

Summary Edition

Daily Christian Advocate

The Northeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church



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TWO NEWEST BISHOPS CONSECRATED



The newest members of the NEJ College of Bishops Cynthia Moore-Koikoi and LaTrelle Easterling were consecrated on July 15 at First UMC in Lancaster, Pa. Full story on back page.

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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Corrections

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

Editor's Note of Thanks

For the second straight quadrennium, I have been privileged to serve as the editor of the NEJ Conference *Daily Christian Advocate*. I am grateful to the NEJ Secretary Tom Salsgiver for nominating me for the position and I am grateful to the College of Bishops for the affirmation and support.

There are several other people I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to for their contributing to the *DCA* over the course of the 2016 NEJ Conference. In essence, everyone who participated in the NEJ Conference – the delegates, reserves, youth, young adults, the episcopal nominees and the NEJ committee members – contributed to the *DCA*, insofar as they were the source of the material for the stories and reports it contained.

There are others that I would like to acknowledge more specifically: NEJ Secretary Tom Salsgiver, Assistant Secretary Sharon Darlynn McCrae, Treasurer David Simpson, Assistant Treasurer Jennifer Williams and Registrar Sylvia Simpson – whose tireless efforts made it easier for *DCA* staff to gather information from the proceedings and other sources. I'm also grateful to Dight Crain and Larry McCrae who worked with me and Jenna Clous from Padgett Communications to ensure the smooth and quick processing of the electronic balloting.

I am further indebted to Kayla Spears who spent long patient hours with me during the designing, editing, proofing, printing and distribution of the *DCA*.

I would also like to thank the conference communicators from across the NEJ: Erik Alsgaard of Baltimore-Washington, Jackie Campbell of Western Pennsylvania, Deborah Coble of West Virginia, John W. Coleman of Eastern Pennsylvania, Carolyn Conover of Greater New Jersey, Beth DiCocco of New England, Barbara Eastman of New York, Steve Hustedt of Upper New York, Melissa Lauber of Baltimore-Washington, Ashley Riddell of Upper New York, Jerry Wolgemuth of Susquehanna. Their willingness to chip in was appreciated even as they worked diligently to keep conference audiences informed of the critical decisions made at this conference.

And of course the *DCA* could not have been in the hands of the delegates had it not been for the hard work of volunteers, most of them from Eastern Pennsylvania, who also offered gracious hospitality.

Maidstone Mulenga

2016-2020 Episcopal Assignments

The following episcopal area assignments were recommended by the Episcopacy Committee and approved by NEJ delegates on Friday July 15. The assignments begin September 1, 2016.

Boston Area
New England Conference
Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar



Harrisburg Area
Susquehanna Conference
Bishop Jeremiah J. Park



Philadelphia Area
Eastern Pennsylvania Conference
Peninsula-Delaware Conference
Bishop Peggy A. Johnson



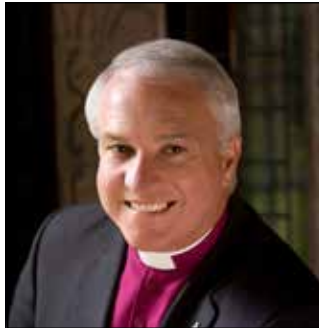
Pittsburgh Area
Western Pennsylvania Conference
Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi



New Jersey Area
Greater New Jersey Conference
Bishop John R. Schol



New York Area
New York Conference
Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton



Upper New York Area
Upper New York Conference
Bishop Mark J. Webb



Washington Area
Baltimore-Washington Conf.
Bishop LaTrelle Easterling



West Virginia Area
West Virginia Conference
Bishop Sandra L. Steiner Ball



Episcopal Elections Report

The NEJ elected two bishops at the conference this year. To be elected, an eligible person needed to receive sixty (60) percent or more of the valid ballots cast. Here is the report on the ballots.

Ballot #1 - No election - declared invalid due to too many votes

Ballot #2 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi: 71 votes; 2. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 60 votes; 3. The Rev. Derrick Porter: 37 votes

Ballot #3 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi: 75 votes; 2. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 67 votes; 3. The Rev. Derrick Porter: 36 votes

Ballot #4 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi: 83 votes; The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 77 votes; 3. The Rev. Derrick Porter: 36 votes

Ballot #5 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi: 88 votes; 2. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 84 votes; 3. The Rev. Derrick Porter: 38 votes

Ballot #6 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi: 94 votes; 2. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 87 votes; 3. The Rev. Derrick Porter: 45 votes

Ballot #7 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi: 91 votes; 2. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 88 votes; 3. The Rev. Derrick Porter: 45 votes

Ballot #8 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi: 94 votes; 2. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 84 votes; 3. The Rev. Derrick Porter: 41 votes

Ballot #9 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi: 97 votes; 2. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 81 votes; 3. The Rev. Derrick Porter: 38 votes

Ballot #10 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi: 101 votes; 2. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 79 votes; 3. The Rev. Derrick Porter: 40 votes

Ballot #11 - The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Baltimore Washington Conference, elected. Top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi: 108 votes; 2. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 73 votes; 3. The Rev. Derrick Porter: 38 votes

Ballot #12 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 64 votes; 2. The Rev. Joseph S. Kenaston: 22 votes; 3 (tie). The Rev. Rene Perez-Avalos: 18 votes; 3 (tie). The Rev. Derrick Porter: 18 votes

Ballot #13 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 69 votes; 2. The Rev. Joseph S. Kenaston: 25 votes; 3. The Rev. Rene Perez-Avalos: 24 votes

Ballot #14 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 78 votes; 2. The Rev. Rene Perez-Avalos: 30 votes; 3. The Rev. Joseph S. Kenaston: 25 votes

Ballot #15 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 87 votes; 2. The Rev. Rene Perez-Avalos: 32 votes; 3. The Rev. Joseph S. Kenaston: 24 votes

Ballot #16 - No election - top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 92 votes; 2. The Rev. Rene Perez-Avalos: 33 votes; 3. The Rev. Joseph S. Kenaston: 24 votes

Ballot #17 - The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling, New England Conference, elected. Top 3 candidates: 1. The Rev. LaTrelle Easterling: 119 votes; 2. The Rev. Rene Perez-Avalos: 39 votes; 3. The Rev. Dr. Irving Cotto: 5 votes

Resolution to the NEJ of The United Methodist Church Recommendation to the Council of Bishops' Commission

Presented by:

Rev. Ginger Gaines-Cirelli (Baltimore-Washington AC)

Rev. Charles Parker (Baltimore-Washington AC)

Kenneth Ow (Baltimore-Washington AC)

Rev. Lydia E. Muñoz (Eastern Pennsylvania AC)

Rev. Vicki Flippin (New York Annual Conference)

Carolyn Hardin Engelhardt (New York AC)

Dorlimar Lebrón Malavé (New York AC)

Steven Dry (New England AC)

Financial implications: none

WHEREAS the 2016 Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference recognizes that The United Methodist Church is deeply divided on matters of theology, social holiness, and discrimination against persons on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, so as to hinder our ministry in Christ, and

WHEREAS the strong stance taken by several Annual Conferences and Boards of Ordained Ministry within the Northeastern Jurisdiction make it clear that, without greater regional flexibility and contextuality, our Jurisdiction - and we believe our denomination - risks quickly becoming unsustainable as one body,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference affirms the decision of the General Conference in adopting the proposal "A Way Forward" by the Council of Bishops;
 2. The Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference recommends to the Council of Bishops' Commission that the Commission's proposal include a plan for restructuring the denomination so that regional bodies such as Annual Conferences, Jurisdictional Conferences, continent-wide conference bodies, or other options such as the Commission may decide "shall have the power to make such changes and adaptations of the Book of Discipline as the special conditions and the mission of the church in the area require..." consistent with the power granted Central Conferences in the Book of Discipline paragraph 543.7; and with expanded power to make contextual based adaptations of the Book of Discipline to ensure full inclusiveness.
 3. The Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference intends to begin living into greater regional flexibility and contextuality, equipping for ministry and mission in the specific area of the Northeastern United States, in part by recognizing the principled choices and actions of the Annual Conferences and Boards of Ordained Ministry in its region.
-

4 Approved, 2 Referred, 2 Rejected, 1 Ruled out of Order

A report on resolutions

Apart from the revision of rules, delegates to the 2016 NEJ Conference considered several resolutions and approved four of them, rejected two, referred two and had one approved resolution ruled out of order. Here is the breakdown of the resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED:

- NEJ College of Bishops Statement on Racism/Violence
- Recommendation to the Council of Bishops' Commission
- Call to Action to the NEJ and the NEJ College of Bishops
- Untitled resolution (formerly known as Stop the Church Trials)

