

IV. DAILY PROCEEDINGS

A. 2004 CONFERENCE PROGRAM

“What Does the Lord Require of Us?”

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

- 9:00 A.M. “A Spiritual Day Apart,” Sections A-B, Harrell Center Auditorium, led by Dr. Roberta C. Bondi, Professor of Church History, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia
(Registration at 9:00 A.M., session at 10:00 A.M., conclusion by 3:00 P.M.)
- 6:45 P.M. Service of Prayer and Celebration, Stuart Auditorium
[All persons who are present at Lake Junaluska at this hour are invited to participate in this service.]
- 8:00 P.M. Executive Session of Clergy Members, Stuart Auditorium
[Only clergy members of the conference and the lay members of the Board of Ordained Ministry are expected and permitted to attend this session.]

Thursday, June 10, 2004

- 9:30 A.M. Orientation Session for Laity, Stuart Auditorium
[All lay members of the conference are invited to this session.]
- 10:30 A.M. Opening Worship Celebration and Holy Communion
Sermon: Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton, Resident Bishop of the Ohio East Area, North Canton, Ohio
- 1:30 P.M. Opening Plenary Session for Organization and Business
Report of Committee on Nominations
Election of Conference Secretary and Conference Statistician
Referral of Proposals to Forum Groups
Cabinet Motions: James T. Trollinger, Cabinet Secretary
- 2:00 P.M. Report of Quadrennial Budget Planning Committee
- 3:30 P.M. Meetings of Forum Groups
- 7:30 P.M. Plenary Business Session
Welcome to Lake Junaluska and Report of Southeastern Jurisdictional Administrative Council: Jimmy L. Carr, Executive Director
Report of Committee on the Annual Conference Meeting
Action on Amendments to Rules
Composite Report of the Cabinet
Report of The United Methodist Publishing House
Annual Statistical Report: Lawrence E. Barden, Statistician
Report of Council on Higher Education Ministries, James C. Howell, Chairperson
Report of Conference Ministries Advisory Council (Part 1), Mary Lou Roller, Chairperson
- 9:30 P.M. Recess

Friday, June 11, 2004

- 7:30 A.M. The Sacrament of Holy Communion and Service of Healing, Memorial Chapel
- 8:45 A.M. Morning Prayer
- 9:00 A.M. Plenary Business Session
Report of Conference Ministries Advisory Council (Part 2)
Report of The Duke Endowment, Valerie B. Rosenquist, Associate Director, Rural Church Division
Report of Conference Board of Trustees, Joseph P. McGuire, President
Cabinet Resolutions, James T. Trollinger, Cabinet Secretary

- Reports on Ministries of the Laity:
 Conference Lay Leader, Jack Young
 President of United Methodist Men, Ray G. Boger
 President of United Methodist Women, Mary K. Kizer
 Chairperson, Council on Youth Ministries, Lea Scott
 Election of Conference Lay Leader for 2004-06
 Confirmation of District Lay Leaders and Associates
- 10:15 A.M. Laity Address: W. W. (Fred) Gray III, Guilford College Church, Greensboro
 10:45 A.M. Report of Board of Ordained Ministry, Kenneth H. Carter, Jr., President
 Recognition of Licensing School Graduates
 Reception of Probationary, Associate, and Full-Connection Classes
 Recognition of Clergy Transfers
 Recognition of Clergy in Appointments Extending the Ministry of the Church
- 11:30 A.M. Service for the Commissioning of Probationary Members
 12:15 P.M. Recess for Lunch
 2:00 P.M. Plenary Business Session
 Report of Board of Pensions, Juanita T. Henderson, President
 Report of Council on Finance and Administration, James C. Windham, Jr.,
 President
 Election of Conference Treasurer-Director of Administrative Services
 Annual Financial Report, William C. Wyman, Jr., Treasurer
 Annual Meeting of the Membership of The United Methodist Foundation, Johnie
 H. Jones, Chairperson; David A. Snipes, President
 Reports of Forum Groups
 Adoption of Consent Calendar
 Report on General Conference, Charles D. White, Jr., Jack Young, and Patricia
 A. Lewis, Delegation Officers
 Approval of "Jurisdictional Pool" of Nominees for General Agencies
- 5:00 P.M. Recess for Dinner
 7:30 P.M. Evening Service of Worship
 Sermon: Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton
 9:00 P.M. Recess

Saturday, June 12, 2004

- 7:30 A.M. The Sacrament of Holy Communion, Memorial Chapel
 8:45 A.M. Morning Prayer
 9:00 A.M. Plenary Business Session
 Report of Conference Ministries Advisory Council (Part 3)
 Report of Committee on Episcopacy, Michael L. Robinson, Chairperson
- 9:45 A.M. Ceremony of Recognition of Retiring Clergy, sponsored by Board of Pensions and
 Board of Ordained Ministry
 Statement on Behalf of Retirees: Dr. Andrew W. Brown, Jr., Pastor, Simpson-
 Gillespie Church, Charlotte
- 10:15 A.M. Plenary Business Session
 Report of Council on Congregational Development, Sam H. Smith, Jr.,
 Chairperson
 Report of Commission on Archives and History, James L. Pyatt, Chairperson of
 Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History
 Report of Conference Brotherhood/Sisterhood, Katherine Clontz Sherrill, Pres-
 ident
- 11:00 A.M. Presentation of Bishop's Awards of Excellence in Boy Scouting and Girl
 Scouting
- 11:15 A.M. Celebration of Life Service
 Sermon: Reverend Ned B. Owens, Senior Pastor, First Church, Rutherfordton
- 12:30 P.M. Recess for Lunch
 2:15 P.M. Meetings of Agencies for Quadrennial Organization
 7:30 P.M. Service of Ordination of Deacons and Elders
 Sermon: Bishop Ann Brookshire Sherer, Resident Bishop of the Missouri Area,
 Columbia, Missouri

Sunday, June 13, 2004

- 8:45 A.M. Sunday School for All Ages
 Children (kindergarten through fifth grade): Room 316, Terrace, led by Jenny S. Reilly, Director of Christian Education, Central Church, Charlotte
 Youth (sixth through twelfth grades): Amphitheater at the Cross (in the event of rain, in the International Room, Lambuth Inn), led by Dan B. and Kimberly Money, First-Canaan Charge, Denton
 Adults: Memorial Chapel, led by Robert V. Dodd, Matthews
- 10:30 A.M. Conference Sunday Service of Worship
 Sermon: Bishop Charlene Payne Kammerer
 Fixing of Appointments, Sending Forth, and Adjournment *sine die*

B. CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS**Tuesday, June 8, 2004**

- 12:00 P.M. Beginning Pastors' Seminar, "The Art of the Start," Section C, Harrell Center Auditorium
 2:00 P.M. Children's Home Benefit Golf Tournament, Lake Junaluska Golf Course
 5:45 P.M. Dinner, Conference Secretarial Staff

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

- 11:45 A.M. Luncheon and Annual Meeting, Clergy Appointed to Extension Ministries and Beyond the Local Church, Lambuth Inn
 2:00 P.M. Meeting, Bishop and Cabinet, Room 316, Terrace
 3:30 P.M. Annual Meeting, Conference Brotherhood/Sisterhood, Room 211, Terrace
 4:00 P.M. Meeting, Board of Ordained Ministry, Room 213, Terrace
 4:30 P.M. Communications Reception, Susan Todd Lounge, Harrell Center
 5:00 P.M. Barbecue Picnic, Duke Divinity School Alumni/ae and Friends, Nanci Weldon Gym
 5:30 P.M. Dinner and Training Session, Conference Ushers, Back Dining Room, Lambuth
 6:00 P.M. Dinner, Bishop and Cabinet, Terrace Auditorium
 7:00 P.M. Kern Youth Center open and supervised for youth (to 10:00 P.M.)
 9:00 P.M. Training and Planning Session, Chairpersons of Forum Groups, Room 213, Terrace
 9:30 P.M. After-Hours Entertainment, Ed Kilbourne, Sunset Café, Harrell Center

Thursday, June 10, 2004

- 7:30 A.M. Breakfast, Women in Ministry, International Room, Lambuth
 9:30 A.M. Meeting, WNCC Chapter, National Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors, Memorial Chapel
 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Tent beside Stuart Auditorium (through Saturday)
 12:15 P.M. Training for Youth Members of Conference, Rehearsal Hall, Stuart Auditorium
 12:15 P.M. Luncheon, Aldersgate Retirement Community, International Room, Lambuth
 12:15 P.M. Luncheon, Black Clergywomen, Susan Todd Lounge, Harrell Center
 12:15 P.M. Luncheon, Conference Board of Trustees, Room 316, Terrace
 12:15 P.M. Luncheon, Greensboro College Alumni/ae and Friends, Terrace Auditorium
 12:15 P.M. Luncheon, Methodist Federation for Social Action, Room 319, Terrace
 2:00 P.M. Kern Youth Center open and supervised for youth (to 5:00 P.M.)
 3:00 P.M. Watermelon Cutting, sponsored by Brevard College, tent between Stuart Auditorium and Harrell Center
 5:00 P.M. Reception, Retiring Clergy and Spouses, Terrace Lobby
 5:30 P.M. Banquet, Retiring Clergy and Spouses, Terrace Auditorium
 5:30 P.M. Banquet, Board of Ordained Ministry, Cabinet, and Persons Being Ordained and Commissioned, First Church, Waynesville
 5:30 P.M. Banquet, Drew University Alumni/ae and Friends, Saville Room, Lambuth
 5:30 P.M. Banquet, Pfeiffer University Alumni/ae and Friends, Room 319, Terrace
 5:30 P.M. Banquet, United Methodist Rural Fellowship, Long's Chapel Church
 5:30 P.M. Banquet, Wesley Theological Seminary Alumni/ae and Friends, Room 316, Terrace

7:00 P.M. Kern Youth Center open and supervised for youth (to 10:00 P.M.)
 9:30 P.M. After-Hours Entertainment, Ed Kilbourne, Sunset Café, Harrell Center

