

DAILY PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
2007 SESSION
OF THE
WISCONSIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Afternoon, June 10, 2007

Clergy Session

Clergy members of the Wisconsin Conference gathered in the Ballroom of the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 10, 2007 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 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 10. The Laity Session began with a time of music provided by the Still Waters Band. Dorothy Radley, Conference Lay Leader, welcomed those present. Roger Kindschi offered an opening prayer, and Diane Schobert shared an opening devotion. The Still Waters Band led the congregation in singing 'Trading My Sorrows.' Dan Dick, Research Coordinator for the General Board of Discipleship, spoke to the laity session about the Strategic Planning Process for the Conference, and visioning for the future ministry of the Wisconsin Annual Conference. The Still Waters Band led the laity session in another song. Dorothy Radley invited those who have identified themselves as candidates for election as a delegate to General and/or Jurisdictional Conference to introduce themselves. Each was given one minute to respond to one of these two questions: 'What is the most pressing issue facing United Methodism today?' or 'How will you, if elected, use your vote, and your contribution to the conferences to ensure that the Igniting Ministry advertising slogan 'Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors,' does not become hypocritical for The United Methodist Church?' Following the self-introductions, Radley introduced two persons who have identified themselves as write-in candidates for election. Following the candidates' statements, the Still Waters Band led the congregation in singing 'The Lord is My Strength and My Song.' Radley introduced the District Lay Leaders. Diane Schobert spoke about 'Faith Alive.' Billie LaBumbard, Conference Missions Coordinator, spoke about the new 'Circuit Mission Advocate,' and asked that each circuit in the conference designate a person to fill this role.

Radley thanked the lay members of the annual conference for their presence and participation in the Laity Session. She offered a closing prayer. The Still Waters Band led the congregation in a closing song, 'Let It Rise.'

Sunday Evening, June 10, 2007

Members and friends of the Wisconsin Annual Conference gathered in the Superior Room of the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center at 7:30 p.m. for the Service of Ordination of Elders. The processional hymn was 'And Are We Yet Alive.'

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:

Keith Nicholas Aurand
Debra Ivanoff-Hastings
Hyujae Lee
Kyung-Sook Lee
Margaret J. Lybeck-Smoak

They presented Gary W. Cole, who was ordained in the Evangelical Covenant Church and whose orders were recognized in 2003, for reception as a full member of the Annual Conference,

Bishop Lee asked for the assent of the gathered congregation for their ordination and reception into full membership. It was given joyfully!

This year the Annual Conference is marking the 10th anniversary of the Ordination of Deacons in Full Connection. David Wilkinson led those gathered through a celebration of the ministry of the Deacon. He introduced the Deacons in Full Connection and the Probationary Deacon in the Wisconsin Annual Conference, who led the congregation in a Litany of Thanksgiving. The congregation then sang ‘The Servant Song.’

Sam Royappa and David Wilkinson read the scripture lessons from Romans 12:1-12 and Luke 6:20-31. Bishop Lee then introduced Bishop Donald Ott, retired Bishop of the Michigan Area who was elected to the episcopacy from Wisconsin in 1992, who gave a powerful and inspiring sermon.

Dorthy Radley, Conference Lay Leader, led the Affirmation of Faith, using ‘A Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church.’ The Board of Ordained Ministry Choir then sang ‘What Does the Lord Require of You.’

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 Ott, Conference Lay Leader Dorthy Radley, the District Superintendents, and other ordained deacons and elders, ordained Keith Nicholas Aurand, Debra Ivanoff-Hastings, Hyujae Lee, Kyung-Sook Lee, and Margaret J. Lybeck-Smoak as Elders in The United Methodist Church, with the laying on of hands and prayer. She welcomed Gary W. Cole into Full Membership in the Annual Conference. Following the service of Ordination, the congregation sang ‘Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine.’

An offering was taken to support 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. During the offering the Board of Ordained Ministry choir sang ‘God of Love and God of Power.’

Bishop Lee, assisted by Bishop Ott, served as celebrants for 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.

Following the celebration of the sacrament, there was an 'Invitation to Hear God's Call to Ministry.' 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 'Here I Am, Lord,' 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.

Bishop Lee offered the Dismissal with Blessing. The recessional hymn was 'Go Forth for God.' 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 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. Members of the Board of Ordained Ministry formed the choir for the service, which concluded at 9:30 p.m.

Monday Morning, June 11, 2007

Members and friends of the conference gathered in the plenary area at 8:15 a.m. for a time of singing, which was led by Brian Wilson and Leon Lewis, Conference Music Leaders.

Bishop Lee called the first plenary session of the 38th Wisconsin Annual Conference to order at 8:30 a.m. She welcomed everyone to this session, and acknowledged those who are attending annual conference for the first time. She introduced those sitting on the platform with her: Bill White, Conference Chancellor, Rev. Steve Polster, Assistant to the Bishop, and Rev. Kevin Rice Myers, Conference Secretary.

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 back 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 Don Ott
 - Dr. Josephine Whitely-Fields
 - Judy Lyons
 - Dr. G. Scott Morris
- Conference Musicians: Brian Wilson and Leon Lewis
- Scott Anderson, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of Churches
- Peter Bakken, Public Policy Coordinator of the Wisconsin Council of Churches
- Megan Cotton, the Lina McCord Black College Fund Representative
- Dr. Mark Fowler, Vice-President of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
- Melody Patterson, Director of Church Relations from Wiley College
- Dan Dick, Consultant from the General Board of Discipleship
- Dan O'Neill, Managing Director for Central Conference Pensions for the General Board of Pensions
- Martha Blumer, United Methodist Publishing House Representative
- Mary Lynn Holly, Representative from United Methodist Communications
- Steve Scott, our volunteer Media Representative
- David Ogden, Consultant to the Joint Board of Pensions, Insurance and Equitable Compensation
- Diane Schobert, Presenter from the Conference Episcopacy Committee
- 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-Chairs of Conference Boards and Agencies who are not members of the Annual 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:

Staff:

- Episcopal Administrative Assistant: Cindy Churan
- Regional Administrative Assistants: Sherry Malone, Bonita Smith, Barb Ridgely, Barb Franken
- Conference Registrar: Karen Lamoree
- Conference Computer Support Specialist: Pat Falkner
- Ministry and Outreach Administrative Assistant: Jane Walmer
- Finance Office Assistant: Laura Rodriguez
- Service Department Manager: Katie Hoepfner
- Conference Archivist: Lynn Lubkemann

Others:

- General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits Representatives: Josie Martinez and Violet Abreu
- Program and Arrangements Committee Members who are not Conference Members
- Staff Members from Creative Convention Consulting, who have been working with the Program and Arrangements Committee
- Members of the Commissions 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
- Audio Technicians from Audio Logic Systems
- 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 and assistant secretaries for this session of the annual conference:

