

**MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE**

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**2007**  
**OFFICIAL JOURNAL**  
**AND YEARBOOK**  
*Volume 1*



***Arise! Shine!***  
***Rejoice!***



**2007 JOURNAL**  

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**MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE**  
*of*  
**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
*Uniting*  
**THE MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE (1972)**  
*and*  
**THE NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE (1973)**

**NINETEENTH SESSION**

*held in*  
Jackson, MS  
*at Christ United Methodist Church*  
June 10-13, 2007

Journal Editor — Larry White  
Conference Secretary — Roger Puhr  
Assistant — Rose Mary Williams and  
Rehannon R. Miller  
Statistician — David Greer  
All photos courtesy of the  
*Mississippi United Methodist Advocate*



*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward*

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## SECTION I

## ADMINISTRATION

## A. Annual Conference Officers

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Administrative Assistant to the Bishop	Embra Jackson P. O. Box 931, Jackson, MS 39205 (601) 948-4561
Director of Connectional Ministries	Steve Casteel P. O. Box 1147, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
Coordinator of Communications	Gwen Green P. O. Box 1147, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
Director of Financial Administration/Treasurer	David Stotts P. O. Box 1201, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
Director of Ministerial Services	Sheila Cumbest P. O. Box 1147, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
Secretary	Roger Puhr 18601 Highway 63, Moss Point, MS 39562 (228) 588-6546
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Chancellor	Clifford B. Ammons
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United Methodist Women, Vice President	Mary Simpson
United Methodist Men, President	W. O. "Chet" Dillard 121 East Lakeview, Clinton, MS 39056 (601) 924-7884
United Methodist Youth, President	TBN
Methodist Foundation, Executive Director	Martha Scarborough P. O. Box 2415, Ridgeland, MS 39158 (601) 948-8845
Mississippi United Methodist Advocate, Editor	Woody Woodrick P. O. Box 1093, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
Conference Board of Pensions, Liaison Officer	Byrd Hillman, Jr. 25274 Highway 19 North, Kosciusko, MS 39090 (662) 289-2484

## B. Conference Leadership Council

### District Abbreviations

BRO - Brookhaven	MER - Meridian	STA - Starkville
EJA - East Jackson	NAL - New Albany	TUP - Tupelo
GWD - Greenwood	SEA - Seashore	WJA - West Jackson
HAT - Hattiesburg	SEN - Senatobia	

### 1. OFFICIALS

Chair/President .....	Bishop Hope Morgan Ward
Vice-Chair .....	Aubrey Lucas, Conference Lay Leader
Recording Secretary .....	Roger Puhr, Conference Secretary
Statistician .....	David B. Greer

### 2. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

BRO .....	Phillip Heidelberg, P. O. Box 629, Brookhaven, MS 39602 (601) 833-1619
EJA .....	Giles Lindley, 860 E. River Place, Ste 101, Jackson, MS 39202 (601) 944-0776
GWD .....	Victoria White, 102 E. Clairborne, Suite 102D, Greenwood, MS 38930 (662) 453-0878
NAL .....	Jerry Beam, P. O. Box 686, New Albany, MS 38652 (662) 534-7733
HAT .....	David S. Price, P. O. Box 2057, Hattiesburg, MS 39403 (601) 264-9181
MER .....	Timothy Thompson, 6210 Highway 39 North, Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 483-6221
SEA .....	Bill McAlilly, 1509 24th Avenue, Gulfport, MS 39501 (228) 864-5025
SEN .....	Victoria Sizemore-Tandy, P. O. Box 220, Senatobia, MS 38668 (662) 562-5865
STA .....	Bob Rambo, P. O. Box 1329, Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 323-0198
TUP .....	Carl W. Grubbs, P. O. Box 3957, Tupelo, MS 38803 (662) 842-8477
WJA .....	Willis Britt, 860 E. River Place, Ste 101, Jackson, MS 39202 (601) 944-0776

### 3. DISTRICT LAY LEADERS

BRO .....	Pat Smith, 236 Deer Run Trial NE, Brookhaven, MS 39601 (601) 833-5754
EJA .....	LaWanda Young, 100 Saint Charles Place, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 853-2482
GWD .....	H. C. Redmond, 231 North Florida Street, Greenville, MS 38703 (662) 323-0961
HAT .....	John Gavin, 919 CR 23, Laurel, MS 39443 (601) 764-4621
MER .....	Faye LaBoone, P. O. Box 226, Quitman, MS 39355 (601) 776-2961
NAL .....	Dalton Garner, 271 CR 7301, Booneville, MS 38829 (662) 728-6346
SEA .....	Robert Harry, 3836 Morningview Drive, Moss Point, MS 39563 (228) 475-4806
SEN .....	Joy Mullen, 79 Oak, Oakland, MS 38948 (662) 623-7070
STA .....	Larry Woodward, 3301 Highway 14 North, Louisville, MS 39339 (662) 773-7473
TUP .....	Joe & Polly Bailey, 2306 Parkway Drive, Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 844-9839
WJA .....	Dora Washington, 1351 Rockdale Drive, Jackson, MS 39213 (601) 982-7591

### 4. CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

Director of Connectional Ministries:	Steve Casteel P. O. Box 1147, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
AC College Student Organization	Samantha Minga 302 North Street, New Albany, MS 38652 (662) 534-6963
Adult/Older Adult Ministries	TBN
Archives and History	Mary Simpson P. O. Box 4584, Meridian, MS 39304 (601) 483-9134
Camping Ministries	David W. Carroll P. O. Box 1092, Jackson, MS 38614 (601) 353-9691



Children's Ministries (Coordinating Council for)	Tommy Miller P. O. Box 8115, Vicksburg, MS 39181 (601) 636-7687
Church and Society (Board of)	Eric Pridmore P. O. Box 87, Bolton, MS 39041 (601) 866-9102
Church Revitalization	Lindsey Robinson P.O. Box 102, Biloxi, MS 39533, phone 228-432-0247
Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns	John McCay, III 3021 Woods Rd, Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 799-4567
Communications (Commission on)	TBN
Disaster Response	C.J. Caufield 17033 Williamsville Road, Kosciusko, MS 39090 (662) 290-0636
Education/Leader Developmen	TBN
Ethnic Local Church Concerns	Dewey Handy 963 Metairie Road, Jackson, MS 39209 (601) 362-7916
Evangelism/Spiritual Formation	TBN
Health and Welfare	Jim Ormon 1623 Windward Bluff, Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 324-8996
Higher Education & Campus Ministry	Bill Barksdale P. O. Box 1677, Hattiesburg, MS 39404 (601) 296-1676
Hispanic Ministries	Rayford Woodrick Sr. 353 W Oak Leaf Court, Ridgeland, MS 39157 (601) 856-9581
Laity (Board of)	Aubrey Lucas 3200 Jamestown Road, Hattiesburg, MS 39402 (601) 266-4531
Lay Speaking Ministries	Mary Ford 212 Brock Avenue, Quitman, MS 39355 (601) 776-3988
Mission Outreach	Lannis May 631 Front St, Anguilla, MS 38721 (662) 873-2786
Native American Ministry	Mary Stewart P. O. Box 365, Raleigh, MS 39153 (601) 782-4202
New Church Development	Kurt Appel 2369 Park Place Drive, Gulfport, MS 39507 (228) 863-4320
Parish and Community Ministries	Lou Ann Staggs P. O. Box 686, New Albany, MS 38652 (662) 534-7733
Religion and Race	Twick Morrison 2617 Confederate Avenue, Vicksburg, MS 39180 (601) 636-8050
Rural Life	Doyce Gunter 2800 West Main Street, Cottage #201B, Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 844-5166
Shalom, Communities of	Staff – Jorge Navarrete P. O. Box 1147, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
Status and Role of Women	Thelma Collins P. O. Box 486, Itta Bena, MS 38941 (662) 254-7316
United Methodist Men President	W. O. "Chet" Dillard 121 East Lakeview, Clinton, MS 39056 (601) 924-7884
United Methodist Women President	Sarah Sanders 2734 Canterbury, Columbus, MS 39705 (662) 328-7634
United Methodist Women President Elect	TBN

United Methodist Youth President	TBN
UMVIM	Robert McCoy P. O. Box 146, Baldwyn, MS 38824 (662) 365-5815
Urban Ministries	Cynthia Cross 3412 11th Place, Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 417-0340
Worship and Music	TBN
Young Adult Organization	Annie Williams P. O. Box 330, Goodman, MS 39079 (662) 834-4688

## 5. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES

Director of Financial Administration/Treasurer:	David Stotts P. O. Box 1201, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
Episcopacy Committee	Howard Boone 352 Ingleside Drive, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 853-9666
Finance and Administration	Delmar Robinson 306 Lameuse, Biloxi, MS 39530 (228) 374-2840
Medical Benefits	Debra Strong 1211 Union Avenue, Suite 700, Memphis, TN 38104 (901) 546-0553
Pensions	Ed Jones 38 Wintergreen Rd, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 853-9634
Trustees	Henderson Rasberry P. O. Box 1696, Madison, MS 39130 (601) 856-6058

## 6. MINISTERIAL SERVICES/LEADERSHIP MINISTRIES

Administrative Assistant To Bishop:	Embra Jackson P. O. Box 931, Jackson, MS 39205 (601) 948-4561
Director of Ministerial Services:	Sheila Cumbest P. O. Box 1147, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
Clergy/Diaconal Ministry Emergency Fund	P. M. Gordon, Sr. 2328 Twin Gum Road, Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 323-7525
Equitable Compensation (Commission on)	Steve McAlilly P. O. Box 1567, Tupelo, MS 38802-1567 (662) 844-8977
Ordained Ministry (Board of)	Sam Morris P. O. Box 32, Columbus, MS 39703 (662) 328-5252
Pastoral Care & Counseling	Billy McCord P. O. Box 1162, Bruce, MS 38915 (662) 983-2213
Standing Rules	Mary Foretich 210 29th Street, Gulfport, MS 39507 (228) 863-8467

## 7. OTHER MINISTRIES

Annual Conference Committee	Bishop Hope Morgan Ward
Nominations Committee	Bishop Hope Morgan Ward
Personnel Committee	Alice Emanuel PO Box 476, Holly Springs, MS 38635 (662) 252-3051

## 8. EX-OFFICIO WITH VOTE

United Methodist Hispanic	Goyo de La Cruz 608 Hillsborough, Forest, MS 39074 (601) 469-1346
United Methodist Hispanic	Armando de La Cruz 212 Hiwasse Drive, Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 324-1424
United Methodist Native American	Jon Walters P. O. Box 6065, Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 656-7670
United Methodist Native American	Sybil Tubby 13651 North 491, Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 656-9911
United Methodist Native American	Billy Tubby 406 Chenoa Avenue, Carthage, MS 39351 (601) 267-3788

## 9. EX-OFFICIO WITHOUT VOTE (CONFERENCE CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES STAFF/ DISTRICT PROGRAM STAFF)

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Conference Communications Staff (Coordinator of Communications)	Gwen Green P. O. Box 1147, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
Conference Conn. Ministries Staff (Ethnic Concerns/Missions/Advocacy)	L. Fitzgerald Lovett P. O. Box 1147, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515
District Program Staff (Brookhaven District)	Judy Sibley 4142 Magnolia Pisgah Road, Summit, MS 39666 (601) 684-1140
District Program Staff (Greenwood District)	Fitzgerald Lovett 109 Canary Cove, Greenwood, MS 38930 (662) 453-3477
District Program Staff (Meridian District)	Sarah King 6210 Highway 39 North, Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 483-6221
District Program Staff (New Albany District)	Lou Ann Staggs P. O. Box 686, New Albany, MS 38652 (662) 534-7733
District Program Staff (Seashore District)	Melodye Luke P.O. Box 6586, Gulfport, MS 39506 (228) 604-2300
District Program Staff (Senatobia District)	Cheryl Denley P. O. Box 220, Senatobia, MS 38668 (662) 562-5865

## **C. Annual Conference Leadership Groups**

### **Annual Conference (Boards, Committees, Commissions, Etc.)**

#### **1. CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES**

##### **A. Age-level Groups**

##### **1. Annual Conference College Student**

Chair: Samantha Minga, 302 North St., New Albany, MS 38652 (662) 534-6963

##### **2. Adult/Older Adult Ministries**

Chair: TBN

District Coordinators:

BRO - Margaret Fulton, P. O. Box 87, Hazelhurst, MS 39059 (601) 587-2350

EJA- Mabel Everett, 314 Memorial Drive, Braxton, MS 39044 (601) 847-3297

GWD- Rev. Eddie F. Roberts

HAT-Jeanette Smith, 805 Northview, Laurel, MS 39440 (601) 425-3478

Charley Sue Speed, P. O. Box 184, Collins, MS 39428 (601) 765-0579

MER- Eunice McKinney, P. O. Box 1023, Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 656-5753

NAL- Rheta Ann West, 814 Jay Street, New Albany, MS 38652 (662) 534-4088

SEA-Rev. Jim Fisher

SEN- Carolyn Tyson, P. O. Box 5037, Holly Springs, MS 38635 (662) 252-7525

STA- Mae Wright, Rt. 2 Box 43-C, McCool, MS 39108 (662) 547-6179

TUP-Rev. Betty Flynn

WJA-Babs Stauss, 706 Seneca Avenue, Jackson, MS 39206 (601) 362-5336

Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

##### **3. Coordinating Council on Children's Ministries**

Chair: Rev. Tommy Miller

Members:

Amy Jackson, P. O. Box 526, Vicksburg, MS 39181 (601) 636-5612

Rev. Beth Miller

Shornita Shavers, 5914 Grants Ferry Road, Brandon, MS 39047 (601) 992-0501

Denise Glover, 7672 Hwy 14, Goodman, MS 39079 (662) 834-2175

Mary Jo Jackson, 807 Crestwood Drive, Hattiesburg, MS 39402

Sabrina Williams, 5755 Fisher Road, Meridian, MS 39301

Donna McLaurin, 725 Watson, Jackson, MS 39203 (601) 353-7796

Carol Pruitt, 11927 Patrick Henry Road, Moss Point, MS 39562 (228) 475-6443

Olivia "Libby" Door, 218 Juanita, Sardis, MS 38666 (662) 487-1094

Sara Hillman, 25274 Hwy 19 N, Kosciusko, MS 39090 (662) 289-3578

Fawn Keen, 104 South 4th Street, Amory, MS 38821 (662) 256-5498

Alice Emanuel, P. O. Box 12976, Jackson, MS 39236 (601) 206-7770

Catherine Hedgepath, 412 Evans Street, Vicksburg, MS 39180 (601) 636-2242

UMM: Chet Dillard, 121 E Lakeview, Clinton, MS 39056 6019247884

UMW Christian Social Action: Iola Fisher, 6557 Van Buren Road, Jackson, MS 39213 (601) 982-7485

Camping Ministries: Rev. David Carroll

Ex-Officio:

Bethlehem Center Director: Rev. Allison Carr Dickerson

Good Shepherd Center Director: Rev. Emory Thomas "Tommy" Miller

The Children's Home Director: Becky Hudgens, P. O. Box 2589, Madison, MS 39130, (601) 853-5000

The Choctaw Indian Mission Director: Rev. Charles Battiest

Moore Community House Director: Carol Burnett, 306 Davis Street, Biloxi, MS 39530, (228) 436-3741

