

DAILY PROCEEDINGS
228th Session
The Virginia Annual Conference
The Scope Arena
Norfolk, Virginia
June 13-16, 2010

SUNDAY EVENING, June 13, 2010

A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND HOLY COMMUNION

The 228th Session of the Virginia Annual Conference opened with A Service of Remembrance at 7:00 p.m. Worship leaders for the service were Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer, presiding; The Rev. Jung Pyo Hong, preacher; The Rev. Victor R. Gomez, liturgist; and The Rev. Nancy E. Robinson, deacon. Musical leadership was provided by the Annual Conference Band, under the direction of Ms. DeLyn Celec, Worship Arts coordinator at Shenandoah University. Special music was offered by Ms. Wonhee Kang, Director of Music at Culmore United Methodist Church in the Arlington District, and the Bell Choir of Trinity (Petersburg) United Methodist Church in the Petersburg District. The Rev. Olma E. Garibay and Ms. Sarah Beach presented the elements for Holy Communion. The Rev. Robert C. Blinn assisted in worship. The communion coordinator was The Rev. Christina M. H. Perkins. The worship team leaders were The Rev. Perkins and The Rev. Kristin Holbrook. The sign language interpreters were Ms. Christina York, Ms. Shirley Music and Ms. Virginia Bryant.

During the service, memorial candles were lighted on the worship table, a chime was sounded, and persons stood as The Rev. Robert C. Blinn, Conference Secretary, read the names of clergy, diaconal ministers, clergy spouses and lay members of the Virginia Annual Conference who had died during the previous year. The congregation joined in giving thanks to God for each of these faithful persons. Bishop Kammerer presided in the service of Holy Communion. The Rev. Robinson assisted at the table. Following the benediction, the evening session was adjourned.

MONDAY MORNING, June 14, 2010

CLERGY EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer called the Clergy Executive Session to order in Chrysler Hall at 8:32 a.m. Bishop Kammerer, The Rev. Herbert Brynildsen, Chair of the Order of Deacons, The Rev. Frances T. Cooper, Chair of the Order of Elders, and The Rev. Roger C. Dowdy, song leader, led in worship.

Bishop Kammerer described her joy in participating in the All Things New Capital Campaign. She stated that she and her husband, Mr. Leigh Kammerer, had pledged a greater level of support for this campaign than for any other cause in their lives. The Rev. Thomas P. Berlin, a member of the All Things New Conference Campaign Committee, urged the clergy members to make a pledge to All Things New during this annual conference session, in order to “get serious” about starting new faith communities in Virginia.

The Rev. Jeffrey P. Mickle, Chairperson of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, reviewed the categories of privileges for voice and vote in the clergy session. He moved that the bar of the clergy session be rows EE through R of the main floor. The motion was approved. The Rev. Mickle moved that staff members for both the bishop and the director of ministerial services, the sign language interpreters, diaconal ministers, and the conference chancellor be admitted into the clergy session with voice but without vote, and that the candidates for licensing, commissioning and ordination be allowed seating within the bar. The motion was approved.

Mickle led the members in the presentation of the Minute Questions. The entire printed booklet of *The Business of the Annual Conference* (Minute Questions), with additions and corrections distributed separately, was presented in an itemized manner. Members of the clergy who were retiring at this session of Annual Conference were invited to stand for recognition. Bishop Kammerer asked the historic questions of those persons who were to be ordained. Candidates for commissioning, ordination,

recognition of orders and transfer into the conference from other denominations were presented and approved. Persons receiving their first appointment as local pastors in all categories were invited to the platform to be recognized by the members. Those being transferred in from other United Methodist Annual Conferences were introduced. Appropriate recognition was given to all persons being received into a new relationship with the Annual Conference at the current session.

Mickle reported that two of the persons listed under Minute Question 42, whose discontinuance as probationary members had been involuntary, had chosen to contest their discontinuance. The Rev. Walter B. Failes Jr., chair of the Administrative Review Committee, reported that due process had been properly followed in each case.

A moment of silence was observed for members of the clergy and diaconal ministers who had died in the previous year. All matters requiring a 2/3 majority vote were passed accordingly. All matters requiring a 3/4 majority vote were also passed accordingly. The Rev. Mickle reported on quadrennial ethics training for clergy beginning in 2012. Bishop Kammerer affirmed the Virginia Annual Conference for attracting many qualified clergy for service within the conference. She dismissed the clergy session at 9:45 a.m.

MONDAY MORNING, June 14, 2010 LAITY SESSION

Ms. Shirley Cauffman convened the laity session by welcoming first time attendees and introducing members of the Board of Laity. The opening prayer was offered by Ms. Kathy Lutman, Lay Leader for the Winchester District.

Ms. Cauffman enumerated items of interest for laity such as the e-newsletter and instructions on joining LaityNet. Laity Sunday will be celebrated October 17, 2010, with the theme “Disciples Transforming the World through Presence.”

The Lay Servant Academy and the Scouting Fellowship at Blackstone were also highlighted. Ms. Cauffman concluded by naming the seven “conference essentials:”

- Sit within the bar
- Have the *Book of Reports* handy
- Use time wisely
- Note mission opportunities
- Note the reporting guide in the *Book of Reports*
- Attend the Laity Banquet
- Note the lay nominations form for 2011 elections for the 2012 General and Jurisdictional Conferences

Ms. Darlene Amon and Ms. Janet Bracey presented a skit on “What If Church Wasn’t Just About Sunday?” and rethinking our call as laity. Ms. Amon shared her own call. They concluded by reminding the laity of Isaiah 43:1, “I have called you by name and you are mine.”

The Rev. Marc D. Brown, Director of Connectional Ministries for the Virginia Annual Conference, reported on how the annual conference is living into and responding to “All Things New: The Virginia Conference—Fruitful and Multiplying.” The Rev. Brown challenged the laity to “plant and harvest.”

The Rev. Peter M. Moon, Dean of the 5 Talent Academy, reported on the progress of the Academy, and noted changes in meeting schedules to accommodate the present economy. The Rev. Moon challenged members with an invitation “to harvest.” He reminded them not to keep looking into the tomb, but to “turn around to see the risen living Christ.” Members of new and existing faith communities shared their vision for reclaiming our Wesleyan heritage of being a missionary movement of the Holy Spirit. These included Paul Cho, of Emmaus United Methodist Church at Stratford Hills (Richmond District); Doug Mayhew, Peakview Charge (Lynchburg District); Juan and Maria Negron, representing the Hispanic Lay Ministry Planting Network; Loche McClean of Lincolnia United Methodist Church (Alexandria District); and Brent Levy of RISE, A United Methodist Faith Community (Harrisonburg District). Music by the Annual Conference Band accompanied The Rev. Brown’s report, directed by Ms. DeLyn Celec. The Laity Session closed at 10:20 a.m.

