

## COSROW REPORT

We are COSROW. For those of you that do not know what COSROW stands for, it is Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

COSROW is an advocacy based general agency of the UMC. What we do is monitor and advocate for full inclusion of women and other marginal groups in the UMC and the world.

So, what are we doing well as an annual conference in the way of inclusiveness?

Places like Point Marion UMC, Connellsville District who have intentionally entered into ministry with Fijian Methodists who moved to the area with the influx of the Marcellus Shale gas industry.

By working together, the Point Marion Methodists came along side of the Fijian Methodists who identified an educational need in the greater community. From that need two of the Fijian Methodist women, who were professors, offered GED educational opportunities to the people of Point Marion.

Another need that was addressed was a desire for a Fijian Language Service. In addition to the regular Sunday morning services, twice a month all of the members of the Fijian community come together to worship at Point Marion UMC in their own service. All of this has occurred through the faithfulness and support of District, Conference, and connectional agencies.

On June 28<sup>th</sup> the president of the Fijian/Rotuma Methodist Church will be coming to the Point Marion area and will be joined by the Rev. William Meekins.

One Conference One Book Events:

In the Spring of this year, COSROW invited the Conference leadership to read the book, *Power, Privilege, and Difference* by Alan Johnson. This study was kicked off by a conference live stream panel discussion with Sarah Roncolato and William Meekins as panel memners. There were approximately 20 people in attendance and online.

We presently have several small groups who are studying this book in order to educate themselves on inequity and privilege and will be offering an educational event at Worshipfest 2015.

Our hope is in studying of this book we can share a common language and understanding to talk about these issue and to move forward into our core value of love.

We presently have about 24 copies of the book circulating around the Conference. If you would like to borrow one, see either me or Peggy Ward and we'll see you get one.

Also, on October 15-17, in Chicago, Ill., there will be an event on sexual ethics entitled "Do No Harm 2015: Best Practices for Health, Accountability and Wholeness." This event includes the most recent developments and challenges in prevention of and response to abuse, misconduct, and harassment of a sexual nature, particularly by persons in ministerial roles (both lay and clergy) within the UMC.

Last year we were excited by the intentional diversity of the opening worship. This year had a very heavily male presence in opening worship, preaching and study leaders. The language of hymns, worship music and address has been heavily male in word and imagery.

The Laity worship was much more diverse in gender and race. We were also challenged to focus on the sin of racism and lack of inclusion of all our siblings in Christ. Inclusion as a value was observed in the intentional, planned nature of calling upon members to pray. We saw more variety in gender, clergy and lay, age and race. When this happened. We acknowledge the valuing of inclusiveness and the intentionality needed to accomplish this. We urge that this continues while widening the lens to include our Korean and Asian, Hispanic, Native Americans and other ethnicities as well as more youth, a broader spectrum of abled people, and to also achieve diversity through distinct individuals and be mindful of the tendency to use the same individuals to represent diversity, in multiple situations.

There were many requests to change the placement of mission reports last year. This year they were placed on Friday afternoon and seemed to have more attention from the body.

Our statistical monitoring continues to show many of the trends we have reported in previous years.

1. Legislative sections

Section leaders have diversity of gender, clergy and lay and some race. While the legislative sections are equally male and female, we find that 63% of the 22% of members that choose to speak, are male and 60% of those male speakers are white clergy. White male clergy spoke 5 times more often than female clergy in legislative sections and also on the plenary floor. Only 1% of speakers are Racially Ethnic Persons.

