

E. Daily Proceedings.

141st Session of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

Abbreviations: UMC-United Methodist Church; PNWAC-Pacific Northwest Annual Conference; PCH-Pre-Conference Handbook; BAC-Business of the Annual Conference. Names of ordained clergy are printed in italics.

Theme for 2014

What's Our Next Act? Our Story as Church in Three Parts

"Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:1-9

During the 2014 Session of Annual Conference we'll be looking at our life together as a church using the metaphor of a three act play. In the first act of this play we remember the covenant we share together, we renew and discover new relationships, and remember the saints who have gone on before. We know that each of these relationships is grounded in the God who seeks to be in relationship with us. In the second act of this play we focus on formation. We get real about the challenges we face internally (discipleship) and externally (changing mission field). It is also where we confront the challenge through action and through training driven by our common values. In the third and final act of this play we look toward the future and acknowledge the transitions that it will inevitably bring. Our key text from Joshua reminds us that God always walks with us regardless of how daunting things can look. Together we have a vision, and a mandate: to see disciples made, and communities and lives transformed!

Other scriptures pertaining to our theme include Exodus 6:2-9, Deuteronomy 6:1-9.

First Day – Thursday evening, June 19, 2014

Bishop *Grant Hagya* simultaneously opened both the clergy and the laity sessions at 7:02 pm, with prayer, via a live video stream as Bishop *Hagya* was offsite for a closed clergy session. While the laity met at the Washington State Fairgrounds Showplex, the clergy met at the Puyallup United Methodist Church. Following the prayer the live stream was closed and both bodies proceeded with their own business.

Laity Gathering

Welcome: Joan Holms welcomed 1st timers, Special Guest - Julia Frisbie - *Imagine No Malaria* Field Coordinator, and honored retiring Associate Conference Lay Leader, Pat Dodson.

Laity Session Opening Worship Call to worship and Opening Prayer, with reading from Joshua 1:1-9 and songs.

Nominations for Associate Conference Lay Leader were received and candidates addressed the body. Ballots were received.

Ministry Fund Drive report, *David Valera* introduced *John Brewer* to lead us in the final phase of the Ministry Fund Drive. *John Brewer* is to connect with and encourage the participation of local congregations.

Teaching Session: Roles & Responsibilities as Lay members to Annual Conference

David Valera presented the following: Laity are members, not delegates or observers, but have equal voice with clergy members. Laity primary roles are to interpret and communicate the vision, mission and programs the AC and the General Church to local church or Local Faith Community. Laity are responsible to Prepare for, Participate during, and Serve after Annual Conference. To prepare, study the handbook & other suggested materials; meet

with pastor, lay leader, and congregants to share and discuss issues that will be part of the business of the Annual Conference; attend district, cluster, and other pre-conference sessions; learn how the Annual Conference conducts its business, review the Conference Rules, develop an understanding of The Book of Discipline; attend the laity session, experience worship, participate actively in the business of the Conference, explore displayed resources, make new friends for connection and networking, record your experiences, participate in the evaluation process.

Introduction to People Resources to help us bear fruit for the future.

- Brant Henshaw provides perspective on Funding Ministries and accountability for legal needs, and financial and other statistics reporting, safe church policy.
- Patrick Scriven provides information to make this task as easy as possible. Sharing our story: be a thoughtful consumer, engaged partner, and a willing distributor of information. Showed where to find information online www.pnwumc.org, the Amen Report, Channels, www.pnwumc.org/news blog, News Digest by email, social media, Regional Media Center, www.umcom.org.
- Kristin Joyner, Chair of Connecting for Mission Ministry Group helps with local missions. Information sheet to take to congregation is provided.
- *Jenny Phillips* leads Creation Care, which undergirds all other ministries. All creation is God's and our responsibility.
- Newly creating an online photo directory for laity.

Election Results: David Reinholz elected Associate Conference Lay leader.

Clergy Gathering

The clergy met earlier in the afternoon for an emergent worship experience during which participants praised God and talked together about the essential elements of a recipe for making bread, and its application as a metaphor for the body of Christ. In the process, gluten-free flat bread was made for Holy Communion at the Ordination worship service.

Bishop *Hagiya* introduced *John Brewer* as the new Director of Fundraising for the *I See A New Church* campaign. Bishop *Hagiya* also introduced *David Richardson* as Assistant to the Bishop in the Pacific Northwest Conference.

Gregg Sealey, chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, apprised the clergy of a shift in thinking and operating at the BOM, including conversations about how clergy support one another and hold one another accountable. He offered the idea that a perceived improvement of merely 10% allows one enough hope to invest in themselves again.

Administrative Review Committee: Members were named and approved (see BAC #18 for the names).

In Remembrance: The names of those who died were read. Bishop *Hagiya* prayed in remembrance (see BAC #48 #68 for the names).

Retirement Approved: Two Deacons in full connection and fourteen Elders in full connection were approved for retirement (see BAC #53 for the names).

Retired Local Pastor: One Local Pastor was recognized as retired (see BAC #56 for the names).

Character and Conduct: Bishop *Hagiya* asked the District Superintendents and the clergy of each district to pass on one another's character. All were named blameless.