TELLER TEAM #1	TELLER TEAM #2	ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
Cathy Hamblin	John Hazen	Joyce Alford
Gail Mitchell	Dennis Govier	Cindy Churan
Cherie Forret	Meg Erickson	Sherry Malone
Cindy Glocke	David Leistra	Jean Nicholas
Don Olm	Steve Miller	Marjorie Rice Myers
Anita Genrich	Cheri Miskimen	Carolyn Saunders
Andy Oren	Don Drollinger	BALLOT ROOM STAFF
Mike Ascher	Mary Ann Floerke	Ron Kral
Ellen Rasmussen	Eileen Kuehnl	Gary Swanson
Skip Robertson	Terry Dorenbusch	Bill Beaton
Jean Schmidt	Mary Lu Palmer	
Freddie Kirk	Pat Nolet	
Paul Foulke	Mike Herdt	
Paul Gregersen	Loretta Waegli	
Debbie Pimm	Irv Case	
Ed Jones	Candy Ascher	
Joe Krueger	Janet Hartzell	
Mike Christensen		
Carrie Hamm (alternate)		

The motion was **approved**.

The secretary shared several other organizational items of information.

Bishop Lee introduced the members of the ‘prayer team,’ who have been praying for this session of the Annual Conference: Sonia Alvarado, Keith Aurand, Karen Brown, Michael Carlson, Rachel Cobb, Rafael Cubilette, Gwen Gibson, Pat Heisler, Carmen Eiselman, Rick Kindschi, Han-Du Kwak, Ethan Larson, Peg Muensel, Jacqueline Sharer-Robertson, Tim Vanden Langenberg, Gail Ward, and Cherhoua Yang. She indicated that they would be available to pray with anyone who so desired.

Bishop Lee announced the results of the “Ingathering” so far. The final results of the ingathering will be announced later and published in the 2007 Conference Journal.

Since the conference is marking this year the 10th anniversary of the Ordination of Deacons in Full Connection, each plenary session will begin with a message about the ‘Ministry of Word and Service.’ These messages will be presented by the Deacons in Full Connection in the Conference. The first message was given by Dawn Jeffers Ramstad. She shared a brief history of the Order of the Deacon.

Jane Follmer Zekoff, Director of Ministry and Outreach, presented the **agenda** for the 2007 Conference Session, and noted that adjustments to the agenda may be made during the course of the Annual 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 a report on the 2006 financial results for the Annual Conference. They noted that the Council found it necessary to implement Conference Rule 10.4.4 (which was adopted by the 2006 Annual Conference session) during this past year. They reported the proposed adjustments to the **2007 Conference Budget**, and described the process through which the 2007 revised budget and the 2008 proposed budget were developed.

Werner **moved** “that the annual conference ratify the revised 2007 budget as proposed by the Council on Finance and Administration and presented in the workbook.” The motion was **approved**.

Werner then presented the **2008 Budget** as printed in the workbook.

Nancy Moffatt **moved**:

“that conference policy 10.7.1 that sets District Superintendent salaries at a fixed percentage of the Conference Average Compensation be suspended for the 2008 budget so that District Superintendent salaries for 2008 can remain at the 2007 level.”

The motion was **approved**.

Jeff Virchow **moved** “to increase the 2008 recommended budget line item for the Conference Board of Global Ministries on page 10 of the Pre-Conference Workbook to \$281,625.”

Because this motion adjusts the budget by more than \$10,000, Conference Rule 3.3.3 requires that the motion be referred to the Implications Committee.

Bishop Lee named the members **Implications Committee**. They are:

Joel Certa-Werner; Lawrence McGuin, Chair; Erika Krueger; Nancy Moffatt, Jack Werner, Dorothy Radley, and Eric Taylor

Fran Deaner **moved the following as a substitute** for the Virchow motion:

“That the Council on Finance and Administration present a 2008 budget equal to the figures submitted to CF&A for their -10% requested budget scenario.”

Both the Virchow and Deaner motions were referred to the Implications Committee, which will report back to a later plenary session of this conference.

Kevin Rice Myers, Conference Secretary, gave instructions for voting in the election of delegates to the 2008 General and Jurisdictional Conferences. He **moved** the adoption of **Action Item 19: Proposed Balloting Procedures for the Election of Delegates to the 2008 General and Jurisdictional Conferences**. The motion was **approved**.

Bishop Lee reminded the conference that it is important to be as inclusive as possible in our delegations to General and Jurisdictional Conference.

General Conference Ballot 1 was taken. Both laity and clergy voted for 5 delegates to General Conference.

Mike Wiegand moved “that all cell phones be silenced or turned off, and that anyone accepting a call will immediately leave the room before having a conversation with the caller.” The motion was **approved**.

Melody Patterson, Director of Church Relations at **Wiley College**, spoke about the relationship between the conference and the college and thanked the conference for its ongoing support of Wiley College.

Nancy Moffatt presented the **Message of the Cabinet**. The text of their message is printed in the 2007 Conference Journal.

Kevin Rice Myers, Conference Secretary, noted that he had been informed that Martha Blumer is no longer the Cokesbury representative. He **moved** “that Brian Green-Young, the new Cokesbury representative, be granted permission to be seated within the Bar of the Conference with voice.” The motion was **approved**.

The secretary then read announcements.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference at 10:40 a.m. for the morning worship service.

Members and friends of the conference gathered in the worship area at 11:00 a.m. for the Opening Worship Service, which set the theme for this conference session, ‘Wholeness to Holiness: Reaching for Higher Ground.’ Bishop Linda Lee preached the sermon, ‘Moving,’ based on the scripture lesson from Philippians 3:13-14. Rev. Stephen Polster and Rev. Amber Wolover celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The offering taken during the service was designated to support the Summer Developers Program and Wiley College. Liturgists for the service were Rev. Mary Council-Austin, Rev. Grace Cajiuat, and Justin E. Lowe. Music Leadership for the service was provided by Conference Musicians Brian Wilson and Leon Lewis, and by the Univer-

sity of Wisconsin – Madison Percussion Ensemble, directed by Carl Dixon. Hymns sung during the service included ‘Jesu, Tawa Pano’ (Jesus, We Are Here), ‘Let Us Break Bread Together,’ ‘Jesu, Jesu,’ ‘I Want Jesus to Walk with Me,’ and ‘We Are Marching.’

Monday Afternoon, June 11, 2007

Bishop Lee called the conference to order at 1:30 p.m.

Mary Beth Byrne presented a message about the “Ministry of Word and Service,” celebrating the ministry of Deacons in Full Connection.

