats to each side of the stage with the exception of the assistant secretaries’ tables on the west side. The motion was approved. Reedy moved the election of persons to serve the 2011 business sessions as assistant secretaries: Todd Bristow, Kenny Dickson, and Marsha Middleton; head teller, Mike Miller; and the teller group as appointed by each of the district superintendents; and Marvin Guier to serve as election secretary. They were elected.

Reedy moved the approval of legislative item number one in the conference workbook, [LA 1], for the equalization of clergy and lay members. The motion was approved.

Episcopacy Committee

Scott Smith, chair of the committee, was accompanied on the platform by the committee members. As Mrs. Bledsoe was escorted to the podium, Smith acknowledged the blessing of having her as First Lady of the North Texas Conference. Smith then invited Mrs. Bledsoe to address the conference. He reminded the conference that Mrs. Bledsoe lost her sight as an adult and that as her physical sight waned, her spiritual sight increased. Mrs. Bledsoe addressed the conference as “holy people and all of you who are trying to get there” and expressed her love for all. Bishop Bledsoe joined them at the podium. Smith presented Bishop and Mrs. Bledsoe a travel card from their favorite airlines and expressed gratitude for their leadership. The Bishop greeted committee members as they exited the stage.

Instructions on Electronic Voting

Election Secretary Marvin Guier thanked the election company IML and their technicians present to help conduct electronic voting. He then explained how voting would be conducted, clergy and laity sharing keypads. Guier then explained eligibility of voters, clergy and laity. A sample ballot was cast and the first round of voting began.

Episcopacy Address

Bishop Bledsoe began his address with a focus on Isaiah 43:18-19: “Forget about what’s happened; don’t keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. God is about to do something brand-new. It’s bursting out! Don’t you see it?” He referred to Brian Main’s [Spotting the Sacred](#). Having spotted Sister Helen Cole in the midst of an article about violence and frightening statistics, Main had asked, “If I really take the time to notice what is going on around me, will I find opportunities to discover a glimpse of God’s presence?” Bishop Bledsoe stated that what motivates

him is seeing glimpses of God's presence through the transforming work of Jesus Christ in the world today amidst the chaos of change and economic realities. He lifted up churches that are doing transforming work: St. Paul UMC whose new motto is "Soul of the Arts District;" Munger Place UMC, where over 1000 persons attended Easter services this year; First UMC Gainesville, who raised the \$1.2 million necessary to restore a crumbling building; First UMC, Van Alstyne, whose pastor Glen Blackmon tied his necessary weight loss to the Imagine No Malaria campaign; The Woods UMC in Grand Prairie where two churches facing decline chose to voluntarily close and sell their properties to form a new congregation with a new vision.

Bishop Bledsoe said that all the districts are doing transformational work; the Center for Leadership Development is bursting out all over with new means of assessing how well clergy live as Christian disciples; the Center for New Church Development and Congregational Transformation has 67 churches participating in DNA transformation and 11 new churches and faith communities were started in 2010 and 2011; the Center for Missional Outreach has trained 345 persons to help with disaster response and hopes to make an exciting announcement soon about the first ever partnership with an annual conference in Africa; the Center for Connectional Resources has, for three years in a row, consistently cut the conference budget to enable more dollars to be freed up in the local church for missional vitality; the Communications center has facilitated the Bishop's presence on Twitter or Facebook to reach a new generation; the Cabinet set precedents in appointments and cluster meetings this year.

The Bishop closed with a news story about the storms and tornadoes which took the lives of many in Alabama. He shared a story about a dog named Mason, who, having been blown away by the storms, and having both front legs broken, had crawled on his knees all the way back home. The Bishop reminded the conference that there is something to celebrate – God is still at work transforming lives through the people called United Methodists. He closed with the mantra that marked his delivery. "Transformation is here! Transformation is now! Transformation is on the move!"

Laity Address

Conference Lay Leader Richard Hearne began his laity address to the Conference with a reference to [Journey in the Wilderness](#), by Gil Rendle, who states that when events or situations do not go as planned, the first thought that people have is, "Who is responsible?" and not "What went wrong?" He said that he had wondered who was to blame for the decline in numbers in the United Methodist church, only to find that it was he. It was he who had found reasons not to witness to the love and grace of Jesus Christ to a society that sorely needs that witness. Hearne said that it occurred to him that he was a great United Methodist Christian but a lousy Disciple of Jesus Christ. A disciple, said Hearne, is someone who interprets and adopts the gospel message as a way of life in contemporary culture, not just the "warm and fuzzy" teachings but the "hard" teachings – to love our neighbors, to forgive others, to care for the widow, the orphan and the alien and be involved with the "least of these."

Hearne confessed that the only way he had been witnessed to or had witnessed to someone else was when he had a personal relationship with that person. He spoke of the transformations that his heart and life had undergone when he entered into relationships with those of different ethnicity, different gender, different lifestyle, and different socio-economic bracket. Hearne encouraged the conference to return to our roots and to attend to the Four Foci of United Methodism: developing principled Christian leaders, going outside the wall to be in ministry with the poor, continuing to start new places for new faces, and seeking cures for the diseases that impact the world. He finished with the "So what?" What is expected of each person is to take action and get involved in the four areas of focus. Hearne asked the laity if they would make a public commitment by

standing. As the laity stood, he acknowledged them and asked the clergy if they, too, would stand as a symbol of their commitment to become a United Methodist Disciple.