Full Membership and Ordination Report: *Brad Beeman* introduced three candidates for election as full members and for Ordination as Elders in Full Membership: *Meredith Lynn Dodd, Rachon Marie Hanson, Kevin Bordallo Lee*. Each was introduced, approved, and welcomed. (Their names are also found at BAC #32 and #34).

Brad Beeman introduced those who are continued as provisional members, all in preparation for ordination as elder (see BAC #29 for the names).

Provisional and Associate Membership Report: *Elizabeth Ingram Schindler* introduced two candidates, both on the elder track. Each was introduced, approved, and welcomed (see BAC #28 for the names).

Formation Committee Report *Tom Telfer*, chair, presented this report. He reminded clergy about the requirements for continuing education, including requirements the clergy have given themselves if they are to be appointed for the next quadrennium, and the availability of scholarships. Training events already on the calendar were named.

Conference Relations Report *Ann Berney*, reported:

- Reported those transferred in from other Conferences of the United Methodist Church (see BAC #38 for the names).
- Reported those transferred out to other Conferences of the United Methodist Church (see BAC #41 for the names).
- Moved the approval to grant honorable location this year (see BAC #43a1 for the names). Approved.
- Reported those granted honorable location previously (see BAC #43a2 for the names).
- Reported those granted honorable location-retired previously (see BAC #44.2 for the names).
- Moved the termination of conference membership terminated by withdrawal from the ordained ministerial office (see BAC #46b for the names). Approved.
- Moved approval of leave for those who are provisional or ordained members who have been placed on leave of absence (see BAC #50a,c for the names). Approved.
- Reported those who were granted medical leave since last annual conference session. (see BAC #52a for the names).
- Moved those who are to be granted medical leave this session. (see BAC #52c for the names). Approved.
- Moved those associate members, elders, and provisional members who are to be approved for less than full time service (see BAC #73a for the names). Approved.
- Reported those deacons in full connection and probationary deacons who are approved for less than full-time service (see BAC #73b for the names).
- Reported those who are appointed as interim pastor since the last session of Annual Conference (see BAC #74 for the names).

- Reported those elders, associate members, and local pastors who are appointed to extension ministries within the Connectional Structures of United Methodism, within other United Methodist Structures and Staff Members of Ecumenical Agencies, to ministries endorsed by the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and to other valid ministries under the provisions of paragraph 344.1d. (see BAC #77 for the names).
- Reported those who are to be appointed as Deacons and Deaconesses (see BAC #78 for the names).
- Reported those who are appointed to attend school (see BAC #79 for the names).
- Reported other ordained ministers from other Annual Conferences or Methodist denominations who are approved for appointment in the Pacific Northwest Conference while retaining their conference or denominational membership (see BAC #24 for the names).
- Moved approval of clergy from other Christian denominations who have been approved to serve appointments or ecumenical ministries within the bounds of the Pacific Northwest Conference while retaining their denominational affiliation (see BAC #25 for the names). Approved.
- Moved approval of those who are affiliate members (see BAC #26 for the names). Approved.
- Reported provisional or ordained members who have received appointments in other Conference of the United Methodist Church (see BAC #49 for the names).

Local Pastors Report: *Barbara Caviezel*, Registrar, Local Pastors

- Reported those who have completed the studies for the license as a local pastor, are approved, but are not now appointed (see BAC #20 for the names).
- Reported those who are approved and appointed as full-time and part-time local pastors (see BAC #21 for the names).

Certified Candidates Report: *Jan Bolerjack*

- Reported those who are certified as candidates for ministry since last Annual Conference, and those who are continued as certified candidates (see BAC #19 for the names).
- Reported that a Candidacy Summit Orientation to Ministry event will be offered to anyone interested in exploring a call to ministry. Also reported that candidacy psychological testing will now be done completely in Conference.

Diaconal Ministers, Certified Lay and Specialized Ministry *Kay Barokley*, registrar

- Reported those who are certified in specialized ministries (see BAC #59 for the names).
- Reported those who are certified as lay ministers and Hispanic lay ministers (see BAC #69 for the names).
- Reported those who have returned to active status from medical, study/sabbatical, or personal leave (see BAC #71 for the names).

Other Business

- *Bruce Smith* reported that the Gathering of Orders would be October 10-15, 2014 in Yakima, when our covenant with one another will be the subject of conversation.
- Reported that a significant grant has been awarded to the Pacific Northwest Conference for funding young people exploring ministry.

