

**DAILY PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
2006 SESSION
OF THE
WISCONSIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Sunday Afternoon, June 11, 2006

Clergy Session

Clergy Members of the Wisconsin Conference gathered in the Ballroom of the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 11, 2006 for the Clergy Session of the conference. The minutes of the Clergy Session are printed at the conclusion of these daily proceedings.

Laity Session

Lay members from all over the Wisconsin Annual Conference filled the worship space for the opening Laity Session at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 11. The afternoon began and ended with lively, faith-filled music and hymns led by the passionate and talented praise band, "Radiance," from the Sun Prairie United Methodist Church.

After a warm welcome from Conference Lay Leader, Dorthy Radley, she introduced Don Mendenhall, who recently retired as the Coordinator of Congregation, Parish and Circuit Development for the Wisconsin Conference, and Pastor Karen Hagen from the Tippecanoe Church in the Bayview neighborhood in Milwaukee.

Don and Karen challenged and excited the gathering with their warm interview-style presentation. The frank, honest and open dialogue focused on experiences that Karen Hagen led her congregation through while growing in their faith and passion for Christ's work in their community.

The laity welcomed the insights into less traditional congregations, celebrated the willingness to ask hard questions of oneself and of the congregation, shared the excitement of turning challenging negative situations into positive experiences within a congregation, and left wanting more of Karen's inspirational and unique songs.

Dorthy Radley presented Don Mendenhall with a special recognition and gift for his long service to The United Methodist Church and his leadership example to both lay and clergy.

The members of the Board of Lay Ministry were introduced to the gathering and then the group was dismissed to gather again at district tables for conversation time with the District Lay Leaders and other members from each district.

Sunday Evening, June 11, 2006

Members and friends of the Wisconsin Annual Conference gathered in the Superior Room of the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center at 7:00 p.m. for the **Service of Ordination of Elders.** The processional hymn was 'Here in This Place.' Bishop Linda Lee offered words of greeting and prayer, and invited all those present to reaffirm the call to ministry that is inherent in our Christian baptism. Dorthy Radley, Conference Lay leader, Richard Strait, Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry, David Wilkinson, Chairperson of the Order of Deacons, and Sam Royappa, Chairperson of the Order of Elders, presented the following persons to be ordained Elder and received into full membership in the Annual Conference:

Rebecca Ann Henry
Kathryn Ann Croskery Jones
Karen Diane Millen Klatt
Robert Karr McClintock
Dianne Deaton Vielhuber

Bishop Lee asked for the assent of the gathered congregation for their ordination and reception into full membership. It was given joyfully! There followed a 'Celebration of Women in Ministry.' The scripture lesson from Joel 2:26-32a was read. Rev. Chomingwen Pond, the first clergywoman in full connection in the Wisconsin Conference, and Rev. Susan Safford-Gaul, the most recent clergywoman in full connection in the Wisconsin Conference, shared words about their journey in ministry. They then led the conference in a 'Litany of Thanks,' celebrating fifty years of full clergy rights for women in the Methodist Church. The congregation sang 'Forward Through the Ages.' Rev. Pond read the scripture lesson from Psalm 146, and Bishop Linda Lee preached the ordination sermon, entitled 'Trustworthy.' Dorthy Radley, Conference Lay Leader, led the Creed, which was followed by the singing of 'God of Love and God of Power.' Bishop Lee asked the candidates for ordination John Wesley's Historic Questions, and the General Questions for Ordinands prescribed by the Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church. They all answered the questions appropriately. The clergy members present sang the ordination hymn, 'O Holy Spirit, By Whose Breath.'

Bishop Lee, assisted by Bishop Park, Geo-Chong of the Dong Bu Conference of the Korean Methodist Church, Conference Lay Leader Dorthy Radley, the District Superintendents, and other ordained deacons and elders, ordained Rebecca Ann Henry, Kathryn Ann Croskery Jones, Karen Diane Millen Klatt, Robert Karr McClintock, and Dianne Deaton Vielhuber as Elders in The United Methodist Church, with the laying on of hands and prayer.

Following the ordination, there was a 'Time of Commitment,' when those who sensed God's Spirit within them calling them to a deeper commitment to following Christ were invited to come forward and offer themselves to God. While the congregation sang 'Take My Life, and Let it Be,' a number of persons came forward in response to the call. They were greeted by the District Superintendents and members of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

An offering was taken in support of the Clergy in Transition Fund, which has been established by the Board of Ordained Ministry to assist ordained clergy during the difficult and sometimes unforeseen transition from active pastoral ministry at a time other

than retirement, and the Korean Scholarship Fund, which was established to assist students from the Dong Bu Conference attending Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. The offertory music was provided by the choir of the Korean Caucus.

Bishop Lee, assisted by Bishop Park, celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The newly ordained elders served communion to the gathered congregation. During the distribution of the elements, the congregation sang several communion songs.

Bishop Lee offered the Dismissal with Blessing. The recessional hymn was 'In the Midst of New Dimensions.' Following the ordination service, the congregation greeted the newly ordained elders at a reception which was held in the Ballroom of the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center.

Music leadership for the service was provided by Rev. Dr. Grace Cajuat and Justin Lowe. Members of the cabinet participating in the service were: Rev. Stephen J. Polster, Rev. Nancy Moffatt, Rev. Jorge Mayorga Solis, Rev. Dan Schwerin, and Rev. Forrest Wells. Members of the Board of Ordained Ministry served as ushers for the service, which concluded at 8:55 p.m.

Monday Morning, June 12, 2006

Members and friends of the conference gathered in the plenary area at 8:15 a.m. for a time of singing, led by Rev. Dr. Grace Cajuat.

The morning Bible Study was led by Rev. Dr. Kwasi Kena, Director of Evangelism at the General Board of Discipleship, and explored the theme "Journeying with Jesus."

Bishop Lee called the first plenary session of the 37th Wisconsin Annual Conference to order at 9:00 a.m. She welcomed everyone to this session, and acknowledged those who are attending annual conference for the first time. Bishop Lee then welcomed Bishop Sharon Brown Christopher from the Illinois Great Rivers Conference, and Bishop Park, Geo-Chong and the delegation from the Dong Bu Conference of the Korean Methodist Church, who are our guests for this session of the annual conference.

Kevin Rice Myers, Conference Secretary, welcomed the members of the conference and announced that the roll call for this session of the annual conference is being taken at the time of registration.

He noted that "the bar of the conference" is the official seating area where members must be when voting on actions that come before the conference. He **moved**:

that the Bar of this Conference now be established to include all of the round tables on the floor of the Michigan, Wisconsin, Mendota and Geneva Rooms of the Madison Marriott West Conference Center (which are covered with white tablecloths), the platform at the front of the rooms, the conference secretary's tables at the front of the room, and the tables at the front of the room where the video display equipment is located.

The motion was **approved**.

