IV Daily Proceedings

IV. Daily Proceedings
WPA Chic
Dressed in Hope
FIRST DAY
Wednesday, June 6, 2018

EVENING SESSION

CONFERENCE BIBLE STUDY I - Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi called the body to order at 8:04 PM with the singing of “My Hope is Built.” She then introduced the Rev. Dr. Shively Smith, Assistant Professor of New Testament at Wesley Theological Seminary and Boston University School of Theology.

Dr. Smith shared a message entitled “Re-Imaging Ourselves in the Likeness of God: Source, Connection & Unity.”

Comparing this year’s Annual Conference session theme of “Dressing in Hope” to the images in Ephesians of Christians “putting on” something, she drew the conference’s attention to the most famous of those passages, Ephesians 6:10-18, where Christians are called to “put on” the armor of God. She then highlighted that putting on the armor is not the only image of dressing, or “putting on,” found in the letter. Starting with Ephesians 4:22-25, Dr. Smith shared the author’s call for Christians to “put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness” and also to “put off” that which is false. The reason for this is that “we are all members of one body.” To be dressed in hope is in part to stop allowing everything to be about the individual self and find our identity and hope in the unity to which Christ calls us.

With an invitation from Bishop Moore-Koikoi to return for part two at 8:00 tomorrow morning, the Bishop dismissed the conference at 9:01 PM.

SECOND DAY
Thursday, June 7, 2018
MORNING SESSION

CONFERENCE BIBLE STUDY II - Bishop Moore-Koikoi called the body to order at 8:04 AM. She invited the body to sing “How Great Thou Art.” Rev. Dr. Shively Smith was re-introduced as the Bible study leader.

Dr. Smith began by recalling some of the main points of Wednesday evening’s study. She reminded the body of the panoramic photo shot, which means that we see the life that is around us from one point of view. What makes the church strong, though, is not that we have only one panoramic shot -- but that we have multiple panoramic shots.

The phrase “created in the likeness of God” is talking about the origins of our creation. The writer of Ephesians is trying to encourage the Ephesian Christians (and us) to reconnect to the origin of their creation.

The term “hope” is a popular term in the New Testament -- but it is not a term that is used in the Gospels (the story) nor in the Revelation. It is a term that is used in the letters that are engaging the real life of believers. As the church wrestles with what it means to be a collective body, as they are learning to talk to each other, that is where the image of “hope” shows up in the New Testament.
After speaking about some of the images presented in Ephesians, Dr. Smith asked the conference “What do you imagine connection looks like?” She then encouraged and allowed the body to be in brief conversation with each other about this question.

Following some announcements by Bishop Moore-Koikoi, the body was dismissed at 9:12 AM.

CLERGY SESSION

ORDER – Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi called the Clergy Session to order at 9:34 AM in Harbison Chapel.

CALL TO WORSHIP – Bishop Moore-Koikoi led the body in the call to worship. Following the congregational singing of “In Unity We Lift Our Song,” the Bishop then opened the session with prayer.


(20) APPROVAL OF THOSE WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE STUDIES FOR THE LICENSE AS A LOCAL PASTOR, ARE APPROVED, BUT ARE NOT NOW APPOINTED – Upon motion by Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶315, those who have completed the studies for the license as a local pastor but not now appointed were approved.

(21a) FULL-TIME LOCAL PASTORS – Upon motion by Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶318.1, the full-time local pastors were approved.

(21b) PART-TIME LOCAL PASTORS – Upon motion by Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶318.2, the part-time local pastors were approved.

PRAYER – Paul Taylor led the body in a prayer of blessing on the ongoing ministries of our local pastors.
(22) LOCAL PASTORS DISCONTINUED – Terry G. Shaffer reported local pastors who have exited or been discontinued, according to ¶320.1: Melody J. Polisky, Diane E. Marshall, Donald R. Hullenbaugh, Keith D. Diehl, Vicki S. Lynch, Eric J. Diewald.

(24) CLERGY FROM OTHER CONFERENCES SERVING IN WPA – Terry G. Shaffer reported the names of clergy from other Annual Conferences serving in Western Pennsylvania (¶¶331.8, 346.1): David S. Dempsey (RE) Upper New York, Arnold G. Husk (RE) from West Virginia, Carole J. Bergman (RE) from California/Nevada, Andrew D. Sutton (FE) from Louisiana, Robert W. Kirby (RE) from Peninsula Delaware, and Dawn M. Hand (FE) Western North Carolina.

(25) CLERGY FROM OTHER METHODIST DENOMINATIONS SERVING IN WPA – Terry G. Shaffer reported the clergy from other Annual Conferences serving in Western Pennsylvania (¶¶331.8, 346.1): Bethany C. Rosler (FE) from Free Methodist, Roseanne D. Oliver (FE) from AME.

(26) AFFILIATE MEMBERS IN ANOTHER UM ANNUAL CONFERENCE – Terry G. Shaffer moved on those who are affiliate members while a member in another Annual Conference. Those without vote (¶¶334.5, ¶344.4): Jane Ellen Nickell (West Virginia). The motion was approved.

(27) ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Received on motion of Janet Lord according to ¶322: Matthew D. A. Blake, Rebecca L. Edwards, Carol H. Hickman, Beverly K. Roscoe. The motion was approved.

(28a) PROVISIONAL DEACONS – Received on motion of Terry G. Shaffer those who are in preparation for ordination as a deacon according to ¶326 (and seminary, if in school): commissioned in 2018: Nicole M. Crouch (Wesley), Lynette S. Moran (Boston). The motion was approved.

(28b) PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND COMMISSIONING – Received on motion of Terry Shaffer according to ¶324: Provisional Elders: Kendra L. Balliet, Jeremy W. Barkley, Tai S. Courtemanche, Adam T. Dotts, Victoria R. Heath, John M. Heckman, Craig R. Lindahl, Clint T. Phillips, Shane J. Sicilliano. The motion was approved.

(29) PROVISIONAL ELDERS – Terry G. Shaffer called to the body’s attention those who are in preparation for ordination as an elder according to ¶326.

(38) RECEIVED BY TRANSFER FROM OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCES OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Eric Raygor announced those who were received into membership according to ¶347.1, 416.5, 635.2n: Timothy Reichard (FE) [Eastern PA] (6/7/2018).

