



Photo by Beth DiCocco

Bishop Steiner Ball to gavel in 2016 NEJ Conference

By Maidstone Mulenga

DCA Editor



Four years ago, she was a candidate praying and waiting to see how the ballots would go. Today, Sandra Steiner Ball will call to order the 2016 Northeastern Jurisdiction Conference (NEJ) in her role as the President of the NEJ College of Bishops.

Bishop Steiner Ball, who was elected on the fifth ballot during the 2012 NEJ Conference in Charleston, W.Va., and serves as resident bishop of West Virginia, will be the presiding officer for the opening session of this year's gathering.

In the opening session, Philadelphia Area Resident Bishop Peggy Johnson will offer welcoming remarks to the delegates before NEJ Secretary Tom Salsgiver conducts the roll call.

After the adoption of the agenda and the Plan of Organization, Episcopacy Committee Chair Bonnie Marden will give her report, which will include the certification of the retirement of Bishop Marcus Matthews. The Episcopacy Committee will also certify that two new bishops will be elected at this conference.

The first episcopal ballot is scheduled as an order of the day for the morning. Subsequent ballots will be scheduled as needed.

The 11 candidates for the two open episcopal offices in the Northeastern Jurisdiction faced eight teams of delegates in a marathon day of interviews on Tuesday. (Interview, above. See candidate photos on Page 14)

Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar, the resident bishop of Boston Area, will give the State of the Jurisdiction Episcopal address in the afternoon. Later, Ed Horne, chair of the CFA, will present the budget.

In the evening, delegates will elect the secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer and assistant treasurer.

Daily Christian Advocate

The Daily Christian Advocate is the official daily record for the Northeastern Jurisdictional (NEJ) Conference. The NEJ is composed of nine Episcopal areas (composing 10 annual conferences), from New England to West Virginia.

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Bulletin Board

- Individuals who have mobility issues and need transportation to the Consecration Service at First United Methodist Church on Friday MUST sign up at the Hospitality Table on the second floor by 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 14.
- Water Street Rescue Mission, 210 S. Prince Street, is the local resource for shelter for the homeless.
- Choose local by sampling the best the area has to offer. The Lancaster Central Market, the country's oldest farmer's market, will be open on Friday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is within easy walking distance of the hotel.

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Corrections

Please email corrections in the Daily Christian Advocate to DCA Editor Maidstone Mulenga (maidstonem@gmail.com)

DCA copy deadline for each day is 5 p.m. Please submit the information electronically.

2016 NEJ Conference Staff

<i>Vision Table</i>	Virginia Samuel
Bishop Marcus Matthews, Chair	<i>Youth</i>
Candace Carter, Vice-Chair	Taylor Hamilton
Thomas J. Salsgiver, Secretary	Helena Cecilia Hamilton-Turner
David W. Simpson, Treasurer	<i>Young Adult Council</i>
<i>Annual Conference Boundaries</i>	Ashley Riddell
<i>Committee Chair</i>	Jeffrey Hooker
Timothy R. Baer	<i>Members At Large</i>
<i>Episcopacy Committee Chair</i>	Dawn E. Taylor-Storm
Bonnie Marden	<i>NEJ Secretary</i>
<i>Finance and Administration</i>	Thomas L. Salsgiver
<i>Committee Chair</i>	<i>Assistant Secretary</i>
Edward C. Horne	Sharon Darlynn McCrae
<i>Program and Arrangements</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Committee Chair</i>	David Simpson
Boyd B. Etter	<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>
<i>Rules Committee Chair</i>	Jennifer Williams
Jan Ihlo	<i>Registrar</i>
<i>Board of Laity Chair or</i>	Sylvia Simpson
<i>Representative</i>	<i>Daily Christian Advocate Editor</i>
Scott Johnson	Maidstone Mulenga
<i>Ordained Ministry Committee</i>	
<i>Chair</i>	