Wesley Community House Director: Nell Grissom, P.O. Box 1027, Meridian, MS 39302

Delta Resource Center Director: Thelma Barnes, P.O. Box 584, Greenville, MS 38702, (662) 335-3121

MS Rural Center Director: Joyce Stepney, P. O. Box 902, Columbia, MS 39429, (601) 736-3961

Holmes County T/C Min. Com. Dev.: Mattie Mae Coleman, P.O. Box 559, Goodman, MS 39079, (662) 653-6828

St. Andrews Mission: Rev. Judy Sibley

#### **4. Young Adult Ministries**

Chair: Rev. Annie Williams

District Coordinators:

BRO- Rev. Chris Brooking

EJA- Christina Haskins, 101 Hidden Court, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 893-4589

GWD- Rev. Annie Williams

HAT- Rev. Clint Ware

MER-Lori Gatlin, 8107 Brewer Road, Meridian, MS 39307

NAL- Krista Moorehead, 3089 Hwy 178, Hickory Flats, MS 38633 (662) 333-7998

SEA- Rev. Brian Scott

SEN- Rev. Todd Lemmon

STA- Will Sanders, 1220 2nd Avenue #9, Columbus, MS 39701 (662) 327-4693

TUP- Caroline Stauffer, 644 Highland Circle, Tupelo, MS 38804 (662) 840-0299

WJA- Rev. Sandra Randall

### **B. Nurture/Outreach/Witness**

#### **1. Committee on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns**

Chair: Rev. John McCay III

District Coordinators:

BRO- Flo Bryant, 127 N. Massengill Street, Hazelhurst, MS 39083 (601) 894-4041

EJA- Dorothea Garrett, 104 Park Ridge Drive, Brandon, MS 39042 (601) 591-1536

GWD- Rev. Allen Bailey

HAT- Nena Price, P. O. Box 2057, Hattiesburg, MS 39043 (601) 264-9181

MER- Sadie Martin, 443 Sweet Gum Bottom Road, Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 482-2908

NAL- Anne Sanford, 604 N. Jackson, Ripley, MS 38663 (662) 837-7436

SEA- Rev. John McCay III, 3021 Woods Road, Picayune, MS 39466, (601) 799-4567

SEN-Rev. Dianne Lemmon

STA- Rev. Larry Creel

TUP- Dr. Michael Lips

WJA- Rev. Lisa Pridmore

At-Large:

Rev. Jon Kaufman

Rev. Ron Barham

Allen King, 6034 Hwy 43 North, Carriere, MS 39426, (601) 772-9348

#### **2. Board of Church and Society**

Chair: Rev. Eric Pridmore

Conference Coordinators:

Christian Unity/Interreligious Concerns: Rev. John McCay III

Restorative Justice: Jean Randolph

UMW Christian Social Action:

Iola M. Fisher, 6557 Van Buren Rd., Jackson, MS 39213 (601) 982-7485

District Coordinators:

BRO- TBN

EJA- Shornita Shavers, 5914 Grants Ferry Road, Brandon, MS 39047 (601) 992-0501

GWD- TBN

HAT- Rev. Mark Anderson

MER- Tim Smith, 11080 Hwy 482, Philadelphia, MS 39350

NAL- Paula McLarty, 9 CR 227, Oxford, MS 38655 (662) 236-4581

SEA- Rev. Rick Brooks

SEN- Vickie Hearn Moses, 1017 McKinley, Clarksdale, MS 38614 (662) 624-4925

STA- Rev. Martha Williams

TUP- TBN

WJA- Rev. Eric Pridmore

Ex-Officio:

GB Church & Society: Rev. Joe May

GB Church & Society: Dr. Bill D. Scott, III, 566 Swaney Dr., Holly Springs, MS 38635 (662) 915-5338

**a. Restorative Justice**Members:

Sylvia Baylot, 7107 Highway 27, Vicksburg, MS 39180 (601) 636-2705

Pshon Barrett, 4 Crestview Cove, Jackson, MS 39211 (601) 982-1682

Julie Blake, 4 Carriage Court Place, Brandon, MS 39047 (601) 992-6220

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Chet Dillard, 121 East Lakeview, Clinton, MS 39056 (601) 355-7061

Rev. Dianne Harms

Bill Henderson, 307 Carver Drive, Apt 3, Starkville, MS 39759

Dianne Freelon-Foster, 760 E. Govan Extd. #308, Grenada, SM 38901 (662) 226-9720

Patsy McCarty, 80 Redbud Lane, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 856-7674

Rev. Noah Moore

Rev. Burnell Newsome

Robert Oakes, 1320 Owens Road, Terry, MS 39170

Rev. Shelby Singleton

Keith and Martha Walton, 143 Charleston Lane, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 956-6974

Rev. Clint Ware

District Coordinators:

BRO- Susan Albritton, 166 Warren Cemetery Road, Sandy Hook, MS 39478 (601) 736-5649

EJA- Rev. James Morris

GWD- Harry Lee Robinson, P. O. Box 228, Winona, MS 38967 (662) 283-3743

HAT- TBN

MER- Dr. Larry Pupa, 309 Hickory Drive, Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 483-2547

NAL- George Goldsmith, 1741 Highway 25, Tishomingo, MS 38873 (662) 423-6565

SEA- Rev. Al Wallace

SEN- Dr. Bill Scott, 566 North Swaney Drive, Holly Springs, MS 38635 (662) 252-2144

STA- Mike McLaughlin, 2003 Pinoak Drive, Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 324-0225

TUP- Rev. E. S. Furr

WJA- TBN

**b. Rural Life Ministries**

Chair: Dr. Doyce Gunter

Members:

Connie Coulson, 14720 Hwy 63, Moss Point, MS 39562 (228) 588-6315  
 Dan Crumpton, Jr., 715 Cypress Creek, Clarksdale, MS 38614 (662) 624-5022  
 Honorable Chuck Epsy, P. O. Box 1508, Clarksdale, MS 38614  
 Rev. William Givhan, Sr.  
 Rodalton Hart, 15270 Hwy 17, Lexington, MS 39095  
 Bill Hawks, 218-A Maryland Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002 (202) 547-8790  
 Honorable Steve Holland, P. O. Box 2, Plantersville, MS 38862 (662) 844-2004  
 Wallace Killcreas, 404 West Main, Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 325-2672  
 John Oglesby, Sr., P. O. Box 205, Chatham, MS 38731 (662) 827-5246  
 J. R. Penick, 114 Linden Circle, Houston, MS 38851 (662) 456-3235  
 Rev. Donny Riley  
 Dr. Walter Roberts, Jr., 1241 Rathell Rd., Lexington, MS 39095 (662) 834-2039  
 Steve Skelton, 85 Hwy 442, Shaw, MS 38773 (662) 754-5148  
 Thomas "Fred" Stokes, Route 1 Box 171, Porterville, MS 39352  
 Terry Thomas, 67 Thomas Lane, Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 736-6086  
 Senator Gloria Williamson, 521 Holland Ave., Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 656-7304  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

**c. Communities of Shalom**

Chairs:

Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Jorge Navarrete

**d. Urban Ministries**

Co-Chair: Rev. Cynthia Cross

Members:

Tom Troxler, 44 Sandalwood Dr., Brandon, MS 39042-2023  
 Rev. Martha Alexander  
 Debbie Brangenberg, 644 Highland Circle, Tupelo, MS 38804  
 Lee Burdine, 421 Northdale Drive, Columbus, MS 39701  
 George Duffee-Braun, 1066 Cedar Street, Greenville, MS 38701  
 Rev. Jim Glass  
 Rev. Don Hagler  
 Rev. Elijah Henry  
 Rev. Sherry Johnson  
 Rev. Toby Lofton  
 Rev. Eddie Spencer  
 Rev. Esther Young  
 Cabinet Representatives: TBN  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

**3. Education/Leader Development**

Chair: TBN

Age-Level Chairs:

Young Adult: Rev. Annie Williams  
 Youth: Judy Thomas, 7513 Hammond Dr., Biloxi, MS 39540 (228) 392-9896

District Coordinators:

BRO- Patsy Sandifer, 285 Reid Givens Road, Jayess, MS 39641 (601) 587-4482  
 EJA- Nicki Thomas, P. O. Box 1406, Ridgeland, MS 39158 (601) 957-0515  
 GWD- Debbie Oxnham, 602 Dunklin, Greenwood, MS 38930 (662) 453-2791

HAT- Jay Estes, 207 Sunset Drive, Petal, MS 39465 (601) 544-5968  
 MER- Marie Partridge, 10600 Hwy 16 East, Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 656-3203  
 NAL- Rev. Jim Cox  
 SEA- Rev. Marilyn Perrine  
 SEN- Rev. Scott Wright  
 STA- Julia Pendley, 517 Chestnut, Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 323-1961  
 TUP- Rev. Gloria McKinney  
 WJA-Rev. Tom Pace  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Roger Shock

#### **4. Ethnic Local Church Concerns**

Chair: Dr. Dewey Handy, 963 Metairie Road, Jackson, MS 39209 (601) 362-7916

##### District Coordinators:

BRO- Mary Funchess, P. O. Box 82, Crystal Springs, MS 39059  
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 GWD- Thelma Barnes, 217 Trilby Street, Greenville, MS 38701 (662) 332-1859  
 HAT- Rev. Mattie Gipson  
 MER- Rev. Andy Cotten  
 NAL- Margaret Gipson, 94 CR 105, Oxford, MS 38655 (662) 234-9367  
 SEA- Mildred Roy, 242 Fayard Street, Biloxi, MS 39530 (228) 432-8491  
 SEN- Rev. Elbrist Mason  
 STA- Dean Jones, P. O. Box 496, Eupora, MS 39744 (662) 258-6426  
 TUP- Willie Jim McClendon, P. O. Box 118, Shannon, MS 38868 (662) 767-3203  
 WJA- Dr. Jodie Cothen

##### At-Large:

Paula McBay, 40 CR 1515, Bay Springs, MS 39422-9443 (601) 764-2539  
 Rev. Sally Bevill  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Fitzgerald Lovett

#### **a. Strengthening The Black Church**

##### Members:

Rev. Jimmy Barnes  
 Patricia Battle, P. O. Box 3572, Meridian, MS 39303 (601) 482-2206  
 Rev. Sherry Johnson  
 Rev. Fitzgerald Lovett  
 Dr. Joe May  
 Rev. Emma McNair  
 Rev. James McRee  
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 Dr. George Washington, 1351 Rockdale Drive, Jackson, MS 39213 (601) 982-7591  
 Rev. Rose Mary Williams  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Fitzgerald Lovett

#### **b. Hispanic Ministries**

Chair: TBN

##### Members:

Lizi Acoste, 295 Adams Street, Chunky, MS 39323 (601) 655-8548  
 Rev. Sally Bevill  
 Ann Clement, 116 Meadow Hill Road, Forest, MS 39074 (601) 469-4629  
 Goyo de la Cruz, 608 Hillsborough Drive, Forest, MS 39074 (601) 469-9267  
 Cathy Giroux, 661 Baywood Pointe, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 856-1706  
 Angela Kaye Griffin, 4801 Autumn Woods Drive #204, Jackson, MS 39206 (601) 981-2248



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 Frances Gail Jones, 4507 C Place, Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 483-5174  
 Cynthia Laird, 505 West Main Avenue, Lumberton MS 39455 (601) 796-4531  
 Dino Quijada, 11126 Gilbert-Joyner Road, Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 604-0168  
 Betty Simpson, 313 Pear Orchard Place, Ridgeland, MS 39157 (601) 856-7677

Ex-Officio:

ELCC Chair: Dr. Dewey Handy, 963 Metairie Road, Jackson, MS 39209 (601) 362-7916  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Jorge Navarrete

**c. Native American Ministries**

Chair: Rev. Mary Stewart

Members:

Rev. Fred Britton  
 Kathy Sams, 153 McMillan Rd., Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 389-2842  
 Daniel Tubby, 13651 N. Hwy 49, Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 656-9911  
 Connie Deon, 765 Red Water Rd., Carthage, MS 39351 (601) 267-3002  
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 Aaron Isaac, 11960 RD 325, Union, MS 39365  
 Cindy Bell, 237 Bogue Chitto Cl., Philadelphia, MS 39350  
 Billye Tubby, 406 Chenoa Ave., Carthage, MS 39351 (601) 267-3788  
 Rev. Bernard Walton  
 Don Sparks, 40 MTD Dr., Nettleton, MS 38858 (662) 963-7530

Ex-Officio:

Director of Mississippi United Methodist Choctaw Mission: Rev. Charles Battiest  
 Chair, Board of Directors MS UM Choctaw Mission: Rev. Billy Owen  
 ELCC Representative: Rev. Andy Cotten  
 Religion and Race Chair: Twick Morrison, 2617 Confederate Ave., Vicksburg, MS 39180  
 (601) 636-8050  
 SEJANAM Conf. Rep.: Paula McBay, 40 CR 1515, Bay Springs, MS 39422-9443 (601) 764-2539  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Jorge Navarrete

**5. Evangelism/Spiritual Formation**

Chair: TBN

District Coordinators:

BRO- Dorothy Wittig, 2541 Norton-Assink Road, Wesson, MS 39191 (601) 835-1321  
 EJA- Larry White, 3433 Shiloh Road, Pelahatchie, MS 39145 (601) 854-8824  
 GWD- TBN  
 HAT- Evelyn Wiseman, 1301 Maria Street, Hattiesburg, MS 39402 (601) 261-3918  
 MER- Rev. Rob Gill  
 MER- Rev. Jeff Switzer  
 NAL- Sherry Felder, P. O. Box 686, New Albany, MS 38652 (662) 534-7733  
 SEA- Angela Haynes, 4036 Second Street, Moss Point, MS 39563 (228) 475-2798  
 SEN- Rev. Doug Pepper  
 STA- Rev. Bryan Carrubba  
 TUP- Rev. Chris Diggs  
 WJA- Rev. Lauren Porter

At-Large:

Rev. Chuck Hallford  
 Rev. Chuck Hallford  
 Rev. Ozell Landfair  
 Rev. Bobby McGill

Rev. Tyrone Stallings  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

## 6. *Worship and Music Ministries*

Chair: TBN

District Coordinators:

BRO- Rev. Pat Shott

BRO- Rev. Wayne Webster

EJA- Rev. Sandra Thomas

GWD- Rev. Tom Atkins

HAT- TBN

MER- Rev. Louis Johnson

NAL- Rev. Howard Lips

SEA- Rev. Allen King

SEN- Donna Harris, 1851 Hawthorne Drive, Hernando, MS 38632 (662) 429-7170

STA- Sara Hillman, 25274 Highway 19 North, Kosciusko, MS (662) 289-3578

TUP- Jo Orr, 1203 Clayton Avenue, Tupelo, MS 38804 (662) 844-2332

WJA- Sandra Bell, 270 Somerset Drive, Jackson, MS 39206 (601) 981-1296

Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

## C. Lay Ministries

### 1. *Board of Laity*

Chair & Annual Conference Lay Leader:

Dr. Aubrey Lucas, 3200 Jamestown Road, Hattiesburg, MS 39402 (601) 266-4531

Conference Coordinator of Lay Speaking:

Mary Ford, 212 Brock Avenue, Quitman, MS 39335 (601) 766-3988

UMM President: W. O. "Chet" Dillard, 121 East Lakeview, Clinton, MS 39056 (601) 924-7884

UMW President: Patricia Battle, P. O. Box 3572, Meridian, MS 39303 (601) 482-2206