(42) DISCONTINUED AS PROVISIONAL MEMBERS – David Janz reported, by voluntary discontinuance (¶327.6): James T. Roberts (12/14/2017).
WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ORDAINED MINISTERIAL OFFICE – Eric Raygor reported on those who withdrew to unite with another denomination according to ¶360.1, .4: David J. Henderson Sr (7/17/2017).

Eric Raygor reported on those who were withdrawn by trial according to ¶2713: Rodney E. Smith (11/27/2017).

PRAYER - Brad Lauster offered prayers for God’s mercy and grace to be upon these lives.

THE HONORED DEAD – Terry G. Shaffer read the names of those clergy who have died since Annual Conference 2017.

PRAYER – Bishop prayed a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the lives and ministries of these colleagues who have died.

APPOINTED TO SERVE IN OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCES – Terry G. Shaffer reported, according to ¶331.8, 346: Tracey L. Henderson (FD, West Ohio), Gary W. Jones (FD, East Ohio), Ralph P. Cotten (FE, Florida), Richard O. Feagin (FE, Pacific Northwest), Timothy C. McConville (FE, Alaska Missionary Conference), Rebekah R. Clapp (PD, West Ohio), Debra L. Pisor (FD, South Carolina), Leah R. Bergstrom (RE, Desert Southwest), Bruce W. Griffith Jr. (FE, North Georgia), Kevin J. Rea (FE, Great Plains), Nicole M. Crouch (PD, New Mexico), Matthew F. Howe (PD, Minnesota), and Nathan W. Carlson (FE, Florida).

ABSENCE, VOLUNTARY – Terry G. Shaffer read the names of those who have requested voluntary leave of absence according to ¶353: Anthony R.C. Hita (1st year), Eric M. Oliver (1st year), Samantha S. Penwell (1st year), and Jason E. Schweinberg (2nd year).

ABSENCE, PERSONAL – Terry G. Shaffer read the names of those on voluntary leave of absence (personal) according to ¶353.2a 3: R. Duane Thompson (2nd year).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE, PERSONAL (AFTER 5 YEARS) – Granted on motion by Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶353.2a 3: Ronald E. Thomas (16th year), David R. Lewis (19th year), Stephen A. Tiffany (8th year), and Chul Park (9th year). The motion was approved.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE, FAMILY – Terry G. Shaffer read the names of those on voluntary leave of absence (family) according to ¶353.2a 3: Patricia A. Fuller (5th year) and Beth A. Cooper (3rd year), Pamela S. Armstrong (2nd year).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE, FAMILY (AFTER 5 YEARS) – Granted on motion by Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶353.2a 3: Barbara A. Turpish (15th year). The motion was approved.
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(50-A5) **LEAVE OF ABSENCE, VOLUNTARY, TRANSITIONAL** – Granted on motion by Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶353.2c: Bethany L. Gordon Wooten (FE) 1st year (7/1/2018 to 7/31/2018). The motion was approved.

(50-C) **MATERNITY/PATERNITY LEAVE** – Granted on motion by Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶355: Adam J. Stump (2/2/2018), Kelly J. Smith (2/8/2018), and Keith C. Kaufold (8/1/2018). The motion was approved.

(50-D) **RETURNED TO ACTIVE STATUS FROM VOLUNTARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE** – Granted on motion by Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶353.11: Laura A. Saffell (formerly Puleo). The motion was approved.


**PRAYER** – Adam J. Stump led the body in prayer for healing for all on medical leave of absence.


**PRAYER** – A prayer for the retirees was offered by Tai Courtemanche.

(59) **CERTIFIED IN SPECIALIZED MINISTRY** – Terry G Shaffer read the names of those who are certified in specialized ministries: Patricia M. Nelson (Older Adult Ministries), Janet F. Lord (Music Ministry), Gary W. Jones (Youth and Camping and
Camping & Retreat Ministries, Christian Education), Deborah A. Dennick-Ream (Christian Education).

(72A) LESS THAN FULL-TIME SERVICE – Approved on motion of Terry G. Shaffer according to ¶338.2, ¶342.2, ¶1506, and ¶331.7: Willard C. Adkins (AM - ¼ time), Harold J. Dangel (AM - ¾ time), Todd M. Davis (FE - ½ time), Sharon M. Hamley (FE - ¼ time), J. Mark Hurst (FE - ¾ time), Tina G. Keller (FE - ¾ time), John R. Wilson (FE - ¾ time), Joe K. Samalenge (FE - ¼ time), K. David Chin (FE - ¾ time), Barbara J. Stoehr (FE - ½ time), Joni K. Williams (AM - ¾ time), Sheila R. Auer (AM - ¾ time), Joel D. Peterson (PE - ¾ time), Carol H. Hickman (AM - ¾ time). The motion was approved.

DEACONS IN FULL CONNECTION AND PROBATIONAL (PROVISIONAL) DEACONS APPROVED FOR APPOINTMENT TO LESS THAN FULL-TIME SERVICE – Approved on motion by Terry G. Shaffer, according to ¶331.7: Debra L. Pisor (½ time), Nicole M. Crouch (¾ time). The motion was approved.

(79) DIACONAL MINISTER APPOINTED – Terry Shaffer reported that Nancy T. Foltz has been appointed to Pittsburgh Theological Seminary & Consultant according to ¶310.

PENSION CREDIT REPORT – On motion of Tom Parkinson, according to ¶357.2; credit for time served as Student Pastors shall be granted to Linda Dinger, Jeff Sterling, and Rich Pearson. The motion was approved.

COMPREHENSIVE MOTION – Approved on motion of David Janz, members of the Clergy Session approved a comprehensive motion to receive and approve the report of the Board of Ministry, including approval of all matters contained in the report that had not been specifically voted upon.

(17) APPROVAL OF CHARACTER OF CLERGY – Bishop Moore-Koikoi asked “Are all the clergy members of the conference blameless in their life and administration?” (¶¶604.4, 605.6). Alyce Weaver Dunn, Dean, representing the cabinet, responded that all were blameless and faithful with the exception of one matter pending against a clergy member.

(18) APPROVAL OF COMMITTEES – Bishop Moore-Koikoi presented the Committee on Investigation (¶2703), the Administrative Review Committee (¶636), and the [Diocesan Ministers] Committee on Investigation (¶2703.2b). These were all approved as printed.

