

Seeking A More Excellent Way



DAILY ADVOCATE

A joint publication of the South Carolina Conference
of The United Methodist Church and the

South Carolina
United Methodist Advocate
CONNECTING METHODISTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA SINCE 1837

Monday, June 3, 2019

Today's Agenda June 3

- 7-10:30 a.m. Health Screening (Level 2, Hall 1)
- 7:15 a.m. Reconciling Ministries of SC Breakfast Gathering, First Baptist Church
- 7:30 a.m. Holy Communion (Level 2, Room 203)
- 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. American Red Cross Blood Drive (Level 2, Hall 1)
- 8 a.m. Registration, Greenville Convention Center
- 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Kids Konference (Level 1, Rooms 100, 103, 104)
- 8:30 a.m. Conference Organization Bible Study
- 9 a.m. Report on Committee on Episcopacy Consent Calendar Balloting Orientation & Testing
- 9:35 a.m. General and Jurisdictional Conference Balloting Licensing Service
- 11 a.m. Ministers' Spouses Luncheon (Level 1, Room 102C)
- 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Hands-on Mission Expo (Level 2, Hall 1)
- Noon Lunch Recess African-American Clergywomen's Luncheon (Level 2, Room 202B&C)
- 2 p.m. A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving
- 3:15 p.m. Committee on Nominations General and Jurisdictional Balloting Council on Finance and Administration Committee on Resolutions and Appeals Committee on Petitions to General Conference
- 5-7 p.m. Burgers with SMC, St. Matthew UMC
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner Recess Asbury Hill Mock Camp Fire
- 6 p.m. CF&A Learning Event and Dinner (Room 102A)
- 7:30 p.m. Commissioning and Ordination Service
- 9 p.m. Reception for Ordinands (Concourse Level 2)

'A Future with Hope' Annual Conference 2019



Photo by Allison Trussell

Bishop Jonathan Holston (left) and Song Leader Malek McDuffie sing the processional hymn during opening worship.

By Jessica Brodie
GREENVILLE—Calling on South Carolina United Methodists to embrace hope, Resident Bishop Jonathan Holston brought a powerful opening word last night for the kickoff of the 2019 Annual Conference.

“My friends, hope is a four-letter word, and whether we recognize it or not, we subconsciously or deliberately put hope into every single thing we do,” Holston preached to the packed Greenville Convention Center, urging the church to hold to hope no matter what, even when things are tough. “But sometimes to get to where you want to go, you’ve got to go through some stuff.”

With a theme of “A Future with Hope: Seeking a More Excellent Way,” this year’s Annual Conference runs from last night through this Thursday, June 6.

Before the event closes, United Methodists will

have the chance to help with two food-oriented mission initiatives, vote on three petitions, elect 32 delegates to 2020 General and Jurisdictional conferences, approve a \$16.8 million 2020 budget for the South Carolina Conference, and handle a host of other general business items for the church in this state.

Today’s (Monday’s) business begins with welcome and greeting, followed by the call to order and the singing of “And Are We Yet Alive,” then organizational motions and standing rules. The first of the four-day Bible study, led by Dr. Greg Jones and the Rev. Susan Jones, is next, followed by reports and balloting orientation and testing.

First balloting is expected to begin in late morning, when voting members of Annual Conference will begin electing delegates and alternates to the UMC’s 2020 General Conference

See “A Future with Hope,” Page 3

Lay and clergy delegate elections begin today

Beginning today, Annual Conference will elect 16 delegates (eight clergy and eight laity, plus alternates) to General Conference 2020, plus 16 more delegates (eight clergy and eight laity) who will go to Jurisdictional Conference 2020 with the GC delegates.