Bishop Lee announced the results of **General Conference Ballot 1**, reading the names of those persons who received 10 or more votes. There were no elections. The secretary gave further instructions regarding the balloting process.

General Conference Ballot 2 was taken. Both laity and clergy voted for 5 candidates.

Bishop Lee introduced our guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Josephine Whitely-Fields, Director of Doctoral Studies at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, who spoke to the conference on “Spirituality for Everyday Living.”

Following the presentation, Bishop Lee recessed the conference for a five minute break.

Following the recess, Scott Anderson, Executive Director of the **Wisconsin Council of Churches**, shared a presentation on ‘Health and Hope,’ and spoke about the health care/insurance crisis in the State of Wisconsin. His presentation will be posted on the Conference website.

Sam Royappa, a member of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, presented the **Interdenominational Cooperation Fund Recognition Award** for paying 100% Apportionment Support for this fund. He shared information about the ministries supported by the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund.

Bishop Lee reported the results of **General Conference Ballot 2**. Jorge Luis Mayorga Solis (Clergy) and Lisa King (Lay) were **elected**.

Bishop Lee invited the conference to sing ‘Spirit of the Living God’ as a prayer before balloting. **General Conference Ballot 3** was taken. Both laity and clergy voted for 4 candidates.

Bruce Bartel, Chairperson of the **Board of Camp and Retreat Ministries**, and Nancy Deaner, Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries Coordinator, presented information about the Wisconsin Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries programs.

Bartel presented **Action Item 1: Local Church Camping Coordinator**. It was **approved**.

He presented **Action Item 2: Camp and Retreat Emphasis Sunday**. It was **approved**.

He presented **Action Item 3: New Camp Participants**. It was **approved**.

Carl Doersch presented **Action Item 14: Resolution Regarding Local Church Property Insurance**.

Mark Geisthart **moved to refer** Action Item 14 motion to the Conference Trustees.

The **motion to refer** was defeated on a standing count vote of 303 yes, 380 no.

The conference recessed for the youth-led worship service at 3:45 p.m.

Members and friends of the Conference gathered in the Worship Area at 4:00 p.m. for the Youth-Led Worship Service. Music leadership for the service was provided by 'Fish Fusion,' a musical group from the Fennimore United Methodist Church. The scripture lesson for the service was read from Colossians 3:1-17. Lindsey Hafley gave the message entitled 'Where is God in Your Life?' The offering taken during the service was designated for the Youth Service Fund. Carol Martin shared information about the Youth Ministry Institute, an intensive 9-month course in youth ministry. This year's class is the fourth to complete the Youth Ministry Institute. 16 people completed the program this year, and two of those students earned seminary credits in addition to the certification provided by the program. A total of 65 students have gone through the Youth Ministry Institute program.

Monday Evening, June 11, 2007

Bishop Lee called the Conference to order at 7:00 pm.

Tina Lang presented a message about the 'Ministry of Word and Service' celebrating the ministry of Deacons in Full Connection.

Bishop Lee reported the results of **General Conference Ballot 3**. Billie LaBumbard (Lay) was **elected**.

Following the singing of 'Come and Find the Quiet Center,' **General Conference Ballot 4** was taken. Clergy voted for 4 candidates. Laity voted for 3 candidates.

Jenny Arneson presented the **Francis Asbury Award**, which is given to recognize individuals who have made a significant contribution to fostering the Church's ministries in higher education at the local, district, or annual conference level. This year's recipient is Doug Caves, a Lay member of Madison: First UMC.

Dianne Vielhuber presented information about the Procheck Health Screening that is taking place tomorrow.

The secretary shared information about the memorial service for Rev. Gerald Mann, which will take place later this week. Rev. Mann, a retired clergy member of the Annual Conference, died unexpectedly shortly before the start of the Annual Conference session.

Bishop Lee resumed consideration of **Action Item 14**.

Lawrence McGuin **moved the previous question**. The motion to close debate was **approved**.

Action Item 14 was **defeated**.

Tim Vanden Langenberg, chairperson of the **Conference Petitions Committee**, presented information about the process by which the conference will discuss petitions to General Conference. The Conference will be discussing the petitions tonight and tomorrow, and voting on them on Wednesday.

Following the discussion of Petitions 1 through 11, Bishop Lee announced the results of **General Conference Ballot 4**. Susanne Burwell (Clergy) was **elected**.

Following the singing of ‘Come and Find the Quiet Center,’ **General Conference Ballot 5** was taken. Clergy and Laity each voted for 3 candidates.

The secretary read announcements.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference for the evening at 9:45 p.m.

Tuesday Morning, June 12, 2007

Members of the conference gathered in the plenary area at 8:15 a.m. for a time of singing, which was led by Conference Music Leaders Brian Wilson and Leon Lewis.

Bishop Lee called the conference to order at 8:37 a.m.

Mary Hedgcock, a retired Deacon in Full Connection, presented a message about the ‘Ministry of Word and Service’ celebrating the ministry of Deacons in Full Connection.

Bishop Lee read the results of **General Conference Ballot 5**. Sam Royappa (Clergy) was **elected**. Becky Foster, Justin Lowe and Rick Kindschi (Lay) were **elected**. This completes the Lay Delegation to General Conference.

Following the singing of ‘Come and Find the Quiet Center,’ **Laity Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 1** and **Clergy General Conference Ballot 6** were taken. Laity voted for 5 candidates. Clergy voted for 2 candidates.

Bishop Lee reported the results of Monday’s ingathering and the offerings taken at the Ordination and Opening Worship offerings. The final results will be posted on the conference website and printed in the 2007 Conference Journal.

Deborah Thompson presented the **monitoring report** on behalf of the Commission on Religion and Race and the Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

She presented **Action Item 24: Resolution on Recognizing the Legacy of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.** It was **approved**.

Julie Mieke, president of the **Conference United Methodist Women**, presented **Action Item 4: United Methodist Women’s Sunday**.

A motion was made to **call the previous question**. The **motion to close debate** was **approved**.

Action Item 4 was **approved**.

Bill Helwig, President of the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation, presented **Action Item 9: Designation of Earnings from the “New Ministries Fund.”** It was **approved**.

Bishop Lee shared information about why Bishop Jose Quipungo of the East Angola Annual Conference, who was scheduled to be the preacher at this evening’s Commissioning Service, was unable to attend the conference session.

Megan Cotton, the **Lina McCord Black College Fund Representative** for 2007, bought greetings and shared about the ministry of the 11 historically black colleges related to The United Methodist Church. She is a student at Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Amanda Stein, Chairperson of the Board of Church and Society, presented **Action Item 15: Peace Resolution 1 – 2007**, noting editorial corrections which will be printed in the Conference Journal. **Action Item 15 was approved as edited.**

She presented **Action Item 16: Peace Resolution 2 – 2007.**

George Jay **moved the previous question** on Action Item 16. **The motion to close debate was approved.**

Action Item 16 was defeated.