PLENARY SESSION – MONDAY MORNING June 14, 2010

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer called the plenary session of the Virginia Annual Conference to order at 10:36 a.m., following gathering music led by Ms. DeLyn Celec and the Annual Conference Band. Bishop Kammerer called on The Rev. Raymond Fitzhugh Wrenn, who was attending his 70th consecutive session of Annual Conference, and Mr. Charlie Harless, the student youth chair of the Conference Youth Council, to share in leading the opening prayer.

Bishop Kammerer invited host district superintendents The Rev. Bradford L. Phillips of the Norfolk District and The Rev. John N. Vest of the Portsmouth District to the platform. The Rev. Vest welcomed members and guests to the Norfolk District. The Rev. Phillips added words of welcome. The Rev. Phillips introduced Ms. Sharry Swann, Lay Leader for the Portsmouth District, and Mr. Keith Willyard, Lay Leader for the Norfolk District, who each welcomed conference members and guests. Ms. Swann recognized Ms. Kathie Vest, wife of The Rev. John N. Vest. Mr. Willyard introduced Ms. Kay Phillips, wife of The Rev. Bradford L. Phillips.

The Rev. Phillips recognized Bishop R. Kern Eutsler and his wife, Eva (who were unable to attend the conference), Bishop H. Hasbrouck Hughes Jr., and his wife, Mera, (who would be arriving later) and Bishop Ray W. Chamberlain, and his wife, Martha. Bishops Eutsler, Hughes and Chamberlain are retired bishops and former members of the Virginia Annual Conference.

Bishop Kammerer invited members and guests to stand and sing the hymn, “And Are We Yet Alive.” Ms. Celec and the Annual Conference Band led in music.

The Rev. John N. Vest moved to establish the bar of the conference, consisting of the platform, the seating on the floor in front of the platform, the communications booth, the risers located in front of sections 101 through 103 and sections 120 through 122, sections 101 through 104, 119 through 122, and to Row P of sections 201 through 206 and sections 228 through 232, inclusive of wheelchair accessible seating in the concourse area of the sections and exclusive of the first 5 rows of section 121, which will be designated as guest seating. The motion was approved.

Bishop Kammerer called attention to recognition cards found in the members’ official materials, and floor microphones placed throughout the bar of the conference.

The Rev. Vest moved that the schedule printed in the *Book of Reports*, pages 5-7, be adopted, and that an order of the day be established for the worship services on Monday at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. and Wednesday at 11:15 a.m. The motion was approved.

The Rev. Robert C. Blinn, Conference Secretary, moved the election of The Rev. Brian K. Brown and Ms. Beverly Myers as assistant secretaries to the Annual Conference. The motion was approved. He moved the election of Mr. Neill Caldwell as Editor of the *Journal*. The motion was approved. The Rev. Blinn moved the election of the 2010 Annual Conference committees and tellers, as listed on page 35 of the *Book of Reports*. They were elected. The Rev. Blinn reminded members that proposed amendments to the agenda must be received no later than the end of the current session on Monday, June 14. The Rev. Blinn requested that members bring to the secretary’s desk in writing all motions made from the floor.

Bishop Kammerer stated that additional floor seating had been provided for this year’s conference session, and that she had arranged help in recognizing members who desired to speak from the seating areas at the far sides of the platform.

The Rev. Dr. Brenda J. Biler presented the report of the Rules Committee, found on pages 35-37 of the *Book of Reports*. The report was approved.

The Rev. Gregory L. Duncan, Sr., speaking in his role as a member of the General Commission on Religion and Race, accompanied by Ms. Claire Adams, laity co-chair of the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, described the process of monitoring the proceedings of the conference for inclusive language and representation among speakers, on behalf of both Commissions.

The Rev. James C. Sprouse Jr., Chair of the Conference Equitable Compensation Commission, presented the report found on page 38 of the *Book of Reports*. He expressed appreciation to the district superintendents for their help in providing adequate funding for pastoral ministry in every faith community. Recommendation 1, setting the 2011 Equitable Compensation Fund Apportionment, Recommendation 2, the minimum compensation schedule for 2011, and Recommendation 3, setting 2011

“floor” amounts, were approved. Bishop Kammerer affirmed The Rev. Sprouse and The Rev. Bruce E. Tuttle for their work on the Commission. Sprouse, in a moment of personal privilege, recognized Ms. Marilyn Traynham, who was leaving the Commission to serve somewhere else in the conference. Ms. Traynham greeted the conference.

Mr. James R. Bergdoll, President and Executive Director of the United Methodist Foundation of the Virginia Annual Conference, presented the report found on pages 98-99 of the *Book of Reports*. He noted that 2010 marked the fortieth anniversary of the Foundation. Ms. Lori Roberts, Chair of the Foundation, announced the establishment of the Rena and Raymond F. Wrenn Endowment Fund. Mr. Ronald L. Hardman, Vice-Chair, invited members to take a new DVD describing the benefits of church-related investment, featuring Bishop Kenneth L. Carder. Bishop Kammerer also commended the DVD. Rev. Tuttle, Cabinet Representative to the Foundation, recognized former directors of the Foundation during its 40 years, and invited them to stand.

The Rev. Sallye E. H. Bowen, President of the Conference Board of Trustees, presented the report found on page 39 of the *Book of Reports*. The Rev. Stephen C. Hundley moved the following amendment to the report:

“The Trustees of the Virginia Annual Conference shall report a plan to provide an episcopal residence which meets the Virginia Annual Conference Parsonage Guidelines to the 2011 session of the annual conference.”

The amendment was approved. The report of the Board of Trustees was approved, as amended. In a moment of personal privilege, The Rev. Bowen recognized Mr. Benham Black for his work on behalf of the Trustees and the Annual Conference.

The Rev. Jeffrey Mickle, Chairperson of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, presented the report and recommendations found on pages 39-40 of the *Book of Reports*. A recommendation requiring quadrennial ethics re-training for all ordained and licensed clergy and certified professionals was approved. Bishop Kammerer expressed anticipation for the Service for Ordaining, Commissioning and Licensing in the evening session.

The Rev. Alan G. Reifsnyder, Dean of the Bishop’s Cabinet, presented the report found on pages 40-41 of the *Book of Reports*. Reifsnyder expressed affirmation for the leadership of Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer. Reifsnyder moved the approval of the District Committees of Ordained Ministry, found on a gold sheet in the members’ official conference materials, and the district Boards of Church Location and Building, found on the violet sheet. These lists of leaders were approved.

The Rev. Reifsnyder presented Minute Questions 15 and 16, found in the members’ official materials. He led in prayer for the churches that were being discontinued or abandoned.

The Rev. Dr. Brenda J. Biler, superintendent of the Charlottesville District, presented the following resolution:

Be it resolved that Ivy Hill United Methodist Church on the Charlottesville District be discontinued July 1, 2010; that all real and personal property of the church be conveyed to the trustees of the Mt. Pleasant Charge (Mt. Pleasant UMC and Mt. Horeb UMC); and that the membership be transferred to Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church or to other churches as the members may select.”

The motion was approved.