RESOLUTIONS REFERRED:

- Committee Membership Requirement
- Global Connection Plan

RESOLUTIONS NOT APPROVED:

- Baltimore-Washington Delegation resolution
- Rules for Standing Committees

RESOLUTIONS RULED OUT OF ORDER:

- Action for Non-Conformity

RESOLUTION FROM THE BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON DELEGATION: Charles Parker (BW, Clergy) presented a resolution from the Baltimore-Washington Conference found on pages 16-17 of the Monday, July 11 DCA. This would establish a task force to “explore options, evaluate legal implications, and gather data that will inform decisions by Annual Conferences...” Ed Horne (NY, Clergy), who represents CFA, shared that the group met to consider the amendment and decided that it would not support the resolution because of the cost, legal fees and pension matters. CFA did not see this as work of the NEJ but of the General Conference. While it did not support the resolution, CFA urged the General Church to respond. Parker stated that since the General Church has not been proactive, it was requesting the NEJ to step up and that it would be acceptable to receiving a lower dollar amount. Bill Shillady (NY, Clergy) stated that this information was already in place, which would make a task force unnecessary and that Annual Conferences may wish to vote against it. Creed Pogue also urged defeat of the resolution citing that it was unnecessary. A vote was taken. The resolution was not approved.

RESOLUTION “RULES FOR STANDING COMMITTEES”: Tom Price (BW, lay) offered the resolution printed in the Monday, July 11, 2016 DCA on page 16. Changes to the resolution focused on items 1 and 2 starting at lines 25. Ed Horne (NY, Clergy) from CFA recommended that line 26 read as follows: “Three of the four meetings shall be held via telecommunication to control additional cost to the NEJ.” Jen Ihlo stated that the Rules Committee is opposed to the resolution in its entirety and does not support micro-managing the Episcopacy Committee. A vote was taken and the delegates did not approve the resolution.

RESOLUTION TO THE NORTHEASTERN JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL OF BISHOPS' COMMISSION presented by Ginger Gaines-Cirelli (BW, Clergy) found on page 14 of Monday, July 11 DCA edition. Ginger made an editorial change to the document – to delete the last two words, “without challenge” in item #3. She explained that the resolution creates space for ministries with people in particular contexts. Bishop Bickerton said that the College had reviewed it and found it to be in order. Following speeches, the resolution was to amend item #3 by deleting “without challenge” and adding ... and with expanded power to make contextual based adaptation of the Book of Discipline to ensure full inclusiveness. Vote was taken and the resolution approved. Mark Flynn made a motion

to delete item #3. The Body voted electronically. Results: Yes – 63; No-98. The vote did not remove Item #3. Sean Delmore (NE, Lay) presented the following motion for item #2, line 33, after the semicolon, add ... “and with expanded power to make contextual-based adaptations of the Book of Discipline to ensure full inclusiveness”. Electronic voting in support of the Delmore amendment: Yes- 98; No-63. The revised legislation with the passed amendment was voted electronically to support the resolution. Results: Yes – 109; No –56. The resolution passed.

STOP THE CHURCH TRIALS: A MORATORIUM BY BISHOPS presented by Vicki Flippin (NY, Clergy), found on page 12 of the July 11 DCA. Vicki shared the challenge of being in ministry to the LGBTQ as clergy, which motivates the need for the petition. While the College believed the NEJ Conference is the setting to have healthy conversations around these types of challenges as presented by Vicki, their review of the petition also offered some challenges. Their statement was that unless the resolution is amended it is out of order as presented. The rationale is that it calls bishops to act contrary to the judicial process provisions found in paragraphs 363 and 2701 as well as 1111, 1120, and 1220. Specifically, Judicial Council decision 1120 states that an annual conference may adopt a constitution on human sexuality that is aspirational in nature. They may not negate, violate or ignore the decision even when there are objections to those provisions. Bishop Bickerton stated his willingness to receive any amendments or substitutions to make the petition in order.

Paul Fleck (NY, Clergy) sought a Ruling of Law. His question, “Why would the attached resolution be declared out of order? Specifically, in light of the bishops’ amenability to the Jurisdictional Conference for their conduct pursuant to paragraph 523 of the Discipline and in light of the Constitutional authority granted to the Jurisdiction to prescribe rules and regulations for the Jurisdiction pursuant to paragraph 27.5 of the Discipline , why can’t a jurisdiction impose a moratorium on bishops from initiating and processing complaints and initialing investigations and trials based upon the sexual orientation of United Methodist clergy or based upon whether clergy conduct same sex weddings?”

Bishop Bickerton stated the Ruling of Law was properly before the Body for vote, which takes 1/3 votes. Paul Fleck reminded Bishop Bickerton that there is not a threshold for voting according to the Judicial Council, which was confirmed by the College.

Bishop Bickerton then ruled the request for the Ruling of Law out of order because it was a request based on a parliamentary decision and not on a paragraph of the Book of Discipline. He stated that Fleck’s leading question was a request on why the resolution would be ruled out of order. Paul Fleck then appealed the decision of the Chair. Bishop Bickerton explained that as they go through an appeal of the decision of the chair (the request for a Decision of Law is made), it must be made in specific reference to Disciplinary matters that are before the Body. The current situation is not a Disciplinary matter. The request is out of order, the petition is out of order. Bishop Bickerton informed the Body that there has been a call for the Chair. Hand / Voice vote was taken. The Body supported the Chair.

Returning to the Resolution, Gere Reist made a motion to amend the therefore part, “... requests the CFAs of the Annual Conferences of the jurisdiction state that there are no funds available for initiating and...” Electronic vote taken to support the amendment. Results: Yes – 96; No - 64. The amendment was supported.

Bishop Bickerton continued the unfinished business of the resolution found on page 12 of the July 11 DCA, which was under consideration before lunch. Paul Fleck (NY, Clergy) moved to amend the final Whereas clause on page 13 of the July 11 DCA following the word Discipline to read as follows, ... semi colon; paragraph 525 of the Book of Discipline prescribes that the Jurisdictional Conference shall have powers and duties as prescribed in the Constitution, and paragraph 27, Article V of the Constitution, mandates that the jurisdictional conferences shall have the following powers and duties and such others as may be conferred by the General Conference: 1. To promote the evangelistic, educational, missionary and benevolent interests of the church and 5. To make rules and regulations for the administration of the work of the church within the jurisdiction subject to such powers as have been or shall be vested in the General Conference.” And then further under the resolve after the word weddings ... and will promote the evangelistic, educational, missionary and benevolent interests of the church. Vote taken. Results in support of the amendment: Yes-109; No-54.

Bob Wilt (EP, Clergy) also provided an amendment – page 13, lines 40-41, to add . . . hereby recognizes its Annual Conferences and Boards of Ordained Ministries who have entered into covenant with their assigned Bishop to declare a moratorium on initiating . . . Vote taken. Results to support the Wilt amendment: Yes – 58; No – 104.

Bob Zilhaver, (WP, Clergy) made a motion to refer this resolution to the College of Bishops for a better understanding of supervisory procedures related to this petition. Vote taken. Results to refer: Yes – 71; No – 91.

Since the motion was still before the delegates, Bishop Bickerton called for an electronic vote for the final amended petition. Results to support: Yes – 108; No – 58.

Bishop Bickerton announced that the College did not want to hinder the important conversation that had taken place. They recognized and acknowledged the pain, various positions, and opinions as the church tries to find ways to be unified. Bishop Bickerton said that he regrettably declared the petition out of order.

Charles Parker (BW, Clergy) thanked Bishop Bickerton for the healthy conversations, but appealed his decision for ruling the petition out of order. Fred Brewington (NY, Lay) stated that at the time Bishop Bickerton made a statement that the matter was improperly before the delegates, it was an unamended, untested, unregulated and undocumented petition. The petition had changed in its character from the first time to what it was now. Fred said that he did not see any conferral or recognize that there was any further research done on whether or not the petition was or was not out of order. As such, given the paragraphs that were cited including paragraphs 27 of the Constitution, it mandates that the NEJ care for the evangelistic component of its responsibility as a jurisdiction. He asked as a point of order that the Bishops would consider that before ruling out of order and before the delegates challenge the Chair's decision so that they have that before them. Bishop Bickerton asked Charles Parker (BW, Clergy) to consider Brewington's recommendation because the College did not have an opportunity to confer about the amended document. Bishop Bickerton would appreciate the opportunity to allow the College to weigh in on the amended document. If allowed to do that, then a decision about whether or not the College sees it in order would be decided and greatly appreciated. Charles Parker (BW, Clergy) was in agreement as well as were the Delegates.