Wednesday Agenda

Time	Activity/Group	Meeting Room
6:30 a.m.	Prayer with Eucharist	Hickory Room
7:00-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast	
8:30 a.m.	Holy Communion and Memorial Service	Heritage Ballroom
10:30 a.m.	Opening Session	Heritage Ballroom
	Welcome by Host Bishop, Bishop Johnson	
	Roll Call and Credentials Committee report	
	Adoption of Agenda	
	Adoption of Rules of Order and Plan of Organization	
	Report of Episcopacy Committee	
	Certify retirement of Bishop Marcus Matthews	
	Certify number of Bishops to be elected	
	First ballot	
	Naming of the Sessions Committees	
	Report of Courtesies Committee	
12:00 p.m.	Lunch	
2:00 p.m.	Conference Session	Heritage Ballroom
	Report of Ballot and Ballot #2	
	Rules Committee	
2:30 p.m.	Report of Committee on Finance	Heritage Ballroom
3:15 p.m.	Conference Session	Heritage Ballroom
	Ballot #3	
	State of the NEJ - Episcopal Address	
5:00 p.m.	Dinner	
7:15 p.m.	Conference Session	Heritage Ballroom
	Funding proposals resolution/motions	
	Rules Committee (if needed)	
	Committee on Nominations	
	Election of Secretary/Asst. Secretary & Treasurer/Asst. Treasurer	
	Celebration of significant makers in the UM Church	
	Report of Monitoring Team	
9:30 p.m.	Delegation Meetings	Various Rooms
	Delegation Meeting (if desired) – Eastern PA & Pen-Del	Heritage
	Delegation Meeting (if desired) – Greater New Jersey	Independence A
	Delegation Meeting (if desired) – New England	Hickory B
	Delegation Meeting (if desired) – New York	Independence B
	Delegation Meeting (if desired) – Susquehanna	Federal A
	Delegation Meeting (if desired) – Upper New York	Federal B
	Delegation Meeting (if desired) – West Virginia	Conestoga 2
	Delegation Meeting (if desired) – Western PA	Conestoga 1
	Journal Committee	Susquehanna

Schedule of presiding bishops

Session

WEDNESDAY morning session, 10:30 a.m.
 afternoon session, 2:00 p.m.
 afternoon session, 3:15 p.m.
 evening session, 7:15 p.m.
 evening session, 8:45 p.m.

THURSDAY morning session, 8:45 a.m.
 morning session, 10:30 a.m.
 afternoon session, 1:45 p.m.
 afternoon session, 3:15 p.m.
 evening session, 7:15 p.m.

FRIDAY morning session, 8:30 a.m.

Presiding Bishop

Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball
 Bishop Jane Allen Middleton
 Bishop Marcus Matthews
 Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar
 Bishop Jeremiah Patk
 Bishop John Schol
 Bishop Tom Bickerton
 Bishop Peggy Johnson
 Bishop Mark Webb
 Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball
 Bishop Jane Allen Middleton

NEJ Nominating Committee 2016 Report

Annual Conference Boundaries

BW Delegate or Reserve	Link, Conrad	W	Clergy	Male
EPA Delegate or Reserve	Munoz, Lydia	H	Clergy	Female
GNJ Delegate or Reserve	Dyson, Drew	W	Clergy	Male
NE Delegate or Reserve	Easterling, LaTrelle	AA	Clergy	Female
NY Delegate or Reserve	Shillady, William	W	Clergy	Male
PD Delegate or Reserve (YA)	Mitchell, Sam	W	Lay	Male
SU Delegate or Reserve	Amara, Paul	AA	Clergy	Male
UNY Delegate or Reserve	Sweet, Becky	W	Clergy	Female
WV Delegate or Reserve	Shaffer, Rich	W	Lay	Male
WPA Delegate or Reserve	Gottschalk, Stephanie	W	Clergy	Female
Youth (WPA) (Youth)	Landman, Mollie	W	Lay	Female
Young Adult Council (WV) (YA)	Sears, Erin	W	Lay	Female

Episcopacy

BW Ordained Clergy Delegate	Chattin, Teri Rae	W	Clergy	Female
BW Lay Delegate	Martin, Delores	AA	Lay	Female
EPA Ordained Clergy Delegate	Taylor Storm, Dawn	W	Clergy	Female
EPA Lay Delegate	Ehninger, Judith	W	Lay	Female
GNJ Ordained Clergy Delegate	Lank, Tom	W	Clergy	Male
GNJ Lay Delegate	Caterson, Evelyn	W	Lay	Female
NE Ordained Clergy Delegate	Marden, Bonnie	W	Lay	Female
NE Lay Delegate	Chang, We	AS	Clergy	Male
NY Ordained Clergy Delegate	Riss, Timothy J.	W	Clergy	Male
NY Lay Delegate	Brewington, Frederick	AA	Lay	Male