Following prayer, the clergy session was adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Second Day – Friday morning, June 20, 2014

Opening Worship

Opening worship on Friday morning helped us remember and repent of the unjust detainment, and incarceration of Japanese Americans at Camp Harmony, the unofficial name for the detention center located at the Washington State Fairgrounds during WWII on orders of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. People all along the west coast were given a week's notice, taken to Camp Harmony for "processing" and forced to live in internment camps at various locations in the U.S. and in our conference area specifically. In light of this history, this opening worship service recognized those who were incarcerated. Some were able to share their stories, including personal stories by some who were incarcerated in Camp Harmony and later went to Minidoka, Idaho. The Portland-based Minidoka Swing Band provided our worship music and reminded some of our Japanese-American guests of their time in the camps. Suma Yagi read aloud her original poem about solitude and lack of privacy. Choichi Shimizu from Blaine Memorial UMC read a chapter out of his newly penned book, "Cho's Story". 3000 colored cranes, made by our three Japanese-American churches, hung around the altar space, symbolizing peace, good luck, happiness and long life. The Communion servers were Japanese Americans who were incarcerated at one of the 10 concentration camps. Bishop *Hagija* and *Derek Nakano* spoke to the idea that the Japanese story is the church's story, and that we must look where we have been, where we are now, and determine where we are going, like the many Japanese who packed up their lives, put them in storage, and then rebuilt. Photo and memorabilia displays supported the remembrances.

The worship coordinator was Pastor Karen Yokota. The offering benefitted *Imagine No Malaria* with \$3,541.20. Following worship a reception was held honoring our Japanese-American guests.

10:00 AM Call to Order by Bishop

Statements of welcome:

Persons living with disability—Sharon Ryder, accommodations are available; please ask.

Episcopacy Committee, *Alissa Bertsch Johnson* affirmed Bishop *Hagija's* extensive travel and availability to the church and offered a moment of blessing over Bishop *Hagija* and his work.

Introductions were made by Bishop *Hagija*

- Bishop *Paul Leeland* and his wife Janet from Alabama-West Florida Conference
- Rev. Dr. *Kab-Jin Jeffrey Kuan*, President, Claremont School of Theology
- *Lowell Greathouse*, District Superintendent for the Columbia District of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference
- *Carlo Rapanut*, Conference Superintendent Alaska
- Paul Benz, Faith Action Network (FAN)
- Greg Nelson, Director of Communications for the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference

Conference Lay Leader Joan Holms brought greetings from Laity to Jan and Bishop *Hagija*.

Host District Superintendent *Sharon Moe* welcomed the Conference to the Tacoma District. She

expressed appreciation for the opening worship service and the liturgical decorations. She also offered up her pink flamingo hat as an incentive for the body to raise funds in support of the *Imagine No Malaria* campaign.

Conference Treasurer Brant Henshaw offered the hospitality and assistance of Conference staff, who were wearing bright green lanyards. Also through the Treasurer's office, Kate Palermini announced who the **safety advocates** would be and their purpose.

Initial Report of the Rules Committee: *Wes Stanton*, chair.

- Reference N Section of the Conference Journal for information on how rules are changed.
- Part 1: Report concerning Petitions and Recommendations: are the Rules Committee's responses concerning petitions and proposals coming before the Focus Session. 1 referencing PCH pg. 81 recommends placement of the new rule, if approved, in an alternate section of the rules since a fellowship is not an agency; 2 references PCH pg. 83, includes all parts needed; 3 references PCH Page 121, contains a financial implication which must be addressed.
- Part 2: Rule changes initiated by the Rules committee upon direct request. 1, 2, and 4 align more with Book of Discipline. 3 provides structure where none previously existed. 5 allows flexibility at the request of the part-time local pastors.

CFA Introductory Remarks given by Brant Henshaw

The new District Service Center is 60 days up and running. Charge Conference packets will be noticeably slimmed down, and \$200,000 is already slimmed out of the budget. Trends of giving through the apportionment include more churches paying 100% than in recent years, and more churches paying 0% than in recent years. CFA chair Scott Anderson introduced the budget.

Initial Nominations Report, given by *Dale Cockerum*

Missions Report, Joan Hackett reported with clever visual aids:

- 1 Lunch today with uncensored missionaries
- 2 Secretaries of Global Ministries, Joan Hackett and *Keith Hackett*
- 3 Studies for Mission U this year, including: How is it with your soul, people with disabilities and the church, Roma of Europe; scholarships are available, especially for young and first-timers
- 4 Corners of Mission celebration: Mission Fair, Banquet, Worship and Speaker; \$8; Bishop *Hope Morgan Ward* of NC AC and Chair of Global Ministries: Spokane Valley 4/9/2015, Yakima Wesley 4/10/2015, Salmon Creek 4/11/2015, Bothell 4/12/2015.
- 5 Columns of Mission: OGHs, UMCOR, Advance, Mission U, Covenant Relationship
- 6 Global Ministries Missionaries: Tara Miller—US2, Sarah Mudge—US2, Rachel Berry—Mission Intern, Janjay Innis—US2, Rev. Dr. *Lyda Pierce*—PNW Hispanic Coordinator, Rev. *Paul Jeffrey*—Missionary to the United States

Ministry Fund Drive report

Molly Harper Haines opened the report stating that to date we have raised \$600,000 in pledges & contributions toward the Ministry Fund Drive, that 12 local churches are participating in the Beta Vitality process, and that 4 new churches have been started this year. The Imagine

No Malaria project goal has been raised to \$1 million for the Episcopal area, and a staff person has been hired to see the process thru. Harper Haines is leaving the campaign, and *John Brewer* will begin the next phase of actively engaging local congregations.

Todd Shively reminded us of our goals in the campaign, to adapt to a new context; to call, equip, credential, and send leaders; be more intentional about creating disciples; creating a Leadership Center and seeding New Faith Community Development.