Friday, June 11, 2004

7:15 A.M. Charles L. Hite Memorial Breakfast for WNC Conference Retired Clergy and Spouses and Surviving Spouses, sponsored by the Eugene M. Cole Foundation, Dining Room, Lambuth
 [Note: Persons staying at Lambuth Inn and not involved in this event are advised that they are to have breakfast in the International Room.]
 7:52 A.M. Dutch-Treat Breakfast, North Wilkesboro District, Terrace Auditorium
 9:00 A.M. Health/Wellness Fair, tent on lawn between Stuart Auditorium and Harrell Center (until 1:00)
 10:00 A.M. Coffee, Honoring Spouses of Retiring Clergy, Terrace Hotel Lobby
 12:30 P.M. Annual Missions Luncheon, First Church, Waynesville
 12:30 P.M. Luncheon, Asbury Theological Seminary Alumni/ae and Friends, Room 319, Terrace
 12:30 P.M. Luncheon, Chaplains' Fellowship, Room 316, Terrace
 12:30 P.M. Luncheon, Gammon Theological Seminary Alumni/ae and Friends, Front Dining Room, Jones Cafeteria
 12:30 P.M. Luncheon, High Point University Alumni/ae and Friends, Sections A-B, Terrace Auditorium
 12:30 P.M. Luncheon, Pastors of New Churches, Saville Room, Lambuth
 1:30 P.M. Watermelon Cutting, sponsored by Pfeiffer University, tent between Harrell Center and Stuart Auditorium
 2:00 P.M. Kern Youth Center open and supervised for youth (to 5:00 P.M.)
 2:30 P.M. Meeting, Prayer and Praise Fellowship for Clergy Spouses, Memorial Chapel
 5:30 P.M. Dinner, Christian Educators' Fellowship, Deacons, Diaconal Ministers, and Deaconesses, First Church, Waynesville
 5:30 P.M. Picnic, Youth Members of Conference and Members of Council on Youth Ministries, Nanci Weldon Gym
 5:30 P.M. Banquet, Emory University Alumni/ae and Friends, Long's Chapel Church
 7:00 P.M. Kern Youth Center open and supervised for youth (to 10:00 P.M.)
 9:15 P.M. Reception in Honor of Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer and Her Family, Harrell Center Auditorium
 9:15 P.M. Ice Cream Social, Lawn between Stuart Auditorium and Harrell Center, sponsored by Greensboro College
 9:30 P.M. After-Hours Entertainment, Ed Kilbourne, Sunset Café, Harrell Center

Saturday, June 12, 2004

7:30 A.M. Breakfast, Educational Opportunities, International Room, Lambuth
 8:00 A.M. Hospitality Time for Retiring Clergy and Spouses, Harrell Center Auditorium
 10:30 A.M. Reception Honoring Retiring Clergy and Spouses, Harrell Center Auditorium
 12:00 P.M. Luncheon, Scouting Awards Participants, Terrace Auditorium
 12:30 P.M. Annual Luncheon, Clergy Partners Fellowship, First Church, Waynesville
 12:30 P.M. Cookout, Hood Theological Seminary Students, Alumni/ae, and Friends, Nanci Weldon Gym
 2:00 P.M. Kern Youth Center open and supervised for youth (to 5:00 P.M.)
 7:00 P.M. Kern Youth Center open and supervised for youth (to 10:00 P.M.)
 7:30 P.M. Concert for Youth and Young Adults, sponsored by Methodist Motorsports Evangelism, Nanci Weldon Gym

C. DAILY MINUTES

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF CLERGY MEMBERS

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 9, 2009 – 8:00 P.M.

CLERGY SESSION: In compliance with ¶ 605.6 of *The Book of Discipline* (2000), Bishop Charlene Payne Kammerer convened an executive session of the clergy members of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference at 8:00 P.M. on Wednesday, June 9, 2004, in George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. Hymn 732, "Come, We That Love the Lord," was sung, and Bishop Kammerer offered the opening prayer.

BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD: Katherine Clontz Sherrill, president, offered explanatory remarks concerning the ministry of the Brotherhood/Sisterhood and announced that the board of directors had approved a "year of jubilee" for the coming conference year as an opportunity for clergy not previously enrolled to become members (see report in Sec. VIII.CC).

RECOGNITION: Bishop Kammerer invited Clyde W. Faulkner to the platform and spoke of her appreciation and that of the conference for this brother clergyman, still serving as a pastor in retirement and approaching his 92nd birthday.

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY: Kenneth H. Carter, Jr., president, spoke briefly concerning the work of the board and expressed gratitude for the faithful labors of the members of the board and of the district committees on ordained ministry.

PASSAGE OF CHARACTERS: Bishop Kammerer asked Question 17, pertaining to the conduct and official administration of the clergy of the conference. Dr. Carter answered on behalf of the board that the character and conference relations of all clergy members had been reviewed by the Cabinet and the Board of Ordained Ministry, that those clergy found to be in good standing were approved for annual appointment, and that any clergy whose character or conference relations were in question were being reviewed by appropriate bodies as defined by the *Discipline* (see Sec. V, Question 17).

BUSINESS QUESTIONS: Charles D. White, Jr., conference secretary-ordained ministry registrar, supplied the proposed responses to Business Questions 18-44; Kimberly T. Ingram, secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry, supplied the proposed responses to Questions 45-61; and Dr. White supplied the proposed responses to Questions 82 and 87c. In each instance, the action of the executive session as recorded in Section V, The Business of the Annual Conference, was taken by the required number of votes. During consideration of the involuntary leaves of absence reported in Question 54, Dr. Carter moved that the 90-day-notice requirement be waived in the case of Robert K. Bailey, Jr., and it was done by the required two-third's vote. John A. Moore, chairperson of the Administrative Review Committee, then reported that the committee had examined the process followed in each instance of involuntary leave of absence and found it to be in compliance with the *Discipline*.

CHAIRPERSONS OF THE ORDERS: Dr. Carter, on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry, nominated Joe A. Hamby as chairperson of the Order of Deacons and Susan Pendleton Jones as chairperson of the Order of Elders for the coming quadrennium, and they were elected.

EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE: Bishop Kammerer spoke gracious words of deep gratitude for having had the opportunity to serve for two quadrennia as bishop of the Charlotte Area and as a colleague in the ministry of Christ with all the clergy members of the conference, and the clergy members responded with prolonged standing applause.

ADJOURNMENT: Bishop Kammerer spoke words of dismissal and blessing, and the executive session of the clergy was adjourned at 9:10 P.M. (See Sec. V, The Business of the Annual Conference.)

FIRST DAY — THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2004

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION – 9:30 A.M.

LAITY ORIENTATION SESSION: Under the leadership of Jack Young, conference lay leader and president of the Council on Laity, an orientation session for the lay members of the conference was conducted at 9:30 A.M., Thursday, June 5, 2003, in George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska. Special attention during this time was given to a presentation by William C. Wyman, Jr., conference treasurer, concerning proposals from the Council on Finance and Administration and the Quadrennial Budget Planning Committee for changes in the budget and apportionment processes of the conference.

OPENING WORSHIP CELEBRATION AND HOLY COMMUNION: The conference celebration of Holy Communion began at 10:30 A.M. in Stuart Auditorium. Under the direction of Larry Lane and Bob and Linda Wujciak, from the Praise Band of St. Stephen Church, Charlotte, the congregation sang several praise hymns from *The Faith We Sing*: 2025, "As the Deer"; 2068, "I Love You, Lord";

2203, "In His Time"; and 2113, "Lamb of God." After Mr. Lane had sung a solo, "Come, Expecting Jesus," Helen Rifas, harpist, played the opening voluntary, "Sheep May Safely Graze." Thomas R. Steagald, liturgist, led the responsive call to worship from Psalm 15, and the congregation sang processional hymn 155, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name." John-Palmer Smith, lector, led the unison collect, after which Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer introduced the 2004 conference preacher, Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton, resident bishop of the Ohio East Area.

Following the unison prayer for illumination, Dr. Steagald read the scriptures from Micah 6:6-8 from a field-preaching bible once owned by John Wesley. After an anthem, "Offertory," had been sung by a choir composed of clergy members of the conference, Bishop Keaton delivered the sermon on the subject, "A Charge to Keep: Justice and Mercy." In response to the proclamation of the Word, Bishop Keaton led in singing, "Love Lifted Me," and Dr. Steagald led in the recitation of the Apostles' Creed. Betty B. Brown, lector, offered concerns and prayers.

Bishop Kammerer then gave the invitation to the Lord's Table and led in the act of confession and pardon. Following the exchange of signs of peace, the offering for the construction of the Joseph B. and Shirley C. Bethea Welcome Center at Lake Junaluska was received, and Bishop Kammerer offered a prayer of thanksgiving. The Clergy Choir sang the offertory, "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning," and the congregation sang the doxology and the hymn 328, "Surely the Presence of the Lord."

Robert Brawley, of Triplett Church, Mooresville, and Eddie Goodman, of Wingate Church, Wingate, brought to the altar the elements of communion, and Bishop Kammerer led in the prayer of great thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer. The elements of communion were distributed by members of the Cabinet and those to be ordained or recognized as elders and deacons at the 2004 session. Various hymns were sung as the elements were received. Bishop Kammerer led the prayer after the communion, and recessional hymn 413, "A Charge to Keep I Have," was sung. Bishop Keaton spoke the dismissal with blessing, the organist played the closing voluntary, and the service concluded at 12:30 p.m.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION – 1:30 P.M.

CONFERENCE CONVENES: With Charlene Payne Kammerer, resident bishop of the Charlotte Area, presiding, the Western North Carolina Annual Conference of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church convened in George R. Stuart Auditorium at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, on June 10, 2004.

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Kammerer called the 37th annual session of the conference to order at 1:30 P.M. with the congregational singing of hymn 553, "And Are We Yet Alive."

ROLL CALL OF THE DECEASED: The members of the conference stood in moments of tribute as the secretary called the names of the ordained ministers, local pastors, and diaconal ministers of the conference who had died since the adjournment of the 2003 session: George William Bumgarner, Robert Lester Burnett, Ray Spencer Cody, Joel Wesley Duggins, Henry Clark Duncan, Budd Ellington, Jr., Bobby Eugene Green, Wilbur Arthur Jarrett, William Arthur Knight, Marion Wilson Nesbitt, Jr., Harold Eugene Peacock, Jr., Emory Powell, Jonell Robinson, Courtney Beaman Ross, William Denver Stone, Thomas Alston Summey, Jr., James Dixon Turner, Doris Lou Willis, and Clarence Edward Wright. Josefa E. Bethea offered the prayer of grateful remembrance.

OFFICIAL ROLL: The secretary noted that, under conference rules, the signed registration cards constitute the official roll call and stand as evidence of attendance at the sessions of the conference (Plan of Organization, Part I.B.8).