PD Ordained Clergy Delegate	Porter, Derrick	AA	Clergy	Male
PD Lay Delegate	Goodwin, Kevin	W	Lay	Male
SU Ordained Clergy Delegate	Leland, Larry	W	Clergy	Male
SU Lay Delegate	Bender, Lisa	W	Lay	Female
UNY Ordained Clergy Delegate	Allen, Bill	W	Clergy	Male
UNY Lay Delegate	Johnson, Scott	AA	Lay	Male
WV Lay Delegate	Kenaston, Judi	W	Lay	Female
WV Ordained Clergy Delegate	Finegan, Mary Ellen	W	Clergy	Female
WPA Ordained Clergy Delegate	Gregory, Sharon	AA	Lay	Female
WPA Lay Delegate	Zilhaver, Bob	W	Clergy	Male

Finance And Administration

Clergy-NE	Nichol, David	W	Clergy	Male
Clergy-UNY	Rood, Sherrie	W	Clergy	Female
Clergy-BW	Tilghman, Marlon	AA	Clergy	Male
Annual Conf. Treasurer-WPA	Bridge, Larry	W	Lay	Male
Layman-PD	Westbrook, Bill	W	Lay	Male
Layman-BW	Moore, Charles	W	Lay	Male
Layman-EPA (YA)	Harris, Jordan	MR	Lay	Male
Laywoman-SU	Horton, Anne	W	Lay	Female
Laywoman-GNJ	Williams, Rosa	AA	Lay	Female
Laywoman-NY	Benz, Dorothee	W	Lay	Female
Youth -WV (Y)	Dean, Madison	EA	Lay	Female
Youth-UNY (Y)	Aiosa, Zach	W	Lay	Male
Young Adult-EPA (YA)	Wims, Tamara	AA	Lay	Female
Young Adult-UNY (YA)	Urriola, Ian	H	Lay	Male

Board of Ordained Ministry

Chair Conf. Board Ordained Ministry or their rep.				
Deans/Presidents of UM Seminaries in the NEJ				
Deans/Presidents of UM Seminaries in the NEJ				
Deans/Presidents of UM Seminaries in the NEJ				
Deans/Presidents of UM Seminaries in the NEJ				
Representative from College of Bishops				
Representative from College of Bishops				
Member at large, named by committee for inclusivity				
Member at large, named by committee for inclusivity				
Member at large, named by committee for inclusivity				
Deacons and Laypersons shall be represented on committee				
Deacons and Laypersons shall be represented on committee				

Deacons and Laypersons shall be represented on committee				
BW Delegate Chair or Designee	Hunt, Tony	AA	Clergy	Male
EPA Delegate Chair or Designee	Knerr, Gary	W	Clergy	Male
GNJ Delegate Chair or Designee	Korkuch, Tom	W	Clergy	Male
NE Co-Delegate Chair or Designee	Deemers, Mark	W	Clergy	Male
NE Co-Delegate Chair or Designee	Yoo-Yun, Cho-Chang	AS	Clergy	Male
NY Delegate Chair or Designee	Lebron Rivera, Lydia	H	Clergy	Female
PD Delegate Chair or Designee	Townsend, Rob	W	Clergy	Male
SU Delegate Chair or Designee	Elliott, Suzanne	W	Clergy	Female
UNY Delegate Chair or Designee	Russell, Sue	W	Clergy	Female
WV Delegate Chair or Designee	Green, Sharletta	AA	Clergy	Female
WPA Delegate Chair or Designee	Wagner, Amy	W	Clergy	Female

Program and Arrangements

BW Delegate or Reserve	Love, Tony	AA	Clergy	Male
EPA Delegate or Reserve	Raffauf, Jeff	W	Lay	Male
GNJ Delegate or Reserve	Bennett, Tanya	W	Clergy	Female
NE Delegate or Reserve	Hewitt, Rebecca	W	Clergy	Female
NY Delegate or Reserve	Smartt Sears, Denise	AA	Clergy	Female
PD Delegate or Reserve	Brown, Shiryln	AA	Clergy	Female
SU Delegate or Reserve	Boileau, Catherine	W	Clergy	Female
UNY Delegate or Reserve	Aswad, Hudda	W	Lay	Female
WV Delegate or Reserve (YA)	Godwin, Lauren	W	Clergy	Female
WPA Delegate or Reserve	Stahlman, Vicki	W	Lay	Female
Youth – GNJ (YA)	Young, Nadiera	AA	Lay	Female
Young Adult – EPA (Youth)	Tirado, Jose	H	Lay	Male

