

Consent Calendar
Concurrence – Non-Concurrence -- Abstain

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| 1 | | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | Section 1 | |
| 5 | P 102 Amend <i>Discipline</i> 's Paragraph on Abortion | 402 |
| 6 | | 75 – 10 – 4 |
| 7 | Page 403, starting on line 31 delete “Our belief in the sanctity of unborn human | |
| 8 | like makes us unwilling to approve abortion.” | |
| 9 | Page 403, line 33 delete “But” and capitalize the word “We”. | |
| 10 | Page 404, line 12 after “are committed to...” add “work to” and change | |
| 11 | diminishing” to “diminish”. | |
| 12 | Page 404, line 32 change “IF” to “IT”. | |
| 13 | | |
| 14 | P 103 Withdraw from The Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice | 405 |
| 15 | | 84 – 5 – 3 |
| 16 | | |
| 17 | Section 2 | |
| 18 | RS 201 Conference Structure | 407 |
| 19 | | 68 – 5 – 2 |
| 20 | Page 408, line 3 change “23” to “24”; line 19 change “16” back to “14”. | |
| 21 | Page 408, line 31 remove “United Methodist Women” and insert it at line 47 of | |
| 22 | “Connectional Outreach Ministries Team”. | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | RS 202 Conference Rules | 409 |
| 25 | | 71 – 0 – 3 |
| 26 | | |
| 27 | RS 203 Susquehanna – Port Allegany Transfer | 410 |
| 28 | | 76 – 0 – 0 |
| 29 | | |
| 30 | Section 3 | |
| 31 | RS 301 Full-Time General Evangelist: Christine Rogan | 411 |
| 32 | | 89 – 0 – 0 |
| 33 | | |
| 34 | RS 302 General Evangelist: John Zimmerman | 412 |
| 35 | | 90 – 0 – 0 |
| 36 | Page 412, line 16 at the end of the line after “and” add “has been approved.” | |
| 37 | | |
| 38 | RS 303 Conference Evangelist: Luella Krieger | 412 |
| 39 | | 92 – 0 – 0 |
| 40 | | |
| 41 | RS 304 Base Cash Compensation For Pastors | 413 |
| 42 | | 89 – 2 – 0 |
| 43 | | |
| 44 | RS 305 Accountable Reimbursement Account | 414 |
| 45 | | 92 – 0 – 0 |
| 46 | | |

1 RS 306 Clergy Housing Allowance Resolution 414
 2 91 – 0 – 1
 3
 4 **Section 4**
 5 RS 402 Funding For Ministry 2016 Other Income Disbursal Directives 434
 6 87 – 0 – 0
 7
 8 RS 403 Parsonage Inspections D.J. 529
 9 75 – 4 – 5
 10
 11 **Section 5**
 12 RS 501 2016 Rental/Housing Allowance for Retired Clergy 454
 13 86 – 0 – 0
 14
 15 RS 502 2016 Comprehensive Benefit Funding Plan Summary 455
 16 84 – 1 – 1
 17 Page 459, line 7 change the amount to “\$33,163,600”.
 18
 19 RS 503 Clergy Retirement Security Program & Comprehensive Protection Plan 460
 20 84 – 1 – 2
 21
 22 RS 504 CRSP Future Liabilities & Benefit Reserve Fund 462
 23 83 – 0 – 1
 24
 25 P 505 For Setting up a Divestment Task Force 462
 26 72 – 12 – 1
 27 Page 463, line 28 after “advisable,” and before “and” add “the convening of the
 28 task force to be funded from the Church and Society budget.”
 29 Page 463, line 34 Editorial Amendment add “Kelly Smith Chair, Board of
 30 Church & Society”
 31 A motion was made to refer RS 505 to Church and Society for clearer language
 32 and financial issues, and ask them to bring this back to this session of
 33 the Annual Conference for action. The motion passed in favor of
 34 referral.
 35
 36 **Section 6**
 37 RS 601 Retired Clergy Day 463
 38 86 – 0 – 0
 39
 40 RS 602 Christian Education Weekend 464
 41 86 – 0 – 0
 42
 43 RS 603 Golden Cross/Red Stocking Weekend 464
 44 86 – 0 – 0
 45
 46

