

MINUTES OF CALLED ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION

Saturday, January 12, 2008

A Called Session of the Northwest Texas Annual Conference was held at First United Methodist Church, Lubbock. The Session began with worship. Bishop Max Whitfield brought the message. Assisting with the service were the First Light Band, First United Methodist Church, Lubbock; the Conference Leadership Team: Rev. Richard Edwards, Mr. Ron Enns, Mr. Mike Alexander, Mr. Murray Murphy, Mrs. Francie Pittman, Mr. Randy Hollums, Dr. Jimmy Nunn, Bishop Max Whitfield, Rev. Eddie Allsup, Mr. Roy Miller, Rev. Sharon Wiese, and Rev. Al Martin (not present today); the Floydada Youth Drama Group; the Chancel Choir of First United Methodist Church, Lubbock; The Sessom family from St. John's United Methodist Church, Lubbock presented the elements; the Communion Servers were Bishop Max Whitfield, Rev. Jay Horton, Rev. Ava Berry, Mr. Randy Breeding, Rev. Todd Dyess, Mr. Ron Enns, Rev. Namiqa Shipman, Mr. Mike Alexander, Rev. Jimmy Nunn, and Mr. Larry Springer. After the Worship Service the attendees went to lunch.

Bishop Whitfield called the Session to order at 1:15 p.m. and gave the opening prayer.

Bishop Whitfield recognized Richard Edwards, a member of the Conference Leadership Team, who recognized Incubator participants and gave an introduction to the rationale for the called Annual Conference session.

Richard introduced Karl Baumgardner, chair of the Committee on By-Laws, Rules and Resolutions, who presented a report concerning the proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Northwest Texas Conference.

Richard presented a video to the Conference which gave an overview of the DINE (Deploy, Invite, Nurture, Equip) Model for ministry.

Sharon Weise and Ron Enns presented a PowerPoint presentation which outlined the specifics of the DINE Model and presented a video, narrated by Mike Schafer, which outlined the differences between the current Conference model and the proposed DINE model.

Richard introduced Ava Berry, Francie Pittman, Mike Schafer, and Mike Murphy, who spoke to the Conference concerning the positive aspects of the DINE model. Ava spoke concerning focus, resourcing, and access; Francie spoke concerning the discernment of God's will, the mission statement of The United Methodist Church, and the mandate to make disciples with the local church as the primary focus; Mike Schafer spoke to the pastors (with the laity listening in) about the "Kingdom work" that the Conference can take with the adoption of the DINE model; Mike Murphy spoke about the "cutting edge" of leadership which the DINE model could provide.

Discussion followed with informational questions being asked concerning the DINE Model.

Bishop Whitfield recognized Karl Baumgardner, who moved the acceptance of the amendments to the Bylaws of the Northwest Texas Annual Conference. Motion carried.

Bishop Whitfield recognized Mark Pittman, who announced that the time for reception of 2007 monies will be extended until the first of next week. Mark introduced Jerry Lane, who led the Conference in the Doxology.

Bishop Whitfield recognized Clark Williams, who reported for the "Build, Renew, Rejoice" Campaign. He reported that 195 churches out of 216 have heard the story or have scheduled a presentation. He urged every church to schedule a presentation. He also challenged each clergy and church to respond to the story by turning in a pledge. He introduced Bill Couch, who reported that \$1,877,416 has been raised, representing 59% of the total. He used the illustration of the growth of a tree he had planted as a teenager to spread the vision of what God can do as a result of "Build, Renew, Rejoice".

Karl Baumgardner asked the Conference to send greetings to Jimmy Tidwell, who is celebrating his 90th birthday.

Randy Hollums gave the closing prayer. Richard Edwards led the Conference in the singing of "Now Let Us From This Table Rise" to the tune of "Jesus Shall Reign."

The Conference was adjourned.