Rules

BW Delegate or Reserve	Ihlo, Jen	W	Lay	Female
EPA Delegate or Reserve	Wilt, Robert	W	Clergy	Male
GNJ Delegate or Reserve	Wright, Varlyna	AA	Clergy	Female
NE Delegate or Reserve	Oh, Jung Sun	AS	Clergy	Male
NY Delegate or Reserve	Brewington, Adrienne	AA	Clergy	Female
PD Delegate or Reserve	Higgins, Ruth	W	Lay	Female
SU Delegate or Reserve	Konieczny, John	W	Lay	Male
UNY Delegate or Reserve	Warren, J.J.	W	Lay	Male
WV Delegate or Reserve	Harmon, Janet	W	Clergy	Female
WPA Delegate or Reserve	Chung, Sung S.	W	Clergy	Male
Youth - WPA	Kennedy, Kiersten	W	Lay	Female
Young Adult - SU	Gowe, Bruce	W	Lay	Male

VISION TABLE

BWC - DCM	Mulenga, Maidstone	AA	Clergy	Male
BWC- Delegate	Latona, Christine	W	Lay	Female
EPA - DCM	Kurien, Christopher	AS	Clergy	Male
EPA- Delegate	Krall, Clarita	W	Lay	Female
GNJ - DCM	Burgess, Hector	H	Clergy	Male
GNJ- Delegate	Kent, Cynthia	N	Lay	Female
NE - DCM	Robinson-Johnson, Erica	W	Clergy	Female
NE- Delegate	Bragan, Roberta	W	Lay	Female
NY - DCM	Curry, Matt	W	Clergy	Male
NY- Delegate	Warner, Rashid	AA	Lay	Male
PD - DCM	Gordy-Smith, Vicki	W	Clergy	Female
PD- Delegate	Parker, Carlton	AA	Lay	Male
SU - DCM	Salsgiver, Tom	W	Clergy	Male
SU- Delegate	Miller, Layne	W	Lay	Female
UNY - DCM	Gottscalk-Fielding, Bill	W	Clergy	Male
UNY- Delegate	Allen, Suzanne	W	Lay	Female
WV - DCM	Krimmel, Ken	AA	Lay	Female
WV- Delegate	Lyden, Royce	W	Clergy	Male
WPA - DCM	Cox, Gregory	W	Clergy	Male
WPA- Delegate	Morelli, Paul	W	Lay	Male
SU- Youth	Drexler, Jacob	W	Lay	Male
EPA- Youth	Eden, Jessica	W	Lay	Female
Chari, Program/Arrangements				
Chair, Finance/Administration				
Chair, Episcopacy				
Chair, Board Ordained Ministry				
Chair, Boundaries				
Chair, Rules				
Chair, NEJ Con. Lay Leaders				
Vision Table -Young Adult				
Vision Table-Young Adult				
Vision Table NEJ Secretary				
Vision Table NEJ Treasurer				
Vision Table NEJ Asst. Sec.Voice/No Vote				
Vision Table NEJ Asst. Treasurer Voice/No Vote				

Investigation

WPA Clergy Full Connection	Meekins, William B.	AA	Clergy	Male
GNJ Clergy Full Connection	Wright, Varlyna	AA	Clergy	Female
UNY Clergy Full Connection	Stengel, Cathy Hall	W	Clergy	Female

NY Clergy Full Connection	Pak, Constance	AS	Clergy	Female
NE Clergy Full Connection	Goodrich, Leigh	W	Clergy	Female
WV Clergy Full Connection	Conley, Ellis	W	Clergy	Male
BW Clergy Full Connection	Link, Conrad	W	Clergy	Male
NE Lay Observer	Wilbur, Lorene	W	Lay	Female
UNY Clergy Alternative	Thompson, Lenora	AA	Lay	Female
UNY Clergy Alternative	Mudge, Bill	W	Clergy	Male
SU Clergy Alternative	Kind, Kathy	W	Clergy	Female
EPA Clergy Alternative	Cotto, Irving	H	Clergy	Male
PD Clergy Alternative	Shitama Weston, Megan	AS	Clergy	Female
BW Clergy Alternative	Young, Evan	AA	Clergy	Male
WPA Lay Observer	Ward, Peggy	AA	Lay	Female

