

ADDENDUM



DO THIS and
YOU WILL LIVE!

DO WHAT?

2018 Annual Conference Session
LUKE 10:26-28

47th Session

Alaska United Methodist Conference of
The United Methodist Church

IV. DAILY PROCEEDINGS

(This addendum replaces p. 20-23 of the 2018 AUMC Journal)

IV. DAILY PROCEEDINGS

Thursday May 31, 2018

Lay and Clergy sessions were held simultaneously at 7:00 pm. The laity met at Seward Memorial UMC led by JoAnne Hayden, Conference Lay Leader and the clergy met at the Lutheran Church led by Bishop Elaine Stanovsky.

Friday, June 1, 2018

An opening service of communion and remembrance was held at 9:00 am with Rev. Dr. Amy Valdez Barker preaching.

Plenary Session #1 – 10:47a.m.

Opening

Bishop Elaine Stanovsky of the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area called the forty-seventh session of the Alaska United Methodist Conference to order. The conference bar was set through a motion by Rev. Karen Martin Tichenor, Conference Secretary.

The following guests were introduced, with lei's given to them by the Samoan delegates: Rev. Dr. Amy Valdez Barker (GBGM), Rev. Donna Pritchard (Oregon Idaho Conference/Commission on a Way Forward), Rev. Dr. Fred Shaw (Native American Course of Study), Rev. Dr. Bener Agtarap (GBOD) and Rev. Erin Martin (Oregon Idaho District Superintendent). The Bishop also acknowledged the presence of the Greater Northwest Area Innovation and Vitality Team: Rev. Dr. William Gibson, Rev. Dr. Leroy Barber, Rev. Shalom Agtarap and Kristina Gonzalez, as well as conference partners Tom Wilson (Northwest UM Foundation), Brant Henshaw (Treasurer) and Bruce Galvin (Pension and Benefits Officer).

Professional Ministries Unit (PMU)

Andy Bartel, chair of PMU, reported the action of the Clergy Session to ordain Charles Asiagnataq Brower as an Elder and receive him into full membership of the Alaska United Methodist Conference. Bartel explained that the second part of that action (full membership) needed annual conference action and proceeded to make the following motion:

Motion: The clergy session of the Alaska United Methodist Conference (AUMC) moves that the AUMC, meeting now in full session in Seward, Alaska, hereby establish the right of full clergy membership in the AUMC as provided by paragraph 586.4 of the 2016 UMC Book of Discipline. This action to be immediate upon approval. ***The motion was approved unanimously.***

Bartel made note that there will be no financial implications for the Conference on this action. The Bishop mentioned that full clergy membership is being granted only to Rev. Brower at this time and that the matter about transfer of membership for other clergy

serving in Alaska will be considered at a future time after careful study of all its implications.

Statistician (see report in page 66-75)

Linda Haynes, Conference Statistician, started her report with a prayer. She presented stats from the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) and then the 2017 AUMC stats. Points of note were: Membership continues to decline overall; Apportionment payments are going down.

Treasurer (see report in page 40-41)

Brant Henshaw, Conference Treasurer, gave his report. Noteworthy remarks were: "We are taking out of our reserves to meet our budget. We pulled about \$50,000 out of reserves to do what we needed to do. If this 2-year trend continues, those things we have chosen to do come into question. Where will monies come from? Our apportionment payments are at an all-time low. Thus we are going to have to make uncomfortable choices in the future. Where will the funding come from? Perhaps we need to find alternatives in funding."

CFA Presentation of 2019 Budget (see page 82-86)

Teri Erbele, Chair of the Council on Finance and Administration (CFA), presented the budget for consideration and study of the conference noting that the vote to approve it will happen the next day in Plenary 5. Erbele pointed out the following:

- There is a column of non-apportioned income. Comments in italics provides the explanation.
- There are two budget scenarios for the Conference Center (former East Anchorage UMC building): 1. do we keep current location, or 2. do we sell and pay office rent elsewhere.
- We anticipate the GBGM annual block grant of \$60,000 which primarily goes to fund moving expenses and mission aid to end in 2020. This is 10% of our funding monies.

A question of was raised about funding the expenses of alternate delegates to the 2019 General Conference Special Session. Erbele responded that there is no budget for this. Ideas were also raised about alternative sources of funding including renewing advance special drives within the conference and itineration.

Constitutional Amendment Ratification

Carlo Rapanut, head of the Delegation to General Conference, reported that due to errors in the language of one of the constitutional amendments presented for ratification in the 2017 Annual Conference sessions, a vote to ratify that amendment has been ordered in all of the annual conferences across the connection. He presented the amendment with the corrected language and announced that the vote to ratify will be done in Plenary 5.

Nominations (see page 7-10)

Carlo Rapanut, chair of the Nominations committee, presented the report and noted that the new nominations were highlighted and that there were still some vacancies. He said that the report was going to be acted on in Plenary 5.