STOP THE CHURCH TRIALS - CONTINUED: Bishop Bickerton reported back to the Jurisdiction in a later session that the College conducted a thorough review of the resolution, Stop the Church Trials, as amended. The title is not compatible with the content of the petition. A motion is needed to strike the title so that the motion is properly in order. Moved and seconded to strike the title. Vote taken on striking the Title ... Stop the Church Trials, A moratorium by Bishops within the Northeastern Jurisdiction.

Results to strike the title: Yes - 111; No – 53.

Jeff Raffauf (EP, Clergy) requested the status on Decision of Law regarding the untitled resolution. Bishop Webb instructed delegates that it was his understanding that when a Decision of Law request has been made, delegates will need to support it.

Bishop Webb has 30 days to respond to the REQUEST FOR A DECISION OF LAW and will place that response on the NEJ website.

ACTION FOR NON CONFORMITY: Steve Dry (NE, Lay) presented the resolution found on page 14 of the DCA for Monday, July 11. He stated that the purpose of the resolution was to have a principled discussion as to whether or not we as a jurisdiction are going to continue to do harm by discriminating against the LGBTQ people in the Northeast Jurisdiction – or not. Bishop John Schol responded with a statement crafted by the College after it read the resolution. They cited the following issues with this resolution: 1. The title places the resolution out of order. 2. Decision #1292 ... Items 2 and 3 are out of order because the legislation specifically talks about not following the Book of Discipline. Bishop Schol shared a Judicial Council ruling that a Body cannot pass legislative action that encourages actions or refraining from actions that are contrary to the Book of Discipline (a Body cannot take an action that would encourage people to not follow the Discipline or to do things that are incompatible with the Discipline). Items 1 and the paragraph 4 are okay in terms of Jurisdictional action

today.

Comparing the Non-Conforming petition to a personal experience of non-conformance in his professional career, Fred Brewington (NY, Lay) shared that he stood in favor of the petition being ruled out of order. Although he would not challenge #1292, he asked if the College considered paragraph 335 of the Book of Discipline, which dealt with questions as guidelines and the preparation for examination of those who are to be ordained to be pastors and are leaders. He referenced the section that candidates may be in jeopardy if they answered yes that they minister to others regardless of race, age, gender, ethnicity, and sexuality.

Bob Zilhaver (WP, Clergy) made a motion that this resolution not be ruled out of order but to refer it to the Bishops Commission on Human Sexuality that will be formed. It was seconded. Vote was taken. Results to refer: Yes – 66; No – 98. The original resolution was revisited, vote taken. Results to approve: Yes – 91; No – 74. The resolution passed.

However, Bishop Johnson ruled that it was out of order as is.

Vicki Flippin (NY, Clergy) requested the resolution be reconsidered for not being out of order. Bishop Schol stated that according to parliamentary procedure, when the chair is challenged, both the chair and challenger must justify their actions, so that the Body can vote whether the item is in order or not. Fred Brewington (NY, Lay) clarified that Vicki invited the College to reconsider and did not make a motion to challenge the ruling out of order/challenge the Chair's ruling. It was not a motion to reconsider. Bishop Johnson will invite the College for conversation regarding reconsideration of the ruling that the resolution was out of order. The College will report back.

Bishop Schol and Bishop Johnson presented a statement from the College regarding the Non-Conformity Resolution Request. Although they recognize the resolution is out of order per their rules, they also recognize the hard work that went into the preparation, presentation and discussions around the resolution.

Charlie Parker (BW, Clergy) appealed the decision of the past Chair to the full Body. Vote to support the decision of the Chair that the appeal was out of order. Results: Yes - 73; No - 94. The Body agreed with the decision of the Chair and supported the decision of the Chair that it was out of order.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT: Kenneth Ow (BW, Lay) presented the report, which asked that the Episcopacy Committee have the same membership type rules that the Staff Parish Relations have. Jen Ihlo reported that the resolution was referred to Rules, which it opposed. A motion was made to refer all of this resolution to the Rules Committee for their consideration and report in 2020.

GLOBAL CONNECTION PLAN: Report from Tracey Merrick (WPA, Lay) and Denise Smartt Sears (NY, Clergy). Resolution to refer Global Connection Plan to Special Commission, CT, and Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters was approved.

CALL TO ACTION TO THE NEJ AND THE NEJ COLLEGE OF BISHOPS was presented by Joe Daniels (BW, Clergy) from the NEJ Black United Methodist Pastors (BUMP), NEJ Black Leadership Forum (BLF) and NEJ Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR). Delegates pledged to work together as United Methodists to fight the scourge of racism and unanimously approved the resolution that called for the church to do more to fight discrimination, to confront racism, and to affirm that all lives matter in God's eyes. The delegates also vowed to help their annual conferences to initiate conversations on white privilege, white supremacy, racism and oppression within district, sub-district and each local church. The approved resolution also called on the NEJ to evaluate and address the impact of structural and institutional racism on people of color, particularly concerning the closing of black churches and "how current ordination processes in the annual conferences affect black persons interested in ordained ministry." As part of their pledge, all the annual conferences will be required to provide an annual update on work to the NEJ Committee on Episcopacy and the Multi-Ethnic Center for Ministry. The NEJ also agreed to make sure that black leaders are represented at every level of the Jurisdiction; to start more black churches, to increase the number of viable and sustainable black churches and ministries in the NEJ.

Nominating Committee 2016 Report NEJ Committees

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
WPA (Youth)	Landman, Mollie	W	Lay	Female
WV Young Adult Council (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 Lay Delegate	Marden, Bonnie	W	Lay	Female
NE Ordained Clergy 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 Ordained Clergy Delegate	Kenaston, Judi	W	Lay	Female
WV Lay Delegate	Finegan, Mary Ellen	W	Clergy	Female
WPA Ordained Clergy Delegate	Zilhaver, Bob	W	Clergy	Male
WPA Lay Delegate	Gregory, Sharon	AA	Lay	Female

Finance And Administration

Clergy-NE	Nicol, David	W	Clergy	Male
Clergy-UNY	Rood, Sherri	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	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	Dean, Madison	EA	Lay	Female
Youth-UNY	Aiosa, Zach	W	Lay	Male
Young Adult-EPA	Wims, Tamara	AA	Lay	Female
Young Adult-UNY	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	Female
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	Cotto, Irving	H	Clergy	Male
GNJ Delegate or Reserve	Bennett, Tanya	W	Clergy	Female
NE Delegate or Reserve	Hewett, Rebecca	W	Lay	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
Young Adult – GNJ (YA)	Young, Nadiera	AA	Lay	Female
Youth – 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	Harman, Janet	W	Clergy	Female
WPA Delegate or Reserve	Chung, Sung S.	AS	Clergy	Male
Youth - WPA	Kennedy, Kiersten	W	Lay	Female
Young Adult - SU	Gowe, Bruce	W	Clergy	Male

VISION TABLE

BWC - DCM	Mulenga, Maidstone	AA	Clergy	Male
BWC- Representative	Latona, Christine	W	Lay	Female
EPA - DCM	Kurien, Christopher	AS	Clergy	Male
EPA- Representative - Youth	Tirado, Jr, Jose	H	Lay	Male
GNJ - DCM	Burgos, Hector	H	Clergy	Male
GNJ- Representative	Kent, Cynthia	N	Lay	Female
NE - DCM	Robinson-Johnson, Erica	W	Clergy	Female
NE- Representative - Youth	Easterling, Miles	AA	Lay	Male
NY - DCM	Curry, Matt	W	Clergy	Male
NY- Representative	Warner, Rashid	AA	Lay	Male
PD - DCM	Gordy-Smith, Vicki	W	Clergy	Female
PD- Representative	Parker, Carlton	AA	Lay	Male

SU - DCM	Salsgiver, Tom	W	Clergy	Male
SU- Representative	Miller, Layne	W	Lay	Female
UNY - DCM	Gottschalk-Fielding, Bill	W	Clergy	Male
UNY- Representative	Allen, Suzanne	W	Lay	Female
WV- DCM	Krimmel, Ken	W	Clergy	Male
WV – Representative	Lyden, Royce	NA	Lay	Female
WPA - DCM	Cox, Gregory	W	Clergy	Male
WPA- Representative	Ward, Peggy	AA	Lay	Female
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
EPA Lay Observer	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 Alternative	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	Englehardt, Caroline	W	Lay	Female
FT Local Pastor UNY	Chesbro, Brad	W	Lay	Male
Laypersons BW	Ihlo, Jen	W	Lay	Female
Laypersons PD	Pehlam, Lawrence	AA	Lay	Male
Laypersons 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	Lay	Female
Full time Local Pastor Alternate EPA	Stippich, Robert	W	Lay	Male
Laypersons Alternatives NE	Harrell, Oscar	AA	Lay	Male
Laypersons Alternatives NY	Littlejohn, Roena	AA	Lay	Female
Laypersons Alternatives WPA	Merrick, Tracy	W	Lay	Male