Appeals

Clergy EPA	Kurien, Christopher	AS	Clergy	Male
Clergy NE	Perez, Rene	H	Clergy	Male
Clergy WPA	Dunn, Alyce Weaver	W	Clergy	Female
Clergy SU	Jones, Beth	W	Clergy	Female
1 Diaconal Minister NY	Engelhardt, Carolyn	W	Lay	Female
FT Local Pastor UNY	Chesbro, Brad	UNY	Lay	Male
Layperson BW	Ihlo, Jen	W	Lay	Female
Layperson PD	Pehlam, Lawrence	AA	Lay	Male
Layperson GNJ	Caterson, Lynn	W	Lay	Female
Clergy Alternative UNY	Nye, Holly	W	Clergy	Female
Clergy Alternative WV	Green, Sharletta	AA	Clergy	Female
Clergy Alternative GNJ	Lank, Tom	W	Clergy	Male
Clergy Alternative BW	Iannicelli, Rebecca	W	Clergy	Female
1 Diaconal Minister Alternate WV	Fygetakes, Laura	W	Clergy	Female
Full time Local Pastor Alternate EPA	Stippich, Robert	W	Lay	Male
Layperson Alternatives NE	Harrell, Oscar	AA	Lay	Male
Layperson Alternatives NY	Littlejohn, Roena	AA	Lay	Female
Layperson Alternatives WPA	Merrick, Tracy	W	Lay	Male

2016 Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference

Journal Committee

Last	First	Email	Conf	Ethnicity	Male	Female	Lay	Clergy
Brogue Trost	Mcihelle	pastormichellebt@gmail.com	UNY	Anglo		X		X
Chin	Noel	nobarchin@aol.com	NY	African American	X			X
Horton	Anne	ahorton@susumc.org	SUS	Anglo		X	X	

Oduor	Ralph	oduorrr@verizon.net	NE	African American	X		X	
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Examination Committee

Last	First	Email	Conf	Ethnicity	Male	Female	Lay	Clergy
Kurien	Christopher	christopherkurien@gmail.com	EPA	Asian	X			X
Wright	Varlyna	vdwright@gnjumc.org	GNJ	African American		X		X
Lauber	Melissa	mlauber@bwcumc.org	BW	Anglo		X	X	
Warner	Rashid	rashid.warner@gmail.com	NY	African American	X		X	

Courtesies Committee

Last	First	Email	Conf	Ethnicity	Male	Female	Lay	Clergy
White Wolf Fassett	Thom	fassettww@empacc.net	UNY	Native American	X			X
Meekins	William	wmeekinsj@aol.com	WPA	African American	X			X
Via Nese	Carmen	vianese4@frontiernet.net	UNY	Anglo		X	X	
Kenaston	Judi	judikenaston@aol.com	WV	Anglo		X	X	

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Last	First	Email	Conf	Ethnicity	Male	Female	Lay	Clergy
Shitama-Weston	Meghan	megan@pecometh.org	PD	Asian		X		X
Brown	Shirlynn	pastorb2002@gmail.com	PD	African American		X		X
Perez	Eunice	pastoreunice@vernonmethodist.org	GNJ	Hispanic		X	X	
Sears	Erin	sears.erin.2014@gmail.com	WV	Anglo		X	X	

Nominating Committee Report: Boards and Agencies

General Council on Finance and Administration	Ow, Kenneth	BW	AS	Lay	Male
General Council on Finance and Administration	Colorado, Judy	GNJ	W	Lay	Female
Connectional Table	Brewington, Fred	NY	AA	Lay	Male
Connectional Table	Kenaston, Judi	WV	W	Lay	Female
Connectional Table	Meekins Jr., William B.	WPA	AA	Clergy	Male
General Board of Church and Society	Rivera, Edgardo	BW	H	Clergy	Male
General Board of Church and Society	Campbell, William Martin	NE	W	Clergy	Male
General Board of Church and Society	Kind, Kathy	SU	W	Clergy	Female
General Board of Church and Society (YA)	O'Flynn, Riley	UNY	W	Lay	Female
General Board of Church and Society (YA)	Lebron Malave, Dorli-mar	NY	H	Lay	Female
General Board of Church and Society (YA)	Sears, Erin	WV	W	Lay	Female
General Board of Church and Society	Vizza, Donna	WPA	W	Lay	Female
General Board of Church and Society (YA)	Shitama Weston, Megan	PD	AS	Clergy	Female