COMMENTS BY THE BISHOP – Bishop Moore-Koikoi thanked the clergy present for their work “on the front lines of ministry.” She offered encouragement in the ongoing work of representing Jesus Christ in the local churches. She then prayed for those present as they go forth to share their gifts with boldness.
CLOSING – The closing was led by David Janz and Eric Park, co-chairpersons of the Conference Board of Ministry. All joined together in the Covenant Prayer, followed by the hymn “Go To The World.” Bishop Moore-Koikoi closed the Clergy Session with a final blessing based on Ephesians 3:20.

RECESS – The clergy session was recessed at 10:40 AM.

LAITY SESSION

Jerry Rechtenwald, District Lay Leader from the Butler District welcomed over 500 conference laity to the second consecutive Laity-only session at the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church and provided the opening remarks. Paul Huey, District Lay Leader from the Greensburg District offered the opening prayer for the session.

Bill Patrick, Lay Member to Annual Conference from Oakland in the Johnstown District and Conference Floor Manager, presented Annual Conference 101, an overview of what new attendees at Annual Conference may expect as well as suggestions on ways to be active in legislative section meetings. In addition, he provided tips on compiling and presenting delegate reports back to our local congregations.

Sharon Gregory, Conference Lay Leader, introduced the Rev. Dr. Junius B. Dotson, General Secretary of Discipleship Ministries, who presented an enthusiastic message on Making, Shaping and Engaging Passionate Disciples (#See All The People). Dr. Dotson stressed that discipleship begins with me”. See All the People is not about fixing churches but rather developing relationships. Discipleship needs to be intentional. He used a baseball analogy to stress that if you miss first base, then nothing you do after that matters. If we miss discipleship (first base), we miss the rest. Discipleship is not a class we graduate from, but it is a lifelong journey. He referenced Colossians 2:6-7.

Other items he shared included: we need to equip and feed people so they grow on their own; and healthy people develop healthy congregations while healthy congregations develop healthy people (Vital Congregations).

Dr. Dotson posed three questions to the group that can be used back in the local church to assess our status on discipleship: (1) How have you grown in your faith this year? (2) What spiritual discipline/practice has been most helpful? (3) What is your plan for spiritual growth this upcoming year?

Various resource websites were provided and several videos were shown that supplemented the powerful and energetic presentation. A resource table is also located in the display area for all to visit.

At the conclusion, Sharon Gregory challenged the laity to “GET UP…GET OUT…#SEE ALL THE PEOPLE”. To assist with this, the Board of Laity provided luggage tags for our travels as well as sunglasses in case our travels take us to sunny climates. Now, we all need to get up and get going!

AFTERNOON SESSION

CALL TO ORDER -- Bishop Moore-Koikoi called the body to order at 1:07 PM. Sharon Gregory led the body in prayer. Bishop Moore-Koikoi welcomed the body and reported briefly on the morning laity and clergy session.
INTRODUCTION OF FLOOR MANAGERS -- Bishop Moore-Koikoi introduced Bill Patrick and Kelly Smith, the floor managers for the Annual Conference.

WELCOME TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE -- Vicki Stahlman, chair of the Conference Sessions Committee, highlighted logistical information and new changes for this year.

SETTING THE BAR OF THE CONFERENCE -- John Wilson, Conference Secretary, moved that the bar of the conference be set to include “those seated on this side of the skirted barrier.” The motion to set the bar was APPROVED.

ELECTION OF TELLERS -- John Wilson, Conference Secretary, nominated tellers to serve during this year’s Annual Conference, as listed in the pre-conference booklet (page 10) with Daryl Mains as head teller. The motion to elect tellers was APPROVED.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA -- Alan Morrison, Agenda Coordinator moved for the setting of our published agenda as printed on pages 604-605 in the Daily Journal. The motion to adopt the agenda was APPROVED.

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON RULES -- Amy Bentz, Chancellor, announced that there was no late legislation this year. The rules committee has no changes for question. There was a motion to suspend rule # 2.3.8.1.1 in order to consider the General Church proposed constitutional amendment. The motion to suspend the rule was ADOPTED.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF TREASURER -- Seth McClymonds moved the election of Roger White as the conference treasurer as of July 1, 2018 and that in the interim, should it be necessary, he is authorized to act as Conference Treasurer if Larry Bridge is unavailable. The motion was ADOPTED.

McClymonds then moved that McCall, Scanlon & Tice be elected as auditors for 2019. The motion was APPROVED.

Bishop Moore-Koikoi then asked McClymonds to offer a word of prayer.

APPOINTMENT OF THE CABINET/RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING CABINET -- Bishop Moore-Koikoi asked for Joel Garrett, Paul Taylor, and Joseph Patterson to come to the platform. She thanked them for their service to the cabinet and the conference. She then offered a prayer of thanksgiving for their gifts and graces.

Bishop Moore-Koikoi then asked Alyce Weaver Dunn and Greg Cox to come to the platform. She thanked them for their service and the diversity of gifts that they offer to the cabinet and the conference. She then offered a word of prayer for them as they go into new areas of ministry.

Bishop Moore-Koikoi introduced Jodie Smith, Bob Zilhaver, Jim Pond, Brad Lauster, Pat Nelson, Pat Lennox, Eric Park, Sung Chung, Dennis Swineford, and Dawn Hand. She also introduced Renee Mikell, Amy Wagner, Sharon Gregory, Jackie Campbell and Roger White. She announced that this is the coordinating cabinet.
Bishop Moore-Koikoi mentioned that Jim Pond will serve as the cabinet secretary, Pat Nelson will serve as the cabinet treasurer, and Pat Lennox will serve as the dean. Seth McPherson was invited to the platform to offer prayer for the coordinating cabinet.

WELCOME FROM GROVE CITY COLLEGE -- Lee Wishing, Vice President of Student Recruitment at Grove City College, enthusiastically welcomed the conference on behalf of the college.

STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS -- Bishop Moore-Koikoi announced that The United Methodist Church in Western Pennsylvania is doing well and “each day going on to be perfected in love.” In Western Pennsylvania, “God is still on the throne, and the name of Jesus still works here.” Because of what she has witnessed, Bishop Moore-Koikoi is dressed in hope. Following her introductory statements, she outlined our five areas of focus.

As we develop principled Christian leaders, we need to be aware of the lack of support and participation on Conference level boards and agencies. There are United Methodist pastors and laity that do not know what it is to be a United Methodist. Yet there is hope -- we are standing on solid rock -- and Bishop Moore-Koikoi shared the stories of several churches that are working diligently at developing principled Christian leaders.