GENERAL BOARDS AND AGENCIES

General Council on Finance and Administration	Ow, Kenneth	BW	AS	Lay	Male
General Council on Finance and Administration	Colorado, Judy	GNJ	AS	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, Dorlimar	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 YA - Adult Worker	Amey-Sutton, Bethany	GNJ	AS	Lay	Female
Division on Ministries with Young People - Youth	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)	Pena, 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
The United Methodist Publishing House Class 2020	Mulenga, Maidstone	BW	AA	Clergy	Male
The 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

EPA: Eastern Pennsylvania
 NY: New York
 UNY: Upper New York

GNJ: Greater New Jersey
 PD: Peninsula-Delaware
 WPA: Western Pennsylvania

AA: African American AS: Asian American H: Hispanic W: White NA: Native American Y: Youth YA: Young Adults

Quilted by Connection – A wrap-up of the NEJ Conference

The 20th Session of the Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church began at 7 p.m. Monday, July 11, when Philadelphia Area Resident Bishop Peggy Johnson welcomed fellow bishops, delegates, reserves and visitors to the Marriott Lancaster, site of the 2016 conference.

The welcome was followed by Native American Act of Repentance in which the church acknowledged its role in the past atrocities committed against native peoples. “On behalf of our ancestors, we fall to our knees and repent,” said Bishop Johnson. “Never again will we do this to each other,” the bishop said.

Later, Dr. Greg Carey, professor of New Testament at Lancaster Seminary led an interactive Bible study based on Ephesians 4:16. The meeting adjourned with interview groups gathering to organize for Tuesday’s interviews and Episcopal Nominees meeting in a prayer session.

TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2016

The day was spent interviewing episcopal nominees. Delegates and youth representatives met in eight assigned Interview Groups from 8:45 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Each Interview Group met with the nominees for about 45 minutes. Episcopal nominees: Adrienne Brewington, We Chang, Irving Cotto, LaTrelle Easterling, Cathy Hall Stengel, Joseph Kenaston, Ken Kiefer, Jisun Kwak, Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Derrick Porter, Rebekah Sweet.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016 – Morning session

The morning session opened with Praise and Worship, Holy Communion and a Memorial Service. Preacher was Bishop Marcus Matthews with Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball and the Rev. Thomas Lank as celebrants of the Communion. The Memorial Service honored Bishop Frederick Wertz, Mrs. Lois Yeakel, Bishop Martin McLee, and Mrs. Eunice Jones Mathews.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016 - Mid-morning session

CALL TO ORDER: The business session was gavelled in by NEJ College of Bishops President Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball with greetings, welcome and call to order. She thanked Bishop Ernest Lyght for assisting her and also thanked Tom Salsgiver, NEJ Secretary, and Darlynn McCrae, Assistant Secretary for their work.

Surrounded by active and retired Bishops who stood with Bishop Ball, she read a Call to Action statement, in which the Bishops called for action against racism, discrimination and violence. Part of the statement reads, “Together, we (College of Bishops) claim the need to listen more deeply and to seek greater understanding for those who cry out for justice. We commit ourselves to seeking justice, supporting faithful law enforcement officers, and empowering the movement of people toward more healthy community engagement within the areas we serve.”

The statement prompted a standing ovation and numerous positive responses. After the Bishops returned to their seats, Bishop Ball read the NEJ theme Scripture, Ephesians 4:15-16, and invited Bishop Peggy Johnson forward to thank her and the host team /various committees for their hard work. Bishop Johnson welcomed all to the NEJ, which was being held within the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference.

ROLL CALL, CREDENTIALS REPORT AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA: NEJ Secretary Tom Salsgiver (SU, Clergy) announced the following: 172 delegates are present and eligible for voting; 20 Youth are present. It should be noted that the NEJ is the only Jurisdiction that is intentional with including youth. Three bishops sent regrets for being unable to attend: Bishop George W. Bashore, Bishop C. Dale White, and Bishop Alfred Johnson (who is attending the Western Jurisdictional Conference). In addition to the roll call, Tom moved the adoption of the agenda, as printed in the Advance DCA with the flexibility for adjusting business items when needed. It was seconded and voted with approval.

Tom moved to grant permission to the officers, NEJ Committee chairs and presenters who may not be delegates to share as needed during sessions. It was seconded and voted with approval. He noted the Sessions Committees (Courtesies, Credentials, Examination of Journals, and Journal Review) were appointed by the College of Bishops and will function only during the NEJ.

NEJ PLAN OF ORGANIZATION AND RULES OF ORDER: Jen Ihlo (BW, Lay) stated that the Rules of Order are needed to conduct business and vote. The Rules Committee completed review of the Plan or Organization and Rules of Order, which needed to be rearranged to make provision for articles and new sections to be added; clarify language; and make several substantive changes. After describing changes, edits and discussions, motions made to adopt Rules of Order (ADCA, pp 32-39) Articles 1 through VII, Rules 1 through 43 – except Rules 34, 35, 36 – which were approved. An amendment to Rule 38, page 38 line 39 was made by Tim Riss (NY, Clergy). It states, “Substitute ‘Been’ for ‘Withdrawn or’ so that it reads “Any ballot for a nominee who has been elected shall be invalid.” Vote was taken for support of the amendment, which did not pass. Greater New Jersey made a motion to refer to the Rules Committee.

EPISCOPACY COMMITTEE REPORT: Bonnie Marden, Chair (NE Lay) gave the report found on page 42-43 of the Advance DCA. Bonnie requested the body to recognize the three retired bishops who provided leadership in the New York Annual Conference: Bishop Susan Morrison, Bishop Ernest Lyght, and Bishop Jane Middleton. Because of the 2016 General Conference, the NEJ will not lose an episcopal area. Therefore, this NEJ certified the election of two bishops. The Episcopacy Committee also certified the retirement of Bishop Marcus Matthews, which was affirmed by the body. Fred Brewington (NY-Lay), member of the Episcopacy Committee, moved the adoption of the College of Bishops’ statement. It was unanimously seconded, voted and approved by the entire body.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE AND ELECTRONIC VOTING: Bishop Steiner Ball reminded the NEJ that for Matters of Personal Privilege, persons are to place their messages in writing and submit to the NEJ Secretary for placement on the agenda. Bishop Steiner Ball reviewed the electronic voting process for delegates with Maidstone Mulenga (BWC – DCA editor) providing instructions for both the electronic voting device and write-in process. After several tests using the keypad, the body began the voting process. Tom Salsgiver, NEJ Secretary, reminded the body that there were 172 delegates credentialed to vote and that for an election there must be 60% valid votes.

BALLOTING: Bishop Steiner Ball led the body in prayer and gave instructions for voting. 1st Ballot: delegates were to vote for two persons. She also instructed tellers to distribute write-in paper ballots.

She thanked the NEJ for their participation. Closing prayer and grace provided by Ellis Conley (WC, Clergy).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016 - Afternoon session

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Jane Middleton called the afternoon session to order and thanked Bishop Skeete for his assistance for the afternoon.

BALLOTING: She reported the results of Ballot #1 - Ballots Cast: 173; Invalid Ballots: 2; Valid Ballots: 171; Needed to Elect: VOIDED because 173 ballots were cast. No election. Ballot #2 taken.

RULES: Jen Ihlo continued with the Rules Committee. A proposed amendment for Article VI, Section I-3 was referred to the Rules Committee. An explanation regarding expenses to be paid for youth was covered in the new Policy section on page 31 of the Advance DCA.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #2 - Ballots Cast: 169; Invalid Ballots: 1; Valid Ballots: 168; Needed to Elect: 101. No election. Ballot #3 taken.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Ed Horne (NY, Clergy) reviewed the CFA report on pages 11-12 in the Advanced DCA. The CFA committee voted to continue funding for Anna Howard Shaw Center, Multi-Ethnic Center, Korean-American Ministry, and Volunteers in Mission and will include an evaluation to assess effectiveness and how they are progressing toward their goals. Request made for CFA to include in the 2016-2020 NEJ Budget the amount of \$240,000 to cover the lost income to EPA if the NEJ aligns PD with BWC at the 2016 NEJ Session. It was seconded that the recommendation be referred to CFA. The chair recommended the NEJ vote to approve the budget of \$1,347, 375 as presented.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016 - Mid-afternoon session

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Marcus Matthews called the meeting to order. Thanked Bishop Stith for his assistance. Bishop Stith introduced Bishop Maryanne Swenson, preacher for Thursday, July 14 morning session.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #3 - Ballots Cast: 171; Invalid Ballots: 3; Valid Ballots: 168; Needed to Elect: 101. No election.