He **moved** that the following persons be given the privilege of sitting in the bar of the conference WITH VOICE:

- Conference Speakers:
 - Bishop Sharon A. Brown Christopher, Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference
 - Bishop Park, Geo-Chong of the Dong-Bu Conference of the Korean Methodist Church
 - Rev. Dr. Abena Safiyah Fosua, Director of Invitational Preaching Ministries, General Board of Discipleship
 - Rev. Dr. Kwasi Kena, Director of Evangelism, General Board of Discipleship
- Scott Anderson, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of Churches
- Peter Bakken, Public Policy Coordinator of the Wisconsin Council of Churches
- Ernest Mensah, the Lina McCord Black College Fund Representative
- Dr. Phil Amerson, President of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
- Martha Blumer, United Methodist Publishing House Representative
- David Ogden, Consultant to the Joint Board of Pensions, Insurance and Equitable Compensation
- Various guests who will be making presentations or receiving recognitions throughout the conference.
- All clergy members from other annual conferences or denominations who are serving United Methodist Churches or ministries in the Wisconsin Conference.
- Vice-chairpersons of conference boards and agencies who are not members of the Annual Conference
- Conference Staff Members:
 - Ric Olson, clergy member of the Iowa Conference who will be the new Coordinator of Congregation and Circuit Development for the Wisconsin Conference
 - Allen Kahl, Information Technology Manager

The **motion** was **approved**.

He moved that the following persons to be given the privilege of sitting in the bar of the Conference WITHOUT VOICE OR VOTE:

- Our guests from the Dong Bu (East) Conference of the Korean Methodist Church.
- Conference Staff Members:
 - Episcopal Administrative Assistant: Cindy Churan
 - Regional Administrative Assistants: Sherry Malone, Bonita Smith, Barb Ridgely, Barb Franken
 - Conference Registrar: Karen Lamoree
 - Conference Computer Support Specialist: Becky Guenther
 - Ministry and Outreach Administrative Assistant: Jane Walmer
 - Service Department Manager: Katie Hoepfner
 - Conference Archivist: Lynn Lubkemann

- Mark Conner, Benefit Educator Specialist from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits
- W. Colette Nies, Managing Director of Communications of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits
- Program and Arrangements Committee members who are not conference members
- Members of the Commission on Religion and Race and the Commission on Status and Role of Women who are present for the purpose of monitoring
- Video Technicians from Janesville: Cargill UMC:
- Seminary students related to the Wisconsin Conference who are certified candidates for ministry
- Supply pastors who are serving churches in the Wisconsin Conference

The **motion** was **approved**.

He **moved** that the following persons be elected as tellers for this session of the annual conference:

- Craig Conklin
- Mary Anne Conklin
- Cindy Glocke
- Cathy Hamblin
- Mark Geisthardt
- Dong Su Lee
- Pat Nolet
- Gail Mitchell
- Kay Case
- Irv Case
- Mike Carlson
- Arlene Braithwaite
- Darrell Zietlow
- Roger Kindschi
- Becki Kindschi
- Nancy Hanaman
- Jenny Arneson
- Lynn Lemke-Schreck
- Pat Evachenko
- Sue Burwell

The **motion** was **approved**.

He **moved** that the following persons be elected as assistant secretaries for this session of the Annual Conference:

- Joyce Alford
- Jean Ehnert Nicholas
- Ron Kral
- Marjorie Rice Myers
- Carolyn Saunders

The **motion** was **approved**.

Bishop Lee introduced those sitting on the platform with her: Rev. Steve Polster, Assistant to the Bishop; Bill White, Conference Chancellor and Parliamentarian; and Rev. Kevin Rice Myers, Conference Secretary.

Bishop Lee then named the following persons as members of the **Implications Committee**:

- Marilyn Higgins
- Sarah Johnsen
- Erika Krueger
- Darrell Zietlow
- Mark Sheets
- Jack Werner
- Dorthy Radley
- Forrest Wells

Rev. Linda Pliska presented a “Mission Moment.” She spoke about the problem of hunger, and offered an opportunity for us all to “give hunger the boot.”

Jane Follmer Zekoff, Director of Ministry and Outreach, presented the **agenda** for the 2006 Conference Session.

Andy Oren, Chairperson of the **Nominations Committee**, presented the preliminary report of the committee.

Jack Werner, Chairperson of the **Council on Finance and Administration**, and Lisa King, Director of Finance and Administration, presented the preliminary report on the **2007 Conference Budget**. Werner introduced the following proposed rules change, and asked that it be referred to the Rules Committee for consideration during the presentation of the Rules Committee report:

Proposed Addition to the Conference Rules (10.4.4)

Should the Council on Finance and Administration determine that receipts will be inadequate to meet emerging needs or unforeseen circumstances (§612.7), the Council will consult with agencies receiving budgeted funds before making adjustments to payment appropriations or schedules. Adjustments that are made will be reported to the next session of the annual conference for ratification.

The proposed rules change was **referred** to the Rules Committee.

Jane Follmer Zekoff and Tina Itson, Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, presented the proposed “**Vision Statement**” for the Wisconsin Annual Conference: “Live, Give, Love... Beyond All Expectation.” They shared a PowerPoint presentation that outlined the process through which the Vision Statement was developed.

Forrest Wells, Dean of the Cabinet, presented the **Message of the Cabinet**, which highlighted the importance of the proposed vision statement. He was joined on the platform by the other members of the cabinet. The text of his message is printed in the reports section of the 2006 Conference Journal.

The Cabinet presented Bishop Lee with a bouquet of flowers in appreciation for her ministry among us. The conference affirmed her ministry with a standing ovation. Bishop Lee expressed her appreciation for the work of the District Superintendents, and the conference also recognized them with a standing ovation.

Bishop Lee acknowledged Bishop Sharon Brown Christopher, who was present in the room, and invited members of the conference to greet her.

The secretary read announcements.

Rev. Lowell Bartell presented a “History Moment.” This year the Wisconsin Conference is celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Evangelical Association in Wisconsin. Bartell spoke about the beginnings of the Evangelical Association in Wisconsin.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference for the morning worship service.

Monday Morning Worship

Members and friends of the conference gathered in the worship area at 11:00 a.m. for **‘The Service of Worship Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Full Clergy Rights for Women.’** During the opening hymn, ‘A Living Faith,’ the clergywomen of the conference processed into the worship area. The service focused on three themes: Asking the Questions, Writing the Vision, and Scanning the Horizon. During the service the Clergywomen’s choir sang ‘Gather the Cloud of Witnesses,’ and ‘Sweet Spirit.’ The ‘Reader’s Theater’ shared the questions that have been raised about the role of women in the ministry during the history of The United Methodist Church.

There was a time of witness, during which Bishop Sharon Brown Christopher, the first woman District Superintendent and Assistant to the Bishop in Wisconsin, Rev. Joan Deming, a daughter of the Wisconsin Annual Conference, Rev. Mike Weigand, the son of a woman pastor who answered his own call to ordained ministry, and Amanda Stein, who is answering the call as a young adult woman, shared the story of their journey into and through ministry. The offering taken during the service was designated for the Advance Special for scholarships for women at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas, Cuba, in honor of the partnership between the Wisconsin Conference and the Methodist Church of Cuba. Bishop Linda Lee gave the benediction, and the service concluded with the singing of “Steppin’ Out” by the Clergywomen’s Choir and the congregation.