◆◆◆◆2008 NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE◆◆◆◆
MINUTES OF THE 2008 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Tuesday Morning, June 3, 2008

The Ninety-Ninth Session of the Northwest Texas Annual Conference, held jointly with the New Mexico Annual Conference, opened at 9:00 a.m. in Holcomb Auditorium of the Glorieta Conference Center, Glorieta, New Mexico with the Opening Worship Service. Bishop D. Max Whitfield gave his State of the Church Address "Setting the Thermostat." Assisting with the service were Bishop D. Max Whitfield; Bishop Dan E. Solomon; Rev. Eduardo Rivera; Rev. Todd Dyess; Rev. Beverly Jones; Mrs. Francie Pittman; Rev. Steve Trout; Rev. Will Cotton; Rev. Terry Lowe, Conference Organist; Rev. Marvin Gregory, Conference Pianist; Rev. Ruby Moultrie, Conference Song Leader; Ms. Sue Walter and Mr. Adam Peters on Trumpet; and the Abel and Logan Drum Ensemble.

Bishop Max Whitfield called the Conference to order at 10:42 a.m. in Holcomb Auditorium. He announced that the floor of Holcomb Auditorium would be the Bar of the Conference. Rosemary Prumer, Northwest Texas Conference Secretary, moved that for Northwest Texas, the registration forms received by paper registration or on the Internet from the delegates serve as the roll call for the Conference. Motion carried.

Jimmy Nunn, Dean of the Cabinet, reported for the Committee on Nominations. He moved the election of the committees to serve the annual conference sessions. Motion carried. He then offered corrections to the list of nominations the delegates had in their packets.

Mark Hoover, President of the Council on Finance and Administration, placed their report on the table.

Karl Baumgardner, Chairperson of the Committee on Bylaws, Resolutions, and Rules, placed their report on the table.

Sherri Altland, Executive Director of Mount Sequoyah Methodist Assembly, gave a report and presented a DVD describing programming highlights.

Sara Wilke, CEO of UMR Communications (United Methodist Reporter), presented the benefits of using the UMR for church communications and presented a thank you award to Jay Horton, Senior Pastor, of First United Methodist Church, Lubbock for his leadership of the UMR Board.

Dr. Miles McCall spoke about Lon Morris College.

Mr. Taylor Jefferson thanked the Conference for their apportionment payments to the Black College Fund.

Dr. John Russell, President of McMurry University, addressed the conference. He reported highlights of McMurry's Year in basketball and baseball. He reported that the Academy for Faithful Ministry would be held in July. It was noted that McMurry provided the tote bags that were given to the members of Conference.

Todd Rasberry, Director of Development, Perkins School of Theology, gave a report. He introduced Rev. Herbert Coleman, Director of Recruitment at Perkins.

Trey Oakley, representing Bobby Gilliam, President, gave a report for Methodist Children's Home. Mr. Oakley said that the home had reached its goal of serving 1,000 children. He said that on pages 33 – 36 of the Northwest Texas Pre Conference reports, the Statement of Covenant Relationship could be found. The conference approved the Statement.

James Large, Director of Mission and Administration, gave announcements and brought instructions and directions for the afternoon session.

Jennifer Sample, President of Methodist Mission Home, presented a DVD presentation showing the uniqueness of Methodist Mission Home in San Antonio. She asked for help in completing their four million plus goal for improvement to their facilities. Jennifer dismissed the session for lunch with prayer.

Tuesday, Afternoon, June 3, 2008

After the lunch break, the Northwest Texas Conference Session reconvened in Holcomb Auditorium, with an introduction by Clark Williams, Build, Renew, Rejoice Campaign Director, of the Steering Committee for the campaign. He then introduced Kaylee Gillie, Campaign Coordinator, who gave a brief history of the campaign in the Conference. Clark reported that there had been 201 presentations with 96% of churches, 158, giving pledges. Seventy percent of the clergy made pledges with fifty-five individuals making pledges. They each gave thanks to the many people who had helped with the campaign. We then moved to "The Price is Right" in which Bishop Whitfield had three tries at getting the amount raised for campaign correct. After two incorrect tries, he finally got the amount correct - \$3,773,247.12. The goal had been \$3.2 million.