STATE OF THE JURISDICTIONAL EPISCOPACY ADDRESS: Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar gave the Jurisdictional Episcopacy Address.

RULES: Jen Ihlo responded to a question about youth being included as voting delegates. Jen shared that according to Rules and the Book of Discipline, non-delegates cannot vote. The importance of annual conferences to elect youth as part of their delegation was stressed.

BALLOTING: Ballot #4 taken.

RULES: After providing reasons for changes with Rules, Jen Ihlo moved for the adoption of Art. 1 Org. of NEJ Conf. ADCA. pp 15-19; Art. II Vision Table, ADCA, pp 19-21; Art. III College of Bishops, ADCA, pp 21-22; Art. VIII Disciplinary Committees, ADCA pp 30-31; Art. IX, NEJ Policies ADCA pp 31-32. They were adopted.

COURTESIES COMMITTEE: William Meekins (WPA, Clergy), Tom White Wolf Fassett (UNY, Clergy), Carmen Vianese (UNY, Lay) and Judi Kenaston (WV, Lay). William Meekins invited the committee to come forward to welcome guests: Fran Kleeberg, Episcopal Services at GCFA; Geri Reist, Secretary of The General Conference; Dight Crain, former NEJ Treasurer; Amy Valdez Barker, Executive Secretary of the Connectional Table; Leavey Bautista, Assistant General Secretary of General Board of Church and Society; Beth Capen, Judicial Council; Dennis Blackwell, Judicial Council.

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA PRESENTATION: Christopher Kurien (EPA, Clergy). A commemorative booklet was presented to the NEJ (delegates and bishops). EPA also presented monetary gifts: \$10,000 gift to Africa University in support of Bishop Matthews; \$7,000 to create an endowment for Lumina for needy children in Lancaster in honor of Bishop Peggy Johnson; \$7,000 to Imagine No Malaria. Extra books will be available for

sale at \$10 each.

CLOSING: Bishop Stith provided the closing prayer and Dinner Grace.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016 – Evening Session

CALLED TO ORDER: Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar called the session to order. He thanked Bishop Cliff Ives for his assistance and asked him to open with prayer.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #4 - Ballots Cast: 171; Invalid Ballots: 1; Valid Ballots: 170; Needed to Elect: 102. No election. Ballot #5 taken.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: EPA Youth, Michael High and Jose Tirado, thanked the body for the opportunity to attend the NEJ and requested that youth pray over the delegates and next ballots, which was led by Jose Tirado.

RESOLUTION FROM THE BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE: Charles Parker (BW, Clergy) presented a resolution from the Baltimore-Washington Conference that would establish a task force to “explore options, evaluate legal implications, and gather data that will inform decisions by Annual Conferences.” A vote was taken, and the resolution was not approved.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #5 - Ballots Cast: 172; Invalid Ballots: 1; Valid Ballots: 171; Needed to Elect: 103. No election. Ballot #6 taken.

RULES: Jen Ihlo continued with Rule 34. With amendments, it was voted and passed. An amendment was made for the Rules of Order, Article VI, Rule 35, in the ADCA – to read, “Mass-produced advocacy materials, mass mailings or electronic or postal means for campaign paraphernalia, and fundraising for the purpose of campaigning or supporting/opposing a nominee for the Episcopacy are prohibited.” It was voted and passed. Rule 36 was voted and approved.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #6 - Ballots Cast: 172; Invalid Ballots: 0; Valid Ballots: 172; Needed to Elect: 104. No election. Ballot #7 taken.

RESOLUTION: RULES FOR STANDING COMMITTEES: Tom Price (BW, Clergy). This document was listed in the DCA on Monday, July 11, 2016, on page 16. A vote was taken and the delegates did not approve the resolution.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #7 - Ballots Cast: 172; Invalid Ballots: 1; Valid Ballots: 171; Needed to Elect: 103. No election. Ballot #8 taken.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #8 - Ballots Cast: 172; Invalid Ballots: 1; Valid Ballots: 171; Needed to Elect: 103. No election. Ballot #9 taken.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGES: Cathy Hall Stengel withdrew her name. Jerod Lycett (Sus, Lay) requested that the body not be adjourned until at least one person was elected. That was not supported.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #9 - Ballots Cast: 171; Invalid Ballots: 1; Valid Ballots: 170; Needed to Elect: 102. No election. Ballot #10 taken.

NOMINATIONS REPORT: Bishop Weaver presented the NEJ Nominations report for NEJ Committees and Boards and Agencies with corrections noted. Joan Carter Rimbach (BW, Clergy) shared her concern that the Nomination’s report did not reflect diversity. Bishop Weaver assured her that this would be addressed once the report was corrected.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #10 - Ballots Cast: 172; Invalid Ballots: 2; Valid Ballots: 170; Needed to Elect: 102. No election. Ballot #11 taken.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Robin Hynicka (EPA, Lay) from EPA – read a statement that supported inclusion of women of color at the foot of the cross.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #11 - Ballots Cast: 171; Invalid Ballots: 3; Valid Ballots: 168; Needed to Elect: 101. There was an election at 8:55 p.m. for Cynthia Moore-Koikoi with 108 votes. Bishop-lect Cynthia Moore-Koikoi was greeted by her husband, Pastor Rafael Koikoi, Bishop Marcus Matthews, Bishop John Schol and the Baltimore-Washington Conference delegation as soon as the results were read. She was warmly greeted on stage by the NEJ College of Bishops, followed by thanks and praise for the journey.

Ballot #12 taken.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #12 - Ballots Cast: 167; Invalid Ballots: 0; Valid Ballots: 167; Needed to Elect: 101. No election.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Kenneth Kieffer (NY, Clergy) withdrew his name from the episcopacy elections.

BALLOTING: Ballot #13 taken.

RULES: Jen Ihlo returned to the microphone to speak about the election of non DCMs by the delegations. The motion, "Move to remove the Vision Table from the Nominations Report for the purpose of allowing the delegations to look again at the non-DCM members of the Vision Table tonight (July 13) with an eye toward diversity on the Vision Table. She felt that would address Joan Carter Rimbach's concern about ethnic balance. It was approved.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #13 - Ballots Cast: 167; Invalid Ballots: 0; Valid Ballots: 167; Needed to Elect: 101. No election.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGES: The following candidates withdrew their names from the nominees list: We Hyun Chang and William B. Meekins.

PRAYER by Bishop Park.

BALLOTING: Ballot #14 taken.

NOMINATIONS REPORT: Bishop Weaver moved the Nominating Committee report be accepted without the Vision Table section. It was voted and accepted. The annual conference delegations will meet Wednesday night or Thursday morning at 7:30 a.m. to bring their names for the Vision Table. Another vote will then be taken to accept the overall Nominating Committee report.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #14 - Ballots Cast: 172; Invalid Ballots: 0; Valid Ballots: 172; Needed to Elect: 104. No election. Ballot #15 taken.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Secretary, Tom Salsgiver and Assistant Secretary, Darlynn McCrae; David Simpson, Treasurer and Jen Williams, Assistant Treasurer. Vote was taken for each officer and elected for the quadrennium.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #15 - Ballots Cast: 170; Invalid Ballots: 0; Valid Ballots: 170; Needed to Elect: 102. No election.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGES: Madison Dean (WV, Youth observer) and Jose Tirado (EPA, Youth) requested to pray before the next ballot is taken. Jose led prayer before Ballot #16 taken.

RESOLUTION: CALL TO ACTION TO THE NEJ AND THE NEJ COLLEGE OF BISHOPS: Joe Daniels (BW, Clergy) – The delegates were asked to review the resolution, "Call to Action to the NEJ and the NEJ College of Bishops" as printed in the July 12 DCA on page 8. The body agreed to receive the replacement to the original document and to address it on Thursday, July 14.

BALLOTING: Results of Ballot #16 - Ballots Cast: 170; Invalid Ballots: 0; Valid Ballots: 170; Needed to Elect: 102. No election.

THE MEMORIAL OFFERING totaled \$4,310.32 for Lumina. Wednesday's session adjourned with prayer by Bishop Park.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2016 - Morning Session

CALL TO ORDER: Morning session called to order by Bishop John Schol with prayer led by Bishop Felton May. **Personal Privileges:** Five Episcopal Nominees withdrew their names: Adrienne Brewington, Derrick Porter, Jisun Kwak, Becki Sweet and Joseph Kenanston. Bishop Schol offered prayer.