Music leadership for the service was provided by Janet Ellinger, accompanist, and Sue Burwell, Clergywomen’s Choir Director. Other participants in the service were Chom-ingwen Pond, Mary Council-Austin, Chris Bethke, Lynn Lemke Schreck, Gerry Harrison, and Rebecca Henry. The Reader’s Theater – “The Cloud of Witnesses asks the Questions” was presented by Jane Follmer Zekoff and Jane Anderson Haas, with Jack Starr, Richard Strait, Stan Strosahl, Steve Polster, Fid Sailor, Wesley White, Don Frank, Harold Zimmick, Cec Holder, Judy Lyons, Tom Popp, Frank Gaylord and Sandra Herrmann as the Cloud of Witnesses Voices. The names of all 174 women who have been elected as members in full connection in the United Methodist Church who are serving or have served in the Wisconsin Conference were listed in the printed bulletin, along with the three women who have served as the Episcopal Leader of the Wisconsin Area: Bishop Marjorie Swank Matthews, Bishop Sharon Zimmerman Rader, and Bishop Linda Lee.

Monday Afternoon, June 12, 2006

Bishop Lee called the conference to order at 1:20 p.m. with a brief hymn-sing.

Jeannie Young presented a “Mission Moment,” speaking about the ministry of the Kenya Help Organization, which sponsors high school education for young people in the Meru, Kenya region.

Ernest Mensah, representative of the **Lina McCord Black College Fund**, spoke to the conference about the important ministries that are supported by our gifts to the Black College Fund.

Jenny Arneson, Chairperson of the **Board of Higher Education and Student Ministry**, spoke to the conference about the ministry of **Wiley College** and the conference’s connection to Wiley. She made the presentation on behalf of Melody Patterson, Director of Church Relations at Wiley College, who was present at the conference yesterday, but had to leave to attend another conference session today.

Arneson then presented the **Francis Asbury Award** for 2006 to Sandy Hiebert, Campus Minister at the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater. The Francis Asbury Award is given to one person in each annual conference every year to recognize outstanding work in ministries to students in higher education.

Tim Vanden Langenberg presented information from the **General Conference Petitions Committee** about the procedures for submitting petitions to the 2008 General Conference. He indicated how to submit these petitions to the 2007 Wisconsin Annual Conference session for the conference’s consideration and endorsement.

Scott Anderson, Executive Director of the **Wisconsin Council of Churches**, spoke about the ministry of the council and shared a PowerPoint presentation that highlights those ministries.

Jeff Virchow, Chairperson of the **Board of Global Ministries**, introduced the chairpersons of the board’s sub-committees.

Marty Nolet, Conference Secretary of Missions, presented the “2005 Advance Certificate of Excellence” from the General Board of Global Ministries. The certificate was given to the Wisconsin Annual Conference “in recognition of its outstanding achievement in increasing giving to The Advance for Christ and His Church by 151% in 2005, in which 89% of its churches participated to set a new conference record of \$2,046,491.01.”

Virchow then announced the recipients of the following awards:

- The Thelma Gregg Award, given to recognize and honor lay persons who are doing vital missions in ways that reflect the love of Christ. This year’s award is given to Fred Brancel.
- The Love in Action Disaster Awards, given to recognize outstanding commitment and passion to God’s mission through disaster response and relief. This year’s awards are given to Judy Brunn, Judy Vasby, and Rick Tyler.

He recognized David Green, Chairperson of the Health and Welfare Ministries Committee, who received the “Award of Honor” from the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, in recognition of his contribution to the field of long-term care.

Green presented the “**Covenant of Affiliation between The United Methodist Hospitals Ministry and the Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church.**”

He **moved** that the conference approve the Covenant of Affiliation. The **motion** was **approved**.

Virchow moved **Action Item 5: Resolution On Encouraging Pastors To Participate In National VIM (United Methodist Volunteers In Mission) And/Or International UMVIM Trips.** It was **approved**.

He presented **Action Item 27: Resolution on U.S. Immigration Policy.**

Marcia Bethurem moved to delete the second and third “Whereas Clauses” of the resolution as printed.

After discussion on Action Item 27, Bishop Lee called for the order of the day, and announced that Action Item 27 will be on the agenda for the next plenary session on Tuesday morning.

The secretary read announcements.

Rev. Susan Bresser presented a “History Moment,” speaking about the Women’s Missionary Societies in the early church.

Bill White, Conference Chancellor and Parliamentarian, announced that, according to *Roberts’ Rules of Order*, it is only appropriate to deal with “Whereas” clauses after the “Resolution” clauses have been perfected and acted upon. Bishop Lee then ruled that the **motion to amend Action Item 27** was **out of order** at this time.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference at 2:30 p.m. From 2:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. members of the conference participated in three workshops on the following topics.

- “Preaching for Transformation”
- “Tell Me Something Good – Evangelism in the 21st Century”
- “Mandatory Reporting for Clergy: What the New Wisconsin Law Means for You and Your Congregation”

At 3:45 p.m. members and friends of the conference gathered in the worship area for the **Youth Service with Holy Communion.**

The service began with music by the percussion group “Sheltered Harbor,” which is made up of people from around the country. The youngest member of the group is 5, while the oldest is 73. There were 26 members of the group present for service today. They described their music as “Loud and Proud” and offer no apologies for it. Ushers distributed ear plugs to worship participants as they entered the worship area. During the service George Adjai, a Young Adult Lay Member of the Annual Conference from the Brown Deer United Methodist Church in the Metro North District, offered his testimony. This year’s graduates of the Youth Ministry Institute were recognized during the service. They are: Aaron Alfred, Scott Carnes, Jan Parsons Comerford, Shirley Dekker, Laura Kremel, Kristen Lowe, Steve Martin, Diana Mussatti, Susan Passer, Corrine Robson, and Daniel Whitford. Scott Bethke received a certificate of participation from the Youth Ministry Institute. Bishop Linda Lee celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The offering taken at the service was designated for the Youth Service Fund. The service concluded with at 5:15 p.m. with a “Conga-Line” recessional.

Monday Evening, June 12, 2006

Members and friends of the conference gathered in the plenary area at 6:30 p.m. for a banquet and time of entertainment. Music for the evening was provided by the Kat Trio, a unique classical ensemble that was born in the summer of 1998 in Ekaterinburg, Russia. Victoria Gorbich, Violin, Vladislav Gorbich, Clarinet, and Viatcheslav Ovchinnikov, piano, are all graduates of the Ural State Conservatory. "Joyful" is the word that audiences use to describe the trio's presentation of classical, inspirational, and pop standards. The Kat Trio has done four concert tours of the United States, performing hundreds of concerts in Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Jose, Chicago, Denver, Lincoln, Des Moines, Milwaukee, Madison, Green Bay, and numerous small communities, impressing audiences with their exceptional arrangements, artistic interpretations, and captivating technique. This is the second time that they have performed for the Wisconsin Annual Conference. Following the first half of the concert, the Conference Commission on Archives and History shared a video presentation celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Evangelical Association in Wisconsin. Following the conclusion of the formal festivities the members and friends of the conference enjoyed an evening of fellowship and relaxation.