Leadership Team (see page 34)

Fran Lynch presented her final report as Leadership Team chair. She invited the conference to reflect on our theme “Do This and You Shall Live” and how it relates with our journey to God’s preferred vision and future. She reiterated the conference’s need to be familiar with our conference mission statement. Lynch celebrated the fact that three (3) “kids” of the Conference are coming back to serve our churches (Murray Crookes, Emily Carroll and Bailey Brawner). She also reported that the conference through the LT, gave \$5000 to the Innocence Initiative through a Peace with Justice grant. Bishop Elaine expressed appreciation for Fran’s leadership.

Petitions and Rules Changes

Lonnie Brooks, secretary of the Leadership Team, presented the rules changes and petitions being proposed by the Leadership Team:

Rules Change: Proposal to move the Gift Receipt Policy (formerly R6.21) to DIVISION 7: POLICIES without substantive change where it will become Rule 7.60. **Approved**

Petition- Past Pension Service Rate: Resolved that effective January 1, 2019, the Ministerial Pension Rate and the Local Pastors Pension Rate shall be \$791 and that Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program be so amended. **Approved**

Petition- Retirement Annuity Responsibility: Resolved that the Alaska Conference accept the applicable annuity responsibility for the following local pastor retiring at the 2018 session of the Annual Conference.

Name	Disc. Par.¶	Age	Appt. Years	Effective Date
Charles Brower	357.1	72 and 9 months	4	7/1/2018

Approved

Equitable Compensation (see page 36)

Fran Lynch presented the report of the Equitable Compensation Task Force. Due to need for further discussion, action was deferred to the next plenary.

Announcements were made regarding lunch and the evening Dinner Cruise.

Lunch Break

Plenary Session #2 – 1:06pm

Board of Tellers

Karen Martin Tichenor nominated the following to serve as the Board of Tellers: John Gerrish(L), Joy Potts(L), Luke Jones(C), Nico Romeijn-Stout(C) and Erin Day(C) alternate.

Approved

Election of Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference 2020

The first ballot was taken with results as follows:

Ballot #1: Clergy (delegate)– Jim Doeppen **elected**

Lay (delegate)– no election

Equitable Compensation (con't.)

Discussion continued on the proposal. A question was raised about what constitutes a reasonable housing allowance. The response was that the parsonage standards were approved in 2017 and gives direction for this process. Other questions were raised. One question was raised about the cost of living upgrade and the discussion led to this motion:

Motion: The changes in cost of living allowance required by the adoption of the foregoing schedule will take effect in each affected local church on a schedule to be negotiated between the local church's SPRC and the AUMC Superintendent, provide that the period of time for full implementation of the change shall not exceed one quadrennium, beginning on July 1, 2019. Amendment: Particular attention shall be given to mission congregations in implementing this process. ***Motion was approved as amended.***

The whole report was accepted and approved for implementation.

Petition

Lonnie Brooks presented the following petitions on behalf of the Leadership Team(LT):

Petition: The LT proposes to the AUMC that any persons elected as members of the AUMC Delegation to General Conference 2020 who are not also already scheduled to serve as members of the Delegation to General Conference 2019 be designated as Reserve Delegate to General Conference 2019. ***Approved***

Petition: The LT proposes that the AUMC will neither pay nor reimburse members of its delegation for any of their attendance at the called Special Session of the General Conference in 2019. **Approved**

Episcopal Address

Bishop Elaine Stanovsky gave her address with Rev. Donna Pritchard, Senior Pastor of Portland First UMC and a member of the Commission on a Way Forward. The address focused on our possible ways forward as a denomination. Bishop Elaine also highlighted the growing work of vitality in the Greater Northwest Area and cast the vision of a “CrossOver Year” where she invited the conference to, not passively but actively wait for the work of the GC Special Session while engaging in the life-giving, life-affirming ministry that Jesus calls us to.

Break

Plenary Session #3 – 3:31p.m.

Election of Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference 2020

A ballot was taken with the following results:

Ballot #2: Clergy (alternates) – Dan Wilcox (13 votes) ***elected***
Lisa Talbott (10 votes) ***elected***

Lay (delegate)–	Jo Anne Hayden (27 votes) <i>elected</i>
Lay (alternates)	Lonnie Brooks 26 <i>elected</i>
	Fran Lynch 20 <i>elected</i>
	Kelly Marciales 17 <i>elected</i>

Lay Leader Address (see page 26)

Jo Anne Hayden, Conference Lay Leader, gave her address focusing on the role of the laity in this critical time in our denomination. She underscored the importance of lay leadership in all levels of the denomination.

Native Leader Address (see page 28)

Charles Asiaqnataq Brower, Alaska Native Elder, gave his address. He highlighted the importance of having a theology of climate justice. He called the body to confession for the sins of abusing creation and called for a renewed commitment to care for the Earth for the sake of all of God's creation.