Ken Rheingans raised a number of questions about actions that were taken or referred by the 2006 Annual Conference Session which were to be reported back to the 2007 Conference Session.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference for a 5 minute break.

Following the break Bishop Lee introduced Jon Furlow, one of our conference chancellors, who is present on the stage today.

The Bishop read the results of **Clergy General Conference Ballot 6**. There was no election.

Bishop Lee offered prayer, and **Clergy General Conference Ballot 7** was taken. According to the procedure approved when Action Item 19 was adopted, the two persons who receive the most votes on this ballot will be elected to complete the clergy general conference delegation.

The secretary read announcements.

Bishop Lee recessed the Conference at 10:10 a.m. for the Service of Remembrance and Healing.

Members and friends of the Conference gathered in the worship area at 10:30 a.m. for the Service of Remembrance and Healing. Gathering music for the service included the singing of the hymn ‘Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above.’ The offering taken at the service was designated to support the ministries of Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. Lisa King read the scripture lesson from 2 Timothy 4:1-8. Dr. Josephine Whitely-Fields delivered the sermon entitled ‘Finishing Well.’ Rev. Kevin Rice Myers, Conference Secretary, read the names of those 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. Additional names were added to the list of those remembered in this service by members of the congregation. Following the service of remembrance, those who felt a need for healing in body, mind, or spirit were invited to come forward. The District Superintendents, assisted by other elders and deacons, met those coming forward, prayed with them, and anointed them with oil. During this time of healing the congre-

gation sang several 'Hymns of Healing' The service concluded with the singing of 'It is Well With My Soul.' Rev. Howard Hintzman served as liturgist for the service. Music leadership was provided by conference musicians Brian Wilson and Leon Lewis.

Tuesday Afternoon, June 12, 2007

Bishop Lee called the conference to order at 1:40 p.m.

Nancy Moffat, Chairperson of the Cabinet, requested a moment of personal privilege. The members of the Cabinet expressed their thanks to Bishop Lee for her for work among us and gave her a bouquet of flowers in appreciation. The conference expressed its appreciation for Bishop Lee with a standing ovation.

Tina Itson, Conference Youth Ministries Coordinator and a Probationary Deacon in the West Ohio Conference, presented a message about the 'Ministry of Word and Service' celebrating the ministry of Deacons in Full Connection.

Hal Wilde, President of **North Central College** in Naperville, Illinois, and Lyn Pries, Chaplain, brought greetings from the college and shared information about the ministry of North Central.

Mark Fowler, Vice President for Vocation in Ministry and Associate Professor of Church Leadership at **Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary** in Evanston, Illinois, brought greetings from the seminary and shared information about the ministry at Garrett-Evangelical.

Fran Deaner introduced Rev. Dr. Scott Morris, a medical doctor and ordained elder in the Memphis Conference. Dr. Morris is the founder and executive director of the Church Health Center in Memphis, Tennessee. He spoke about "Promoting and Encouraging Clergy and Laity Health." The conference expressed its appreciation for his message with a standing ovation.

Fran Deaner, Chairperson about the **Joint Board of Pensions, Health Insurance, and Equitable Compensation**, spoke about ministries of Board.

He presented **Action Item 10: Resolution Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired or Disabled Clergypersons of the Wisconsin Conference**. It was **approved**.

He presented **Action Item 11: Resolution on Past Service Annuity Rate**. It was **approved**.

He presented **Action Item 12: Resolution on Minimum Compensation**. It was **approved**.

He presented **Action Item 13: Resolution on 2007 Formal Funding Plan for Pre-1982 Pension Liability**. It was **approved**.

He presented the entire report of Joint Board of Pensions, Insurance and Equitable Compensation. It was **approved**.

Sandy Kintner, Chairperson of the **Commission on Archives and History**, presented the '**Years of Service Awards**' to clergy who have completed 25, 50, and 60 years of service. The names of the recipients are printed in the reports section of the 2007 Wisconsin Conference Journal.

Bishop Lee reported the results of **Clergy General Conference Ballot 7**. Steve Polster and Mary Council-Austin were elected. This completes the Clergy General Conference Delegation. The Bishop reported the results of **Laity Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 1**. Diane Schobert, Diane Odeen, and Mike Mueller were elected.

Following the singing of ‘Come and Find the Quiet Center,’ **Laity Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 2** and **Clergy Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 1** were taken. Laity voted for 2 candidates. Clergy voted for 5 candidates.

Nancy Carmichael moved:

“that the cabinet survey the circuits and congregations to find out if the current number of District Superintendents are adequately meeting the needs of circuits and bring the results back to the 2008 Annual Conference.”

The motion was **approved**.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference for a five minute break.

Following the break, Lawrence McGuin, Chairperson of the **Implications Committee**, presented the committee’s report on the implications of the Virchow and Deaner motions on the 2008 budget and the budget process.

Sharon G. Cook **moved the previous question on all that is before us**. The motion was **approved**.

The Deaner substitute motion was **defeated**.

The Virchow motion was **defeated**.

Bishop Lee read the results of **Laity Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 2** and **Clergy Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 1**. There was no election.

Following the singing of ‘Come and Find the Quiet Center,’ **Laity Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 3** and **Clergy Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 2** were taken. Laity voted for 2 candidates. Clergy voted for 5 candidates.

Irv Case presented the **2007 Denman Awards** for the Wisconsin Annual Conference. The Denman Evangelism Award is given each year to a lay person and a clergy person in each Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church to honor outstanding work in the area of Christian evangelism. This year’s awards are given to Ron Smith (Lay) and Howard C “Skip” Robertson (Clergy).

Eric Taylor, President of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, presented **Action Item 6: United Methodist Youth Sunday**. It was **approved**.

He presented **Action Item 7: Youth in Mission and Ministry**. It was **approved**.

He presented **Action Item 8: Proposed Rule Change**, and noted editorial changes to the motion as it was originally printed in the pre-conference workbook. The updated version will be printed in the 2007 Conference Journal. **Action Item 8** was **approved as edited**.

Bishop Lee read results of **Clergy Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 2**. Wesley White and Amanda Stein were **elected**.

Following the singing of 'Come and Find the Quiet Center,' **Clergy Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 3** was taken. Clergy voted for 3 candidates.

Bishop Lee announced the results of the offering for the youth service fund that was taken yesterday afternoon, and the offering taken this morning for the ministries of Red Bird Missionary Conference. All offering totals will be published in the 2007 Conference Journal.