Tuesday Morning, June 13, 2006

Members and friends of the Conference gathered in the plenary area at 8:15 a.m. for a time of singing led by Rev. Dr. Grace Cajuat.

The morning Bible Study was led by Rev. Dr. Safiyah Fosua, Director of Invitational Preaching Ministries at the General Board of Discipleship.

Bishop Lee called the conference to order at 9:00 a.m.

A "Mission Moment" describing United Methodist Ministries in Senegal in Africa was presented. Since 1991, when United Methodist Missionary work began there, 16 congregations have been started in a country that is 95% Muslim.

Bishop Park, Geo-Chong, accompanied by the Head of the Women's Ministry in the Dong Bu Conference, brought greetings to the Wisconsin Conference from the people of the Dong Bu Conference. He and Bishop Lee exchanged gifts.

Rick Miller **moved:**

That during Annual Conference 2007, we designate one day as a "day of witness of word and deed". On this day all clergy and lay members of Annual Conference will witness to God's love in word and deed in the Madison area engaging in evangelism, serving, and justice ministries.

A task force appointed by the Bishop will work with Madison area clergy and laity, Madison Urban Ministries and other ecumenical or faith-based community organizations to develop projects to be carried out by the Annual Conference.

As a conclusion to the day of witness of word and deed, next year's banquet will be a time for sharing stories from the day's ministries and celebrating what God has been doing through our witness.

Dave Wilkinson **moved to amend** the motion by deleting the word “day” wherever it occurs in the motion and replacing it with “half-day.”

David Ward **moved to table** the motions before us. The **motion to table** was **approved**.

Bruce Bartel, Chairperson of the **Board of Camp and Retreat Ministries** presented **Action Item 1: Local Church Camping Coordinator**. It was **approved**

Bartel presented **Action Item 2: Camping Emphasis Sunday**.

Jack Werner **moved to amend** Action Item 2 by deleting the phrase “in the spring” and adding in its place the phrase “no later than the end of February, 2007.”

The **amendment** was **defeated**.

Action Item 2 was **approved**.

Bartel presented **Action Item 3: New Camp Participants**.

Bener Agtarap **moved to amend** Action Item 3 by adding the word “circuit” after the word “charge.” The **motion to amend** was **approved**.

Action Item 3 was **approved as amended**.

Bishop Lee placed **Action Item 27: Resolution on U.S. Immigration Policy**, which had been under consideration on at the end of the Monday afternoon plenary session, back before the conference.

Elliott Bush moved to divide the question in order to vote on each “Therefore be it resolved” section of this action item separately. The **motion to divide the question** was **defeated**.

Bill White explained why the motion to amend Action Item 27 that was presented yesterday was declared out of order.

Marty Nolet **moved the previous question** on Action Item 27. The **motion to end debate** was **approved**.

A standing count vote was taken on Action Item 27.

Dorothy Radley presented the **Message of the Lay Leader**. The text of her message is printed in reports section of the 2006 Wisconsin Conference Journal.

The secretary read announcements.

A “History Moment” about Full Clergy Rights for Women in the United Brethren Church was presented.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference for the Memorial Service.

Members and friends of the conference gathered in the worship area at 10:30 a.m. for the **Worship Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving**, which was held in tradition of the Community of Taizé. Rev. Kevin Rice Myers, Conference Secretary, read the names of the clergy members, clergy spouses and children, and lay members of the Annual Conference who have died since the last session of the Annual Conference. During the reading of the names representatives of the families of those who have gone

before us into the Church Triumphant since the last session of the Annual Conference were invited to come forward and light a candle in memory of their loved one. The names of those who have died this year are listed in the ‘Memoirs’ section of the 2006 Wisconsin Conference Journal. Bishop Lee offered words of blessing and benediction. Rev. David Vang, Rev. Michael Morning, and Rev. Amber Wolover were liturgists for this service. Music was led by conference musicians Rev. Dr. Grace Cajuat and Justin Lowe.

Tuesday Afternoon, June 13, 2006

Bishop Lee called the conference to order at 1:15 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Grace Cajuat led the conference in “warm-up” exercises.

Rev. Barbara Certa-Werner presented a “Mission Moment,” speaking about the ministry of Harbor House Crisis Shelter in Superior.

Bishop Lee introduced Dr. Phil Amerson, the new president of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, who spoke to the conference about the ministry of the seminary.

Irv Case presented the **2006 Denman Evangelism Awards**. These awards are given annually to a United Methodist lay and clergy person in each annual conference for outstanding work in Christian evangelism. This year’s recipients are Peggy Falkenstien of the Lodi UMC, Roberta Nowicki of the Necedah UMC, and Rev. David P. Carlson of the Sparta UMC.

Bishop Lee reported the results of the standing count vote on **Action Item 27: Resolution on U.S. Immigration Policy**. It was **approved** by a vote of 387 yes, 300 no, with 40 abstentions.

Julie Mieke, President of the **Conference United Methodist Women**, presented **Action Item 4: United Methodist Women’s Sunday**. It was **approved**.

Sandy Kintner, Chairperson of the **Commission on Archives and History**, announced the “Years of Service” awards for those clergy who have served for 25, 50 and 70 years. Their names are printed in the “Awards” report in the 2006 Wisconsin Conference Journal.

Jane Follmer Zekoff introduced Rev. Ric Olson, who will begin his appointment as the new Coordinator of Congregation and Circuit Development on July 1, 2006. Rev. Olson is a clergy member of the Iowa Annual Conference. He spoke to the conference and thanked the members for their warm welcome.

Bishop Lee offered prayer for Miriam and Howard Ott. Miriam is under hospice care.

Jef Anderson, Chairperson of the **Joint Board of Pensions, Insurance, and Equitable Compensation**, presented **Action Item 11: Resolution Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired or Disabled Clergypersons of the Wisconsin Conference**. It was **approved**.

Anderson presented **Action Item 12: Resolution on Past Service Annuity Rate**. It was **approved**.

Anderson **moved to suspend** Conference Rule 110.1.0. The **motion to suspend the rules** was **approved**.

Anderson presented **Action Item 13: Resolution on Minimum Compensation**. It was **approved**.

Anderson moved **Action Item 14: Resolution on 2006 Formal Funding Plan for Pre-1982 Pension Liability**. It was **approved**.

Anderson introduced David Ogden, Consultant to the Joint Board for Insurance Matters, who spoke to the conference about **Action Item 15: Resolution Regarding Funding New Clergy Retirement Security Program**.

Steve Zekoff **moved the adoption** of **Action Item 15**. It was **approved**.

Jef Anderson presented a plaque to Dave Ogden in recognition of many years of service to the Joint Board and to the Wisconsin Annual Conference.

Eric Taylor, President-Elect of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, shared a moment of privilege on behalf of the Council. The youth presented Bishop Lee with a stole made of "Liturgical Duck Tape."