UMW Representative: Kay Barksdale, 1701 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39210 (601) 974-1483

UM Youth President: TBN

UM Young Adult Chair: Rev. Annie Williams

Conf. Coord. of Scouting: W. O. "Chet" Dillard, 121 East Lakeview, Clinton, MS 39056  
 (601) 924-7884

District Lay Leaders:

BRO- Pat Smith, 236 Deer Run Trail NE, Brookhaven, MS 39601 (601) 833-5754

EJA- LaWanda Young, 100 Saint Charles Place, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 853-2482

GWD-H. C. Redmond, 231 North Florida Street, Greenville, MS 38703 (662) 323-0961

HAT- Louis Crumbley, 1303 Homewood Drive, Laurel, MS 39440 (601) 649-3323

MER- Faye LaBoone, P. O. Box 226, Quitman, MS 39355 (601) 776-2961

NAL- Dalton Garter, 271 CR 7301, Booneville, MS 38829 (662) 728-6346

SEA- Robert Harry, 3836 Morningview Drive, Moss Point, MS 39563 (228) 475-4806

SEN- Ed Vaughn, Sr., 1119 Alana Cove, Clarksdale, MS 38614 (662) 627-7500

STA- Larry Woodward, 3301 Hwy 14 N, Louisville, MS 39339 (662) 773-7473

TUP- Joe & Polly Bailey, 2306 Parkway Drive, Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 844-9839

WJA- Dora Washington, 1351 Rockdale Drive, Jackson, MS 39213 (601) 982-7591

Resident Bishop: Bishop Hope Morgan Ward  
 Cabinet Representative: TBN  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

## **2. Lay Speaking Ministries**

Chair & Conference Director of Lay Speaking: Mary Ford, 212 Brock Avenue, Quitman, MS 39335  
 (601) 766-3988

### District Directors of Lay Speaking:

BRO- Bonnie Dillon, 1220 Maxwell Street, Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 736-2541  
 EJA- Pam Thompson, P. O. Box 557, Morton, MS 39117 (601) 732-8776  
 GWD-George Duffee-Braun, 1066 Cedar Street, Greenville, MS 38701 (662) 335-4911  
 HAT- Ryan Grayson, P. O. Box 326, Moselle, MS 39459 (601) 544-6128  
 MER-Sarah King, P. O. Box 41, Marion, MS 39342  
 NAL- Gordon Marie Crowe, 120 Griffin Street, Baldwyn, MS 38824 (662) 365-2107  
 SEA- Sherry Judy, 3906 Alandale Street, Pascagoula, MS 39581 (228) 762-5222  
 SEN- James Michael Ferguson, Sr., 3876 Bett-Thyatira Road, Coldwater, MS 38618 (662) 256-8905  
 STA- Larry Rader, 3700 CR 30, Ethelsville, AL 35461 (205) 658-2408  
 TUP- Billy Pruett, 20765 Coontail Rd., Aberdeen, MS 39730 (662) 256-8905  
 WJA- Bobbi Scott, 142 Hollow Pine Dr., Jackson, MS 39212

### At-Large:

Bo Robinson, 40018 Old Columbus Road, Hamilton, MS 39746 (662) 343-8924  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

## **D. Institutional Ministries (Oversight)**

### **1. Camping Ministries**

Chair: Rev. David Carroll

### District Coordinators:

BRO- Rev. Don Peters  
 EJA- Cassandra Simpson, 412 Fannin Road, Flowood, MS 39232 (601) 420-2081  
 GWD-TBN  
 HAT- Rev. David Huffman  
 MER-Jonas Crenshaw, 1202 26th Avenue, Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 479-3707  
 NAL- Rev. Jim Petermann  
 SEA- Rev. David Cumbest  
 SEN- Rev. Cathy Larsen  
 STA- China Ray Prewitt, Rt. 1 Box 15, Eupora, MS 39744 (662) 258-2734  
 TUP- Minnie Leeper, P. O. Box 3201, Nettleton, MS 38858 (662) 963-2237  
 WJA- Jimmy Travis, 5348 Cedar Park Drive, Jackson, MS 39204 (601) 981-7295

### Ex-Officio:

Camp Lake Stephens Director: Darrell Whitaker  
 Camp Wesley Pines Director: Rev. Ted Giordano  
 Gulfside Assembly Director: Marian Martin  
 Seashore Assembly Manager: Art Steinaway

## **2. Health and Welfare Ministries**

Chair: Rev. Jim Ormon

Golden Cross Chair: Rev. Jon Altman

District Coordinators:

BRO- Ruth Greer, 110 Marion Ave., Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 736-0816  
 EJA- Keith Neal, 4394 Standing Pine Road, Carthage, MS 39051 (601) 267-4937  
 GWD- Mary Ross, 323 Quail Trail, Greenwood, MS 38930 (662) 453-5901  
 HAT- Rev. Jim Ormon  
 MER- Gloria McAlpine, 4509 B Place, Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 483-3197  
 NAL- Rev. Sue Michael  
 SEA- Alicia Brown, 15260 Swan Lake Boulevard, Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 539-0511  
 SEN- Jack Sherard, P. O. Box 75, Sherard, MS 38669 (662) 627-5165  
 STA- TBN  
 TUP- Rev. Jean Threadgill  
 TUP- Rev. Ever Jean Burt  
 WJA- TBN

At-Large:

Dr. Grady Marlow, 4280 Stage Road, Coldwater, MS 38618 (662) 562-9476  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

## **3. Higher Education and Campus Ministries**

Chair: Rev. Bill Barksdale

District Coordinators:

BRO- Rev. Charles Brister  
 EJA- Lawanda Young, 528 Hunter Creek, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 951-8276  
 GWD- Rev. Warren Coile  
 GWD- Thelma Collins, 100 St. Charles Place, Madison, MS (662) 453-5901  
 HAT- Mark Leach, 146 Madison Place, Hattiesburg, MS 39402 (601) 266-4543  
 MER- Sue Ford, 108 Bay Street, Newton, MS 39345 (601) 683-6196  
 NAL- Darrell Whitaker, 117 Camp Lake Stephens Dr., Oxford, MS 38655 (662) 234-3350  
 SEA- Susan Vuyovich, 11543 Hood Rd., Saucier, MS 39574 (228) 832-4985  
 SEN- Rev. Harold Manning  
 STA- Rev. Linda Shelton  
 TUP- Michael Nanney, 1010 Meadow Drive, Fulton, MS 38843 (662) 862-7240  
 WJA- TBN

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 Dr. Dora Washington, 1351 Rockdale Drive, Jackson, MS 3213 (601) 982-7591  
 Mike Vinson, 333 Remington Drive, Brandon, MS 39042 (601) 825-3704  
 Rev. Don Fortenberry

Ex-Officio:

University Campus Minister Rep.: Rev. Hugh Griffith  
 Community College Campus Minister Rep.: Rev. David McGowin  
 Conference Treasurer: David Stotts  
 Scholarship chair: Rev. Warren Coile

#### 4. Mission Outreach

Chair: Rev. Lannis May

Conference Coordinators:

UMCOR/Disaster Response: Rev. C.J. Caufield

UMVIM: Rev. Robert McCoy

Hunger: Rev. Johnnie Collins

Parish & Community Ministries: Lou Ann Staggs, P. O. Box 686, New Albany, MS 38652, (662) 534-7733

Coord. of Global Ministries Partners: Rev. Wade Holland

Conference Mission Personnel Chair: Lou Ann Staggs, P. O. Box 686, New Albany, MS 38652, (662) 862-9530

Conf. Global Ministries Secretary: Rev. Edward C. Moses, Sr.

SEJ Global Ministries Partners: Rev. Tom Hollowell

UMW Mississippi Coordinator for Education and Interpretation: Dr. Sarah Sanders, 2734 Canterbury Rd., Columbus, MS 39705, (662) 328-7634

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Refugee Coordinator: Mattie Jones, P. O. Box 823, Crystal Springs, MS 39059, (601) 892-2839

District Coordinators:

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EJA- Angelea Graeber, 111 Bridgeview Circle, Ridgeland, MS 39157 (601) 853-7076

GWD- Rev. Sam Dodd

HAT- Rev. Stephen Tillman

MER- Jerry Fox, Rt 1 Box 168B, DeKalb, MS 39328 (601) 737-5325

NAL- Peggy Smallwood, P. O. Box 337, New Albany, MS 38652 (662) 534-4660

SEA- Dr. Gary Thompson

SEN- Rev. Jim Glass

STA- Gatha Wallace, P. O. Box 1329, Starkville, MS 39760 (662) 323-0198

TUP- Rev. Rex Wilburn

WJA- Tom and Connie Lilly, 4408 Deer Creek Drive, Jackson, MS 39211

Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Jorge Navarrete

#### a. UMCOR - Disaster Relief

Chair: Rev. C.J. Caufield

District Coordinators:

BRO- TBN

EJA- David Turner, 215 Lake Circle, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 209-4308

GWD- TBN

HAT- Rev. Rodney Smith

MER- Jerry Fox, Rt. 1 Box 188-B, DeKalb, MS 39328 (601) 737-5325

NAL- Rev. Robert McCoy

SEA- Rev. Rod Dickson-Rishel

SEN- Rev. Danny Dabbs

STA- Lee Burdine, 421 Northdale Dr., Columbus, MS 39701 (662) 328-7420

TUP- Rev. Rex Wilburn

WJA- TBN

## **b. UM Volunteers-in-Mission**

Chair: Rev. Robert McCoy

District Coordinators:

BRO- Rev. Joe Lawson

EJA- Rev. Chuck Hallford

GWD-Dr. Walter Roberts, 1241 Rathell Rd., Lexington, MS 39095 (662) 247-4878

HAT- Rev. Zeb Manning

MER- Jerry Fox, Rt. 1 Box 188-B, DeKalb, MS 39328 (601) 737-5325

NAL- Rev. Robert McCoy

SEA- Robert Sharp, 19525 Old River Rd., Van Cleave, MS 39565 (228) 826-4554

SEN- Rev. Gene Horton

STA- Lewis Wright, Rt. 2 Box 43-C, McCool, MS 39108 (662) 647-6179

TUP- Rev. Rex Willburn

WJA-TBN

## **E. Local Church Support**

### **1. Archives and History**

Chair: Mary Simpson, P. O. Box 4584, Meridian, MS 39304 (601) 483-9134

District Coordinators:

BRO- Ruth Lambert, 429 Monticello Road, Wesson, MS 39191 (601) 587-4452

EJA- Jim Woodrick, 314 Pear Orchard Circle, Ridgeland, MS 39157 (601) 856-6174

GWD- Derry Brunt, 134 Nash Dr., Grenada, MS 38901 (662) 227-1730

HAT- Rev. Roy Pearson

MER- Mary Simpson, P. O. Box 4584, Meridian, MS 39304 (601) 483-9134

NAL- Rev. Dwain Whitehurst

SEA- Harry McDonald, P. O. Box 487, Escatawpa, MS 39552 (228) 475-1637

SEN- Dr. Nellie Smith, 332 U.S. Hwy 178 West, Holly Springs, MS 38635 (662) 252-8000

STA- Mary Nell Mosley, 72 Chickasaw, Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 323-2418

TUP- Rev. Bill Carroll, Jr.

WJA- Milton Myers, 106 Laura Lake Circle, Vicksburg, MS 39180 (601) 636-8336

At-Large:

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Rev. Ray Branch

Rev. Bobby Hankins

Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

### **2. Church Revitalization**

Chair: TBN

District Coordinators:

BRO- Rev. Charles J. D. Tillman

EJA- Sandra Redd, 493 Luckney Road, Brandon, MS 39042 (601) 825-7712

GWD- Rev. Stephen Cook

HAT- Rev. Ludrick Cameron

MER- Rev. Owen Gordon, Jr.

NAL- Art Gaines, 525 CR 321, Iuka, MS 38852 (601) 423-6056

SEA- Rev. Rose Mary Williams

SEN- Peggy Linton, 6199 Rolling Hills Drive, Olive Branch, MS 38654 (662) 895-5373

STA- Linda Triplett, 8030 Pleasant Grove, Louisville, MS 39339 (662) 773-9857

TUP- Rev. Ray Rooney  
 WJA- Roger Williams, 1511 Huntington Place, Ridgeland, MS 39157 (601) 605-0124

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Ex-Officio:

ELCC Representative: Dr. Jodie Cothen  
 Equitable Compensation Chair: Steve McAlilly, P. O. Box 1567, Tupelo, MS 38802 (662) 844-8977  
 Cabinet Representative: Rev. Vicki Loflin Hughes  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

### **3. New Church Development**

Chair: Rev. Kurt Appel

Clergy:

BRO - Judy Sibley  
 EJA - Leon Collier  
 GWD - Tom McCallister  
 HAT - Tommy Artmann  
 MER - Kevin Carter  
 NAL - Keith Gaughf  
 SEA - Kurt Appel  
 SEN - B. B. Watson  
 STA - George Buell  
 TUP - Bryan Collier  
 WJA - Bruce Taylor

Lay:

BRO- Jim Phillips, 99 South Street, Brookhaven, MS 39601 (601) 833-5543  
 EJA- Charles Dunn, 465 Pine Ridge Drive, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 853-9865  
 GWD- Lillie Hamilton, P. O. Box 572, Winona, MS 38967 (662) 283-3688  
 HAT- Emory Howell, 102 Pine Ridge Dr., Petal, MS 39465 (601) 544-7757  
 MER- Jack Walters, 12430 RD 610, Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 656-4880  
 NAL- Ollie Redmond, 14 CR 150, Oxford, MS 38655 (662) 234-0989  
 SEA- Bob Day, 12346 Walker Road, Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 830-2840  
 SEN- Pat Dorr, 4325 Payne Parkway, Olive Branch, MS 38654 (662) 895-1974  
 STA- Kay Verrall, P. O. Box 566, Mississippi State, MS 39762 (662) 323-6481  
 TUP- Rose Roberts, P. O. Box 485, Pontotoc, MS 38863 (662) 489-5570  
 WJA- Luther Bates, 351 Overlook Circle, Jackson, MS 39213 (601) 984-2882

Ex-Officio:

ELCC Chair: Dr. Dewey Handy, 963 Metairie Road, Jackson, MS 39209 (601) 362-7916  
 Equitable Compensation Chair: Steve McAlilly, P. O. Box 1567, Tupelo, MS 38802 (662) 844-8977  
 Cabinet Representatives: Rev. Bert Felder  
 Conference Staff: Dr. Embra Jackson

### **4. Parish and Community Ministries**

Chair: Lou Ann Staggs, P. O. Box 686, New Albany, MS 38652 (662) 534-7733

District Coordinators:

BRO- Joyce Weary, 95 Rankin Road, Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 736-4946  
 EJA- Rev. Richard Rankin

GWD- TBN  
 HAT- Rev. Steve Tillman  
 MER- Rev. Lannis May  
 NAL- Lou Ann Staggs  
 SEA- Rev. Edward C. Moses, Sr.  
 SEN- Rev. Charles Reed  
 STA- Rev. Tommy Murphy  
 TUP- Johnnie Kelso, 371 North, Mantachie, MS 38855 (662) 282-4877  
 WJA- Rev. Lauren Porter

Members At-Large:

Rev. Ray Owen  
 Jimmy Buchannon, P. O. Box 798, Crystal Springs, MS 39059 (601) 892-3024  
 Cheryl Denley, P. O. Box 220, Senatobia, MS 38668 (662) 562-5865  
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Ex-Officio:

Church & Community Workers Advisory Com.: Ernestine Varnado, 986 N. Cherry Street, Magnolia, MS 39652, (601) 783-3756  
 UMRP President: Rev. William F. Givhan, Sr.  
 ELCC Representative: Rev. Mattie Gipson  
 Cabinet Representative: Dr. Carl Grubbs  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Steve Casteel

## **F. Advocacy Committees**

### **1. Religion and Race**

Chair: Twick Morrison, 2617 Confederate Avenue, Vicksburg, MS 39180 (601) 636-8050

District Coordinators:

BRO - Juanita Franklin, 941 Smith Lake Road, Brookhaven, MS 39601 (601) 833-5599  
 EJA - Rev. Heather Hensarling  
 GWD - Rev. Marjorie Walker  
 HAT - Rev. Frank Gipson  
 MER - Lee Steele, P. O. Box 272, DeKalb, MS 39328  
 NAL - Barbara Adams, 23 CR 175, Oxford, MS 38655 (662) 234-0870  
 SEA - Rev. Theodore Williams  
 SEN - Rev. Eddie Ford  
 STA - TBN  
 TUP - Jack Reed, 2059 Parc Monceau Drive West, Tupelo, MS 38804 (662) 844-1730  
 WJA - TBN

At-Large:

Youth: Kordell Sims, P. O. Box 183, Lexington, MS 39095 (662) 834-0031  
 Youth: Andrew Godbold, 3328 Oakview Drive, Jackson, MS 39212 (601) 373-7471  
 Cabinet Representative: Rev. David Price  
 Conference Connectional Ministries Staff: Rev. Lindsey Robinson

### **2. Status and Role of Women**

Chair: Thelma Collins, P. O. Box 486, Itta Bena, MS 38941 (662) 254-7316

District Coordinators:

BRO- Fay Vaughn, 3218 Bedford-Tillman Road, Roxie, MS 39661 (601) 384-4241  
 EJA- Kevin Feisel, 701 Treeline Drive, Brandon, MS 39042 (601) 824-1992



GWD- Mary Govan, 237 Garrott Street, Greenville, MS 38703 (662) 325-3820  
 HAT- Jennifer Hatch, 315 Petal Drive, Petal, MS 39465 (601) 583-6127  
 MER- Syria Sturdivant, 4141 A Place, Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 483-2065  
 NAL- Rev. Mary Hutson  
 SEA- Joyce Calcote, P. O. Box 241, Perkinston, MS 39573 (601) 928-6300  
 SEN- Rev. Amy Lann Daniels  
 STA- Rev. Linda Dixon  
 TUP- Maurice Smith, 1306 Wilson St., Tupelo, MS 38804 (662) 767-6021  
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Members At-Large:

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 Rev. Annette Ford  
 Rev. Terry Ivy  
 Rev. Susan Woodard

## G. Communications

### 1. Communications

Chair: Rev. Shane Stanford

Clergy:

Davis Carothers  
 Mike Hicks  
 Elbrist Mason  
 Jerry Salley

Lay:

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 Ben Duncan, 39 Terri Drive, Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 656-8634  
 Bob Gordon, 118 Hanover Dr., Brandon, MS 39047-6136 (601) 992-3225  
 Marie Owen, 1009 Cedar Hill Drive, Jackson, MS 39206 (601) 981-6962  
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 Timothy Crisler, 8013 Sumrall Road, Crystal Springs, MS 39059 (601) 892-3483

Ex-Officio:

Conference Coordinator of Communications: Gwen Green  
 Woody Woodrick, P. O. Box 1093, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515

### 2. Courtesies

Chair: Rev. Alicia Beam Ingram

Clergy:

Michael Culbreth  
 Andy Cotten  
 Alicia Beam-Ingram

Lay:

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### 3. Journal

Chair: Rev. Sue Whitt

Clergy:

Brian Gordon  
Sue Whitt  
Chris Young

Lay:

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Journal Editor: Rev. Larry White  
Conference Secretary: Rev. Roger Puhr

### 4. Memoirs

Chair: Rev. Roger Puhr

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Pensions Secretary: Ed Jones, 38 Wintergreen Road, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 853-9634

Medical Benefits Secretary: Rev. Trey Harper

Four Persons Named by Cabinet:

Rev. Ron Barham  
Rev. E. L. Henry  
Emma Brown, 724 Military Road, Columbus, MS 39701 (662) 327-5847  
Woody Woodrick, P. O. Box 1093, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 354-0515

## H. Personnel

### 1. Personnel

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Conference Lay Leader: Dr. Aubrey Lucas, 3200 Jamestown, Hattiesburg, MS 39402 (601) 266-5001

Ethnic Clergy Rep: Rev. Ludrick Cameron

Rev. E. L. Henry

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Rev. Beth Taylor

Rev. Gene Ford Vance

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Ex-Officio:

Administrative Assistant to Bishop: Dr. Embra Jackson

Coordinator of Communications: Gwen Green

Director of Connectional Ministries: Rev. Steve Casteel

## 2. Financial and Administrative Ministries

### a. Episcopacy

Chair: Howard Boone, 352 Ingleside Drive, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 853-9666

Clergy:

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Jimmy Harrison

Jim Ormon

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H. C. Redmond, 231 Florida Street, Greenville, MS 38703 (662) 332-0961

Laywomen:

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Ex-Officio:

Turner Arant, 414 Blaine Rd., Sunflower, MS 38778 (662) 887-4564

Dr. Joe May

### b. Finance and Administration

Chair: Delmar Robinson, 306 Lameuse, Biloxi, MS 39530 (228) 374-2840

Clergy:

Don Bishop

Rod Borders

Bernard Crump

Brad Hodges

Vicki Landrum

Joe May

Deborah Palmer

Danny Rowland, Chair CF&A Personnel

Guss Shelly

Jim Williams Matheny

Lay:

Jim Ainsworth, 1295 Highway 304, Hernando, MS 38632 (662) 429-4424

Tommy Barrett, 424 Townes Avenue, Grenada, MS 38901 (662) 226-3205

Beth Hartness, P. O. Box 569, Kosciusko, MS 39090 (662) 289-1633

Craig Hitt, P. O. Box 104, Collinsville, MS 39325 (601) 626-7064

Duane O'Neill, 2365 Quail Creek, Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 844-8806

Bill Smallwood, 161 Line Street, Grenada, MS 38901 (662) 534-4660

Ellen Short, P. O. Box 337, New Albany, MS 38652

Walter Thomas, 13232 Dedeaux Road, Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 831-1497

George Verrall, P. O. Box 566, Mississippi State, MS 39763 (662) 325-1978

Gatha Wallace, P. O. Box 1329, Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 323-0198

GCFA Members Within Conference:

Martha Scarborough, P. O. Box 1986, Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 948-8845

Ex-Officio:

Resident Bishop: Bishop Hope Morgan Ward

Cabinet Representative: TBN

Director of Finance Administration/Treasurer: David Stotts

Assistant to the Bishop: Dr. Embra Jackson

Director of Connectional Ministries: Rev. Steve Casteel

**c. Medical Benefits**

Chair: Rev. Elvernice Davis

Clergy:

Eddie Brown

Trey Harper

Dwight Prowell

James Twiner

Laymen:

Herman Freeman, 170 Bristol Boulevard, Jackson, MS 39204 (601) 373-4514

Joseph Guess, P. O. Box 249, Pickens, MS 39146 (662) 468-2740

Dr. Bill Scott, 566 North Swaney Drive, Holly Springs, MS 38635 (662) 915-5338

Ed Youngblood, Route 1 Box 106, Meadville, MS 39653

Phil Brooks, 365 Rollingwood Dr., Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 693-7046

Laywomen:

Mary Alford, 182 Woodbriar Drive, Kosciusko, MS 39090

Cynthia Parker, 107 Belle Meade Boulevard, Flowood, MS 39232 (601) 992-2821

Libby Piazza, 1105 Post Road, Clinton, MS 39056 (601) 924-0659

Debra Strong, 401 Hwy 550 NW, Brookhaven, MS 39601

Katherine Chaney

Teresa Harvey, 521 W Chickasaw St., Brookhaven, MS 39601 (601) 835-3275

Peggy Crawford, P O Box 109, Louisville, MS 39339 (662) 773-3696

Ex-Officio:

Resident Bishop: Bishop Hope Morgan Ward

Administrative Assistant to Bishop: Dr. Embra Jackson

Director of Finance Administration/Treasurer: David Stotts

Cabinet Representative: TBN

Conference Treasurer Staff: Jackie McGough

Pensions Liaison: Rev. Byrd Hillman, Jr.

**d. Pensions**

Chair: Ed Jones, 38 Wintergreen Road, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 853-9634

Clergy:

Zach Beasley

Gary Knight

David Meadows

John Moore

Rod Dixon-Rishel

Ray Stokes

Laymen:

Robert Appel, 34 Old Oak Lane, Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 896-6927  
 Joe Fant 1014 College Street, Columbus, MS 39701 (662) 328-7626  
 Robert Carter, 12438 Old Panola Road, Como, MS 38619 (662) 526-5915  
 Wade Watts, 4400 Old Canton Rd., Ste. 150, Jackson, MS 39211

Laywomen:

Deborah Slaughter, 5305 Noma Drive, Diamondhead, MS 39525 (228) 255-4261  
 Barbara Johnson, 1932 Hwy 13 South, Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 736-7806  
 Helen Bell, 2849 Pop-Water Valley Road, Pope, MS 38658 (662) 563-3795  
 Vera Latham, P. O. Box 501, Winona, MS 38967 (662) 283-4204  
 Jackie Williams, 16233 Saddle Dr., Gulfport, MS 39503

Ex-Officio:

Resident Bishop: Bishop Hope Morgan Ward  
 Administrative Assistant to Bishop: Dr. Embra Jackson  
 Director of Finance Administration/Treasurer: David Stotts  
 Cabinet Representative: TBN  
 Conference Treasurer Staff: Cheryl Webb  
 Pensions Liaison: Rev. Byrd Hillman, Jr.

**e. Resolutions and Petitions**

Chair: Dr. David Beckley, P. O. Box 481, Holly Springs, MS 38635 (662) 252-4661

Clergy:

Roy Biggers  
 Wayne Webster  
 Rex Wilburn

Lay:

Sue Hale, 111 Cedar Hill Drive, Oxford, MS 38655 (662) 234-8889  
 Morenike Irving, 129 D'Evereaux Drive, Madison, MS 39110 (601) 605-9427  
 Everett Stone, 17 40th Street, Gulfport, MS 39507 (228) 863-9727

Ex-Officio:

Administrative Assistant to Bishop: Dr. Embra Jackson  
 Conference Secretary: Rev. Roger Puhr

**f. Standing Rules**

Chair: Mary Foretich, 210 29th Street, Gulfport, MS 39507 (228) 863-8467

Clergy:

Allen Dearing  
 Phil Gerber  
 Elbrist Mason

Lay:

Larry Swales, 199 Woodlands Green Drive, Brandon, MS 39047 (601) 992-9945  
 Hargie Davis Crenshaw, 3045 12th Avenue, Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 483-4744

Ex-Officio:

Administrative Assistant to Bishop: Dr. Embra Jackson  
 Conference Secretary: Rev. Roger Puhr  
 Director of Connectional Ministries: Rev. Steve Casteel

### g. Trustees

Chair: Rev. Henderson Raspberry

Clergy:

Curtis Cain  
Geoffrey Joyner  
David Slaughter

Laymen:

LeLon Davidson, P. O. Box 153, Oxford, MS 38655 (662) 234-3723  
Gerald Jacks, P.O. Box 1209, Cleveland, MS 38732 (662) 843-6171  
Johnny Ferrell, #6 Huckleberry Ln, Hattiesburg, MS 39402  
Robert Carter, 12438 Old Panola Rd, Como, MS 38619 (901) 726-7481

Laywomen:

Ann Bridgforth, 3865 Bridgforth Road, Olive Branch, MS 38654 (662) 895-2650  
Freida Collins, P.O. Box 190, Ellisville, MS 39437 (601) 477-9228  
Annie Magee, 27 Lee Magee Road, Tylertown, MS 39667 (601) 876-5771

Ex-Officio:

Cabinet Representative: Rev. Rayford Wallace  
Conference Staff: David Stotts, P. O. Box 1201, Jackson, MS 39215 (866) 647-7486

### 3. Ministerial Services/Leadership Ministries

#### a. Committee Clergy/Diaconal Ministry Emergency Fund

Chair: Rev. P. M. Gordon, Sr.

Two Clergy:

Dr. Walt Porter  
Rev. Pat Schott

United Methodist Foundation Representative: Rev. Jerry Mitchell  
United Methodist Foundation Representative: Rev. P. M. Gordon, Sr.  
CF&A Chair: Delmar Robinson, 306 Lameuse, Biloxi, MS 39560 (228) 374-2840  
Board Ordained Ministry Chair: Dr. Sam Morris  
Cabinet Representative: TBN

#### b. Commission on Equitable Compensation

Chair: Steve McAlilly, P. O. Box 1567, Tupelo, MS 38802 (662) 844-8977

District Coordinators:

BRO - Joyce Stepney, P. O. Box 902, Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 736-3961  
EJA - Alice Scott, 1131 North Liberty Street, Canton, MS 39046 (601) 736-4946  
GWD - Rev. Ozell Landfair  
HAT - Otis Magee, 5 St. James Road, Mt. Olive, MS 39119 (601) 797-3821  
MER - John McRae, 4808 18th Avenue, Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 693-5844  
NAL - Ray Gafford, 1163 State Highway 348, New Albany, MS 38652  
SEA - Rev. Ray Stokes  
SEN - Neville Vanderburg, 6676 Blocker, Olive Branch, MS 38654 (662) 895-5602  
STA - Rev. Riley Burton  
TUP - Steve McAlilly, P. O. Box 1567, Tupelo, MS 38802 (662) 844-8977  
WJA - Rev. Jim Biedenbarn

At-Large:

Rev. Mitchell Hedgepeth  
 Rev. Robert Brown  
 Rev. Pete Herndon  
 Cabinet Representative: Rev. Raiford Wallace

**c. Board of Ordained Ministry**

Chair: Dr. Sam Morris

Clergy

Martha Alexander	Will Dowling	Scott Larsen
Tom Atkins	John Evans	B. F. Lee
Michelle Bailey	Jim Genesse	Lynette Little
Jimmy Barnes	Mattie Gipson	Van Moore
Warren Black	Dayna Goff	David Newton
Phillip Box	Tommy Greer	Robert Pittman
Ray Branch	Dianne Harms	Tom Potter
John Branning	John Harper	Robert Rambo
Fred Britton	Heather Hensarling	Linda Rickman
George Buell	Larry Hilliard	Richard Robbins
Frank Burton	Ginger Holland	Lloyd Rollins
Robert Cartlidge	Gene Horton	Connie Shelton
Leon Collier	Eddie Lee Jones	Bruce Taylor
Bobby Dailey	Ann Kaufman	Ed Temple
Phillip Dearman	Rusty Keen	Sandra Thomas
Allison Dickerson	Joe Landrum	Chris Young

Lay:

Robert Berry, 625 Powell Street, Winona, MS 38967 (662) 283-2675  
 Phil Brooks, 365 Rollingwood Dr., Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 693-7046  
 Roger Cooperwood, 403 North Long Street, Aberdeen, MS 39730 (662) 369-6185  
 Robert Harry, 3836 Morningview Dr., Moss Point, MS 39563 (228) 475-4806  
 Robert Hughes, 5037 37th St., Meridian, MS 39307 (601) 483-4453  
 Betsy Hutchison, P. O. Box 100, Kosciusko, MS 39090 (662) 289-1412  
 Mattie Jones, P. O. Box 823, Crystal Springs, MS 39059 (601) 664-4275  
 Kay Schloemer, 3022 Tidewater Cir., Madison, MS 39110 (601) 856-1093  
 Dr. Cathy Stewart, 260 CR 425, Oxford, MS 38655 (662) 232-7138  
 Mary Lynn Still, 525 W 7th St., Laurel, MS 39440 (601) 649-1197  
 Ann Walker, 105 Dunbrook, Starkville, MS 39759

New General Conf. Ruling:

Local & Associate Pastors (without vote): Robert Cartlidge

Ex-Officio:

Chair, Order of Deacons: Rev. Diane Harms  
 Chair, Order of Elders: Rev. George Buell  
 Chair, RIM: Rev. David Newton  
 Center for Ministry: Rev. Rebecca Youngblood  
 Course of Study: Rev. Jim Beam-Ingram  
 Cabinet Representatives (3): Rev. Victoria Sizemore-Tandy; Rev. Willis Britt; TBN

### d. Pastoral Care and Counseling

Chair: Rev. Billy McCord

District Coordinators:

BRO - Norma Hallberg, P. O. Box 712, McComb, MS 39649 (601) 684-5039

EJA - Rev. Steve Casteel

GWD - Alma Henderson, 611 Howard Street, Greenwood, MS 38930 (662) 453-8557

HAT - Dr. Eugene Owens, 2018 Queensburg Avenue, Laurel, MS 39440 (601) 649-3619

MER - Rev. Wayne Bass

NAL - Rev. Warren Black

SEA - Rev. John Harper

SEN - Rev. Joe Ranager

STA - Dr. Walter Porter

TUP - Dr. Cathy Grace, 1502 Winter Valley Drive, Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 844-0013

WJA - Rev. Maxine Bolden

At-Large:

Christina Hill, 400 West Georgetown Street, Crystal Springs, MS 39059 (601) 892-3609

Melvin Putt, P. O. Box 142, Booneville, MS 38829 (662) 728-4749

## D. Institution Trustee/Directors

*\* Denotes new nomination to be elected/ratified*

### 1. Camping Ministries

#### a. Lake Stephens United Methodist Camp, Oxford

##### TRUSTEES

Class of 2007:

Ann Bridgeforth; Lynn Lott; Rev. Bruce Taylor\*; Rev. Tom McCallister; Susan Roberts\*

Class of 2008:

Rev. Brian Gordon; Rev. Chris Young; Dr. Bill Scott; Kathleen Smith; Rev. Eddie Willis

Class of 2009:

Pat Barrett\*; Rev. Bill Beavers\*; Rev. Claire Dobbs; Bill McGregor; John Richardson

Class of 2010:

Brownie Tohill\*; Rev. Wade Holland\*; Mark McAnally\*; Jim Stephens\*; Rev. Jeff Lawrence\*

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward; Rev. Bert Felder; Rev. David Carroll; Robin Dambrino

#### b. Seashore United Methodist Assembly, Biloxi

##### TRUSTEES

Class of 2007:

Rev. Elijah Henry; Edward Williams; Daphne Richardson; Pal Reeves

Class of 2008:

Rev. Curtis Moffat; Hugh Mayronne; Bob Young

Class of 2009:

Rev. Ben Barlow\*; Rev. Robbie Murden\*; Humphrey Planer\*

Class of 2010:

Rev. David Cumbest\*; Judy Thomas\*; Connie Helmuth\*

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward; Rev. Jimmy Dabbs; Anne Steinaway; Rev. Jim Sturm; Art Steinaway; Seashore Manor Administrator; Rev. Bill McAlilly; Rev. David Carroll



**c. Wesley Pines, Conference, Retreat and Camping Center, Gallman****TRUSTEES**

Class of 2007:

Rev. Mitchell Cochran; Francis Delmas; Pam Thompson; Rev. Barry Male\*

Class of 2008:

Rev. Mitchell Hedgepeth; Paul Davis; Garland Brent; Rev. Karen Koons\*

Class of 2009:

Rev. Todd Sanders; Jimmy Buchanan; Rev. John Branning\*; Rosie Rhodes

Class of 2010:

Annette Hill; Susan Gannaway\*; Rev. Will Dowling\*; Rev. Lisa Garvin\*

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward; Rev. Phillip Heidelberg; Rev. Ted Giordano; Rev. Don Peters; James Crenshaw; Rev. David Willoughby; Cassandra Simpson

Honorary/Life Members:

Rev. Byrd Hillman

**2. Health and Welfare Ministry Institutions****a. The Baddour Center, Inc., Senatobia****TRUSTEES**

David Moore; Dr. Erin Dooley Dickson; Robert Fratesi; Rita Sparks; Carman Scruggs; Judy Starkey; Jim Bryan; Rich Neal; Les Young; Polly Bailey; Doug Miller; Mary Nelson; Bill Brown; Lisa Fuller; Bailey Meeks; J. Stanley McNeese; Judge Melvin McClure, Jr.; Dudley Barnes; Turner Arant; Betsy Peck; Dr. Richard Ross; Gerry Thomas; John Woods; Dr. Read Holland; Dr. Phil George; Don Eure; David Peck; Gladys Hamilton; Mike Landrum; Dr. Marian Miller; Steve Nelson; Mark Medford

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward; Rev. Jim Ormon; Major Alan Callicot; Rev. Vicki Sizemore-Tandy; Rev. Gene Horton; Dr. Sarah Sanders; Dr. Aubrey Lucas; Woody Woodrick; Parke Pepper; Rev. Steve Casteel

The Baddour Family:

Paul Baddour; Paul Baddour, Jr.; Donald C. Baddour; Margy Graham; Shea Baddour Veazey; Kristen Baddour Montgomery

**b. The Methodist Children's Home****TRUSTEES**

Class of 2007:

Allen Wood, Jr.; Rev. George Jackson; Susan Wright Roberts

Class of 2008:

Stan Pratt; Bob Bradford

Class of 2009:

B. B. Hosch; Rev. Ed Moses; Turner Arant; Mac Haynes

Class of 2010:

Billie Nance; Mary Ann McCarty

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward

**c. Methodist Healthcare, Memphis****BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Board of Trustees

John Holmes Sherard V; Pat Dorr; Rev. John Moore

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward

**d. Mississippi Methodist Rehabilitation Center, Inc.****TRUSTEES**

William R. (Randy) James, Chair; Matthew L. Holleman, Vice Chair; David L. McMillin, Secretary; Mike P. Sturdivant, Jr.; Dean M. Miller; S. Ed Kossman; E. B. (Bud) Robinson; Rev. Bert Felder; C. Gerald Garnett; Thomas A. Turner, III; Marsha M. Wells; Dirk B. Vanderleest; Michael Reddix, M. D.; Ann Holifield; William (Bill) A. Ray; Walter S. Weems; David C. Collipp, M. D.; Tish Hughes; Michael (Mike) Maples, M. D.

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward; Mark A. Adams, President/CEO; Otis Johnson; Rahul Vohra, M. D.

Honorary/Life Members:

John H. Webb, Jr.; Jesse L. Wofford, M. D.; Sally Carmichael

**e. United Methodist Senior Services of Mississippi, Inc.****MEMBERS OF CORPORATION**

2009:

Dr. David Beckley; Jamie Cater; Rev. Henderson Rasberry; William West; Rev. Timothy Thompson; Juanita Floyd; Ed Kossman; Joe McClammy; Ann Wilder; Joe Lauderdale; Richard Topp; Cynthia Parker; Bob Coker

**OFFICERS**

2006:

David Brevard, Chair; Bishop Clay F. Lee, Vice Chair; Debra McIntosh, Secretary

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2008:

Polly Bailey; O. Shaw Johnson, Jr.; Debra McIntosh; Rev. Jim Ormon; Ruby Smith

**f. United Methodist Senior Services of Tupelo Area, Inc.****United Methodist Senior Services Health Care, Inc.****BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Marilyn Agnew; Beth Brevard; Stephen Corban; Medford M. Leake; Guy W. Mitchell III

Class of 2007:

Linda Beasley; Paul Eason; Juanita Floyd; Emily Hill; Clyde Biddle\*

Class of 2008:

Norris V. Caldwell, Jr.; Tommy Harris; David Henson; Marilyn Schaper

Ex-Officio:

David Brevard, Chairman; Stephen McAlilly; President/CEO; Alan Brown, Vice President/COO; Greg Warnick, Executive Director

**g. United Methodist Senior Services of Clarksdale Area, Inc.****BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Bobby Carson; Robin Page Cocke; LASSIE Flowers; Goldie Hirsberg; Campbell Melton; Betsy Perry

Class of 2007:

Carolyn Laudig Gaines; Lyn Gates; Libby Whitten

Class of 2008:

Doodle Crumpton; Mark Foster; David Holcomb; Donna Merkel; Tom Ross; Peter Vincent

Ex-Officio:

David Brevard, Chairman; Stephen McAlilly; President/CEO; Alan Brown, Vice President/COO; W. F. (Bill) Lewis, Executive Director

**h. United Methodist Senior Services of Columbus Area, Inc.  
United Methodist Senior Services of the Golden Triangle Area, Inc.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Allegra Brigham; John Davis; Rex Gillis; Ken Kennedy; Linda Shelton

Class of 2007:

Henry Holleman; Ellender McClure; Mike Perkerson; Rev. Herman Peters; Dr. Sarah Sanders

Class of 2008:

Doris Bankhead; Don Davis; Betty McGee; Tommy Tate; Bill West

Honorary/Life Member:

Geneva Kennedy

Ex-Officio:

David Brevard, Chairman; Stephen McAlilly President/CEO; Alan Brown, Vice President/COO; Stan Maynard, Executive Director

**i. Aldersgate Retirement Community, Inc., - Lauderdale Senior Services Inc.  
Meridian Senior Services, Inc. - Aldersgate Personal Care, Inc.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Leslie Dunn; Beverly Issacs; Chris Lauderdale; Larry Pupa; Rev. Andy Ray

Class of 2007:

Ann Alexander; Jamie Cater; Robbie Hales; Susan Ledbetter; Joe Charles Sanders

Class of 2008:

Phillip Brooks; Hargie Crenshaw; Billy Estes; Mel Scarborough

Ex-Officio:

David Brevard, Chairman; Stephen McAlilly President/CEO; Alan Brown, Vice President/COO; Lawona Broadfoot, Executive Director & Regional Director, South

**j. Hattiesburg Area Senior Services, Inc.  
Wesley Manor Retirement Community, Inc.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Ted Alexander; Rev. Joe Garvin; Linda Donnell

Class of 2007:

Susan Donohue; Rev. Prentiss M. Gordon, Jr.; Willie Sims; Sidney L. Whitley

Class of 2008:

Paul Laughlin

Ex-Officio:

David Brevard, Chairman; Stephen McAlilly President/CEO; Alan Brown, Vice President/COO; Kim Pittman, Executive Director

**k. Seashore Campground Retirement Home, Inc.  
Gulf Oaks Methodist Manor, Inc.  
Seashore Personal Care, Inc.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Betty D. Brown; Edgar Gilmore; Guss Shelly; Sidney L. Rushing; Nancy Wilson

Class of 2007:

Richard Breslin; Joe McClammy; Margaret McKenzie; Ron Myrick

Class of 2008:

Huntley Biggs; Don Mason; Anne Marie Moreton; James O. Ray; walter Taylor

Ex-Officio:

David Brevard, Chairman; Stephen McAlilly President/CEO; Alan Brown, Vice President/COO; Mike Mahan, Executive Director

**I. Greene County Retirement Systems, Inc.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Richard Fleming; Nell Gray; Jimmy Holcomb; Emma Jane Wilkerson

Class of 2007:

Andy Hollinghead; Shannon Wally; Mary Williams

Class of 2008:

Johnny Denmark; Debra Helton; Tommy Henderson; Diane Shoemaker

Ex-Officio:

David Brevard, Chairman; Stephen McAlilly President/CEO; Alan Brown, Vice President/COO; Catherine Bradley, Executive Director

**m. United Methodist Senior Services of Jackson Area, Inc.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Murphy Adkins; Richard D. deShazo; Alice Gorman; Rev. Willis Britt; Rev. Henderson Rasberry

Class of 2007:

Ralph S. Abraham, Jr.; Effie Clay; Clyde Muse; Gloria Coxwell; Henry Riser

Class of 2008:

Leo Boolos, Jr.; Bob Howell; Fred Logan; Ron Morgan; W. J. Reed, Jr.

Ex-Officio:

David Brevard, Chairman; Stephen McAlilly President/CEO; Alan Brown, Vice President/COO; Kay Higginbotham, Executive Director

**n. United Methodist Senior Services of Clay County, Inc.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Louise Campbell; Jackie Edwards; Sara Roberts; Gary Turner; Steve White

Class of 2007:

Barbara Bryan; Bill Burris; Stacy Hays; Brett Miller; Aliecia Randle

Class of 2008:

T. N. Braddock; Mary Margaret Case; Billy Milican; Jane K. Rives

Ex-Officio:

David Brevard, Chairman; Stephen McAlilly President/CEO; Alan Brown, Vice President/COO; Tammy Martin, Executive Director

**o. United Methodist Senior Senior Services of Desoto County, Inc.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Lee Ashcraft; Kevin Doddridge; Bea Hunsucker; Peggy Linton; Betty Stoker

Class of 2007:

Cynthia Coleman; Joy Henderson; Sue Holmes; Milton Nichols; Robert L. Smith

Class of 2008:

Hattie Bunch; Tom Butler; Milton Davis; Joe Frank Lauderdale; Billie Wilhite

Ex-Officio:

David Brevard, Chairman; Stephen McAlilly President/CEO; Alan Brown, Vice President/COO; Joy Allen, Executive Director

**3. Higher Education and Campus Ministry**

**I. UNITED METHODIST RELATED INSTITUTIONS**

**a. Millsaps College, Jackson  
TRUSTEES**

Class of 2007:

Rev. Michael Culbreth; Tom Fowlkes; John L. Lindsey; Vaughan McRae; Dr. Sam Morris; Rev. John Ed Thomas; Rev. Sue Whitt

Class of 2008:

Gene Ainsworth; Paul Benton; Dan Bowling; Bob Leggett; Mike McRee; Rev. Luther Ott; Bob Ridgway; Murray Underwood; William Yates, III

Class of 2009:

Maurice Hall; Rev. Vickie Hughes; William Jeanes; W. Randy James; Con Maloney; Tim Medley; Tom Rhoden; Rev. Vickie Sizemore-Tandy; John Vaughney

Class of 2010:

Rev. Warren Black; Jim Coggin; Vonda Reeves Darby; Carolyn Hood; Monica Harrigill; Archie Lamb; Bud Robinson; Steve Smith; Alveno Castilla

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward; Maurice Hall; Dr. Frances Lucas

Honorary/Life Members:

Carol Allen; Martha Campbell; Elaine Crystal; Robert Dunlap; Gale Galloway; Herman Hines; Earle Jones; Richard McRae; Robert Morrison; Edward Moyers; Bob Pittman; Nat Rogers; Tom Scott, Jr.; Mike Sturdivant; Rowan Taylor; Janice Trimble; Ruth Watson; Leila Wynn