++++2008 DAILY JOURNAL++++

The Conference then moved to its Clergy and Laity Sessions.

Laity Session

Randy Hollums, Conference Lay Leader, welcomed the laity to the meeting. He announced that Murray Murphy will be the next Conference Lay Leader.

Sandy Goodloe told the laity that there are no resolutions this year. She told the group that if there are any questions on anything ask anyone on the Board of Laity and they would then give a reference for help. She reminded the laity to look at the Camping Report.

Jerry Marshall explained the Certified Lay Ministry Program and Lay Speaker Training. Anyone interested should contact their D.S. for information.

Linda Elms gave the UMW report giving information about different programs and retreats that will be held throughout the year. Linda also encouraged everyone to attend Roundup at Lubbock FUMC in August.

UMM will be making an effort to restart by having a BBQ lunch with entertainment at St. Matthew's UMC in Lubbock. A brochure will be passed out.

Mike Alexander reported on the Big Event held in the Big Spring District in Lamesa.

Linda Hollowell from the Abilene District reported that eight people were certified as Lay Speakers. Laity served on the Board of Church Location and Building at Avoca.

From the Amarillo District, Ron Enns reported that Needs Based Evangelism will be held at Polk Street. The author of "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations" will be at Canyon UMC and ABIDE has been done in several churches.

Francie Pittman made the motion to vote to recommend Bishop Whitfield to return for four more years as Northwest Texas/New Mexico Bishop. The motion was seconded and motion carried.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Doris Stevens.

Clergy Session

Bishop Whitfield called the Clergy Session to Order. The Bishop and Derrell Patterson, Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry, read those Business Questions that required a vote by the Clergy Session. Where required by the Discipline, changes in relationship were moved by the Board and approved by the Clergy Session.

Tuesday Evening, June 3, 2008

The Conference gathered for worship, *A Service of Communion*. Rev. Tyrone Gordon gave the sermon, "There is a Place at the Table." Assisting with the service were Bishop D. Max Whitfield; Bishop Dan E. Solomon; Rev. Tyrone Gordon; Rev. Ava Burdine Berry; Rev. Barry Dickens; Rev. Namiqa Ardhuerumly Shipman; Rev. Terry Lowe, Conference Organist; Rev. Marvin Gregory, Conference Pianist; Rev. Ruby Moultrie, Conference Song Leader; and Enchantment, Albuquerque Handbell Ensemble.

Wednesday Morning, June 4, 2008

Bishop Whitfield called the Conference to order at 8:32 a.m. in Holcomb Auditorium. Bill Constantine opened with prayer.

Jim Hawk, Albuquerque District Superintendent, reported about basketballs being auctioned to raise money for Nothing But Nets. Bids so far totaled \$800. The Amarillo District had challenged the Big Spring District.

James Large, New Mexico Conference Director of Mission and Administration, reported that the Conference Offerings are to be divided fifty-fifty between the Conferences.

It was announced that this is the Thirty Year Anniversary of Ordination of Women in Northwest Texas Conference

It was announced that the Lydia Patterson offering was \$3,965 and the UMCOR offering was \$5,363.54.

◆◆◆◆2008 NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE◆◆◆◆

Garry Nall, Northwest Texas Chairperson of the Commission on Archives & History, announced that in Historic 2010 the Conference would celebrate its 100th Anniversary. He then introduced Dr. David Murrah, who is writing the Conference history. Dr. Murrah said that a pre publication order blank with special price offer could be found on the display table for Archives and History. Dr. Murrah then gave a humorous review of his book. Garry Nall then moved for the reception of his report. Motion carried.

