

NEBRASKA CONFERENCE
Daily Proceedings

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8. DAILY PROCEEDINGS (MINUTES OF NEBRASKA ANNUAL CONFERENCE)

Clergy Session

10:30 a.m.

Thursday June 6, 2013

St. Mark's UMC Sanctuary, Lincoln

1. Bishop Jones called the Clergy Session to order at 10:30 a.m.
2. Opening Hymn "Christ for the World We Sing".
3. Opening prayer by Bishop Jones.
4. Opening remarks by Bishop Jones.
5. Gary Main made announcements.
6. The session considered the Business of the Annual Conference reported by Gary Main.
7. Vote on Questions 17 and 18. **Affirmed**
8. Approved list on question 21.
9. Loren Mullins and Bette Trumbull reported on questions.
10. Vote on question 25. **Affirmed**
11. Introduction of those being elected in full connection.
12. Vote on question 32 (voted individually for all—**all approved**).
13. Vote on question 42. **Affirmed**
14. Vote on question 46. **Affirmed**
15. Vote on question 46c. **Affirmed**
16. Bishop prayed after the naming of those who have died.
17. Recognized those moving to other conferences question 46.
18. Vote on question 50. **Affirmed**
19. Vote on question 52. **Affirmed**
20. Question 53: those retiring came forward to be recognized.
21. Vote on question 53. **Affirmed**
22. Recognized and **approved** retirement for question 54.
23. Recognized those on question 56 and thanked them.
24. Vote on question 73. **Affirmed**
25. Recognized Micki McCorkle, Karen Jeffcoat and Eduardo Bousson.
26. Kelly Karges reported on Order of Elder.
27. Personal privilege by Gary Main to recognize those who served on Board of Ordained Ministry. Bishop Jones made announcement for lunch. Gary Main led closing prayer.
28. Adjourned.

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Laity Session

10:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 6, 2013

St. Mark's UMC Family Life Center, Lincoln

29. Tom Watson, conference lay leader, welcomed everyone.
30. Micole Harms-Brazell, associate conference lay leader, was introduced. Her devotion focused on "Leaving Emmaus with Burning Hearts." She stated Nebraska has been a Conference for 45 years, and we are leaving Jerusalem and joining the new Emmaus with Kansas West and Kansas East.
31. Micole Harms-Brazell introduced our district lay leaders:
Great West: Ann Regier, Tina Kitt, Melody Newman
Gateway: Paul Bennett
Prairie Rivers: Dolores Rader
Elkhorn Valley: Virginia Piper
Missouri River: Betty Wiles
Blue River: David Jefferson
32. Lavina Schwaninger recognized those who are first timers to annual conference.
33. Micole Harms-Brazell explained the role of the lay member is to attend all sessions including worship experiences. She encouraged everyone to read the resource book and become informed. She also encouraged everyone to keep notes so that a report can be taken back to the local congregations.
34. Tom Watson spoke briefly about the Great Plains Annual Conference beginning January 1, 2014. He encouraged everyone to get a copy of the Draft Plan of the new Great Plains Annual Conference and become familiar with it. The Uniting Conference will be held in Salina, Kansas, August 22-24, and he reminded everyone in attendance that they are encouraged to attend this session as a voting member from their church. At the Uniting Conference we will be voting on a Plan of Organization. Tom also explained the constitutional amendments that we will be voting on at this annual conference.
35. Tom Watson pointed out the green registration card and encouraged everyone to fill it out and turn it in. He also pointed out the yellow card that would allow an annual conference member to be recognized by the Bishop.
36. Tom Watson reminded the district lay leaders to find their District superintendents at the end of the session today. Rehearsal will be held for the memorial service this evening. He also stated that if you brought water from your church, Michael Patzloff asked that it be brought to the opening worship service.
37. Micole Harms-Brazell spoke about mission, vision and core values for our conference found on pg. 67 of the resource book.

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38. Micole Harms-Brazell introduced Bob Aderholt, conference director of lay servant ministries. She also spoke of the Great Plains United Methodist Rural Advocacy.
39. Mary Ellen Kilmer spoke of the 125th Anniversary of deaconesses.
40. Micole Harms-Brazell made announcements.
41. Micole Harms-Brazell adjourned the laity session at 10:45 a.m. with prayer.