Bishop *Jack* and Marji Tuell were honored with photos and remembrances, and celebrated for their significant gifts to this campaign.

Kristina Gonzalez spoke about what the Tuell Center is, and how it uses training, coaches, and cohorts to ensure mastery of new skills and practical application in the local church. It uses the latest in demographic, sociological and theological research so we are continually learning and innovating within our context, and building our capacity to lead. The Beta Vitality Process is part of this effort, and its pilot 2-year process includes 12 congregations. She referred us to the website www.churchvitalityprocess.org password *beta*.

Curtis Brown, spoke about our goal of 48 new faith communities by 2024. He introduced 4 new faith community projects for 2014: Beguine Again Online, a new faith community at Lake Washington UMC, New Harvest Ministries at Toppenish UMC, Hispanic Ministry at Mt Vernon First UMC, and The Well at Seattle.: Queen Anne UMC He also regretfully informed us of two experiments that did not work out: Tacoma: Young People's Community at Tacoma First UMC and Vancouver: The Crossing.

Julia Frisbie, our new staff person for *Imagine No Malaria*, will take on the task of inspiring and encouraging the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area to reach the goal of \$1 million from the PNW Conference, to eliminate malaria in Africa. So far the death rate from malaria has been cut in half. She has resources, including herself as speaker and coach, for congregations to use in these efforts. Tom Wilson, from the NW United Methodist Foundation presented a \$25,000 check from the Foundation, funded by the generosity of two Eastern WA farm families.

Gloria Kynn invited everyone to complete a pledge card for the Ministry Fund Drive, and closed the report with prayer.

Second Day – Friday afternoon, June 20, 2014

Focus Sessions and **District Meetings** occupied the afternoon.

Awards Banquet – modeled after the Academy Awards, and keeping with our theme of “Our Next Act”, celebrations of ministry and accomplishments were made in a lively setting of balloons, music, and tuxedoed and sequined emcees Scott and Angie Ritchey.

Archives and History honors go to St. Peter's United Methodist Church in Bellevue, WA which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Pastors celebrating the 50th Anniversaries: *Milton Wolf*, *Pharis Harvey*, *Don Larson*, *Jerry Smith*, & *Edsel White*. Pastors celebrating their 60th Anniversaries: *Clyde Bachman*, *Bruce Parker*, *Frank Peterson*, *Walter Sauer* and *Donald Steeb*

Creation Care Award goes to Custer UMC congregation for its Creation Care efforts.

Martin Luther King Jr Peace with Justice Award goes to the Fellowship of Reconciliation also called F.O.R.

Ruth Award goes to: Mitzi Casey, Joyce Houser-Ferkovich

100% Apportionment honors go to many Churches. See Journal section I

Special Recognition goes to Rev. *George Abrams*, Disaster Relief work

Bishop's Award goes to *Craig Parrish* for lifetime service

Church Vitality Awards go to:

Seven Rivers: Ellensburg United Methodist Church in recognition of an increase in attendance by 13% in 2013 **and** God's New Generation United Methodist Church in recognition of attendance up by 19% in 2013

Tacoma District: Federal Way: Good Seed United Methodist Church in recognition of attendance increase of 35% in 2013 **and** Gig Harbor United Methodist Church in recognition of 18 professions of faith in 2013

Puget Sound: Pt. Townsend: Trinity United Methodist Church in recognition of Increase in membership, baptisms, and a building project launch **and** Mill Creek: Cedar Cross United Methodist Church in recognition of increases in attendance, baptisms, confessions of faith and involvement in the Beta Vitality Project

Inland: Coeur D'Alene United Methodist Church in recognition of increases in attendance, baptisms, a growing youth ministry and active participation in the Beta Vitality Process.

Vancouver: Rochester United Methodist Church in recognition of a 14% increase in attendance, 28,000 articles of clothing distributed and 5,000 individuals served by the Rochester UMC Community Closet **and** Castle Rock United Methodist Church in recognition of an increase in worship attendance, 55+ healthy food backpacks provided for children every week and semi-annual all church theater productions.

Seattle: Lake Washington United Methodist Church in recognition of outreach with homeless and low income families, welcoming them into the church's building for shelter and into the congregation's heart for life transforming relationships.

Second Day – Friday evening, June 20, 2014

Memorial Service & Holy Communion, followed by a reception

On the Altar was a special branch, from which hung short strings of Japanese Cranes. *Sbaron Moe's* sermon began with wisdom from Dr. Cornel West regarding transforming the tragedies of our history into life-giving legacies to the world, using a three-fold approach: remembrance, reverence, and resistance. Remember the slavery and the deliverance, revere the God who is absolutely trustworthy, and resistance to the forces of evil, of enslavement and death, fear and despair. As a Conference we have been called to be a presence, a force in the struggles against evil everywhere. The people remembered tonight gave their lives to that ministry, to the healing of people and relationships, to the speaking of truths about our history, our world, and our relationships. We remember how they offered themselves to the work of solidarity and struggle against the evils and brokenness that keeps the world captive. Memory is an invitation to the source of our life, to fuller participation in the now, to a future about to happen...Memory makes the now fully inhabitable. (David Whyte, *Consolations*).