Core Leadership Team

Jan Davis was joined by Core Leadership team members who provided definition of the Team, a key ingredient of the Strategic Plan approved by the conference in June 2010. The Team oversees the implementation of the decisions of the Annual conference, working through the four Centers, planning, setting goals, and coordinating actions to address the mission of the church. To show how excited they are about the work of the Team, CLT showed a tongue-in-cheek video of a very boring church meeting, in direct contrast to CLT's excitement and function as a cheerleader for the ministries of the church.

The Core Leadership Team members are actively involved in the local church. They function as a Board of Directors for the North Texas Conference, having a bird's eye view of the Conference yet being a part of the grass roots of the local church. In summary, they serve as cheerleaders for the Centers, their Directors, and the local churches. In the development of the team, they learned about and embraced the concept of gracious Space, a values-rich holding environment for challenging conversations and decision-making. They are developing a system of accountability to track measurable results in each of the four areas of focus.

Each CLT meeting is open to the public. Guests are welcome and all are encouraged to be engaged in District and Conference activities as much as possible. The lines of communication with the CLT are open.

Annual Conference Revisioning Task Force

Paul Rasmussen explained why he wanted to be involved with rethinking how to improve annual conference meetings so that they were not a "had-to" but a "want-to." There is an opportunity now to examine the model itself. During this coming year, they will be evaluating how to make Annual Conference a world-class event which everyone will want to attend.

Lydia Patterson Institute

Bishop Bledsoe recognized Dr. Socorro de Anda, president of LPI. Dr. de Anda thanked the conference and introduced four interns from the Lydia Patterson Institute who will be serving within the North Texas Conference this summer. Richard Hearne announced the Kathleen Baskin-Ball Memorial scholarship at the institute. Fundraising will begin immediately. Despite the violence in Juarez, two weeks ago, 81 students graduated from LPI, and 79 of those are in college today.

Bishop Bledsoe introduced Bishop Bill Oden, who spoke about his wife Marilyn's new book and upcoming book signing at Cokesbury.

Courtesies and Resolutions

Kathy McLean-Davis requested prayers for Gregg Smith, who was involved in a car accident on Sunday on his way to the clergy session. She recognized Marcus Nyagato, an elder from the Zimbabwe Annual Conference, serving while on sabbatical leave with the Zimbabwe Ministry of First United Methodist, Richardson. Alexandra Robinson gave instructions for the ordination service in the evening and assured everyone that there was room for all.

Thalia Matherson closed the morning session with prayer.

MONDAY AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION

Center for Leadership Development

Keith Boone, director for the CLD, greeted the conference and introduced Aleze Fulbright, the Associate director. Fulbright emphasized that developing principled Christian leadership among clergy and laity is one of the key components of the General Church's four areas of focus. Boone explained the establishment of Congregational Assessment, Response and Transformation teams to resource pastors and churches for congregations who are in the midst of a crisis or conflict. Faith Formation is dedicated to all age-level ministries and elevates awareness of events taking place around the conference, including youth events, homebound communion training, and safe sanctuaries. Intentional Interim Ministry is a model which provides pastoral leadership to a congregation in a variety of settings. To reach a younger and more diverse membership, campus ministries are a significant frontline resource. These campuses are located at Paris Junior College, Texas A&M University Commerce, Midwestern State University and University of North Texas, Texas Women's and North Central Texas College, all of which will be working in tandem with the CLD. CLD then celebrated all who had served 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10, and 5 years, either deacon or elder. Fifty-eight people stood. The CLD will do this every year in five-year cycles to encourage camaraderie, accountability and fruitfulness.

Lay Speaking Ministries

Keith Boone presented legislation [LA 12] from the Lay Speaking Ministries conference Committee, legislation which recommended a change to the standing rule and realigns the committee according to new districts. Motion carried by acclamation.

Equitable Compensation

Keith Boone moved the approval of Legislative Item 2 [LA 2] that Pastors Subsidies Equitable Compensation support and administrative expenses be apportioned at \$65,000 for 2012 and that the minimum equitable compensation increase 1.6% in 2012 over the 2011 amount, setting the minimum equitable compensation at \$43,432. The motion was adopted.

Young Person's Address

Rachel Magruder, outgoing CCYM president, thanked her father for all the experiences she has had in being a preacher's kid, here and in another country. She listed some of the things she had learned as a United Methodist Youth: it is normal to have multiple senior pastors and youth ministers, the United Methodist church is a unique organization connected to other churches, the youth of CCYM and across the conference has strong support from laity and clergy, and the people of the United Methodist church are very giving. She thanked those who had had great impact on her life – her parents and many others. She said her biggest blessing had been serving overseas with her family when they were missionaries in West Africa. She encouraged everyone to continue to pray and make decisions to go on mission trips. "The Methodist church will change you more than you will ever know." Magruder, graduating high school tomorrow, has been accepted into a four-year program abroad. Her interest is in global health and global safety, and she will pursue studies that will enable her to shine as a United Methodist.