The secretary read announcements.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference for the evening meal at 4:40 p.m.

Tuesday Evening, June 12, 2007

Members and friends of the Conference gathered in the worship area at 6:30 P.M. for The Service for Celebration of Ministries. The service began with the processional hymn, 'Gather Us In.' Josh Pegram, representing this year's group of candidates for commissioning, and Dale Hanaman, representing this year's group of retirees, led the call to worship and opening prayer. Richard Strait, Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry, and Kevin Rice Myers, Executive Secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry, presented the following candidates for Commissioning:

To be Commissioned for the Ministry of a Deacon

Amihan Robin Valdez Barker

To be Commissioned for the Ministry of an Elder

William A. Busch

Kyochul Shin

Joshua Douglas Pegram

Mi-Sook Yoo

Gail Mitchell, Chairperson of the Fellowship of Local Pastors, and Nancy Moffat, on behalf of the District Committees on Ordained Ministry, presented the following persons to be licensed as Local Pastors:

Gary Warren Benzshawel

Timothy Berlew

Kimberly L. Brumm

James Alvin Buchholz

Terry Dorenbusch

Rebecca Lynn Henke

Jeffrey A. Meyer

Gerhardt Miller

Kendall Eugene Schlittler

Patrick William Schultz

James Reuben Scott

Ana Luisa Mayorga de Chacon, Associate Member of the Annual Conference, and Kevin Rice Myers, Executive Secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry, presented the following person for recognition as an Associate Member:

Gail Jean Jitchell

Bishop Lee invited the congregation to affirm the reception of these persons into the ministry of the Conference. They did so joyfully.

Bishop Lee then introduced the following clergy persons who are retiring at this session of the Annual Conference:

Dwight Bastian
Richard Estrem-Fuller
Robert Foote
Tony Fuller
Dale Hanaman
William Jannusch
Jeanne Jones
Thomas LaChapelle
Lewis Lebakken, Jr.
Robert Linaberry-Charis
Carol McDonald
Gregg Meser
Carol Miller
Richard Miller
Larry Moody
Harry Naden
George Packard
Frederik Schulz
Velma Smith
Dennis Weis
David Werner

Bishop Lee invited the conference to affirm and express its gratitude for the ministry of these servants of Christ. It did so gratefully.

The congregation sang the hymn 'In Unity We Lift Our Song.' Dorothy Radley, Conference Lay Leader, read the scripture lesson. Rev. Stephen Polster, Assistant to the Bishop, gave the sermon for the evening. Following the singing of the hymn 'Love Divine, All Loves Excelling,' an offering was taken to support The United Methodist Church in East Angola.

Bishop Lee led the congregation in celebrating the ministries of the newly licensed local pastors. She then invited those who were to be commissioned as probationary members or recognized as an associate member to come forward. She asked the new probationary members the questions prescribed for commissioning, and they all responded appropriately. Each was Commissioned as a Probationary Member of the Annual Conference. Richard Strait, Chairperson of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, presented them with their Certificates of Commissioning and a gift on behalf of the Conference.

Bishop Lee then recognized Gail Mitchell as an Associate Member of the Annual Conference.

The Bishop invited those retiring to come forward, and led the congregation in a litany of thanksgiving for their ministry. Each of the retirees was given the opportunity to pass on words of blessing to those who were newly commissioned.

Following the singing of ‘What Gift Can We Bring,’ Jeanne Jones and Frederik Schultz, retiring clergy, celebrated the sacrament of Holy Communion. The retirees, along with the newly commissioned and licensed clergy, served the congregation. Following the Sacrament of Holy Communion Dale Hanaman, retiring clergy, and Josh Pegram, newly commissioned clergy, led the congregation in a litany for the Passing of the Mantle. Each of the retiring clergypersons then placed a cross necklace on one of the newly commissioned or licensed clergypersons. Bishop Lee offered the Dismissal with Blessing, and the service concluded with the recessional hymn ‘Forth in Thy Name, O Lord.’

Music leadership for the service was provided by Conference Musicians Brian Wilson and Leon Lewis. Members of the Cabinet participating in the service were: Rev. Nancy Moffatt, Rev. Jorge Mayorga, Rev. Dan Schwerin and Rev. Forrest Wells.

Following the ‘Service for Celebration of Ministries,’ Bishop Lee called the conference back to order in the plenary area at 8:40 p.m. The Bishop read the results of **Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 3**. Dorthy Radley (Lay) was elected.

Following the singing of ‘Come and Find the Quiet Center,’ **Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 4** was taken. Laity voted for 1 candidate. Clergy voted for 3 candidates.

Tim Vanden Langenberg resumed the presentation and discussion of the **Petitions to General Conference**.

Bishop Lee reported the results of **Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 4**. Steve Zekoff (Clergy) and Amy E. DeLong (Clergy) were elected.

Following the singing of ‘Come and Find the Quiet Center,’ **Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 5** was taken. Both Laity and Clergy voted for 1 candidate.

The secretary read announcements.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference for the evening at 9:41 p.m.

Wednesday Morning, June 13, 2007

Members of the Annual Conference gathered in plenary area at 8:15 a.m. for a time of singing led by Conference Musicians Brian Wilson and Leon Lewis. Following the singing, the conference thanked them for their ministry with a round of applause.

Bishop Lee called the conference to order at 8:30 a.m.

The Bishop announced the ingathering results. These results will be printed in the 2007 Conference Journal and posted on the Conference website.

David Wilkinson, a Deacon in Full Connection, presented a message about the “Ministry of Word and Service” celebrating the ministry of Deacons in Full Connection.

Bishop Lee read the results of **Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 5**. There was no election.

Following the singing of ‘Come and Find the Quiet Center,’ **Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 6** was taken. Both Laity and Clergy voted for 1 candidate.

Deb Ivanoff-Hastings, co-chairperson of the **Commission on the Status and Role of Women**, presented the monitoring report. She announced that the recipients of the **2007 Bridge Builder Awards** are Frank and Martha Kuhlman, and Kady Herr-Yang. The Bridge Builder Awards are given to persons who have been and are good bridge builders between men and women, lay and clergy, in the Wisconsin Annual Conference and in society.

Bishop Lee introduced our speaker for the morning, Judy Lyons, who shared with the conference thoughts about Mental and Emotional Wholeness.

Bishop Lee announced the results of **Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 6**. There was no election.

Following the singing of ‘Come and Find the Quiet Center,’ **Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 7** was taken. Following the procedure adopted in Action Item 19, the persons who receive the highest number of votes on this ballot will complete the Jurisdictional Conference delegation.

Petitions ballots were distributed by the tellers.