CERTIFICATION: NEJ Secretary, Tom Salsgiver (SU, Clergy) certified 172 voting delegates.

PRAYER: Baltimore-Washington youth prayed before Ballot #17 was taken.

WORSHIP: Bishop Mary Ann Swenson delivered the morning message.

RECOGNITION: Bishop Schol recognized the former NEJ Secretary, Ruth Daugherty, who is from the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference.

YOUTH: Madison Dean (WV, Youth observer) shared a reflection about being called into the ministry and giving God control for the journey. Upper New York youth prayed over the delegates.

RESULTS OF BALLOT #17 - Cast-165; invalid-0; valid-165; needed-101. There was an election at 10 a.m. – LaTrelle Easterling received 119 votes. Escorted to the stage by Bishops Devadhar and Weaver and greeted by the College of Bishops, Bishop Easterling praised God for the opportunity to serve as an episcopal leader. Her husband, Rev. Marion Easterling and her son, Miles, joined her in the celebration.

RESOLUTION: CALL TO ACTION TO THE NEJ AND THE NEJ COLLEGE OF BISHOPS presented by Joe Daniels. After perfecting the document, it was voted and approved by the Body with a pledge from all delegates, youth and the College of Bishops for implementation.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGES: Shirley Readdean (UNY, Lay) stated that she was overwhelmed by the historical event that she witnessed in reference to the election of two female ebony bishops in the NEJ. Julian Archibald (UNY, Lay) asked if the NEJ could share its work with the Pan-Methodist family.

PRAYER: Bishop May sealed the Call to Action covenant with prayer.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2016 - Mid-morning Session

CALL TO ORDER: After calling the session to order, Bishop Tom Bickerton asked Bishop Maryann Swenson to update the NEJ on her missional journey. Bishop Swenson will attend the AME Zion Quadrennial Session in Greensboro, NC, and will eagerly share with them and other Pan-Methodist churches the CALL TO ACTION TO THE NEJ AND THE NEJ COLLEGE OF BISHOPS that was approved in the NEJ. Bishop Bickerton thanked Bishop Ives for assisting.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Bishop Bickerton opened the session with a heart-warming story about grace, which was lovingly demonstrated by his father in his teen years. Bishop Bickerton challenged the Body to also model grace in their interactions with the church and community. He stated that God has given us the keys to be the best church that we can be by lovingly modeling his grace. Bishop Ives centered the Body in prayer.

RESOLUTION TO THE NORTHEASTERN JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL OF BISHOPS' COMMISSION presented by Ginger Gaines-Cirelli (BW, Clergy) found on page 14 of Monday, July 11, DCA edition. After perfecting the resolution, it was voted and approved.

COURTESIES: Recognition of the Rev. Dr. HiRho Park, GBHEM.

RESOLUTION: STOP THE CHURCH TRIALS: A MORATORIUM BY BISHOPS presented by Vicki Flippin (NY), found on page 12 of the July 11 DCA. Discussions to continue after lunch.

COURTESIES: William Meekins (WP, Clergy) recognized Dr. HiRho Park, GBHEM; Dr. Arthur Pressley, Multi Ethnic Center; Mrs. Joann McClain, Council of Bishops Assistant; Greg Forrester, General Secretary of UMCOR.

PRAYER: WPA Youth provided the closing prayer and grace. The session adjourned for lunch.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2016 – Afternoon

CALL TO ORDER AND SPECIAL GUEST: Bishop Tom Bickerton called the NEJ to order and invited special guest to the stage, John Zimmerman, representing Disciple Bible Study that is celebrating 30 years, John updated the NEJ on its work and a new fast track study / 24 weeks.

RESOLUTION: STOP THE CHURCH TRIALS: A MORATORIUM BY BISHOPS: Bishop Bickerton continued the unfinished business of the resolution found on page 12 of the July 11 DCA, which was under consideration before lunch. Delegates voted on the final amended petition. Results to support: Yes – 108; No – 58. Bishop Bickerton noted that the College, not wanting to hinder important conversations that had taken place - completely recognized and acknowledged the pain, various positions, and opinions as the church tries to find ways to be unified. However, Bishop Bickerton said that he regrettably had to declare the petition out of order. Charles Parker (BW, Clergy) thanked Bishop Bickerton for the healthy conversations, but appealed his decision. Fred Brewington (NY, Lay) asked as a point of order that the Bishops would reconsider before ruling out of order and before the delegates challenge the Chair's decision. Charles Parker agreed to this recommendation to allow the

college to weigh in on the amended document. Bishop Bickerton said that if allowed to do that, then a decision about whether or not the college sees it in order would be decided.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2016 - Mid-afternoon

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Peggy Johnson called the afternoon session to order and thanked Bishop John Schol for his assistance.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The NEJ Treasurer, David Simpson (BW), thanked all conferences, NEJ boards and agencies for meeting all apportionment goals in full and for exercising faithful stewardship. David announced that the NEJ is in a sound position as indicated in the distributed copies of the balance sheet and income/expense summary to delegates and bishops. Treasurer's report approved and accepted.

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION REPORT: Ed Horne (NY, Clergy) is the NEJ Chair of the Council on Finance and Administration Committee. He reported that there were no additional proposals for the report as found on pages 11-12 of the ADCA. Ed moved the expense line item of \$1,347,375 (which will be apportioned to Annual Conferences) for approval. Projected apportionments for this quadrennium has been forwarded to all annual conferences by the NEJ Treasurer David Simpson. Conferences were reminded of the importance of apportionments, which helps the NEJ meet the budget. The amount of \$1,347,375 was voted and approved.

JOURNAL REPORT: Ralph Ordour (NE, Lay), Anne Horton (SU, Lay), Noel Chin (NY, Clergy), Michelle Bogue Trost (UNY, Clergy) provided the report. All were in order.

RESOLUTION: ACTION FOR NON-CONFORMITY: Steve Dry (NE) presented the resolution found on page 14 of the DCA for Monday, July 11. He stated that the purpose of the resolution was to have a principled discussion as to whether or not we as a jurisdiction are going to continue to do harm by discriminating against the LGBTQ people in the Northeast Jurisdiction – or not. Bishop John Schol responded with a statement crafted by the College after it read the resolution. They cited the following issues with this resolution: 1. The title places the resolution out of order. 2. Decision #1292 ... Items 2 and 3 are out of order because the legislation specifically talks about not following the Book of Discipline. Bishop Schol shared a Judicial Council ruling that a body cannot pass legislative action that encourages actions or refraining from actions that are contrary to the Book of Discipline (a Body cannot take an action that would encourage people to not follow the Discipline or to do things that are incompatible with the Discipline). Items 1 and the last paragraph 4 were okay in terms of Jurisdictional action today. Bishop Johnson will invite the College for conversation regarding reconsideration of the ruling that the resolution was out of order. The College will report back.

NOMINATIONS REPORT: Bishop Weaver thanked the Conference Delegations for working hard to revisit persons for the Vision Table found on page 7 of Wednesday's DCA. The work was needed so that the NEJ Committees can organize. The Body received the Vision Table report.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Rene Perez (NE, Clergy) and Irving Cotto (EP, Clergy) and others indicted that they stand with their African American brothers and sisters against any type of racial or gender discrimination. Greatest joy was the election of two African American sisters as bishops. Perez and Cotto expressed thanks for being honored to be among the episcopal nominees. They shared that while Latinos/Latinas represent the largest ethnic minority in the United States they are often forgotten when it comes to the Episcopacy. They look forward to the day when Latinos/Latinas will be represented in the NEJ in the Episcopacy office.

COURTESIES: Following announcements, William Meekins gave the courtesies report: Leigh Goodrich, General Religion and Race; Jose Martinez, General Board of Pensions.

Break for NEJ Committees to organize. Dinner afterwards

Thursday, July 14, 2016 - Evening

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Mark Webb called the NEJ evening session to order and introduced his assistant, Bishop Ernest Lyght. Youth from Susquehanna and Greater New Jersey opened the session with prayer for the delegates, Bishop Matthews, and the tragedy in Nice.

TASK FORCE: Over lunch, the College of Bishops met and appointed a 5-member task force to begin immediately working with the legislation that was approved around Black Lives Matter.