## **b. Rust College, Holly Springs**

### **TRUSTEES**

Class of 2007:

Tom Brown; Pearlene Carter; Dr. Earnest L. Henry; Dr. Wesley E. Jones; John McCarty; Rev. John Moore; Dimaggio Nichols

Class of 2008:

Dr. Joe N. Bailey; Dr. Jimmy Carr; Orelor D. B. Murry; Dr. William Nelson; Dr. Dorothy Pennington; Dr. F. C. Richardson; Cecelia Wilson Sawyer; Dr. Robert Tyson; Dr. Dora S. Washington

Class of 2009:

John Arnold; C. F. Brittenham; William Catledge; Dr. Adolph Harper; Charles Leggett, Jr.; Dr. Joe May; Leone Medin; Rev. David Swinton; Dr. Barbara Thompson

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward; Dr. David Beckley; Bishop Deborah Kiesey; Rev. Patrick Phillips; Bishop Sally Dyck; Bishop Richard Willis; Bishop Robert Hoshibata; Bishop Gregory V. Palmer; Rev. Milton Boyd; Dr. Ken Bedell

Honorary/Life Members:

Dr. Jennie R. Calbert; Dr. Henry C. Clay; Mabelle Ellis; Dr. James O. Erwin; Dr. Leora M. Marcus; Dr. George Menshik; Mary N. Mosley; Dr. Cora Norman; Dr. James V. Poulsen; Dr. I. L. Rucker; Henry Varnell; Vernon Winfrey

## **II. WESLEY FOUNDATION DIRECTORS FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES**

### **a. Wesley Foundation, Alcorn State University**

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Dr. Joyce Bolden; Rev. Henry Clay, Jr.; Rev. Rob Hill; Rev. Lauren Porter; Edward Vaughn

Class of 2008:

Larscie Ellis; Rev. David Harrison; Sam Price; Debra Reynolds

Class of 2009:

Rev. John Harper; Dr. Willie F. Jackson; Sidney James; Waldo James; Dr. Troy Stewart; Dr. Cassandra Vaughn

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Willis Britt; Rev. Phillip Heidelberg; Rev. Bill Barksdale; Rev. Tanya Edwards-Evans; Rev. Paul Luckett; Rev. Dana Goff; Mike Vinson; David Stotts

Honorary/Life Members:

Waldo James; Sidney James; Dr. Willie Jackson; Joe Dockins; Dr. Charles J. D. Tillman; Warren Cox; Bonnie Dillon

**b. Wesley Foundation, Delta State University**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Marty Tubbs; Bobbie Nell Lewis

Class of 2008:

Chip Cooper; Cynthia Morgan; Debbie Haire; Jenetta Waddell

Class of 2009:

Matt Jones, Lori Hoskins; Jim Robertson; Trent Lamastus

Class of 2010:

Anna Pruess; Dawn Carver; Joanne Crews

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Steve McDonald; Rev. Milton Whatley; Rev. Brad Sartor; Rev. James Twiner; Rev. Billy Owen;  
Rev. Gary House; Rev. John Banks; Rev. Stephen Cook; Rev. Trey Harper; Stehpen Ludlam; Danny  
Townsend

Honorary/Life Members:

Robert Smith; Hazel Sanders; Dr. and Mrs. Wilson Davis; Betty McMurchy; Larry Martin; Sue Pearson

**c. Wesley Foundation, Jackson State University**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Board of Directors

Class of 2007:

Margie Funchess; Dr. Ruth Williams; Connie Fitzhugh; Luther Bates

Class of 2008:

Winston Anderson; Iola Fisher; Dr. Embra Jackson, III

Class of 2009:

Chandra Frazier; Velma Green; Dr. Samuel Jones; Kelly E. Pope; Rev. Patrick Phillips

**d. Wesley Foundation, Mississippi State University**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Rosiland Ashford; Melvin Aycock; David Dampier; Bill Jones; Jim Wilson; Andy Walters; Kim Walters;  
Michelle Williams

Class of 2008:

Tom Whitfield; Vivian Whitfield; Julie Berry; David Thornell; Mark Ethridge; Bob Crabtree; Gretel  
Chandler; Ann Walker ; Jack Carroll; Charleen Carroll

Class of 2009:

Russ Ward; Emilie Ward; Kimberly Williams; Harold Rone; Anna Hood; Delbert Berry; Pat Dye; Roy  
Ruby; Bobby Thomson; Skip Jack

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Eddie Lee Jones; Rev. Danny Rowland; Rev. Tim Sisk; Rev. Barry Robinson; Rev. Paul McDonald;  
Rev. Hugh Griffith

Honorary/Life Members:

George Verrall; Kay Verrall

**e. Wesley Foundation, Mississippi University For Women**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Carolyn Allen; Cathy Glover; Melissa Gilmore; Beth Brooks; Larry Rader; Sandra Rader

Class of 2008:

Carol Simmons; Rita Williams; James Reeves; Edith Reeves

Class of 2009:

Jerry Robertson; Deborah Robertson; Betty Darnell; Ellen Lovick; Mike Hunter; Sandy Williams; Mary  
Wilson

## Ex-Officio:

Rev. Ron Thomas; Rev. Tony Proctor; Rev. Ray Wallace; Dr. Sam Morris; Rev. Anne Russell Bradley; Rev. Curtis Bray; Rev. Paul McDonald; Rev. Ron McDougald; Rev. Chris Young; Rev. Fred Brown; Rev. Stacy Douglas; Rev. James Black; Gail Griffith; Krista Dunbar; Carianne Fowler

## Honorary/Life Members:

Brenda Blanton; Billy Pounds; Jean Parra

**f. Wesley Foundation, Mississippi Valley State****BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## Class of 2007:

May Whittington; Robert Barry; Charles E. Brown; Annie Brown; Chris Lewis

## Class of 2008:

Rev. Claude Raines; Rev. Stephen Cook; Rev. Dorothy Townsend; Turner Arant; Gladly Fant; Dr. Preston Boles; Rosie Washington; Rayford Horton; Dr. Roy Hudson

## Class of 2009:

Rev. Johnny Collins; Cathon Robinson; Marjorie Curtis; Debbie Oxnam; Linda Jones; John McClay; Willie Totten; Dr. Francis Showi; Marguerite Williams

## Class of 2010:

Juvernica Robinson; Henri Etta Lowe; H. C. Redmond; Troy Brown; Mary Alice White; J. Russel; Lenard Robinson; Liddell Robinson

## Ex-Officio:

Rev. Steve McDonald; Thelma Collins; Rev. Warren Coile

## Honorary/Life Members:

Rev. JQC James

**g. Wesley Foundation, University of Mississippi****BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## Class of 2007:

Nancy Bridges; Randy Johnson; Rev. Martin Case; Barbara McGregor; Mandi Stutsy; Chaeli Chambers

## Class of 2008:

Rev. John Richardson; Rev. Jim Taylor; Ross Stark; Phyllis DeWeerd; Steven Pittman; Camille Pittman

## Class of 2009:

John Adams; Vicky Bell; Rev. Claire Dobbs; Marsha Wren; Michael Gong; Sarah Gong; Stephen Sparks

## Ex-Officio:

Rev. Warren Black; Rev. John Kramer; Rev. Jerry Beam; Dr. Billy Rhodes; Rev. Deborah Palmer

## Honorary/Life Member:

Bill Smallwood

**h. Wesley Foundation, University of Southern Mississippi****BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## Class of 2007:

Raylawni Branch; Nancy Steen; Frank Woodruff

## Class of 2008:

Richard Topp; Doug Donohue; Glen Nobles; Bud Kirkpatrick; Brian Hinnant; Skip Longstaff

## Class of 2009:

Christa Bowman; Mildred Calbert; Kim Johnson; Nathan Jones; Patricia Jones; Wynde Fitts; Sherry Herron; George Stark

## Class of 2010:

Sam Bruton\*; Bob Brumfield\*; Luke Gallaspy\*; Nicole Hoffman\*; John Meyer\*

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Mark Anderson; Rev. Tommy Artmann; Rev. Mattie Gipson; Rev. Nathan Jordan; Rev. David Price;  
Rev. Eddie Rester

Students on the Board:

Glenn Duggin; Abbye West; Lori Johnson; Emily Howell

### **III. WESLEY FOUNDATION DIRECTORS COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

#### **a. Wesley Foundation, Coahoma Community College BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Lorraine Cancer; Monica Moore; Doris Miller

Class of 2008:

Robbie Roland; Lakaichia Young; Sylvia Rucker

Class of 2009:

Toya Matthews; Dr. Vivian Presley; Beatrice Reid; Yvonne Stanford

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Victoria Sizemore-Tandy; Mayor Henry Espy; Rev. Carl Thomas; Rev. Self

#### **b. Wesley Foundation, Copiah-Lincoln Community College BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Martha Lightsey; Lynn Lusk; Debra Stamps

Class of 2008:

Pat Lowery; Linda Smith; Pat Smith

Class of 2009:

Tom Ross; Mary Dillard

Class of 2010:

Carol Ford; Rev. Lynn Mote; Verna Smith

#### **c. Wesley Foundation, East Central Community College BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Rev. Johnny Crosby; Sue Ford; Gail Fulton; Dr. Phil Sutphin; Bet Thames; Rev. Andy Ray; Pat Woodrick

#### **d. Wesley Foundation, East Mississippi Community College BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

John Lyle Briggs; Janet Key

Class of 2008:

Harold Kitchens; Richard Williams

#### **e. Wesley Foundation, Hinds Community College – Utica Campus BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Amanda Hubbard; Melissa Dixon; Bobby Joe Vinson; Rochella Sanders

#### **f. Wesley Foundation, Holmes County Community College - Goodman BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Shirley Cain; Nancy Lowe; Martha Williams; Annie Williams; David Cain; Jeanie Derrick

Ex-Officio: Rev. Steve McDonald; Rev. Bobby Cain

#### **g. Wesley Foundation, Itawamba Community College BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Rev. Glyn Wiygul; Rev. Cora Crumble; Becky Kidd; Jimmy Langley; Pam Wheeler; James Stockman



Class of 2007:

Class of 2006:

Rev. Glyn Wiygul; Rev. Cora Crumble; Becky Kidd; Jimmy Langley; Pam Wheeler; James Stockman

Class of 2007:

Dr. Doyce Gunter; Carl Griffin; William Burdine; Vicki Hussey; David Hill

Class of 2008:

Kenneth Roberts; Betsy Campbell; Cully Hartsell; Betsy Collums; Jameson Rogers; Rev. Jimmy Criddle

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Rusty Keen; Dr. Carl Grubbs

#### **h. Wesley Foundation, Jones County Junior College**

##### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Gwen Magee; Ronald Whitehead; James Holifield; Raleen Haynes; Jim Kelly; Caroline Kelly

#### **i. Wesley Foundation, Meridian Community College**

##### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mark Rainwater; Kenneth Carroll; Rev. Tim Thompson; Beth Tucker; Bill Cooper; Rev. Charles Kottenbrook

#### **j. Wesley Foundation, Mississippi Delta Community College**

##### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Kaye Pitts; Gene Bailey

Class of 2008:

Rev. Stephen Cook; Rev. Gary Howse

Class of 2009:

Benjamin Ashford

Ex-Officio:

Dr. Steve McDonald

#### **k. Wesley Foundation, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College**

##### **Jefferson Davis Campus**

##### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Andi Moore; Vicki Pace; Angie Goodwin

Class of 2008:

Belinda James; Bruce Hoyt; Elaine Tinsley

Class of 2009:

Kay Hewes; Patricia Berry; Peggy Hubert

Ex-Officio:

Elaine Davis, faculty sponsor; Janis Slade, director; Rev. Michelle Bailey; Rev. Elvina Barnes; Rev. Ben Barlow; Rev. Robbie Muden

#### **l. Wesley Foundation, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College**

##### **Perkinston Campus**

##### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Dale Vuyovich; Susan Vyuovich; Andre' DeBose\*; Joyce Calcote\*; Marge Jones\*; Brenton Alexander\*

Class of 2008:

Chris Sharp; JoAnn Nightengale; Jim Nightengale; Matthew Collier

Class of 2009:

Suzanne Guthrie; Randi Guthrie; John G. Guthrie; Larry Haley; Linda Haley

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward; LaSonya Turner DeBose, director; Dr. Willis Lott; Rev. Carolyn Abrams; Rev. Larry White; Rev. Bob Jones; Rev. Larry Hilliard

## Honorary/Life Members:

Rev. Jim Ormon; Earline Hart; Betty Weber; Harold Breland; Naomi Williams; Marjorie Batson; Bettye Gibbs; Mereline Walker

**m. Wesley Foundation, Northwest Community College**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Cheryl Denley; Rev. Keith Keeton

Class of 2008:

Rev. Ray Owens; Charles Barton

Class of 2009:

Delany Mabry

**n. Wesley Foundation, Pearl River Community College**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Shirley Long

Class of 2007:

Tommy Cumberland; Linda Cumberland

Class of 2008:

Hattie Gentry; Lamenda Breland

**IV. MISSION OUTREACH (GLOBAL) MINISTRIES**

**a. Bethlehem Center, Jackson**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Bill Brister; Owen Brooks; Chris Crothers; Rev. Charles Spann; Jerry Whitt; Gloria Williams

Class of 2008:

Rev. Dianne Harms; Stephen Leech; Sharon Ceaser\*; Dr. Mike Ward; Corky Wicks

Ex-Officio:

June Braggs; Laura Higgins; Morenike Irving; Cindy Mason; Rev. Willis Britt; Rev. Lindsey Robinson

Honorary/Life Member:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward

**b. Choctaw United Methodist Mission, Philadelphia**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Angelina Dixon; Darryl Tubby; Zonie Dixon Isaac\*

Class of 2008:

Connie Deon; Sybil Tubby; Susie Alex

Class of 2009:

Leona Dixon; Shirley Jefferson

Class of 2010:

Cathy Sams\*; Gerrard Cook\*; Alexanderia Comby\*

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Andy Ray; Darlene Jacobs; Rev. Charles Battiest; Rev. John Moore; Jerry Fox; Kay Risher\*; Rev. Daniel Tubby; Patricia Battle

**c. Delta Resources Committee, Inc., Greenville**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Rev. Stephen T. Cook; John McClay; Jackie Pennington

Class of 2008:  
 Edna Curtis; Rev. Anjohnette W. Gibbs; Rev. Clara Reed  
 Class of 2009:  
 John Cox; Rev. Davis Carothers\*; Rev. Milton Whatley\*  
 Class of 2010:  
 Rev. Philip Dearman\*; Clara Davis; Rev. Earl Reed  
 Ex-Officio:  
 Rev. Steve McDonald; Erie Stuckett\*  
 Honorary/Life Member:  
 Lillie B. Ayers

**d. Edwards Street Fellowship Center, Hattiesburg**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:  
 Lelia Wilson; Dorothy Garner; Lillie Easton; Sandra Clay  
 Class of 2008:  
 Mick Chapman\*; Paula McBay; Dorsetta Jordan; Helen Nicholson  
 Class of 2009:  
 Bertha Smith; Rev. Mattie Gipson; Mary Watts; Gwendolyn Davis; Jimmie Phillips  
 Class of 2010:  
 Mary J. Adams; Iva D. Brown; Paul Cotton\*; Peggy Gates; Ryan Grayson\*; Allen King\*; Alice Provost\*;  
 Sally Roberts\*; Billie Ann Russell\*; Robert Webb\*  
 Ex-Officio:  
 Rev. David Price; Wema Blackledge\*; Rev. Bruce Case\*; John Gavin; Rev. Hank Winstead  
 Honorary/Life Member:  
 Lonette Cliburn

