

Seeking A More Excellent Way



A Future With Hope

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 1937

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Today's Agenda June 5

- 7-10:30 a.m. Health Screening
(Level 2, Hall 1)
- 7:30 a.m. Holy Communion
(Level 2, Room 203)
- 8 a.m.- Kidz Konference (Level 1,
Rooms 100, 103, 104)
- 5:30 p.m.
- 8:30 a.m. Bible Study
- 9 a.m. General and
Jurisdictional Balloting
- 9:30 a.m. Report of Board of
Pension and Health
Benefits
The Report of the Cabinet
The Report of the Laity
Report from the 2019
General Conference
Delegation
General and Jurisdictional
Conference Balloting
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch Recess
Local Pastors' Luncheon
(Level 2, Room 202A)
- 2 p.m. Report of Equitable
Compensation
A Word from our Colleges
and Universities
A Word from
Africa University
Lina McCord
Black College Fund
Intern
Reports of United
Methodist Theological
Schools
- 3:15 p.m. Break
General and Jurisdictional
Conference Balloting
Report of Camps and
Retreats
Epworth Children's Home
Report of the Chancellor
- 5 p.m. Dinner Recess
Asbury Hills Mock Camp
Fire (foyer outside
ballroom)



Photo by Matt Brodie

Clergy and Lay Ballots 2 saw no election, and when this was revealed late Tuesday, much discussion ensued—especially as both clergy and laity ballots revealed a large number of invalid votes cast. However, the invalid voting issues appeared to have been resolved by the time results of Clergy and Lay Ballots 3 were announced.

Thirteen elected, more set for today

By Jessica Brodie

GREENVILLE—Voting issues plagued Annual Conference for a portion of Tuesday, but by the end of the night, the issues seemed resolved and the body had elected 13 of its 32 delegates to the 2020 General and Jurisdictional conferences.

Seven clergy delegates were elected to General Conference 2020: the Rev. Ken Nelson (garnering 291 votes) and Dr. Robin Dease (260 votes) on Clergy Ballot 1. On Clergy Ballot 3, the Rev. Keith Hunter was elected with 248 votes, and on Clergy Ballot 4, the Rev. Susan Leonard was elected with 197 votes. On Clergy Ballot 5, the Rev. Emily Sutton was elected with 185 votes, the Rev. Will Malambri was elected with 184 votes and the Rev. Tiffany Knowlin was elected with 183 votes.

As well, six lay delegates were elected to General Conference 2020: Jacqueline Jenkins (419 votes) and James Salley (372 votes) on Laity Ballot 1. On Laity Ballot 3, Michael Cheatham (383 votes) and Herman Lightsey (374 votes) were elected. On Laity Ballot 5, Chris Lynch was elected with 347 votes and Martha Fridy Thompson with 329 votes.

Voting continues today.

Invalid votes on initial ballots

Clergy and Lay Ballots 2 saw no election, and when this was revealed Tuesday afternoon, much discussion ensued—especially as both clergy and lay ballots revealed a large number of invalid votes.

See "Elections," Page 3

The hashtag for all things
Annual Conference:

#umcsc

Delegates elected as of late Tuesday

Clergy

1. Rev. Ken Nelson (Clergy Ballot 1, 291 votes)
2. Dr. Robin Dease (Clergy Ballot 1, 260 votes)
3. Rev. Keith Hunter (Clergy Ballot 3, 248 votes)
4. Rev. Susan Leonard (Clergy Ballot 4, 197 votes)
5. Rev. Emily Sutton (Clergy Ballot 5, 185 votes)
6. Rev. Will Malambri (Clergy Ballot 5, 184 votes)
7. Rev. Tiffany Knowlin (Clergy Ballot 5, 183 votes)

Laity

1. Jacqueline Jenkins (Lay Ballot 1, 419 votes)
2. James Salley (Lay Ballot 1, 372 votes)
3. Michael Cheatham (Lay Ballot 3, 383 votes)
4. Herman Lightsey (Lay Ballot 3, 374 votes)
5. Chris Lynch (Lay Ballot 5, 347 votes)
6. Martha Fridy Thompson (Lay Ballot 5, 329 votes)

Lay and clergy nominees (for election today)

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

Petition vote set for this morning

By Jessica Brodie

Annual Conference members are expected to vote on a petition to General Conference 2020 today.

“Petition to Change Language in the *Book of Discipline*” was signed by 81 South Carolina clergy and lay delegates. It calls for the 2020 General Conference to remove the sentence found in Para. 161G of the 2016 *Book of Discipline* that states, “The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of ho-

mosexuality and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching.” It notes that the incompatibility language contradicts Para. 162 of the *Discipline* and that, while there is Christian teaching that concludes incompatibility, there is also Christian teaching that makes the opposite conclusion that the practice of homosexuality is not incompatible.

The full text of the petition can be read on Page 71 of AC materials.

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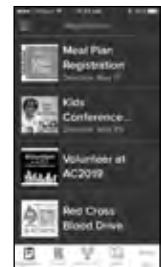
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“Delegates,” continued from Page 1

For Laity Ballot 2, of the 776 electronic ballots cast, 563 were valid and 213 invalid, and of the 17 write-in ballots, 15 were valid and two invalid, for a total of 215 invalid (or 27 percent) of the 793 total votes.