Amanda Stein, Chairperson of the Board of Church and Society, **withdrew Action Item 17: Resolution to Support the UMC Global AIDS Fund**, because it was approved at the 2005 Annual Conference Session. The conference re-affirmed the substance of Action Item 17 with a verbal "Amen."

Stein presented **Action Item 18: Resolution on Global Poverty**. It was **approved**.

She presented **Action Item 19: Resolution to Support "Treatment Alternatives and Diversion" (TAD) (Formerly "Treatment Instead of Prison" (TIP))**. It was **approved**.

She presented **Action Item 20: Resolution Supporting the Principle of National Legislation Providing Universal Health Care**.

Tom Thieding **moved to amend** Action Item 20 **by deleting** the word "universal" in lines 41 and 43.

Fran Deaner **moved the previous question** on this amendment. The **motion to close debate** was **approved**.

The **amendment to Action Item 20** was **defeated**.

Gary Swanson **moved the previous question** on **Action Item 20**. The **motion to close debate** was **approved**.

Action Item 20 was **approved**.

Stein presented **Action Item 21: Resolution on the Proposed Marriage Amendment to the Wisconsin Constitution**.

Charles Wagner **moved the previous question** on **Action Item 21**. The **motion to close debate** was **approved**.

Action Item 21 was **approved**.

Stein presented **Action Item 22**. It was **approved**.

John Sumwalt presented a **Respect Resolution**. It was distributed at this time. The text of the resolution is printed in the 2006 Wisconsin Conference Journal with the rest of the Action Items. Bishop Lee indicated that we would come back to this resolution later in the conference.

Greg Jewison presented the report of the **Housing Allowance Task Force**.

Brian Armstrong, Chairperson of the **Conference Rules Committee** presented **Action Item 16: Recommended Rules Changes**.

He moved **Revision Item #1**. It was **approved**.

Armstrong moved **Revision Item #2**.

Bob Blackburn moved a friendly **amendment** to **Revision Item #2, Recommendation #1**, by adding the following words:

“beginning in the year 2011. During the interim, the housing allowance shall be increased by \$1000 per year in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010.”

The friendly amendment was **NOT accepted** by the Chairperson of the Rules Committee.

Bishop Lee called for the order of the day. She announced the results of the offerings taken so far at the Annual Conference Session.

The secretary read announcements.

Chomingwen Pond presented the “History Moment,” speaking about the role of the Deaconess in the journey towards full clergy rights for women.

The conference recessed at 3:15 p.m for the Retirement Recognition Service.

Members and friends of the conference gathered in the Worship Area at 3:30 p.m. for the **Service of Retirement Recognition and Passing of the Mantle**. Howard Hintzman hosted the service, which centered around a “Church Camp” theme. Each of the retirees was invited to share a favorite anecdote, while pictures from their ministry were displayed on the video screens. Those recognized were:

Marilyn Hair
Doris Hanson
Gerry Harrison
Richard Hutchison
Jodie Joiner
Ken Lyerly
Gerald Mann
Carol Quinn
Abraham Carey

Gerry Harrison, representing this year’s retiring class, “Passed the Mantle” to Rebecca Henry, representing this year’s ordination class.

Bishop Lee offered the blessing, and the service concluded with the singing of “Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore.”

Tuesday Evening, June 13, 2006

Members and friends of the conference gathered in the worship area at 6:30 p.m. for the **Service of Commissioning Probationary Members and Celebration of Ministries.** Gathering music for the service was provided by the Liturgical Dance Group from Delavan Hispanic Ministries. The processional hymn was 'Walk With Me.'

Richard Strait, Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry, and Kevin Rice Myers, Executive Secretary of the Board, presented the following persons for commissioning as probationary members: Diane Margaret Clark, Jeremy Reed Deaner, Mark Gilbert, Cathy Lynn Hamblin, George James Kafer, Arveda Ann "Freddie" Kirk, Ann Watson Peterson, Wendy Sue Slaback, and Brenda Kay Whitford.

Eileen Kuehnl, Chair of the Fellowship of Local Pastors, and Forrest Wells, District Superintendent, on behalf of the District Committees on Ordained Ministry, presented the following persons for licensing as Local Pastors: Geoffrey Lynn Arnold, Mark Andrew Bartlett, Deb Bowen, Bruce Arthur Gardow, Timothy M. Matthaei, and Ralph John Nagel.

Ron Kral, Associate Member of the Wisconsin Conference and Kevin Rice Myers presented the following persons who have been elected to Associate Membership in the Annual Conference: Ana Luisa Mayorga de Chacón and Cherhoua P. Yang.

Following the reading of the scripture lesson from John 16:5-16, Rev. Dr. Kwasi Kena, Director of Evangelism Ministries of the General Board of Discipleship, delivered the sermon, "We're In This Together." After the sermon the congregation sang "When We Are Living." The offering which was taken was designated to support the Summer Developers Program, which offers an opportunity to ethnic lay people who feel called by God to make a holy impact in their communities by helping to organize and facilitate summer ministry projects.

Bishop Lee, assisted by the District Superintendents, led in the Celebration of the Ministry of New Local Pastors. She then led in the Celebration of the Ministry of Associate Members.

Those being Commissioned as Probationary Members were then asked the Disciplinary Questions for Probationary Members, and they all responded appropriately. Bishop Lee commissioned each of them to pastoral ministry. Following the singing of "Together We Serve," Bishop Lee celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The newly commissioned and licensed pastors served the sacrament to the congregation. Following the sacrament, the congregation joined in Wesley's covenant prayer. The recessional hymn was "Guide My Feet," and the postlude was provided by the Liturgical Dance Group from Delavan Hispanic Ministries. Music for the service was provided by Rev. Grace Cajiuat and Justin Lowe. Members of the cabinet participating in the service were Rev. Stephen J. Polster, Rev. Nancy Moffatt, Rev. Jorge Mayorga Solis, Rev. Dan Schwerin, and Rev. Forrest Wells. Following the service members and friends greeted the newly commissioned and licensed pastors at a reception in the ballroom. The service concluded at 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday Evening Plenary Session

The evening plenary began at 8:30 p.m. with singing led by Rev. Dr. Grace Cajiuat.

Bishop Lee called the conference back into session.

Rev. Robert Odum shared a “mission minute,” speaking about the Milwaukee Native American Ministries.

Brian Armstrong resumed the presentation of **Action Item 16: Report of the Rules Committee**.

The Blackburn motion to amend to Revision Item 2, Recommendation 1, which was made at this afternoon’s plenary session, was before the house.

Tom Lambrecht **moved to suspend** Conference Rule 3.3.3 so that this item will not need to be referred to the Implications Committee. The **motion to suspend the rules** was **approved**.

Tom Popp **moved the previous question** on the amendment. The **motion to close debate** was **approved**.

The **amendment to Revision Item 2** was **defeated**.

Revision Item 2 was **approved**.

Armstrong moved **Action Item 16, Revision Item 3**.

Steve Zekoff **moved to amend** Action Item 16, Revision Item 3, by changing the word “mandated” in section 100.1.0 to “adopted.” The **motion to amend** was **accepted** by committee.