The members of the conference voted on each **Petition to General Conference** individually. Following the collection of the ballots, the secretary indicated that the results of this ballot will be printed in the 2007 Conference Journal and will be posted on the conference website following the conclusion of the annual conference session.

Bishop Lee announced the results of **Jurisdictional Conference Ballot 7**. Fran Deaner (Clergy) and Roger Kindschi (Laity) were elected.

Following the singing of ‘Come and Find the Quiet Center,’ the **Jurisdictional Reserve Ballot** was taken.

Brian Green-Young, representative from The United Methodist Publishing House, shared information about the ministry of the publishing house. He presented the conference with a check for \$10,800.54, which represents the Wisconsin Conference’s share of the proceeds from the publishing house for 2006, and which is designated to support the clergy pension programs of the conference.

Fran Deaner, Chairperson of the Joint Board of Pensions, Insurance and Equitable Compensation, moved:

“that the monies received from the United Methodist Publishing House (Cokesbury) be sent to the Central Conference Pension Initiative Benefit Fund managed by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits 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**.

Jeff Virchow, Chairperson of the **Conference Board of Global Ministries**, presented the **2007 Thelma Gregg Award**, which is 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 Teresa Trostmiller, of the Elm Grove: Community United Methodist Church.

He presented the **Disaster Response Awards** to Rev. Doris Riley Simpson and Rev. David Sharpe. This award is presented annually to recognize outstanding commitment and passion to God's mission through disaster response and relief.

Grace Cajjuat presented **Action Item 20: Resolution Towards Peace with Justice for Israel/Palestine.**

Jack Werner **moved to amend** the paragraph in Action Item 20 that begins "We therefore call upon" by deleting all of the paragraph that follows the word "investigate" and adding in its place the words "what, if any, action the Conference can take to contribute to the resolution of this issue." This motion was **accepted as a friendly amendment.** The paragraph as revised now reads:

WE THEREFORE call upon the Wisconsin Conference to form a study group to investigate what, if any, action the Conference can take to contribute to the resolution of this issue.

George Affeldt **moved to amend** Action Item 20 by adding in the final "We Further Resolve" paragraph following the words "local church," the words "and/or circuit." This motion 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.**

Following a hand vote on Action Item 20, Bishop Lee requested a standing count vote.

Action Item 20 was **approved as amended** on a vote of 336 yes, 267 no, with 54 abstentions.

Virchow moved entire report of the Board of Global Ministries. It was **approved.**

Tina Lang spoke on behalf of the Conference Episcopacy Committee. She indicated that the Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy has asked each annual conference to conduct a survey to create a profile of the annual conference and the bishop in preparation for Episcopal assignments at the 2008 Jurisdictional Conference. The survey will include input from designated conference leaders, as well as from randomly selected lay and clergy members of the Annual Conference. She urged all those who receive the survey to consider the questionnaire they receive prayerfully, and to respond when they are contacted by the committee.

Terry Kleppe, Lay Member from Manitowoc: St. Paul's United Methodist Church, presented **Action Item 21: In Support of Dental Access for Low-Income People in Wisconsin.**

Cindy Thompson **moved to amend** the motion by inserting the words "members of" before the words "The United Methodist Church" in both of the "Be it further resolved" paragraphs.

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

Joan Berry **moved the previous question.** The **motion to close debate** was **approved.**

Action Item 21 was **approved as amended.**

Bishop Lee read results of the **Jurisdictional Reserve Ballot**. Forrest R. Wells and Janet R. Ellinger were **elected** as clergy reserve delegates to the Jurisdictional Conference. Sheri Graeber and Erika Krueger were **elected** as Lay Reserve Delegates to the Jurisdictional Conference.

Dorthy Radley presented the message of the Conference Lay Leader, She recognized the District Lay Leaders and the members of the Board of Lay Ministry and asked them to stand. The text of her message is printed in the Conference Journal.

The secretary read announcements.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference for lunch at 11:50 a.m.

Wednesday Afternoon, June 13, 2007

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

Richard Whitaker, the only Diaconal Minister under appointment in the Wisconsin Conference, presented a message about the ‘Ministry of Word and Service.’ This is the 30th anniversary of the consecration of Diaconal Ministers.

Members of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries requested a moment of special privilege to express their thanks to Bishop Lee for her support of Youth Ministries in the Wisconsin Conference.

Allegra Zick requested a moment of privilege. She noted that this summer 16 million children who received free school lunches will face hunger, and suggested that the churches of the conference fill this gap and seek to find ways to help fulfill this need.

Lisa King, Conference Director of Finance and Administration and a member of the General Council on Finance and Administration, presented the annual conference with a certificate recognizing the Wisconsin Conference’s Commitment to 100% payment of its general church apportionments. She noted that 2006 was the 18th consecutive year that the conference has done this, and that we are the only annual conference in the denomination that makes its general church apportionment payments in 12 equal monthly installments.

She shared a video from Sandra Kelly Lackore, General Secretary of the General Council on Finance and Administration, thanking the Wisconsin Conference for its consistent 100% apportionment giving.

Cheryl Miskimen, pastor, and Barbara Marshall, lay member from the Holcomb, Jim Falls Charge, accepted the 100% apportionment payment recognition certificate on behalf of the Annual Conference. The Holcomb church paid 113% of 2006 Apportionments. King recognized all the churches that paid more than 100% of their 2006 apportionments.

John Sumwalt presented **Action Item 22: Resolution on Eliminating Seminary Debt**.

Lynn Scott **moved to amend** point 3 in the first “Be it resolved” paragraph of Action Item 22 by deleting the word ‘other’ and by adding “the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry Office of Loans & Scholarships.” This was **accepted** by maker of

motion as a friendly amendment.

Action Item 22 was approved as amended.

Rey Diaz presented **Action Item 23: Support of the National Hispanic Plan**, noting that the resolution should refer to the 2009 – 2012 quadrennium, rather than the 2005 – 2008 quadrennium. Action Item 23 was approved as edited.

Bishop Lee introduced the members of the **General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegation**. The conference greeted them with a standing ovation.

Bishop Lee recessed the conference for a 5 minute break.

Following the break, the members of the cabinet joined Bishop Lee on the platform for the **Reading of the Appointments** the 2007 Conference Year.

Bishop Lee recognized outgoing district superintendents Dan Schwerin and Forrest Wells. She presented them with gifts in appreciation for their work on behalf of the Annual Conference as Superintendents. The conference expressed its appreciation with a round of applause.

Bishop Lee introduced Sam Royappa and Gordon Lind, who have been appointed as new District Superintendents effective July 1, 2007. The conference greeted them with a round of applause.