How do we include other voices:

We must be careful not to think in binaries; either white male clergy speak or others speak. But we must reach higher to figure out why this is occurring and enduring and how we move further to where we are called to be. “A God given vision will rarely send you where you were, but will take you where god wants you to be.” (Dr. Scott Johnson)

2. We also observed that there was very little discussion on some items, specifically the budget. In section several questions were asked, an amendment was made that the author was willing to withdraw, and a speech was made against. The budget then passed unanimously. On the floor, there were no questions or discussing and within brief moments the budget had passed. In both cases the conversation immediately following the actions reflected a desire for more probing discussion, disbelief that a sum that large was passed so swiftly with no discussion, others still had no concerns they felt no outlet for. There appears to be a disconnect occurring at some point in the process. The lack of discussion and strong favorable votes may give the impression that there is wide-spread satisfaction but around the tables there can also be heard an undercurrent of discontent or disconnect.
3. During discussion of legislation, negative generalizations were extended to a religious group and ethnicity based on the actions of a subgroup.
4. Bishop Bickerton reminded us before voting that we desired a diversity of gender, age, race and theology. We were reminded to enter into discernment not coalitions.
  - a. Laity elected delegates to General Conference with gender diversity, some racial diversity, and theological possibilities, but no age diversity. The Jurisdictional delegation added racial/ethnic diversity, theological diversity and age diversity. However in the hierarchal nature of delegation structure, any shifts toward inclusive impact remains to be seen.
  - b. The clergy truly struggled to reach higher. A Delegate of Color was not chosen until the 5<sup>th</sup> spot, placing him number 11 in delegation order. There was no diversity of age. The Jurisdictional delegation added age diversity and more ethnic diversity.
5. We seem to have a willingness to hear preaching about racism and inclusiveness, to say prayers, applaud and shout amens, but what of the willingness to enter into sustained intentional actions, and learning about how to be inclusive. What about the willingness to put our long-held needs and concerns for control and fears for the Church- to lay our issues at the feet of God, so that we can allow god to move and create the church to God’s own liking through our voting, decision making, the way we talk about our fellow human beings. So that when we are asked, “What’s love got to do with it”, the question is not met with laughter but searching of our hearts and our actions to form the answer,.... Everything!

So how Do We Continue to Reach Higher?

1. Continue to engage in intentional planning for diversity in a variety of ways
2. Enter into learning that challenges your comfort zones and normative notions.
3. Listen to the 'others' more than talk about the 'other' or protect ourselves/our church from the other.

A Prayer for Inclusion by Rachel Snyder from "Words Divinely Wrought"

Include me.

Invite me into the circle and guide me to the spot that bears my name

Escort me with a steady touch, loose your hold and bear me aloft

Include my joy and ebullience, my hope and promise

The tracks of endless tears and the wounds of struggle and pain that have marked the past.

Include me raw and refined, defiant, quiescent

Include me enriched and diminished, broken and healed

Embrace me as the one anointed and demeaned

Privileged and impoverished by stature, circumstance or the trajectory of an inconstant moon

Include my willingness.

Reap the fruits I have cultivated for this moment

Lead me through a doorway unadorned

A hallway lined with latency

Pass the drinking gourd so that all who thirst

May sip the undiluted nectar of belonging.

Include me as woman, man, brother, sister, parent , child

Include me offering and offered, receiving and giving, creator and cration

Weave the strands of my soul into a blossoming tapestry of voices

Joined by the shared heart of humanity and a long-aching hunger for unity

Use every part of me.

Include the infinitesimal and the inestimable

Lift me at once to my full height and humility

Draw out my hidden gifts and squandered talents and

Draw me into the arms of others who await my arrival

I am here in this Now,

Filled with passion, with purpose

My prayer but so simple:

Include me

**WORSHIP** – Bishop Bickerton introduced Bishop Jonathan Holston from the South Carolina Annual Conference who has a wealth of knowledge and experience to share. Based on Matthew 4:12-23 (the calling of the disciples), his message was entitled “An Offer You Cannot Refuse.” Bishop Holston proclaimed that no matter who you are, the ultimate call to reach higher is to reach toward Jesus Christ. He also challenged the conference to fill our churches with people that are fully devoted, or who are willing to become fully devoted to discipleship.

The offering received during worship benefitted the Bishop’s discretionary fund. Greg Cox highlighted the importance and far reaching ministry of the discretionary fund.

