

DAY THREE
Saturday, June 10, 2017

MORNING SESSION

BIBLE STUDY II -- The Annual Conference gathered at 8:00 AM. Rev. Dr. Dawn Chesser, Discipleship Ministries, lead the body in a study of Colossians 2 & 3.

ORDER - Alyce Weaver Dunn, Dean of the Cabinet, called the conference to order at 9:15 AM. Alyce Weaver Dunn asked Sharon Gregory, Conference Lay Leader, to open the morning session in prayer.

CAMPING AND RETREAT MINISTRIES - The camping presentation began with Bishop Moore-Koikoi rappelling from the balcony, dropping (literally) to the floor of the Annual Conference. She spoke about the importance of the Conference's camping and retreat ministries which provide spiritual help and nourishment. Through various speakers, the conference was reminded of how the camping program relates to the five areas of focus: Developing Principled Christian Leaders (Jude Urso), Creating New and Renewed Congregations (Sarah Cox), Engaging in Ministry with the Poor (Keith Murphy), Improving Health Globally (Nate Greenway), and Dismantling Racism (Dennis Tawney).

Bishop Moore-Koikoi then spoke about the importance of the Camping and Retreat ministries, and she unveiled her plan to begin a \$5 million initiative during the next 4 years to support the camping program. Part of her vision (and challenge) was to allow every child in the Annual Conference to go to camp at least one time without charge. The manifestation of the Holy Spirit was evident in the response of the Annual Conference with a spontaneous offering for the new camping initiative.

JOINT STAFF REPORT - "There's a Staff for That!" -- Greg Cox, Director of Connectional Ministries, and other staff members spoke about the various needs within local churches. For each of the needs, "There is a Staff for That!" The conference has staff for Clergy Leadership Development, Communications, Camping, Young People's Ministry, Diversity Development, Missions, Multimedia, Discipleship & Spiritual Formation, Zimbabwe Partnership, Clergy Excellence, and Congregational Development & Revitalization. Local churches are encouraged to use the resources of the Annual Conference to help address their needs.

MOMENT OF PRIVILEGE -- Nancy Denardo shared some very important concerns about the proper way to dispose of used medical sharps.

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: INDIANA DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi reappointed James N. Pond as the Superintendent for the Indiana District. James Pond introduced Corona McKee, his "miracle" lay leader, then read the new appointments to the District, while all current District pastors welcomed and greeted each other. Sharon Gregory offered a prayer for all pastors of the District.

CONSENT CALENDAR ADOPTION - Mark Goswick, Secretarial Staff, announced that as of 9:00 PM last evening, no items were removed from the Consent Calendar (Daily Journal pages 617-620). He then moved for the adoption of the consent calendar. The motion carried (858-13).

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES - Mark Goswick, Secretarial Staff, moved the adoption of the minutes for Thursday and Friday's proceedings (Daily Journal pages 621-639). The motion carried (869-15). He then asked for the grace of the Annual Conference to be extended to the Secretarial Staff to record, edit, perfect, print, publish, and approve the minutes of today's (Saturday, June 10th) and tomorrow's (Sunday, June 11th) sessions. The motion carried with a voice vote.

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: JOHNSTOWN DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi reappointed Alyce Weaver Dunn as the Superintendent for the Johnstown District. Alyce Weaver Dunn read the new appointments to the District, while all current District pastors welcomed and greeted each other. Sharon Gregory offered a prayer for all pastors of the District.

ANTI-RACISM MINISTRY TEAM -- A video was launched featuring Dianne Glave and others. #letstalkaboutracewpa

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN - Diane Miller shared contact information, programs, and other important items as related to the United Methodist Women.

BLACK COLLEGE FUND – Diane Miller then introduced Jessica Love (see UMW page for more on her bio). Jessica Love spoke about the benefits that she has received from the Black College Fund, and encouraged the conference to continue their 100% support of this important fund.

MOMENT OF PRIVILEGE – Bishop Moore-Koikoi announced that \$9,251 was collected during the spontaneous offering for the Camp Initiative. The conference celebrated this wonderful beginning.

GCFA -- 100% APPORTIONMENT RECOGNITION -- Jodi Chadwell, Shared Services of GCFA, addressed the body, thanking us for our faithful obedience to the General Church. The conference has been at the 100% level since 2011. She presented a certificate to the Bishop in recognition of another year of 100% support (2016).

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: KANE DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi reappointed J. Patrick Lenox as the Superintendent for the Kane District. J. Patrick Lenox read the new appointments to the District, while all current District pastors welcomed and greeted each other. Sharon Gregory offered a prayer for all pastors of the District.

MOMENT OF PRIVILEGE - Bishop Moore-Koikoi announced that in addition to the spontaneous offering, the youth had already presented her a check in the amount of \$1,985 at pizza party.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA - NICARAGUA PARTNERSHIP -- Richard Schall spoke about his beginnings with the Nicaragua Partnership. David Stains thanked the conference for our relief during crisis. David Stains then introduced Rev. Reuben Zeldon, the new President of the Methodist Evangelical Conference of Nicaragua and Margorie, his wife. Rev. Zeldon (through Rebecca Clapp, translating) expressed his hope for the future of the church community in Nicaragua. He said, "A man is greater on his knees than standing up." Bishop Moore-Koikoi prayed for the President and his wife. Appropriate gifts were exchanged.

YOUTH PRESENTATION – The Youth Caucus shared a very creative presentation based on "Back to the Future." Grant Shoffstall, president of Youth Ministry Team (aka Doc Brown) talked about helping youth to get excited for the future -- not a future of hover boards – but the amazing future that God has planned for them. 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). They also reminded the body that the annual Pineapple Award was presented to earlier this week to Sharon Gregory.