QUORUM: The secretary stated that one third of the total number of voting members registered at the time of the organizational session constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business throughout the conference sessions (Plan of Organization, Part I.B.9), and Bishop Kammerer ruled that a quorum was present.

VOTING BAR: Upon motion by the secretary, the voting bar (legal limits) of the conference was set to include all of Stuart Auditorium, with the provision that those voting must be seated within the bar unless other instructions were given in case of a full house.

AGENDA: The secretary moved that the conference program as printed, subject to necessary daily adjustments, constitute the official agenda of the 2004 conference session, and it was so ordered.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND AGENCIES: Upon motion by the secretary, the reports of conference boards and agencies as found in the *Program and Reports* booklet and the supplement, subject to editorial corrections and technical adjustments, and including such reports as remained to be submitted to the secretary, were ordered to record insofar as they did not require conference action.

FORUM GROUPS: The secretary moved that twenty-four forum groups, their chairpersons, and their memberships be approved, with necessary adjustments and with provisions for voting membership of conference members not listed, and it was done.

REFERRAL OF PETITIONS TO FORUM GROUPS: The secretary presented Report No. 1 of petition referrals as printed in *Program and Reports*, and it was approved. He then moved the adop-

tion of Report No. 2 as reflected in the supplement distributed at the time of registration, except for Petitions 27, 28, and 29, which had been withdrawn by the petitioners, and it was done. (See Sec. VIII.W).

REPORT OF QUADRENNIAL BUDGET PLANNING COMMITTEE: After Bishop Kammerer had offered contextual remarks concerning the work of the Quadrennial Budget Planning Committee, Sam H. Smith, Jr., chairperson of the committee, recognized the other members of the committee, offered a summary of the report, and moved the adoption of the five proposals contained therein (see report in Sec. VIII.A). Throughout the consideration of the report, numerous questions were asked by members of the conference, and appropriate responses were given by Mr. Smith; William C. Wyman, Jr., conference treasurer; and James M. Armstrong, Jr., and Frank A. Stith III, members of the committee. Karen Ring spoke against the motion to adopt.

Claudia G. Harrelson then moved a division of the question, so that proposals 1-2 could be considered together and proposals 3-5 could be considered together. Thomas A. (Andy) Langford III and Donald W. Routh spoke against division, and Dawn M. Hand and H. Donnell FitzJefferies spoke in favor. The previous question having been ordered upon motion from the floor, the Harrelson motion to divide the question did not prevail.

William F. Berry II, Jamie Dickens, and Charles W. Eurey spoke against the motion to adopt the proposals in the report, and C. Harley Dickson, Kenneth E. Walker, and Julianne (Jan) Brittain spoke in favor. Ronald A. (Alan) Rice, Jr., spoke in favor of the general thrust of the proposals but against the assumption that the viability of a congregation should be assessed on the basis of financial strength. The previous question having been ordered upon motion from the floor, Mr. Smith made closing remarks on behalf of the committee, and the motion to adopt the five proposals in the report was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bishop Kammerer and the secretary made necessary announcements.

RECESS: The conference stood in recess at 3:50 P.M.

EXCUSED (entire conference): George E. Auman, Lloyd R. Bailey, Harold K. Bales, Robert E. Boggan, Jr., James H. Charlesworth, J. David Colson, Brian M. Cornell, Cecil E. Donahue, William H. Dyar, Ann S. Gibert, Madeline D. Gray, E. R. Haire, Jr., John R. Gottula, Rodney H. Hagans, Jr., Bradley E. Hopper, David C. Joyce, Steve D. Joyce, William R. Kimball, Jr., Craig A. Langston, M. Alvin Latham, John P. Love, Barry P. Osborne, Jack B. Porter, William R. Ragsdale, Joseph M. Reeves, Kenneth G. Roth, Jr., Linda B. Roth, William E. Roth, C. William Sartin, Frances J. Smathers, Deborah K. Sluder, E. Boyd Stokes, Robert H. Sturge, Timothy D. Taylor, W. Christopher Thore, Janice A. Virtue, Harold C. Warlick, Jr., W. Rayvon White, Billy M. Whiteside, and Nina W. Wynn.

THURSDAY EVENING SESSION – 7:30 P.M.

CONFERENCE RECONVENES: Pursuant to recess, the conference reconvened at 7:30 P.M. with the singing of hymn 133, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

COMPOSITE REPORT OF THE CABINET: On a stage filled with empty picture frames, the Cabinet offered its annual composite report, highlighting the visioning process by which it was undertaking to move the Cabinet, the clergy, and the churches of the annual conference from a maintenance mode to a mission mode. The undergirding mission statement and repeated refrain of the report was, "Follow Jesus, Make Disciples, Transform the World." Using concepts from the Reynolds Church Leadership program, the Cabinet explored the questions, "Where are we? Where do we want to go? Where is God leading us? How will we get there?" From those questions have arisen several key points: economic crisis in North Carolina; diversity of the population versus the homogeneity of membership in the churches; aging of church membership versus a decreasing youth membership; population density versus church building locations; and the tools, resources, and assets available to the annual conference. The members of the Cabinet challenged the conference to embrace the vision and provide input in the ongoing process of visioning for ministry. While a recording of the singing of a Lithuanian group was played, empty picture frames were given to the members of the conference, along with an invitation to envision the future which will fill those frames. The report concluded with the singing of hymn 451, "Be Thou My Vision."

FORUM GROUP EXCUSED: James C. Windham, Jr., chairperson of Forum Group 23, Finance, moved that the members of that group be excused for the remainder of the evening session in order to act on petitions yet remaining to be considered, and it was done.

REPORT OF DISCIPLE BIBLE OUTREACH MINISTRIES: Mark C. Hicks, executive director, reported on behalf of Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries (see Sec. VIII.Y). He thanked the bishop and the annual conference for their support and encouraged local congregations to support this ministry.

INTRODUCTIONS: Thomas R. Sigmon, conference director of connectional ministries, introduced Kay Dunlap, newly named director of the Western North Carolina Conference Deaf Ministry; Richard A. Nelson, new chief executive officer of The Children's Home, Inc.; and Steve Sellers, newly named executive director of UMAR.

ELECTION OF SECRETARY: John S. Boggs, secretary of the Committee on Conference Staff Relations, on behalf of the committee nominated Charles D. White, Jr., as secretary of the annual conference for the 2004-08 quadrennium, and he was elected.

ELECTION OF STATISTICIAN: Bishop Kammerer, chairperson of the Committee on Nominations, on behalf of the committee nominated Charles D. White, Jr., as conference statistician for the 2004-08 quadrennium, and he was elected.

SECRETARIAL STAFF: Having expressed appreciation to the conference for entrusting to him the offices to which he had just been elected, the secretary nominated the following persons as members of the conference secretarial staff for the 2004 session, and they were elected: Louis H. Woodard, associate secretary; Dee Bee M. Martin, Stephen M. Martin, A. Owen Peeler, Angela A. Pleasants, Shannon A. Redden, Susan L. Yarski, and Debra S. Younts, assistant secretaries; and W. T. Medlin, Jr., secretary emeritus. The secretary then noted that Gladys T. Holder, of Albemarle, who had served on the secretarial staff from 1980 to 2003, was unable to continue to serve because of health concerns, and the conference ordered that special greetings and expressions of appreciation be sent to her and to her husband, Kenneth.

ASSOCIATE STATISTICIANS: The statistician-elect nominated Lawrence E. Barden and Shannon A. Redden as associate statisticians for the coming year, and they were elected.

COORDINATOR OF CALENDAR: Bishop Kammerer, chairperson of the Committee on the Annual Conference Meeting, on behalf of the committee nominated Ashley Crowder Stanley as coordinator of calendar for the 2004 session, and she was elected.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS: Charles D. White, Jr., committee secretary, presented the report as contained in the supplement distributed at registration, and, with certain adjustments, it was approved (see Sec. VIII.V).

WELCOME TO LAKE JUNALUSKA ASSEMBLY/SEJAC REPORT: Jimmy L. Carr, executive director, and Joetta F. Rinehart, director of public relations and interpretation, welcomed the conference to Lake Junaluska and reported briefly on the work of the council and of the Assembly (see Sec. VIII.GG). Mrs. Rinehart presented to Bishop Kammerer a special gift of an oil lamp made of silt from the lake bed of Lake Junaluska.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEETING: Bishop Kammerer, chairperson of the committee, made the annual report of the committee (see Sec. VIII.M), expressing gratitude to those involved in the planning of the 2004 session. She then recognized Karen Farish Miller, host district superintendent; Fernando Little, conference director of music; Charlotte F. Maness, conference organist and assistant conference director of music; and Connie King, Stacy Wilson, and Tiffany Weilnau, signers for the deaf.

RULES AMENDMENTS: The secretary presented the following amendments to the Plan of Organization and Rules of Order and Procedure as proposed by the Committee on the Annual Conference Meeting and/or other agencies, and each was adopted:

- a. Amend Part I.D.4.b: Following the words, "The resident bishop," insert, "the administrative assistant to the bishop."
- b. Amend Part I.D.4.f: Preceding the words, "the conference director of connectional ministries," delete the word, "and," and after those same words add, "and the conference director of congregational development."
- c. Amend Part I.D.5.a: Following the first sentence, insert, "Its membership shall not be subject to the limitations on terms of service set forth above."
- d. Amend Part I.D.6 : Delete the words, "provided, further, that the executive director of the Council for Higher Education shall be an ex-officio member of the Commission on Nurture Ministries."
- e. Amend Part I.D.7g: After the words, "UMAR, Inc.," insert, "and other residential service homes, the United Methodist Deaf Ministry of the Western North Carolina Conference."
- f. Amend Part I.D.9.c so that the entire section will read: "This committee shall be constituted quadrennially and shall be composed of the bishop; the conference lay leader; the chairperson of the conference Ministries Advisory Council; the president of the conference Council on Finance and Administration; the secretary of the Cabinet; and the following members at large: two ordained elders, one deacon in full connection or diaconal minister, and two lay persons. The conference director of connectional ministries shall be an ex-officio member without vote. The chairperson shall be elected by the committee from among the five at-large members. Other officers shall be elected from among the voting membership of the committee as the committee deems necessary. The committee shall serve the personnel responsibilities assigned by the Annual Conference and function as the Staff-Parish Relations Committee for members of the conference staff."
- g. Amend Part F: Delete item 5 in its entirety and renumber the remaining items accordingly. In item 6 (now item 5), delete the word, "sixty," and insert, "forty-five." Amend item 7 so that it will read, "All orders for the journal shall be accompanied by payment for the same."