Following the sermon, the Honor Roll of the Saints was read, and each family was given a string of the cranes as a remembrance. Holy Communion was served and the community was sent forth with encouragement and a reminder of God's faithful presence. The honored dead include: *Earl Leroy Dean, Marion Kline, Robert Henry Ortmeier, James Lewis Reynolds, William Harry Ritchey, Richard Allan Seiber, Daniel Pierce Smith*, Dorothy May (Ball) Johnson, Sheila D.V. (Habana) Gonzaga, Janet Mary (Fosberg) Reinmuth, Theous James Hull, Elsie Marie (Buchner) Brown, Estella Merle (Conklin) Davenport, Dorothy Eileen (Ewers) Kuntz, Eva Birgit Larsson, Oan-Ju Grace Liu, Marjorie Lavonne (Merideth) Nothdurft, Ruby Effie (Branch) Riehle, Corinne Mae (Dreibelbis) Whitlow, Doris-Lee (Smart) Dimick, Helen V. (Case) Gilmore, Merri Ann Hiatt, Stanley Whitaker Thomas, Erin Noel Walker, Barry Gordon Morris, *Bishop David Frederick (Fred) Wert, Bishop Wayne Kenton Clymer, Bishop Jack Marvin Tuell, Bishop Robert Crawley (Bob) Morgan, Bishop James Lloyd Knox*, Lois Josephine (Shank) Yeakel, Frances (Perry) Fitzgerald, Parkland United Methodist Church, Raymond United Methodist Church.

The worship coordinators were *Sue Ostrom* and *Todd Scranton*. The offering benefitted The Tuell Center with \$3,015.91. A reception was held following.

Third Day – Saturday morning, June 21, 2014

6:30am Bible Study – Rev. Dr. *Kab-Jin Jeffrey Kuan*

8:30am Call to Order

Instructions for using Plenary Cards and Points of Personal Privilege were given by *Jon Short*.

Procedural Motion Conference Secretary *Shirley DeLarme* moved that the printed program be declared the official program of the conference; that the Orders of the Day be those printed in the Daily Announcements and schedule; that the process used in the registration procedure be designated as the official Roll Call for the 141st Annual Session of the Conference; that the bar of the Conference be established as the platform and the designated seating areas supplied with tables in the Showplex of the Washington State Fairgrounds at Puyallup, Washington; and that the minutes of the daily sessions of the Conference, as kept by the Secretary, when approved and certified by the President and Secretary thereof, together with the reports of the councils, boards, commissions, and committees of the Pacific Northwest Conference of The United Methodist Church, be printed in the journal and be the official record of the 141st Annual Session of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. The procedural motion was adopted.

Volunteers for General Conference 2016 Bill Haden, chair of the Planning Committee for General Conference 2016 invited the body to: be in prayer, mark their calendar, gather a team, go to www.gc2016pdx.org. This General Conference will be hosted by the Western Jurisdiction and help from all sectors will be needed, with particular work by the Greater Northwest Episcopal area, which includes WA, OR, ID, AK.

Focus Session Report

Congregational Development

- Report #1A, receiving reports, approved
- Report #4, Election of Officers, approved

Focus Session Report**Leadership Development**

- Report #1A, receiving reports, approved
- Report #1B, petition AA-1 that Chairpersons of Conference Boards and Agencies are encouraged to schedule meetings for dates and times which enable the full participation of all members of that board or agency, lay and clergy; move concurrence, approved
- Report #2, petition AA-2 Resolved, Conference Rule XI: Miscellaneous, is amended by adding: Section 10: Fellowship of Certified Lay Ministers. (§ 601, 610, 703.12) (Rule II, Sec. 3 (d) (12), (221)) the remainder of the motion to remain the same. Move concurrence as amended, approved
- Report #3 Election of officers, approved

Focus Session Report**Connecting for Mission Domestic**

- Report #1A, move reports, approved
- Although reports #1A-D were placed on the consent calendar, reports #1B and #1D were removed from the consent calendar by signatures. Each item of report #1 was dealt with individually.
- Report #1B, petition CC-1, resolved that the Pacific Northwest Conference of The United Methodist church endorses Washington State Initiative 594, which would apply criminal background-check requirements to all gun sales and transfers in Washington State, with specific exceptions; move concurrence, approved
- Report #1C, moves that the Pacific Northwest Conference of The United Methodist church endorses Initiative 1329 which allows the people of Washington state to call for amending the U.S. Constitution to clarify that: 1) the rights of people protected by the Constitution of the United States are the rights of human beings only, 2) all citizens should have equal voice in the political process, and no person or artificial legal entity should gain undue influence over government as a result of financial resources, and 3) all political contributions and expenditures shall be publicly disclosed in a full and timely manner; move concurrence, approved.

Teaching Session, Bishop *Paul L. Leeland*, Alabama-West Florida (AWF) Episcopal Area, also current President GBPHB and chair of Finance for the Council of Bishops.

A challenge: to be faithful we need to be fruitful.

1st chapter Colossians: Christ! No more, no less. That's what I'm working so hard at day after day, year after year, doing my best with the energy God so generously gives me.