Bishop Dan Solomon shared personal notes of his history in the Northwest Texas Conference and gave special recognition for Dr. Vernon Henderson, who will celebrate his 106th birthday, noting that Dr. Henderson has lived longer than the Conference has existed. Bishop Solomon asked that the Conference bring a personal word of greeting to Dr. Henderson.

Candy Gross, Texas Methodist Foundation, brought greetings from Tom Locke, President, and the board. Texas Methodist Foundation serves five Texas Conferences and the Rio Grande Conference. Candy said that the service of the Texas Methodist Foundation is "Seeking God's Dream." Priority is to address the needs of children in poverty.

David Cameron gave the Roundup report while the Roundup Booklets were being distributed. He invited all to attend Roundup in Lubbock, Texas in August and gave highlights of some of the presenters. There will be eighty-four workshops.

Darren Skinner, Chairperson of the Conference Board of Global Ministries, presented their report highlighting mission opportunities in the Northwest Texas Conference. In 2009 there will be a trip to the Congo with Bishop Whitfield and Rev. Derrell Patterson. He reported that we will have a new missionary to Honduras, Rev. David Ceballos. He moved the acceptance of his report. Motion carried.

Eddie Marcum, Chairperson of the Board of Conference Camping presented his report. He presented a plaque to Wendell and Susan Brown for their twenty-nine years of service to Ceta Canyon Camp and Retreat Center. He moved adoption of his report. Motion carried.

Les Hall, Chairperson of the Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries, introduced Marie Seward, a recent graduate of McMurry University. Ms. Seward described her experiences with college ministry at McMurry. Les presented the Francis Asbury Award to Harold and Jane Humphries, who opened their home in Lubbock twenty-five years ago to students of the Texas Tech Wesley Foundation. Les moved the adoption of his report. Motion carried.

Carolyn Cole, Manager of the Lubbock Cokesbury Store, mentioned several resources available at the Cokesbury display. She presented the Northwest Texas Conference with a check for \$6,997.93. Mrs. Toni Cox, Chairperson of the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits, moved to forward the check to the Central Conference Initiative for the next four years. The motion carried.

Bishop Whitfield recognized his wife, Valarie.

Conference was dismissed until 11:00 a.m.

Conference gathered for *A Service of Licensing and Commissioning*. Presented for a license as a local pastor were Patricia Boone, Stephenia Gilkey, Sandra Gardner, Maxyne Diane Pitts, and Justin Ryan Smallwood. Bishop Whitfield Commissioned as a Probationary Elder William Brian Brownlow, Phillip Arthur Huston, Mona Gayle Lara, and Amy Wilson. Bishop Whitfield Recognized Horace Paul Abbott as an Associate Member. Assisting with this service was Bishop D. Max Whitfield; Bishop Dan E. Solomon; Ms. Kaitlin Kessinger; Rev. Jeff Lust; Rev. Derrell Patterson; Rev. Melissa Madara; Rev. Jerry Krueger; Mrs. Carol Kaemper; Mrs. Rosemary Prumer; Rev. Terry Lowe, Conference Organist; Rev. Marvin Gregory, Conference Pianist; Rev. Ruby Moultrie, Conference Song Leader, and Mrs. Dacia Lust, Soloist.

Wednesday Afternoon, June 4, 2008

Bishop Whitfield called the session to order at 2:00 p.m. in Holcomb Auditorium. Randy Hollums, Northwest Texas Conference Lay Leader, gave the Opening Prayer.

Don Kinder, Northwest Texas Mission In Motion Coordinator, announced that the Mission in Motion trailer was at Glorieta. The trailer would be open so that supplies for Sager Brown could be brought to the trailer.

Eddie Allsup, Northwest Texas Conference Director of Mission and Administration, introduced the Conference Service Center staff.