Clergy nominees

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1) Gene Aiken | 43) Ann Kovan |
| 2) Jim Arant | 44) Marvin Lare |
| 3) Mel Arant | 45) Brandon Lazarus |
| 4) Connie Barnes | 46) Susan Leonard |
| 5) Ben Barnett | 47) Chris Lollis |
| 6) Ralph Bowling III | 48) Stephen Love |
| 7) Doris Bright | 49) Susan Maddox |
| 8) Steven Brown | 50) Will Malambri |
| 9) Laura Canine | 51) Tim McClendon |
| 10) Derrick Cattenhead | 52) Mack McDowell |
| 11) Ross Chellis | 53) Barry McFadden |
| 12) Clayton Childers | 54) David McManus |
| 13) Wally Culp | 55) Elizabeth Murray |
| 14) Kevin Dalton | 56) Angela Nelson |
| 15) Robin Dease | 57) Ken Nelson |
| 16) Jerry Dicks | 58) Tom Norrell |
| 17) Roger Dodds | 59) Weston Pendergrass |
| 18) Fran Elrod | 60) Richard Reams |
| 19) Ernest Etheredge | 61) Sara Relaford |
| 20) Angie Etheredge-Erwin | 62) Tim Rogers |
| 21) Terry Fleming | 63) Tony Rowell |
| 22) Jody Flowers | 64) Mike Smith |
| 23) Russell Freeman | 65) Randy Smith |
| 24) James Friday | 66) Thomas Smith |
| 25) Brandon Fulmer | 67) Tyler Strange |
| 26) Jerry Gadsden | 68) Kim Strong |
| 27) Telley Gadson | 69) Emily Sutton |
| 28) Meegian Gossard | 70) Kelli Taylor |
| 29) Christopher Greene | 71) Mary Teasley |
| 30) Rett Haselden | 72) Redonia Thomas |
| 31) Scarlett Hester | 73) Chris Thompson |
| 32) Jon Hoin | 74) Phil Thrailkill |
| 33) Kitty Holtzclaw | 75) Ken Timmerman |
| 34) Michael Hood | 76) Michael Turner |
| 35) Darren Hook | 77) Tom Wall |
| 36) Amiri Hooker | 78) Morris Waymer |
| 37) Kathryn Hunter | 79) Sara White |
| 38) Keith Hunter | 80) Eddie Williams |
| 39) Narcie Jeter | 81) LaShelia Wyatt |
| 40) Karen Jones | 82) Matt Yon |
| 41) Jeff Kersey | 83) Neil Yongue |
| 42) Steven King | 84) Mandy Young |

Lay nominees

- 1) Theodore Andrus
- 2) Robert Bethea
- 3) David Braddon
- 4) Valerie Brooks-Madden
- 5) Michael Cheatham
- 6) Doug Coffeen
- 7) Baron DeKalb
- 8) Edward Enlow
- 9) Emily Evans
- 10) Jan Fleming
- 11) Scott Fleming
- 12) David Graham
- 13) Marvin J. Horton
- 14) Jeanette Jackson
- 15) L.Wayne Jackson
- 16) Jacquelyn Jenkins
- 17) Lou Jordan
- 18) Herman Lightsey
- 19) Joe Locke
- 20) Chris Lynch
- 21) Vicki McCartha
- 22) Kenneth Moore
- 23) Shirley Jean Pressley
- 24) Jennifer Price
- 25) Lorine E. Price
- 26) Wilbur Reames
- 27) Rebecca Rochester
- 28) William Rochester
- 29) James Salley
- 30) David Salter
- 31) Larry Sanders
- 32) Marlene Spencer
- 33) Martha Thompson
- 34) Betty Void
- 35) Tony Watson

Full bios of laity in
AC packet or at www.umcsc.org/ac2019

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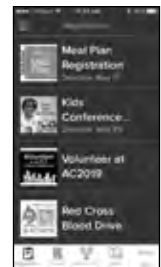
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AC to commission, ordain 19 tonight

Annual Conference will commission or ordain 19 men and women during tonight's worship service, preached by Mississippi Resident Bishop James Swanson. Ten will be commissioned as provisional elders and one as a provisional deacon. One will be ordained as a full deacon and seven as full elders. Here, a clergy member receives a blessing at last year's ordination service.

Photo by Matt Brodie



"A Future with Hope," continued from Page 1

and 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference: 16 (eight lay, eight clergy) to General Conference and an additional 16 (eight lay, eight clergy) to Jurisdictional. Delegates are elected from a pool of eligible people who have expressed a desire to be considered as a delegate. There are 35 lay nominees, each selected through their district or approved group, and 84 clergy who have articulated a desire to be a nominee. (See names, Page 2.)

A memorial service will be held this afternoon to remember the 58 who died over the past year. In late afternoon, the Committee on Resolutions and Appeals will report; no resolutions have been submitted in pre-conference materials.

Petitions introduced today

Before the close of business Monday, the body will see the introduction of three petitions up for vote during Annual Conference, each stemming from decisions made at the special called session of General Conference 2019, held Feb. 23-26 in St. Louis. There, delegates from around the world—including from South Carolina—had hoped to carve out a united future together despite vastly different theological differences surrounding human sexuality. However, the close vote to uphold the existing language in the UMC's Book of Discipline—it passed 438 to 384—has caused hurt, dissension and debate for many.