We cannot teach what we do not know, we cannot lead where we will not go.
We must be immersed and bathed in the presence of God.

Alignment—when we are all in alignment, all looking in the same direction, we have the flexibility we need in our local context.

First we have to make Disciples, our mission statement, which is based on the Great Commission to:

- Go make disciples
- Obey
- Baptize
- Teach everything
- Obey
- Go...

The Church mission: make disciples

AWF Episcopal Area expresses this through: S-E-N-D

- Seek disciples
- Engage context
- Nurture and prepare
- Send--deploy persons with context

Vision for every church to be invitational and missional

Many available tools: re-directing values

Produces examples of New Testament, Acts 2, church

Practicing the means of grace helps a congregation be the body of Christ:

- Prayer
- Holy Communion
- Bible study
- Small Covenant groups that watch over one another in love.

We will stop declining when we:

- Stop praying: "Lord bless our worship, bless our bible studies, bless us, bless us".
- Start praying, "Lord, bless others".

We need to go on God's time and schedule and be directed by the Holy Spirit.

New District Superintendent Strategy AWF Episcopal Area—missional strategist:

- Intentional relationship building, informal
- Teaching
- Preaching
- Coaching
- Mentoring
- Team building
- Vision casting

As the District moves, so the Conference moves. The DS starts 3 teams that pray and discern and work, and those three start 5 more, and the DS meets with the leaders of all to keep them in alignment.

Missional Challenge

When Organization in....

Legacy

Core

Emerge

Critical essential

Unchangeable Beliefs

Ministry Experiments

Some of the old critical essentials will not help us succeed in a multi-cultural, multi-religious, multi-social world. We are in the new reality of an Acts 2 time. We're going to have to let go of some of the critical essential things that helped at another time.

Strategy is to shift at the fulcrum. A minor shift at the fulcrum, over time, comes out at a hugely different place. What is the shift that needs to occur in our setting?

Philippians 1:5

"I'm thankful for our partnership in the gospel from the first day until now." --*The Message*

As a Bishop, he understands that those who cannot make the turn will be replaced. It is better to make no appointment, than to appoint someone who will not bear fruit. We work for God. The mission of the church to is to be our primary concern, not our own personal well-being. Fruitfulness is to be rewarded.

We are not to be in the world serving God, but serving God in the world.

Celebration of the Completion of the Central Conference Initiative

In 2000, General Conference sought to solve the problem of 12,000 UM pastors living outside the US, in Philippines, Africa, and Eastern Europe, who did not have pensions for retirement. Pastors in the Central Conferences thank us. Together we have raised \$25 million to seed an endowment, including a \$500,000 pledge from our PNW Conference paid in full from CBOP, Individuals, clergy, and congregations, \$160,000 already paid. The \$25 million goal was successful. Every UM active pastor everywhere in the world has a way to contribute to their own retirement, and every retired pastor and spouse is receiving one. Our PNW giving is being used as a model for other places. The gift of a t-shirt and commemorative ball were given to Bishop *Hagija* in celebration of this accomplishment

Reading of appointments for the Inland District

Reading of appointments for the Tacoma District

Retirement celebration

Video presentations shared words of reflection and appreciation from and about our retirees. In the tradition of Elijah, the mantle was passed from those retiring to this year's ordinands. Bookended and punctuated with music, the celebration ended with pizzazz in the throwing of streamers and cheers. The celebration was coordinated by *Todd Scranton*.

Third Day – Saturday afternoon, June 21, 2014

Invitation to United Methodist Day at the Rainiers Mascot Rhubarb invited everyone to worship, potluck lunch, and a game during Tacoma Methodist day at the Rainiers, Sunday, August 10.

Lay Leaders Address, Joan Holms, Lay leader.

Introduced the Board of Laity, comprised of leaders who represent laity in all variety of ways and in every corner of the conference.

At Laity session we celebrated the ministry of Pat Dodson, who served as Associate Lay Leader eight years, ending at the close of this Conference. Thank you. We elected a new Associated Conference Lay Leader from the Seven Rivers District, David Reinholz, whose four-year term will begin at the close of this Conference. Welcome.

Others stepping down included District Lay Leaders for Seattle, Barbara Moreland; Seven Rivers, Wendie Hansen; and Vancouver, Terry Neal. New District Lay Leaders were elected: Rosalee Mohney, Seattle; and Karen Fisher, Seven Rivers District.

Even more to celebrate: Joan Holms met laity around the Conference who are excited about the church. But, she also met others who don't feel equipped. "When compared to others we feel we come up short. If we don't have the degree, experience, or perhaps the gift, we step aside and let others." But we do have laity who have not given up on the idea that they can lead. And we have gifted trainers and opportunities for training. We need to avail ourselves and encourage others to go to a District Training Event, a Lay Servant Ministries class, or an online class at www.beadisciple.com.

This year at Annual Conference the Laity were trained and received clarity about their roles as Lay Members. They were encouraged to connect their charge with the Conference year around. They will share information they receive from newsletters, share resolutions passed and in progress, and they are creating a pictorial directory for networking. Now our clergy friends have a partner in the work.