Celebration Luncheon
June 6, 2013
Family Life Center, St. Mark's UMC
Lincoln, NE

42. Welcome and Prayer - Tom Watson, Nebraska Conference Lay Leader
43. Presentation of District Laity Awards - Micole Harms-Brazell, associate lay leader
Blue River District - Diane Vanek, Lincoln Prairie View UMC
Elkhorn Valley District - Dr. Mel and Sherry Campbell, Ainsworth UMC
Gateway District - Carol Bauer, Cozad UMC
Great West District - Keith and Doris Olsen, Grant UMC
Missouri River District - Carolyn Walvoord, Waterloo UMC
Prairie Rivers District - Bob Aderholt, Kenesaw UMC
44. Historical Moment: First United Methodist Church, Grand Island, Nebraska - Karrie Dvorak, Dir./Curator Historical Center
45. Micah Corps Introductions and Commissioning - Carol Windrum and Andrea Paret
46. Lydia Patterson Institute - Larry Moffet
Video - The Second Hundred Years
47. Angie Newman Award - Andrea Paret
Sandy Sypherd, Hastings Grace UMC was honored.
48. Eunice Harrington Award - Esther Hay, President United Methodist Women, Barb McInay, Archer Zion UMC was honored.
49. United Methodist Student Day Offering Merit Award Scholarships - Kim Whitehouse awarded scholarships to:
Caitlin Bentzinger, Douglas UMC
Connie Dethlefs, Omaha St. Paul UMC
Amos Gichuru, Stanton UMC
Nicole Ricchini, Ralston Trinity UMC
Jordan Wetovick, Eustis UMC
50. Nebraska United Methodist Camps, Volunteer Recognition of Dave Mendyk by Kathryn Witte
51. Recognizing Nebraska Leaders - Bishop Scott Jones
Rev. Sally Ruggia-Haden - Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry 2008-2012
Rev. Steve Flader - Chair, Board of Trustees 2010-2013

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- Pat Duncan - Chair, Conf. Council on Finance & Administration
2006 -2013
- Rev. Dr. David Lux - Co-Chair, Common Table 2008-2013
- Rev. Galen Wray - Co-Chair, Common Table 2010-2013
- Jean Pancharoen - Chair, Nebr. UM Camps, Inc. 2012-2013
- Andrea Paret - Chair, Risk-Taking Mission and Justice Ministries
Team 2009-2013
- Rev. Dr. Keith Johnson - Chair, Congregational Transformation
Team 2011-2013
- Tom Watson - Chair, Leadership Development Team 2009-2013
- Rev. Nancy Lambert - Chair, Board of Pension & Health Benefits
2010-2013
- Charlene Adden - Chair, Personnel Committee 2006-2013
- Rev. Gary Main - Chair, Board of Board of Ordained Ministry
2012-2013
- Rev. Dr. Jim Keyser - Chair, Committee on Episcopacy 2005-2013
- Lona Dearmont - Chair, Commission on Archives and History
2008-2009, 2012-2013
- Rev. Bev Lanzendorf - Chair, Equitable Compensation Committee
2008-2013
- Rev. Jim Wallasky - Chair, Nominating and Equipping Committee
2008-2013
- Rev. Eldon Davis - Chair, Clergy Boundaries 2008-2013
52. Epworth Village - Harrietta Reynolds
53. Closing Prayer - Sally Ruggia-Haden

Opening Session Thursday, June 6, 2013 St. Mark's UMC Sanctuary, Lincoln

54. Opening Worship
A video was shown: "Nebraska's Past, Present and Future"
Bishop Jones preached and an offering was taken for Nigeria/
Nebraska Partnership.
55. Mayor Chris Beutler, of Lincoln, addressed the conference and
welcomed everyone to Lincoln.
56. Call to Order - Bishop Scott Jones at 2:17 p.m.
57. Opening Motions – Carol Roettmer Brewer
MOTION: I move that the revised agenda that is in the packets be
the agenda of our 2013 Annual Conference, and in the interest of
creating an efficient agenda, the Bishop may call upon any voting
member of the Annual Conference at any time to offer their report.
Affirmed
MOTION: I move that the Bar of the Conference for voting purposes
be the main floor of the sanctuary with the balcony being available
for guests of the annual conference. **Affirmed**

MOTION: I move that the secretary send greetings to the conferences of the South Central Jurisdiction that are meeting and others that are appropriate. **Affirmed**

MOTION: I move that the secretary send greetings to the Kansas West and Kansas East Annual Conferences. **Affirmed**