**e. Good Shepherd Community Center, Vicksburg**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:  
 Charlie Berger; Pat Cashman; Donna Halford; Johnnie Reynolds; Rosemary Spears  
 Class of 2008:  
 Doug Hassell; Jim Harper; Tom Hill; Faye Wilkinson; Don Brown; Lonnie Boykins  
 Class of 2009:  
 Jo Glyn Hunt; Johnnie Moss; Pat Pierce; Blake Teller; Marion Roberson  
 Class of 2010:  
 Mike Chaney; Stan Kline; Roberta Lovette; Gertrude Young; Emma Roberts  
 Ex-Officio:  
 Dr. Clark Williams; Dr. Bob Ford; Martin Pace; Bob Morrison, Jr.; Twick Morrison; United Methodist  
 Ministers of the Vicksburg Cluster  
 Honorary/Life Members:  
 Bill Watkins; Meta Watkins

**f. Holmes County Town and Country Ministries, Lexington**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:  
 Loretta Marshall  
 Ex-Officio:  
 Rev. Ann Davis; Rev. Sylvester Miller  
 Honorary/Life Member:  
 Woodrow Coleman

**g. Mississippi Rural Center, Columbia**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006:

Pauline Stepney; Mary Pittman; Felix Abram; Lovaallyn James; Henrene Matthews

Class of 2007:

Richastine James; Louise Sartin; Paula McBay; Mattie Coker; Mrs. Donald Hales; Rev. Frances Washington

Class of 2008:

Ruth Greer; Charles Allen; Janice Fortenberry; Bonnie Dillon; Rev. Girlie Magee; Anthony Dillon; Lloyd Johnson

Class of 2009:

Sidney James; Carrie James; Debra Green; Eva Jefferson; Rev. Calvin Newsom; Samuel Echols

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Phillip Heidelberg; Rev. David Price; Joyce Quinn; Mary Ann Hyatt; Debeth Hodges; Godfrey Stepney; Joyce Stepney

**h. Mississippi UM Russia Initiative, Volga District**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

David Dampier; Rev. Frank Millender; Rev. Tim Green; Joe Benefield; Slayden Murphree; Robert Harrell

Class of 2008:

Mark Shepherd; Carol Crump; Tom Coltharp; Jay Wright; Tommy Bryan

Class of 2009:

Dennis Hall; Jennifer Shepherd; Rickey Wages; Gay Briggs; Chanda Cossitt

Class of 2010:

Denise Wages; Mike Maynard; Myron Tollison; Angie Herring; Jason Harrelson; Sharon Dearing

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Danny Dabbs; Dr. Carl Grubbs

**i. Moore Community House, Inc., Biloxi**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Joe Hudson; Mildred Roy; Ruby Bradford; Alice Matthews; Lynn Mowery; Alfred Horne

Class of 2008:

Geralyn Cruso; James Johnson; Sarah Shelly

Class of 2009:

Rev. Zach Beasley; Jane Ishee; Keith Whiticker

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Jerry Beam; Mary Carter

**j. St. Andrews Mission Community Center, McComb**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Melvin Williams, President; Mattie Jones Lewis, Vice-President; Barbara Mercier, Secretary; Barbara Farmer, Treasurer; Gary Felder; Rev. Dixie Holder-Cummings; Betsy Murrell; Lamar Stokes; Rev. Chris Brooking; Sherrill Heidelberg; Virginia Goza; Randy Tate; Dr. Jennifer Gholson; Rev. Joe Crawford

Ex-Officio:

Sherrie Jefferson; Earnestine Varnado

Honorary/Life Members:

Frances Murry; Scott Campbell; Everett McKenzie

Executive Director:

Rev. Judy Sibley

**k. Wesley House Community Center, Inc., Meridian**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2007:

Anne Davis; Cathy Hall; Bill Johnson; John Johnson; Ed Skipper; Betty Vise

Class of 2008:

Pace Cooke Emmons; Maurice Hall; Jonathan Hill; Steven Bass; Rush Gordon; Jerry Greene; Rev. Gerald Hudson

Class of 2009:

Dr. Robert Jarrett; George Meyers; Bennie Earvin; David Goldman; Michael Gibson; Carolyn Starnes; Dixie LaBruyere

Advisory Board:

Bubber Buchanan; Elaine Byrd; Henry Daum; Rev. Walter Hughley; Bobby Sims; Eddie Smith; The Honorable John Robert Smith

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Andy Ray; Patricia Battle; Patricia Everett

**V. OTHER INSTITUTIONS**

**a. Mississippi United Methodist Foundation, Inc.**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2006-2007:

Howard E. Boone, Jr.; Billie Graham; Bryce Griffis. RaLeen Haynes; Warren Hood, Jr.; Lamar Martin; William T. McAlilly; Fred McDonnell; Joe Charles Sanders; Ron Whitehead

Class of 2007-2008:

Turner Arant; Eugene S. Clarke, III; Alveria Crump; Rev. Prentiss M. Gordon, Sr.; Rev. Mitchell B. Hedgepeth; Charles Leggett, Jr.; Sherman Muths, Jr.; Scott Reed; Leo W. Seal, Jr.; Walker Sturdivant

Class of 2008-2009:

Sam M. Allison; Joe N. Bailey, III; C. S. "Red" Gale; Henry Holifield; James L. McRae; John David Robinson; W. L. Wallace, Jr.; O. B. Walton, Jr.; Acie Whitlock, Jr.; Rayford Woodrick

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward; Delmar Robinson; Peyton Irby; Rev. Giles Lindley

Honorary /Life Members:

William H. Entrekinn; Herman Hester; Rev. G. Eliot Jones; Rev. J. H. Morrow, Jr.; C. R. Ridgway, Jr.; Olen Jourdan

**b. The United Methodist Hour, Hattiesburg**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Class of 2004-2006:

Dee Abbott; Rev. Prentiss Gordon, Jr.; Cheryl Jordan; Dories Thompson; David Vowell; Mrs. Billie Willhite; Judge Johnny Williams

Class of 2005-2007:

Dr. Joe Bailey; Rev. Stephen Cook; Jim Golden; Cliff Norman; Charles Thomas; Ann Walker

Class of 2006-2008:

Sally Doty; Rev. Mattie Gipson; Rev. Lindsey Robinson; Ronnie Roundtree; G. Dale Smith; Vick Smith; Wallace Norman, Jr.

At-Large Members:

Rev. Phil Gerber; Ken Petre; Ron Barnes

Ex-Officio:

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward; Rev. David Price; Gwen Green; Rev. Jerry Mitchell; Rev. Shane Stanford

Honorary/Life Members:

W. T. Avara, Jr.; W. E. Blain; W. W. Blain; Clay Davis; John Dean, Jr.; Sid Graham; Mary Ann McCarty; Katie Rose McClendon; J. R. Penick; Jimmy Prince; Dorotheann Rogers; Dr. Dan Thomas; Bill Yates

**c. Wood Institute, Mathiston****BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Patricia Battle; Mary Grace Chambers; Tela Collins; Tom Jones\*; Dr. Cathy Grace; W. J. Jones; Rev. Tony Proctor\*; May Lynn McCully; Emma Moore; Rev. Eddie Rester; Bobby Sacus; Dr. Sarah Sanders; Cynthia Wilson; Dr. Marty Wiseman

Ex-Officio:

Rev. Ron Barham; Dr. Doyce Gunter; Dr. Steve McDonald; Dr. Ed Moses; Amanda Choi; Rev. Raiford Wallace

**E. Tellers - 2007****REGULAR TELLERS****Lay**

BRO  
EJA  
GWD  
HAT  
MER  
NAB  
SEA  
SEN  
STA  
TUP  
WJA

Annie Magee  
Richard Henley  
Annie Williams  
Marcelean Arrington  
Elizabeth Wilkerson  
Dr. Leon Davidson  
Jennie Heberg  
Neville Vanderburg  
Gail Griffith  
Bill Williams  
Joseph Guess

**Clergy**

John Branning  
Kevin Carter  
Skipper Maxwell.  
Leo Beatty  
Charlene Cheney  
Keith Gaugh  
Garry Ruff  
Anita Lawson  
Louis Johnson  
Ever Jean Burt  
Misslaps Dye

**ELECTION TELLERS****Lay**

BRO  
EJA  
GWD  
HAT  
MER  
NAB  
SEA  
SEN  
STA  
TUP  
WJA

Connie Felter  
Xavier Bolden  
John McClay  
Patricia Brantley  
Janice Tinsley  
Jerry Bonds  
Tequila Hall  
Carolyn Burrow  
T. J. Tate  
Dianne Harris  
Roberta Pennington

**Clergy**

Jon Kaufman  
Ed Saunders  
Milton Whatley  
Arthur Lewis  
Andy Stoddard  
David Huffman  
Lou Knighton  
Gene Horton  
Hugh Griffith  
Ray Rooney  
Paul Luckett

**F. District Boards/Committees****DISTRICT OFFICERS****Brookhaven District**

Lay Leader: Pat Smith  
Director of Lay Speaking: Bonnie Dillon  
UMM President: Dorman Howell  
UMW President: Jean Ricks  
UMYF President: Phoebe Hathorn

**East Jackson District**

Lay Leader: Lawanda Young  
Director of Lay Speaking: Richard Henley  
UMM President: Ira Kyrnerd  
UMW President: June Bragg  
UMYF President: Cassandra Simpson

***Greenwood District***

Lay Leader: H. C. Redmond  
Director of Lay Speaking: Tom Jones  
UMM President: Tommy Barrett  
UMW President: Susan Blaine  
UMYF President: Khentrell Horton

***Hattiesburg District***

Lay Leader: John Gavin  
Director of Lay Speaking: Ryan Grayson  
UMM President: John Gavin  
UMW President: Wema Blackledge  
UMYF President: Jane Fuller

***Meridian District***

Lay Leader: Faye LaBoone  
Director of Lay Speaking: Sarah King  
UMM President: Olin Thomas  
UMW President: Kay Risher  
UMYF President: Christina Graham

***New Albany District***

Lay Leader: Dalton Garner  
Director of Lay Speaking: Gordon Marie Crowe  
UMM President: Mickey Basil  
UMW President: Carolyn Jackson  
UMYF President: Peyton Smith

***Seashore District***

Lay Leader: Robert Harry  
Director of Lay Speaking: Sherry Judy  
UMM President: Robert Cole  
UMW President: Peggy Hubert  
UMYF President: Kelty Bise

***Senatobia District***

Lay Leader: Joy Mullen  
Director of Lay Speaking: Mike Ferguson  
UMM President: Bill Sissell  
UMW President: Hattie Bunch  
UMYF President: Cyndi Harvey

***Starkville District***

Lay Leader: Larry Woodward  
Director of Lay Speaking: Larry Radar  
UMM President: TBN  
UMW President: Mae Wright  
UMYF President: Andy Lemmon

***Tupelo District***

Lay Leader: Joe and Polly Bailey  
Director of Lay Speaking: Michael Nanney  
UMM President: Jimmy Langley  
UMW President: Connie Sanderson  
UMYF President: Veronica Johnson

***West Jackson District***

Lay Leader: Dora Washington  
 Director of Lay Speaking: Bobbi Scott  
 UMM President: Sam Price  
 UMW President: Dot Portis  
 UMYF President: Erin Sorey

**DISTRICT BOARDS****1. CHURCH LOCATIONS AND BUILDINGS*****Brookhaven District***

Class of 2006: Rev. Tom Atkins; Rev. Charles Bryant; Susan Allen  
 Class of 2007: Rev. Pete Herndon; Fred Gerber; Harold McClain; David Alsworth  
 Class of 2008: Rev. Wayne Webster; Henrene Matthews; Rev. Van Moore; Beverly Kergosien  
 Class of 2009: Rev. Tom Atkins; Rev. Charles Bryant; Susan Allen; Rev. Bobby Dailey

***East Jackson District***

Class of 2006: Ronnie Foreman; Walter Murriel  
 Class of 2007: Frank Shoemake, chair; Talmus Dunlap  
 Class of 2008: Charles Dunn; George Henderson  
 Class of 2009: Sue Morris, Rev. Sam Burton

***Greenwood District***

Rev. Glenn Seefeld, chair; Vera Latham, Danny Hardin

***Hattiesburg District***

J. Leon Pringle, Jr., chair; Mitchell Guess; Louis Crumbley, Jr.; Glenn Freeman; Mattie Gipson; Gloria Bryant; Will Dowling; Curtis Cain

***Meridian District***

Class of 2006: Oliver Hopkins; Rev. Davey Wilkinson  
 Class of 2007: Mike Feasel; Seab Coleman  
 Class of 2008: Eric Prince; Paul Fulton  
 Class of 2009: Harold White; Clarice Green

***New Albany District***

Class of 2008: Andy Peacock; Hal Willcoxon  
 Class of 2009: Vance Witt; Rev. Brownie Tohill  
 Class of 2010: Dr. Lelon Davidson; Rev. Robert McCoy; Vivian Richardson

***Seashore District***

Class of 2007: Rev. Larry Maugh; Vera Thomas; Joe Corley; Rev. Guss Shelly  
 Class of 2008: Rev. Garry Ruff; Rev. Bobby McGill; Mickey Williams; Robert Sharp  
 Class of 2009: Rev. David Lowery, chair; Rev. Zach Beasley; Dennis Oliver; Rev. Larry White

***Senatobia District***

Rev. Ray Owens, chair; Amy Daniels; Eddie Ford; John Hudson; Mat Lipscomb; Thomas Murphy

***Starkville District***

Class of 2006: Rev. Ann Russell Bradley; Rev. Dean Jones; William Oakley  
 Class of 2007: Rev. George Buell; Rev. Ross Crawford; Doyle Pendley  
 Class of 2008: Rev. Curtis Bray; Bessie Johnson; Bill Baker



***Tupelo District***

Class of 2006: Rev. Benjamin Nelson; Gene Grubbs; Tim Riley  
 Class of 2007: Rev. Hershell Wiygul; Jimmy Collums; Melanie Clement  
 Class of 2008: Rose Roberts, chair; Rev. Bessie Givhan; Dr. John Staggs

***West Jackson District***

Rev. Robert Hill: Doris Hayes: Bob Moss  
 Dorothy Woolfolk: Danny Brunt: Danny Thomas

**2. District Superintendency*****Brookhaven District***

Doug Sullivan, chair: Dorothy Wittig: Lula Mae Irvin  
 Julia Pittman: Charles Wood: Larry Bridges  
 Rev. Joe Crawford: Rev. Robert Pittman: Jim Hancock  
 Dr. Jim Barnett

***East Jackson District***

Class of 2007: Robert Brown; Mabel Everett; Yolanda Collier  
 Class of 2008: E. J. Shepherd; Kathy Lott; Henderson Rasberry, chair  
 Class of 2009: Kathy Jones; Jerry Farr; David Seal  
 At-Large: LaWanda Young; Sandra Redd