RECESS – Following closing comments and announcements, the conference was recessed at 11:40 AM.

AFTERNOON SESSION

MINISTER'S CHOIR CONCERT – At 1:00 PM, the Minister's Choir shared several songs with the gathering body.

MEMORIAL SERVICE -- The Conference reconvened for the Memorial Service at 1:30 PM. Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi shared God's word in a sermon entitled "What More Should I Say", using Hebrews 11:32 - 12:1 as the scripture text. Rev. Pamela Gardner read the role of the honored dead: David Hampson, Vincent Rothwell, Richard Hawke, Dean Hughes, Roger Applebee, William Hiles, Hoyt Hickman, Harry Sherry, Robert Critchlow, Richard Shields, David Bell Sr., Jack Hemskey, Victor Brown, Frank Bodnar, Horace Pollock, Wilma Horner, Jane Morrison Myers, John Sass Jr., John Dallape, Robert Matthews, Robert Janacek, Sara Beveridge, Lloyd Bish, June Robinson, Audrey Pomrenke, Frances Ludlow, Alva Kelso, Dorothy Olds, Nancy Roddy, Audrey Garvin, Donna Reitz, Esther Wilson, Ruth Shindledecker, Lois King, Elizabeth Fields, Marlene Richards, Wilma Hogg, Laura Holste, Donna Cole. O. Ruth Ankeny, Betty Lash, Martha Yohe, Carol Ann Kerr, Carol Morse, Hae Young Koe, Patricia Koehler.

CALL TO ORDER - Bishop Moore-Koikoi called the conference to order at 3:00 PM.

OPENING PRAYER - Corona McKee, Indiana District Lay Leader, opened the afternoon session in prayer.

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: PITTSBURGH DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi reappointed Paul Taylor as the Superintendent for the Pittsburgh District. Paul Taylor read the new appointments to the District, while all current District pastors welcomed and greeted each other. Bishop Moore-Koikoi offered a prayer for all pastors of the District.

EAST GERMAN INITIATIVE -- Mary Garber brought greetings from the East German Conference with Joe Stains, and Richard Russell who told of the many changes, blessings, and challenges that are occurring in East Germany.

THE WAY FORWARD -- Bishop Moore-Koikoi talked about the work of the Council of Bishops' Commission on The Way Forward. She then outlined her vision for the Annual Conference Order of Elders declaring the diverse voices represented in Western Pennsylvania to the Commission. She shared her optimism that God has already worked out a way forward. God is simply waiting for us to follow the plan.

RS401 FUNDING FOR MINISTRY FOR 2018 -- Seth McClymonds, Chair, made some opening remarks on behalf of the Council on Finance and Administration. Jeff Sterling representing Section Four moved concurrence of the petition (100-0-0). Following prayer, the motion for concurrence from the section was adopted (702-71).

LEADERSHIP RECRUITMENT & NOMINATION TEAM -- Ken Miller presented and moved adoption of the Nominations and Leadership Recruitment Report (Daily Journal, pages 543-571). Following prayer, the motion carried (727-28).

P505 DECLARATORY DECISION ON CALCULATION OF THE DENOMINATIONAL AVERAGE COMPENSATION FOR PENSION AND BENEFIT PROGRAMS -- Jim Kimmel representing Section Five moved non-concurrence of the petition (25-66-10). Following discussion and prayer, the motion for non-concurrence from the section was sustained (529-196).

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: WASHINGTON DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi reappointed Bradford L. Lauster as the Superintendent for the Washington District. Brad Lauster read the new appointments to the District, while all current District pastors welcomed and greeted each other. Bishop Moore-Koikoi offered a prayer for all pastors of the District.

PRAYER -- Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited the members in extension ministries to stand and she prayed for them. Following that prayer, she then led the conference in a another time of prayer for all of the pastors of the Annual Conference.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AWARDS RECOGNITION -- Bishop Moore-Koikoi called attention to the pamphlet on the “2017 Annual Conference Awards.” She explained that the awards were presented earlier in other settings.

COSROW MONITORING REPORT -- Peggy Ward, Barb Hess, Bonnie Wilson presented the monitoring report. They cited not only statistics of what transpired in terms of race and gender, but they also offered many suggestions about accessibility concerns to improve participation. Encouraging efforts for inclusion by section leaders were celebrated.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS – Kelly Smith made several announcements, including the announcement that there was not a need for an evening session.

RECESS -- Bishop Moore-Koikoi offered praise and glory to God for what God has done. After recognizing the hard work and preparations for this Annual Conference along with some closing comments and announcements, the conference was recessed at 5:00 PM.

DAY FOUR
Sunday, June 11, 2017

MORNING SESSION

ORDINATION --The conference gathered at 9:00 AM for The Service of Word and Table for the Ordination of Elders, the Recognition of Orders, and the Recognition of Associate Members. Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi preached a sermon entitled “Don’t Stop Singing” based on Exodus 15:19-24. Participants in the service were Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Sharon Gregory, Jessica Gamache, David Janz, Eric Raygor, Kelly Schanely, Kevin Latshaw, Debbie Airgood, and Kevin Haley.

Received as Full Members and ordained as Elders: David Andrew Bell Jr, Doug Andrew Dyson, Benjamin Andrew Phipps, Jean A. Smith, Jack L. Tickle III, Erica Beth Wellner, and Brittany L. Wooten.

Received as Associate Members: Sheila Rae Auer, and Samuel J. Wagner.

ADJOURNMENT -- Following the worship service, upon proper motion, the conference was officially adjourned at ??:?? PM.