MOTION: I move that the following persons serve on the 2013 Committee on the Journal: Deanna Holland, as chairperson, Cathy Cole, Darlene Hall, Robin Kilgore, Kathryn Witte, Roxie Delisi, Dana Reinhardt and Carol Roettmer Brewer. **Affirmed**

MOTION: I move the following persons be members of the 2013 Committee on General Reference: Phil Sloat, Marvin Neubauer, Barbara Jo Burns, Mary Ellen Kilmer, Lew Kaye-Skinner, and Bill Ritter. Galen Wray and Carol Roettmer Brewer will serve without vote. **Affirmed**

58. Secretarial Motions – Darlene Hall

MOTION: I move the secretarial staff for the 2013 Nebraska Annual Conference be: Roger Gillming, Schatzie Gillming, Amy Hasemeyer, Bonnie Linton-Hendrick, Dennis “Buck” Linton-Hendrick, Sam Rathod, Jeff Thurman, Charles Murithi, Terry Otto, Cathy Cole and Deanna Holland. **Affirmed**

59. MOTION: I move the roll call be by signing of cards. Each member shall be responsible for indicating which days he or she will be in attendance. If change in attendance becomes necessary for lay members to a session or sessions, the alternate lay person to be seated shall report to secretarial staff members Deanna and Schatzie. Clergy members shall report to secretarial staff members Sam or Terry. **Affirmed**

60. Announcements - Carol Roettmer-Brewer

61. Dan Flanagan, dean of the cabinet made a motion that Mary Lou Reece, the Bishop’s spouse, have the privilege of the floor. **Affirmed**

62. Wayne Alloway welcomed the conference to St. Mark’s and gave instructions in case of fire or tornado.

63. Bishop Jones pointed out the sheet of paper to write your questions for the Transition Team.

64. Rev. Nan Kaye-Skinner, secretary of the cabinet Discontinuance of Union, Sterling, Mascot-Bethel, Greenwood. Potter to become Prairie West Christian ELCA. In 2012 Lincoln Faith, Grace and Warren merged with Newman. After 7/1/2013 Newman UMC will be one congregation. Lincoln Faith, Grace and Warren will be chartered later this year and will become Lincoln New Hope Church.

65. Introduction of special guests - Bishop Jones
Fred Ohles, president of Nebraska Wesleyan, gave remarks.
Dennis Joslin, president of Nebraska Methodist College gave remarks.

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66. Board of Ordained Ministries Report - Rev. Gary Main
Introduction of Ordinands and Historic Questions: Jeff Adams, Zach Anderson, Jim Corson, Tom Lucas, Bonnie McCord, Pat Norris.
67. State of the Conference Address - Bishop Jones
He has visited 298 churches so far in Nebraska.
68. Lay Leader's Report - Tom Watson
69. Dean of the Cabinet, Dan Flanagan, asked the Kansas East and Kansas West district superintendents to introduce themselves.
70. United Methodist Women - Esther Hay
71. United Methodist Men - Craig Nordaker
72. Imagine No Malaria - Ashley Gish
73. Break - 3:57 p.m.
74. Board of Pension and Health Report #1 - Nancy Lambert and Ron Harris.
75. Voting on Constitutional Amendments - Bishop Jones
76. Council on Finance and Administration - Pat Duncan
77. Treasurer's Report - Robin Kilgore
78. Board of Trustees Report - Steve Flader
79. Prayer and Adjournment.

**Memorial Service
7:30 p.m.
Thursday, June 6, 2013
St. Mark's UMC Sanctuary, Lincoln**

Members of the 2012 Nebraska Annual Conference paused Thursday evening in memory of clergy and spouses who died in the past year. The Rev. Charlotte Abram's, sermon was "Next Chapter...New Chapter" based on Joshua 3:7-10a, 11-14, 17-4:7. Bishop Scott Jones served Holy Communion. Clergy memorialized were: Morland Adell, Richard Fairbanks, John Craig, Paul Lepard, John Paolini, Robert Frescoln, Gilbert Karges, Robert L. Miller, Donald Littrell, William Simmer, J. Richard Shapland, Robert Wigert. Deceased spouses and dependents were: Kevin Keezer, Sharon Linder, Ardis Bevins and Lois Naylor.