As we develop new and renewed congregations, the bishop outlined that there is despair as many of our cities and towns are declining in population. However, in the midst of this despair, there is hope, because for the first time in decades, there is a projected increase in population in Western Pennsylvania.

People in our conference are engaged in ministries with the poor, as in the work done through the Church Union, Connellsville Area Community Ministries, Erie United Methodist Alliance, and Johnstown United Methodist Human Services. Several other local ministries were outlined and celebrated. A reality of our culture is that it is going to become increasingly impossible to fund outreach ministries through tithes and offerings. There is hope, though, as these ministries are looking toward other avenues of funding.

For decades, we have been working hard to promote global health. But while we have had success around the world, we struggle with health issues in Western Pennsylvania. There are signs of hope, though, through churches that are working at ministries that will help people who are battling chemical addictions.

Our numbers are discouraging in terms of an attempt to dismantle racism. However, there are signs of hope. As of July 1, 2018, the cabinet will increase the number of racial inclusion by 2 people. There are churches that are developing camping programs for children of color.

Steven Morris led the conference in singing “We Are Called.”

During the State of the Church address, prayers were offered by Adam Stump, Chris Kindle, Donna Ziegler, Jaye Beatty, Richard Thomas, and Sharon Gregory.

CLOSING COMMENTS -- Bill Patrick and Kelly Smith gave some closing comments. The conference recessed to Legislative sections at 3:02 PM.
EVENING SESSION

ORDINATION AND COMMISSIONING SERVICE -- The conference gathered at 7:00 PM for the Service of Word and Table for Commissioning of Provisional Members and Recognition of Associate Members. Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi preached a sermon entitled “WPA Chic: Dressed in Hope” based on Jeremiah 29:1-11. Participants in the service were Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, the Conference Praise Band, Pearl Russell, Andy Hewitt, Renee Mikell, David Janz, Eric Raygor, Paul Huey, Wanda Ross, Greg Cox, and Bryan Sable.

Elder Candidates were Kendra Lovelace Balliet, Jeremy Wayne Barkley, Tai Symington Courtemanche, Adam Troy Dotts, Victoria Ruth Heath, J. Mark Heckman, Craig Ronald Lindahl, Clint Thomas Phillips, and Shane Joseph Siciliano. Deacon Candidates were Nicole Marie Crouch and Lynette Sklar Moran. Associate Members were Matthew Blake Sr, Rebecca Lynn Edwards, Carol Hamil Hickman, and Beverly Kay Roscoe.

The Bishop concluded the service with an altar call to ministry. The Conference recessed at 9:10 PM.

THIRD DAY
Friday, June 8, 2018
MORNING SESSION

CONFERENCE BIBLE STUDY III -- Bishop Moore-Koikoi called the conference to come to order at 8:05 AM.

Rev. Dr. Shively Smith presented her final Bible Study on “Re-Imagining Ourselves in the Likeness of God: Source, Connection & Unity.” Smith proclaimed that the epistle of Ephesians invites us to a time of theological play -- to imagine “what if”. Ephesians invites us to explore a more expansive vision of what it means to be the church of Jesus Christ.

Ephesians gives us the entryway of Church as family (3:14-15), the entryway of Church as household (2:19, 22), the entryway of Church as body (4:12, 16), and the entryway of Church as the temple of God (2:20-21).

Smith expanded on the meaning of the image of a Church. In Ephesians, the image of church is that it demands unity – not uniformity. How can we be connected even in the midst of our differences? Ephesians proclaims boldly that even though you might not yet see it, God is at work uniting the people of God.

Following the Bible study, the conference was in brief recess.

ORDER -- Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi called the Conference back to order at 9:24 AM.

SETTING THE BAR OF THE CONFERENCE -- John Wilson, Conference Secretary, moved that the bar of the conference to be set to include “members who are seated at the tables within the plenary hall.” The motion to set the bar was APPROVED.
ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS – John Wilson explained the roll call of members. Members were guided through the completion of the attendance card and the seating designation card. Laity in attendance: 575; Clergy in attendance 477 plus 41 excused clergy; Total: 1,093.

CONSENT CALENDAR – Kelly Wild, secretarial staff, presented the Legislation and Corporation Consent Calendar, (Daily Journal pages 623-625). RS104 and RS105 have already been pulled from the Consent Calendar. She reminded the body about conference rule 2.3.7.4 which speaks about how items are placed on the Consent Calendar. The body was reminded that with 25 signatures by 7:45 PM on Friday evening, an item can be removed from the Consent Calendar.

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: WASHINGTON DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited Bradford L. Lauster, Superintendent, to come to the platform. He and Louise Patterson, District lay leader, then read the new appointments to the District while all current District pastors welcomed and greeted each other. Sharon Gregory, Conference Lay Leader, offered a prayer for all the pastors of the Washington District.

VOTING KEYPAD INSTRUCTIONS -- John Wilson and Jenna Clous, Padgett Communications, led the conference in a period of practice with the digital voting system. The conference practiced with a test question.

ANTI-RACISM MINISTRY TEAM – Debra Mason, chair, reminded the body of the ongoing work of the Conference in combating racism. She then introduced an ally in this work, Eric Park, who shared a personal reflection written in light of the fiftieth anniversary of the death of the Martin Luther King, Jr.

COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN UNITY AND INTERRELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS – Scott Shaffer, chair, introduced the body to the work of this commission. He highlighted five things each member of this conference can do “right now”: (1) Pray, (2) Support local ecumenical organizations, (3) Make disciples for Jesus Christ through ecumenical partnerships, (4) Branch out into interfaith relationships, and (5) Join this commission and thus help strengthen our conference and our local congregations in this work!

Shaffer also announced that this year’s Ecumenical Achievement Award was presented to Seneca UMC in the Franklin District, “because of the exemplary way their congregation is making disciples through ecumenical partnerships.”

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATES OF SOUTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA (C.A.S.P.) – Liddy Barlow, Executive Director of Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania, used the initials of C. A. S. P. to highlight the interfaith and ecumenical ministries we are able to be a part of as one of the twenty-eight faith communities involved with C.A.S.P.

