

**Important Information for the
2022 Annual Conference Members**

Alan J Morrison
Chairperson of Conference Sessions

WELCOME TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Our conferences each year don't happen by accident. MANY hours of hard work, blood, sweat, and a few tears are shed along the way. Especially as we are in a different venue than when we last met in person and are still dealing with measures for COVID-19. Things will be different: some changes we will like and immediately embrace, other changes will continue to be shaped as we move into the future.

The business of the annual conference is centered in the midst of worship and Bible study. We invite you to enter a season of prayer that God's Spirit will move mightily upon us. I am thankful for all the support as I serve as Chair of the Conference Sessions Team. On behalf of the Sessions Team, I welcome you and pray that you will allow the Holy Spirit to be your guide this week. If there is anything you need, please don't hesitate to stop at the information desk in the main hallway to ask.

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

In the event of an emergency in the Convention Center that requires police, fire department, or ambulance, please **DO NOT** dial 911. Please notify the nearest member of the convention center staff, one of the uniformed officers, a member of our safety team, the nurse's station in the rear of the plenary, or the information desk in the main hallway.

I.D. BADGES

I.D. Badges are **ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED** to be worn at all times by members, visitors, and staff of the Annual Conference. This differentiates you from strangers in this public building to allow our Conference Safety Team and the Convention Center staff to keep you safe. If you feel you have been issued the wrong type of name badge, please see John Wilson, Conference Secretary.

TRANSPORTATION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Golf Cart transportation is available in the parking lot for Persons with Disabilities. Others are welcome to ride on a space-available basis. If you need a wheelchair inside the Convention Center, please inquire at the Nurse's Station or the Information Desk.

HEALTH CARE AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

If you are in need of health care while in the Convention Center, the nurse's station is in the back of the Plenary room. If you need health care while in your hotel, contact the front desk for any emergency assistance.

PARKING

If you are staying in the Sheraton or Marriott Courtyard adjacent to the Convention Center, please park in the hotel parking lot rather than the Convention Center parking lot.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost and Found is at the Information Desk in the main hallway. Following Annual Conference, contact Bill Jacka at 1-800-886-3382 or by email at bill.jacka@gmail.com

WIRELESS INTERNET SERVICE

Choose "Free VNET WiFi" for free internet access through the Convention Center.

PRAYER ROOM

You are invited to spend time in prayer in the Prayer Room in Room 130 C. There are themed multisensory and interactive prayer stations and quiet areas for private meditative prayer. Prayer Team members are praying for you and would love to pray with you.

DISPLAY AREA

Displays are along the glass wall of the East Pre-function Area. You are welcome to browse the tables from 9 AM – 9 PM Thursday and Friday or 9 AM – 11 AM on Saturday.

CONVENTION CENTER ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Plenary	Great Hall
Conference Secretary & Sessions Ministry Team	Room 110
Prayer Room	Room 130 C
Recess & Child Care	Room 140 C
Youth Ministry Team.....	Room 120 (except Thursday)

A “Sensory Space” is available. Check at the Information Desk for more information.

Wednesday, June 1st

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Prayer Team with Cabinet	Room 130 A&B
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Registration Check-in	East Pre-Function Area

Thursday, June 2nd

7:00 AM – 9:00 PM	Registration Check-in	East Pre-Function Area
8:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Mission Impact Event.....	Various Locations
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Section Leaders Meeting	Room 110
10:30 AM	Delegation Meeting	Room 160 A
11:00 AM	Healing Service & Prayer Walk.....	Room 130 A&B
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch.....	Ballroom East and West, North Point Lobby, & Sunset Terrace
1:00 PM	Opening Worship & Plenary	Great Hall
1:30 PM – 11:00 PM	Prayer Room	Room 130 C
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Legislative Section Meetings	
	Section 1 – Room 100	
	Section 2 – Room 120	
	Section 3 – Room 130 A&B	
	Section 4 – Room 140 A&B	
	Section 5 – Room 160 B&C	
	Section 6 – Room 170 A	
	Section 7 – Room 170 B	
5:00 – 6:00 PM	Dinner.....	Ballroom East and West, North Point Lobby, & Sunset
	Ordination Dinner	Safe Harbor Room – Sheraton Hotel
7:00 PM	Ordination & Commissioning Service	Great Hall