REPORT OF UNITED METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE: Donna Strickland-Smith, a member of the governing board of The United Methodist Publishing House, presented the report, highlighted several new publications, and presented a check to Bishop Kammerer for the clergy pension fund,

representing the conference's share in the proceeds of the publishing house for the preceding year. She then introduced Drew Jones, southeast regional manager for Cokesbury, who brought greetings to the conference and introduced the new Cokesbury store manager in Greensboro, Lillian Stahl.

PENSION CHECK: Jonathan D. Coppedge-Henley moved that the entire amount of the check received from The United Methodist Publishing House for the clergy pension fund be contributed to the pension appeal for the central conferences of The United Methodist Church, and that motion was approved.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT: Lawrence E. Barden, conference statistician, presented his annual summary report, which was received with the appreciation of the conference (see Volume II of the 2003 journal).

RECOGNITION: Bishop Kammerer, on behalf of the conference, spoke words of gratitude to Mr. Barden for his faithful and effective service as statistician from 1980 to 2004 and presented to him a plaque as a token of that gratitude, and the members of the conference expressed their appreciation with standing applause.

REPORT OF COUNCIL ON HIGHER EDUCATION MINISTRIES: James C. Howell, chairperson, presented the report (see Sec. VIII.D), which included a new video presentation about the importance of ministry to young adults of college age. Shirley L. Canty, vice-chairperson, introduced the five presidents of United Methodist-related colleges and universities within the bounds of the conference: Johnetta B. Cole, Bennett College (*in absentia*); Drew L. Van Horn, Brevard College; Charles M. Ambrose, Pfeiffer University; Craven E. Williams, Greensboro College; and Jacob C. Martinson, Jr., High Point University. Ms. Canty also spoke words of appreciation for the work of David Riffe, former chairperson of the Council for Higher Education. Dr. Williams presented the 2004 Francis Asbury Award to William S. Jones, of West Market Street Church, Greensboro. Dr. Martinson then presented a second Francis Asbury Award for 2004 to W. Rogers Soles (*in absentia*), also of West Market Street Church.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE MINISTRIES ADVISORY COUNCIL (PART 1): Mary Lou Roller, council chairperson, introduced Part 1 of the report (see Sec. VIII.B). Mark L. Barden, conference director of missions/outreach, and Darwin Van Gorp, chairperson of the Commission on Outreach Ministries, announced that the 2004 Sylvia Clapp Mission Award for Laity was being presented to Mahalia McGee, of Gideon Grove Church, Northeast District. Ms. McGee's daughter, Rynn McGee-Pierce, accepted the award for her mother, who was unable to attend because of poor health. Mr. Barden then highlighted the criteria for the Excellence in Mission/Outreach "Reach for the Stars" Award as the names of churches which had qualified for the 2004 award were displayed on video screens.

Mark J. Key, conference director of congregational development and evangelism, and Debra D. Paulsen, chairperson of the Honors and Awards Task Force of the Commission on Witness Ministries, presented the report of the Church of Excellence program. As the names of the 130 churches being recognized as "Churches of Excellence" were displayed on video screens, Ms. Paulsen presented the Harry Denman Group Award to the youth group of Flag Springs Church, High Point District. Angela A. Pleasants, representing the commission, presented the Harry Denman Laity Award to Polly Caple, of St. Stephens Church, Lexington District. Dr. Key then presented the Harry Denman Clergy Award to Anthony E. (Andy) Lambert, a general evangelist of the conference.

Heidi Campbell-Robinson, chairperson of the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, presented the report of the commission (see Sec. VIII.B.5), in which were highlighted the Christian Women 101 Curriculum, Victim Guide brochure, and the Clergywomen's Survey Summary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The conference secretary made necessary announcements.

RECESS: Following prayer by the bishop, the conference stood in recess at 10:15 P.M.

SECOND DAY – FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 2004

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION – 8:45 A.M.

MORNING PRAYER: The conference gathered in Stuart Auditorium for morning prayer at 8:45 A.M. Fernando Little, conference director of music, led in the singing of hymn 378, "Amazing Grace," and offered prayer. The period of morning prayer concluded with the singing of hymn 334, "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place"; hymn 370, "Victory in Jesus"; hymn 595, "Here I am Lord"; and hymn 369, "Blessed Assurance."

CONFERENCE RECONVENES: Pursuant to recess, the conference reconvened at 9:00 A.M. with Bishop Kammerer sharing concerns of the conference.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE MINISTRIES ADVISORY COUNCIL (PART 2): Lawrence E. Carella, managing director of Rural Affordable Housing (RAH), reported on the work of that agency, presented a brief video, and encouraged individuals to volunteer their assistance to RAH projects. Dawn M. Hand, conference director of communications, then led in a report on General Conference from the youth and young adults from the conference who had attended that conference in Pittsburgh: Sarah E. H. McKinney, Courtney L. Russ, Matthew T. Sink, and John F. Howard, Jr.

REPORT OF DUKE ENDOWMENT: Valerie B. Rosenquist, associate director of the Rural Church Division of The Duke Endowment, presented the annual report of the division, which was received with appreciation by the conference (see Sec. VIII.DD).

REPORT OF CONFERENCE TRUSTEES: Joseph P. McGuire, president, offered the annual report of the conference trustees, noting areas of special concern, and the report was received with appreciation (see Sec. VIII.L).

CABINET RESOLUTIONS: James T. Trollinger, secretary of the Cabinet, proposed the adoption of the following seven resolutions, and each was adopted:

Salem Church, Ansonville Charge, Anson County, Albemarle District

Whereas, Salem United Methodist Church, Ansonville Charge, Anson County, Albemarle District, has diminished to four active members; and

Whereas, The members are no longer able to maintain the grounds and property and are struggling to meet local expenses, as well as pastoral compensation and district and conference apportionments; and

Whereas, The congregation is no longer able to fulfill its purpose and mission as required by ¶ 2548.2 of *The Book of Discipline*; and

Whereas, Two of the four active members have indicated a desire to transfer their memberships to other churches; and

Whereas, The congregation voted at a church conference on May 7, 2004, to request to be discontinued as a United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, The district superintendent, the presiding bishop, and a majority of the Cabinet, meeting in session on May 11, 2004, and the Albemarle District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to granting discontinuance and to seeing that all disciplinary requirements are met; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Salem United Methodist Church, Ansonville Charge, Anson County, Albemarle District, be discontinued, effective July 1, 2004, and that the Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, The United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters, including oversight of the Cemetery Fund, in accordance with ¶ 2548 of *The Book of Discipline* and to confer with the Albemarle district superintendent to determine the opportunities available for mission and community service related to the disposition of the property.

Center Church, Wingate Charge, Union County, Albemarle District

Whereas, Center United Methodist Church, Wingate Charge, Monroe, Union County, Albemarle District, has diminished to nine active members; and

Whereas, The members are no longer able to maintain the grounds and property and are struggling to meet local expenses, as well as pastoral compensation and district and conference apportionments; and

Whereas, The congregation is no longer able to fulfill its purpose and mission as required by ¶ 2548.2 of *The Book of Discipline*; and

Whereas, The congregation voted at a church conference on December 7, 2003, to request to be discontinued as a United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, The district superintendent, the presiding bishop, and a majority of the Cabinet, meeting in session on January 4, 2004, and the Albemarle District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to granting discontinuance and to seeing that all disciplinary requirements are met; and

Whereas, The remaining members wish to attend several different United Methodist churches; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Center United Methodist Church, Wingate Charge, Monroe, Union County, Albemarle District, be discontinued, effective December 7, 2003, and that the Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, The United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2548 of *The Book of Discipline* and to confer with the Albemarle district superintendent to determine the opportunities available for mission and community service related to the disposition of the property.

Benton Heights Church, Benton Heights-Hebron Charge, Union County, Albemarle District

Whereas, Benton Heights United Methodist Church, Benton Heights-Hebron Charge, Monroe, Union County, Albemarle District, has diminished to six active members; and

Whereas, The members are no longer able to maintain the grounds and property and are struggling to meet local expenses, as well as pastoral compensation, and were unable to pay any of the 2003 conference apportionments; and

Whereas, The congregation is no longer able to fulfill its purpose and mission as required by ¶ 2548.2 of *The Book of Discipline*; and

Whereas, The congregation voted at a church conference on December 7, 2003, to re-

quest to be discontinued as a United Methodist Church at the end of January 2004 unless a major turnaround took place, which did not happen; and

Whereas, The district superintendent, the presiding bishop, and a majority of the Cabinet, meeting in session on February 2, 2004, and the Albemarle District Board of Church Location and Building have consented to granting discontinuance and to seeing that all disciplinary requirements are met; and

Whereas, The remaining members wish to attend several different United Methodist churches; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Benton Heights United Methodist Church, Benton Heights-Hebron Charge, Monroe, Union County, Albemarle District, be discontinued, effective February 1, 2004, immediately after a worship service celebrating the life of this church, and that the Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, The United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2548 of *The Book of Discipline* and to confer with the Albemarle district superintendent to determine the opportunities available for mission and community service related to the disposition of the property.

Shady Grove Church, Ramseur Circuit, Randolph County, High Point District

Whereas, The congregation of Shady Grove United Methodist Church, Ramseur Circuit, Randolph County, High Point District, has declined in membership to only 11 persons, plus three youth who have not yet been confirmed; and

Whereas, The average attendance at worship, which is conducted on only two Sundays each month, has declined to four persons; and

Whereas, Only two persons are carrying on the business of the church; and

Whereas, The district superintendent met with those two persons and the pastor in late spring 2003 to discuss the situation; and

Whereas, The church building is in a state of disrepair and ruin (with the steeple having blown off in Hurricane Isabel), and the insurance coverage on the building lapsed in November 2003; and

Whereas, At a church conference called by the district superintendent in September 2003, the members present requested discontinuance; and

Whereas, The High Point District Board of Church Location and Building, at its September 2003 meeting, gave its unanimous approval to discontinuance, and the district superintendent, the presiding bishop, and a majority of the Cabinet have consented to granting discontinuance and to seeing that all disciplinary requirements are met; and

Whereas, A service of discontinuance and de-consecration was held on October 12, 2003; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Shady Grove United Methodist Church, Ramseur Circuit, Randolph County, High Point District, be discontinued, effective October 12, 2003; that the remaining members be given opportunity to determine their individual paths for church membership in churches of the community; that the Board of Trustees, Western North Carolina Conference, The United Methodist Church, Inc., be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2548 of *The Book of Discipline* and to confer with the High Point district superintendent to determine the opportunities available for mission and community service related to the disposition of the property; that the church cemetery be deeded to a group from the church and that a cemetery association be formed when all deed and title work has been completed; and that, if the church property is sold, 25% of the net proceeds from the sale be retained by the conference and 75% be distributed to the district mission society of the High Point District.