General Board of Discipleship (YA)	Jacob, Ann	EPA	AS	Lay	Female
Division on Ministries with Young People (YA)	Amey-Sutton, Bethany	GNJ	AS	Lay	Female
Division on Ministries with Young People (YA)	Keltz, McKenna	WPA	W	Lay	Female
Division on Ministries with Young People (YA)	Urriola, Ian	UNY	H	Lay	Male
General Board of Global Ministries (YA)	Penna, Patricia	NE	H	Clergy	Female
General Board of Global Ministries	Vianese, Carmen	UNY	W	Lay	Female
General Board of Global Ministries (Youth)	Chung, Andrew	WPA	AS	Lay	Male
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (YA)	Johnson, Krystl	EPA	AA	Lay	Female
General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits	Bass, Tracy	EPA	AA	Clergy	Male
General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits	Goodwin, Kevin	PD	W	Lay	Male
United Methodist Publishing House Class 2020	Mulenga, Maidstone	BW	AA	Clergy	Male
United Methodist Publishing House Class 2024	Salsgiver, Tom	SU	W	Clergy	Male
General Commission on Communication	Lauber, Melissa	BW	W	Lay	Female
General Commission on Communication	Dunn, Alyce Weaver	WPA	W	Clergy	Female
General Commission on Religion and Race (Youth)	Hill, Majesty	WV	AA	Lay	Female
General Commission on Religion and Race	Layman Knox, Anna	SU	W	Clergy	Female
General Commission Status and Role of Women	Vega-Perez, Eunice	GNJ	H	Clergy	Female
OCUIR	McCrae, Darlynn	BW	AA	Lay	Female
OCUIR	Kurien, Christopher	EPA	AS	Clergy	Male

BW: Baltimore-Washington

NE: New England

SU: Susquehanna

WV: West Virginia

AA: African American

EPA: Eastern Pennsylvania

NY: New York

UNY: Upper New York

GNJ: Greater New Jersey

PD: Peninsula-Delaware

WPA: Western Pennsylvania

AS: Asian American H: Hispanic W: White Y: Youth YA: Young Adults

NEJ Treasurer, Secretary up for re-election



Rev. David Simpson

Four treasurer and secretary positions for the Northeastern Jurisdiction are up for re-election today. Nominated are:

Treasurer: The Rev. David Simpson, recently retired from the Baltimore-Washington Conference and current NEJ treasurer. He has performed the duties of treasurer with his wife, Sylvia, as registrar. Prior to being treasurer, Simpson served as chair of the Program and Arrangement Committee for the NEJ from 2005 to 2008, and was the assistant treasurer from 2008-2012.

Secretary: The Rev. Thomas Salsgiver, current director of Connectional Ministries for the Susquehanna Conference and secretary of the NEJ. He has served in several roles at the district, jurisdictional and general church levels. He previously served as a district superintendent and director of Connectional Ministries (yes – this is his second tour of duty as a DCM).

Assistant Treasurer: The Rev. Jennifer Williams (current assistant treasurer), Susquehanna Conference.

Assistant Secretary: Sharon Darlynn McCrae, Baltimore-Washington Conference (current assistant secretary).



Rev. Tom Salsgiver

Bishop Devadhar to deliver State of the NEJ Address

By Beth DiCocco
DCA Staff



Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar, who leads the New England Conference, has been invited to deliver the State of the Northeastern Jurisdiction Address on Wednesday. The address will be part of the afternoon session that begins at 3:15 p.m.

Devadhar will speak to and about a jurisdiction that has seen many ups and downs since its members gathered last in 2012 in West Virginia.

The devastating floods in West Virginia in June, the 2014 death of New York Area Resident Bishop Martin McLee, and a difficult economy that has affected many annual conferences have all been challenges.

Bishop Devadhar will also, no doubt, talk about the many places and ways the Holy Spirit can be seen at work across the 10 conferences of the jurisdiction. The Youth Convocation, which took place just before this session began, is just one example. Conferences have seen growth, forged international relationships, and been in mission in their communities – both those within their conference borders and around the world.

The address traditionally offers an opportunity to highlight some of the specific mission and ministry happening in each conference of the NEJ, and an opportunity to celebrate together.