**THIRD DAY**  
**Saturday, June 13, 2015**

**MORNING SESSION**

**COMMISSIONING SERVICE** – The day’s activities began at 8:00 a.m. with the Commissioning Service. Bishop Jonathan Holston brought God’s word to the body using Romans 12:9-21 as his text. Entitling the sermon, “What’s Love Got to Do With It?”. In response to that question, Bishop Holston declared that “we can become so heavenly bound that we are no earthly good.” A second response to that question is “Love is more powerful than hate.” Finally, the ultimate answer to the question “What’s Love Got to Do With It?” is “everything!”

Following the sermon, David Andrew “Drew” Bell, Jr., John Darin Mize, Benjamin Andrew Phipps, and Jack Lee Tickle III were commissioned as provisional elders.

**ORDER** -- Bishop Bickerton called the body to order at 9:45a.m.

**DEVOTIONAL MOMENT** -- Bishop Bickerton shared thoughts about how to find a “Peace Pocket” in the midst of busy, hectic times (like a LONG day of Annual Conference). Citing Kirk Byron Jones’ book: *Refill: Meditations for Leading with Wisdom, Peace, and Joy*, he gave six specific steps to help create a Peace Pocket: 1) Breathe deeply, 2) Relax your body, 3) Empty your mind, 4) Accept your Divine acceptance, 5) Take your soul to a peaceful place, and 6) Give yourself some grace.

**RESULTS OF FIRST CLERGY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- Bishop Bickerton announced that 232 clergy ballots were cast, 5 invalid, 114 votes were needed to elect a delegate. There were no elections.

**SECOND CLERGY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- At 10:00 a.m., following prayer by Paul Morelli, the clergy cast their second jurisdictional ballot. Bishop Bickerton closed the ballot at 10:11 a.m.

**RESULTS OF THIRD LAITY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT --** Bishop Bickerton announced that 560 Laity ballots were cast, 4 invalid, 279 votes were needed to elect a delegate. There was one election: Peggy Ward.

**FOURTH LAITY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT --** At 10:15 a.m., following prayer by William Meekins, Jr., the laity cast their fourth jurisdictional ballot. Bishop Bickerton closed the ballot at 10:21 a.m.

**APPOINTMENT AND PRAYER FOR THE GREENSBURG DISTRICT --** Bishop Bickerton read the new appointments to the Greensburg District while Pat Nelson, District Superintendent, and all the Greensburg District pastors welcomed and greeted each other.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ADOPTION --** Kellie Wild moved adoption of the consent calendar as amended. APPROVED.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES --** Mark Goswick moved adoption of the minutes as published in the Daily Journal pp. 616-623 and 626-629 for Thursday, June 11th and Friday, June 12th. APPROVED.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES --** Mark Goswick moved that the conference secretary and staff be given authority to record, print, and publish the minutes of today (Saturday, June 13th) and tomorrow (Sunday, June 14th). APPROVED.

**REPORT OF OFFERING : BISHOP'S DISCRETIONARY FUND --** Bishop Bickerton reported that \$7,241 was received in last night's special offering for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.

**LEGISLATION: P101 SOLITARY CONFINEMENT --** Legislative section one moved non-concurrence (42-48-4). NONCONCURRENCE APPROVED.

**LEGISLATION: P103 WITHDRAW FROM RCRC --** Legislative section one moved concurrence (84-5-3). CONCURRENCE APPROVED.

**LEGISLATIVE SECTION ONE --** Bishop Bickerton thanked the members of section one and Dan Miller, Annette Bolds, and Terry Trudge, its leaders.

**LEGISLATION: P809 CONDEMNATION OF TERRORIST ACTS OF ISIS** -- Legislative section eight moved concurrence as amended (48-10-6).

**AMENDMENT** -- Rex Wasser offered the following amendment to P809: On page 538, after line 14, add a new paragraph: "Though we condemn the actions of Islamic extremists and terrorists, we call on all Christians to seek prayerfully to understand the tragic economic, social, and historic circumstances that have contributed to the extreme anger and hatred of groups such as ISIS." A division of the house showed that the amendment failed, 337-430.

