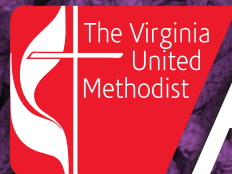


DAILY Advocate

Sunday, June 21, 2015

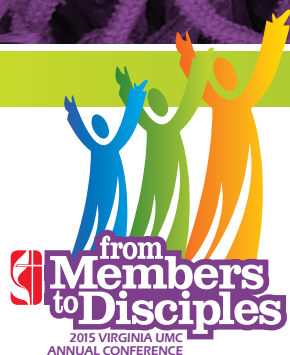


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233rd Virginia Annual Conference, Berglund Center, Roanoke, Virginia



TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- 7:30 Morning Eucharist
(Prayer Room- Parlor A)
- 8:15 Singing our Faith
- 8:30 Bible Study
- 9:00 Minutes Committee
Statistician's report
Treasurer's report
Council on Finance and
Administration
Unfinished reports and
resolutions
- 11:00 Worship
Advocate distribution
Fixing of appointments



Snapshot of Saturday

- 31 Licensed Local Pastors
- 24 Elders Ordained
- 1 Deacon Ordained
- 21 Commissioned as
Provisional Members
- 1 Recognition of
Associate Member
- 4 Recognition of Orders
- 45 Retirees

The results are in:



For the first time, the Virginia Annual Conference used electronic voting devices.
Photo by Betsey Davis.

The voting headaches from Friday followed the Annual Conference to Saturday morning and afternoon. Questions were raised about the voting process and how it might be improved in future years. But, despite invalid votes, device issues and standstills, both laity and clergy elected a total of 22 delegates to the 2016 General Conference and an additional 22 delegates for the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. Alternates for these positions were also chosen.

General Conference Elected Clergy:

1. Tom Berlin
2. Meredith McNabb
3. Denise Honeycutt
4. Clarence Brown
5. Tammy Estep
6. Ted Smith
7. Ileana Rosario

8. Peter Moon
9. Kendall Soulen
10. Mark Ogren
11. Rob Vaughn

General Conference Elected Laity:

1. Martha Stokes
2. Warren Harper
3. Shirley Cauffman
4. Nathaniel L. Bishop
5. Darlene Amon
6. Virginia Greer
7. Joyce Winston
8. Gene Mims
9. Beth Christian
10. Alison Malloy
11. Marshall Bailey

SEJ Conference Elected Clergy:

1. Seonyoung Kim
2. Keith Boyette
3. Bob Cooper
4. Alex Joyner
5. Beth Givens
6. Tommy Herndon
7. Marc Brown

8. Jason Stanley
 9. Jeffrey Mickle
 10. Greg West
 11. David Ford
- Alternates:
1. R. Bruce Johnson
 2. Brenda Biler
 3. Alan Combs
 4. Thomas Barnard
 5. Won Un
 6. David McAlister-Wilson
 7. Kathleen Overby Webster
 8. Ed Walker
 9. David Rash
 10. John D. Copenhaver
 10. Paulo DaSilva (tie)

SEJ Conference Elected Laity:

1. Larry Burian
2. Neill Caldwell
3. Janet Ayers
4. Willard Douglas
5. Jacob Paysour
6. Olivia Hinton
7. Michael Monge
8. Vicki A. Boger
9. Virginia Turner
10. Raymond Nations
11. Brenda Brooks

Alternates:

1. Aimee Hong
2. Rachel Wright
3. Zach Ferguson
4. Leon Newbanks
5. Lori Valentine de Segovia
6. Nancy Yarborough
7. Nina Winkler
8. Carlos Liceaga
9. Joel Joyner
10. Charles Pearre

Prayer for Charleston

During the opening session of the Virginia Annual Conference, Bishop Young Jin Cho asked retired Bishop Charlene Kammerer, who led the Virginia Conference from 2004-2012, to pray for victims of the June 17 shooting of nine members of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in Charleston, S.C.

In her prayer, she lifted up the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, pastor of the historic AME church and a South Carolina state senator, who was killed in the shooting. She also prayed for Bishop Richard Franklin Norris, AME bishop of the state of South Carolina.

Bishop Kammerer's prayer:

"How long, O Lord, must your people suffer? We cry out to you with broken

hearts over the violence and deaths in Charleston. Our spirits are outraged with the depth of hatred and racism that is lodged in the human heart. We lift up the family of Pastor and Senator Pinckney – praying for your divine comfort in the tragic death of your beloved servant. We pray for the congregation at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston. And for Bishop Norris and our brothers and sisters in our Wesleyan family. Help us to examine our own hearts and sins, O God. Bring to us your forgiveness, your Spirit of reconciliation. And may we work for justice with compassion. We ask for your love and peace to pervade us this day. In the powerful, healing name of Jesus we pray. Amen."



Bishop Kammerer preaches for the Service for the Ordering of the Ministry.