Magruder introduced Samantha McCulley, newly elected Secretary of CCYM. McCulley talked of her experience in youth group and of becoming a family with the group, a group that loves each other and loves God, a group that is able to help make a difference in their community and around

the world. Two things have shaped her faith – her first Youth annual conference and those youth she met there, loving and welcoming, filled with the love of Christ - and Midwinter this year. McCulley thanked all the adults who have been so welcoming and helpful. She challenged the conference not to think of the youth as youth but to support their endeavors as if they were just like the rest. She plans to stay in the Methodist church for the rest of her life. She asked that CCYM become a bigger part of the conference so that the youth would not only learn but also teach. CCYM is here to stay.

Southern Methodist University Campus Ministry

Andy Roberts addressed the conference on behalf of the SMU Wesley foundation. He urged the conference to invest in campus ministry, a time when young people ask life's most important questions. He listed ways that SMU Wesley is seeing the Lordship of Jesus Christ played out at SMU Wesley – small groups, a place where students can experience people who love and support them and provide accountability; missions where students can serve the least of these; prayer; and a place to hear the call to ministry. Roberts gave examples of each and thanked the conference for their financial support through the South Central Jurisdiction.

Keith Boone introduced Legislative Item #3 [LA 3], a proposal to adopt SMU Wesley Foundation as a North Texas conference campus ministry. There were many questions, including why the conference would take on a responsibility currently assumed by a jurisdiction as well as what impact this would have on existing campus ministries. The responsibility would begin in 2012 and increase in 25% increments until conference was funding SMU Wesley 100%. Boone said that this would have many benefits, especially the opportunity to reach more young and diverse people and create ministry opportunities for Perkins School of Theology students. The energy and vitality happening on SMU Wesley Foundation's campus could be a great model for our conference. Motion carried.

Methodist Children's Home

Clayton Oliphint introduced Tim Brown as the new president of Methodist Children's Home. Brown said there is a sense of hope at Methodist Children's Home. This year they have served about 3600 children. Even though they work in an environment of adversity, they see the children resilient, overcoming the odds in their lives. They recently graduated 41 seniors, their largest class ever. Those children were once without hope but they now have hope. He thanked the conference for their support and asked that it continue. They are proud of their United Methodist roots. This year, they have two young people who will be entering college, training for the ministry.

Council on Finance and Administration

Bill Baxley introduced three legislative items. The first item was conference treasurer. Baxley invited the conference to join him in thanking Marvin Guier for his years of service. With Guier's move to District Superintendent, Jodi Smith will become conference treasurer. The second item was for approval of the conference treasury auditing firm of Thomas Stephens and Company. The third item was the apportionment budget, which continues to be structured to support the four centers established by the Strategic Plan. The apportionment budget has decreased over the past three years by 15.5% because reserves have been used to support the local church during the extreme economic environment that followed the market meltdown.

Baxley moved the adoption of legislative item #5 (I), [LA 5] electing Jodi Smith as conference Treasurer for the 2011-2012 year. Motion carried. Baxley moved the adoption of legislative item #5, (II), [LA 5] reappointing Thomas Stephen & company as the annual conference auditing firm

for 2011. Motion carried. Baxley moved the adoption of legislative item #5, (III), [LA 5] the 2012 apportionment budget and related materials as presented by CF&A. Motion carried.

Courtesies and Resolutions

Jackie Waiters-Lee introduced Jennifer Sample from Methodist Mission Home. She thanked the conference for their generous support and encouraged churches to invite the Methodist Mission Home into congregations to speak. John Taylor reminded the conference that D-Day was 67 years ago today. Taylor closed the afternoon session with prayer.

MONDAY EVENING

Service of Ordination Christ United Methodist Church, Plano

Reverend Don Underwood welcomed the conference to Christ United Methodist Church, Plano for the service of ordination. Music was provided by youth choirs from FUMC, Duncanville and Floral Heights UMC, Wichita Falls. Following the processional hymn, Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe led the congregation in a remembrance of our baptism and a reaffirmation of the ministry entrusted to all God's people.

Bishop Bledsoe introduced the preacher for the service, the Rev. Morris Matthis, his former colleague in the Texas Annual Conference, and senior minister of Christ UMC in Sugar Land, Texas. Matthis addressed the 24-members being commissioned and ordained. "If I were going into the ministry," he said, "I'd try to get people to love Jesus." And, he cautioned, not everyone is going to." He advised them to forget about "getting people to love you...and don't listen to the phony baloney about an 'appointment ladder'....If you're worried about where you are going to be, you're not effective where you are...Where you are now, that's where you live!"

He ended by asking the question, "Can the church that began as a movement become a movement again, a movement on fire for Jesus Christ?" He closed to a round of applause as he said, "What's our ministry about? To be open to God's call!"

As part of the service's sending forth, Bishop Bledsoe invited anyone in the congregation who believed they may be receiving the call to come to the altar. Quiet altar conversations and prayers continued, as the congregation sang, "Here I Am, Lord." The offering was designated for church camp scholarships.

Bishop Bledsoe presided in the commissioning and ordination rituals. Four deacons and three elders were commissioned. Those commissioned as deacon were Patricia Miller Froehlich, Georgia McDowell Harrison, Elizabeth Ethun Moseley, and Rebecca David Walker. Those commissioned for the work of an elder were Dennis Lynn Cates, Stephen Joel Cotton, and John Jordan Wilks.