The section motion for CONCURRENCE was then APPROVED.

**LEGISLATIVE SECTION EIGHT** -- Bishop Bickerton thanked the members of section eight and Steve Morse, Cyndi Bloise, and Brian Olsen, its leaders.

**RESULTS OF FOURTH LAITY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- Bishop Bickerton announced that 565 Laity ballots were cast, 8 invalid, 279 votes were needed to elect a delegate. There was one election: Kayla Schwanke.

**FIFTH LAITY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- At 11:32 a.m., following prayer by Bishop Holston, the laity cast their fifth jurisdictional ballot. Bishop Bickerton closed the ballot at 11:38 a.m.

**RESULTS OF SECOND CLERGY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- Bishop Bickerton announced that 284 clergy ballots were cast, 15 invalid, 269 votes were needed to elect a delegate. There were 2 elections: Seth McPherson and Sung Shik Chung.

**THIRD CLERGY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- At 10:42 a.m., following prayer by Denise-Nicole Stone, the clergy cast their third jurisdictional ballot. Bishop Bickerton closed the ballot at 11:47 a.m.

**YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM** -- Bishop Bickerton invited the Youth Ministry Team (members, adult leaders, and pages) to the platform. Various members of the YMT informed the conference members about the significant ministry outreaches of the team, such as S.P.A.R.K. (Seeking and Preparing for A Renewed Kingdom) and Y.S.F. (Youth Service Fund). The annual Pineapple Award was presented to Jane Fiedler.

**RECESS** -- At 12:09 p.m., Bishop Bickerton dismissed the members for lunch and instructed the conference to regather at 1:30 p.m. for the Memorial Service.

#### **AFTERNOON SESSION**

**MEMORIAL SERVICE** -- at 1:30 p.m., the Conference reconvened for the Memorial Service. Keith McGarvey shared God's word in a sermon entitled "Unbound." The sermon was based on Daniel 3:21-29. Pamela Gardner read the role of the honored dead: Michelle Wobrak, Jean L. Haslett, William George Griffith, David Lee

Ostrander, Robert C. Armstrong, Lee Wayne Parker, Jr., Howard Dale Reitz, Roger Raymond Buzard, Donald Drake, William C. Beal, Jr., Jack Spencer, John Basinger, Jr., Harold Pat Albright, Russell L. Babcock, James Reinard, Gerald H. Murphy, Robert Dewayne Sayre, Hengust Robinson, Jr., Harry Clayton Prince, Charles Elliott, George Himes, Robert Lee Patton, Gerald Wesley Michel, Donald Lester Russell, Clyde Elmer Koah, Thelma Mowrey, John W. Stevenson, Milton M. Rhodes, Jaime Potter-Alvarez, Mary K. Fleischman, Edward Hammett, Sylvia A. Chamberlin, Debra Snyder, Agnes Dunning, Lois E. Hayes, Hilda Stewart, Elaine Ostrander, Vera Woodcock, Karen Utz, Erma Shindledecker, Wilma Jean Burns, Scharma Sphar Schaeffer, Ardith P. Johnson, Faye Beth, Thada Robb, Zelma Mellors Stants, Kathleen Reinard, Nan B. Pennington, Emmarie Lutton Spofford, Lola Moore, Joan Rose Patton, Nancy L. Stenger, June C. McPherson, Paul Dreibelbus, William Waybright, Sally Ann Schrecengost, Kenneth Mains, Freda Alice (Thatcher) Shutters, Alexander Haines, Jim Donner, Roy Eugene Heinlen, Jr., and Michael Tidd. The Conference Ministers Chorus sang "In His Presence."

**ORDER** -- Bishop Bickerton called the afternoon session to order at 3:00 p.m.

**RESULTS OF THIRD CLERGY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- Bishop Bickerton announced that 288 clergy ballots were cast, 10 invalid, 277 votes were needed to elect a delegate. There was 1 election: Greg Cox.