My vision for our next act is that we will all recognize and utilize our gifts for ministry—a church in which lay and clergy partners work together to reach out into our communities and share God's love; a church where God, through us, is truly transforming the world.

Board of Ordained Ministry Report, *Gregg Sealey*, chair

The board is about credentialing leaders so that movement can happen. But movement can only happen if laity are primary and central to that movement. We're looking for thermostats, not thermometers.

Gregg Sealey introduced the chair of the Provisional Committee, *Elizabeth Ingram-Schindler*, who presented the provisional candidates: Richenda Fairhurst and Cody Natland.

Gregg Sealey introduced the chair of the Full Membership Committee, *Brad Beeman*, who presented the individuals to be ordained: Meredith Lynn Dodd, Rachon Marie Hanson, Kevin Bordallo Lee.

Bishop *Hagija* asked the Historical Questions of the Candidates.

Point of personal privilege: Washington Alliance for Gun Responsibility offered resources for talking about gun safety legislation. Also, the General Board of Church and Society has a quadrilateral-based document on the Church and Society table, along with curriculum to help churches have a conversation.

Focus Session Report**Connecting for Mission—Domestic, continued**

- Report #1D, petition CC-3, resolved that the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist church urges the introduction and passage of a bill that will provide penalties for any mental health practitioner who engages in Sexual Orientation Change Efforts (SOCE) for anyone under the age of 18; moved concurrence, approved
- Report #2, Election of officers, approved
Bishop *Haggiya* refers the body to Mike Regele's book, to be published this summer: *Science, Scripture, Same Sex Love?*

Focus Session Report**Connecting for Missions, International**

- Moved adoption of consent calendar, approved. Includes Report #1A receiving reports in PCH pages 60-67, Report #1B electing Global Mission Secretaries Joan and *Keith Hackett*, Report #1C continued support and partnership with South Congo Episcopal Area and Jamaa Letu orphanages, and Report #1D setting the conference Advance Specials.
- Report #2 Fossil Fuel Divestment, moved amended petition #DD-3 that now reads: be it resolved that local churches of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist Church use conference recommended opportunities and resources for studying fossil fuel divestment by the beginning of Annual Conference 2015. This petition was removed from consent calendar by committee for discussion in plenary. Move concurrence with amended petition, approved
Recommended resources: Fossilfreeumc.org and *The Sixth Extinction: an Unnatural History* by Elizabeth Kolbert
- Report #3 Election of officers, approved

Reading of Appointments for the Seattle District**Reading of Appointments for the Seven Rivers District****Introduction of CEO Wesley Homes, Kevin Anderson****Focus Session Report****Administrative Support**

- Report #1A, Consent Calendar, includes Report #1A-1H, covering petitions EE-2-8. Material included reports received in PCH pages 68-77, Clergy 2015 Minimum Compensation set at \$38,789, a schedule of moving allowances, setting a Past Service Pension Rate, setting a Retirement Annuity responsibility for a specified group, setting retirement grants for a specified group, granting Disability Benefits for a specified group, and approving a comprehensive funding plan for all 2015 benefit obligations. Moved concurrence, approved
- Report #2, petition EE-11, Parkland UMC Closure, move concurrence, approved
- Report #3, petition EE-12, Raymond UMC Closure, move concurrence, approved

- Reports #2 & #3 had been part of the consent calendar, but were removed by committee action. Separate prayers for each church were offered by their DS.
- Report #4, petition EE-9, amended: resolved that the Pacific Northwest Conference of The United Methodist Church opposes the use of church trials in this conference based on clergy sexual identity and clergy participation in same sex weddings and unions and most strongly discourages all members of our conference from bringing charges against others on such grounds. Move concurrence, approved

Reading of Appointments for Puget Sound District

Reading of Appointments for the Vancouver District

5 K Run – more than 120 runners, raised \$36,691.68, with the fastest run-time of 21 minutes.

Third Day – Saturday evening, June 21, 2014

Ordination Worship Service

Bishop *Paul Leeland*, Alabama West Florida Episcopal Area, preached, addressing the ordinands with others listening in. Churches are filled with criticism, but may we never lose the passion to serve. But it is not always lofty; sometimes our calling compels us to bend down and bend low. Three temptations (Henri Nouen) of a spiritual leader is to be relevant, popular, and powerful; must be met with a daily examination of conscience and a relationship with God of humility and service, able to put on the towel and bend low to wash feet. With ordination comes a new “you” that is being shaped into the image of Christ, and we need a shift our thinking from what God wants us to do and where God wants us to serve, instead to what God wants us to be—shaped by the fruits of the Spirit. This ordination is a sign of that God has a divine purpose for our days, that God’s Spirit has been sent forth to make all things new, that through your teaching many will pass from hatred to love, war to peace, worry to joy,...sanctification. We yearn to be like Christ in our service, climbing a ladder not of success, but of character, integrity, honesty, sincerity, generosity... Let us give thanks for the calling to set aside our lives for service in ordained ministry, out of our love for Christ, to allow our inward call to match the church’s outward call.

Three were commissioned into provisional service, and three ordained as elders. The worship was coordinated by *Lara Bolger*. The offering benefitted the Course of Study at Claremont with \$1,483.21. A reception was held following.