| | | |
|----|---|----------|
| 1 | RS 604 Rural Life Weekend | 465 |
| 2 | 86 – 0 – 0 | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | RS 605 Disability Awareness Weekend..... | 465 |
| 5 | 86 – 0 – 0 | |
| 6 | | |
| 7 | RS 606 Doorways to Hope at Home Weekend | 465 |
| 8 | 86 – 0 – 0 | |
| 9 | | |
| 10 | RS 607 Camping Weekend | 466 |
| 11 | 86 – 0 – 0 | |
| 12 | | |
| 13 | RS 608 Youth Service Fund Weekend..... | 466 |
| 14 | 86 – 0 – 0 | |
| 15 | | |
| 16 | RS 609 Volunteers in Mission Recognition & Awareness Weekend..... | 467 |
| 17 | 86 – 0 – 0 | |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | RS 610 Policies and Practices for WPAUMC Conference Mission Partnerships | 468 |
| 20 | 77 – 11 – 1 | |
| 21 | | |
| 22 | Section 7 | |
| 23 | RS 701 By-Laws of Wesley Woods..... | 479 |
| 24 | 85 – 0 – 0 | |
| 25 | Page 489, lines 17 – 22 Section 5.07, delete in its entirety. The language of | |
| 26 | section 5.07 is duplicative because it appears on page 487, line 45 | |
| 27 | through page 488, line 5. | |
| 28 | Page 489, line 24 change “section 5.08” to “section 5.07”. | |
| 29 | Page 489, line 39 after “has actions that need...” add the words “to be”. | |
| 30 | | |
| 31 | RS 706 Wesley Woods Nominations | D.J. 536 |
| 32 | 86 – 0 – 0 | |
| 33 | Page 504, line 20 delete “Lisa Grant”, “Ed Gresick” and “Kent O’Neil”. | |
| 34 | Page 504, starting on line 22 delete all names <i>but</i> “Rick Larson”. | |
| 35 | To read: Clergy - Jonathan Bell, Duk Hee Han, Keith Martin, Laity - Rick Larson | |
| 36 | | |
| 37 | RS 702 Articles of Incorporation of Wesley Woods | D.J. 532 |
| 38 | 82 – 0 – 0 | |
| 39 | | |
| 40 | RS 703 Camp Allegheny Nominations | D.J. 536 |
| 41 | 98 – 0 – 0 | |
| 42 | RS 704 Jumonville Nominations..... | D.J. 536 |
| 43 | 94 – 0 – 0 | |
| 44 | RS 705 Olmsted Manor Nominations | D.J. 536 |
| 45 | 88 – 0 – 0 | |
| 46 | | |

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|----|--|-------------|
| 1 | Section 8 | |
| 2 | RS 801 Conference Exchanges Between Eastern Germany & Western Pennsylvania .. | 504 |
| 3 | | 89 – 0 – 2 |
| 4 | Page 505, line 2 after the work “mutually” add “consider a plan to...” | |
| 5 | Page 505, line 6 change the word “will” to “may”. | |
| 6 | Page 505, line 7 after the word “expenses” delete the word “to”. | |
| 7 | Page 505, line 8 change the word “will” to “may”. | |
| 8 | Page 505, line 9 delete the word “budgetary”. | |
| 9 | | |
| 10 | P 802 Expanding the Prerogative of Term Episcopacy | 505 |
| 11 | | 71 – 14 – 6 |
| 12 | | |
| 13 | P 803 Fiscal Transparency & Accountability | Withdrawn |
| 14 | P 804 Geographic Diversity | Withdrawn |
| 15 | P 805 Representational Parity | Withdrawn |
| 16 | P 806 New Ministries for Old Churches | Withdrawn |
| 17 | P 807 Petition to Retain Bishop | Withdrawn |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | P 808 Day of Prayer & Fasting for Contemporary Martyrs | D.J. 536 |
| 20 | | 68 – 14 – 1 |
| 21 | Page 536, line 35 after the words “...martyred by” add the words “the Islamic | |
| 22 | state in Iraq and ah-sham commonly referred to as...” | |
| 23 | Page 537, line 4 after the word “Whereas,” add the words “the Islamic state in | |
| 24 | Iraq and ah-sham commonly referred to as...” | |
| 25 | Page 537, line 5 insert a comma after the word “cross”. | |
| 26 | Page 537, line 18 after the word “the” add the words “anniversary of the” and | |
| 27 | after the word “video” add the words “was released”. | |
| 28 | Page 537, line 19 remove the word “the” and insert the words “today’s | |
| 29 | Christian”. | |
| 30 | Page 537, line 19 delete the word “senseless”. | |
| 31 | With the above three changes the sentence will now read, “THEREFORE BE IT | |
| 32 | RESOLVED, that the 2015 session of the Western Pennsylvania | |
| 33 | Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church call for a day of | |
| 34 | prayer and fasting in our conference on February 15, 2016, the | |
| 35 | anniversary of the day the video was released of the 21 Copts being | |
| 36 | martyred, in remembrance of today’s Christian martyrs (and of all | |
| 37 | victims of terrorism), and to ask God to move in the hearts of terrorists | |
| 38 | in the Middle East and worldwide in order to lead them to salvation and | |
| 39 | forgiveness.” | |
| 40 | | |
| 41 | | |