**FOURTH CLERGY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- At 3:07 p.m., following prayer by Nancy DeNardo, the clergy cast their fourth jurisdictional ballot. Bishop Bickerton closed the ballot at 3:12 p.m.

**RESULTS OF FIFTH LAITY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- Bishop Bickerton announced that 556 Laity ballots were cast, 8 invalid, 275 votes were needed to elect a delegate. There was 1 election: Tracy Merrick.

**JURISDICTIONAL ALTERNATES** -- Eric Park and Sharon Gregory moved "the lay and clergy alternates to Jurisdictional Conference be elected on one ballot, with the persons receiving the top six vote totals being elected in the order of their vote totals. The first two alternates shall attend Jurisdictional Conference with their expenses reimbursed in accordance with conference rule 2.3.10.5. This is keeping with our historical procedure and will hopefully better ensure the inclusiveness sought in conference rule 2.3.1 0.3." APPROVED.

**LAITY JURISDICTIONAL ALTERNATES BALLOT** -- At 3:20 p.m., following prayer by Seth McPherson, the laity cast their ballot. Bishop Bickerton closed the ballot at 3:28 p.m.

**STOP HUNGER NOW** -- Bishop Bickerton reported that our conference members, over the past two days, have packed 50,000 meals. Compared to last year, that's more meals packed in less time.

**MISSIONS TEAM** -- Sandra Matoushaya, Conference Zimbabwe Partnership Coordinator, and Stephanie Gottschalk, Conference Missions Director, spoke to the conference about the Zimbabwe Partnership, the Zimbabwe Mission Opportunities, the Bahamas Young Adult VIM Team, and Conference VIMpossible. A future mission team was introduced and Bishop Bickerton prayed for the participants of this team.

**UMCOR 75th ANNIVERSARY** -- Yovanna Troansky, Executive Secretary from International Disaster Response, shared how UMCOR responds when disasters strike. One of the key strategies UMCOR tries to be involved in is “Disaster Risk Reduction,” which means they are looking for ways to help communities to be ready for possible disasters.

**LEGISLATION: RS401 FUNDING FOR MINISTRY 2016** - Legislative section four moved concurrence (85-2-0). APPROVED

**LEGISLATIVE SECTION FOUR** -- Bishop Bickerton thanked the members of section four and Sue Hutchins, Jim Sands and Roger Pike, its leaders.

**EVANGELISM** -- Paul Morelli shared a video about how a United Methodist church in Bradford (Kane District) used an unexpected crisis as an evangelistic tool. When Bradford experienced a water main break, the United Methodists in the Bradford Area Parish Charge, and Matthew Blake, their pastor, mobilized to provide bottled water to residents. At one of the senior high rise buildings, someone asked the pastor about the Christian faith. That conversation led to the development of a new worship service in that high rise. Since then, there have been 12 professions of faith.

**DENMAN AWARDS** -- Al Kimmel announced this year’s Denman Award which recognizes outstanding work in the area of evangelism. Youth recipient is Michael Gionti, from First United Methodist Church in Titusville. The clergy recipient is John Zimmerman, General Evangelist. The volunteer recipients are Steve and Wendy McPherson from Evangelical United Methodist Church in Brookville.

**RESULTS OF FOURTH CLERGY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- Bishop Bickerton announced that 247 clergy ballots were cast, 7 invalid, 240 votes were needed to elect a delegate. There were 2 elections: Randy Bain and Stephanie Gottschalk.

**FIFTH CLERGY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- At 4:10 p.m., following prayer by Vicky Stahlman, the clergy cast their fifth jurisdictional ballot. Bishop Bickerton closed the ballot at 4:16 p.m.

**BIBLE STUDY** -- At 4:20 p.m., Bishop Bickerton introduced Dr. Scott Johnson from the New York West Conference. Using the call Joshua received as an example for us as leaders in the church today, he drew lessons from Joshua’s Call: 1) Focus on the God given vision, 2) Stay a disciple while also being a leader, and 3) Faith is the key to the challenges of leadership.