UNITED METHODIST ADVOCACY – Dai Morgan, Director, shared how United Methodists throughout the Commonwealth are able to work together through UM Advocacy in seeking and promoting justice.
PA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES – Sandy Strauss, Director of (P.C.C.) Advocacy, highlighted recent activities the Council has initiated to better support their ongoing ministries in areas of criminal justice reform, better access to education, and strengthening families.

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: PITTSBURGH DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited Paul Taylor, Superintendent, to come to the platform. He, Dawn Hand, incoming superintendent, and Shannon Shaffer, District 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 the pastors of the Pittsburgh District.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD -- Jeanna-Mar Simmons and Liddy Barlow were invited to talk about the need and the work that is being done to help to eliminate poverty. Worldwide, extreme poverty has been cut in half over the past 25 years, but it is rising again. Nearly 815 million people in the world are hungry. In the United States, one in eight lives are at risk of hunger, including 13 million children.

UMCOR/DISASTER RELIEF - Sandra Matoushaya reminded the body that our God is a missionary God and the Bible is a missionary book. From hurricanes to tornadoes, fires to floods, The United Methodist Church is present to provide help and assistance. Our connectional system is working.

Becky Parsons was introduced to the body. She began by talking about global health. She encouraged the churches to be informed, support, and serve through Global Ministries. She also outlined several areas of missions in which The United Methodist Church is involved.

BLACK COLLEGE FUND – Diane Miller, President of the Conference United Methodist Women, introduced Rochelle Givens, a recent graduate of Bennett College of Greensboro, NC, and currently an intern with the Black College Fund. She shared the prophet’s promise of rest and renewed vigor for the tired, weary, and those who HOPE in the Lord! (Isaiah 40:28-31) The Black College Fund is one of those ways that God has encouraged and strengthened young scholars who might not have been able to continue on without that help.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW) – Diane Miller shared the history and faith filled ministries of this 150 year old organization. She also reported that in 2017 over $175,000 was raised through our conference’s local UMW groups for its ongoing mission work.

CABINET REPORT – Using the imagery of an eye exam and how it can help one better focus, Alyce Weaver Dunn, Dean of the Cabinet, introduced a review of how the Coordinating Cabinet along with the Bishop has been examining the ways they have worked in the past year in each of the five ministry areas of focus established by the Annual Conference in recent years.
YOUTH REPORT – Kiersten Kennedy told the conference a story about a medieval fantasy kingdom (complete with a unicorn!). Through the story, the Youth Ministry Team highlighted their various ministries: the 2019 SPARK youth retreat (January 11-13, 2019), the summer “Uth for Mission” work camp (this year at Jumonville, July 16-20, 2018), the denominational Youth Service Fund, and serving as pages and youth delegates each year at Annual Conference. They also announced that two Western PA youth have been elected to positions in the Northeastern Jurisdiction Council on Youth Ministries: Mollie Landman, President, and Ally Benn, Youth Service Fund Coordinator. Other participants in the presentation were Molly Landman, Vivian Somes, Sarah Speedy, and Wiley Bozada.

RECESS - Following closing comments and announcements, the conference was recessed until 1:30 PM.

AFTERNOON SESSION

ORDER - Bishop Moore-Koikoi called the body to order at 1:30 PM for the afternoon session.

ANTI-RACISM MINISTRY TEAM II - Debra Mason, representing the Anti-Racism Ministry Team, shared a video entitled “Don’t Put People in Boxes.”

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: KANE DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited J. Patrick Lenox, superintendent, to come to the platform. He and Mark Schwanke, District Lay Leader, then read the new appointments to the District while all current District pastors welcomed and greeted each other. Sharon Gregory, Conference Lay Leader, offered a prayer for all the pastors of the Kane District.

COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY CONCERNS - Anais L. Hussian, chair of the Committee on Disability Concerns, shared the impact our words have on people. One in five Americans has some sort of disability, so our words DO matter. She also shared a video “This Is Me.”

“UNSTOPPABLE” - Denise-Nicole Stone presented the “Unstoppable” program which is designed for leadership development in young women. “Unstoppable is dedicated to creating an environment in which young women ages 14-25 can learn the issues, find their voice, and change the world while deepening their faith and forming lasting friendships.” She challenged the body to send young women to their retreat this summer at Olmsted Manor July 6-8, 2018.

MISSION U PRESENTATION - Barbara Hess, drew the conference’s attention to this summer’s “Mission U” event at California University of PA July 12-15, 2018. Sponsored by the conference United Methodist Women, classes and activities will be offered that expand knowledge and awareness of missional topics. A “Youth Mission U” will run from July 10-15 at the same place.
MISSION AMBASSADOR INTRODUCTIONS - Cindy Bloise shared her experience as a Mission Ambassador. She offered her service to share her story with local churches throughout the conference. Jodale Barnhart introduced this Fall’s new Mission Ambassador program - “Is God speaking to you?”

KEYSTONE UNITED METHODIST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION - Kasi Devinney, CEO, announced that the Credit Union is now 65 years old. She shared some of the services that the Credit Union offers to individuals and churches.

UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION - Ed Bailey, Executive Director, presented the Bishop with Hershey Kisses and UM Foundation T-shirt. Pages distributed T-shirts to some lucky conference members who were good at catching. He explained the way that the Foundation supports local churches who want to be able to invest their money while still staying true to the principles established by The United Methodist Church.

EASTBROOK MISSION BARN - Katie Peterson, Director of the Eastbrook Mission Barn, informed the body that this mission effort started ten years ago with a project to build ramps. She shared a video following the development and ministry of Eastbrook Mission Barn.

Calvin Cook, Disaster Response Coordinator for the conference, announced the purchase of a ministry trailer that can be deployed in times of crisis and disaster. Bishop Moore-Koikoi prayed for God’s blessing on the trailer and the people who will use it in ministry and those who receive that outreach in times of need.

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: JOHNSTOWN DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited Alyce Weaver Dunn, superintendent, to come to the platform. She and Sung Shik Chung, incoming superintendent, then 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 the pastors of the Johnstown District.

GCFA 100% APPORTIONMENT RECOGNITION - Moses Kumar, General Secretary, General Conference Board of Finance and Administration, presented the Bishop with a certificate and plaque recognizing the conference’s achievement of 100% giving to all General Church Requested Giving.