Charlie Johnson, Chairperson of the Committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries for the Northwest Texas Conference highlighted this ministry. He recognized Orby Brooks who is the coordinator and now the Regional Director of Project Light. Project Light is an English as Second Language that is biblically based. He introduced Jorge Ochoa, Conference Coordinator of Hispanic/Latino Ministry, who gives Lay Speaking courses throughout the year. The week before Roundup, the committee will sponsor a Conference-wide Revival.

Doris Stevens, Conference Service Center Staff Related to Camping and Youth, thanked the Conference for the support given to the Safe Sanctuaries program. Jody Holland, a member of the Safe Sanctuary Task Force, gave an update on information about the training that can now be done online to help insure that all people have a safe sanctuary. A DVD was then shown to the Conference.

Rich Jones, Chairperson of the Evangelism Committee, presented the Denman Award. This year the award was presented to just one person, Cari Roach of Westover Fellowship United Methodist Church, Amarillo. Cari has fed lunch to thousands of homeless people in Amarillo for fifteen years and she has given Gideon Bibles at events. She has a ministry of heart and hands and deep caring, showing Christian love.

Bill Wood, New Mexico Conference Lay Leader, and Randy Hollums, Northwest Texas Conference Lay Leader, presented a resolution requesting reassignment of Bishop and Mrs. Whitfield to the area. The resolutions will be forwarded to the Jurisdiction Episcopacy Committee.

Robert Goodrich, Lay Delegate from Polk Street United Methodist Church, Amarillo, made a motion that the Conference adopt as its continuing standard for all business items it considers, the three element standard adopted for use during the UMC General Conference of 2008: 1. Do no harm 2. Do good 3. Stay in love with God. after discussion, the resolution was adopted.

Jeff Lust, Chairperson of the New Mexico Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, announced that in the Ordination Service tonight all ordinands would receive a stole made by Helen Releford and cup and chalice made by Larry Krueger.

The Conference was requested to send get well wishes and condolences to Larry Crumpton, condolences to Gary Hubbard of Munday UMC, Danny and Rhonda Cochran, and Cletus Bates.

Beverly Jones closed the session with prayer and the session was in adjourned.

Wednesday Evening, June 4, 2008

The conference gathered for worship, *A Service of Ordination*, at 7:30 p.m. in Holcomb Auditorium. Rev. Tyrone Gordon brought the sermon. Bailey Barkley, Lou Ellerbrook, and Phillip Hernandez were ordained as Elders in Full Connection. Those assisting with the Service were Bishop D. Max Whitfield; Bishop Dan E. Solomon; Rev. Tyrone Gordon; Rev. Jeff Lust; Rev. Derrell Patterson; Mrs. Carol Kaemper; Mrs. Rosemary Prumer; Mrs. Teresa Hollums; Mr. Jimmy Richardson; Rev. Terry Lowe, Conference Organist; Rev. Marvin Gregory, Conference Pianist; Rev. Ruby Moultrie, Conference Song Leader, and The Chancel Choir of St. John's United Methodist Church, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Matthew Greer, Director and Maribeth Gunning, Organist/Pianist. Following the service a reception for all of the Ordinands was held outside under the big tent.

Thursday Morning, June 5, 2008

The Bishop called the Conference to order at 8:32 in Holcomb Auditorium and opened it with prayer.

It was reported that \$3,460 had been pledged for the Nothing But Nets program.

The Offerings for Lydia Patterson were \$4,094.01, UMCOR \$5,242.54, McMurry University \$5,336, and Nothing but Nets \$200.

Lloyd Rollins gave a report on Africa University in Zimbabwe. He brought thanks from this institution to The United Methodist Church for supporting Africa University, for shared giving and ministry, and understanding of the difficulties of building the university.