Rev. Bruce Tuttle, superintendent of the Danville District, presented the following resolution:

Be it resolved that Westover Hills United Methodist Church/Danville District be discontinued June 30, 2010; that all real and personal property of the church be conveyed to the Board of Missions of The United Methodist Church—Danville District; that remaining memberships of the church be transferred by the District Superintendent to United Methodist Churches in the surrounding areas of the Church; and that any two members of the church’s Board of Trustees be authorized to execute according to ¶2539 of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2008 and deliver any and all instruments and documents necessary and proper to effectuate such transfer and to do and perform all other acts necessary and proper to carry out the intent and purpose of this resolution.

The motion was approved.

The Rev. James M. Tongue, superintendent of the Farmville District, presented the following resolution:

Be it resolved that Trinity United Methodist Church, Skipwith, Mecklenburg County, in the Farmville District, be discontinued June 30, 2010; that all real and personal property of the church be conveyed to the Trinity Cemetery Association, Skipwith, Virginia; and that the membership be transferred to Ephesus United Methodist Church or to other churches as the members may select.

The motion was approved.

The The Rev. John T. Martin Jr., superintendent of the Petersburg District, presented the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Virginia Annual Conference, meeting in Norfolk June 13-16, 2010, approves the discontinuance of Saint Andrews United Methodist Church, effective June 30, 2010, and that the memberships of Saint Andrews United Methodist Church on June 30, 2010, shall be transferred by the Petersburg District Superintendent to United Methodist Churches in the surrounding areas of the Church or church of their choice; and that the percentage of ownership of the parsonage of Saint Andrews United Methodist Church be yielded to the two other churches of the Greensville Charge (Independence and Mount Pleasant United Methodist Churches), both of Emporia, Virginia, and all other properties and other assets of Saint Andrews United Methodist Church (including the church, the parking area, the cemetery, and cemetery funds) shall be transferred to the Board of Missions of The United Methodist Church, Petersburg District, effective June 30, 2010, and that any two members of the Board of Trustees of Saint Andrews United Methodist Church are authorized and directed by and with the consent of the district superintendent and the pastor affixed thereto, to execute according to ¶2359 of the Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2008 and deliver any and all instruments and documents necessary and proper to effectuate such transfer and to do and perform all other acts necessary and proper to carry out the intent and purpose of this resolution.

The motion was approved. Minute Questions 15 and 16 were approved.

Bishop Kammerer and Secretary Blinn made announcements related to conversations during lunch on resolutions and Stop Hunger Now meal packaging. Bishop Kammerer announced that 10,400 meals had been prepared during a packing session by the Cabinet. She challenged the annual conference to prepare 100,000 packaged meals. She announced that a gong would sound at periodic intervals to signal progress toward this goal. At 11:45 a.m., Bishop Kammerer dismissed the conference for the lunch recess.

MONDAY AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION, June 14, 2010

“Singing Our Faith” began the afternoon session, led by the Annual Conference Band, under the direction of Ms. DeLyn Celec.

Bishop Kammerer greeted the conference at 2:01 p.m., and invited members and guests to prepare for worship. She welcomed The Rev. Vance P. Ross, Conference Preacher, to the platform. The Rev. Ross is the Deputy General Secretary for External Connectional Relations and Strategic Initiatives for The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, and a clergy member of the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

During worship, The Rev. Michael T. Maxwell and The Rev. T. Bryson Smith presented a skit entitled, “The Talking Trees.” The Rev. ReNe’e R. Teague read scripture. The Annual Conference Band led in music. The Rev. Ross presented a sermon entitled, “Authority Calling,” based on Mark 1:16-20. Projected photographs and questions inviting response followed the sermon. Bishop Kammerer led a pastoral prayer. The Rev. Ross gave the benediction, casting a fishing net into the congregation.

Ms. Shirley Cauffman, Virginia Annual Conference Lay Leader, presented the report of the Board of Laity, found on pages 93-95 of the *Book of Reports*. Ms. Linda Rhodes, chair of the Board of Laity nominating committee, placed the name of Shirley Cauffman in nomination to be re-elected as Conference Lay Leader for 2010-2012. Ms. Cauffman was elected.

Ms. Cauffman expressed her appreciation for the collegial working relationship offered by Bishop Kammerer. Ms. Cauffman invited Bishop Kammerer to join her in presenting the 2010 Laity Address as a dialogue.

Ms. Addie Haynes, president of the Virginia Conference United Methodist Women, presented the report found on pages 95-96 of the *Book of Reports*.

Mr. Lawrence Burian, president of the Virginia Conference United Methodist Men, presented the report found on pages 96-97 of the *Book of Reports*. He offered tribute to his predecessors in the office of president, and encouraged the conference to welcome Mr. Jim Green, new president of the conference United Methodist Men.

Mr. Charlie Harless and The Rev. Alan T. Combs presented the report of the Young Adult Leadership Initiative, found on pages 92-93 of the *Book of Reports*. A video celebrating the baptismal covenant accompanied the report.

Bishop Kammerer encouraged members to volunteer in the Exhibition Center to pack meals for Stop Hunger Now.

Bishop Kammerer introduced Ms. Sarah Wilke, publisher of *The Upper Room* devotional magazine. Ms. Wilke brought greetings to the conference, and presented a video in recognition of the 75th Anniversary of *The Upper Room*.

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer and Board of Ordained Ministry Chairperson The Rev. Jeffrey P. Mickle led the conference in a Service of Professional Certification. Mr. Timothy Sean Craft was certified for Youth Ministry.

The Rev. Patricia M. Meadows and The Rev. Brian K. Sixbey, co-chairpersons of the Evangelism Division of the conference Board of Discipleship, presented the Denman Award for Evangelism for Youth, for the first time in the Virginia Annual Conference, to Ms. Tessa Diehl of First United Methodist Church, Charlottesville, in the Charlottesville District. The Denman Award for Laity was presented to Ms. Sandra Walters of Epworth United Methodist Church, Exmore, in the Eastern Shore District. (The Rev. L. Raymond McGarr accepted the award on behalf of Ms. Walters). The Denman Award for Clergy was presented to The Rev. Ronald W. Mateer, pastor of First United Methodist Church, Martinsville, in the Danville District.

The Rev. Thomas L. Coffman, Executive Director of the Retired Clergy Housing Corporation, submitted the report found on pages 99-100 of the *Book of Reports*. He presented a video depicting some homes of the Corporation and their residents. He invited members to participate in "The Covenant of Gratitude," pledging to give one dollar for every probationary member commissioned in a given year. He expressed thanks to the secretary of the Corporation, Ms. Marilyn Lipieko.

Bishop Kammerer welcomed Bishop Clifton S. Ives to the platform. Bishop Ives is a retired bishop and a former member of the New England Annual Conference.

The Rev. F. Elizabeth Givens, chairperson of the Committee on Resolutions, presented Resolution 5, "Bishops' Foundation," found on the green addendum sheet in the members' official packets. Resolution 5 was approved.