BOARD OF LAITY/CONFERENCE LAY LEADER - Sharon Gregory, Conference Lay Leader, once again graced the Annual Conference with her words and her loving spirit. “Once again we are entering into a new conference year. This is a good time to pause and reflect on our response to Christ who knocks at the door of our hearts and calls us to get up.” She talked about some of the difficulties of “door knocking.” She also talked about some of the possibilities of what lies on the other side of doors.

“We have been called to go out, to knock, and to tell others about the faith we have in Jesus, and the second chances, and new beginnings he is always giving us.” We need to gently, but persistently strive to open doors in the walls of racism, prejudice, fear, loneliness, sickness, and hunger.
Gregory ended her presentation by saying “Yes beautiful people, we are recipients of the blessings that came when that door was opened so long ago … and that door can be opened today by anyone who will open it.” She then offered a prayer and reminded the body of the words of the old hymn, “This rock is Jesus, yes he’s the one. This rock is Jesus, the only one. Be very sure, be very sure, your anchor holds and grips the solid rock.”

**THE WAY FORWARD** - Mark Hecht introduced the other members of the leadership team of the Order of the Elders -- Kelly Smith, Renee Mikell, Tom Strandburg. The goal of the leadership team was to initiate some healthy conversation about the topic of human sexuality. He talked about the goal of the fall gatherings of the order of the Elder.

Kelly Smith shared about the training in which the leadership team initially engage in to preparation for the fall training events. They attended a seminar entitled “Circles of Grace.” This allowed them to lay the groundwork for the agenda for gatherings.

Renee Mikell talked about the actual implementation of the gatherings. 467 people participated in these gatherings -- from October 2017 until May 2018. In addition to conversations, they continually gave updates on the work of the Commission on the Way Forward.

Tom Strandburg shared some of the feedback that was received following these gatherings. The discussions were lively and not everyone was in agreement. Western Pennsylvania Elders reflect a microcosm of the denomination as a whole. The officers were encouraged by the number of Elders who gave of their time for these dialogues. Many of the discussion groups voiced a need for the church to continue to pray for the future of the church.

Bishop Moore-Koikoi addressed this issue by mentioning that she has had some similar conversations with the Order of Deacons and the local pastors & associate pastors. She then outlined some of the process of the Council of Bishops. The Council of Bishops has elected to recommend to the Special Called General Conference in 2019 the “One Church Model” - and then she outlined some of the reasons for this recommendation.

Bishop Moore-Koikoi announced a task force that will be formed to begin some conversations as we approach the Special Called General Conference: Bob Zilhaver, Alyce Weaver Dunn, Jake Judy, Hannah Loughman, Renee Mikell, Sharon Gregory, Shanon Schaffer, Denise Nicole Stone, Tom Hallman, Roger White, Richard Thomas, Noah Manalo. The assignment of the task force is to put together a process in which accurate information is shared and there will be conversation about the recommendation.

Whatever happens in February 2019, the denomination will not be the same. As we all prepare, Bishop Moore-Koikoi has asked that we all do three things: (1) surrender some of the work that we have been doing to God, (2) value the blessing that comes through diversity, and (3) put this issue into proper context.

Bishop Moore-Koikoi then closed the presentation by sharing a video of a conversation that she had with the Judy family.

**RECESS** - The conference was recessed until 3:55 PM.
CAMPING AND RETREAT MINISTRIES - Sharon Gregory called the body to order following the recess. The Camping and Retreat Ministries began by with the body singing “Days of Elijah.” Jessica Gamache introduced the summer staffs from our conference camps and retreat center. Martha Blackstone outlined some of the benefits of camping and retreat settings. Various summer staff members from Camp Allegheny, Jumonville, and Wesley Woods briefly told about their personal experiences and values of camping. A video featuring several of our conference members was shown that outlined the ministries of Wesley Woods, Camp Allegheny, Jumonville, At the Lake Ministries, Healthy Village Learning Center, and Olmsted Manor.

Alyce Weaver Dunn spoke about the clergy aspect of the Deeply Rooted Upward Reaching campaign. To date, there has been a commitment of $671,000 from the clergy to the campaign.

Eric Leonard spoke about the beauty and the ministry of Olmstead Manor.

Keith Murphy spoke about the ministries of the Healthy Village Learning Institute.

Diane Randolph spoke about the Millvale church as an urban pilot church in the Deeply Rooted Upward Reaching campaign. In the six months they have been working on this, they have already collected $912. In the three year campaign period, they have made commitments to collect an additional $3,315.

Sue Strohm spoke about some of the local church details of the campaign. Each Conference Member is encouraged to (1) complete a form to schedule a visit between July and October 2018, (2) If your church chooses to be a part of the campaign, a lay person will be trained, assisted, and equipped for the campaign in your local church in January 2019, (3) set a campaign goal for your local church.

Jonathan Bell spoke representing a rural church that was a part of the pilot program. He spoke about some of the current things the church is doing, and his family’s personal commitment to the program. He then shared that the Good Shepherd UMC set a goal of $18,750. Following the campaign, the church actually set a goal of $37,821.

Bishop Moore-Koikoi pointed us to look at what God is doing through God’s people. She reminded the body of some of the ways that individuals and churches can be involved and supported of this initiative. “We know the how, and we know the why, now let’s get to the job of doing.”

The presentation ended with the singing of “Go, Tell It On the Mountain.”

EAST GERMAN INITIATIVE - Mary Garber, East German Initiative, issued some opening remarks and then introduced Katrin Bonitz from East Germany. Bonitz brought greetings from the East German conference and she told of some of the work of the church in her homeland. We are connected in our faith, prayer, and mission.

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: INDIANA DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited James M. Pond, Superintendent to come to the platform. He and Corona McKee, District Lay Leader, then 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 the pastors of the Indiana District.
GBHEM Scholarship Program - Susan Moudry introduced a video which outlined the work and the programs of the GBHEM Scholarship Program. She then talked about how scholarships and grants are impacting the lives of some of the United Methodist Students in our conference.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - John Wilson, Conference Secretary, led the conference through the process of voting on 1 constitutional amendment. Eligible conference members voted on the amendment. (576/21)

RECESS - Bill Patrick offered some closing comments and announcements. Pat Lenox then shared a prayer, and the conference was recessed until 7:00 PM.