Ron Enns, Daniel Ivey-Soto, Jeff Lust, and Jimmy Nunn spoke regarding the highlights of General Conference and introduced the members of both delegations including their duties at General Conference. They all were acknowledged by applause, thus showing the appreciation of all for their work at General Conference. The delegation expressed their hope that future conferences will use "Holy Conferencing," the John Wesley way of meeting, discussing, deciding, and moving on. "Three Simple Rules" commitment cards were passed out. Each card had one of the rules in different languages. These cards represented a commitment to maintain the Wesleyan way of Do No Harm, Do Good, and Love God. Bishop Whitfield urged the Conference to prayerfully live by these rules on a daily basis. Randy Hollums said that the book, "*Three Simple Rules A Wesleyan Way of Living*," by Rueben P. Job would be available at recess for the Northwest Texas Conference. Ava Berry told the Conference that the DVD of the Young People's address at General Conference would be available from the Area Resource Center.

Socorro DeAnda gave the Lydia Patterson Institute report. She presented highlights of the year including: ninety-two seniors, ninety admitted to colleges and universities, \$1.3 million in scholarships, lay student ministries throughout the nation, and students who participated at General Conference with the Mariachi Band.

Melvin Dennis, President of the Conference Board of Trustees, gave his report. Since the present Conference Service Center building is not adequate for Conference standards, they recommend the Conference Service Center remain downtown; build the center on the north end of the parking lot using the current building while the new one is under construction; purchase the apartment building south of the current building; and when the new building is complete, tear down the current office and apartment house for parking. Melvin moved for adoption of the report. Bishop Whitfield asked that the adoption of their report also include the affirmation of the purchase of the described property, which would give the Annual Conference the total block in downtown Lubbock. The report was approved.

Mark Pittman, Conference Director of Stewardship/Conference Treasurer and Conference Statistician gave the Statistician report. He reported professions of faith were down by fifty, membership dropped one percent and is at 64,536, average attendance dropped by 911 and is at 21,738, and baptisms had increased by three percent.

Apportionments were paid at 76.1%. He gave thanks to everyone for the last eight years, since this was his last time to present the report. He informed the Conference that the statistics are online and can be seen at any time. Mark then introduced David W. "Dave" Andersen as the new Director of Stewardship/Conference Treasurer and Conference Statistician. the Bishop thanked Mark for his years of service that have been well done. Mark moved the acceptance of his report, motion carried.

Randy Hollums, Conference Lay Leader, thanked the New Mexico conference for hosting the combined Annual Conference Session.

Announcements were made and the Conference was in recess until 11:00 a.m.

The Conference gathered for "*A Service of Remembrance*." Rev. C. Edward "Eddie" Allsup gave the sermon. Those clergy and spouses remembered were Mr. Jerry Edward Boone, Rev. Shane Alden Brue, Rev. Bettye Jo Carr, Rev. Harold Louis Daniel, Rev. Jesse Payton Dea, Rev. Darris Leon Egger, Sr., Mrs. Mildred Fitzgerrel, Rev. Glenda Faye Johnson, Rev. Charles Edward Lutrick, Mrs. Eleanor Mourer, Rev. John Wiley Mourer, Sr., Mr. George Robert Schock, Mrs. Minnie Todd, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Cook Ward, Mrs. Lois White, Rev. Raymond Paul Wolfe, and Rev. Royce Calvin Womack. Assisting with the service were Bishop D. Max Whitfield; Bishop Dan E. Solomon; Rev. Dan Boyd; Rev. David Weyant; Mrs. Marilyn Balleau; Rev. Eddie Allsup; Mr. Randy Hollums; Mr. Bill Wood; Mr. Steve Wilson; Mrs. Toni Cox; Rev. Terry Lowe, Conference Organist; Rev. Marvin Gregory, Conference Pianist; Rev. Ruby Moultrie, Conference Song Leader; and Mr. John Fuss, Conference Choir Director.

Thursday Afternoon, June 5, 2008

The Conference Session was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Bishop Dan E. Solomon in Holcomb Auditorium. Bishop D. Max Whitfield was presiding at the New Mexico Conference Session which was being held in the Chapel of Holcomb Hall.