Maggie's Chapel Church, Murphy Circuit, Cherokee County, Waynesville District

Whereas, The membership of Maggie's Chapel United Methodist Church, Murphy Circuit, Cherokee County, Waynesville District, has diminished to three members; and

Whereas, It is impractical to maintain a church organization and carry on the work of the church; and

Whereas, There are nearby United Methodist churches for the remaining members to attend and in which they may place their memberships; and

Whereas, The Waynesville District Board of Church Location and Building has consented to discontinuance; and

Whereas, The Waynesville district superintendent, the presiding bishop, and the Cabinet, at its September 8-10, 2003, session, have consented to granting discontinuance in accordance with the disciplinary requirements; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Maggie's Chapel United Methodist Church, Murphy Circuit, Cherokee County, Waynesville District, be discontinued, effective July 1, 2003, and that the Board of Trustees, Inc., Western North Carolina Conference, The United Methodist Church, in consultation with the Waynesville district superintendent, be instructed to handle all property matters in accordance with ¶ 2548 of *The Book of Discipline*.

Morningstar Church, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, Charlotte District

Whereas, Morningstar United Methodist Church, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, Charlotte District, is the result of the remissioning of Steeleberry United Methodist Church in July 2003 (cf. 2003 Journal of the Western North Carolina Conference, Volume I, page 148, Question 15e); and

Whereas, The full membership of Morningstar United Methodist Church consisted of 92 persons as of December 31, 2003; and

Whereas, Morningstar United Methodist Church has not been able to purchase land for its future location and has moved to several temporary locations for worship; and

Whereas, The congregation has not experienced sufficient time in which to become a self-sustaining church; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the status of Morningstar United Methodist Church, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, Charlotte District, be changed to that of a mission congregation as described in ¶ 259 of *The Book of Discipline*.

South Tryon Community Church, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, Charlotte District

Whereas, South Tryon Community United Methodist Church, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, Charlotte District, is the first congregation of its nature to be established in the city of Charlotte; and

Whereas, Most of the members of this congregation are indigent, and many are homeless; and

Whereas, The place of worship for South Tryon Community Church is surrounded by public housing and low-income rental properties; and

Whereas, The anticipated budget of this congregation currently comes from other local churches of the district, from the district mission society, and from other grants; and

Whereas, During 2003, South Tryon Community Church received 81 members by profession of faith (the fourth highest number in the Western North Carolina Conference) and had a net gain of 85 members (the eighth highest in the conference); and

Whereas, The resources of this faith community are best spent in doing the work of evangelism in this low-income neighborhood; and

Whereas, South Tryon Community Church is an excellent expression of John Wesley's vision of proclaiming good news to the poor; and

Whereas, South Tryon Community Church is likely to become a strong contributor to the total missional program of the annual conference and the general church when given ample time to become economically self-sufficient; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the status of South Tryon Community United Methodist Church, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, Charlotte District, be changed to that of a mission congregation as described in ¶ 259 of *The Book of Discipline*.

GREETINGS: The secretary of the Cabinet moved that information from conference members and the Cabinet concerning conference members unable to attend be given directly to the conference secretary, and that the secretary write these absent members expressing the greetings and prayerful concern of the conference, and it was so ordered.

MOVING DAY: The secretary of the Cabinet moved that moving day be set for Tuesday June 29, 2004, and it was done.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The secretary of the Cabinet moved that the bishop and the Cabinet be empowered to care for any unfinished business of the annual conference that does not contravene *The Book of Discipline*, and it was so ordered.

PRIVILEGE MATTER: Betty Swarthout requested that the conference give thanks for the ministries of the churches that had just been discontinued or granted a new status.

REPORT OF COUNCIL ON LAITY: Jack Young, conference lay leader and president of the Council on Laity, presented the report of the council (see Sec. VIII.F), which was received with appreciation. In the context of the report, Johnny Harvell spoke briefly concerning the upcoming Gathering of the Laity.

DISTRICT LAY LEADERS: Jack Young, conference lay leader, introduced the 14 persons chosen by the districts as district lay leaders for 2004-05, and they were elected to their positions of leadership (see Sec. V., Question 14c). He then presented plaques in recognition of their service to the following persons whose terms as district lay leaders were concluding: Jim Roach (Greensboro), Johnny Harvell (High Point), Crowson H. Hunt (Lexington), Mary Alice Bradley (Marion), and Betty Jo C. Hardy (Salisbury).

ELECTION OF CONFERENCE LAY LEADER: Jack Young, president of the Council on Laity, on behalf of the council nominated Betty Jo C. Hardy, of Salisbury, as conference lay leader for 2004-06, and she was elected. The conference greeted its new lay leader with standing applause and took notice of the fact that she is the first woman to hold the office in this conference.

REPORT OF UNITED METHODIST MEN: Ray G. Boger, conference president of United Methodist Men, after presenting a video concerning the work of UMMen across the globe, offered the annual report of that organization (see Sec. VIII.G), which was received with appreciation. Assisted by Thomas W.

Wilson, Jr., former conference president of United Methodist Men, he then presented the Society of John Wesley award to Bishop Kammerer.

PRESENTATION: On behalf of the Council on Laity, Jack Young presented to Bishop Kammerer a gift of appreciation.

LAITY ADDRESS: W. W. (Fred) Gray III, a member of Guilford College Church, Greensboro, delivered the annual laity address on the theme, "What Does the Lord Require of Us," and the members of the conference responded with appreciation.

REPORT OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: Mary K. Kizer, conference president of United Methodist Women, presented her annual report (see Sec. VIII.H), and the conference responded with gratitude for the worldwide ministries of this organization.

REPORT OF BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY: Kenneth H. Carter, Jr., president, presented highlights of the annual report of the Board of Ordained Ministry (see Sec. VIII.J). He outlined the process of screening candidates and the board's strong emphasis on prayer in a process which seeks to confirm the internal call to ministry with the external validation of that call through the board. Bishop Kammerer spoke words of appreciation to Dr. Carter and to Sally O. Langford, who had chaired the board for three years of the quadrennium then ending, prior to her appointment as a district superintendent.

CERTIFICATION: Ellen Sapp Johnson, associate Board of Ordained Ministry registrar for certification, and Bishop Kammerer presented certificates to those being newly certified in professional church-related careers: Donna G. Ford (Christian education), R. Mark King (Christian education), and Kent L. Shrader (camping and retreat ministry, the first so certified in this annual conference).

DIACONAL MINISTRY: Bishop Kammerer asked Business Questions 70-81; Charles D. White, Jr., conference secretary and registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry, provided the proposed responses; and each response was approved as required.

RECOGNITION OF LICENSING SCHOOL GRADUATES: James R. Reeves, director of the School for the Licensing of Local Pastors, presented certificates to the persons who had completed the requirements for the license for pastoral ministry at the May licensing school. These persons were greeted on the platform by Bishop Kammerer and Board President Carter.

RECOGNITION OF OTHER FIRST-TIME APPOINTEES: As the board registrar called their names, other persons being appointed for the first time as local pastors or as non-transferred clergy from other conferences and denominations were invited to the platform and greeted by Bishop Kammerer and Dr. Carter.

RECOGNITION OF CLERGY TRANSFERS: As the conference secretary called their names, the clergy transferring into the conference were invited to the platform, where they were greeted by Bishop Kammerer and Dr. Carter.

RECEPTION OF CLASS INTO PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP: The 34 persons newly elected to probationary clergy membership in the conference (see Sec. V, Questions 28, 29, and 32a) were called individually to the platform and formally presented to the conference. Bishop Kammerer spoke words of welcome and admonition.

MOMENT OF TRIBUTE: Acknowledging that state funeral services were being conducted at that very hour in Washington, DC, for Ronald Wilson Reagan, former President of the United States, Bishop Kammerer led the conference in a moment of silence and in a prayer of remembrance of his life, service, and spirit.

RECEPTION OF CLASSES INTO FULL CONNECTION AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: The one person newly elected to associate membership under the 1992 *Discipline* (see Sec. V, Question 27), the two members newly elected to full connection as deacons (see Sec. V, Question 33a), and the 28 members newly elected to full connection as elders (see Sec. V, Question 33b) were introduced to the conference by the board registrar. Bishop Kammerer spoke words of admonition and encouragement and asked the traditional questions from the *Discipline*, to which each new member gave the expected response.

RECESS: In anticipation of the service of commissioning to follow, the conference stood in recess at 11:45 A.M.

SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING OF PROBATIONARY MEMBERS: The annual service for the commissioning of probationary members began at 11:55 A.M. with the singing of processional hymn 139, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty". Kenneth H. Carter, Jr., president of the Board of Ordained Ministry, presented the candidates for commissioning. Bishop Kammerer led the opening statement to the congregation, conducted the examination of the candidates, and offered prayer. She then acknowledged Samuel Om, a newly elected probationary member who had been previously ordained in the Cambodian Evangelical Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. She further noted that Donald Eugene McCoy, also a newly elected probationary member, had been ordained deacon when admitted as an associate member and that, because of a tragic death in his family, was unable to be present. The bishop then commissioned to ministry as probationary members of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference those persons who had been elected thereto. J. Thomas Stinson-Wesley, vice-president of the Board of Ordained Ministry, presented a *Book of Worship*, and the conference secretary gave appropriate certificates of membership and licensing to each newly commissioned minister. The bishop led in a closing unison prayer, and recessional hymn 584, "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" was sung. Following the benediction by the bishop, the service of commissioning concluded at 12:20 P.M.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION – 2:00 P.M.

CONFERENCE RECONVENES: Pursuant to recess, the conference reconvened at 2:00 P.M.