**Opening Session
Friday, June 7, 2013
St. Mark's UMC Sanctuary, Lincoln**

80. Gathering Music.
81. Worship and Teaching - John Holbert preached "Abraham, Elijah, and a Walk to Emmaus: Being Found by the Holy Spirit."
82. Transition Team Update
83. BREAK

84. Recognition of Retiring Pastors - Bishop Scott Jones, Bette Trumble and Loren Mullins. Included in the service was a video of retirees sharing highlights of their ministries. At the conclusion of the service, the retirees symbolically passed the Light of Christ to the new class of Ordinands. Retirees were greeted by the Conference at a reception line. The Retirees Luncheon was held in the Family Life Center. Those retiring: Dorothy Aspegren, Harold D. Backus, Linda J. Battello, Nita Gelling Cloran, Charles (Chuck) Cornwell, Nancy K. Flader, Steve L. Flader, Brian Fong, Inez Foster, F. Cole Fowler, Betsy Galloway-Carew, Jaclyn Hoy, Kaleuati F. Kaleuati, Nancy L. Leonard, Nancy J.H. Phillips, Carroll A. Plisek, Frederick G. Richart, Susan Sanders, Jay Vetter, and Carol A. Windrum.
85. Reconvened after lunch at 1:30 p.m.
86. Episcopacy Committee Report - Marilyn Moore
Welcomed Bishop Jones and Mary Lou Reece to Nebraska and presented them with flowers. Bishop Jones stated that the Episcopal Residence in Lincoln has been sold, and they are living in an apartment in Lincoln. There is also an episcopal residence in Wichita.
87. Personnel Report - Charlene Adden
July 1 - Director of Clergy Excellence will be Nancy Lambert;
Carol Roettmer Brewer will serve as Associate Director of Clergy Excellence for one year during transition.
Rev. Karen Jeffcoat - Great Plains Registrar for Ordained Ministry.
Carol Windrum - hired to work on a contractual basis for 2013 and 2014 with Micah Corps.
88. Extended Cabinet and spouses introduced.
Carol Roettmer Brewer and Rev. James S. Brewer
Harold D. Backus, retiring District Superintendent
Carol Windrum, Peace and Justice, retiring; continuing on contract as Micah Corps director
Lance Clay, new District Superintendent in Prairie Rivers District and Robin Clay
Nan Kaye-Skinner, Elkhorn Valley District Superintendent and Rev. Lew Kaye-Skinner
Alan Davis, Gateway District Superintendent
Kay Alnor, Great West District Superintendent
Robin Kilgore, Treasurer and Director of Administrative Services
Bishop Jones' spouse, Mary Lou Reece
Kathryn Witte, Director of Marketing & Communications, Great Plains Conference.
Galen Wray, Blue River District Superintendent and Shirley Wray
Nancy Lambert, Director of Clergy Excellence for Great Plains Area and Rev. Dale Lambert

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- Karen Jeffcoat, Registrar for the Great Plains Area and Rev. Eduardo Bousson
Dan Flanagan, Missouri River District Superintendent
Tom Watson, Conference Lay Leader and Chair of Transition Team
89. Bishop thanked the cabinet.
90. Transition into Ministry Associates:
Project is funded by the Endowment from Lilly Foundation. Nebraska Conference provides three associates and three churches for pastors who are 35 years old or younger right out of seminary. They serve as associate pastors in a teaching congregation and then they commit to pastoring a church.
Emily Cannon – graduate of Methodist Theological Seminary Ohio to Saint Paul UMC, Lincoln
Andy Frazier – Trinity UMC, Lincoln
91. Mary Lou Reece was given the privilege to speak. Bishop Jones' birthday was 2 weeks and 2 days ago during the Kansas West Conference. She roasted him during that conference and she continued today with the top 15 things with a slide show of pictures of Bishop Jones.
92. Lori Smith – Prepare for Table Conferencing.
93. Closed with prayer by Tom Watson at 2:40 p.m.
94. BREAK
95. Reflections and Discussion from Table Conferencing.
96. The Youth proposed that there be Youth representatives placed on the Camp Board and be involved in the decision making of Camp related issues and topics.
The Youth Annual Conference also proposed 2014 CAC/MAC/YAC worthy of the three groups of youth becoming one and beginning at the Lincoln gathering.
97. Adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

**Ordination Service
7:30 p.m.
Friday, June 7, 2013
St. Mark's UMC Sanctuary**

Ordination Service participants: Bishop Scott Jones, Bishop Brian Maas, Evangelical Lutheran Churches of America, Rev. Lyn Seiser, Rev. Matthew Fowler, Rev. Gary Main, Tom Watson, Dr. John Holbert, Mass Choir of Clergy and Laity from the Conference. Offering went to UM Global AIDS Fund, Advance # 578. Dr. John Holbert's sermon was "Liar, Liar, Pants on Fire! Moses Gets a Call." Persons to be ordained: Jeffery Adams, Zachary Anderson, James Corson, Thomas Lucas, Bonnie McCord, Patty Norris.