Youth Address (see page 32)

Autumn Krueger, Chair of the Commission on Youth and Young Adult Ministries, introduced the youth and young adults who worked on the address in a pre-conference writing session. Geoffrey Woods and Caleb Rapanut presented the address on behalf of the group, calling for a more inclusive, open and welcoming church.

The session closed with evening devotions at 4:55pm followed by a Dinner Cruise out on Resurrection Bay.

Saturday, June 2, 2018

Plenary Session #4 – 9:06.a.m.

Election of Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference 2020

A ballot was taken with the following results:

Ballot #3: Clergy(alternate) – Bennie Grace Nabua (11 votes) ***elected***

Petition: Apportionment Cap (see page 48-49 of Pre-conference Handbook)

Lonnie Brooks presented the petition on behalf of the Leadership Team that caps the apportionments paid by any local church to the conference at no more than 25% of the total apportionments. Brant Henshaw gave background with statistics and discussion ensued. Action was deferred pending the request that copies of the stats from Brant's report be made available to the delegates.

Superintendent's Address

Carlo Rapanut, Conference Superintendent, gave his address where he focused on the need for the conference to take agency in conversations about our future as a missionary conference instead of waiting passively. He then invited the GNW Innovation and Vitality Team to share their work across the area.

Break

Plenary Session #5 – 10:33am.

Constitutional Amendment Ratification

Without questions from the body, the ballot was taken. Per the General Conference rules, the results were tallied but not reported. These will be reported to the Secretary of General Conference who will tally an aggregate total of all the conferences in the UMC.

Motion: Lonnie Brooks moved that action on the petition, “A United Way Forward” (found on page 51 of the Pre-conference handbook) be postponed indefinitely. ***Motion was approved.***

Petition: Apportionment Cap (see page 48-49 of Pre-conference Handbook)

Discussion continued on the petition after receiving copies of the statistics. ***Petition was not approved.***

Nominations (see page 7-10)

The nominations report was presented. Nominations from the floor were received. ***Report was approved.***

CFA and 2019 Budget (see page 82-86)

Teri Erbele reported that the CFA has elected Jim Alter as their new chair beginning July. After further discussion, the ***Budget was approved.***

Bishop Elaine thanked Teri Erbele for his leadership as CFA chair and Conference Secretary. She also thanked Ev and Teri Erbele for their ministry in the Alaska Conference for 10 years.

Delegation to 2019 Special Session and 2020 General and Jurisdictional Conference

Bishop Elaine presented the delegations in the order of their election:

2019 Special Session

Clergy: Carlo Rapanut, alternates: Dan Wilcox, Jim Doeppen, Lisa Talbott, Bennie Grace Nabua

Lay: Jo Anne Hayden, alternates: Jim LaBau, Fran Lynch, Linda Haynes, Lonnie Brooks, Kelly Marciales

2020 General and Jurisdiction

Clergy: Jim Doeppen, alternates: Dan Wilcox, Lisa Talbott, Bennie Grace Nabua

Lay: Jo Anne Hayden, alternates: Lonnie Brooks, Fran Lynch, Kelly Marciales

Carlo as head of delegation invited everyone to cover the delegation in prayer for this work. The delegates have already begun to meet regarding 2019 special session. Bennie Grace Nabua was asked to pray for the delegation.

Closing

Bishop Elaine Stanovsky thanked the Seward Memorial and Moose Pass congregations for hosting the regular session of the annual conference. She made note that Table Talks about the Way Forward that have been held across the area have been well attended and that the model has been used for other difficult topics. She again stressed that this is going to be a crossover year to prepare ourselves to engage in what our church is going through, but not laying aside the life-giving, life-affirming ministry that we are already engaged in. She said that a plan is being put in place to resource churches across the area on this.

Announcements were made and Thank you's were given to different people for their work of hosting and planning Annual Conference. Tom Wilson of the United Methodist Foundation of the Northwest shared that the Tom Dahl Legacy Fund had a 16.5% return in 2017 but in 2018 only earned a .36% return. He added that they have hired two new staff: Julia Frisbie, and Rev. David Nieda.

Date and Location of Annual Conference

Bishop Elaine set the dates of the 2019 annual conference session to be May 31-June 1, 2019 and opened the floor for invitations to host. Rev. Dan Wilcox stood up and issued an invitation for the conference to come to Christ First UMC in Wasilla. ***Invitation was approved.***

Janice Carlton asked for a moment of personal privilege to present a quilt to the conference as a goodbye gift from her and the Kenai/North Star UMCs. She said that the design was the vine and the branches inspired by last year's episcopal/superintendent talks.

The session adjourned at 3:33p.m.

A closing worship service of ordination, commissioning and reading of appointments was held with Rev. Dr. Fred Shaw preaching. Rev. Charles Asiaqnataq Brower was ordained an elder. Clergy who were new to the Alaska Conference were commissioned and appointments were read by Bishop Stanovsky and Superintendent Rapanut.