In a moment of personal privilege, The Rev. M. Mochel H. Morris, president of the Goodson Foundation, recognized Bishop R. Kern Eutsler, Mr. Bob Carpenter and Judge Willard Douglas for their significant leadership of the Foundation. She also recognized all past participants in the Goodson Academy for Preaching.

The Rev. Givens presented Resolution 1, "A Call for 2012 GBPHB-authored Petitions to Be Sent to the Annual Conferences," found on page 100 of the *Book of Reports*. She amended the date by which the materials specified in the resolution were to be submitted to April 1, 2011. Resolution 1 was approved, as amended.

The Rev. Givens presented Resolution 2, "A Call to Prayer and Ministry for Military Families," found on pages 100-101 of the *Book of Reports*. The Rev. Helen Casey-Rutland moved the following:

Replace the words in paragraph 2 following the word, “families,” with: “through any present and future conflict; prayer for all civilians living in places of conflict, especially children and families whose lives are disrupted by war; prayer for all who work for the resolution or prevention of conflict through non-military means; and in keeping with the call of Christ, prayer for our enemies and for those who perceive us as enemies.”

Mr. Peter Prindle, the maker of Resolution 2, accepted the amendment. A motion to end debate was approved. Resolution 2 was approved, as amended.

Ms. Susie Wolf, Cokesbury Representative, announced that the United Methodist Publishing House had donated \$10,000 to the United Methodist Committee on Relief for Haiti earthquake recovery. She reported that while the Publishing House has given over \$50 million to clergy pensions over 60 years, annual contributions have been suspended due to current economic conditions. Ms. Wolf presented three Virginia Cokesbury Store managers to the annual conference: Ms. Rebecca Fahrig (Richmond Cokesbury), Ms. Julie Chapman (Chesapeake Cokesbury); and Ms. Ashley Martineau (Blackstone Cokesbury).

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer offered her recommendations from the Cokesbury Bookstore. These included *Eat This Book: A Conversation in the Art of Spiritual Reading* by Eugene H. Peterson; *Finding Jesus on the Metro: And Other Surprises Doing Church in a New Day*, by (Virginia elder) Paul Nixon; *More Power in the Pulpit: How America’s Most Effective Black Preachers Prepare Their Sermons*, by Cleophus James LaRue; *Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary, Year C*, ed. David L. Bartlett and Barbara Brown Taylor; *Triune Atonement: Christ’s Healing for Sinners, Victims, and the Whole Creation*, by Andrew Sung Park; *No Rising Tide: Theology, Economics, and the Future*, by Joerg Rieger; *The Wesley Study Bible*, ed. Joel B. Green and William H. Willimon; and *The Green Bible, NRSV: Understand the Bible’s Powerful Message for the Earth* (Harper).

Mr. Benham Black offered the following motion:

Since Ferebee-Halstead was discontinued by action of the 2007 annual conference as reported in the 2007 Journal at page 52, and since the vote to discontinue Ferebee-Halstead this morning was based on the mistaken belief that the 2007 action was unrecorded, be it resolved that the 2010 annual conference rescind the action taken earlier today discontinuing Ferebee-Halstead as unnecessary.

The motion was approved.

At 4:32 p.m., Bishop Kammerer announced a recess for dinner. Bishop Ives offered a closing prayer for the session.

MONDAY EVENING, June 14, 2010

A SERVICE FOR THE ORDERING OF MINISTRY

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer presided at “Responding to the Call—A Service for the Ordering of Ministry,” beginning at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. C. Douglas Smith, Director of the Virginia Interfaith Center, represented the ecumenical community. Bishop Kammerer brought the sermon, “Finding Jesus in Unexpected Places.” Bishop Ray W. Chamberlain and Bishop H. Hasbrouck Hughes participated in the service. Virginia Annual Conference members assisting in the service included The Rev. Amanda Miller Garber, The Rev. Leigh Anne Taylor, The Rev. Frances T. Cooper, The Rev. Herbert Brynildsen, The Rev. Jeffrey P. Mickle, The Rev. Beth C. Downs, Ms. Shirley Cauffman, The Rev. Edward R. Walker, The Rev. Alan R. Felumlee, The Rev. Dr. Youtha Hardman-Cromwell, The Rev. Sylvia Meadows, The Rev. Hyo Joong Lee, The Rev. James Daniely, The Rev. Bradley S. Dulaney, The Rev. Kenneth Stephen Waclo, The Rev. Gayle Thornberry, The Rev. Jonathan L. Bennett, The Rev. Creed S. “Bud” Davis Jr., The Rev. John R. Hall, Sr., The Rev. Brenda L. Laws, The Rev. Yunho Eo, The Rev. Robert E. Cooper, The Rev. Lorenzo D. Hill, The Rev. Michelle “Mitzi” Manning, and The Rev. Janine Howard. The soloist was The Rev. Hyung Il Moon. The keyboardist was The Rev. C. Milton Rodgers, III. Other musicians included Mr. Woody Gehlert, Mr. Dan McGruder, Ms. Debbie Montgomery, Mr. Carl Peake, Mr. Patrick Senense, Mr. Kevin Mitchell, and Mr. Alan Mason.

Bishop Kammerer licensed, commissioned and ordained the candidates as listed in the worship booklet for the service, including Ms. Elizabeth A. Nordan who was licensed for pastoral ministry. Following the prayer of thanksgiving, Bishop Kammerer addressed the newly licensed, commissioned and ordained clergy. She addressed the members and guests in attendance. She invited those feeling led by the Holy Spirit to inquire into Christian ministry to come forward and greet her during the singing of the final hymn. The new clergy members of the conference counseled with those inquiring into representative ministries. The evening session concluded at 9:17 p.m.

TUESDAY MORNING PLENARY SESSION - June 15, 2010

“Singing our Faith” was led at 8:15 a.m. by Ms. DeLyn Celec and the Annual Conference Band.

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer welcomed members and guests to the plenary session. With the sound of a gong, Bishop Kammerer announced that 70,000 meals had been packed by conference members and guests at the Stop Hunger Now exhibit.

Bishop Kammerer introduced The Rev. Marc D. Brown, Ms. Kathy Merry, and The Rev. John Briggs, as the Conference Bible Study leaders. The Rev. Brown is the Director of Connectional Ministries for the annual conference. Ms. Merry is a member of St. Marks United Methodist Church in the Richmond District and an organizational effectiveness consultant. The Rev. Briggs is the pastor of Powhatan United Methodist Church in the Farmville District. Together they are the authors of the recent book, *Does Your Church Have a Prayer?* The title of their opening study was “Leading by Following Jesus: Faithful Remembering,” based on Luke 15:11-32. Other scriptures used in the study included Matthew 4:18-32, Mark 1:16-20, Luke 5:1-11, Exodus 2:23-24, and Luke 1:54. A series of projected slides, including a video testimony from The Rev. J. Denise Honeycutt, was a part of the Bible Study. “The direction of faithful remembering,” said The Rev. Brown, “is the future.” Bishop Kammerer thanked The Rev. Brown, Ms. Merry and The Rev. Briggs on behalf of the Conference.