BOUNDARIES / TRANSFER: Kathleen Kind (SU,) submitted the following request to the NEJ: “In June 2015, the AC session for both Susquehanna and Western PA affirmed the transfer of Fishing Creek and Riverside UM churches from the Williamsport District of the Susquehanna Conference to the Kane District of the Western PA conference as of July 1, 2016. Prior to these AC sessions, both Fishing Creek and Riverside church conferences asked affirmation for the transfer for para 41 on May 10, 2015. According to Disc para 40, boundaries of an annual conference shall be determined by the Jurisdictional Conference – a vote is required by NEJ to ratify this transfer.” The 2016 NEJ voted and approved the transfer.

RULES: Jen Ihlo (BW, Lay) informed the NEJ that The Plan of Organization and all Rules except for Rule 35 have been approved. Rule 35 with approved amendments was voted and supported. This means that all Rules are now completed and accepted.

RULES COMMITTEE AND EPISCOPACY COMMITTEE REPORT: Jen Ihlo (BW, Lay) spoke about the work of these two committees who were tasked in 2012 to review how Episcopal Nominees are selected by their conferences to bring back the possibility of a unified episcopacy endorsement process. Jen said that committees cannot dictate to the annual conferences what process to use. The Body received and affirmed the report.

RESOLUTION: NON-CONFORMITY RESOLUTION REQUEST MADE FOR THE COLLEGE: Bishop Schol and Bishop Johnson presented a statement from the College. Although they recognize the resolution is out of order per their rules, they also recognize the hard work that went into the preparation, presentation and discussions around the resolution. Charlie Parker (BW, Clergy) appealed the decision of the past chair to the full body. Vote to support the decision of the chair that the appeal was out of order. Results: Yes - 73; No - 94. The Body agreed with the decision of the Chair that the petition was out of order.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Grace Pak (GNJ, Clergy) and other Asian Americans of the NEJ celebrated the blessings that occurred during the conference, specifically how diversity and inclusivity were increasing. While pleased to have been part of electing two African American Women and approving the Call to Action, which will address racism in a constructive and ongoing manner through education, they asked the NEJ to continue to work to bring more diversity and inclusiveness throughout the nomination process. They said they were grateful to offer two Asian Americans to the Episcopal process.

STOP THE TRIALS RESOLUTION: the “Stop the Trials” petition was re-visited. Bishop Bickerton noted that the College of Bishops was aware that the Judicial Council reviews petitions in their entirety. “We have looked at the ‘Stop the Trials’ resolution as it was amended,” he said. “Our finding is that the title is not compatible with the content of the petition, and that if a motion is made to amend the title, the petition is properly in order.” A motion to “strike the title” was made and approved, 111-53, allowing the final version of the resolution to be adopted.

However, Jeffrey Raffauf (EPA) made a motion for a decision of law regarding the “untitled” resolution, asking whether the approved resolution was in order regarding paragraphs 20, 523, and 525 of the Book of Discipline and the Judicial Council Decision 96 and 886.”

Bishop Mark Webb, who was presiding at that time, has 30 days to respond to the REQUEST FOR A DECISION OF LAW and it will be placed on the NEJ website.

BISHOP MARCUS AND MRS. BARBARA MATTHEWS RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Delegates and leaders of NEJ celebrated Bishop Marcus Matthews and his wife, Barbara, for their 42 years in ministry. Bishop Matthews served 12 years as an episcopal leader in three areas; Philadelphia, Upper New York and Washington. His ministry was celebrated through testimonies and videos from Upper New York, Eastern Pennsylvania, Peninsula-Delaware and Baltimore-Washington Conferences. Desert reception followed at the end of the evening session.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2016 - Evening Session

CALL TO ORDER AND THANKS: Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball called the session to order by acknowledging and thanking the musicians who have supported worship and praise. Led by Lydia Muñoz (EPA, Clergy). Yong Kwan Jung, on keys; Calvin Sellers on bass; Marcus Johnson on drums; Dorlimar Lebron Malave on guitar; Jeremy Graff on guitar; Julian Wamble, soloist. She thanked Bishop William Boyd Grove for assisting.

RESOLUTION: GLOBAL CONNECTION PLAN: Report from Tracey Merrick (WPA, Lay) and Denise Smartt Sears (NY, Clergy). Delegates voted to refer the resolution Global Connection Plan to Bishops' Special Commission, Connectional Table, and Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters.

RESOLUTION: COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT: Kenneth Ow (BW, Lay) presented the report, which asked that the Episcopacy Committee have the same membership type rules that the Staff Parish Relations have. A motion was made to refer all of this resolution to the Rules Committee for their consideration and report in 2020. Voted and approved.

2020 NEJ CONFERENCE: INVITATION: Maidstone Mulenga (clergy, BW) invited the NEJ to the Baltimore-Washington Conference for the NEJ Conference in 2020.

2024 NEJ CONFERENCE INVITATION: Alyce Weaver Dunn (WP) invited the NEJ to the Western Pennsylvania Conference for the 2024 NEJ Conference.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Lenora Thompson (EP, Lay) made a motion that the following statement be adopted by the NEJ:

“In light of the eloquent statement from NEJ College of Bishops and in light of the proposal presented to NEJ and the College of Bishops from BMCR and others for a call to action, propose that the College of Bishops request three things happen when we return home: 1. The full statement from the College of Bishops be placed on every conference website 2. The area bishop should request that all pastors distribute the full statement in their local churches 3. In each episcopal area, the full statement should be placed as an ad in at least one local newspaper.”

It was seconded and passed unanimously.

MONITORING REPORT: The Monitoring Report was given by Leigh Goodrich of COSROW.

CLOSING: Closing prayer by Bishop Grove.

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2016 – Morning Session

Call to Order: Bishop Jane Middleton called the meeting to order following the song, “How Great Thou Art.” She thanked Bishop Susan Hassinger who was assisting. Bishop Middleton asked Bishop Matthews to pray for the tragedy in Nice, France with Lydia to follow up with the song, “I Believe,” written by Mark Miller.

SESSIONS COMMITTEES: Credentials: Shirlyn Brown provided the credentials report - all were blessed with 172 in attendance. Approved. Journal: Michele Bogue-Trost reported a slight discrepancy with the presiding bishop for Thursday. Noel Chin asked that the body would accept the minutes a day in advance. It was approved. Courtesies - no report. Examination of Journal Committee: Melissa Lauber said that all were in compliance with the Discipline. Approved.

CELEBRATION OF NEJ EPISCOPAL ASSIGNMENTS 2016: Bonnie Marden. With responsive readings, music and prayer, the following assignments were made:

- West Virginia, West Virginia Area, Sandra Steiner Ball
 - Baltimore-Washington, Washington Area, LaTrelle Easterling
 - Upper New York, New York Area, Mark Webb
 - Western Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh Area, Cynthia Moore Koikoi
 - Peninsula-Delaware and Eastern Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Area, Peggy Johnson
 - New York, New York Area, Thomas Bickerton
 - Greater New Jersey, New Jersey Area, John Schol
 - Susquehanna, Harrisburg Area, Jeremiah Park
 - New England, Boston Area, Sudarshana Devadhar
-

Bonnie Marden made the motion that the assignments for bishops to Episcopal Areas and Conferences be made for the 2013-2016 quadrennium. The NEJ approved, affirmed and accepted the assignments of these lead stewards.

DEACONS: Kevin Goodwin (PD, Lay) asked that the NEJ celebrate all Deacons in the NEJ. They received an ovation.

MOTIONS: Tom Salsgiver, Secretary moved that the 2016 NEJ accepts all reports printed in the DCAs. It was seconded, voted and approved. Also, Tom Salsgiver made the motion that the 20th Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference will be adjourned at the conclusion of the Service of Consecration at First UMC, Lancaster. It was seconded, voted and approved.

CLOSING: Bishop Middleton gave the closing prayer and then delegates moved to meet the Bishop assigned to their area.

