

ERRATA, (published error in the 2017 Journal)

TUESDAY AFTERNOON
PLENARY SESSION 5
June 6, 2017, 1:30 pm

Bishop Dyck called the session to order at 1:30pm. Karen Bonnell offered prayer.

THE UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

At 1:32pm, Bishop Dyck called the corporate annual meeting of the United Methodist Foundation to order. The By-laws of the United Methodist Foundation of the Northern Illinois Conference provide that the Annual Conference will convene as the Annual Meeting of the Foundation for the purpose of electing board members and receiving an annual report.

Board President, the Rev. Chris Walters, was joined on the dais by Ergeline Calimlim, George Gill, Lynette Rice, David Foster, Jim Stoddard, the Rev. Vickie Hadaway, the Rev. Jane Easley, Denny Hackett, the Rev. Tom Rawlinson, the Rev. Deb Percell, Larry Thomas, Sharon Eubanks-Pope, Janet Boryk, the Rev. John Alan Boryk, and the Rev. Harry Nichol. The 2017 annual meeting of the Northern Illinois Conference United Methodist Foundation was called to order.

George Gill, Chair of the NIC UM Foundation greeted the conference and provided an historical overview.

Rev. Chris Walters, President – informed the AC the NICUMF about its diverse fund portfolio. Managers follow the principles of the UM Discipline and in line with ethical guidelines of Wespath. The Annual Stewardship Summit will at Barrington UMC on August 26,2017, keynoter will be Rev. Molly Phinney Baskette. The Foundation has issued \$23,000 to 18 recipients in 2017. A new scholarship opportunity - Dollars for Scholars – if a local church offers a scholarship to a student, Higher Education and the Foundation will each match the scholarship up to \$1000. Rev. Walters reminded the conference to consider how the Foundation can help us leave a legacy.

Rev. Walters and Rev Harry Nichols recognized Janet Boryk who retires at the end of June, providing personal reflections on her service. The conference thanked Janet for her years of service with a standing ovation.

Rev. Walters thanked the Annual Conference for its attention and entertained a motion to adjourn. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm.

2:00 pm The Bishop called the Annual Conference back into session.

BISHOP'S APPEAL AWARD

Lonnie Chafin reported the total received was \$71,424.27. Bishop Dyck presented The Bishop's Appeal Award (Traveling Trophy) to the Aurora District. The Rev. Dick Wisdom received the award from the Bishop.

CABINET REPORT

The Rev. Young-Mee Park, Dean of the Cabinet, presented the Annual Report. She was joined on the dais by: The Rev. Arlene Christopherson, The Rev. Dick Wisdom, The Rev. Lisa Kruse-Stafford, The Rev. Zaki Zaki, The Rev. Darneather Murph-Heath, the Rev. Jacques Conway, the Rev. J. Martin Lee.

Rev. Park acknowledged two reasons for celebration: Bishop Dyck was reassigned to NIC, and Rev. Dr. Tracy Smith-Malone was elected to the episcopacy and assigned to the North-Eastern Ohio Conference. Other changes to the cabinet include: the Rev. Jacques Conway as new DS of Chicago-Southern district; and, Rev. Dr. Chris Pierson who left the position of Dir. Of Connectional Ministry to assume a position in the local church.

Rev. Park reported on the status of promises made the previous year:

- 1) Church Conferences have been designed to be more relational, interactive missionally-focused, and less administrative;
- 2) there are intentional opportunities for clergy and laity to gather in worship, for fellowship, and resourcing;
- 3) commitment to equipping and training clergy and laity and bringing training closer to the local church;
- 4) enhancing clergy relationship by all-clergy retreat and mission day;
- 5) prioritize building and ministry assessments with the development of the Conference Ministry and Building Assessment Team;
- 6) and, develop a Mobile DS model to brings the District Superintendent close to the local church.

Gifts were given to the Bishop and her husband, and to Rev, Park.

Bishop announced the new Dean of the Cabinet is Rev. Lisa Kruse-Stafford and the new Secretary is Rev. Young –Mee Park.

DIRECTOR OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRY

Rev. Arlene Christopherson was joined on the dais by Anne Marie Gerhardt, Rev. J. Martin Lee, Rev. Robert Biekman. Jeff Casey – Director of Outdoor and Retreat Ministries, Jill Stone – Media Resource Director.

Rev. Christopherson reported on the changed focus during last year to providing a platform for passionate leaders. The Sustainability Task Force is hosting self-funded events throughout the districts. Rev. Martin Lee, Director of Congregational Development and Re-development focused on leadership development with a new local church training program titled "Team Works." Rev. Robert Biekman, Urban Ministries Coordinator, provided

a platform for urban works. Completed a training for local church Staff Parish Relations Committees on healthy communications skills when there is an appointment change using a curriculum called "Rule of Christ." Past year had more changes – Elgin office moved to Chicago; Media resource center merged with IL Great Rivers Conference – use of resource's cost is only postage - Jill Stone is the resource center spokesperson. Ann Marie Gerhardt is in 6th year as Communications Director - worked to overhaul with new website which is scheduled to launch this fall. Jeff Casey, Director of Outdoor Ministries, reports renewed marketing led to profitable past year; working with Chicago Southern for summer camping. Background check screening is now faster and easier with direct church involvement.

Megan Casey – Admin Assistant and Communications Assistant, and Laura Lopez – Admin Assistant and Events Coordinator – were introduced.

LEGISLATION

The Rev. Katie Voigt presented the following documents for consideration:

Doc. 700.03 - Election of Delegates for General Conference 2020. **Motion carried.**

Doc. 700.01 – Northern Illinois Conference Divestment from Fossil Fuels.

Motion to refer to The United Methodist Foundation and the authors for reconsideration in 2018. **Motion carried.**

CONFERENCE BOARD OF PENSIONS

Rev. Daniel Diss reported that 815 individuals are actively supported by the CBP. The payment of apportionments directly affects all churches.

Delinquencies in HealthFlex results in an increase in premium rates. In 2018 there will be a three percent rise in costs. Sixty-six percent of NIC clergy participates in UMPIP program.

Announcements from Rev. Deborah Tinsley-Taylor

3:49 pm Pastor Joan Patton-Seaton offered prayer. Bishop called for a brief recess before the final plenary.