The Rev. Sallye E. H. Bowen, Vice-Chairperson of the Minutes Committee, presented the report of the committee, which had reviewed the minutes from the Sunday evening memorial service, Monday’s clergy executive session, Monday’s laity session, the Monday plenary sessions, and the service for ordering ministry on Monday evening, and found them to be in order. The report was approved.

The Rev. Bowen also reported, on behalf of the conference Board of Trustees, regarding a study by the Board of the episcopal residence in light of conference parsonage guidelines and the recommendations of the Americans With Disabilities Act. She reported that three options had been identified: renovating the residence, selling and purchasing a new residence, or selling the residence, buying land, and constructing a new residence. The Rev. Bowen reported that the Trustees have proposed waiting until “a more opportune time” when economic conditions allow for the best option to be pursued. In response to a question, Bishop Kammerer referred to the Trustees the possibility of renting an appropriate residence.

Rev. Marc Brown and Ms. Shirley Cauffman, Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Common Table for Church Vitality for the Virginia Annual Conference, presented the report and recommendations of the Common Table, found on pages 41-44 of the *Book of Reports*. A series of projected photographs accompanied their report. Ms. Beth Christian, president of the Board of Discipleship, and The Rev. Michel Q. Mayton, chairperson of Life Span Ministries, reported on the discernment process of the two agencies. Ms. Iris Gunter Smith, co-chairperson of the Commission on Religion and Race, and the Rev. Larry Jent, Chairperson of the Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns, reported on the discernment process of these two agencies.

Cauffman presented Recommendation 1.a., the conference Board of Discipleship’s call for each church in the Virginia Annual Conference to observe Christian Education Sunday with offering (described on page 51 in the *Book of Reports*). The recommendation was approved. Cauffman announced that The Rev. Gregory B. West had been approved by the conference Board of Discipleship as a general evangelist. Recommendation 1.b., presenting the conference Board of Global Ministries’ Advance Specials for 2010-2011 (listed on pages 53-54 of the *Book of Reports*), was approved. Recommendation 1.c., continuing the Relationship Agreements between the annual conference and Heart Havens, Inc., United Methodist Family Services of Virginia, Virginia United Methodist Homes, Inc., Virginia United

Methodist Housing Development Corporation, and Wesley Housing Development Corporation (described on page 54 in the *Book of Reports*), was approved. Recommendation 1.d., designating February as the month for special offerings for Heart Havens, December for United Methodist Family Services, and the weeks between Mother's Day and Father's Day for Virginia United Methodist Homes—the Samaritan Fund (described on page 55 in the *Book of Reports*), was presented for information purposes.

Rev. Brown presented Recommendation 2, which proposed changes in the conference rules concerning the Board of Church and Society, Life Span Ministries, the Board of Discipleship, the Commission on Religion and Race, and the Commission on Ethnic Local Church Concerns, found on pages 43 and 44 of the *Book of Reports*. The Rev. Dr. Youtha Hardman-Cromwell offered the following motion:

That the combined commission bringing together the Ethnic Local Church Concerns and the Commission on Religion and Race become the "Commission for Ethnic Discipleship," and that the references to "racial" on page 44 of the Book of Reports be deleted.

The motion was accepted by the two agency representatives and by The Rev. Brown on behalf of the Common Table.

Following a period of conversation, Mr. Nathaniel L. Bishop moved to table the portion of the report related to the proposed Commission on Race and Ethnicity, to allow additional conversation on the choice of a new agency name. The motion to table was approved. In response to a question from the floor, Bishop Kammerer ruled that the proposed new agency fulfilled the requirements of *The Book of Discipline* regarding a Commission on Religion and Race. Recommendation 2 was approved, with the exception of the portion tabled.

Ms. Shirley Cauffman, Conference Lay Leader, presented the report of the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team, found on pages 45-48 of the *Book of Reports*. She amended the report by stating that the nominees to the Board of Ordained Ministry were presented by Bishop Kammerer rather than by the Leadership Discovery and Development Team. She called members' attention to the section related to pages 45-48 on the "Addendum to the Book of Reports," found printed on green paper in their official packet. Ms. Cauffman moved, on behalf of the Leadership Team and its co-chair, The Rev. Marc D. Brown, the election of members of committees, commissions, boards and agencies of the annual conference, as found in the *Book of Reports* and the green addendum sheet, with the exception of the nominations to the Commission on Race and Ethnicity. The nominees were elected.

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer invited all persons serving in leadership through all conference boards and agencies to stand as able. Bishop Kammerer recognized the leaders with the following statement:

Dear friends, today we recognize the ministry of our conference leaders and consecrate them to their various responsibilities. We commend them to their work for the body of Christ through the Virginia Conference and pledge to them our prayers, encouragement, and support.

Bishop Kammerer offered a prayer.

Mr. Carl Moravitz, chair of the All Things New Capital Campaign Committee, presented the report found on page 48 of the *Book of Reports*. He sang as a solo verse 1 from the hymn, "My Life Goes On." He announced that the 2009-2010 portion of the campaign had raised in gifts and pledges from conference leaders a total of \$2.5 million, with an average gift of \$9,000 over five years. He thanked James D. Klote and Associates for its conduct of a state-wide campaign, and announced plans to conduct the campaign in the future through the office of the Director of Connectional Ministries. He thanked Bishop Kammerer and conference leaders for their enthusiastic support. Mr. Moravitz announced plans to continue the capital campaign for new faith communities in the coming years.

Bishop Kammerer declared a brief break at 10:15 a.m., in order to prepare for the retirement worship service.

"A New Commission—Ministry in Retirement" celebrated the ministry of those clergy and their spouses and a diaconal minister who were retiring at the 228th Session of the Virginia Annual Conference. Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer presided. The Rev. C. Edward Pruitt, Harrisonburg District

Superintendent, preached on the theme, “The Witnesses,” based on Hebrews 12:1-3. Music was offered by the Annual Conference Band, led by Ms. DeLyn Celec. Other Virginia Annual Conference officials assisting in the service were The Rev. Herbert Brynildsen, Chair of the Order of Deacons; Ms. S. Annette Pomeroy, Chair of the Fellowship of Diaconal Ministers; The Rev. Frances T. Cooper, Chair of the Order of Elders; and The Rev. Gayle Thornberry, Chair of the Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members.

With the sound of the gong, the goal of 100,000 meals packed for Stop Hunger Now was announced. Bishop Kammerer reminded speakers to speak slowly into the microphones. She also announced that offering envelopes for the Conference Offering were available near the entrances.

