

NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE PHOTO ALBUM



The clergy of North Texas met for their annual business meeting at FUMC Plano, on Sunday June 3, 2012. The Rev. Gary Mueller, host pastor, and chair of the annual conference's Board of Ordained Ministry provided information about the "Mueller Amendment" and its potential impact on the North Texas Annual Conference. Looking on are the Revs. Todd Harris and Jan Davis.

The Rev. Mike Baughman of Union Coffee House preached the Opening Worship service sermon on Sunday, June 3, 2012 at Custer Road UMC. His message was entitled "Who Can Stop the Water?" and it included edgy humor, a video clip and audience participation that produced sound effects.



Applause erupted early in the Opening Worship service held on Sunday, June 3, 2012 at Custer Road UMC, as the Project Transformation Interns (in green tops) were commissioned by Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe. Interns from the Lydia Patterson Institute were also commissioned.



The children's choir of Custer Road UMC provided spiritually uplifting music as their senior pastor, the Rev. Ronald D. Henderson, looked on.



The Rev. Don Underwood offered a report to the Annual Conference on Monday, June 4, 2012 at the Plano Centre of his reflections on General Conference. He is flanked by members of the North Texas delegation.



Careful reading and concentration is required to keep track of the legislation and proposals of Annual Conference. This delegate demonstrates the discipline required.

There was often lively debate among the delegates from various microphones located across the Plano Convention Centre. Delegate Mavis Knight of St. Paul UMC shared her thoughts at the Annual Conference on Monday, June 4, 2012.



The Rev. Jodi Smith, Center for Connectional Resources Director, presented the Treasurer's Report to the Annual Conference on Monday, June 4, 2012 at the Plano Centre. Looking on are Bill Baxley and the Rev. Paul Goodrich.



These green stress balls sit still in the photo, but moments before they were flying all over the Plano Convention Centre as a part of the Nehemiah Group's proposal to evaluate, assess and revise the experience of Annual Conference. "Don't Stop Believing" was the theme of the recommendation and revision plan, which was overwhelmingly approved on Monday, June 4, 2012.



photos by Wil Murphy

On Monday, June 4, 2012, the Munger Place UMC Music Director Kate Miner belted out "Don't Stop Believing" during a portion of the Nehemiah Group's report and brought the audience to its feet. The youth choir of Custer Road UMC enthusiastically backed her up.



photo by Ron Freitag

Annual Conference Chancellor Pamela Liston and Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe were located on the stage, at the front of the Plano Convention Centre in order to preside and give order to the sessions. The Bishop and Chancellor worked together to keep the daily agenda flowing.



photo by Wil Murphy



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ABOVE: This puzzle kept the Annual Conference delegates and visitors busy in the hallway of the Plano Centre. It depicted the four districts of the North Texas Annual Conference. LEFT: Just hours before the Service of Ordination and Commissioning, the candidates took turns addressing the Annual Conference at the Plano Convention Centre on Monday, June 4, 2012. The Rev. Ugonna Ndukwo Onuoha shared her journey of faith and perseverance.



Newly ordained deacons Kay Lynn DeBlance, Ugonna Ndukwo Onuoha and Elizabeth Dorothy Lutz beamed in a high moment during the Service of Ordination and Commissioning, Monday, June 4, 2012 at St. Andrew UMC. Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe looked on.



photos by Mat Mathews

The Rev. Arthur Jones is all smiles after his ordination at the Service of Ordination and Commissioning, Monday, June 4, 2012 at St. Andrew UMC. Rev. Jones is flanked by his uncle, Dr. E. Gregory Jones of the North Carolina Annual Conference, and host pastor, Dr. Robert Hasley, senior pastor of St. Andrew UMC.



Bishop James Swanson, episcopal leader of the Holston Annual Conference, preached an anointed message at St. Andrew UMC on Monday, June 4. His sermon entitled “Ministry Requires that You Live Mas” gave a strong challenge specifically to the 19 who were ordained and commissioned, as well as the audience in general.



Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe is joined by Bishop James Swanson of the Holston Conference, Bishop Scott Jones of the Kansas Annual Conference, and deacon Caroline Noll in preparation for Holy Communion during the Service of Ordination and Commissioning, Monday, June 4, 2012 at St. Andrew UMC.

Richard Hearne ended his term as Lay Leader with a heartfelt address to the Annual Conference on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at the Plano Centre.



The North Texas Annual Conference is fortunate to have a strong contingent of young persons. They boldly addressed the audience and spoke of their concerns and plans for the future.



The retiring pastors never fail to provide laughter and wisdom in their parting words. Rev. Dennis Wilkinson presented retiring pastor Rev. Ben Shinn and his wife Mary to the Annual Conference, on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 in the Plano Centre.





The Memorial Service celebrated the lives of recently deceased clergy and clergy spouses of the Annual Conference. The Rev. Elizabeth LaBella-Foster led the procession of family members into the Plano Convention Centre at the start of the service on Tuesday, June 5, 2012.

Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe, Rev. Jan Davis, Rev. Judith Reedy, and Rev. Julie Macpherson were among the worship participants in the Memorial Service that remembered the lives and legacies of six clergy and ten clergy spouses at the Plano Convention Centre on Tuesday, June 5, 2012.



The Rev. Jan Davis preached a memorable Memorial Service sermon that celebrated the lives of the Annual Conference's deceased clergy and clergy spouses, and offered insights from the death of her mother. Her sermon entitled, "Living Letters," was insightful and moving.



A highlight of the Annual Conference experience is browsing the tables and booths of organizations and groups that fill the hallways of the Plano Centre. The Clergy Spouses of North Texas hosted an informative and educational booth.

The Lydia Patterson Institute of El Paso Texas sent numerous students to North Texas to serve as interns over the summer. The young people served in a host of North Texas churches.



Jan Davis and Alexandra Robinson

Bright red T-shirts were donned by those participating in the Mission In-Service and Education Day on Wednesday, June 6, 2012. The participants assembled in the sanctuary of St. Andrew UMC for a group photo.



The Rev. Jay Cole taught one of the mission-themed classes at the Mission In-Service and Education day, on Wednesday, June 6, 2012 held at St. Andrew UMC. Among his students were Karen Chraska, and the Rev. Andy Stoker.

photos by Wil Murphy and Mat Mathews