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| 1 | Page 537, line 22 insert the following paragraph: “BE IT FURTHER | |
| 2 | RESOLVED, that as salvation and forgiveness lead to transformation; | |
| 3 | and prayer leads to action; the DCM will consult with representatives | |
| 4 | from the Connectional Outreach Ministries team and the Connectional | |
| 5 | Witness Ministries team in order to supply a list of resources available | |
| 6 | by request to churches that desire to add learning and understanding to | |
| 7 | this day of prayer.” | |
| 8 | | |
| 9 | Section 9 | |
| 10 | P 901 Administrative Review Process | 508 |
| 11 | 91 – 2 – 3 | |
| 12 | Page 510, line 6 change “maters” to “matters”. | |
| 13 | Page 510, line 11 change “IF” to “IT”. | |
| 14 | | |
| 15 | P 902 Council of Bishops Accountability | 510 |
| 16 | 91 – 0 – 0 | |
| 17 | Page 510, line 34 remove the first “IT”. | |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | P 903 Jurisdictional Administrative Process | 514 |
| 20 | 90 – 0 – 2 | |
| 21 | Page 514, line 16 delete the first “IT” and change “RESESOLVED” TO | |
| 22 | “RESOLVED”. | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | P 904 Revision of Episcopal Complaint Process | 516 |
| 25 | 89 – 1 – 1 | |
| 26 | Page 517, line 6 delete the first “IT” and change “RESESOLVED” to | |
| 27 | “RESOLVED”. | |
| 28 | Page 526, line 11 change “2101.5” to “2712”. | |
| 29 | Page 527, line 8 change “IF” to “IT”. | |
| 30 | | |
| 31 | Nominating Report..... | D.J. 543 |
| 32 | | |
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**Non-Consent Calendar
Concurrence – Non-Concurrence -- Abstain**

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Section 1

P 101 Solitary Confinement D.J. 538

42 – 48 – 4

Page 540, line 14 change the word “are” to “be”.

Section 4

RS 401 Funding For Ministry 2016 Budget 416

85 – 2 – 0

Section 8

P 809 Condemnation of ISIS D.J. 537

48 – 10 – 6

- Page 537, line 24 change the title to “Condemnation of Terrorist Acts of ISIS”
- Page 537, line 38 after the word “Whereas,” insert the words “the Islamic state in Iraq and ah-sham commonly referred to as...”
- Page 537, line 39 insert a comma after the word “cross”.
- Page 538, line 7 change the words “Condemnation of ISIS” to “Condemnation of Terrorist Acts of ISIS...”
- Page 538, line 8 after the words “terrorist acts of” insert the words “the Islamic state in Iraq and ah-sham commonly referred to as...”
- Page 538, line 15 after the words “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED” the words “that the 2015 session of the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church charges the conference secretary using the rationale stated above, to petition, in a timely and appropriate manner, the 2016 General Conference”.
- Page 538, line 16 delete the words “serve as missionaries” and replace with “to discern and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit, in all facets of spiritual power and grace...”.
- Page 538, line 16 after the words “in the name of” insert the words “Jesus Christ and...”
- Page 538, line 18 after the words “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED” the words “that the 2015 session of the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church charges the conference secretary using the rationale stated above, to petition, in a timely and appropriate manner, the 2016 General Conference”.

COSROW Report for Thursday June 11, 2015.
Finding Chloe's Voice

This first full day of Annual Conference brings with it joys and challenges for the COSROW team.

This year COSROW sponsored a luncheon for the female clergy of our conference. All donations given at this luncheon are going to be given to the Female Clergy Memorial Scholarship Fund. The speaker for this luncheon was the Rev. Pamela Gardner. Pam shared the story of Chloe from the Church of Corinth. It was a Church that was riddled with factions and party groups and women's voices in leadership were a rarity. However, 1 Corinthians tells us that through "her people" Chloe found a voice that reached the Apostle Paul for the good of the Church.