EVENING SESSION

WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION OF RETIRING CLASS - The conference gathered at 7:00 PM for the Worship & Celebration of the Retiring Class. Paul Taylor preached a sermon entitled “This is the Time” based on Acts 2:17-24. The following retirees were recognized and thanked for their years of service: Emmett L. Anderson Jr. (32), Brock R. Beveridge (35), La Mar E Carlson (42), John E. Ciampa (47), John P. Colatch (40), Donald W. Dotterer (40), Dennis A. Fetter (38), Joel S. Garrett (39), Robert L. Goodnough (21), Kurtis A. Knobel (38), Sandra K. Marsh-McClain (25), Frederick M. Monk (37), Barbara J. Moore (32), Joseph W. Patterson III (40), Rita S. Platt (31), Christine E. Rogan (23), John W. Seth (40), Harry R. Speakman (39), David R. Stains (45), Lois F. Swestyn (17), Paul D. Taylor (17), Nancy G. Zahn (24), Linda Freeburg (6), Robert M. Howles (9), Sandra D. Howles (3), Edwin D. Pope (16).

An offering was received for the Bishop’s Camping Initiative: Deeply Rooted, Upward Reaching.

Bob Zilhaver gave the history of the WPAUMC Conference Cane. The WPAUMC Conference Cane has long been called the Thoburn Cane because it is believed to have been carried by Bishop Thoburn. This cane is traditionally given to the elder member of the Conference with the most years of service.

Brad Lauster shared with the conference some of the biography Harold L. “Sammy” Knappenberger Jr. His first local church appointment began in 1948. He entered the retired relationship in 1990, however he continued to serve appointments until 2013. Knappenberger has served the church for 67 years.

Knappenberger was unable to attend the service. He was attending the wedding celebration of one of his grandchildren. In his absence, Hannah M. Loughman, Houston United Methodist Church, received the cane and spoke words of compassion and respect for Knappenberger.

The Conference Praise Band, Paul Taylor, Martha Blackstone, Jessica Gamache, and Mitchell Stecker were participants in the service.
ORDER - Bishop Moore-Koikoi called the body to order at 8:05 AM.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR - Kellie Wild, Secretarial Staff, announced that there was a correction in the vote count for RS502. It should have been recorded as 97-0-1. Wild announced that as of 7:45 PM on Friday, RS103 had been removed from the Consent Calendar (Daily Journal pages 623-626). She then moved for the adoption of the consent calendar as corrected. The motion carried (605-21).

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES - Mark Goswick, Secretarial Staff, moved the adoption of the minutes for Wednesday’s, Thursday’s, and Friday’s proceedings (Daily Journal pages 613-634). The motion carried (675-10). Goswick also moved that the Conference adopt in advance the minutes for the Saturday. The motion carried (657-34).

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: GREENSBURG DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited Patricia M. Nelson, Superintendent, to come to the platform. She and Paul Huey, District Lay Leader, then read the new appointments to the District while all current District pastors welcomed and greeted each other. Sharon Gregory, Conference Lay Leader, offered a prayer for all the pastors of the Greensburg District.

ANTI-RACISM MINISTRY TEAM III - Sara Roncolato, team member, called Conference to give attention to a resource sheet entitled “Equipping the Saints to Confront Racism.” It contains suggestions for books, Bible or video studies, online resources, and other resources which can be used by local churches in their work in trying to eliminate racism.

CONFERENCE BOARD OF PENSIONS - Tom Parkinson and Dara Sterling spoke about the movement toward becoming more proactive in the health care of pastors within the conference. For the first time in years, our health care claims have decreased over the past two years. Parkinson announced that this year’s wellness champion is Becky Edwards. The Conference Board of Pensions and UPMC has agreed to a rate increase cap of 6% in 2019. Parkinson then outlined some of the benefits that are available in the pension plan for pastors. There will be a pre-retirement seminar on October 24 and 25 at the Cranberry Twp. Marriott. Parkinson extended gratitude to Larry Bridge for his past work and support to the Board of Pensions. He also extended gratitude to Roger White for the guidance that he has already given to the Board of Pensions.

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: FRANKLIN DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited Jodie Barron Smith, Superintendent, to come to the platform. She and Barbara Port, District Lay Leader, then 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 the pastors of the Franklin District.
WESTERN PA NICARAGUA PARTNERSHIP - David Stains speaking on behalf of Richard Schall, introduced a video regarding the danger associated to indoor cooking over fires and the development of a stove for families to use instead of cooking over an open fire. At Stoveteam International, one can purchase a stove to give to a family. Stains continued to talk about the ministry that is occurring through the Western PA partnership with Nicaragua. He then introduced Richard Mroczka, volunteer lay conference missionary, who spoke about the needs because of the recent violence in Nicaragua.

JOINT STAFF REPORT - The Conference Staff shared a presentation entitled “There’s a Staff for That, 2.0”. This is a “User friendly, content driven, less static and more dynamic” version of last year’s presentation. The Conference Staff told stories about how they are able to work with local churches in developing and strengthening their ministries.

LEADERSHIP RECRUITMENT & NOMINATION TEAM - Larry Dunn, Chair, presented the Leadership Recruitment & Nomination report found on Daily Journal pages 504-529. The report was APPROVED (728-16).

COMMITTEE ON THE EPISCOPACY - Karen Trask, Chair, and the committee expressed appreciation to Bishop Moore-Koikoi for all the work she does for the Annual Conference. She then presented a gift of a black and silver grill to Bishop Moore-Koikoi and Raphael Koikoi.

Koikoi was granted a moment of privilege to express his appreciation to the committee for their love, care, and hospitality as they were welcomed into Western Pennsylvania.

WESLEY SEMINARY - Tim Hoover representing Wesley Seminary shared a video about the school and the educational opportunities it offers to those who are preparing for ministry.

CLOSING CHURCHES - Several members of the cabinet led the Conference in a Litany of Discontinuance for those churches that have closed during the past year: Dubois Trinity UMC, East Connellsville UMC, Scottdale Mount Nebo UMC, Torrance UMC.

CLERGY COMMUNITIES - Susan Moudry asked the conference to view a video about Clergy Communities. Following the video, Moudry encouraged all pastors to be involved in a Clergy Community of Care.

YOUNG ADULT COUNCIL - Sydney Widdersheim talked about the need for and the rebirth of the Young Adult Council. She outlined some of the council’s current plans.

UMC 50th ANNIVERSARY - A video that celebrates the 50th anniversary of The United Methodist Church was presented.
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS - Sandra Matoushaya introduced the current and the past Global Partnerships that we have with God’s children in: Columbia, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, East Germany, Russia, Nicaragua, Uganda, Korea, Zimbabwe, and most recently Fiji. She then shared a video about Global Partnerships.