Bishop Lee recognized Jane Follmer Zekoff, who is leaving the position of Director of Ministry and Outreach after nine and a half years in that ministry. The Bishop presented Jane with a gift in appreciation for her ministry. The conference expressed its appreciation for her ministry with a round of applause.

Bishop Lee then recognized Cindy Churan, Episcopal Administrative Assistant, and Steve Polster, Assistant to the Bishop, and thanked them for their work.

Sue Burwell, Chairperson of the **Conference Personnel Committee**, introduced Sue D'Alessio, who will be appointed as the Interim Director of Ministry and Outreach effective July 1, 2007.

Dan Schwerin, Superintendent of the Metro North and South Districts, presented **Action Item 25: Resolution on the Discontinuance of Richfield: Emmanuel UMC, Richfield, Wisconsin**. **Action Item 25** was approved.

Schwerin then led the conference in a litany in thanksgiving for the ministry that has taken place at Richfield: Emmanuel over the years.

Tom Lambrecht presented the following motion:

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Wisconsin Annual Conference directs the Nominations Committee to fill out the membership of the Conference Board of Discipleship as stipulated by Conference Rule 3.3.2d, with the goal of having the newly formed Board of Discipleship functioning by October 1, 2007, under the guidance of staff liaison Richard (Ric) Olson; and

Be it further resolved, that a primary criterion for persons selected for the Board of Discipleship and its committees be demonstrated growth, effectiveness, and/or fruitfulness in the relevant aspects of ministry.

Jane Follmer Zekoff and Sue D'Alessio **suggested** that the date and staff assignment requirements in the original motion should be eliminated, and this was **accepted as a friendly amendment** by the maker of the motion.

Warren Waddell **moved to amend** the motion to add someone from Board of Discipleship to the Strategic Planning Committee to see where the Board of Discipleship fits into the strategic plan.

This motion was also **accepted as friendly amendment**.

John Carroll **moved the previous question**. The **motion to close debate** was **approved**.

The **Lambrecht motion as amended** was **defeated**.

Roger Kindschi moved "that we reinstate the Board of Discipleship effective January 1, 2008. The Board will be composed of 5 individuals representing Board of Discipleship ministries."

The Kindschi motion was **defeated**.

Gary Miller **moved** to "move the agenda forward." The motion was **approved**.

Amy JamesonYackovich, Chairperson of the Program and Arrangements Committee, presented **Action Item 5: Resolution on "A Day of Witness and Deed."**

Peter Murray **move to amend** Action Item 5 by adding the words "per month" following "one full day" in the first "Be It Resolved" paragraph. The **motion to amend** was **defeated**.

Action Item 5 was **approved as printed**.

Amanda Stein requested prayer for the people of Guatemala, which has reportedly suffered a major earthquake. Bishop Lee offered prayer.

Jack Werner, Chairperson of the Council on Finance and Administration, presented the **Action Item 17: 2008 Proposed Budget**.

Jeff Nicholas **moved to suspend the rules** in order to eliminate conference policy 10.4.4.

The **motion to suspend the rules** was **defeated**.

Action Item 17: 2008 Proposed Budget was **approved as presented**.

Dan Schwerin requested a **moment of personal privilege** in order to present the "Lance Herrick Hawaiian Shirt" - given to a colleague who challenges us - back to Jeff Virchow, who had originally presented it to him.

Andy Oren, Chairperson of the Nominations Committee, presented the **2007-2008 Nominations Report**. He **moved** to accept the printed nominations report, with corrections and additions. The motion was **approved**.

Oren **moved** "to allow the Nominations Committee to fill any vacancies that may occur during the year." The motion was **approved**.

Amy Jameson Yackovich, Chairperson of the **Program and Arrangements Committee**, expressed her thanks to all of those who have worked so hard to make this 2007 Annual Conference Session a success.

She announced that the 2008 Annual Conference Session will be held June 8-11, 2008 at the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center.

Bishop Lee expressed her appreciation for all those who have helped with this session of the Annual Conference.

Bishop Lee then shared a video which describes the Hurricane Katrina Recovery Efforts of The United Methodist Church.

Immediately following the conclusion of the plenary session, the Conference entered into a time of **Closing Worship and Holy Communion**. The offering taken during the service was designated to support Continuing Hurricane Recovery Ministries in Louisiana and Mississippi. Bishop Lee, assisted by Tina Itson, celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion, which was distributed to all those present. Following the sacrament, Bishop Lee offered words of Blessing and Sending Forth.

The 38th regular session of the Wisconsin Annual Conference *adjourned sine die* at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 13, 2007.

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 10, 2007
3:30 P.M.**

Bishop Linda Lee called the Clergy Session of the 2007 Wisconsin Annual Conference to order at 3:30 p.m and offered words of welcome and greeting. She offered an opening prayer.

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

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 Clergy 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.

Keith Aurand, Debra S. Ivanoff-Hastings, Hyu-Jae Lee, Kyung-Sook Lee and Margaret Lybeck Smoak were elected as Clergy Members of the Annual Conference in Full Connection and granted Elder’s Orders.

Gary W. Cole, whose ordination as an elder was recognized in 2003 when he transferred into the Wisconsin Conference from the Evangelical Covenant Church as a probationary member, was elected as a Clergy Member of the Annual Conference in Full Connection.

Ebert moved **Question 28a(1): “Who are elected and commissioned as probationary deacons?”** Amihan R. Valdez Barker was elected as a Probationary Deacon and approved for commissioning to the ministry of the Deacon.

Ebert moved **Question 28b(1): “Who are elected and commissioned as Probationary members (under Paragraph 324)”** William A. Busch, Joshua D. Pegram, Kyochul Shin, and Mi-Sook Yoo were elected as Probationary Members of the Annual Confer-

ence and approved for commissioning to pastoral ministry.

Ebert moved **Question 27b: “Who are elected as Associate Members under ¶322 of the 2004 Book of Discipline?”** She introduced Gail J. Mitchell, who was elected as an Associate Member of the Annual Conference.

Nancy Moffatt, Dean of the Cabinet, presented the Cabinet’s response to **Question 17**. Those present in the clergy session read the cabinet’s response to Question 17 in unison. Forrest Wells asked for a moment of personal privilege. He informed the clergy session that he had just received word that a family of 6 who live very close to the Delavan UMC had been killed in an apparent murder-suicide. He asked for prayer. Following a time of silence, Richard Strait offered prayer for the family, the church, and the community.