The work of COSROW is not so different than that of Chloe's people. We seek out, document, empower, and educate the WPAUMC to hear the Chloes in this world who are still dealing with the same issues of conflict. One of the main vehicles for doing so is the process of monitoring. COSROW monitors document the diversity trends in the various activities of Conference events.

This first full day of worship, legislative sections, and plenary our monitors have gathered the following instances of inclusive leadership.

Opening Worship:

Communion liturgy was led by our Conference Lay leader who is a woman of color, however all presenters were male. There were three female singers in the praise band and female clergy as well as clergy of color serving the Lord's Supper.

Legislative Sections:

There was some diversity among section leaders with regard to age, gender, and ethnicity. Some of the presenters were female. Overall the sections did not debate of issues but trended toward the asking of clarifying questions. Male clergy voices were a presence in sections with female clergy voices continue to be considerably less.

Plenary:

Our female Sessions Team Chair addressed the gathered body.

Within the top five clergy candidates for General Church elections two were female and one was a person of color. Within the top twenty candidates, there were several young adults as well as one Asian candidate.

During the Bishop's address to the Church he discussed the "paradox of discovery" regarding sexism and racism in our Conference, there are instances of movement toward inclusion as well as resistance. He said that these occurrences "pierce us" and cause the Church anguish and called us to accountability.

This resistance extinguishes the voices of the Chloes and diminishes the rich tapestry of gifts that will continue to edify the mission and ministry of the Church.

Our hope is that inclusiveness will continue to grow in our Conference, that the Church will continue to reach higher allowing Chloe's voice to be heard.

Respectfully submitted by,

Nancy K. Shute
Co-chair of COSROW

FIRST DAY
Thursday, June 11, 2015

CLERGY SESSION

ORDER – Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton called the clergy session to order at 9:34 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP – Bishop Bickerton invited the assembly to begin with a time of worship.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Received on motion of Janet Lord, on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry, according to ¶322. Wade S. Barto.

PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND COMMISSIONING – Received on motion of Janet Lord, on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry, according to ¶324.4 a, c or 324.5: Provisional Elders: D. Andrew “Drew” Bell Jr., John D. Mize, Benjamin A. Phipps, Jack L. Tickle III.

FULL MEMBERSHIP AND ELDER’S ORDERS – Received on motion of Wade Berkey, according to ¶335: Alison M. Berkey.

FULL MEMBERSHIP AND ELDER’S ORDERS – Received on motion of Dennis Henley, according to ¶335: Gary L. Hilton.

FULL MEMBERSHIP AND ELDER’S ORDERS – Received on motion of David Henderson, according to ¶335: Anthony R. C. Hita.

FULL MEMBERSHIP AND ELDER’S ORDERS – Received on motion of Janet Lord, on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry, according to ¶335: Scott A. Shaffer.

PASTORS FROM OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCES APPROVED FOR APPOINTMENT IN OUR CONFERENCE WHILE RETAINING THEIR CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP – Terry G. Shaffer, secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry, reported, according to ¶331.8 & ¶346.1: name (*credentials, annual conference membership*): David S. Dempsey (*RE, from Upper New York AC*), Arnold G. Husk (*RE, from West Virginia AC*), Jay C. Sowers III (*FD, from Missouri AC*), Carole J. Bergman (*RE, from California/Nevada AC*), Matthew F. Price (*PE, from West Virginia*

AC), Jerome F. Kennedy (OE, from Liberia AC), and Joe K. Samalenge (OE, from S. Katanga D.R.Congo).

CLERGY FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS – Terry G. Shaffer, secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry, reported, according to ¶331.8 & ¶346.2: name (*credentialing denomination*): Denise R. Mason (*United Church of Christ*).

AFFILIATE MEMBERS IN ANOTHER UM ANNUAL CONFERENCE – Terry G. Shaffer, secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry, reported, according to ¶334.5 & ¶344.4, without vote: Jane Ellen Nickell (*West Virginia AC*).