This is also a jurisdiction where three Boards of Ordained Ministry – Baltimore-Washington, New England and New York – have stated they will not consider sexual orientation when assessing candidates' fitness for ordained ministry.

The primary purpose of the jurisdictional conferences is, of course, to elect episcopal leaders; and for the NEJ, how many bishops would be elected here this week was in question until the close of General Conference in May.

It was proposed that due to a decline in membership, the number of bishops in the jurisdiction would drop from nine to eight, meaning only one bishop would have been elected here.

But NEJ delegates will elect two bishops, and the configuration of conferences will remain the same for the next quadrennium.

The address will be livestreamed at www.nejumc.org/2016conference-livestream.html.

Bishops, spouses to be remembered at Memorial Service

By Erik Alsgaard
DCA Staff

A sacred time of remembrance will start the NEJ Conference today, with the Service of Remembrance and Communion at 8:30 a.m.



Bishop Wertz

Two bishops and two bishops' spouses will be remembered:

- Bishop David Frederick Wertz, who served the West Virginia, Washington and Harrisburg areas, died Oct. 16, 2013, two weeks after his 97th birthday. At the time of his death, Wertz was the longest-serving bishop in the church, having been elected in 1968 as one of the first United Methodist bishops. Wertz was a champion for the new denomination, helping to forge relationships between Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist churches throughout the jurisdiction.

- Bishop Martin McLee, who served the New York Area, died Sept. 6, 2014, at the age of 59. McLee was elected in 2012.

McLee is remembered as a “champion” for marginalized people throughout the jurisdic-



Bishop McLee

tion and around the world. Prior to his election as bishop, McLee was superintendent of the Metro Boston Hope District of the New England Conference. A native of Brooklyn, New York, he answered the call to ministry at St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas, under the leadership of the Rev. Zan Wesley Holmes Jr.

- Eunice Treffry Jones Mathews, the widow of the late Bishop James K. Mathews, died Feb. 27, 2016, at the age of 101. She was the only daughter of E. Stanley and Mabel Lossing Jones, renowned Methodist missionaries, but she had her own identity and she left her own mark on The United Methodist Church. A plaque in her honor and her husband's memory was dedicated in their adopted home church of Metropolitan Memorial UMC in Washington, D.C. "Eunice Jones Mathews, wife, mother, author and noble soul whose life was ceaselessly bent toward the love of God and the care of others," the plaque reads.

- Lois Yeakel, wife of Bishop Joseph Yeakel, died March 5, 2014, at the age of 86. She and Bishop Yeakel were married 65 years and were foster parents to five children. She will be remembered for her love of the little children she embraced, her green thumb and her caring heart for all she encountered.

Bishop Marcus Matthews of the Baltimore-Washington Conference will preach the service, "Staying at the Table."

A special offering will be taken at the service, with proceeds being sent to LUMINA, the Lancaster United Methodist Inner-City Alliance, which helps impoverished people throughout Lancaster County.

The service will be live-streamed at <http://www.nejumc.org/2016conference-livestream.html>.

13 churches among 4,000 buildings deluged in West Virginia

By Deborah Coble

DCA Staff

The torrential rains and flash flooding of June 23 left in its wake more than 4,000 homes and businesses damaged or destroyed and at least 1,800 West Virginians without a home. Kanawha County Commission president, Kent Carper, spoke to the Wall Street Journal about the scope of the flooding. "Many people lost everything, and some people lost their lives...we're going to need some real help."

While damage is still being assessed, 500,000 people were without power in the aftermath of the storm, 14 water treatment stations were damaged and road and bridge repairs are estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$46 million dollars. All of this in a state with 1.8 million residents.

To this end the West Virginia Annual Conference, in partnership with WV VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters) and UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) are actively involved in the ongoing relief and recovery efforts to all in the disaster areas.

While United Methodists are familiar with UMCOR, WV VOAD is a coalition of non-profit organizations who work together during times of disaster response, relief and recovery. WV VOAD partners include the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, Save the Children, West Virginia Council of Churches, the West Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church and UMCOR, to name a few along with Volunteers WV and FEMA.

Over the past three weeks, Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball, Assistant to the Bishop JF Lacaria, and the conference disaster response coordinators, Dan and Sue Lowther, with assistance from UMCOR Executive Secretary for United States disasters Cathy Earl, and Mike DuBose from United Methodist News Service have assessed the damage to our communities, churches and parsonages.