Three deacons and fourteen elders were received into membership in full connection. Janet Lynn Collinsworth, Paul Robert Maletic, and Susan Gorham Robb were ordained deacons. John Dixon Baldwin, Jay Frederick Cousino, Wendy Gale Curran, Christopher John Everson, Aleze Michelle Fulbright, Abril Celeste Goforth, Holly Beth Gotelli, David Morgan Lessner, Monty Lyn Moore, Stacey Lynn Piyakhun, Edilson de Assis Volfe, Preston Wayne Weaver, Jackie Lynn Wickware, and Jessica Kay Wright were ordained as elders.

A reception for the newly commissioned and ordained followed immediately after the service at Christ UMC.

TUESDAY MORNING BUSINESS SESSION **June 7, 2011**

Opening Song

Eric Folkerth led the conference in “Down by the Riverside.” Billy Ratcliff opened the conference with prayer.

Gulfside Association

Gary Mueller presented an amended version of Legislative Item 4 [LA 4] regarding Gulfside Assembly. Persons rose to ask questions about the reason for the amendment to the initial resolution – an amendment which would omit a commitment to raise \$1,000,000 for Gulfside. Questions about the legacy of Gulfside were answered by Mollie Stewart, president and CEO of Gulfside United Methodist Association, in Waveland, Mississippi. A motion to amend the resolution and have each church contribute a dollar per member was defeated. Mark Craig moved the original resolution from pre-conference workbook be restored. Motion carried.

United Methodist Reporter

Deb Christian, long-time staff member at UMR Communications, reminded the conference that the Reporter is a tool of transformation, used to tell the stories of mission and ministry of the church. The staff is led by veteran reporter Sam Hodges, a member of Grace UMC. Hodges loves to write about faith and religion and their impact on lives. Christian asked for the prayers of the conference as the Reporter seeks a new CEO.

Nominations Committee

Richard Hearne presented a revised list of nominations, including the elimination of all names under the Committee on Lay Speaking, names which the committee itself will nominate. Clarification was made that the lay members of that committee have already been elected by their district superintendents and have been working all year. Hearne explained that most terms expire in 2012; therefore, next year there will be more nominations. In addition, the committee on nominations will be creating a booklet to share across the conference in which all committees, their responsibilities and required qualifications will be listed. This will also appear on the conference website. Hearne then moved the approval of the nominations. Several people expressed concerns about diversity – of gender, district, and race. Others raised the question of whether the committees on the report satisfied the requirements of the Standing Rules committees. Response from the conference ministry center confirmed that the responsibilities are covered by the appropriate center, fulfilling the disciplinary mandate. As the committees are being filled, the purpose is to fill those places with persons who are vitally interested in the particular area of ministry. With no nominations from the floor, the amended report was approved.

Ordinand Videos

As the conference began to view ordinand videos, technological difficulties occurred that prevented most of the speeches being viewed. Ordinand videos are posted on the conference website at www.ntcumc.org.

Texas United Methodist College Association

Bishop Dan Solomon, President of Texas United Methodist College Association, and bishop-in-residence at McMurry College, lifted up Ricky Harrison as an example of why we should be putting young people front and center. He thanked the conference for supporting TUMCA in providing scholarships to young people.

Bishop Bledsoe then asked the conference to greet Bishop Monk Bryan, someone who has inspired Bishop Bledsoe and with whom he maintains a relationship.

Dr. Fred Allen then greeted the conference and spoke on “Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century,” in partnership with Perkins School of Theology, for a scholarship program for young Black men and women, working in the Black Church under supervision and tutelage for two years. The program also includes a program for reducing recidivism for young black men.

Memorial Service

The 2011 Annual Conference memorial service honored the memories of five clergy and ten clergy spouses. Conference Secretary Judith Reedy called the conference to order to the Memorial service. The cantor lead the congregation in a liturgy of light and Bishop Bledsoe lead the call to worship. Family members of those being honored processed to the hymn, “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light,” and took seats reserved for them in the front rows. Each family received a light from the Paschal Candle to place on the table. A litany was led by Edgar Bazan, and Liliana Pena read scripture.

Reverend Milton Gutierrez’s memorial sermon, “A Story to Tell,” focused on Hebrews 11:32-39. “Stories are powerful,” said Gutierrez. Our faith as Christians is much more based on story, from Genesis to Revelation, in some of our favorite hymns. In Journey in the Wilderness, Gil Rendle talks about the power of a story. “Identity and purpose are tied to the way in which leaders and people tell the story. The story has to be true and strong and indicate a future if an organization is to survive. Hebrews tells story after story of faithfulness and commitment. Even if they just hear a phrase, or a name, the people can fill in the blanks. The movie “Of Gods and Men” is a true story of seven Trappist monks caught in the middle of an Islamic civil war in Algeria. One by one they are murdered. The Trappist martyrs lived by the stories of the Bible, mostly the stories of Jesus. They saw Jesus in the story of the ordinary people among whom they lived and they themselves made their lives an imitation of Jesus’ grand narrative of rebellion against the standards of the world and renunciation of any selfish claim on life in hope of resurrection. Gutierrez reminded the congregation that, as names were read, they would recall stories and fill in the blank of a time when one of those saints was there for them. “Their stories are true and strong, and their stories will help us thrive. The work shall not be left.”