Revision Item 3 was **approved** as amended.

Armstrong presented the **Proposed Addition to Rule 10.4.4** that was introduced by the Council on Finance and Administration in its preliminary report on Monday morning, and referred to the Rules Committee. The motion was **approved**.

Armstrong **moved the entire report of the Rules Committee**. It was **approved**.

John Sumwalt presented the **Respect Resolution** which was distributed this afternoon. He moved its adoption.

Wesley White **moved to amend** the resolution by deleting point 1 of the ‘Be it resolved’ section. The **motion to delete** was **accepted** by the maker of the motion.

The **Respect Resolution** was **approved** as amended.

Bishop Lee announced that the author of **Action Item 23** had withdrawn it from consideration by this session of the annual conference.

Cindy Thompson moved that we **take from the table** the Rick Miller motion regarding a “day of witness of word and deed.” The **motion to take from the table** was **approved**.

Tom Lambrecht **moved to refer** this matter to the Program and Arrangements Committee to develop a plan to implement this idea in 2008 and report back to 2007 Annual Conference how they propose to do that.

Janet Ellinger **moved the previous question** on all that is before us. The **motion to close debate** was **approved**.

The **motion to refer** was **approved**.

Jim Christensen presented a **Resolution on Judicial Council Decision 1032**. The text of the resolution is printed with the Action Items in the reports section of the 2006 Journal.

The **Resolution on Judicial Council Decision 1032** was **defeated**.

Terry Kleppe, Lay Member from Manitowoc: St Paul's UMC, presented **Action Item 9**. It was **approved**.

Richard Strait, Chairperson of the **Board of Ordained Ministry**, introduced Jason Mahnke and Meg Lybeck-Smoak, two of the younger clergy in the conference, who shared a presentation on the **Pastoral Leadership Search Effort**.

Strait moved the adoption of **Action Item 10: The Wellness Covenant**.

Lynn Scott **moved to amend** Action Item 10 by adding the words "support and" before the word "accountability" in last bullet point of the "be it further resolved" clause. Strait **accepted** this as a **friendly amendment**.

Gerry Harrison **moved to amend** the resolution by adding a fifth bullet point: – "Observe a regular Sabbath." Strait **accepted** this as a **friendly amendment**. **Action Item 10** was **approved as amended**.

Martha Blumer, Manager of the Aurora, Illinois, **Cokesbury** store, shared information about the ministry of The United Methodist Publishing House, and presented the conference with a check for \$10,658.26, which represents the Wisconsin Conference's share of the proceeds from the publishing house for the past year.

Fran Deaner **moved** "that the monies received from United Methodist Publishing House be sent to the Central Conference Pension Initiative Benefit Fund to be used to help fund the pension liabilities of the central conferences, where there is a desperate need for funding alternatives." The motion was **approved**.

The secretary read announcements.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference for the evening at 9:53 p.m. with the singing of "Go Now In Peace."

Wednesday Morning, June 14, 2006

Members of the conference gathered in the plenary area at 8:15 a.m. for a time of singing led by Rev. Dr. Grace Cajiuat.

The morning bible study was led by Rev. Dr. Safiyah Fosua and Rev. Dr. Kwasi Kena.

Following the bible study, Bishop Lee gave them gifts to express our appreciation for their ministry among us during this session of the Annual Conference.

Bishop Lee called the conference to order at 9:00 a.m.

Judy Lybeck presented a "Mission Moment," sharing information about the **Rising Sun Camp** program for children of inmates in correctional institutions in Wisconsin.

Carolyn Saunders **moved** “that we allow Stan and Jenny Lowery from UMCOR’s Midwest Distribution Center to speak to the conference.” The motion was **approved**

The Lowerys reported the results of the **Ingathering** through Tuesday night. The final results will be published on the conference website and printed in the 2006 Conference Journal.

Mike Weigand presented information from the **Board of Congregation, Parish and Circuit Development** about the New Faith Builder’s Call, and New Faith Community starts in Wisconsin.

Tina Itson, Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, presented **Action Item 6: Resolution on Young Adult Ministry**. It was **approved**.

Erika Krueger, President of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, presented **Action Item 7: United Methodist Youth Sunday**. It was **approved**.

Craig Myrbo asked that the final report of the ingathering be made available in print form to the members of the Annual Conference. Jane Follmer Zekoff indicated that the information will be published on the conference web-site.

Ken Rheingans presented **Action Item 28: Annual Conference Director of Young Adult Ministry**, noting the deletion of the second “Be it resolved” paragraph, and replacing it with:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Annual Conference commits to asking each local church to raise one dollar per member, to be remitted to the Conference treasurer by the 2006 Fiscal Year End, for funding of this position and related expenses for 2007.

Scott Carnes **moved to refer** Action Item 28 to the Conference Personnel Committee.

Dawn Jeffers Ramstad **moved to amend the referral** to include consultation with the Conference Young Adult Ministries Council. The **motion to amend** was **accepted** as a friendly amendment.

Fran Deaner **moved the previous question** on all that is before us. The **motion to close debate** was **approved**.

The **motion to refer Action Item 28** to the Conference Personnel Committee in consultation with the Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries was **approved**.

Ken Rheingans presented **Action Item 29: Council on Finance and Administration – Young Adult representation**. It was **approved**.

Bill Helwig, President of the **Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation**, presented **Action Item 8: Designation of Earnings from the “New Ministries Fund.”** It was **approved**.

Deb Ivanoff-Hastings presented the “Bridge Builder Awards,” which are given by the Commission on the Status and Role of Women to persons who have been and are good bridge builders between people in the Wisconsin Conference and society. This year’s recipients are Cathryn Prime Luse and Tom Popp.

Lisa King, Director of Finance and Administration, presented the conference with a **Certificate of Recognition** from the General Council on Finance and Administration in recognition of the conference's 100 percent payment of our General Church apportionments for 2005. She presented a video message from Bishop Mary Ann Swenson, president of the General Council on Finance and Administration, thanking the Wisconsin Conference for its leadership in denominational giving. This is the 16th year in a row that the Wisconsin Conference has paid its General Church Apportionments at 100%, and we are the only conference in the denomination to do so through 12 equal monthly payments. King recognized the circuits and churches that pay their apportionments at 100%.

Nancy Carmichael made the following **motion**:

“In response to the accountability portion of the wellness covenant (Action Item 10) I propose that at next year's Annual Conference we turn in the total number of days of Sabbath observed. Furthermore, we turn in our amount of weight loss, weight gained or a “zero” for maintenance. All of this would be anonymous.”

The motion was **approved**.

Forrest Wells, Superintendent of the Capital - Coulee Districts, presented **Action Item 25: Resolution on the Discontinuance of Gotham United Methodist Church, Gotham, Wisconsin**. It was **approved**.

Nancy Moffat, Superintendent of the Chippewa – Heartland Districts, presented **Action Item 26: Resolution on the Discontinuance of the Martell United Methodist Church, Martell, Wisconsin**. It was **approved**.