PROBATIONARY (PROVISIONAL) MEMBERS – Terry G. Shaffer, secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry, reported those continued as probationary (provisional) members, according to ¶326: in preparation for ordination as a Deacon (¶326.1), Lynnette A. Sklar-Moran (2008); in preparation for ordination as an Elder? (¶326.2), Linda G. Harrison (2009), Laurajane LaVerde Stone (2009), Julie S. Kolacz (2012), Erica B. Wellner (2012), Chad J. Bogdewic (2013), Jean A. Smith (2013), Amy L Chesla (2014), Larry G. Dunn (2014), Doug A. Dyson (2014), Melissa I. Geisler (2014), Dianne D. Glave (2014), Randolph K. Landman (2014), Scott D. Lawrence (2014), James R. Sands (2014), Kathleen A. McCoy Schoeneck (2014).

RECEIVED FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS – Terry G. Shaffer, secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry, reported: those received from other denominations as Local Pastors (¶347.2), Adam J. Stump, Darryl S. Lockie.

OUR COMMUNITY LIFE TOGETHER – Bishop Bickerton read 1 Corinthians 2:9-10 and shared the Scripture’s sense of awe and hope for those who love and serve our God. “... *’No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him’-- but God has revealed it to us by His Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.*”

COURSE OF STUDY GRADUATES – Sara J. Wrona introduced the 2014–2015 Course of Study graduates: Earl A. Butterfield, David A. Klink, Dawn E. Krishart, Thomas J. Shirer. Mark A. Sholtis.

LICENSING SCHOOL GRADUATES – Sara J. Wrona introduced the 2014–2015 Licensing School graduates: Jeremy W. Barkley, Megan Y. Berkebile, Janet L. Chiplis, Michael B. Coats, Janice T. Davis, Derwood B. Davis, Eric J. Diewald, Ann L. Dixon, Robert V. Ellson, MaryJo Gould, Robert W. Green, John R. Koblesky, Chance E. Kelosky, Kendra L. Kramer, Debra L. Lambert, Hannah M. Loughman, Patricha A.

McDaid, Loren A. McQueen, Beth A. Meier, Valarie B. Mize, Christopher D. Myers, Joel D. Peterson, Benjamin A. Phipps, Melody McCutcheon-Polisky, Diane C. Randolph, Janice E. Reynolds, Joshua H. Ricketts, James T. Roberts, Rebecca L. Rosengarth, Michael A. Shaffer, Louis S. Stubbs III, Adam J. Stump, Jon M. Swart, Mardiann I. Vincent, William M. Warrick, Michael L. Watts, Luke A. Whipple, Dennis M. Williams, Derrick C. Wright.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE, VOLUNTARY – Granted on motion of Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶354.2.a, 354.3: Michael A. Pacelli III (*FD*) 1st year (*effective 12/31/2014*), S. Bruce Mould (*FE*) 4th year, D. Lynn Yeso (*FE*) 4th year, Stephen A. Tiffany (*FE*) 5th year, Ronald E. Thomas (*FE*) 15th year, David R. Lewis (*FE*) 17th year, Gordon Barry Davis (*FE*) 21st year.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE, VOLUNTARY - Granted on motion of Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶354.2.a, 354.3, Chul S. Park was allowed to continue with his present conference relationship. Granted on motion of Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶354.2.a.3, Ronald E. Thomas, David R. Lewis, and Gordon Barry Davis were allowed to continue with his present conference relationship. According to ¶354.2a 3, Barbara A. Turpish and Deborah A. Ackley-Killian were allowed to continue with their present relationship.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE, TRANSITIONAL – Granted on motion of Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶354.2.c: Penelope F. Lyon (*FE*) 2nd year, Debra L. Pisor (*FD*) 2nd year, Beth A. Cooper (*FE*) 1st year, Kathleen M. Clark (*FE*) 1st year.

VOLUNTARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE SINCE THE LAST SESSION OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE -- Michael A. Pacelli III was placed on a leave of absence on December 31, 2014.

RETURN TO ACTIVE STATUS FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE – Granted on motion of Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶354.11: name (*credentials, date of return*): William M. Pieringer (*FE, 10/1/2014*).

LESS THAN FULL TIME SERVICE – Approved on motion of Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶338.2, ¶342.2, ¶1506.4b: name (*credential, fraction of full time service, year # of less than full time service*): Willard C. Adkins (*AM, 1/4 time, year 13*), Kenneth L. Bossart (*FE, 3/4 time, year 6*), Emily A. Byrd (*FE, 1/2 time, year 5*), Ralph P. Cotten (*FE, 3/4 time, year 5*), Harold J. Dangel (*AM, 3/4 time, year 5*), Todd M. Davis (*FE, 1/2 time, year 8*), Sharon M. Hamley (*FE, 3/4 time, year 7*), J. Mark Hurst (*FE, 3/4 time, year 11*), Tina G. Keller (*FE, 1/2 time, year 7*), In Ki Lee (*FE, 1/2 time, year 4*), Darlene K.