Has God set your heart on fire with passion for a promised land -- a land, a place, a mission, a vision that God has called you to? Like Joshua, God says to you, "I've commanded you to be brave and strong, haven't I? Don't be alarmed or terrified, because the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9 - CEB)

**RECESS** -- Bishop Bickerton dismissed the group for dinner at 5:00 p.m.

### **EVENING SESSION**

**ORDER** -- Bishop Bickerton called the house to order at 7:00 p.m.

**GCFA** -- Stephen Lambert, from the General Council of Finance and Administration, congratulated and thanked the conference for financially supporting 100% of all apportionments asked by the General Church.

**LEGISLATION: P505 FOR SETTING UP A DIVESTMENT TASK FORCE** -- Legislative section five moved to refer the petition to Church and Society. (72-12-0)

-- AMENDMENT -- Greg Spencer moved that we delete lines 31-34. AMENDMENT APPROVED.

-- AMENDMENT -- page 463 line 26 after "women" add: "CFA, trustees, and any other conference related teams and any other teams with finances under investment." AMENDMENT APPROVED.

-- AMENDMENT -- p 463, line 29 after the word "task force" insert the words "inasmuch as possible". AMENDMENT DEFEATED.

P505 was then APPROVED as amended.

**LEGISLATIVE SECTION FIVE** -- Bishop Bickerton thanked the members of section five and Jeff Sterling, Barbara Gaither, and Herb Phar, its leaders.

**APPOINTMENT AND PRAYER FOR THE INDIANA DISTRICT** -- Bishop Bickerton read the new appointments to the Indiana District while James Pond, District Superintendent, and all the Indiana District pastors welcomed and greeted each other.

**PRAYER SHAWLS** -- Ann Dixon, one of our new local pastors in the Indiana District, has been teaching a lay ministry course on "Hands On Ministry." She presented the Bishop with a prayer shawls for the Bishop's mother and mother-in-law.

**RESULTS OF FIFTH CLERGY JURISDICTIONAL BALLOT** -- Bishop Bickerton announced that 272 clergy ballots were cast, 3 invalid, 135 votes were needed to elect a delegate. There was 1 election: John Ciampa.

**CLERGY JURISDICTIONAL ALTERNATES BALLOT** -- At 7:52 p.m., following prayer by Rich Hoffman, the clergy cast their ballot. Bishop Bickerton closed the ballot at 8:00 p.m.

**GREETINGS** -- On motion from Wayne Cleary, heartfelt greetings are to be conveyed to Bishop Bickerton's parents, who were not able to visit us at Annual Conference this year. APPROVED.

**NOMINATIONS AND LEADERSHIP RECRUITMENT TEAM** -- Donna Vizza presented the Nominations and Leadership Recruitment Report. APPROVED.

**APPOINTMENT AND PRAYER FOR THE JOHNSTOWN DISTRICT** -- Bishop Bickerton read the new appointments to the Johnstown District while Alyce Weaver Dunn, District Superintendent, and all the Johnstown District pastors welcomed and greeted each other.

**SHOE COLLECTION REPORT** -- Bishop Bickerton reported that our Annual Conference had collected 1,047 pairs of shoes.

**CABINET REPORT** -- The cabinet report was delivered in dramatic fashion by the extended cabinet. Even though they started out by saying, "It's all about me!", the final conclusion is that it's all about us! More importantly, it's really all about JESUS! In fact, "Excellent leadership begins on our knees." Joel Garrett invited all who were able to kneel at their seats. He then offered a prayer concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

**APPOINTMENT AND PRAYER FOR THE KANE DISTRICT** -- Bishop Bickerton read the new appointments to the Kane District while Patrick Lenox, District Superintendent, and all the Kane District pastors welcomed and greeted each other.