Wells and Moffatt led the conference in the “Litany of Church Closing.”

Gerry Harrison shared a “History Minute,” about the first ethnic women ordained in the Wisconsin Conference.

The secretary read announcements.

Bishop Lee offered closing prayer, and then recessed the conference at 10:27 a.m.

From 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. members of the conference participated in three workshops on the following topics.

- Legal Issues in the Local Church
- Preparing for 2008 General and Jurisdictional Conferences
- Hunger on our Doorstep

Wednesday Afternoon, June 14, 2006

Members of the conference gathered in the plenary area at 1:15 p.m. Rev. Dr. Grace Cajuat led the conference in “warm-up exercises” and a time of singing.

Bishop Lee called the conference to order at 1:20 p.m.

Donna Veatch presented a Mission Moment, speaking about the Wisconsin Conference's Cuba Mission Partnership.

Cherhoua Yang presented the monitoring report on behalf of the Commission on Religion and Race and the Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

Julio Alvarado presented **Action Item 30: A Resolution to declare The Committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries as a Standing Committee of the Wisconsin Annual Conference.**

Steve Zekoff **moved to suspend** Conference Rule 3.3.3 in order to consider this motion without referring it to the Implications Committee. The **motion to suspend** the rules was **approved**.

Jack Werner **moved to amend** the final paragraph of the resolution so that “\$5000 be removed from the ‘Racial Ethnic/Multicultural’ line item of the Board of Congregation, Parish and Circuit Development, and that an amount of \$5,000 be added to the 2007 proposed budget in a line item called ‘Committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries.’

Fran Deaner **moved the previous question** on all that is before us. The **motion to close debate** was **approved**.

The **Werner amendment** was **approved**.

Action Item 30 was **approved as amended**.

Members of the cabinet joined Bishop Lee on the platform for the reading of the appointments for the 2006-2007 Conference Year. Following the reading of the appointments, Bishop Lee declared them fixed.

Jack Werner, Chairperson of the Council on Finance and Administration, presented **Action Item 24: 2007 Proposed Budget**, as it has been amended by this session of the Annual Conference. The bottom line on the amended budget is an expenditure total of \$7,389,329. This is a \$5,000 increase over the original budget proposal as printed in the workbook. The **2007 Budget** was **approved as amended**.

Jack Stubbs **moved** “that the rules committee shall bring to the 2007 Annual Conference session language incorporating the circuit plan within the conference rules and policies.” The motion was **approved**.

Lynn Scott **moved**:

“That the Wisconsin Annual Conference set a time at an upcoming annual conference for Christian conferencing on the issue of homosexuality. The time would include:

1. Education on Christian conferencing in our United Methodist tradition;
2. Ample time to experience Christian conferencing with one another; and
3. Worship woven into our time together.”

The motion was **approved**.

Andy Oren, Chairperson of the **Nominations Committee**, moved “that the nominations committee be authorized to fill the open positions of the various conference boards, agencies and committees during the upcoming year.” The motion was **approved**.

Oren **moved** “that the printed report of the Nominations Committee be adopted”. The motion was **approved**.

Amy Jameson Yackovich, Chairperson of the Program and Arrangements Committee, thanked all those who have worked so hard to make this conference session so successful.

She announced that the 2007 Annual Conference Session will be held June 10-13, 2007 at the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center.

Bishop Lee thanked those who have been the prayer team for this conference.

The secretary read announcements.

Bishop Lee announced that the 2006 Session of the Wisconsin Annual Conference will be adjourned following the concluding worship service. She recessed conference for worship at 2:35 p.m.

Immediately following the conclusion of the plenary session, the Conference entered into a time of **Closing Worship and Holy Communion** based on the theme of the Annual Conference: 'Celebrating our Journey, Continuing Our Hope.' The Call to Worship was 'Amen! We Praise Your Name,' and was sung in the traditional Xhosa language of South Africa. Rev. Cathy Hamblin read the opening scripture lesson from Ephesians 1:3-14. The opening hymn was "Gather Us In." Arlene Braithwaite, Lay Member of Annual Conference from Wausau: First UMC, read the Scripture lesson from Acts 1:1-8. Rev. Dr. Safiyah Fosua delivered the sermon, 'Do What You Have the Power to Do.' The offering taken at the service was designated for Wisconsin Health and Welfare Ministries serving children at United Methodist Children's Services, Northcott Neighborhood House, and Harbor House Crisis Shelter. Bishop Lee celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion. During the sharing of the elements, the congregation sang 'Holy Ground,' 'Jesus, We Are Here,' 'Come, Share the Lord,' and 'Taste and See.' Rev. Ricardo Torres offered the closing prayer. Following the singing of the closing hymn, 'Blessed Assurance,' Bishop Linda Lee gave the benediction. Music for the service was provided by Rev. Dr. Grace Cajiuat and Justin Lowe.

The 37th regular session of the Wisconsin Annual Conference adjourned *sine die* at 3:20 p.m.

The foregoing is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Kevin Rice Myers, Conference Secretary

**CLERGY SESSION
OF THE
WISCONSIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE
HELD IN THE BALLROOM OF THE
MADISON MARRIOTT WEST HOTEL
AND CONFERENCE CENTER
SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2006
3:00 P.M.**

Bishop Linda Lee called the Clergy Session to order at 3:00 p.m.

Richard Strait, Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry, welcomed those present to the Clergy Session of the 2006 Annual Conference.

Bishop Lee offered an opening prayer.

Strait then asked Bishop Lee to indicate who is to be present and voting in the Clergy Session.

Bishop Lee responded that all clergy members of the conference – including deacons, elders, local pastors and student pastors under appointment of a bishop (full and part time) – and lay members of the Board of Ordained Ministry may be present and have voice in the executive session. Only Elders and Deacons in Full Connection and lay members of the board of ordained ministry may vote.

Strait moved that all clergy members of other annual conferences or denominations who are appointed to serve Wisconsin United Methodist Churches be granted permission to be present in the Clergy Session with voice. The motion was approved.

Strait introduced Karen Ebert, who serves as the Chairperson of the Division of Elders of the Board. Ebert presented those persons who are to be Commissioned and Ordained at this session of the Wisconsin Annual Conference.

Ebert presented **Question 33, “Who are elected as members in full connection?”** and **Question 35b, “Who are elected for ordination as elders?”** Following speeches of affirmation, the conference voted on each candidate for full membership and ordination individually.

Rebecca A. Henry, Kathryn Croskery Jones, Karen Klatt, Robert K. McClintock, and Dianne D. Vielhuber were elected as Elders in Full Connection.

Ebert moved **Question 28b(1) and (2) “Who are elected and commissioned as Probationary members (under Paragraph 324) and licensed for pastoral ministry in preparation for ordination?”** They are: Diane Margaret Clark, Jeremy Reed Deaner, Mark Daniel Gilbert, George James Kafer, Arveda Ann Kirk, Ann Elizabeth Watson Peterson, Wendy S. Slaback, Brenda K. Whitford, and Cathy Lynn Hamblin. Ebert noted that Hamblin is being elected under the provisions of ¶324.6. The clergy session voted on each candidate individually, and all were elected as Probationary Members of the Annual Conference.