As of July 11, thirteen churches and two parsonages have been identified as having sustained some level of





damage. Damage to three of our churches and one parsonage is catastrophic.

So that we may hold in prayer our United Methodist faith communities that have been damaged, a brief narrative of the damage sustained for each church follows. The pastor appointed to the charge is also included so that you may include him/her in your prayers along with the people served by our sister churches. This list is not meant to diminish from the important work toward recovery and rebuilding that is being done in our communities by our friends and neighbors.

United Methodists from across the state (and around the country) are responding to the call to support our neighbors with prayers, material gifts, financial gifts and physical presence. We are blessed to have in place the New Vision Depot, located at 143 Industrial Park Rd., Beaver, W.Va., as a strategically placed distribution center. Under the guidance of our conference disaster coordinators and dedicated volunteers, New Vision is a beacon of hope in a time of widespread suffering.

The New Vision Depot warehouse is stocked with flood buckets, health kits, mops, cleaning supplies, water and other donated items. These supplies are going out upon request to assist recovery efforts across the flooded region. As we have been reminded many times, the recovery phase will take a long time; this is a marathon, not a sprint.

As she reflected on the days following the flood, Bishop Steiner Ball, extended a word of gratitude. "Thank you to everyone who has allowed God to speak through them to give help, hope, service and love. Thank you for stopping in the midst of your busy lives to begin to help West Virginians begin to heal. Thank you for helping to bind our wounds and for giving food, shelter, and funds that will help to continue the recovery and healing that is just beginning!"

Please continue to lift up and support our communities and, as you are able, please share out of your giftedness so that all may be restored so safe



homes, businesses may be restored and God's people may worship in their sacred spaces.

For monetary donation checks, make payable to WVUMC Conference Treasurer, write Disaster Response #935 in the memo line, and mail to: PO Box 2469, Charleston, WV 25329.

Online giving for WV Flood Relief is now available through the United Methodist Foundation! Simply select United Methodist Disaster Response #935 and complete the form.

Candidates spend the Tuesday interviewing

Photos by Communicators from New England and New York Annual Conferences



Joseph Kenaston



LaTrelle Easterling (middle)



Irving Cotto (middle)



Derrick Porter



Adrienne Brewington (middle)



Ken Kieffer (right)



Cynthia Moore-Koikoi



We Chang (middle)



Rebekah Sweet (left)



Cathy Hall Stengel (right)



Jisun Kwak (right)



A special service for candidates: In a service designed by NEJ Episcopacy Committee Secretary Demetrio Beach, the 11 episcopal office candidates on Monday evening joined in a special time of prayer and anointing with retired Bishops Felton May, Joseph Yeakel, Violet Fisher and Ernest Lyght.

Welcome to Lancaster - and pronounce it properly

Lancaster is one of the oldest inland cities in the United States. German immigrants, who became known as Pennsylvania Dutch (from "Deutsch," meaning German), were the first to settle in the area in 1709. Lancaster is named after Lancaster, England. Hence, the proper pronunciation of Lancaster with the emphasis on the "lanc" part of the name.

William Penn's "Holy Experiment" was an attempt by the Religious Society of Friends to establish a community for themselves and other persecuted religious minorities. They hoped it would show the world how well they could function on their own without any persecution or dissension.

Fiercely persecuted Anabaptists in Germany, defying the dictates of the state church regarding baptism, were especially attracted to risk the journey to the area around Lancaster.

Methodist history in Lancaster includes the story of Henry Appenzeller who, with his wife, Ella, travelled to Korea along with others in 1887. Seoul was in political struggle. Missionaries could not set up a church, nor preach in public. Evangelism had to be done secretly. Through Appenzeller's leadership, many Methodist churches were established in Korea. In Lancaster, he and his family worshipped at what is now First United Methodist Church. Visitors from Korea regularly visit the sanctuary today, and will often linger reverently within "the Appenzeller church."

The earliest known Methodist preaching in the City of Lancaster occurred June 3, 1772, when the Rev. Joseph Pilmoor preached to a small congregation in the old courthouse. This courthouse stood in the center of Penn Square on the site of today's Soldiers and Sailors Monument, just outside the Marriott hotel, until it was razed in 1853.

In 1777, the Continental Congress met in Lancaster on September 27, making the building our nation's capitol for one day.