Taking Strength from Grace



For the Service of Ordination, Bishop Charlene Kammerer talked about Paul and his experience with 'spiritual whiplash' featured in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. Paul, who underwent a spiritually-uplifting encounter with God, could not help but share what had happened even though God told him not to. By sharing this encounter and inflating his own sense of self to that of a "super disciple," God brought him back to his senses. What Paul described as a "thorn in his flesh" humbled him. Through this, Paul learned to accept his physicality differences by understanding, "The Lord says, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in your weakness.'"

Bishop Kammerer said that those who were newly-licensed, commissioned and ordained on Saturday night can learn from

Paul's journey even at this time in their lives. "We are ready to embrace our strengths, talk about our spiritual gifts and engage passionately in practicing ministry, for which we have so long prepared," she said reminding all of Paul's situation.

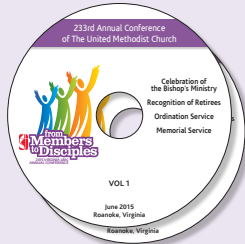
Even though Paul was a great leader in the early church, one who had many spiritual gifts, by admitting that he was broken was how God could fully show the power of God's grace.

"Learning to acknowledge that we are all flawed and broken people is a good starting place to practice ministry," Bishop Kammerer said. She illustrated the point through her driveway on Lake Junaluska. In places where there is broken pavement, small wildflowers are able to take root in those cracks and bloom.

Just like those wildflowers, Bishop Kammerer said the most powerful words a pastor can share with others are admitting those failures or doubts, and by doing so, they prove God's strength by using us, even though we are broken.

"Yet he [Paul] came to realize that there is holiness in a broken self. That in itself was grace to Paul," said Bishop Kammerer. 🍷

Communications office to sell DVDs of Annual Conference



The conference Communications office is selling DVDs of the 2015 Annual Conference session. Volume 1 will include the memorial service, ordination, mission and special offering worship service and recognition of retirees. Volume 2 will include Bishop Cho's Episcopal Address, Laity Address, Common Table, Discipleship Circles and Imagine No Malaria reports, Sunday morning closing worship and teaching sessions led by the Rev. Timothy Bias. Cost is \$20 for Volume 1, \$10 for Volume 2, and \$25 for both volumes. After July 1, the price will increase to \$22 for Volume 1, \$12 for Volume 2 and \$30 for both volumes. This year, for the first time, a short overview

video of the 2015 Annual Conference (suitable for use in making a report on Annual Conference to your local church) will be available to view on the conference Facebook page or YouTube channel, free of charge. Cost is \$10 for a copy of the overview video on a DVD (shipping included). DVDs may be ordered at the Communications display at Annual Conference, online or call Pam Culler in the Communications office at (804) 521-1110 or 1-800-768-6040, ext. 110. 🍷

By the numbers

2015 Kits 4 Conference

The total number of Kits 4 Conference collected for UMCOR was 42,743. Specifically:

- ❖ Bedding kits: 111
- ❖ Birthing kits: 4,533
- ❖ Cleaning kits: 180
- ❖ Health kits: 23,672
- ❖ Layette kits: 1,965
- ❖ School kits: 11,835
- ❖ Sewing kits: 547

This year's Annual Conference donations exceeded last year's offerings by over **1,500!**

Cans 4 Conference Results

As of 9 a.m. Saturday: 8+ Gaylord containers were either filled or overflowing Friday. This is estimated to be about **8500 lb. of food** for The Mission.

Annual Conference offering

The conference offering was taken following the sermon yesterday to support the conference's partnerships with Cambodia (third year) and UMCOR Global Health Ministries to aid the Ebola-ravaged countries of Sierra Leone and Liberia. The offering also helps children out of poverty projects in the Danville and Eastern Shore districts. Both districts are well below the national and state poverty levels. The offering raised **\$128,890**. The goal is \$150,000.



Imagine No Malaria

The goal set at last year's Annual Conference was to save 100,000 lives from malaria. As of Saturday, **86,454** lives had been saved.

Maria Maxwell, field coordinator for Imagine No Malaria, said she is pleased about the efforts from people around the conference, including personal and district donations and creative efforts by individuals to raise money. "I think that all of our hearts have been super-sized this year with our participation in this initiative," she said.

The amount raised was so close to the goal that Bishop Cho urged the crowd towards attaining this goal by the end of Conference. After he and his wife pledged another donation, retiring pastor, Rev. Steve Jones announced that he would be proud to donate more because it was his 65th birthday. He challenged others in the audience to place donations on the altar to reach the goal.

To the sound of Pharrell Williams' "Happy," Virginia United Methodists brought cash to the altar and pledged additional money. This renewed effort sent the Imagine No Malaria team backstage to tally up the new donations as the 11 a.m. worship service began.

After a revised count, Bishop Cho announced that **\$28,560** in cash and **\$22,000** in pledges was collected which brought total lives saved to over **91,000**.

Donations are still being accepted online at <http://www.vaumc.org/donateinm> and at the Annual Conference Art Display. Debit, credit, cash and checks are accepted. 🍷