Richard Strait introduced Kevin Rice Myers, the Executive Secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry. He noted that as of August 1, 2006, Kevin has been appointed three-quarter time as executive secretary of the board, and one-quarter time as conference secretary. He thanked Kevin 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 that the Judicial Council has invalidated the structure for this committee that was approved at the 2004 General Conference. Since the structure reverts to that approved in the 2000 Book of Discipline, it is necessary for us to elect this re-constituted committee at this clergy session. The Clergy Members of the Committee on Investigation are: Sue Burwell, Wendy Christiansen, Roger Clapp, Jill Quilling Connery, Kaye Glennon, David Busker, and Hyun-Suk Kim. The Lay Observers are: Jon Furlow and Debra Raasch. The Alternate Clergy Members are: Linda Vance, Jeff Virchow, Janet Ellinger, Barry Yarbrow, and Paul Yoder. The Alternate Lay Observer is: Eric Taylor. They were **elected**.

He presented **Question 18b: The Administrative Review Committee**, noting that it was necessary to take Mary Council-Austin off of this committee because her husband, Clarence, is now a Lay Member of the Board of Ordained Ministry. He added the name of Amber Wolover to the printed list. She was **elected**.

He presented **Questions 19 and 20** for information.

He presented **Questions 21a, 21b, 21c, and 21d**.

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

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

He presented **Question 22: Who have been discontinued as local pastors?** It was **approved**. Debra Bowen, Manuel Jimenez, Shane Chellis, and Paul Webster were discontinued as Licensed Local Pastors.

He presented **Question 24** for information.

He presented **Question 25**. It was **approved**.

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

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

Rice Myers presented **Question 41: Who have been received by transfer from other Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church.** He added the name of Karen Bankes (FL), from the California-Pacific Annual Conference, effective 7/1/2007. He invited those present who are transferring in to stand and be recognized.

He presented **Question 45: Who have been transferred out to other Annual Conferences.** He invited those present who are transferring out to stand and be recognized.

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

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

He presented **Question 48(a): Who have been granted the status of Honorable Location – Retired this year?** Stephen Getsinger had requested this status. It was **approved**.

He presented **Question 48b** for information.

He presented **Question 50b: Who have had their conference membership terminated by withdrawal from the ordained ministerial office?**, noting that Ronald R. Stelzleni had voluntarily chosen to surrender his credentials. It was **approved**.

He presented **Question 52c: What clergy members have died during the year?** He noted that Bishop David Lawson, Bishop of the Wisconsin Conference from 1984 – 1992, passed away on May 31, 2007, and that Charles Rendell, a supply pastor, passed away on February 5, 2007. This information is included in Question 91. 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. Bishop Lee 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.** It was **approved**.

He presented **Question 55a: Those on Family Leave for Less than Five Years.** He added the name of Penny Robbins, effective July 1, 2007. 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 **Questions 55b and 55c** for information.

He presented **Question 57a.** It was **approved**

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**. Questions 59a and 62a were **approved**.

Rice Myers invited all those who are retiring this year to come forward and be recognized, noting that this year's class of retirees has collectively served The United Methodist Church for 623.5 years. The Clergy Session thanked the retirees for their ministry with a standing ovation.

He presented **Questions 59b, 60b, 61b and 62b** for information. He noted that there are now more clergy in full connection in the conference who are retired than there are clergy in full connection appointed to serve local churches, and that the number eligible to retire greatly exceeds the number of people entering ministry in the Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church.

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

He presented for information **Questions 66 through 70**, which relate to persons who are certified in specialized areas of ministry, noting in Question 70 that Thomas Brown retired last year and chose not to renew his certification.

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.

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. He noted that Young Jongshik Choe was received by transfer in 2005. This was recorded in the 2006 Business of the Annual Conference as printed in the 2006 Conference Journal, but it was not reported at the 2006 Clergy Session. He invited Young Choe to stand and be welcomed to the conference.

He noted that the dates for the 2008 Annual Conference Session will be June 8-11, 2008.

David Wilkinson shared information about the 10th Anniversary of the Ordination of Deacons in Full Connection and the 30th Anniversary of the Consecration of Diaconal

Ministers. He presented a small gift to Bishop Lee in recognition of these anniversaries.

Myron Talcott noted that there are now 279 retired elders. He moved “that the Board of Ordained Ministry explore the impact of the number of retired elders and other pastors on our conference and identify ways of discovering and affirming the variety of ministries offered in congregations and communities and report to the 2008 Clergy Session.” The motion was approved.

Richard Strait noted that Sam Royappa has served as Chair of the Order of Elders for three years. Because he is being appointed to the Cabinet as Superintendent of the Capital/Coulee region, he has asked to be relieved of the responsibilities of Chair of the Order of Elders. Strait thanked him for his work as Chair of the Order, and wished him well as he assumes his new responsibilities.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, Strait **moved** that Forrest S. Clark be elected as the new Chair of the Order of Elders. He was **elected**.

Lynn Scott asked that Forrest Clark share any thoughts he might have on his new position, and Clark responded by thanking the clergy for the faith they have placed in him. He is looking forward to this responsibility, and will commit himself to fulfilling 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.

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 2007 Wisconsin Annual Conference. It was seconded and **approved**.

The clergy session was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.



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LINDA LEE
RESIDENT BISHOP

STEPHEN J. POLSTER
ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP

CYNTHIA J. CHURAN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

CERTIFICATE OF ORDINATION AND COMMISSIONING

This is to certify:

That on Sunday, June 10, 2007, in the Superior room of the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center, located in Middleton, Wisconsin, pursuant to the action of the Wisconsin Annual Conference, I, assisted by Bishop Donald Ott, Rev. Richard Strait, Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry, Dorothy Radley, Conference Lay Leader; and the District Superintendents, ordained Keith Nicholas Aurand, Debra Ivanoff-Hastings, Hyujae Lee, Kyung-Sook Lee, and Margaret J. Lybeck-Smoak as Elders in Full Connection in The United Methodist Church.

That on Tuesday, June 12, 2006, in the Superior room of the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center, located in Middleton, Wisconsin, pursuant to the action of the Wisconsin Annual Conference, I, assisted by the District Superintendents, Commissioned William A. Busch, Kyochul Shin, Joshua Douglas Pegram, and Mi-Sook Yoo as Probationary Elders in the Wisconsin Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, licensed for Pastoral Ministry.

That on Tuesday, June 12, 2006, in the Superior room of the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center, located in Middleton, Wisconsin, pursuant to the action of the Wisconsin Annual Conference, I, assisted by the District Superintendents, Commissioned Amihan Robin Valdez Barker as a Probationary Deacon in the Wisconsin Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, licensed for the Ministry of the Deacon.

That on Tuesday, June 13, 2006, in the Superior room of the Madison Marriott West Hotel and Conference Center, located in Middleton, Wisconsin, pursuant to the action of the Wisconsin Annual Conference, I, assisted by the District Superintendents, recognized Gail Jean Mitchell as an Associate Members in the Wisconsin Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church

Linda Lee, Resident Bishop