The Rev. Alan G. Reifsnnyder, Alexandria District Superintendent and Cabinet Representative to the conference Church Development Team, presented the Team’s definition of a new faith community, which had been distributed on cards to members and guests. The Rev. Reifsnnyder named the faith communities started in the past two years in the Virginia Annual Conference. He introduced the following new church planters expecting appointments in this session of annual conference: The Rev. Matthew Meisenhelter, to a new faith community in the Montclair area in the Alexandria District; The Rev. Amanda M. Garber, to the RISE faith community in the Harrisonburg District; The Rev. Regina Anderson-Cloud, to the Fort Lee area of the Petersburg District; and The Rev. William Heinzman, lead pastor of the Sierra Leone faith community, a multi-site ministry of Lincolnia United Methodist Church in the Alexandria District.

Bishop Kammerer authorized the extension of the session past the hour for the order of the day.

The Rev. Lee B. Sheaffer, Director of Conference Higher Education Ministries, introduced the presidents of the six Virginia Conference institutions of higher education: Dr. Jennifer Braaten, president of Ferrum College; Dr. John E. Klein, president of Randolph College; Major General Henry Hobgood (Ret.), president of Randolph-Macon Academy; Dr. Tracy Fitzsimmons, president of Shenandoah University; and Dr. William Greer, president of Virginia Wesleyan College. The Rev. Sheaffer presented Dr. Robert Lindgren, president of Randolph-Macon College and president of the Association of Educational Institutions. Dr. Lindgren brought greetings on behalf of the presidents. He thanked the annual conference for its support of higher education in difficult economic times, and pledged careful use of all funds given to the educational institutions.

Bishop Kammerer welcomed the Voices of Youth 25th Anniversary Choir to the platform for worship. She announced that with the close of worship, the morning session would be adjourned for the lunch recess. The Rev. Robert C. Blinn, Conference Secretary, made announcements.

During the worship service, Bishop Kammerer presided. The Rev. Vance P. Ross, Conference Preacher, preached a sermon entitled, “Awesome Building,” based on Acts 2:42-47. The Rev. Kristen M. Holbrook served as liturgist. Mr. Marcus Briggs-Cloud prayed in the Muskogee language.

The Rev. Robert W. Sharp announced that 26,678 health kits, 10,688 school kits, 5,341 birthing kits, 1,194 sewing kits, 1,899 baby/layette kits, 34 flood buckets, and 367 other kits had been received, for a total of 46,201 kits. In addition, \$80,559 had been received in cash donations for kits at this conference session. Mr. Ray Stearns, coordinator of the 2010 Holy Rollers Bicycle Ride, offered a prayer of dedication for the offering. The Rev. David J. Rochford, III, prayed in Portuguese. The Voices of Youth 25th Anniversary Reunion Choir brought special music, under the direction of The Rev. Barry S. Foster. An offering for ministries in Brazil, Mozambique and Northern Virginia was received. The Rev. Ross gave the benediction. For the Choral Benediction, other members of The Voices of Youth joined the choir on the platform. The worship service concluded at 12:34 p.m.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION-- June 15, 2010

The Annual Conference Band, directed by Ms. DeLyn Celec, led in “Singing Our Faith” at 1:57 p.m. Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer welcomed members and guests to the afternoon session.

Bible Study leaders The Rev. Marc D. Brown, Ms. Kathy Merry, and The Rev. John Briggs returned for the second session of their study, entitled, “Leading by Following Jesus: Faithful Equipping.” Scriptures used in the study included John 7:37-39a, Genesis 1:1, scriptural references in the Service of

Covenant Renewal in the United Methodist Hymnal, and Mark 9:30-35. Asking the right questions, putting relationships before tasks, and finding agreement are keys to helping people follow Jesus, according to Ms. Merry, The Rev. Briggs, and The Rev. Brown. Projected slides accompanied the study.

Bishop Kammerer introduced Ms. Una Jones, Assistant General Secretary for The Advance for Christ of the General Board of Global Ministries. Originally from Johannesburg, South Africa, Ms. Jones is a graduate of Rand Teachers College and an educator. Prior to her involvement with The Advance, Ms. Jones served as Executive Secretary for Mission Leaders of the General Board's Mission Education Unit.

Ms. Jones affirmed the strong support for mission by the Virginia Annual Conference. She presented Bishop Kammerer with an award for the highest level of giving to The Advance for Christ in the Southeastern Jurisdiction. Calling The Rev. J. Denise Honeycutt, Virginia Conference Director of Mission and Global Justice forward as well, Ms. Jones presented Bishop Kammerer with a second award, for the highest level of covenant missionary support in The United Methodist Church. Ms. Jones recognized The Rev. Honeycutt for her mission leadership in the Virginia Annual Conference. Ms. Jones presented a video about covenant missionary support and The Advance for Christ. She announced that the video is available at the website www.gb-gm-umc.org.

The Rev. Robert C. Blinn offered a resolution celebrating the leadership given to the Virginia Annual Conference by The Rev. J. Denise Honeycutt. The Rev. Honeycutt, who has served as the Virginia Annual Conference Director of Mission and Global Justice since 2000, is leaving that office to receive a pastoral appointment. The resolution was approved with sustained applause. The Rev. Honeycutt thanked the conference for its mission support and for its personal care for her and her husband, The Rev. J. Pat Watkins.

The Rev. Susan S. Garrett, Chair of the Task Force on Redistricting, moved the suspension of the rules to allow time for the report of the Task Force. The motion was approved. The Rev. Garrett presented a videotaped review of the work of the Task Force, which included maps, demographic data, references to the *Book of Discipline*, and comments by members of the Task Force. The Rev. Garrett presented the report found on pages 105-109 of the *Book of Reports*. She addressed questions that had been raised in response to the proposal. She moved the approval of the recommendation to reduce the number of districts from 18 to 16 following the 2011 session of annual conference. After a time of conversation, a motion to end debate was approved. The motion to reduce the number of districts to 16 was approved. Bishop Kammerer thanked the members of the Task Force for their distinguished work.

Mr. Clark Williams, Conference Chancellor, moved to suspend the conference rules in order to make the effective date of the resolution of the Common Table for Church Vitality, found on pages 43-44 of the *Book of Reports*, July 1, 2010. The rules were suspended for this purpose. Mr. Williams also clarified for informational purposes that the persons listed as nominees for Life Span Ministries on page 46 of the *Book of Reports* should properly be included with the conference Board of Discipleship on page 45.

The Rev. Gretchen O. S. Nelson moved that the Cabinet, in responding to the recommendation from the Redistricting Task Force, hold at least two listening posts on each affected district. The motion was approved.

Mr. Nathaniel L. Bishop moved to lift from the table the recommendation to merge the Commissions on Religion and Race and Ethnic Local Church Concerns. The motion was approved. The Rev. Clarence Brown and The Rev. Dr. Youtha Hardman-Cromwell moved

That the combined Ethnic Local Church Concerns and Commission on Religion and Race be named the Commission for Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy, and that this commission report to the 2011 session of annual conference its goals and objectives.

The motion was approved.