Ryniec (*AM, ½ time, year 10*), John R. Wilson (*FE, ¾ time, year 22*), Joe K. Samalenge (*FE, ¾ time, year 2*), Cynthia K. Schneider (*FE, ¼ time, year 2*), Thomas V. Chacko (*FE, ¾ time, year 1*).

APPOINTED TO SERVE IN OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCES – Terry G. Shaffer reported, according to ¶331.8 and ¶346: name (*credentials, conference where appointed*): Tracey L. Henderson (*FD, West Ohio*), Gary W. Jones (*FD, East Ohio*), Ralph P. Cotten (*FE, Florida*), Richard O. Feagin (*FE, Pacific Northwest*), Brittany L. Wooten (*PE, East Ohio AC*), Timothy C. McConville (*FE, Alaska Missionary Conference*).

CLERGY TRANSFERRED TO OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCES – Terry G. Shaffer reported, according to ¶416.5: name (*credentials, conference where transferred*): Jason E. Schweinberg (*FE, North Carolina*), Jeffrey T. St. Clair (*FE, Florida*).

MEDICAL LEAVE – Terry G. Shaffer reported, according to ¶357: name (*credentials, date of medical leave*): Raymond H. Beal, Jr. (*FE, 07/01/2007*), LaMar E. Carlson (*FE, 12/31/2008*), Mark A. DeBaise (*FE, 03/01/1996*), Shawn L. Goodwin (*without benefit*) (*FE, 05/01/2012*), Debra Anne Groeger (*FE, 02/01/1997*), Floyd A. Hall (*FE, 07/01/2007*), Connie B. Hoeke (*without benefit*) (*FE, 07/01/2000*), Austin P. Hornyak (*FE, 05/01/2012*), Earl C. Killian II (*PE, 03/01/1997*), Bonnie Tyack Friend King (*FE, 07/01/2006*), John V. King (*FE, 5/1/2015*), David K. Means (*FE, 12/01/2012*), Thomas J. Michalko (*FE, 03/16/2007*), Stanley D. Nixon (*AM, 02/01/2005*), Bruce K. Northey (*FE, 01/31/2013*), Kenneth J. Peters (*FE, 01/31/2007*), Randall R. Roda (*FE, 03/01/2005*), Thomas F. St. Clair (*FE, 11/01/2009*), Susan E. Sphar-Calhoun (*FE, 11/23/2009*).

LOCAL PASTORS, DISCONTINUED -- On motion of Jeffrey D. Sterling, chair of Board of Ordained Ministry, according to ¶320.1: Jackie L. Condon, Marjorie L. Kiefer, Daniel J. Mealy, Aaron P. Trincia.

WITHDRAWAL FROM ORDAINED MINISTERIAL OFFICE -- On motion of Jeffrey D. Sterling, according to (¶361.2, .4): name (*effective date*): J. LaVon Kincaid Sr. (*12/01/2014*), Brett A. Probert (*11/04/2014*), Vicki L. Oliver (*03/28/2015*).

RETIREMENTS: ELDERS – On motion of David D. Janz, according to ¶358: name, ¶, (*years of service*) *effective date*: Daniel O. Aleshire, ¶358.2c (17) *July 1, 2015*; Audrey J. Bell, ¶358.2c (26) *7/1/2015*; David A. Bell, ¶358.2c (26) *7/1/2015*; Linda B. Chambers, ¶358.2c (40) *7/1/2015*; Patricia S. Harbison, ¶358.2b (23) *7/1/2015*; Dennis

M. Henley, ¶358.2c (40) 7/1/2015; Ronald J. Hipwell, ¶358.2b (42) 7/1/2015; George E. Porter Jr., ¶358.2c (40) 7/1/2015; James H. Ritchie Jr., ¶358.2b (39) 7/1/2015; Sharon L. Schwab, ¶358.2c (40) 7/1/2015; Dale R. Shunk, ¶358.2c (40) 7/1/2015; Thomas R. Verner, ¶358.2d (39) 10/1/2014; Josephine A. Whitely-Fields, ¶358.2b (33) 7/1/2015; Robert A. Wilson, ¶358.2c (44) 7/1/2015.