Out of this decision, voting members of Annual Conference will vote on the following:

1) Petition to Change Language in the Book of Discipline (to remove the sentence found in Para. 161G of the 2016 Discipline that states, "The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching");

2) Petition to Create Separate Books of Discipline (to create a separate Discipline for Central Conferences so the United States Annual Conferences can move forward with language changes in the Discipline if they choose to regarding sexual orientation; and

3) Petition to Repeal and Replace the Traditional Plan (to have a full repeal of the Traditional Plan, for a return to the language in the 2016 Discipline and for the 2020 General Conference to recommit itself to the work of reconciliation and peacemaking).

Full information on Annual Conference 2019 is available at www.umcsc.org/ac2019, as well as in the free printed *Daily Advocate* given out each morning. You can also read it online at www.advocatesc.org/dailyadvocate.

Additionally, the next edition of the full *Advocate* newspaper will offer a detailed report of everything that happened this week. If you are not a subscriber, use the form below.

AC2019 in brief

- Three petitions
- No resolutions slated
- Two mission initiatives: Native American elder baskets and a food drive for Harvest Hope Food Bank of Greenville.
- 16 delegates (8 lay, 8 clergy, plus alternates) to be elected to the UMC's 2020 General Conference
- 16 delegates (8 lay, 8 clergy, plus alternates) to be elected to the UMC's 2020 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference,
- Each elected from a pool of eligible people who have expressed a desire to be considered as a delegate.
- There are 35 lay nominees and 84 clergy nominees (plus any additional clergy write-ins).
- South Carolina Resident Bishop Jonathan Holston will preach opening worship.
- Mississippi Resident Bishop James Swanson will preach ordination.
- South Carolina Director of Congregational Development the Rev. Sara White will preach the memorial service.
- Bible study will be led by husband-and-wife team Dr. Greg Jones, dean and theologian at Duke Divinity School, and the Rev. Susan Jones, ministry associate at Church Transformation Ministries.
- Lay Servant Ministries June 4 luncheon speaker will be Rev. Ken Nelson, conference secretary
- South Carolina UMC Kidz Konference—onsite childcare for babies to rising sixth graders—offered free for the children of Annual Conference volunteers and delegates
- More info at www.umcsc.org/ac2019

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Golfing for a cause

Asbury Hills supporters headed to The Preserve at Verdae Golf Club June 1, the day before Annual Conference, to play raise funds for Asbury Hills camp scholarships. The annual tournament featured a shotgun start and hole-in-one prizes. Pictured is the winning team: Greenville District Superintendent George Howle with Mark Cochran, Jeff Jaeggi and Greg Jaeggi.



Photo by Matt Brodie



These are elder baskets churches and charges in the Greenwood District of the UMCSC assembled.

Elder baskets, food drive are AC2019 mission initiatives

This week at Annual Conference, South Carolina United Methodists are helping two annual conference mission initiatives: Native American elder baskets and a food drive for Harvest Hope Food Bank of Greenville.

For the elder baskets, each charge is supposed to bring one elder basket the Greenville Convention Center this week. Elder baskets are plastic clothes baskets filled with nonperishable items and given to elderly Native Americans in need, many of whom live well below the poverty line. The baskets can be dropped off in Exhibit Hall at the convention center. Gift cards for discount stores, such as Walmart or Dollar General, are also welcome so the conference's Native American Committee can buy additional supplies as needed.

For the food drive, attendees are bringing nonperishable food items with them and placing them in the 25 Harvest Hope boxes that will be situated all around the convention center this week; they will be collected by the close of business Wednesday afternoon. Harvest Hope is a critical line of support for more than 500 partner agencies that take feeding missions directly to those who live in the most economically fragile communities. These partner agencies include faith-based organizations, family shelters, and after-school programs that offer food pantries, soup kitchens and more.

"These two ministries offer Annual Conference attendees a tangible way to be the hands and feet of Christ in our world," said Chris Lynch, a member of the Mission Initiatives Team who helped organize the effort.



Photo by Allison Trussell

Your chance to see six different ministries in action

Today (Monday), six different mission projects from churches across South Carolina will demonstrate their programs during a Hands-On Mission Expo presented by conference laity Monday and Tuesday at Annual Conference. The expo is free and set for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Level 2 in Hall 1 of the Greenville Convention Center. Here, volunteers from Wesley UMC, Ladson, demonstrate at last year's Mission Expo their pillowcase dresses for young children in third-world countries. Volunteers say the dresses are simple to make, and with a few embellishments they become adorable little dresses. Pillowcases are easily accessible and come in a variety of patterns.



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**Coming tomorrow
(Tuesday, June 4)**

† Awards Breakfast
† Service of Recognition for Retiring Pastors

† Laity Clergy Partnership Luncheon
† Acts of Reconciliation – Native American Worship Service