NEJ BUDGET 2016-2020

1. SESSIONS

a. 2016 Sessions	\$287,000.00
b. 2012 Journal	\$4,500.00
c. Sessions Contingency	\$20,000.00
Sub-total Sessions	\$311,500.00

2. ADMINISTRATIVE

a. Vision Table	\$58,000.00
b. Rules Committee	\$3,500.00
c. Program & Arrang.	\$38,000.00
d. Finance & Admin.	\$23,000.00
e. Boundaries Comm	\$8,000.00
f. Episcopacy Comm	\$45,000.00
g. Bd of Ordained Ministry	\$15,000.00
h. Secretary's Office	\$23,325.00
i. Treasurer's Office	\$24,500.00
j. Archives & History	\$3,600.00
k. Administrative Costs	\$26,750.00
l. Connectional Ministries	\$4,000.00
Sub-total Administrative	\$272,675.00

3. PROGRAM BUDGET

a. Anna Howard Shaw Center	\$17,500.00
b. Multi-Ethnic Center	\$120,000.00
c. Korean-American Ministry	\$120,000.00
d. Volunteers in Ministry-NEJ	\$100,000.00

e. Deaf Ministry	\$7,500.00
f. Vision Table Priorities	\$20,000.00
g. Council on Youth Ministries	\$31,000.00
h. Young Adult Council	\$20,000.00
i. Leadership development	\$20,000.00
j. Episcopal Leadership Conclave	\$55,200.00
k. Native American Ministries	\$7,000.00
Sub-total Program	\$518,200.00

4. AREA RE-ALIGNMENT BUDGET

a. Upper New York	
b. 2013-16 Funding	
c. 2016-2020 Realignment	\$200,000
Sub-total Realignment	\$200,000

GRAND TOTAL BUDGET

\$1,302,375.00

5. ITEMS FUNDED FROM 12/31/08 RESERVE FUND BALANCES

a. Young Adult Event	
b. Judicial Process Fund	\$40,000
c. Pastoral Care	\$5,000
Sub-total Reserve Expenses	\$45,000.00

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$1,347,375.00

STATEMENT FROM THE NORTHEASTERN JURISDICTION COLLEGE OF BISHOPS DELIVERED AT THE OPENING OF THE 2016 NORTHEASTERN JURISDICTION CONFERENCE

BY BISHOP SANDRA STEINER BALL, PRESIDENT OF THE NEJ COLLEGE OF BISHOPS

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

As we gather for this Jurisdictional Conference many persons have been confronted and consumed with the overwhelming reports of shootings and violence. Life taken! Trust broken! Anger and fear growing. Frustration and despair looming. We believe that God's heart breaks as our hearts break with these acts of violence — fed and complicated by fear, prejudice, racism and privilege. We pray for each family and each community affected by profound loss and grief. We pray for the ripple effect of these acts of violence that strip away certainty of safety, sanctuary, value and trust.

The death of young black males in encounters with white law enforcement officers calls for response. The loss of life within our Hispanic/Latino community and among our brothers and sisters identifying with the LGBTQ community in Orlando, calls for response. The death of police officers protecting the rights of persons to peaceably protest, points to a destructive cycle of violence and retribution, and calls for response.

We, the College of Bishops of the Northeastern Jurisdiction stand together to respond, and our response is not just for the moment. Our response is a commitment to acknowledge our participation in the sin of institutional racism and to have ongoing conversations within the College about racism, privilege and oppression. Our response is to give leadership and develop plans to continue these conversations within and among the Jurisdiction and with the leadership of the annual conferences to which we are assigned.

The purpose of these dialogues will be talk about our own racism and prejudices, to heal the wounds that have been caused by racism, privilege and oppression, to train our leadership and churches in intercultural competency; and lead them to celebrate diversity. We will lead and offer training for leaders in the craft of building bridges across cultures and ethnicity so that all those whom we profess to acknowledge as created in the image of God and persons of sacred worth, will truly feel welcome and find the safety, sanctuary, value and trust these recent and ongoing acts of violence have robbed from them. We in the college will hold one another accountable for this action, reporting to our Conferences at their annual sessions and providing a report to the 2020 Jurisdictional conference. At the Jurisdictional level we will partner with both the Multi-ethnic center and the Vision Table in our ongoing response.

Together, we claim the need to listen more deeply and to seek greater understanding for those who cry out for justice. We commit ourselves to seeking justice, supporting faithful law enforcement officers, and empowering the movement of people toward more healthy community engagement within the areas we serve.

Because we believe that all persons are created in God's image, from our United Methodist faith perspective, all people matter, all are valuable. In these particularly violent and life taking incidents and times, however, we need to intentionally lift up that black lives really do matter and the lives of all persons of color really do matter. The lives of our LGBTQ brothers and sisters really do matter. The NEJ College of Bishops believes that in the midst of the chaos, fear, and violence, there is a rich opportunity for the church to be the church. We seek to be the leaders of this church. We seek justice, repentance and reconciliation. We seek not just to love peace, but to be peacemakers. God's people need us to be bearers of peace.

At the beginning of this Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference, we ask you to join us. Join us as we make this response not just for the moment, but affecting the future. Our hope is that, together, bishops, clergy and laity, we might be quilted together more strongly in our work of allowing God to transform us, so that we might go out with God's great transforming love — to bring healing, hope and peace to the world.

As a beginning, we would ask that you think and reflect with us on these questions: How will you be a peacemaker in the midst of the storms of violence and destruction? How can you be a peacemaker and at the same time

work for justice? What can you do to help develop a sense of well-being and harmony in your life, in the lives of neighbors, strangers, friends, and communities? What social problems move you to want to make a difference by building bridges, making connections, valuing people? Blessed are the peacemakers! Blessed are the peacemakers! Blessed are the peacemakers! In the midst of all the storms encountered and perpetuated in this life, please think on these things! This work begins with each one of us — first individually and then collectively. We, your bishops, will not only be thinking on these things, but are moving in response. We seek your prayers and support as we take this action.

“But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.”(Ephesians 4:15 -16)

APPROVED ACTION FOR FOLLOW-UP

- The statement be posted on every Annual Conference Website. The request was for it to be a banner so that it would stand out for everyone to see.
- The statement be sent to every local church and that you would ask the pastors to put it in their newsletter, bulletin, or a means where all members would see it and be able to read it.
- The statement in its entirety, via a paid ad, would be placed in at least one local newspaper for all to see.

A glance at NEJ Conference through a camera lens





Bishop Park challenges new bishops to keep UMC united

by Maidstone Mulenga

DCA Editor

The newest members of the Northeastern Jurisdiction College of Bishops have been challenged to help keep The United Methodist Church alive and thriving despite the differences over human sexuality.

Harrisburg Area Resident Bishop Jeremiah Park issued the challenge during the consecration service for Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi and Bishop LaTrelle Easterling on Friday, July 15, at First United Methodist Church in Lancaster, Pa.

Bishop Moore-Koikoi and Bishop Easterling were elected on the 11th and 17th ballots, respectively, during the 2016 NEJ Conference at Lancaster Marriott Hotel.

In his sermon before he consecrated the two to the episcopacy, Bishop Park urged United Methodists to focus on what is right with the church instead of focusing on the differences and things that were not going well in the denomination.

He pointed out such success stories as raising nearly 70 million dollars to combat the killer disease malaria; feeding of thousands of hungry people and children by our churches daily; hundreds of thousands of Volunteers in Mission serving the broken and hurting lives as they repair the damaged houses and rebuild the homes of hope. "That's what's right with our church!"

Bishop Park also noted that the NEJ College of Bishops has taken a stance to seek justice, repentance and reconciliation in the midst of the chaos, fear and violence so that the church can be the church. "We seek not just to love peace, but to be peacemakers."

"And our people responded to the statement with such a spirit-filled and passionate affirmation and gave their commitment to confront injustice and violence in partnership with the bishops and one another. That's what's right with our church!"

He reminded the newly elected bishops all their colleagues in the College of Bishops are "your partners in the spectacular mission, ministry, and witness of our beloved church. Let's do our best to keep the church of our dream alive and thriving."

Urging the church to remain united as leaders discern the best way forward in regarding human sexuality, Bishop Park used the example of his homeland Korea to illustrate the importance of unity. "The divided Korea ended the Christian presence in the North. Families and loved ones have been separated for more than 70 years. It is the only country still divided since the Cold War ended. Korea represents the pain and suffering of the tragedy of division and separation in the most heart-breaking way."

He emphasized that United Methodists have a rich opportunity now to show and lead the broken world on the best way of overcoming fear of differences and all kinds of isms and phobias that continue to build walls of division, hostility and disunity. "Will the church show the way? Will The United Methodist Church represent healing to our broken world? Will people look at United Methodists and see a sign of hope?"

If United Methodists remain united, it would reflect the commitment of God's people to oneness as is represented in the prayer at the Lord's Table: "Make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world." At the same time, it is a witness to healing and hope in our broken and divided and hurting world, he said.

Turning to the new bishops, Bishop Park encouraged them not to have fear but to remember Isaiah 41:10 shows that God is with them and that prayers are being offered for them and their loved ones.

"May the grace of God surround you as you lead our beloved United Methodist Church to a way forward in unity for such a time as this," he said.

Bishop Moore-Koikoi has been assigned to the Pittsburgh Area where she will lead the Western Pennsylvania Conference while Bishop Easterling has been assigned to the Washington Area where she will lead the Baltimore-Washington Conference. Both assignments start Sept. 1, 2016.