Friday, June 3rd

6:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Biometric Screenings	Room 100
7:00 AM – 9:00 PM	Registration Check-in	East Pre-Function Area
7:00 AM – 11:00 PM	Prayer Room	Room 130 C
8:00 AM – 11:45 AM	Bible Study & Plenary.....	Great Hall
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Mission Impact Event....	Door by garage door in rear of Plenary
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	WCA Chapter Lunch Meeting.....	Ballroom East
	Duke Luncheon	Room 130 A
	PTS Luncheon	Room 130 B
	Retirement Luncheon	Safe Harbor Room – Sheraton Hotel
	Lunch (otherwise)	Ballroom West, North Point Lobby, & Sunset Terrace
1:00 PM – 4:45 PM	Retirement Recognition & Plenary	Great Hall
5:00 – 6:00 PM	Dinner.....	Ballroom East and West, North Point Lobby, & Sunset
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	Laity Session	Ballroom East and West
	Clergy Session	Great Hall
8:15 PM	Evensong Worship	Great Hall

Saturday, June 4th

8:00 AM – 10:45 AM	Bible Study & Plenary.....	Great Hall
10:30 AM	Memorial Families Gather	Room 130 A&B
11:30 AM	Memorial Service & Closing Worship	Great Hall

Opening Worship
Thursday, June 2 – 1:00pm

GATHERING MUSIC

Good Grace

~ Joel Houston

Relentless

~ Matt Crocker & Joel Houston

Fullness

Chris Brown, Steven Furtick, & Matthews Ntlele

WORDS OF WELCOME

*INVITATION TO WORSHIP

From Psalm 95

Come, let us worship and bow down!

Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

For the Lord is our Shepherd,

and we the people of God's pasture.

May we listen to the Shepherd's voice,

And refuse to harden our hearts

toward God or one another.

Come, let us worship and bow down!

Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

*HYMN OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING

"And Are We Yet Alive?"

~ Charles Wesley,

Johann G. Angelo, Lowell Mason

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 2:1-11

REFLECTION

Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi

LITANY FOR THE MIND OF CHRIST

~ BOW 514, adapted, England, 20th Cent., Alt.

Let us remember Jesus: Who, though he was rich...
...declining no humble tasks.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us remember Jesus: Who, though mighty in deed...
...Whose desire was to do the will of God who sent him.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us remember Jesus: Who loved people...
...who hated the sins of pride and selfishness.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us remember Jesus: who believed in people...
...wherefore God has highly exalted him.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us unite in prayer, that Christ may dwell in our hearts:

**O Christ, our only Savior, so come to dwell in us
that we may live with the light of your hope in our eyes,
and with your faith and love in our hearts. Amen.**

*SUNG AFFIRMATION

We Believe

~Richie Fike, Matt Hooper, Travis Ryan

***AFFIRMATION OF SHARED FAITH: The Apostles' Creed**

Leader: Do you believe in God?

People: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son,
Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontus Pilate,
was crucified, died and buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and
the dead.**

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of
the body, and the life everlasting.**

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

~ BOW 504, adapted, Walter Rauschenbusch

O God of all times and places,
we pray for your Church,
which is set today amid the perplexities of a
changing order,
and face to face with new tasks.

Baptize her afresh in the life-giving spirit of Jesus.
Bestow upon her a great responsiveness to duty,
a swifter compassion with the suffering,
and an utter loyalty to your will.

Help her to proclaim boldly
the coming of your kingdom.

Put upon her lips the ancient gospel of her Lord.
Fill her with the prophets' scorn of injustice,
and with a Christlike tenderness
for the heavyladen and downtrodden.

Bid her cease from seeking her own life,
lest she lose it.

Make her valiant to give up her life to humanity,
that like her crucified Lord,
she may follow the path of the cross,
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi

CLOSING SONG

Cornerstone

~ Eric Liljero, Reuben Morgan & Jonas Myrin

Musicians:

“Give Grace” - Indiana Grace UMC

Rev. J. Mark Heckman, Organist

1

Election of Tellers

2

2.3.5 **Voting Procedure** – A total of 31 tellers shall be elected by the Annual Conference, one laity, one clergy, and one alternate (either laity or clergy) nominated by each of the District Superintendents, a head teller nominated by the Conference Secretary, and these persons shall be presented for election by the Conference Secretary. The names of those nominated by the District Superintendents shall be in the hands of the Conference Secretary by March 1st, to be included in the Pre-Conference Journal.