Intercessory prayers of thanksgiving were led by Nancy DeStefano and conference secretary Judith Reedy read the names of each of the saints as an ordinand moved their light from the table up into God’s eternal light. With the reading of each name, persons in the congregation whose lives were touched by that minister or spouse stood in tribute. The persons being remembered were:

Clergy – Kenneth Shamblyn, Chief A. Warden, Homer Noel Bryant, Douglas Ewing Jackson, Eldon M. Chester

Clergy Spouses – Ruby (Brand) Riewe, Lovell Baker, Donna E. Fraser, Betty Warden, Oma Lee Davenport, Whitty Cunninggim, Gloria Newkirk, Bobbye Chester, Frances Marie Bryant, Gloria Thornton Slack

Bishop Bledsoe sent the congregation forth, and they closed with “Siyahamba,” moving in the light of God.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION

Marji Bishir opened the afternoon session with prayer.

Retiring Clergy

Dennis Wilkinson, chairperson of the Conference Relations Committee, introduced the retiring clergy. He reminded the conference, “We are beneficiaries of these retiring clergy.”

Joyce Cravens spoke of her ordination as elder in 2001 and how unique it was that as she participated in the memorial service, she placed a rose in the vase in memory of her husband Tom. She recalled her own call to the ministry in 1992 at a youth retreat, completing her bachelor’s in 1994, leaving her secular jobs. She reminded the conference that the seminary experience does not protect anyone from adversity. There were other deaths of loved ones along the way. As she started her first job in the church, her husband and partner died. Just when she thought she was getting started, she found she had to retire. She pointed out that it must be God’s plan, because it was not hers. She went on to say that she raised her own children with many others and that she was not about to leave her sick child to himself even though he is an adult. Her parting words to the conference were, “Take care of the small church just like you do your children. Surround them, adopt them, save them, say to them, ‘You are not on your own.’ That’s how Jesus did it.”

John Edwards said he had always wanted to be a preacher and loved the United Methodist Church for giving him the opportunity. He urged everyone to heed the counsel of Karl Barth who said, “Jesus loves you, this I know.” He said that if we remembered that and acted that out to other people, the church would do well. He shared his plans for the future. Having bought a camel suit and a large belt, he is going down to the Trinity River and see who he can dip.

Jim Goodwin said that two words illustrate his theology: gift and adventure. He lifted up a 93-year-old woman, one of the cast of characters that preachers get to meet. He quoted Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen, “Days pass and the years vanish and we walk sightless among miracles. Lord, fill our eyes with seeing and our minds with knowing. Let there be moments when your presence like lightening illumines the darkness in which we walk. Help us to see wherever we gaze that the bush burns unconsumed and we, touched by God, will reach out for holiness and exclaim in wonder how filled with awe is this place and we did not know it.” He closed with a benediction which had been special to him since the moment it was introduced to him.

Milton P. Guttierrez, II spoke of his call 47 years ago at Brown Chapel in Louisiana to address the conference. What he learned is that it was impossible to be faithful by himself. “It takes an Annual Conference to raise a preacher.” He lifted up three stages of mentors. The first set was those who mentored him early in the work – his campus minister Bob Tatum, James L. Stovall, and W. Trice. At the end of his ministry he again had three incredible mentors – Bishops Rhymes Moncure, Alfred Norris, and W. Earl

Bledsoe. Then there were his “reverse mentors” – those he mentored who in turn mentored to him: Katherine Lyle, Anna Hosemann-Butler, and Mary Martin. He closed with a blessing from Habbukuk, “Though the fig tree should not blossom and fruit not be on the vine, the produce of the olives fail, and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stall, yet I will rejoice in the Lord. I will take joy in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength.”

Diana Holbert spoke of her husband John as a symbol of what men can do for women. She recalled that as they were dating, she told him that she wanted to marry a Methodist minister and he changed his degree. She recalled the ministry of Art Spirit and Leighton Ferrell who believed in her and in an “emergent church” for the artisans. She encouraged her colleagues to support the small church, the artists. She spoke of being inspired by her fellow ministers. “Clothe yourselves in humility. To God be the power forever and ever. Amen.”

Kay Hord did not realize she had so many stories to tell, having served only Wheatland her entire ministry. She offered cookbooks for sale to help raise money for Wheatland. She recounted her experience when she was first assigned to Wheatland, female circuit riders from Highland Park having paved the way for her. She recalled her visit to a homebound person, kneeling on the floor with the family and serving communion. After that, the “homebound” person started attending church. Her mother’s illness was the catalyst for her retirement, but she promised to keep in touch.

Joan Gray LaBarr expressed profound honor to stand before the conference and gratitude for each person there, many who have gone on before, and for the thirty-plus years of serving the local church. Grateful to God for the call and the opportunities to serve in a variety of different ways – local churches as well as connectional appointments, she views each appointment, each church – as a gift. Eight months into retirement, she has explored new ways of serving and of being – as adjunct professor at Texas Wesleyan University, and many volunteer experiences, including serving in her husband’s church in ministry with children. Her counsel to clergy was that they would view each appointment as a special gift, filled with people who will get them through the good as well as the bad. For the laity, she said that the best evangelism is to find what is good and life-affirming about their particular church and go and share that word with others. Her greatest thanks was to her family – her husband Bill, her three adult children, and the greatest loves of her life – her three grandchildren.