RETIREMENTS: ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – On motion of David D. Janz, according to ¶358: name, ¶, (*years of service*) *effective date*: Alice M. McClymonds, ¶358.2b (24) 7/1/2015; Stephen C. Moore, ¶358.2c (18) 7/1/2015.

RETIREMENTS: LOCAL PASTORS – On motion of David D. Janz, according to ¶358: name, ¶, (*years of service*) *effective date*: Roy W. Butt, ¶358.1 (13) 7/1/2015; Y. Hope Cummins, ¶358.1 (2) 7/1/2015; Ardyth E. Hill, ¶358.1 (12) 9/30/2014; Daniel R. Myers, ¶358.2b (15) 7/1/2015; Bonnie L. King, ¶358.1 (10) 10/1/2014.

DECEASED MEMBERS – Terry G. Shaffer, secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry, highlighted those clergy who have died since Annual Conference 2014. A full listing is included in the Memorial Service liturgy.

PENSION CREDIT REPORT – Gary L. Grau **“God is good! All the time! And God has been good to your conference board of pensions and benefits.”**
On motion of Gary L. Grau, representing the Conference Board of Pensions, granting pension credit for the following: John Edward Donley, 1/1/1960-6/12/1965 change to FLP. Carried.

COMPREHENSIVE MOTION – On motion of Jeffrey D. Sterling, members of the Clergy Session approved a comprehensive motion to receive and approve the report of the Board of the Ordained Ministry.

COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION -- Bishop Bickerton shared that the 2012 *Book of Discipline* had removed the Committee on Investigation at the Annual Conference level. However, in a recent decision, the Judicial Council ruled that action out of order and charged the Bishops with reconstituting the committees in each annual conference. With that announcement, the Bishop nominated, and the body elected, the following Committee on Investigation: Clergy members: Tom Strandburg, Renee Mikell, Scott Gallagher, Eric Park. Lay members: Larry Beatty, Donna Douth, Bill Patrick. Clergy alternates: Joan Reasinger, Jay Sterling, Nancy Shute. Lay alternates: Michael Corner, Pat Pritchett, Tim Rigby.

APPROVAL OF CHARACTER OF PASTORS – Each of the District Superintendents highlighted the good work being done by pastors in their districts. They further affirmed that there are no Disciplinary charges pending against any of the pastors.

APPROVAL OF CHARACTER OF THE SUPERINTENDENTS – Bishop Bickerton affirmed each of the Superintendent’s character and integrity. He then personally thanked them for the hard work and continuing collegiality they share as they minister together as a cabinet.

FIRST CLERGY BALLOT – At 10:45 a.m., John Wilson, Conference Secretary prepared the members to cast the first ballot for General Conference clergy delegates. The members cast their ballots and the Bishop declared the ballot closed at 11:21 a.m.

EPISCOPAL COMMENTS – Bishop Bickerton shared concerns about uninvited intrusions of pastors returning to previous charges. The expected protocols the pastors are to keep in mind is that they must be invited to return to former pastorates. Emphasizing the fluidity of the pastoral call, when a pastor is moved to a new community he or she is expected to be on call and available for the new community and not the former community. It is not appropriate, he clarified, to make arrangements to return to former churches for baptisms, weddings, funerals, or other pastoral ministry. There are exceptions when the current pastor of a former church invites the former minister to return for a specific reason.

RECESS – Following a reaffirmation of our covenant prayer and a hymn, the Clergy Session adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION

OPENING WORSHIP - At 1:00 p.m., Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton led the opening worship service centered on the theme “Reaching Higher.” Bishop Bickerton introduced Mike McCurry from the Baltimore/Washington Annual Conference. McCurry spoke on behalf of the Executive Committee of The United Methodist Church’s Global Health Initiative. He thanked and praised the Annual Conference for not only pledging \$1.8 million, but also for actually raising \$2.1 million for this project. As a denomination, we have reached 88% of our \$75 million goal (\$67 million). Greg Cox responded to McCurry’s address of gratitude and challenged to Annual Conference to give once again to this cause. An offering of \$91,059.53 was received for Imagine No More Malaria.

Bickerton brought God's word to the body, based on Colossians 3:1-17, entitled "Leading from Within". Bickerton stated, "A leader that leads from within takes their lead from Christ and nurtures a relationship with Christ that strengthens the thread of faith and constantly acknowledges that this relationship with Jesus is a new way of living and a new way of leading." The sacrament of Holy Communion was celebrated by the body.