3

4

5

6

7

8

2.3.5.1 The task of the tellers depends on whether or not the annual conference is using electronic keypads. If there is a standing count vote, tellers will receive the counts of those standing for each row or if paper ballots are used then the tellers have additional responsibilities to distribute, collect, and count the paper ballots. The tellers report the results of the ballot to the head teller who reports to the president of the Annual Conference. The Tellers should be chosen for accuracy and dependability, should have the confidence of the members of the Annual Conference, and should not have a direct personal involvement in the results of the ballot question. During voting, tellers are assigned specific areas to monitor and ensure that voting procedures are being followed.

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

BU: Jan Davis

19

CV: Bob Nagy

20

CV: Richard Means

21

EM: Roger Pike

22

FR: Jean Ehrhart

23

FR: Rob Noble

24

IN: Mary Beth Rine, Head Teller

25

KA: Heidi Helsel

26

KA: Rick Helsel

27

PB: Matt Price

28

PB: Liangshen Qian

29

PB: Angelique Bradford

30

WA: Lori Walters

31

WA: Dan Grimes

- 1 **Additions to Pre-Conference Booklet Page 9**
- 2 Our Section Leadership:
- 3 Section 1: Dan Miller (convener), Jan Davis, Dean Dietrick
- 4 Section 2: Roger Pike (convener), Emily McClintic, Scott Shaffer
- 5 Section 3: Cyndi Bloise (convener), E. Bob Nagy, Scotty Ritenour
- 6 Section 4: Rick Nelson (convener), Wade Berkey, Janice Durnis
- 7 Section 5: Bev Roscoe (convener), Jayme Graham, Raphael Koikoi
- 8 Section 6: Les Hutchins (convener), Adam Stumpf, Nellie Wiancko
- 9 Section 7: Steve Morse (convener), Greg Spencer, Stella Walton

- 10 **Additions to Pre-Conference Booklet Page 445**
- 11
- 12 RS 204 Jumonville
- 13 (Section 2)
- 14 Class of 2022
- 15 Rev. Raphael Koi Koi
- 16 BRUCE THOMAS
- 17 BLAIR POMEROY
- 18 Submitted by Heather Withrow, President
- 19
- 20 RS 205 Wesley Woods
- 21 (Section 2)
- 22 Class of 2026
- 23 Rev. Samantha Penwell
- 24 KRISTINE HENLEY
- 25 BILL JACKA
- 26 KEN CROSBY
- 27 Submitted by Erica Wellner, Chair, Board Development
- 28
- 29 RS 206 Camp Allegheny
- 30 (Section 2)
- 31 Class of 2026
- 32 BETH TRIMBETH
- 33 ED WASHINGTON
- 34 Submitted by Dennis D. Tawney, President/
- 35
- 36 RS 207 Olmsted Manor
- 37 (Section 2)
- 38 KAREN HECHT
- 39 Matthew Williams
- 40 Dylan Parson
- 41 BILL GENTILMAN
- 42 Submitted by Al Hammer, Executive Director
- 43

1 **Additions to Pre-Conference Booklet Page 404**

2

3 Church & Society Response

4 P14 DEGRADING BEHAVIOR AGAINST FEMALE ATHLETES

5

6 *There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male*

7 *and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.*

8 Galatians 3:28

9

10 Upon review of this legislation and much prayer, Church & Society has deep

11 concerns moving forward with this measure.