Katherine Glaze Lyle quoted from Exodus, pointing out that God led the people in a round-about way on their journey. She affirmed that her journey in the ministry had been the same – round-about. Having met so many different people along the way, she chose to love them all. She pointed out that this was a choice that each person has to make. She has always prayed for her churches, even when she was a Baptist growing up, and she will continue to do just that as well as continue her interim work and service on various boards. Her perfect grandchild lives in California, so she will be making many trips to see Emerson. The church that has been constant has been the Annual Conference, for which she has always prayed. Her prayer is that we will continue together and faithful on this round-about way of the wilderness through life.

Karan Marshall said she had an agenda. Early in life, her call was to serve the poor. As a pastor’s wife, she taught Sunday School and realized the wonderful training opportunities involved there. Her concern today is that we have gotten too far from systematic ways for children to come to faith through an orderly method. Developing

principled Christian leaders starts in the church nursery and then Sunday School for children and youth. She had the privilege of working in her home church where she met her husband. She has had wonderful opportunities to serve the poor, to work with the poor, to become trained in teaching young children. The opportunities started with the Sunday School. She reminded the BOM that as they look at fruitfulness, hopefully, they will look at a person's effectiveness as well. John Wesley let George Whitfield preach, even if he was a Calvinist. To the deacons, she reminded them that they are called, not to be junior elders, but to serve the poor.

John C. Rosenburg said that when you are saying good-bye and you are crying and you look out and nobody else is, you just shut up and go on. He said it had been a privilege to serve in all the congregations where he had served, and to serve with the four bishops with whom he had served. He thanked the district as well and his wife Connie, the love of his life, his friend who sheltered him. He thanked Don Renshaw, Bruce Weaver, and the ghost of Will Bailey. He expressed his gratitude to the cabinet and rose to compete with previous quotes: "A kind and steady heart can mend a sorry world."

Woody Weilage expressed his gratitude for the moment, and for being able to speak "live" to the conference. Preparing for retirement, he read Barbara Brown Taylor's *Leaving Church* and shared a quote from that book from Walter Brueggeman, "That for which you have been prepared all of your life is being taken away from you by the grace of God." He affirmed that, because he has lived by the grace of God all of his life, receiving grace upon grace upon grace. He spoke of his appreciation for the faith of his parents who taught him what he needed to know for ministry, for the gentle spirit of his son Jordan whom many in the conference have nurtured, for the mother of Jordan and her love and care over the years, and for Vanessa Vaughtner, whom he met and married in 1998. They have been able to do ministry together in Celebrate Recovery. He closed with a prayer from an unknown Confederate soldier, "I asked for all things so that I might enjoy life. I was given life that I might enjoy all things."

Donna Whitehead affirmed that God is good all the time and that gratitude is the deepest emotion. Her own calling, as she now discerns it, is, "God is calling. Start something!" She was in the second wave of women entering seminary at the time in 1970, and she expressed gratitude for those first women. She thanked the laity of Custer Road UMC for setting the pace for Methodism in Plano, Texas, as she worked with Mark Craig in a new church start. Eventually, she found herself at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, a mature church, ready for that new cycle of growth. Working with visionary Stan Copeland and the laity at Lovers Lane, this has been a time of transformation and new starts. She went on to thank Paul Goodrich for his friendship and inviting her to come and share when she needed someone to listen. She thanked the North Texas Conference for what God is doing among them.

Dick Wilson received his license to preach as a junior in high school. In seminary, a professor at Texas Wesleyan taught him that teaching the word of God was a lot more fun than preaching it in the sanctuary. He has done that by using audio-visual, maps, charts, arts and crafts. He has learned a great deal from the laity. His favorite story happened in the early 1980's at First, Plano, when they started an after-school program called "My Friend's Place." He walked through the second grade class and waved at a boy whose friend asked, "Who's that?" The little boy replied, "Oh, he's okay. He's just Jesus who lives next door." He reminded the conference that all of us can be Jesus to someone who lives next door. He hopes to continue teaching the word of God as long as he can.

Wilkinson said there were three others who retired during the year but were not present for the conference session. They are Forest Duncan Graham, an elder, and local pastors, Sharon and Stanley Welch.

Charles Harrison rose to affirm the presentation of retiree and ordinand speeches in person.

Board of Trustees

Paul Goodrich directed the conference members to their workbooks for the presentation of two resolutions.

Legislative Item 6 [LA 6] allowed for the discontinuance of Lake Creek United Methodist Church.

Legislative Item 7 [LA 7] allowed for the discontinuance of Wellspring United Methodist Church. The resolutions were approved and money from the sale of said properties will go to New Church Starts.

Board of Pension and Health Benefits

Julie Gould directed the conference members to their workbooks, for the presentation of four resolutions.

Legislative Item 8 [LA 8] resolved to designate the rental/housing allowances for retired or disabled clergypersons of the North Texas Conference. The resolution was approved. Legislative Item 9 [LA 9] to establish the pre-1982 service year annuity rate was approved. [LA 10] the 2011 formal pre-1982 pension liability funding plan was submitted and approved. [LA 11] the apportionments for pensions and for insurance subsidies was presented and approved.

Board of Ordained Ministry

Gary Mueller called on James Minor to celebrate lay minister Rosemary Gagnon, who completed the requirements for certification in paraprofessional Christian education and in youth ministry.

Mueller then called on Jan Davis, vice-chair of BOM, who lifted up and prayed for the 130 local pastors serving in the conference. Davis called on the newly licensed local pastors to come forward and asked all other local pastors to stand.