The Rev. R. Douglas Geeting, chair of the Site Selection Committee, presented the report found on pages 110-111 of the *Book of Reports*. The Rev. Stephen C. Hundley moved to amend the report to change the location in the years 2015 and 2016 from Hampton to Roanoke. Following a period of conversation, a motion to end debate was approved. The amendment was approved.

The Rev. Robert T. Casey moved to amend the recommended dates for future conference sessions to allow pastors to lead worship in their local churches. In response to a point of order, Bishop Kammerer ruled that the motion was in order as a recommendation to the bishop. A motion to end debate on the Casey amendment was approved. The amendment was not approved. Bishop Kammerer suspended action on the report of the Site Selection Committee until after the dinner recess.

Bishop Kammerer announced that the conference mission offering to date was \$180,500. The afternoon session was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

TUESDAY EVENING PLENARY SESSION—June 15, 2010

Bishop Kammerer welcomed members and guests to the evening session at 7:00 p.m. She reviewed the agenda for the evening session.

The Rev. R. Douglas Geeting, chair of the Site Selection Committee, moved the following:

That the recommendation to go to Roanoke in 2015 and 2016 be placed on hold until the Site Selection Committee and the Conference Planner can confirm and secure in writing all the information which The Rev. Hundley presented to the body.

In response to a point of order, Bishop Kammerer ruled that the motion was a motion to reconsider, and that the maker of the motion must be a member who had voted for the Hundley amendment. The Rev. F. Elizabeth Givens, having so voted, moved to reconsider the vote selecting Roanoke in 2015 and 2016. Bishop Kammerer invited Geeting to review reasons for reconsidering this motion. Responding to a point of order, Bishop Kammerer called for a vote on the motion to reconsider. The motion was not approved. After further conversation, a motion to end debate on the entire report was approved. The report of the Site Selection Committee was approved, as amended.

Bishop Kammerer invited Dr. Stephen S. Mansfield, President of the Virginia Annual Conference Historical Society, to convene the annual meeting of Historical Society. Dr. Mansfield called the meeting of the Historical Society to order. He presented the report found on pages 111-112 of the *Book of Reports*. He moved the election of the lay and clergy Historical Society Trustees, listed on page 111. They were elected. Dr. Mansfield declared the annual meeting of the Historical Society adjourned.

Bishop Kammerer reconvened the 228th session of the Virginia Annual Conference. She introduced a video greeting from The Rev. Jimmy Carr, executive director of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Administrative Council.

The Honorable Judge Willard Douglas, a member of the board of the Virginia United Methodist Housing Development Corporation, recognized the ministry of The Rev. J. Robert Regan Jr., president of the board, who was stepping down as president after 35 years of service to the Corporation. Judge Douglas presented The Rev. Regan with an engraved plaque. The Rev. Regan also recognized the service of Judge Douglas, and thanked the conference.

The Rev. Jung Pyo “J.P.” Hong, chair of the Clergy Compensation and Itineracy Study Group, presented the report found on yellow paper included with the *Book of Reports*. With the use of projected slides, The Rev. Hong commented on a variety of scriptural passages that shape the questions before the Study Group. The Rev. Hong invited others to join in this study.

The Rev. F. Elizabeth Givens, chair of the Committee on Resolutions, presented Resolution 3, “Coping with Crime,” found on pages 101-104 of the *Book of Reports*. She reported the concurrence of the committee with the resolution. Mr. Gene Mims moved to strike the phrase, “sanctions for simple possession of drugs,” from the last line of paragraph 2 of the resolution. A motion to end debate on the Mims amendment was approved. Following a standing vote, the amendment was not approved. Bishop Kammerer ruled a motion to amend the background portion of the resolution out of order. Resolution 3 was approved.

The Rev. Givens presented Resolution 4, “Tobacco Policy in Virginia,” found on pages 104-105 of the *Book of Reports*. She reported that the committee concurred with the resolution. A motion to end debate on the resolution was approved. Resolution 4 was approved. The Rev. Givens thanked the committee for its work. Bishop Kammerer expressed appreciation to The Rev. Givens for her leadership of the Committee.

Bishop Kammerer introduced Mr. James Gulley, a consultant with the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Mr. Gulley, who was trapped with his colleagues in the rubble of the January 12, 2010, Haitian earthquake, brought a personal testimony. He honored the memory of The Rev. Sam Dixon and The Rev. Clint Rabb, Committee on Relief executives, and the 230,000 Haitians who died in the earthquake. The Rev. Gulley acknowledged the offering of \$1.5 million by Virginia United Methodists toward earthquake recovery efforts. He urged conference members to learn about Haiti, to continue to give, to offer shelter to Haitian refugees, to go on Volunteer-in-Mission trips to Haiti, and to pray for the people and leaders of Haiti, especially United Methodist Church leaders.

At 9:15 p.m., Bishop Kammerer adjourned the evening session.

WEDNESDAY MORNING PLENARY SESSION - June 16, 2010

“Singing Our Faith” was led by “Men of Message,” a men’s trio consisting of Mr. Chris Cowel and Mr. Stan Schelhorn of Fairfax United Methodist Church in the Arlington District and Mr. Wesley Tweedy of Culpeper United Methodist Church in the Charlottesville District.

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer called the morning session to order at 8:30 a.m. Bishop Kammerer thanked the men’s trio. She also affirmed Ms. DeLyn Celec for her musical leadership, and the members of the Annual Conference Band.

The morning Bible Study, “Leading by Following Jesus: Faithful Encouraging,” was led by The Rev. Marc Brown, Ms. Kathy Merry, and The Rev. John Briggs. Scriptures used for the study included Mark 8:34-35 and Genesis 1:1-2. The Bible Study leaders defined chaos as “creative possibility.” They encouraged conference members and guests to become transformational leaders who embrace chaos, speak order to it, and courageously follow Jesus. Bishop Kammerer expressed appreciation to The Rev. Brown, Ms. Merry and The Rev. Briggs for their teaching for the 228th Session of the Virginia Annual Conference.

The Rev. Sallye E. H. Bowen, Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Minutes, gave her report. The minutes of the sessions on Tuesday were reviewed, and found to be in order. She moved their approval. The motion was approved.

Ms. Betty Forbes, Chairperson of Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc., presented the report found on pages 113-125 of the *Book of Reports*. She highlighted the various reports in Section I and recommendations in Section II. She moved to suspend the rules to allow time for her report. The rules were suspended. She summarized the monitoring efforts of the board in the past year of various national and conference factors affecting their work. She amended Section I, report 3, part D, found on page 115. Under the heading, “2010,” on the row “Pre-82,” she corrected the number, \$396,692, to \$414,038, and related totals in that part of the report. Ms. Forbes summarized each of the recommendations contained in her report, and placed them before the conference.

The Rev. Ben Hadley-Goggin moved the following amendment:

In the section headed, “Incapacitated,” on page 118, add the following: Clergy on Incapacity Leave will receive the same medical and dental insurance benefits as the rest of the active body of clergy. In addition, to reverse the action, effective immediately, of the 2008 Annual Conference, that made Medicare the primary insurance provider for clergy receiving Social Security income.