CONFERENCE CHANCELLOR: Bishop Kammerer presented to Mark B. Edwards, of Charlotte, a commemorative plaque in recognition of his devoted and effective service as conference chancellor from 1991 to 2004, and the conference expressed its gratitude for his work with standing applause. The bishop then introduced Susan Keahey Irvin, an attorney in Charlotte and a member of Davidson Church, Davidson, and nominated her for election as conference chancellor for 2004-2005, and she was elected.

REPORT FROM SEMINARIES: Bishop Kammerer invited Bishop L. Bevel Jones III, former bishop of the Charlotte Area, 1984-1996, to share the platform, and he was greeted warmly by the conference. Bishop Jones, bishop-in-residence at Candler School of Theology, then offered brief remarks and reported concerning the work of the seminaries of the church.

COMMUNICATIONS AWARD: Bishop Kammerer presented the Bishop's Award for Excellence in Christian Communication to Neill McKeathan Caldwell, Jr., only the second person ever so recognized, and the conference expressed its appreciation as well.

REPORT OF YOUTH COUNCIL: Lea Scott, chairperson of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, presented the annual report of the council (see Sec. VIII.I), noting that its petition concerning a safe-sanctuary policy for local churches, had been placed on the consent calendar.

REPORT OF BOARD OF PENSIONS: Juanita T. Henderson, president, with the assistance of James L. Williamson, board treasurer, presented the annual report of the Board of Pensions of the conference, and the report was received with appreciation (see Sec. VIII.K).

REPORT OF COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: James C. Windham, Jr., president, introduced the annual report of the Council on Finance and Administration (see Sec. VIII.A), noting in particular that increases in health-care costs had averaged 10-15% per year over the past five years. Having observed that most of the printed report of the council consisted of material with which Forum Group 23 had dealt, he then turned to the report of that group.

REPORT OF FORUM GROUP 23, FINANCE: Mr. Windham reported as follows concerning the work of Forum Group 23, of which he had served as chairperson:

Petition 30 (Annuity Rate for Pre-1982 Clergy Service). The forum group voted disagreement. J. Clay Madison and Robert J. Ralls, clergy members who were among the submitters of the petition, spoke against the recommendation of disagreement, contending that the conference should approve the request for a two-step adoption of an annuity rate for pre-1982 service equal to 1% of the Conference Average Compensation. William C. Wyman, Jr., conference treasurer and pensions officer, gave explanatory remarks to set the issue in historical context. During consideration of the matter, various members raised questions, which were answered by the appropriate persons, and Jerry Snyder and Jim C. Gilland spoke against the recommendation of the forum group. The previous question having been ordered upon motion by John F. Howard, Jr., the conference sustained the action of the forum group.

Petition 1 (2005 Apportioned Funds and Financial Policies). The forum group voted agreement as amended. Dawn M. Hand, conference director of communications, requested that the funding of the department of which she was the head be moved from the category of Witness Ministries and placed under its own fund heading, and Mr. Windham agreed to that adjustment on behalf of the council and the forum group. After moments of questions and appropriate answers, the previous question was ordered upon motion from the floor, and the conference sustained the action of the forum group.

ELECTION OF TREASURER-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES: James C. Windham, Jr., president of the Council on Finance and Administration, on behalf of the council nominated William C. Wyman, Jr., as conference treasurer-director of administrative services for the 2004-08 quadrennium, and he was elected.

TREASURER'S REPORT: William C. Wyman, Jr., conference treasurer-director of administrative services, gave his annual report, which was received with appreciation (see Sec. VIII.HH). He spoke words of special appreciation for the work of Yvonne Gritt, controller in the Treasury Services Office, and she was warmly greeted by the conference.

RULE SUSPENDED: Kathy FitzJefferies moved that the rule requiring referral of new proposals to forum groups be suspended in order that a new proposal might be acted upon immediately, and the rule was suspended.

MOTION FOR STUDY: Ms. FitzJefferies then moved that a committee be appointed to study and monitor the impact of the newly adopted funding paradigm on the ministry and missions in the Western North Carolina Annual Conference; that the membership of the committee be chosen by the bishop and include a non-Cabinet-level member of the conference program staff and representatives from small rural churches, medium-size churches, large churches, and racial-ethnic churches; and that the committee deliver a report back to the annual conference each year this funding paradigm is in place. This motion was adopted.

REPORT AND ANNUAL MEETING OF UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION: David A. Snipes, president, presented the annual report of the United Methodist Foundation, Inc., drawing special attention to the work of Johnie H. Jones, chairperson, who had asked to step down from the board of directors. He also introduced P. Glenn Kinken III as the new senior vice-president for planned giving and communication of the foundation. Mr. Snipes then nominated Sam H. Smith, Jr., to complete the unexpired term of Theodore B. Sumner, Jr., as a director in the class of 2006 and the following as members

of the board of directors in the class of 2007, and they were elected: J. Carlton Fleming, Telezee L. Foster, Goldston F. Harris, Michael L. Robinson, and James C. Smith. C. Harley Dickson, chairperson of the Royce and Jane Reynolds Fund, moved the adoption of certain amendments to the purpose statement of that fund, and it they were approved (see Sec. VIII.BB).

RULE SUSPENDED: The conference secretary moved that that the rule requiring referral of new proposals to forum groups be suspended in order that a nomination might be acted upon immediately, and the rule was suspended.

NOMINATION OF EPISCOPAL NOMINEE: Charles D. White, Jr., chairperson of the Western North Carolina Conference delegation to the 2004 General and Southeastern Jurisdictional conferences, reported that the delegation had unanimously endorsed Thomas A. (Andy) Langford III for election as a bishop of the church. He then moved that Mr. Langford be nominated by the annual conference for election to the episcopacy at the 2004 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. The motion prevailed by unanimous vote, and Mr. Langford was greeted by the conference with standing applause and responded briefly.

AFFIRMATION OF EPISCOPAL NOMINEE: Kenneth H. Carter, Jr., a member of the 2004 General Conference delegation and at the request of the delegation chairperson, noted that Arnetta E. Beverly had been endorsed for election as a bishop of the church by the clergy women of Black Methodists for Church Renewal of the Southeastern Jurisdiction. Dr. Carter urged that the conference be united in support for both candidates offering themselves for election as bishops and celebrate the gifts each would bring to the episcopacy. James W. Ferree escorted Dr. Beverly to the platform, where she was greeted by the conference with standing applause and briefly addressed the conference.

OPPORTUNITY TO LIFT CONSENT ITEMS: Bishop Kammerer provided opportunity for members to propose that items on the Consent Calendar be lifted for consideration in plenary session, and there were no such requests.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Ashley Crowder Stanley, coordinator of calendar, moved that the conference sustain the action of the forum groups on all petitions appearing on the consent calendar. The motion prevailed, and the conference sustained the action of the forum groups on the following petitions:

- Petition 2** Conference Insurance Program. Agreement.
- Petition 3** Camp Tekoa Trustees. Agreement as amended.
- Petition 4** Advance Specials for 2004-2005. Agreement as amended.
- Petition 5** Golden Cross. Agreement.
- Petition 6** Directors of Rural Affordable Housing. Agreement.
- Petition 7** Study of Appointments of Clergywomen. Agreement.
- Petition 8** Bennett College Trustees. Agreement.
- Petition 9** Brevard College Trustees. Agreement.
- Petition 10** High Point University Trustees. Agreement.
- Petition 11** Pfeiffer University Trustees. Agreement.
- Petition 12** Campus Ministry Boards. Agreement as amended.
- Petition 13** Aldersgate Boards. Agreement.
- Petition 14** Arbor Acres Directors. Agreement.
- Petition 15** Children's Home Trustees and Officers. Agreement.
- Petition 16** Givens Estates Directors. Agreement.
- Petition 17** UMAR Trustees. Agreement.
- Petition 18** Safe Sanctuary Policy. Agreement as amended.
- Petition 19** Pension Programs and Policies. Agreement as amended.
- Petition 20** The Annual Conference Meeting. Agreement as amended.
- Petition 21** Sale and Purchase of Episcopal Residence. Agreement.
- Petition 22** Equitable Compensation Policies. Agreement.
- Petition 23** Cole Foundation Trustees. Agreement.
- Petition 25** Rural Life Sunday. Agreement.
- Petition 26** Re-establish Commission on Christian Unity. Agreement.
- Petition 32** Changes in Committee Name and Membership. Agreement as amended.

Editor's Note: It is hereby officially recorded in the minutes of the 2004 session of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference that, in its approval of Petition 21, the conference adopted the following:

Resolved, That the Western North Carolina Annual Conference, in session June 10-13, 2004, at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, hereby authorize the president and secretary of the conference Board of Trustees to execute all documents related to the sale of the current episcopal residence located at 3912 Beresford Road, Charlotte, North Carolina, and the purchase of the property known as 3206 Stratford Park Court, Unit 27D, of the Park Phillips Townhomes, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Resolved, That all excess proceeds from this transaction be placed in an endowment account with the United Methodist Foundation of Western North Carolina, with earnings to be used toward future maintenance of the residence.

REPORT ON GENERAL CONFERENCE: Charles D. White, Jr., delegation chairperson, spoke words of appreciation for the work of the General Conference principal and reserve delegates and encouraged conference members to familiarize themselves with the actions of the General Conference

as noted in the various print and electronic media of the church. He then introduced a video presentation from United Methodist Communications in summary of the General Conference.

JURISDICTIONAL POOL: On behalf of a committee composed of Bishop Kammerer and the delegation from the conference to the 2004 General and Jurisdictional conferences, the delegation chairperson proposed that the conference elect the following persons to a pool of potential members of general and jurisdictional agencies for consideration at the 2004 jurisdictional conference, and they were elected:

Delegates to the 2004 General Conference: (Clergy) Charles D. (Denny) White, Jr., Arnetta E. Beverly, Thomas A. (Andy) Langford III, Sally O. Langford, William C. Wyman, Jr., Mark J. Key, Nancy Burgin Rankin, Julianne (Jan) Brittain, Kenneth H. Carter, Jr., James H. Graves, Patricia A. Lewis, Kimberly T. Ingram, Claudia G. Harrelson, Harold K. Bales. *(Laity)* Jack Young, Dawn M. Hand, Les O. Fowler, Courtney L. Russ, Janet H. Collins, Raul R. Andriano, Josefa E. Bethea, Betty Jo C. Hardy, Joetta F. Rinehart, Mildred S. Carter, Sarah E. H. McKinney, James C. Windham, Jr., Matthew T. Sink, John F. Howard, Jr.