Todd Harris, chair of Preparations and Qualifications, announced that ordinands' recorded messages would not be shown. He invited the conference to congratulate the newly commissioned and asked all the newly ordained to come forward and be introduced. Sheron Patterson announced that all messages would be filmed again and posted on the conference website.

Janet Collinsworth is serving St. Andrews United Methodist Church.

Jay Cousino is serving St. Andrews United Methodist Church.

Chris Everson serves Grace United Methodist Church, Sherman and appointed to First United Methodist Church, Rowlett and will start a new church.

Ed Volfe is serving First United Methodist Church, Boyd.

Paul Maletic serves First United Methodist Church, Rockwall.

Preston Weaver is serving City Square and Southwood United Methodist Church.

Jackie Wickware is serving Warren United Methodist Church.

Monty Moore is serving Sanger and appointed to Lake Highlands United Methodist Church.

Jessica Wright is serving First United Methodist Church, Denton.

David Lessner is serving Stonebridge United Methodist Church, McKinney.

Abril Goforth is serving Blue Mound United Methodist Church, Denton, and is appointed to Buckingham United Methodist Church, Garland.

Wendy Curran serves Holy Covenant church in Carrollton and will be moving to Custer Road United Methodist Church, Plano.

Holly Gottelli serves Suncreek United Methodist Church, Allen, and is moving to Flower Mound United Methodist Church.

Aleze Fulbright serves at the North Texas Conference Center for Leadership Development.

John Baldwin is appointed to First United Methodist Church, Celina.

Stacey Piyakhun is serving at Christ United Methodist Church, Plano.

Susan Robb is serving Highland Park United Methodist Church.

Resolutions for General Conference

Gary Mueller explained that resolutions for consideration at General Conference, if recommended by the Annual Conference, would be lumped with similar resolutions at General Conference. A recommendation to present individual resolutions for a vote to be recommended to General Conference where discussion could then take place failed as did a motion to suspend the rules so that the resolutions could be voted on with discussion.

Mueller moved that the first petition entitled “Retired Local Pastors’ Clergy Status” [LA 13] be endorsed by the conference and forwarded to General Conference for discussion. Motion passed.

Mueller explained that the second petition entitled “Required Theological Coursework for Commissioning and Provisional Membership” [LA 14] adds two classes – pastoral and church leadership and also preaching, both of which would add to the readiness of leadership. Motion passed.

Mueller introduced the next petition, “Requirements for Admission to Full Connection and Ordination as a Deacon,” [LA 15] explaining that the recommended changes will help determine if people are ready and will place a new emphasis on effectiveness and fruitfulness at the full connection level.

Lengthy debate ensued; first that the weight of a conference-recommended petition (rather than individual) would carry weight and that Wesley's scripture way of salvation would be compromised in some of the suggested changes. Others supported the petition in that the omissions about which there were concerns would be covered at the commissioning level and the candidates would be accountable for fruitfulness. Todd Harris spoke to how the petition enables candidates to integrate their theology with the practice of ministry, while encouraging clarification of performance in making disciples. Motion passed 365 for, 242 against, 15 abstentions.

Courtesies and Resolutions

Rusty Hedges noted that there had been twenty youth from Christ United Methodist Church, Plano, present for two hours to be a part of the Center for Missional Outreach report earlier in the afternoon. He asked for prayers for Terry Heislen's wife Mary, who had hip replacement surgery this morning, and for Brenda Barnhart, daughter of Charlie Pierce, who sustained serious injuries in a motorcycle accident. Ray Karrer encouraged people to register for the Christian School of Cooperative Mission.

Resolutions for General Conference

Gary Mueller moved the endorsement of the petition, "Requirements for Admission to Full Connection and Ordination as an Elder," [LA 16] essentially the same as the previous petition about deacons. Mueller stressed that the intent in both is that no one be passed on to be commissioned until they can articulate his/her theology.

There were speeches for and against, including concern that many candidates are transferring in from other denominations and therefore need the repeated questions - as well as a newly ordained's insight that he had answered many of the same questions before ordination that he had answered before commissioning. Mueller confirmed that the same questions for ordination are very similar to the commissioning questions. In order to retain the emphasis on Wesley's Way of Salvation, Richard Dunagin moved to reinstate question number 5 (a) (5) on Wesley's Way of Salvation. Mueller accepted that as a friendly amendment. Motion passed.

Mueller moved reconsideration of "Legislative Proposal for admission to Full Connection and Ordination as a Deacon." Motion passed. Mueller then moved to include the restoration of number 5 (a) (5) on Wesley's Way of Salvation. Motion was seconded and carried.

Kathryn Strempe presented the final petition, "Who is to answer Wesley's Historic Questions for the Examiners?" [LA 17] found in paragraph 311.1.d. The petition takes out the requirement for the candidate to answer those questions. Wesley's intention was that the pastor parish relations committee or an equivalent body answer those questions. Motion carried.

Bishop Bledsoe announced that the business of the annual conference had concluded and that a question of law related to the structure of the North Texas Conference as it relates to Church and Society, Ethnicity in the Local Church, Global Ministry and Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns had been presented during the conference and that he would be considering this question during the next thirty days and posting his decision.