A *Service of Retirement* was held. Those retiring and bringing words to the Conference were Charles and Alicia Addington, Eddie Allsup, whose wife Joan was not able to attend; George Butler, whose wife Jean was unable to attend; Hilda and Benny Cavazos; Donna and Doug Johnson; Mike and Sandy Schafer. Those retirees who were recognized but were unable to attend were Lewis and Rita Ann Holland and Tom and Sandra Woodward. Bishop Solomon offered an additional retirement speech of his own and introduced his wife, Marsha. Assisting with this service was Bishop Dan E. Solomon; Rev. Donna Johnston; Rev. Louis William Ellerbrook; Rev. Terry Lowe, Conference Organist/Pianist; and Rev. Ruby Moultrie, Conference Song Leader.

Bishop Solomon called the Business Session to order and gave the Texas United Methodist College Association (TUMCA) report. He gave thanks on behalf of the students and TUMCA organization. He moved adoption of the report and the motion carried.

Randy Hollums, Conference Lay Leader, gave his report highlighting the activities of the laity. He moved acceptance of the report and the motion carried.

Toni Cox, Chairperson of the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits, moved that the Pre 1982 Service Rate of \$521 be adopted. The motion carried. She reported that the apportionment request had been lowered for 2009. Toni moved the adoption of the Rental Housing Resolution and the motion carried. She introduced Dale Jones from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and Jan Roberts, the new Conference Benefits Officer. Toni reported that there would not be an increase in the active clergy insurance rates. She encouraged Health Flex participants to do their annual physical and report their results online so that we could again receive an incentive bonus. Northwest Texas was one of nineteen conferences to receive the 2% incentive. Our amount for this year was \$46,127.76. She moved the acceptance of the report and the motion carried.

Lane Boyd, Member of the Commission on Church Extension and Revitalization, presented the report, which included moving the CCER Loan funds monies to the Build Renew Rejoice monies. He moved adoption of the report and the motion carried.

Charles Starnes, Chairperson of the Commission on Equitable Compensation, gave his report. He moved adoption of the report and the motion carried. He then addressed the Action Item, creating a "Mission Station" status be added to the purpose statement, goals, and operating procedures. Charles moved the adoption of the Action Item, the motion carried.

Eddie Allsup, Retired Member of the Conference, gave the Bylaws, Rules, and Resolution second report for Karl Baumgardner, Chairperson. Discussion was held on Amendments to the Bylaws. Richard Edwards, Senior Pastor of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Midland, moved that bylaw 12.101a be amended to read: "Submitted to the Annual Conference for information at least one business session prior to the business meeting in which the proposed amendment is to be considered, discussed, and voted upon." The motion carried. Discussion was held on whether the same wording needed to be added to the Amendment of the Rules of Order. It was decided that the rules did not need to be changed.

Mark Hoover, President of Council on Finance and Administration, presented the Camp Study Report. He said that Conference Leadership Team needed to be added to line 14 so that the paragraph would read: As for the Camp Rates/Costs and Apportionments we recognized the need for up-to-date data from the Board of Conference Camping, Conference Leadership Team, and both Camp Executive Directors related to the number of campers and counselors; actual use of programming funds, and the actual camper day costs; etc. The dates in the report on lines 17, 19, and 21 were corrected from 2009 to 2010, 2010 to 2011, and 2011 to 2012. He reported that the Camp Study Task Force recommended that the actual cost for a camper or volunteer be paid to the camps by 2012. Marvin Gregory, Pastor of Seminole United Methodist Church, moved that line 27 of the report be deleted. The motion carried. Mark moved the adoption of the entire report and the motion carried. Monte Kreis, Pastor of Canadian United Methodist Church, reported that Canadian UMC was issuing a challenge of \$25,000 as matching funds, to help pay down the debt at Ceta Canyon Camp and Retreat Center.