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: ERIE-MEADVILLE DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited Joseph W. Patterson, Superintendent, to come to the platform. He, Dennis Swineford, incoming Superintendent, Donald Blystone, District Lay Leader, and Gail Fees, incoming District 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 the pastors of the Erie-Meadville District.

CALL TO ACTION - Bishop Moore-Koikoi asked the body to affirm and commit to the report that begins Chapter 12 of the Official Journal Call To Action Stories & Dreams: A WPAUMC Report on Past Progress and Future Plans in Dismantling Racism To the Northeastern Jurisdiction of the UMC College of Bishops. She then called for a vote of support for report. It was AFFIRMED (644-68).

RS103 SEXUAL HARASSMENT - Dan Miller representing Section One moved concurrence of the petition as amended (55-3-0).
Suzanne Richey moved to amend to delete Resolution F on page 409. Following discussion, the motion to delete was APPROVED (573-199).
Following discussion and prayer, the motion for concurrence was APPROVED as amended by the section and Richey (729-74).

RS104 PROTECTING THE CHILDREN - Jane Davis representing Section One moved concurrence of the petition (71-32-7).
Following discussion and prayer, the motion for concurrence was APPROVED (497-304).

RS105 CHILD INCARCERATION - Les Hutchins representing Section One moved concurrence of the petition (68-25-9).
Following discussion and prayer, on a sustained call for the previous question by Tom Strandburg, the motion for concurrence was APPROVED (573-207).

CLOSING COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS - Following some closing announcements and prayer by Bishop Moore-Koikoi, the conference was in recess until the Memorial Service at 1:30 PM.

AFTERNOON SESSION

MINISTERS’ CHOIR CONCERT -- At 1:00 PM, the Ministers Choir shared several songs with the gathering body.

MEMORIAL SERVICE - The Conference reconvened for the Memorial Service at 1:30 PM. Calvin Cook shared God’s word in a sermon entitled “Humbled by the Presence”,

ORDER - Bishop Moore-Koikoi called the body to order at 3:39 PM. She reported that the Bishop’s Discretionary Fund received an offering of $5,261 and the Deeply Rooted Upward Reaching initiative received an offering of $5,631.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AWARDS RECOGNITION - Bishop Moore-Koikoi commented on the various awards that were given around the conference. A video was shown of all of this year’s award winners.

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: CONNELLSVILLE DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited Robert F. Zilhaver, Superintendent, to come to the platform. He and Wanda Ross, District 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 the pastors of the Connellsville District.

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION - Seth McClymonds expressed a word of hope from the Council of Finance and Administration. He also expressed gratitude for the work that we have done to resource the ministries of the Annual Conference.

The CPA firm of McCall Scanlon & Tice, LLC has reported that they have not identified any audit issues to date. This is a testimony to the hard work of Larry Bridge, Roger White, Jervais Carr, Holly Sawyer, Ben Hersch, Sue Browne, and Kerry Cantner.

RS401 FUNDING FOR MINISTRY FOR 2019 - Steve Morris representing Section Four moved concurrence of the petition on page 420 (89-2-0). Seth McClymonds offered a prayer and the motion for concurrence from the section was adopted (521-34).

READING OF APPOINTMENTS: BUTLER DISTRICT - Bishop Moore-Koikoi invited Joel S. Garrett, Superintendent, to come to the platform. He, Eric Park, incoming Superintendent, and Jerry Rectenwald, District Lay Leader, then 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 the pastors of the Butler District.

**RECOGNITION & PRAYERS FOR ALL PASTORS** - Bishop Moore-Koikoi, reminded the body that there is not a bad appointment. Anywhere that God is, it is a good appointment. Her prayer is that every pastor will approach their appointment like it is a blessing from God. Her prayer is also that every church will receive their pastor like they are a blessing from God. Bishop Moore-Koikoi offered a prayer for all pastors.

**COSROW MONITORING REPORT** - Angel Rishell, Chair, presented the COSROW report for this session of Annual Conference. She explained to the Conference some of the changes that have been made in the Commission. She gave some of the statistics from the legislative sections and expressed that COSROW is pleased, but there is still work to be done. In plenary sessions, the split of speakers and ethnicity was encouraging.

**CLOSING COMMENTS** - Bishop Moore-Koikoi expressed gratitude to Vicki Stahlman and the entire Sessions Committee. She also expressed gratitude to the safety team, the youth, the tellers, the secretarial staff, the floor managers, the praise team, Amy Wagner & Kevin Haley, Lance Tucker & Jonathan Bell, Sharon Gregory, and Raphael. Bill Patrick gave some closing instructions to the body.

**CLOSING WORSHIP** - The Conference paused for a moment of worship through songs, prayers, and a commitment to Christian service.

**ADJOURNMENT** -- With no further business to come before the body, the Conference was adjourned at 4:45 PM.
CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

G. Moore-Koikoi
Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi
President

John R. Wilson
Rev. John R. Wilson
Secretary
CERTIFICATE OF COMMISSIONING

This is to certify that on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at Grove City College, Grove City, Pennsylvania, I Received as Provisional Members and Commissioned as Ministers:


Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi
Resident Bishop
CERTIFICATE OF COMMISSIONING

This is to certify that on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at Grove City College, Grove City, Pennsylvania, I Received as Provisional Members and Commissioned as Ministers:

Deacon Candidates: Nicole Marie Crouch, Lynette Sklar Moran

[Signature]
Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi
Resident Bishop
CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP

This is to certify that on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at Grove City College, Grove City, Pennsylvania, I received as Associate Members:

Matthew Blake Sr, Rebecca Lynn Edwards,
Carol Hamil Hickman, Beverly Kay Roscoe

[Signature]
Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi
Resident Bishop
2018 Provisional Members


2018 Associate Members

From left: Carol Hickman, Beverly Roscoe, Rebecca Edwards, Matthew Blake.
2018 Retiring Class

2017-2018 Appointive Cabinet

Back Row Left to Right: Bradford Lauster, Joseph Patterson, Renee Mikell, Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Alyce Weaver Dunn, James Pond, Paul Taylor

Front Row:
Joel Garrett, Robert Zilhaver, Patrick Lenox, Jodie Barron Smith, Patricia Nelson