Courtesies and Resolutions

Rusty Hedges gave the closing courtesies and resolutions. After six years of praying, fasting, fundraising, and bell-ringing, Christ's Foundry's church building is now under construction north of

Bachman Lake, and they want to express their thanks to the Annual Conference. A resolution submitted by Eston Williams recognized the elders, church members, and musicians of the North Texas Annual Conference, all of whom freely share their gifts with no compensation and have raised the awareness of members of the conference for UMCOR, Nothin' but Nets, and Imagine No Malaria. The Lovers Lane delegation recognized Don and Barbara Wiggins for their 40 years of consecutive membership in the Annual Conference. Hedges moved that the traditional "Thank You" Resolution be published in the 2011 journal. Motion carried. Resolution follows.

WHEREAS, the North Texas Conference held its annual session June 5-7, 2011 at the Plano Centre in Plano, Texas, Texas with the theme "God is Doing a New Thing." We as an annual conference have benefited from the tireless efforts of all those who have labored to make this year's conference a success; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Leslie Bledsoe has established herself as a vital part of our Annual Conference by her enthusiasm and abiding faith, we acknowledge her as the first lady of our conference; and

WHEREAS, Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe has provided outstanding leadership for our Annual conference as we have worked to implement our strategic plan; and

WHEREAS, Bishop John G. Innis, Revs Morris Matthis and Milton Gutierrez have inspired us with their faithfulness in proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ along with the challenges placed before us by our Conference Lay Leader Richard Hearne. We have celebrated the work that has been done toward removing the threat of malaria from our sisters and brothers in Africa; and

WHEREAS, we have received the reports of the boards and agencies which reported that the mission and ministry of the conference is moving forward. We listened with a profound sense of thanksgiving to the presentations of those to be ordained and those entering into a retired relationship; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the faithfulness of Dr. Larry George, Dr. Marvin Guier, Dr. Sheron Patterson and other members of the conference staff in supporting the work of our conference. We especially commend Dr. Marvin Guier for his many years of faithful stewardship of our conference's finances; and

WHEREAS, the North Texas Conference extends its thanks to all the volunteers who have given so freely of the time and talents to this conference session and to the churches and staffs who have shown us radical hospitality; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, as a covenant community will carry the good news to the world that God is indeed doing a new thing. By the grace given to us we will proclaim the Gospel of Christ to an often dark and hurting world and recommit ourselves to the task of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee on Courtesy and Resolutions

Rusty Hedges, chair

Shante Buckley

Sharon Coleman

Jim Pledger

Jackye Waiters-Lee

Resolution for General Conference

Richard Hearne presented a resolution for General Conference to amend Division Three-Episcopal Supervision to include the election from the Council of Bishops a Presiding Bishop for a four year term for the purpose of being the primary spokesperson for the United Methodist Church. Motion failed.

Reading of Appointments

Bishop Bledsoe called for the reading of appointments. Names were then read by district superintendents: Paul Gould, for the East district; Marvin Guier for the Northwest district; Frank Alegria for the North Central district; and Clara Reed, for the Metro district.

Closing Home and Benediction

After the appointments were read, Bishop Bledsoe asked that everyone stand and hold hands and sing the doxology. He dismissed the conference with a benediction from the Congo, “Get outa here and go do ministry.”

Delegation to General and Jurisdictional Conferences Finalized

The following tables indicate the order of the clergy persons and lay members, including alternates, elected as delegates to the General and Jurisdictional conferences.

Clergy Ballot Results					
General Conference					
Ballot #	Time Taken	Time Reported	Elected	Votes Needed	Votes Received
2	Mon 10:49	11:13	Don Underwood	155	155
3	11:49	1:36	Jan Davis	155	170
3	11:49	1:36	Gary Mueller	155	161
3	11:49	1:36	Clayton Oliphint	155	161
7	Tue 9:23	10:03	Ron Henderson	160	191
7	9:23	10:03	Jill Jackson-Sears	160	185
			Jurisdictional Conference		
8	10:35	10:58	Owen Ross	131	165
8	10:35	10:58	Tyrone Gordon	131	152
8	10:35	10:58	Lisa Greenwood	131	134
10	2:58	3:10	Tim Morrison	150	183
10	2:58	3:10	Deborah Chapman	150	161
13	3:28	3:32	Ouida Lee	151	159
			Alternates		
14	3:43	3:51	John Allen	139	142
15	3:54	3:57	Andrew Stoker	145	178
15	3:54	3:57	Dana Coker	145	167

Lay Ballot Results					
General Conference					
Ballot #	Time Taken	Time Reported	Elected	Votes Needed	Votes Received
2	Mon 10:53	11:14	Ricky Harrison	210	246
2	10:53	11:14	Tim Crouch	210	240
3	11:51	1:38	Richard Hearne	217	242
5	2:42	4:10	Mary Brooke Casad	217	247
5	2:42	4:10	Henry Lessner	217	230
9	Tue 1:36	2:58	Kay Yeager	206	298
			Jurisdictional Conference		
10	3:02	3:10	Frank Jackson	185	270
10	3:02	3:10	Natasha Ray	185	265
10	3:02	3:10	Linda Parks	185	218
11	3:18	3:22	Scott Smith	197	221
11	3:18	3:22	Lisa Tichenor	197	220
13	3:31	3:34	Billy Ratcliff	220	397
			Alternates		
14	3:44	3:52	Gretchen Toler-Debus	200	324
14	3:44	3:52	Ruth Robinson	200	273
14	3:44	3:52	Alys Richards	200	248