LEGISLATIVE SECTIONS -- Following worship, the Annual Conference divided into legislative sections.

EVENING SESSION

ORDER – Following legislative sections and dinner, Bishop Bickerton called the conference to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRAYER – At the invitation of the Bishop, Rich Pearson led the conference in prayer.

HOLY CONFERENCING – The Bishop drew the gathering's attention to the "Guidelines for Holy Conferencing – What God Expects of Us" printed in the pre-conference journal. As we work together to do the business of the Annual Conference, we are still expected to treat each other respectfully and graciously, which is the same way we would treat Jesus.

SESSIONS COMMITTEE – Vicki Stahlman, chair of the Conference Sessions Committee, highlighted logistical information to make the week more pleasant for all.

BAR OF THE CONFERENCE -- John R. Wilson, Conference Secretary, moved that the bar of the conference be set to include "those who are seated at the tables." APPROVED.

ROLL CALL –John Wilson guided members through the completion of the attendance and seating cards. Laity: _____ in attendance, Clergy: _____ in attendance. TOTAL _____.

ELECTION OF TELLERS – John Wilson presented the tellers listed on page 11 of the pre-conference journal. Head teller selected: Daryl Mains. All tellers were duly elected by the body.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Alan Morrison, Agenda Coordinator, moved for the setting of our published agenda. APPROVED.

CONFERENCE RULES – Amy Bentz, Conference Chancellor, reported that there was late legislation submitted this year. In order for the late legislation to be considered in plenary, the body waived Conference rule 2.3.8.1.1. APPROVED.

FIRST LAITY BALLOT -- In preparation for the balloting and election of delegates, Bishop Bickerton explained the voting procedure and the importance of discerning God's will in this process. John Wilson prepared the lay members for the Laity Ballot. Laity may vote for these or write in other nominees on the first ballot. Ballot started at 7:35. Ballot closed at 7:50 p.m.

RESULTS OF FIRST CLERGY BALLOT – John Wilson, Conference Secretary, reported that there were 278 clergy ballots cast. 220 were valid, 58 were invalid. 111 votes were needed to elect a delegate. There were no delegates elected.

SECOND CLERGY BALLOT – At 7:55 p.m., ballots were distributed and clergy voted for delegates. Bishop Bickerton closed the ballot at 8:10 p.m.

THE STATE OF THE CHURCH REPORT – Bishop Bickerton and Greg Cox shared the successful ways that ministry is happening in Western Pennsylvania. Along the way, he introduced many of his partners at the conference level: Superintendents, Director of Connectional Ministries, conference staff personnel, and, ultimately, the local churches of the conference with their laity and clergy. Bishop Bickerton reminded the body that, “I think you were made for tonight. I think you were made for this time. This is our opportunity to take a slice out of life and offer it to God in faithful service.”

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: CABINET – Bishop Bickerton formally introduced the cabinet members for the 2015-2016 ministry year, including Allan Brooks, who will become the Franklin District Superintendent.

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING SUPERINTENDENT – The Bishop invited George and Kathleen Porter to join him on stage as he honored them and their time of service in the Franklin District and as a member of the cabinet. Porter was given an opportunity to address the body.

PRAYER & RECESS – Bishop Bickerton offered some closing remarks and a closing prayer. At 8:55 p.m., the Bishop declared a recess until Friday morning.

Laity Ballot with Write In Additions

101Blystone, Don
102Bridge, Lawrence D {Larry}
103Burkhart, Donna
104Denardo, Nancy
105Duda, Eric
106Emigh, Joe
107Geer, Faith W
108Gregory, Sharon
109Hoffman, Rich
110Krieger, Luella
111Markley, Jann C
112Merrick, Tracy R
113Miller, Diane M
114Morelli, Paul
115Patrick, William A {Bill}
116Schall, Jr Richard H
117Schwanke, Kayla
118Shaughnessy, Candice M
119Smith, Bradford C {Brad}
120Smith, Roseann V
121Speer, Jessica
122Stahlman, Vicki J
123Thomas, Richard M
124Ward, Lynda {Lynn}
125Ward, Peggy
126Whitehead, Tina
127Widdersheim, Sydney
128Wrona, Katherine
129Carlson, Amanda L
130Murdock, Linda
131Russell, Brenda S
132Cooper, Shirley A
133Larson, Jane
134Lyon, Terry E
135Miller, Andrew
136Oliver, Lamar
137Somes, Trent
138Stone, Denise-Nicole
139Vollbracht, Leo