Jimmy Nunn, Dean of the Cabinet, gave the Nominations Report II and asked for adoption of the report. The motion carried. He then presented the slate of names for the Jurisdictional Pool and asked for their adoption. The motion carried.

◆◆◆◆2008 NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE◆◆◆◆

Mark Hoover, President of Council on Finance and Administration, gave the CFA Report II. He gave changed figures to the budget due to the changes in the Camp Study Report. Discussion was held on the change and Richard Edwards, Senior Pastor of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Midland, moved that the budget not be changed and that the \$11,400 be divided between Butman and Ceta Canyon Supplements. Motion carried. Mark then presented the entire budget for approval and the motion carried. Mark presented the Policies and Procedures for adoption and they were adopted. He then moved that Dave Andersen be elected as the new Conference Director of Stewardship/Treasurer. The motion carried.

Tim Walker, Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church, Midland, issued an invitation from their Church Council for the Annual Conference to be held there next year. The invitation was accepted. Annual Conference will be June 10 – 13, 2009.

Bishop Solomon then adjourned the Conference.

Thursday Evening, June 5, 2008

The Conference gathered for “*A Service of Worship*” led by the Student Leadership Team of the New Mexico Annual Conference. Rev. Tyrone Gordon gave the sermon. Assisting with the service were Rev. Tyrone Gordon, Sebastian Calderon, Laura Lowenstein, Emily Blake, Bethany Lust, Chelsea Marsh, Perri Avey, Brandon Amend, Brenna Lloyd, Seth Herman, Jesse Beeman, Morgan Witt, Kaitlin Kessinger, Laney Abbott, Jill Shioji, David Nichols, and the Burgundy Road Praise Band from Bastrop, TX.

Friday Morning, June 6, 2008

The Conference was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Murray Murphy opened with prayer and thanked the New Mexico Conference for hosting the joint Session of Annual Conference.

Steve Campbell, Chairperson of the Minutes Committee, said the minutes were approved for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

It was reported that Nothing But Nets had raised \$14,000 at this time. Bids kept increasing until the total was well over \$20,000.

Thanks were given to Ruby Moultrie, Marvin Gregory, and Terry Lowe for their parts in the music for Conference.

Eddie Allsup, Retired Member, gave the report of election of Officers for the Quadrennial Boards that had met. Board of Ordained Ministry—Will Cotton, Chairperson; Greg Kennedy, Secretary; and Rosemary Prumer, Registrar. Commission on Equitable Compensation—Charles Starnes, Chairperson; Stan Cosby, Vice Chairperson; and Shera Atkinson, Secretary. Board of Pension and Health Benefits—Bob Berry, Chairperson; George Keeling, Vice Chairperson; and Beverly Cotton, Secretary. Board of Trustees—Perry Hunsaker, President; Mark Wyatt, Vice President; and Matt Wolfington, Secretary.

Thanks were expressed to the Conference Worship Design Team composed of Rev. J. Bradley Bennett, Rev. Dr. Willard Cotton, Rev. Eddie Allsup, Rev. Vernon Baker, Mr. John Fuss, Rev. Marvin Gregory, Ms. Roselie Johnston, Rev. James Large, Rev. Beverly Jones, Ms. Louise Mendius, Rev. Ruby Moultrie, Mr. Bob Phillips, Rev. J. David Terry, Rev. Carol Lee Tuck, and Ms. Joan White.

The Final Resolution was presented by the team from New Mexico.

There being no further business for the Northwest Texas Conference, the Annual Conference Session was adjourned. The New Mexico Conference would reconvene after the “*Service of Sending Forth.*” to complete their business. During the Service of Sending Forth, Bishop D. Max Whitfield, gave his Closing Thoughts, we Renewed Our Covenant, the Appointments were Distributed and Fixed, a Dismissal Blessing was given, and the Conference was sent forth.