Additional Nominees: (Asian Americans) Benny B. Hahn, Abraham Kim, H. Jae Lee, Samuel Om, May L. Vang. *(African Americans)* Shirley L. Canty, H. Donnell FitzJefferies, Etta W. Marcellus, Samuel H. Moore, Jr., Patricia W. Wiseman. *(Hispanic Americans)* Crystal Morrison, David R. Ortigoza, Francisco (Frank) Ramos, Diana Wingeier-Rayo, Massiel Wingeier-Rayo. *(Native Americans)* Chris J. Bennett, Mary Jane Letts, Freeman Owle, Donna Strickland Smith, Daphne L. Strickland. *(Pacific Islanders)* None. *(Clergy)* Lynne Blankenship Caldwell, Edward D. McKinney, Angela A. Pleasants, Ashley Crowder Stanley, S. Amelia Stinson-Wesley. *(Laywomen)* Jennifer P. Davis, M. Lynne Gilbert, Doris L. Gidney, Doris D. Vincent, Sara M. Williams. *(Laymen)* Steve Arnaud, Ray G. Boger, Lazelle E. Free, Charlie L. Taylor, William Waddell. *(Youth, 12-17)* Michelle L. Marbury, Zachary A. Mashburn, Julie Pittman, Jonathan K. Plummer, Lea Scott. *(Young Adults, 18-30)* Shannon E. Davis, James Howze, Jr., Elizabeth Jones, Jennifer McSwain, Reuelyn S. Pletcher. *(Older Adults, 65 and older)* Alec M. Alvord, Raphael O. Black, Mary K. Kizer, Patsy Stamey, Etta M. White. *(Persons with Disabilities)* Carol Bradley, Lee E. Bynum, Jim Early, Mark D. Mashburn, Raymond L. Surratt.

Nominees for SEJ Administrative Council: Raul R. Andriano, Janet H. Collins, John F. Howard, Jr., Connie Locklear, Courtney L. Russ.

REPORT OF FORUM GROUP 12, SOCIAL CONCERNS: Stephen F. Lee, chairperson, presented the following report:

Petition 31 (Close School of the Americas). The forum group voted disagreement. Patrick P. Welch, conference peace with justice coordinator and author of the petition, spoke against the action of the forum group. C. Sydnor Thompson III and Matthew T. Phillips spoke in favor of the action. Cornelius F. Brantley, Jr., moved that the petition be referred to the Conference Committee on Social Concerns, and Donald W. Routh and William E. Greene spoke against the motion to refer.

QUORUM: Lynn E. Holaday questioned the presence of a quorum, and Bishop Kammerer ruled that a quorum was not present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The conference secretary made necessary announcements.

RECESS: Lacking a quorum to continue business, the conference stood in recess at 5:40 P.M.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION – 7:30 P.M.

EVENING WORSHIP: With Thomas Moore, of Myers Park Church Charlotte, as guest choir director and musician, the Friday evening service of worship, “WNCC Camp Meeting,” began at 7:30 P.M. in Stuart Auditorium with the singing of hymns 57, “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”; 541, “See How Great a Flame Aspires”; and 553, “And Are We Yet Alive.” Arnetta E. Beverly, Northeast District superintendent, offered the greeting, and hymn 339, “Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast,” was sung. Abraham Kim prayed the opening prayer, and a choir composed of persons from throughout the Charlotte District sang the anthem, “God Has Smiled on Me.” Dr. Kim then led the congregation in the Hispanic Creed, and the following hymns were sung: 704, “Steal Away to Jesus”; 703, “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”; and 402, “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian.” The scriptures were read from Micah 6:6-8 by Dr. Beverly, and the choir sang the anthem, “We Are Marching in the Light of God.” Bishop Kammerer introduced the conference preacher, Bishop Jonathan Keaton, and Bishop Keaton delivered the sermon, concluding with the congregational singing of “Yield Not to Temptation.” Following the singing, an invitation to Christ was offered with the singing of “Love Lifted Me.” The following hymns were then sung: “Change My Heart O God,” “Spirit Song,” and “Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore.” Bishop Keaton offered the closing prayer, and Dr. Moore led the congregation in the singing of hymn 77, “How Great Thou Art.” Bishop Kammerer offered the benediction; the choir sang the closing selection, “Soon and Very Soon”; and the evening service of “camp-meeting” worship concluded at 9:15 P.M.

THIRD DAY – SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2004

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION – 8:45 A.M.

MORNING PRAYER: Fernando Little, conference director of music, led the service of morning prayer at 8:45 A.M., beginning with the singing of hymns 526, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," and 389, "Freely, Freely." Mr. Little then read the scriptures from John 8:32 and led in prayer. The singing of hymn 368, "My Hope Is Built," concluded the service.

CONFERENCE RECONVENES: Pursuant to recess, the conference reconvened at 9:00 A.M.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE MINISTRIES ADVISORY COUNCIL (PART 3): Janet M. Hitch, with the help of a child, requested Bishop Kammerer to present to Mary Ann James, representing West Market Street Church, Greensboro, an award designating that church as a Church for All God's Children.

Randy N. Sherrill reported that an eight-year dream of the creation of an academy for spiritual growth would bear fruit June 20-25, 2004, in the first five-day Academy of Spiritual Formation, to be held at Brevard College, with 55 participants and five faculty members. Bishop Kammerer expressed words of gratitude to Randy and Kathie Clontz Sherrill for their leadership, by life and example, in the encouragement of spiritual discipline.

H. Donnell FitzJefferies, director of nurture and ethnic ministries, highlighted the older-adult ministries of the conference. He expressed special thanks to Margaret Coltrane and Charlotte Brendel for their work of providing the conference-sponsored Day Apart for the Young Heart event. He then announced that Mary S. Robinson would become the new director of older adult ministries for the conference.

Mark L. Barden, director of missions/outreach, invited the conference to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Project AGAPE and the mission efforts of the conference in Armenia. A video of AGAPE's 10th-birthday celebration in Armenia was shown, and Bettie Rowe shared her experiences from a recent pilgrimage to Armenia.

Bishop Kammerer, assisted by Thomas R. Sigmon, conference director of connectional ministries, and Mary Lou Roller, council chairperson, presented a plaque of appreciation to H. Donnell FitzJefferies for his three years of service as director of nurture and ethnic ministries. Dr. Sigmon then spoke words of appreciation to Ms. Roller for her service as chair of the council during the quadrennium. Ms. Roller brought concluding remarks for the council and concluded the report with prayer.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY: Michael L. Robinson, chairperson, presented the annual report of the Committee on Episcopacy (see Sec. VIII.S), noting with gratitude the way in which Bishop Kammerer had mentored and encouraged the committee. Joetta F. Rinehart, a member of the committee, presented to Bishop Kammerer a Native American afghan. Leslee L. Wray, a member of the committee, using Psalm 1 from Eugene Petersen's *The Message* as a text, paid tribute to the life and ministry of Bishop Kammerer over the past eight years. A group of children then presented a quilt to the bishop, and conference members were invited to sign the quilt following the morning session. Robert M. Blackburn, Jr., a member of the committee, spoke words of appreciation and noted that conference members were wearing yellow ribbons in honor of Bishop Kammerer. Bishop Kammerer introduced and spoke words of appreciation to her family. Mr. Robinson then recognized Joy M. Clark, the bishop's secretary, who is to retire during the coming summer. Mr. Robinson moved that the conference offerings designated for the Bishop Joseph E. and Mrs. Bethea C. Bethea Welcome Center, at Lake Junaluska, be contributed in honor of Bishop Kammerer, and this motion was approved. Bishop Kammerer then spoke words of appreciation to the conference, and the report concluded with a video spotlighting the bishop's service to the conference during her two quadrennia of service as resident bishop of the Charlotte Area.

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING CLERGY AND SPOUSES: Following the singing of hymn 540, "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord," Juanita T. Henderson, president of the Board of Pensions, presented the 2004 class of retirees. Dale C. Bryant, senior benefits administrator, presented each retiree with a retirement pin, and the conference secretary presented to each a certificate of retirement. Bishop Kammerer and her spouse, Leigh, greeted each clergy person and his or her spouse and presented to them tokens of appreciation. Martha Buff Welch and Richard Curran Welch, members of the 2004 full-connection class, led the litany of appreciation. Andrew W. Brown, Jr., spoke on behalf of the retiring clergy, and Bishop Kammerer offered the response for the conference and delivered the closing prayer. The period of recognition concluded with the singing of hymn 664, "Sent Forth by God's Blessing."

REPORT OF COUNCIL ON CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Sam H. Smith, Jr., chairperson, introduced the annual report of the council (see Sec. VIII.C). He paid special tribute to Mark J. Key for his work as conference director of congregational development. Dr. Key then presented a video of the five new-church starts in the conference within the past year and reported that there will be three new churches started in the coming year. Dr. Key expressed appreciation to Mr. Smith for his labors as chairperson of the council and presented him with a commemorative award. Thomas R. Sigmon, conference director of connectional ministries, then presented a plaque to Dr. Key in recognition of his seven years of dedicated service as director of congregational development.

REPORT OF COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY: James L. Pyatt, chairperson of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History, representing Andrew W. Brown, Jr., chairperson of the conference commission, presented the report of the commission (see Sec. VIII.O),

which included recognition of persons representing churches in the conference celebrating significant anniversaries.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD: Katherine Clontz Sherrill, president, offered the annual report of the conference Brotherhood/Sisterhood (see Sec. VIII.CC), encouraging clergy and laity of the conference to become members. She then presented a plaque to F. F. (Bick) Bickerstaff, who was concluding his service as director of laity for the organization and has been named director of laity emeritus. Jack Young was then introduced as new director of laity.

SCOUTING AWARDS: Phillip E. Williams, conference coordinator of scouting, led in moments of recognition as Bishop Kammerer presented the 2004 Bishop's Awards of Excellence in Boy and Girl Scouting to 14 scouting units from churches throughout the conference and Torch Awards to Dale Willis (47 years), John Warlick (52 years), Mitchell F. Wilson (32 years), Donna Palmer (22 years), and Galen E. Hahn (35 years).

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The conference secretary made necessary announcements.