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Opening Session
Saturday, June 8, 2013
St. Mark's UMC Sanctuary, Lincoln

98. Youth Worship
99. Presentation – John Holbert
100. Nominations Report – Jim Wallasky – Report **approved**
101. Questions from Table Conferencing about Plan of Organization were discussed.
Bishop Jones explained that the Transition Team will meet later this month to hear input from Kansas East, Kansas West and Nebraska. There will be opportunity for amendments from floor August 22-24.
102. The discussion continued by questions from the floor.
103. Bishop expressed gratitude to the Transition Team and Tom Watson.
104. Mary Lou Reece for Imagine No Malaria – Tony Dawson offering \$50 if Bishop misses basket in two tries from chair. If Bishop makes one, Tony will go back to local church and raise \$500. Asking for other churches to also accept challenge. Several agreed. Bishop made second shot so challenge begins.
105. Lew Kaye-Skinner, Bishop Jones – Resolution #1 Immigration
One table recommends adoption, two tables recommend adoption with amendments, one recommends against adoption, one recommends resolution be “rewritten to be inclusive of all immigrants.”
Amendment to sub-point 1 below the furthermore paragraph 1. Stop all deportations, keeping families together, with the exception of deportations based on criminal activity, while Congress acts on a comprehensive reform. Moved by Kaye-Skinner. **Approved**
Amendment to sub-point 1 below the furthermore paragraph add the Deportations should happen on an individual basis, keeping children with their families.
Resolution as amended. **Approved**
106. Marilyn Zehring – Resolution #2 – Gun Violence and Promotion of Alternatives to Violence
Three tables recommend adoption, Two tables against. No amendments.
Bob Aderholt, made an amendment to “except for authorized firearms”. Second. **Amendment accepted.**
Scott Evans – made a motion to call for the question. Vote to end debate **accepted.**
Vote on amendments: amendment of amendment – except for authorized firearms . **Amendment accepted.**
Amendment – change from weapon to firearm with exception of authorized firearms. **Amendment accepted.**

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- Jason Kennedy – made a motion to strike point 4 that every Nebraska United Methodist Church is a weapon-free zone. Second. Amendment 130 voting to remove; 131 vote to not remove. **Motion failed.**
- Michael Davis - made a motion that resolution be referred back to the Risk-taking Mission and Justice Team. Second. **Approved.** Referred to Risk-taking Mission and Justice Team of the Common Table.
107. Report of the Journal Committee - Deanna Holland
108. Appointments distributed.
109. Secretarial Motions – Darlene Hall
MOTION: I move that when the Committee on the Journal has approved the Journal for Saturday, June 8th, the Bishop and the Secretary shall be authorized to declare said document to be the Official Journal of the 2013 Nebraska Conference. **Affirmed**
MOTION: I move the Conference Secretary be authorized to make such editorial changes in the Journal as may be necessary for clarity. **Affirmed**
MOTION: I move the Conference Secretary be authorized to print as many copies of the 2013 Journal as required and in addition those ordered by the Clergy and Laity members. **Affirmed**
110. Darlene Hall - personal privilege to express appreciation to Secretarial Team.
111. Carol Roettmer Brewer made announcements.
 UMCOR donations: 4266 kits and buckets, over \$4500 contributed for those expenses.
112. Bishop – John Holbert brochures on registration desk and coffee bars.
113. Carol Roettmer Brewer – asked for personal privilege to thank St Mark’s UMC, pastors, staff and congregation.
 Thank speakers and preachers who have given us a lot to take home. Dr. John Holbert, Pastor Charlotte Abram, Bishop Scott Jones
 Thank Conference Staff, particularly Dana Reinhardt for year round coordination of conference.
 Thank Rev. Michael Patzloff for worship leadership.
 Thank Youth Annual Conference, Middle School Annual Conference and Children’s Annual Conference, particularly for worship today.
 Thank conference secretaries, pages, counters, table facilitators, recorders, Lew Kaye-Skinner, Marilyn Zehring and Lori Smith.
114. Lyn Seiser – Children’s Annual Conference asked if they will meet next year. Carol Roettmer Brewer will refer to Annual Conference planning committee. **Consent.**
115. Break
116. Closing worship and fixing of appointments.