**CAMPING PRESENTATION** -- Jessica Gamache, camping coordinator, shared the ministry of our conference's three summer camps: Jumonville, Camp Allegheny, and Wesley Woods. She told of the impact camp can have on children. She also shared a video presentation highlighting the positive influence camp has on the young adults who are hired to work with our children.

Jessica also highlighted the new "Called and Sent" program. For the first class of "Called and Sent", Trent Somes and John Kolacz attended Annual Conference.

**APPOINTMENT AND PRAYER FOR THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT** -- Bishop Bickerton read the new appointments to the Pittsburgh District while Paul Taylor, District Superintendent, and all the Pittsburgh District pastors welcomed and greeted each other.

**BOARD OF PENSIONS** -- Tom Parkinson reported on anticipated changes in the conference's health care plan for 2016.

**NEW CHURCH STARTS** -- Amy Wagner, Director of Congregational Development and Revitalization, gave a history of new church starts that occurred during the 1700s and 1800s. She explained that never in our history has there been more than four years without starting a new church. Currently, there are several new worshipping communities supported in part by our annual conference: The Heights Faith Community, Allegheny River Valley, Roots of Faith, Faith Acts, Faith on 68 (Rochester), Connect Church (Blairsville), Charter Oak Crossroads Campus, Point Marion Fijian Language Community, and Laketon Heights.

**ASBURY INTERNS** -- Bishop Bickerton reported that our Conference is hosting three interns from Asbury Theological Seminary this summer.

**APPOINTMENT AND PRAYER FOR THE WASHINGTON DISTRICT** - Bishop Bickerton read the new appointments to the Washington District while Brad Lauster, District Superintendent, and all the Washington District pastors welcomed and greeted each other.

**FIXING OF APPOINTMENTS** -- At 9:20 p.m., Bishop Bickerton declared all appointments for the coming year fixed. "None of you are appointed to a building. Each of you are appointed to a community. Find the courage to get out of the building and into the places where the people of your community go."

**GENERAL & JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCES** -- Bishop Bickerton introduced Eric Park, Sharon Gregory, Robert Zilhaver, Nancy DeNardo, Alyce Weaver Dunn, Rich Hoffman, Amy Wagner, Paul Morelli, William Meekins, Jr., Diane Miller, John Seth, and Vicki Stahlman as the delegates who will represent our annual conference at General Conference in May 2016 at Portland, Oregon.

Joining them in July 2016 at Lancaster, PA, Jurisdictional Conference delegates will be Seth McPherson, Don Blystone, Sung Shik Chung, Tina Whitehead, Greg Cox, Faith Geer, Randy Bain, Peggy Ward, Stephanie Gottschalk, Kayla Shwanke, John Ciampa, and Tracy Merrick.

The Bishop then introduced the elected alternates to Jurisdictional Conference in order of their election by house: Pat Nelson, Tom Parkinson, Joel Garrett, Joe Stains, Janet Lord, Thomas Strandburg, Joe Emigh, Donna Burkhart, Eric Duda, Larry Bridge, Richard Thomas, and Sydney Widdersheim.

Prayer was offered for all those who will be representing our Annual Conference at those quadrennial meetings.

**COSROW REPORT** -- Peggy Ward and Nancy Shute presented the COSROW monitoring report.

**RECESS** -- At 9:50 p.m., Bishop Bickerton recessed the conference until Ordination tomorrow morning.

**DAY FOUR**  
**June 14, 2015**

**MORNING SESSION**

**ORDINATION** -- The conference gathered at 9:00 a.m. for a service of Reaffirmation of Baptism, Ordination, and Holy Communion. Bishop Bickerton's message was "Leading with Purpose" and was based on Ephesians 4:1-13.

Recognized as an Associate Member: Wade S. Barto.

Receiving ordination as Elders: Alison M. Berkey, Gary L. Hilton, Anthony R.C. Hita, and Scott Shaffer.

**ADJOURNMENT** -- Following the ordination service, Bishop Bishop Bickerton adjourned the conference.