DISTRICT OFFICERS: The secretary moved the election, confirmation, or approval, as *The Book of Discipline* or the rules of the conference may require, of the associate district lay leaders, the district statisticians, the members of the district boards of church location and building, the members of the district committees on ordained ministry, and the members of the district boards of trustees as these had been listed by the district superintendents and filed with the conference secretary, and it was done.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: The secretary announced that all necessary business of the conference had been completed except for the service of ordination and the fixing of the appointments. He then moved that, following the fixing of the appointments and the benediction on Sunday, June 13, 2004, the Western North Carolina Annual Conference of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church be adjourned *sine die*, and the motion to adjourn prevailed.

RECESS: In anticipation of the service to follow, the conference stood in recess at 11:20 A.M.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE: The annual memorial celebration of life service began at 11:40 A.M. with gathering music, "There's Just Something About That Name," led by John A. Moore. Angela Rogers Marlowe led the responsive greeting, and processional hymn 711, "For All the Saints," was sung. Ms. Marlowe led the unison prayer for the saints and the faithful departed, and the First Ringers, a bell choir from First Church, Waynesville, played the anthem. The scriptures were read from Deuteronomy 8:1-20 by Ms. Marlowe, and Bishop Kammerer introduced the preacher of the morning. After he had read the Gospel from Luke 23:44-46, Ned B. Owens, senior pastor of First Church, Rutherfordton, delivered the sermon, "The Gift of Memory," and the First Ringers played the anthem.

Accompanied by the tolling of bells, Bishop Kammerer read the names of those whose memory was being honored, and their pictures were displayed. The congregation sang the response, stanza three of hymn 707, "Hymn of Promise," and Bishop Kammerer led the prayer of thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer. The bishop led the responsive dismissal with blessing; the congregation sang recessional hymn 709, "Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above"; and the service concluded at 12:50 P.M.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION – 7:30 P.M.

SERVICE OF ORDINATION: The conference service of ordination of deacons and elders began at 7:30 P.M. in Stuart Auditorium with the organ voluntary, "God of Our Fathers," played by the director and assistant director of music. Processional hymn 57, "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing," was sung, and Bishop Kammerer led the responsive greeting and prayer, the recognition of common ministry, and the reaffirmation of baptism. J. Edgar McFarland, a lay member of the Board of Ordained Ministry; Kenneth H. Carter, Jr.; Barbara J. Barden, chairperson of the Order of Deacons; and Robert M. Blackburn, Jr., chairperson of the Order of Elders, presented the candidates for ordination, and the bishop led the responsive affirmation of them.

Bishop Kammerer introduced the preacher of the evening, Bishop Ann Brookshire Sherer, resident bishop of the Missouri Area. Bishop Sherer read the Gospel from Luke 4:1-24 and delivered the ordination sermon, "Which Path Ministry?" Dr. Carter then led the congregation in the speaking of the Apostles' Creed and the singing of the *Gloria Patri*.

Bishop Kammerer led the general examination of the candidates, and the ordination hymn, "O Holy Spirit, by Whose Breath," was sung. As Mr. McFarland and Ms. Barden lifted signs of the diaconate, the bishop spoke concerning the ministry of a deacon, and the candidates responded. The bishop then offered prayer for those to be ordained deacon and, assisted by Bishop Sherer, Dr. Carter, and Ms. Barden, ordained to the office of deacon those who had been elected thereto as associate (1992 *Discipline*), probationary (1992 *Discipline*), or full (2000 *Discipline*) members. Each ordinand received a Bible, and the conference secretary presented appropriate certificates of ordination.

Bishop Kammerer then led in the recognition of Julie Lynn Dowler, a deacon moving from probationary membership under the 1992 *Discipline* to full connection under the 2000 *Discipline*, and she was presented with a stole symbolic of her ordination.

As Mr. McFarland and Dr. Blackburn lifted signs of the ministry of the elder, the bishop conducted the examination of the candidates, and the candidates responded. The bishop offered prayer for those to be ordained and, assisted by Bishop Sherer, Dr. Carter, Ms. Barden, and other elders of the church,

ordained to the office of elder those who had been elected thereto. Dr. Blackburn, chairperson of the Order of Elders, placed stoles on the ordinands, and certificates of ordination were presented by the conference secretary.

Hymn 571, "Go, Make of All Disciples," was sung; Bishop Kammerer led the responsive dismissal with blessing; the organist played the voluntary, "Honor and Praise," by Carraway; and the service of ordination concluded at 9:00 P.M.

**FOURTH DAY – SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 2004
SUNDAY MORNING SESSION – 8:45 A.M.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL: The conference Sunday School hour was conducted at 8:45 A.M. in three sections: for children, by Jenny S. Reilly, of Central Church, Charlotte, in Meeting Room 316 of the Terrace Hotel; for youth, by Dan B. and Kimberly Money, of First-Canaan Charge, Denton, at the Junaluska cross; and for adults, by Robert V. Dodd, of Matthews, in the Memorial Chapel.

CONFERENCE SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP: The conference Sunday service of worship began at 10:30 A.M. in Stuart Auditorium with a gathering period of hymn-singing, led by John A. Moore, pastor of St. Mark's Church, Charlotte, song leader. The prelude, "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place," was played by Fernando Little, of St. Mark's Church, Charlotte, conference director of music, and Charlotte F. Maness, of Central Church, Albemarle, assistant conference director of music. Following the responsive call to worship, led by Connie King, of Green Street Church, Winston-Salem, liturgist, the congregation sang hymn 648, "God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian." The unison prayer of confession and the responsive proclamation of forgiveness and peace were led by Mrs. King, and the members of the congregation exchanged signs of peace and reconciliation. Mr. Moore led the act of praise, "Glory to God" (TFWS 2033).

Marilyn L. Weiler, of Kernersville, a new probationary clergy member of the conference, led the prayer for illumination and read the scriptures from II Corinthians 3:1-6. A choir composed of clergy and other members and friends of the conference sang the anthem, "Bless the Lord," by Berthier. Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer then delivered the conference Sunday sermon, "A Letter of Recommendation." In response to the proclaimed word, the congregation, under the leadership of Mrs. King, spoke the Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada.

After the congregation had sung the call to prayer, "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" (TFWS 22193), Raul R. Adriano, of Vida Nueva Church, Stoneville, offered the prayers of the people and led in the Lord's Prayer.

Bishop Kammerer offered words of explanation concerning the morning offering for the building of the Joseph B. and Shirley C. Bethea Welcome Center at Lake Junaluska, and a brief video concerning the project was shown as the offering was received. The choir sang the offertory anthem, "We Are One in the Spirit," and the congregation sang the doxology as the offering was presented.

CONFERENCE RECONVENES: Pursuant to recess, the conference reconvened at 11:40 A.M.

FIXING OF APPOINTMENTS: Printed copies of the 2004-05 appointments were distributed to the members of the conference, and the bishop invited the current district superintendents to stand with her on the platform. In response to inquiry from the bishop and with necessary adjustments noted, each district superintendent declared the appointments as listed for his or her district to be correct, and the bishop declared the appointments "fixed." She then presented Sanford L. Giles, Jr., being newly appointed as superintendent of the Albemarle District, and Nancy Burgin Rankin, being newly appointed as conference director of congregational development, along with their spouses. The bishop charged all clergy being appointed to serve Christ in their appointed places, and all lay members to receive and support those appointed. The clergy and the laity responded appropriately, and the bishop led in the traditional words of John Wesley's covenant prayer.

ADJOURNMENT: The closing hymn, "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" (TFWS 2241), was sung; Bishop Kammerer led the responsive dismissal with blessing; the conference director and assistant director of music played the closing voluntary; and the Western North Carolina Annual Conference of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church adjourned *sine die* at 12:00 P.M.

President

Secretary

D. CERTIFICATE OF COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION

This is to certify that at a service of commissioning held on Friday morning, June 11, 2004, in George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, I, Charlene Payne Kammerer, a bishop in The United Methodist Church, did COMMISSION for ministry in The United Methodist Church under the 2000 Book of Discipline as probationary members of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference: David Wesley Austin, Christopher Chance Barrow, Glenda Everest Bennett, Randall Marshall Blanton, Emmanuel Kofi Boakye-Yiadom, Fredrick Bernard Bowman, Robert Anthony Bowman, Katherine Boutwell Bryant, Brad Richard Cunningham, Brandon Keith Dirks, Elizabeth Haas Faughn, Robin Brown Fitzgerald, Sarah Sawyer Fouts, Clarissa Youngblood Fuentes, Jennifer Wood Grogan, Rhonda Denise Hartweg, Virginia Cox Herron, David Robert Kelley, Hyung Jae Lee, Norman Keith Lowder, Karen Register Lucas, Christie Ann Page, Christopher Shane Page, Richard Raymond Ploch, Timothy Kelley Roberts, James Kevin Sanders, Sara Joan Scruggs, Wesley Chad Smith, Dale Martin Swofford, Marilyn Lawrence Weiler, and Earl Wilson III.

This is further to certify that at a service of ordination held on Saturday evening, June 12, 2004, in George R. Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, I

Did ORDAIN to the order of DEACON in The United Methodist Church under the 1992 Book of Discipline as an associate member of the Western North Carolina Conference: Freida Hartley Hobson.

Did ORDAIN to the order of DEACON in The United Methodist Church under the 1992 Book of Discipline as a probationary member of the Western North Carolina Conference: Christopher Allen Franks.

Did ORDAIN to the Order of DEACON in The United Methodist Church under the 2000 Book of Discipline: Jonathan Van Hunter.

Did ORDAIN to the Order of ELDER in The United Methodist Church: Sherri Erikson Barnes, Earlynne Jean Bartley, Joyce Hatchett Bunn, Patricia Poteate Choplin, Elizabeth Jeanne Day, Dianne Kay Donald, Margaret Arthur Finch, Oliver Wade Helsabeck, Roger Lee Hunter, LaNell Johnson, Ruth Naomi King, Craig Thomas Kocher, Michael David Lancaster, Mary Sisk Lautensleger, Daniel Vance Miller, Timothy Scott Moore, Phillip Todd Poole, Nicholas Angelo Scandale, Jr., Ann Evans Self, Michael Athan Shuford, Daniel Paul Stiles, Patricia Janelle Stone, Robert Dean Symanski, Thomas Joseph Tarpley, Jr., Thomas Kevin Taylor, Jerry Scott Webb, Martha Buff Welch, Richard Curran Welch, Diana Wingeier-Rayo.

Bishop