The Rev. David M. Hindman moved to refer the Hadley-Goggin amendment to Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc., and that the board bring a recommendation to the 2011 session of the Virginia Annual Conference. Ms. Forbes agreed to the referral and request for a recommendation, on behalf of the board.

Recommendations 1-6 were approved. Bishop Kammerer thanked Ms. Forbes for her careful and complete report, and the directors of Virginia United Methodist Pensions, Inc., for their hard work.

Bishop Kammerer announced a brief break at 10:00 a.m. The message board reported that \$4,152 had been received for the Youth Service Fund.

Mr. David Domnisse, Conference Statistician/Treasurer, presented the statistician’s report, found on page 37 of the *Book of Reports*. He referred to the report of the treasurer, found on page 126. Mr. Domnisse commended pastors, and the laity of the annual conference for their financial stewardship.

In a moment of personal privilege, The Rev. Larry O. Tingle invited members of the conference to each give \$50 to the central conferences pension fund, in “an attempt to replace the usual annual gift from Cokesbury.” He moved that this appeal be announced in the *Virginia Advocate*. The motion was approved.

The Rev. Keith D. Boyette moved the following:

I move that the 2010 Annual Conference call upon the Cabinet, Common Table, all Conference boards, agencies and affiliated groups, the districts and each church to devote time during the 2010-2011 conference year as designated by each body to fast, wait before the Lord, confess our sins related to sharing our faith with those not connected with any faith community, repent of all that has kept our faith communities from being as fruitful as God desires, and seek God's purposes and provisions for reaching those who do not have a vital relationship with Jesus Christ and/or who are not connected with a vibrant faith community.

The motion was approved.

Mr. J. D. Berlin, President of the conference Council on Finance and Administration (CFA), moved the suspension of the rules to allow time to present the report found on pages 127-137 of the *Book of Reports*. The rules were suspended.

Mr. Berlin moved the election of David Dommissie as Conference Treasurer and Statistician. He was elected.

Mr. Berlin presented Section I, “Summary of Conference Budget for 2011,” with supporting schedules A and B. He expressed CFA’s pleasure in presenting a budget for 2011 that showed no increase, and in fact, an overall decrease of \$21,612, from 2010.

Mr. Berlin presented Section II, “Conference Reserve Schedule.” He thanked the 897 churches that paid 100% of their 2009 Conference apportionments, representing 75% of the Virginia Annual Conference. He encouraged the remaining 25% to “join with their brothers and sisters in supporting our connectional system 100%.” He noted that the total collected on apportionments in 2009 was 85.95% of the conference’s apportioned amount.

Mr. Berlin presented Section III of the report, found on pages 131-132, “Recommended Apportionments to Districts and Local Churches.” He moved the adoption of Sections I, II and III.

The Rev. G. Kirk Nave moved to rescind the action of a previous annual conference placing health care expenses “on the decimal.” In response to a question, The Rev. Nave clarified that his motion referred to Line 404, “Active Clergy Health Benefits.” After a period of conversation, The Rev. David R. Drinkard moved to refer the Nave motion to CFA, with a report to be made to the 2011 session of annual conference. Mr. Berlin accepted the referral, on behalf of CFA. Sections I, II and III of the CFA report were approved.

Mr. Berlin presented Section IV, “Apportionment Procedures,” found on page 132 of the *Book of Reports*. He stated that the phase-in of the apportionment formula over a three year period concludes this year. He presented Section V, “Annual Conference Special Offerings,” with no changes for 2011. Sections IV and V were approved.

Mr. Berlin presented Section VI, “Recommended Policies,” starting on page 133 of the *Book of Reports*. He highlighted the District Superintendent’s Fund. In 2009, the Superintendents recognized the need for sacrifice and asked that their salaries be rolled back to their 2008 level as of July 1, 2009, and continue at that level through 2010. Mr. Berlin expressed gratitude to the superintendents on behalf of CFA and the annual conference. In response to a question, Mr. Berlin stated that the reimbursable travel expense rate for volunteers is 14 cents per mile, in agreement with Internal Revenue Service guidelines. Mr. Berlin expressed appreciation for the time and expense given by church volunteers. He highlighted the Conference Reserve Fund. Reported reserves are shown on page 134 in Section VI and on page 130 in Section II. Mr. Berlin stated that the policies noted on page 134 reflect targets that “at present are not realities.” He noted that the reserve total reported on page 130 of \$5,038,733 is not available for current operating expenses, since it reflects purposes restricted by Conference action. Section VI was approved.

Mr. Berlin presented Section VII, “A Church in Mission,” and Section VIII, “Special Reports.” They were approved.

Mr. Berlin presented the recommendation on pages 136 and 137 of the *Book of Reports*, concerning the transfer of the real estate assets of Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center, and the forgiveness of a loan owed the conference by the Assembly Center corporation. He amended the report by removing the restrictions listed on page 137.

Mr. Hakeem Allen moved to amend the report by retaining the \$80,570 loan that the Assembly Center corporation owes the Annual Conference. The motion was not approved. Mr. Berlin invited Mr. Benham Black, legal counsel for the conference Board of Trustees, to address the history of the relationship of the Assembly Center with the annual conference, and the legal ramifications of the proposed real estate transfer. The Rev. Denise P. Bates, president of the Board of Directors for Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center, Inc., moved to reinstate restrictions 1 and 3 of the original CFA report, found on page 137 of the *Book of Reports*. Mr. Berlin, on behalf of CFA, accepted the motion. A motion to end debate was approved. The recommendation was approved, as amended.

The Rev. Mark A. Miller, a member of CFA, presented a resolution from CFA honoring Mr. J. D. Berlin for his leadership of the Council for the previous six years. He presented Mr. Berlin with a gift envelope. Bishop Kammerer thanked Mr. Berlin for his years of service. Mr. Berlin expressed his appreciation to the Council members who had served with him.

Bishop Charlene P. Kammerer presided in "A Service of Worship and the Fixing of Appointments." The Rev. Vance P. Ross, Conference Preacher, brought the sermon, "Minister on the Spot," based on Acts 16:19-34. Special music was provided by "Men of Message," and the Annual Conference Band, under the direction of Ms. DeLyn Celec. During the musical offering, the ushers distributed the July, 2010, "Appointments" edition of *The Virginia United Methodist Advocate*.

Following the musical offering, Bishop Kammerer invited the district superintendents to present the appointments for their respective districts. New superintendents received a clergy stole from their predecessors. Bishop Kammerer stationed the preachers and fixed the appointments as printed in the *Advocate*. With the "Sending Forth," the 228th Session of the Virginia Annual Conference was adjourned at 12:45 p.m., *sine die*.

We have read, corrected and approve the Daily Proceedings of the 228th session of the Virginia Annual Conference, meeting June 13-16, 2010, in Norfolk.

The Committee on Minutes:

Sallye E. H. Bowen, Vice Chair

Susan D. Cutshaw

L. Raymond McGarr