Fourth Day – Sunday morning, June 22, 2014

Prayers requested for: *John Hunsberger* requested prayers for Larry King, lay member from Ritzville, who suffered a heart attack this morning and is being treated at Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup; and *Dennis Degner* requested prayers for Liz Hecker of Randle, emergency surgery this morning for a brain tumor.

Prayers for Oso requested for ongoing re-building efforts.

David Valera announces the Board of Pensions will match funds raised for the *Imagine No Malaria* campaign up to \$100,000.

Reading of appointments for Extension Ministers

Focus Session Report

Administrative Support, continued

- Report #5, petition EE-10 the Pacific Northwest Conference and The United Methodist Churches of the Pacific Northwest Conference make the public statement that our Churches and facilities (buildings, gathering spaces and restrooms) are safe places for all regardless of gender identity and that transgender persons may use the restroom consistent with the individual's gender identity in our churches and affiliated buildings. Be it further resolved, the Pacific Northwest Conference and the United Methodist Churches of the Pacific Northwest Conference make efforts to designate at least one restroom in their facilities as "Gender Neutral" or "All Gender" when single occupancy restrooms are available. Move concurrence, approved
- Report #6, petition EE-1, Conference Budget, move concurrence, approved
- Report #7, Election of Officers, move concurrence, approved

Thank you to offering counters for doing complicated mathematics with donations, pledges, and gifts given for "the other" competitor in the *Imagine No Malaria* campaign.

Discontinued New Faith Communities—Vancouver: The Crossing, and Tacoma First: Young People's Community. *Curtis Brown* explained we are starting a lot of new faith communities, which is a risky undertaking. Some don't work. Dying communities, can close with dignity for rebirth and legacy.

Conference Youth Ministries, a video report from CONVO.

Final Rules Committee Report

- Part 1, Items #1-3 were addressed in Focus Sessions
- Part 2, Item #1 correcting the name of the Joint Committee on Clergy Medical Leave, move concurrence, approved
- Part 2, Item #2 Amend Rule II.1(a)(1) to read: It is the duty of every member and all provisional members and local pastors of the annual conference to attend its sessions. (§602.8). Excuses for all or part of the Annual Conference session for any reasonable cause may be granted by the district superintendent or the Bishop. The District Superintendents and Bishop shall forward lists of approved and unapproved absences to the Annual Conference Secretary. The Secretary shall refer the list of unapproved absences to the Board of Ordained Ministry. Move concurrence, approved
- Part 2, Item #3 Amend rule II, Sec. 3(b) to read (1) Two youth members, 12-18 years of age, from each district shall be selected by the Conference Council on Youth Ministries after consultation with the staff of the office of Young People's Ministries and district superintendent. Alternate youth members may be selected. (2) Two young adult members 18-30 years of age, from each district shall be selected by the Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries after consultation with the staff of the office of Young People's Ministries and district superintendent. Alternate young adult members may be elected. Move concurrence, approved

- Part 2, Item #4 Amend Rule I, Sec. 1 as follows: The Pacific Northwest Conference shall meet annually at the time appointed by the Bishop (§ 603.2) and the place chosen by the Conference or the Annual Conference Sessions Planning Committee (§ 603.3) with all sessions and events of the Conference being held in a fully accessible setting certified by the chairperson or a designated member of the Committee on the Full Participation of Persons Living with Disabilities. Move concurrence, approved
- Part 2, Item #5 Amend Rule IX, Sec. 2, by addition of a new subsection j: By their initiation, after consultation with the District Superintendent, a local pastor, appointed less than full time, may waive all or part of salary and benefits as calculated by the minimum salary schedule. Move concurrence, amended by the addition of words “all or part of”, approved as amended.

Final report of the Nominations Committee, as edited, approved

Reading of Appointments for those granted Medical Leave

Creation Care video

Bishop’s Hymn, sung on request of the laity.

Appreciations and Thank yous.

Setting the Date and Place for Next Conference

Bishop announced that the dates for the Next Annual Conference will be June 26-28, 2015 and that a suitable and available location is still being sought.

Disaster Relief: Thanks for supporting Oso with \$45,000 in donations. Per *George Abrams*, an unprecedented amount was given. The United Methodist Men distributed *Strength for Service* books to the rescue and relief workers.

Bishop *Hagija* reminded the body of the story of 1000 cranes, how following the Hiroshima bombing, a young girl, Sadako Sasaki, affected with radiation poisoning, attempted to make 1000 cranes in hopes it would prolong her life. While her life did end, children from across Japan continued to make the cranes, and even today annual pilgrimages are made and cranes brought for blessing of long life, happiness, and peace.

Fair Scones were provided to the body as a treat and a gift.

Closing Worship

While several generations of individuals told stories of their journeys of faith, others tied together pieces of a mantle previously adorned with ribbons representing all of the body. As the mantle was assembled, so our journeys come together and we are commissioned to go forth in God’s service. Before departing all were invited to lay hands on one another in blessing and sending. The worship service was coordinated by Karyn Kuan. No offering was taken.

The 141st session of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference adjourned following worship.