For Clergy Ballot 2, of the 455 electronic ballots, 378 were valid and 77 invalid, and of the 18 write-ins, 17 were valid and one invalid, for a total of 78 invalid (or 16.4 percent) of the 473 total votes.

Clergy and Laity Ballots 1 also saw a number of invalid ballots (53, or 10 percent of the 528 total cast for clergy, and 88 invalid, or 11 percent of the 822 total cast for laity).

Conference Secretary the Rev. Ken Nelson said Tuesday morning the reasons for invalid write-ins varied. Some did not fill out a full ballot, some had only the name of the nominee but not the number, some had number but not name, and for some the name and number didn't match. For electronic, invalidity appeared to be mostly human error.

South Carolina Bishop Jonathan Holston quipped in the morning, as the body waited for laity results to properly sort and repost, “We are pursuing truth while we are enduring patiently, hanging on the God’s promises while we overcome a little adversity.”

Vote validity issues resolved

However, the invalid voting issues appeared to have been resolved by the time results of Clergy and Lay Ballots 3 were announced, which saw far fewer invalid votes and the election of three more delegates.

Clergy Ballot 3 had just 38 invalid votes (8 percent) of the 468 total votes cast and elected one delegate (Hunter), while Laity Ballot 3 had just 53 invalid votes (6.7 percent) of the 790 total votes cast and elected two delegates (Cheatham and Lightsey).

Ballots 4, 5 and 6 also had fewer than 10 percent of invalid votes.

Up for today

Business closed Tuesday with voting on Clergy and Laity Ballots 6, which saw no election, and Clergy and Laity Ballots 7. Results of these seventh ballots will be announced this morning, when more balloting continues.



Last day for canned food

Today (Wednesday) at the close of business is the last day canned goods and other non-perishables for Harvest Hope Food Bank of Greenville, one of two annual conference mission initiatives. The food is being collected in 25 boxes placed throughout the convention center. The other AC2019 mission is Native American elder baskets.

Photo by Jessica Brodie



Photo by Allison Trussell

What happens next?

Stanton Adams, part of a team from South Carolina that attended UMCNext last month, spoke Tuesday at a UMCNext lunchtime Panel Discussion along with several others who also represented this state at UMCNext. The panel was an opportunity for the nearly 200 people who gathered to ask questions of those who attended the denomination-planning event, held May 20-22 at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Kansas.

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Passing of the mantle

Thirty retiring clergy were honored today at 11 a.m. in a Service of Recognition and Celebration. The Rev. Chris Lollis recognized retirees, and the service also featured the symbolic "passing of the mantle" from the retiring class to the new class of ordinands. Here, newly ordained pastor the Rev. Meegian Gossard and newly retired pastor the Rev. Genova McFadden do the historic passing of the mantle.



Photo by Matt Brodie



The service featured Native American music and drumming.

Photo by Matt Brodie

Native service focuses on reconciliation, healing

By Jessica Brodie

GREENVILLE—Embracing a spirit of awareness, love and inclusiveness, Annual Conference gathered for a Native American worship service, "A Service of Reconciliation and Healing," Tuesday afternoon.

The service featured Native American music and drumming from Keepers of the Word, as well as songs, prayer and preaching on wounds and healing.

"My belief is when we have open minds and open hearts, we can come together as the body of Christ to be one," said Zan Tracy Pender, chair of the conference's Native American Committee in his opening.

In the opening prayer, the Rev. Cheryl Toothe said now is not a time for fingers or blame. "It is a time for us reach out to one another in love and forgiveness," Toothe prayed. "We understand that forgiveness must begin with ourselves."

South Carolina Resident Bishop L. Jonathan Holston shared about what he called "scar stories" with the crowd. Some are funny, some are filled with shame and some with pride, but everyone has one, Holston noted.

He said United Methodists are not people who are prone to hate or injustice, but people who have come to witness. "We seek to be in reconciliation with all people."

LaShella Kirkland spoke on "Being Culturally Sensitive," Revonda Hardesty spoke on "Going Forward," and Cathy Nelson spoke on "Trail of Reconciliation and Healing." The service closed with a hymn, "The Sacred Circle," a prayer and sacred drumming.

Photo by Matt Brodie



Meaningful altar themes

Annual Conference altars throughout the week have been intentionally designed to reflect various themes. The Day 1 Opening Session's theme on Sunday was "Come Holy Spirit!" (pictured above), celebrating the gathering of the people of God for Holy Conferencing. Day 2's Memorial Service theme on Monday was "Take Flight," celebrating the lives and legacies of those who have joined the Church Triumphant. Day 2's Ordination & Commissioning Service theme was "The World is Your Parish!," celebrating the gifts of newly retired clergy sisters and brothers. Day 3 and Day 4 Native American Worship Service themes on Tuesday and Wednesday are "HOPE: God's Dream," celebrating the gifts of forgiveness, reconciliation and hope. And Day 5's Closing Session theme on Thursday will be "Let's Go Fishing!," celebrating the conclusion of our time together and sending us into deeper waters of service.

Asbury Hills 'campfire' today

Asbury Hills is holding a Mock Camp Fire Wednesday immediately after the afternoon session in the foyer outside the ballroom. All are welcome.

Coming tomorrow (Thursday, June 6)

- † Holy Communion
- † Elections – Committee on Nominees
- † Committee on Finance & Administration
- † Resolutions
- † Presentation of General & Jurisdictional Delegations