Ebert moved **Question 27b, “Who are elected as Associate Members under ¶322 of the 2004 Book of Discipline?”** She introduced Ana Luisa Mayorga de Chacón and Cherhoua P. Yang. Each was elected as an Associate Member of the Annual Conference.

Forrest Wells, Dean of the Cabinet, presented the Cabinet’s response to **Question 17**.

Richard Strait introduced Kevin Rice Myers, the Executive Secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry, and thanked him for all the work that he does on behalf of the board. Rice Myers continued the presentation of the Board’s report.

Rice Myers presented **Question 18a: The Committee on Investigation**. He noted a misprint in the report, and indicated that the name of Jeff Virchow should be included under the Clergy Members Column.

He presented **Question 18b: The Administrative Review Committee** for information.

He presented **Questions 19 and 20** for information, noting that the name of Shane Chellis should be removed from Question 20.

He presented **Questions 21a, 21b, and 21c**, adding the name of Shane Chellis to Question 21a and the name of Edward Jones – University of Dubuque Theological Seminary to Question 21c.

Questions 21a, 21b, and 21c were approved.

He invited those who have completed the Course of Study this year to stand and be recognized.

He presented **Question 22** for information.

He presented **Question 24** for information.

He presented **Question 25**, adding the name of Martha Williams of the Evangelical Covenant Church. It was approved.

He presented **Question 26b**. It was approved by the necessary two-thirds vote.

He presented **Questions 30b, 30e, and 31c** for information.

[Editor’s Note: Following the Clergy Session, it was discovered that the name of Young Jongshik Choe should have been included in Question 41, Transfers from Other Annual Conferences. He transferred to the Wisconsin Conference from the Northern Illinois Conference on 7/1/2005. This will be reported in the 2006 Business of the Annual Conference when it is printed in the 2006 Journal, and noted at the Clergy Session at the 2007 Annual Conference.]

Rice Myers presented **Question 42 –Who are transferred in from Other Methodist Denominations?**, for information, and noted that the effective date for the transfer of Domnik Israel should be 9/1/2005. He invited Rev. Israel to stand and be recognized by the Clergy Session.

He presented **Question 46 – Who are discontinued as probationary members?**, noting the circumstances surrounding Lucinda Alwa’s request to be discontinued, and noting that she was being returned to the care of the District Committee on Ordained Ministry for possible licensing as a local pastor. Question 46 was approved.

He presented **Question 47a(1): Who has been granted honorable location this year?**, noting that I-Mei Chen had requested Honorable Location. It was approved.

He presented **Questions 47a(2) 47(b) and 48** for information.

He presented **Question 49: Who have had their status as honorably located and their orders terminated?**, noting that Bruce Berg had withdrawn from the Untied Methodist Church and joined another denomination. It was approved.

He presented **Question 50b: Who have had their conference membership terminated by withdrawal from the ordained ministerial office?**, noting that Deborah Gorman, Paul Ketterer, and Tom D'Alessio had voluntarily chosen to surrender their credentials. It was approved.

He presented **Questions 52 c, and d, What clergy members have died during the year?** Following the reading of the names of those clergy members who have died since the last Conference Session there was a time of silent prayer. Rice Myers then offered a prayer in their memory.

He presented **Question 53** for information.

He presented **Question 54a – Those on Leave of Absence for less than five years.** It was approved.

He presented **Question 54a – Those on Leave of Absence for more than five years.** It was approved by the necessary two-thirds majority.

He presented **Question 54c.** It was approved.

He presented **Question 54d** for information.

He presented **Question 55a - Those on Family Leave for Less than Five Years.** It was approved.

He presented **Question 55a – Those on Family Leave for More than Five Years.** It was approved by the necessary two-thirds majority.

He presented **Question 55c** for information.

He presented **Questions 57a** for information.

He presented **Question 57c, Who are granted incapacity leave at this session?** It was approved.

He presented **Question 58: What deacons have been granted transitional leave?** It was approved.

He presented **Questions 59a and 62a – Clergy Retirements This Year**, deleting the name of Lloyd Lewis from Question 59a. He noted that Lewis' retirement was approved at the 2005 Clergy Session, but was not included in the printed report. It will be reported in Question 91 this year. Questions 59a and 62a were approved.

He invited all those who are retiring this year to come forward and be recognized.

He presented **Questions 59b, 60b, 61b and 62b** for information, deleting the name of Richard G. Sweitzer, a clergy member of the Annual Conference who passed away after the report was printed. He noted that there are now more clergy in full connection in the conference who are retired than there are appointed to serve local churches.

He noted that **Questions 63, 64, and 65**, are statistical charts and tables which are completed after the annual conference session.

He presented **Questions 66 through 70**, which relate to persons who are certified in specialized areas of ministry, for information.

He noted that **Questions 71 through 82** relate to Diaconal Ministers, and that there are no changes this year.

He presented **Question 83a: Who are appointed to less than full-time service?**

It was approved by the necessary majority, and by the necessary three-fourths majority for those who have served less than full-time for more than 8 years.

He presented **Question 83b: What deacons in full connection and probationary deacons are approved for less than full-time service?** It was approved.

He presented **Question 84** for information, and noted that the name of Yul Kwon should be deleted from the printed report.

He presented **Questions 85 and 87** for information.

He presented **Question 88c: Who are appointed to other valid extension ministries under the provisions of ¶344.1d?** It was approved by the necessary two-thirds majority.

He presented **Questions 89 and 90** for information.

He presented **Question 91: Other Personal Notations** for information, adding the name of Lloyd Lewis, who retired 7/1/2005, but that this was not reported in the Business of the Annual Conference last year, and adding the name of Nancy Allen, a Licensed Local Pastor who is transferring to the Northern Maine District of the New England Annual Conference.

He noted that the dates for the 2007 Annual Conference Session will be June 10-13, 2007.

Richard Strait alerted the clergy to some changes in the 2007 Budget of the Board of Ordained Ministry that will allow the position of Executive Secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry/Conference Secretary to become a full-time position, in order to allow more time for this important role in supporting the work of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

A question was raised from the floor regarding the new position of Certified Lay Minister. Rice Myers responded that when the curriculum for this position becomes available from the General Board of Discipleship, a process will be developed through which the District Committees on Ordained Ministry may consider applicants for this role.

Strait thanked all of those who have assisted the Board of Ordained Ministry in its task of recruitment, nurture and credentialing of clergy in the Wisconsin Annual Conference, and invited everyone who has been involved in the work of the Board during this past year to stand.

Rice Myers moved adoption of the entire report of the Board of Ordained Ministry. It was approved.

He made several announcements.

The members of the Clergy Session sang “Happy Birthday” to Scott Carlson, who is celebrating his birthday today.

Bishop Lee thanked Strait and the members of the Board for their work. She offered reflections and a word of prayer.

There was a motion to adjourn the Clergy Session of the 2006 Wisconsin Annual Conference. It was seconded and approved.

The clergy session was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.