12

13 The Committee believes several items go against our covenantal relationship:

14

15 **Do No Harm** - as part of John Wesley’s General Rules, this legislation harms the witness

16 of the universal church by using inflammatory rhetoric and scare tactics to illicit an

17 emotional response. In fact, upon further investigation, Church & Society found that

18 transgender individuals have been competing in the Olympics since 2004. More precisely,

19 Lia Thompson is named. Using this example, while she won one race, she came in fifth

20 and eighth place in the other races she competed in. The record for the race she won was

21 set in 2017 by a cisgendered female. Additionally, the American Medical Association,

22 AMA, is a strong supporter of human rights and freedoms and will continue to **strongly**

23 **oppose discrimination based on an individual's sex, sexual orientation, or gender**

24 **identity.**

- 25
- 26 1. Claiming to speak for all women and their fear of transgender women is
- 27 irresponsible. The statement also presumes women need to be “protected”.
- 28 2. If there is a concern about women’s sports, we propose looking at the pay disparity
- 29 of female and male athletes; abuse of women by male coaches; eating disorders, etc.
- 30 3. Lack of inclusive language and wrong pronouns further separates us in this
- 31 dialogue.

32

33 **Polity Concerns** - The legislation specifically calls for the Conference Board of Church

34 and Society to “compile other action steps” that would advance this legislation’s priorities.

35 The Board believes that such a direction is inappropriate and perhaps out of order since the

36 objective of this legislation is contrary to the objectives of the General Board of Church

37 and Society which the Conference Board of Church and Society is required by the

38 *Discipline* to honor (§ 629.1). More specifically, this legislation opposes the General

39 Board’s objective to protect LGBTQ rights, as expressed on the General Board’s website:

40 *Discrimination and dehumanization by individuals, institutions, and societies, rob*

41 *LGBTQ people of their God-given dignity. As followers of Jesus Christ — whose ministry*

42 *embraced those who society rejected and marginalized — we commit ourselves to being a*

43 *church in ministry for and with all people.*

44 (From the General Board of Church and Society website:

45 <https://www.umcjustice.org/what-we-care-about/civil-and-human-rights/lgbtq-rights>)

Additions to Pre-Conference Booklet Page 242

Camp Allegheny

Praise the Lord! 2021 had so much to celebrate. Yes, challenges of Covid, economy, securing items, and so on but we also have so very much to celebrate. First is that we could provide both a program and a facility that gave others the opportunity to gain experience and mature in faith and love. We lived up to the goal of our mission; *To provide a safe, sacred space with excellent facilities, Christian hospitality, and disciple making programs.* This is only possible because of the significant love, prayers, and support that this conference provides.

Best of County! Camp Allegheny chosen as the best camp in the county after over 103,000 votes in the first ever online competition. There are 12 Resident camps in the county and numerous Day camps!

Summer 2021 started with some amazing young adults here to be in ministry. We were blessed with so many returning as well as some great new staff. We had to cancel the first week of camp due to two staff members having covid. Our 2021 summer attendance; Program resident events was 506, outside resident rental groups 665, day use 113 and our Day Camp program was 131. We were significantly short staffed in the kitchen all summer. Carla Holderbaum, our nurse was an angel in adding cook to her list of responsibilities.

Summer Camp Parents

- *My daughter loved the songs and enjoyed the ponies and all of the people she met. My son came home with a more positive attitude toward the bible and actually reads it now As a parent I loved the end of the week program.*
- *My daughter immensely enjoys coming to Camp Allegheny every summer! It is such an important part of her growth in faith.*

Camp Allegheny was able to make some significant facility improvements in 2021. Thanks to the conference capital campaign we were able to replace our 42-year-old water tank with a new double walled tank along with all of our pumps and filtration systems. We were blessed to be able to purchase it at 1/3 the cost of a single walled tank. We received a grant from the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies to replace most of our exterior lighting with beautiful solar lights. Our 64 solar panels generated over 21,000 kw of electricity last year. We also replaced our over 30-year-old front welcome sign. The pond was dredged, and a dry hydrant installed for both our use and the general community if needed. The Camp Center and 4 lodges were stained.

We have now gone over 10 years without a property or liability claim. This fact has allowed us to negotiate better rates with different companies.

Planning for 2022 and beyond will be challenging. The inability to purchase many items you are used to and the increased costs when you do find the items. Securing staff, both year-round and in the summer will continue to be a challenge. Overall funding of operations and projects will be particularly challenging. That said, Camp Allegheny clearly continues to be blessed. I am continually impressed with how the Board of Directors deals with these challenges.

The Camp Allegheny Board of Directors, Staff and dedicated volunteers cannot thank the Western PA Conference enough for their support.

Dennis D. Tawney, President