***Greenwood District***

Rev. Billy Owen, chair: Rev. Milton Watley: James Hutcherson  
 H. C. Redmond: Johnny McWilliams: Kordell Sims  
 Robert Berry: Dr. Walter Roberts, Sr.: Walker Sturdivant  
 Rev. James Twiner: Rev. Marjorie Walker: Thelma Collins

***Hattiesburg District***

Dr. Aubrey Lucas, chair: Paula McBay: Peggy B. Gates  
 Billie Graham: Nelson Walley: John C. Berry  
 John Shelburne

***Meridian District***

Faye LaBoone: James Vance: : Rosemary Hopkins  
 Robbie Hales: Laura Cameron: Sadie Martin  
 Dan Willis: Jonathan Wells: Jimmy Harrison  
 Tom Sorrell: Mary Walker: : Robert Turnage

***New Albany District***

Rev. Warren Black, chair: Kate Butler: James Boyd  
 Rev. Joe Stone : Dr. B. J. (Buddy) Chain: Hugh Tate  
 Rev. Giles Lindley: Marilyn Colyer: Dalton Garner  
 Rev. Annette Ford: Tom Cockrell

***Seashore District***

Rev. Elijah Henry, chair: Rev. Rod Dickson-Rishel: Thomas Barnes:  
 Robert Harry: Rev. Rose Mary Williams : Robert Sharp:  
 Ted Hearn: Alice Walker: Rev. Roger Puhr  
 Rev. Mitchell Hedgepeth

***Senatobia District***

Coley Bailey, chair: Rev. Bill Beavers: Helen Bell  
 Jackie Cotton: Sally Durr: Kinsey Willhite  
 Robbie Sissell: Rev. Jesse Moore: Dwight Presley  
 Carolyn Tyson: Margaret Dickens: Joy Mullen

***Starkville District***

Class of 2006: Rev. Nancy Bishop; Shirley Rone; Rev. Byrd Hillman  
 Class of 2007: Giles Ward; Billy B. Staggers; Rev. Diane Lemmon  
 Class of 2008: Kay Verrall; Bill Simmons; Rev. Andy Person

***Tupelo District***

Class of 2006: Jo Ann Filgo; Rev. Don Sparks; Rev. Walter Goldsmith  
 Class of 2007: Rev. Kerry Powell; Dorothy Townsend; Rev. Charles Coggins  
 Class of 2008: Dr. Wally Cason, chair; Dr. George Pulliam; Dickie Miller

***West Jackson District***

Rev. John Evans: Dr. Dora Washington: Rev. Joe May  
 Mavis Wilson: Rev. Tommy Miller: Bob Athow  
 Ron Wilkinson: Susan Rambo: Willie McCoy  
 Melanie Morrow: Luther Bates

**3. Finance and Audit*****Brookhaven District***

Martha Jackson, chair; David Kincaid; Carolyn Herndon; Ansel Mote

***East Jackson District***

Melanie Woodrick, chair; Deborah Patterson; LaWanda Young; Rev. Maxine Bolden; Rev. Kelly Pope;  
 Rev. Richard Rankin

***Greenwood District***

John Ashley, chair: Larry Gnemi: Chester Harrington  
 Joe Hayes : H. C. Redmond : Mrs. Arthur Richter  
 Turner Trapp : John Upton : Winna Seefeld

***Hattiesburg District***

David McCullen, chair: John Gavin: Haskins Montgomery  
 Patricia Sherman: Freeman Jones: Joey Hurston

***Meridian District***

Class of 2006: Mr. Val Lucas; LaNell Glover  
 Class of 2007: Chuck Nicholson; Rachel Howard  
 Class of 2008: Wendy Wade; Maugrite Young  
 Class of 2009: Bob Robbins; David Fontenot  
 Treasurer: Nancy Crews

***New Albany District***

Rev. Jerry Beam; Lou Ann Staggs; Elizabeth Stewart; Barbara Gafford; Jackie Sparks

***Seashore District***

Perian Harrington: Rev. Rick Brooks: Melodye Luke  
 Robert Harry: Rev. Rose Mary Williams : Pete Fairley  
 Rev. Bill McAlilly: Luanne Waldrop: Rev. Jerry Chapman

***Senatobia District***

Janie Norwood, chair: Coley Bailey: Richie Dickson  
 Joy Mullen: Glenda Rhodes: Kathy Marlowe

***Starkville District***

Lynn Adams: Larry Woodward: Ralph Weems  
 Billy Buck Staggers: Rev. Roosevelt Gage: George Verrall

***Tupelo District***

District Committee Chairperson on Ordained Ministry:: Rev. Mike Hicks  
 District Committee Chairperson on Church Building & Location:: Rose Roberts  
 District Committee Chairperson on Superintendency:: Dr. Wally Cason  
 District Committee Chairperson on Board of Trustees:: Rev. Don Sparks

***West Jackson District***

Sherry Russum: Dora Washington: Dorothy Ellis  
 Waymond Mosley: Hank Drake: Rev. Annie Travis  
 Burton Boyd

**4. ORDAINED MINISTRY*****Brookhaven District***

Rev. Wayne Webster - chair, Rev. Robert Pittman, Rev. Pete Herndon, Ed Youngblood, Rev. Tom Atkins, Rev. John Branning, Rev. J. D. Tillman, Rev. Van Moore: Samuel Echols, Martha Lightsey, Rev. Ann Kaufman, Rev. Dayna Goff, Donald Hales, Rev. David Cox, Rev. Charles Brister, Rev. Patrick Schott, Rev. Fay Hudnall, Harold McClain, Rev. Tommy Greer

***East Jackson District***

Rev. Cary Stockett - chair, Rev. Joe Landrum, Rev. Leon Collier, Rev. Rusty White, Rev. Jim Curtis, Rev. Gene Banes, Rev. Linda Rickman, Rev. Robert Brown, Dorothy Redd, Rev. Barry Male, Phil Miracle, Becky Williams

***Greenwood District***

Rev. Tom McCallister - chair, Rev. Phillip Dearman, Rev. Glenn Seefeld, John Ashley, Rev. Ray Daniel, Rev. James Twiner, Robert Berry, Rev. Dixie Holder-Cummings, Rev. Marjorie Walker  
 Newby Cook, Rev. Lionel Lovett, Rev. Milton Watley, , Rev. Billy Owen

***Hattiesburg District***

Rev. Pat Ludlam - chair, Rev. Tommy Artmann, Rev. Billy Joe Hayes, Herman Campbell, Rev. Mattie Gipson, Rev. Arthur Lewis, Ella Lucas, Rev. Keith Hagenson, Rev. Shane Stanford, Ann McCullen, Rev. Henry G. Winstead , Rev. James McRee, Rev. Homer Peden

***Meridian District***

Rev. Sam Hull, Rev. Tom Sorrell, Sarah King, Bob Peden, Rev. Louis Johnson, Rev. Paul Raley  
 Gretchen Luvenc, Rev. Johnny Crosby, Faye LaBoone, Rev. Fred Britton, Rev. Cynthia Cross, Rev. Will Dowling

***New Albany District***

Rev. Giles Lindley - chair, Rev. Phillip Box, Rev. Sue Michael, Diane Coleman, Rev. Jimmy Glover, Rev. Tom Potter, Art Gaines, Rev. Keith Gaughf, Rev. Tony Pounders, Cathy Stewart, Rev. Dale Hathorn, Rev. Ed Temple

***Seashore District***

Rev. Larry Hilliard - chair, Rev. Carolyn Abrams, Rev. Michelle Bailey, Rev. Jim Genesse, Rev. Gloria McKinney, Rev. George Jackson, Rev. Zachary Beasley, Rev. Elijah Henry, Rev. Ron Stanley  
 Glenn Dickerson, Rev. Larry White, Rev. David Greer

### ***Senatobia District***

Class of 2007, Rev. Ed Norris; Milton Nichols; Rev. Patrick Phillips  
 Class of 2008, Rev. Milton Boyd; Clay Davis; Rev. Charlie Simmons  
 Class of 2009, Rev. Vicki White; Carolyn Tyson; Rev. Amy Lann Daniels; Rev. Joe Ranager, chair  
 Ex-Officio, Rev. Victoria Sizemore Tandy; Joy Mullen

### ***Starkville District***

Class of 2006, Rev. Don Bishop; Rev. Larry Creel; Dr. Sarah Sanders  
 Class of 2007, Rev. Walt Porter; Rev. Mike Childs; Tommy Casteel  
 Class of 2008, Rev. Bernard Crump; Percy Jones; Rev. Byrd Hillman  
 Ex-Officio, Ann Walker; Dr. Sam Morris; Rev. Eddie Lee Jones; Rev. Chris Young

### ***Tupelo District***

Class of 2006, Dr. Betsy Collums; David Brevard; Rev. Tom Hawks; Rev. Truman Thompson; Rev. Wade Holland; Rev. Billy McCord; Rev. Ever Jean Burt  
 Class of 2007, Rev. Sammy Washburn; Rev. Terri Armstrong; Minnie Leeper; Rev. Don McCain  
 Class of 2008, Rev. Jimmy Barnes; Mary Jo Kirkpatrick; Rev. Tim Green; Rev. Mike Hicks, chair; Rev. Ronnie Goodwin

### ***West Jackson District***

Rev. John Harper, Rev. Allison Dickerson, Rev. Barbara Hite, Rev. Dwight Prowell, Rev. John Cornelius,  
 Rev. Bert Gary, Joann Chinn, Wardell Leach, Susan Weems

## **5. Trustees**

### ***Brookhaven District***

Class of 2006: Verna Smith; Debra Strong; John Crisler  
 Class of 2007: Henrene Matthews; Edward L. Brown; Alfred Felder  
 Class of 2008: Melnee Frazier; Charles Campbell; Charles Wood  
 Class of 2009: Dr. Jim Barnett, chair; Debra Strong; Verna Smith

### ***East Jackson District***

Class of 2006: Verna Smith; Debra Strong; John Crisler  
 Class of 2007: Henrene Matthews; Edward L. Brown; Alfred Felder  
 Class of 2008: Melnee Frazier; Charles Campbell; Charles Wood  
 Class of 2009: Dr. Jim Barnett, chair; Debra Strong; Verna Smith

### ***Greenwood District***

John Ashley, chair: Joe Hayes: Winna Seefeld  
 Larry Gnemi: H. C. Redmond: Turner Trapp  
 Chester Harrington: Mrs. Arthur Richter: John Upton

### ***Hattiesburg District***

Shane Stanford, chair: Velma Lott: Juanice Peden  
 Billie Graham: Zeb Manning: Jeff Shannon  
 Sean Priebe: John Neill: Nancy Steen

### ***Meridian District***

Class of 2006: Silas Wooten; Sam Davis; Bobby Harris  
 Class of 2007: Larry Gressett; Mark Scarborough; Preston Jones  
 Class of 2008: Wilbur Templeton; David Hosch; Syria Sturdivant  
 Class of 2009: Grant Brown

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***New Albany District***

Les Sumner: Wallace Staggs: Rev. Jeff Lawrence  
Jim Sullivan: James Herod: Betsy Hamilton  
Patrice Smith: : Mary Davidson

***Seashore District***

Class of 2007: Rev. Rick Brooks, chair; Rev. Wayne Ansell; Larry Corban  
Class of 2008: Sidney Rushing; Perian Harrington; Rev. Larry Patrick  
Class of 2009: Ruby Bradford; Rev. Gene Vance

***Senatobia District***

Richard Dickson, chair: Ann Bridgeforth: Bowen Flowers  
Mary Ruth Street: Robert H. Meachem: Thomas F. Murphy  
Ronnie Taylor: : Rev. Rickey Haynes

***Starkville District***

Class of 2006: Stephen Prewitt; Rev. Tyrone Stallings; Rev. David McCoy  
Class of 2007: Peggy Crawford; Ralph Weems; Jean Jackson  
Class of 2008: Bobby Cooper; Ann Walker; James Woodard

***Tupelo District***

Class of 2006: Hon. James L. Roberts, Jr.; Rev. Frank Millender; Cliff Hodges  
Class of 2007: Cully Hartsell; Don Harrington; Rev. Rex Wilburn  
Class of 2008: Rev. Don Sparks, chair; Roger Bland; Donis Harris

***West Jackson District***

Class of 2006: Grace Meadows; Jim Walden; Barry Male, Sr.  
Class of 2007: Kim Davis; Tim Howard  
Class of 2008: Dale Yates; Nancy Massey; Bob Morrison, III



SECTION II

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**CONFERENCE DIRECTORY**

**A. CLERGY, DIACONALS, DECONESSES**

**MINISTERIAL SERVICE RECORDS AND DIRECTORY**

*Appointment Codes*

A - ASIAN	OF - FULL MEMBER, OTHER DENOMINATION
AA - AFRICAN AMERICAN/BLACK	OP - OTHER AC, PM / PD
AF - AFFILIATE MEMBER	PD - PROBATIONARY DEACON
AM - ASSOCIATE MEMBER	PE - PROBATIONARY ELDER
DM - DIACONAL MINISTER	PI - PACIFIC ISLANDER
DR - RETIRED DIACONAL MINISTER	PL - PART TIME LOCAL PASTOR
FD - DEACON, FULL CONNECTION	RA - RETIRED ASSOCIATE MEMBER
FE - ELDER, FULL CONNECTION	RD - RETIRED DEACON IN FULL CONNECTION
FL - FULL TIME LOCAL PASTOR	RE - RETIRED FULL ELDER
H - HISPANIC	RL - RETIRED LOCAL PASTOR
LP - OTHER LOCAL PASTOR	RP - RETIRED PROBATIONARY MEMBER
LM - CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER	RM - RETIRED FULL MEMBER
NA - NATIVE AMERICAN	SP - STUDENT PASTOR
OA - ASSOCIATE MEMBER OTHER AC	SY - SUPPLY PASTOR
OD - OTHER CONFERENCE, DEACON	W - WHITE
OE - ELDER, OTHER CONFERENCE	

\* Denotes those registered at Annual Conference

# Denotes excused absences

\***Abrams, Carolyn Ann (Robert Lee):** (FE) (AA) 01/07/49. PM 1992; D 1992; FC 1995; E 1995 Wiggins: H.A. Brown Memorial, 93. 216 North Azalea Dr Wiggins, MS 39577 (601) 928-9606/(601) 928-3800 carolynaabrams@aol.com

\***Abrams, Robert Lee (Carolyn):** (FE) (AA) 02/01/49. PM 1992; D 1992; FC 1995; E 1995. Riley Chapel/ Mt. Pleasant, 93-97; Director, Coast Prison Ministries, 97-98 ; Leave-Voluntary, 98. 216 North Azalea Dr Wiggins, MS 39577 (601) 928-9606/(601) 928-3800

**Alexander, Joel:** (SP) (W) 06/14/46. Vicksburg: Wesley-Lynch. PO box 754780 Dallas, TX 75275 (972) 824-9298/(972) 824-9298

\***Alexander, Martha Ann:** (FE) (AA) 12/06/49. PM 97; D 97; E 2000; FC 2000. Louisville: Wesley/Maple Springs, 98-2000; Mt. Pleasant/New Church/Middlebrook/Galloway Assoc., 2000-04; Middlebrook, 00-07; Operation Shoestring (Staff), 07- . PO Box 11223, Jackson, MS 39283 (601) 353-6336/(601) 924-6193 malexander@operationshoestring.org

\***Alexander, William Clinton (Alexander,):** (PL) (W) 09/22/46. Crossroads. 2180 B CR 548 Booneville, MS 38829 (662) 728-7160/(662) 837-9587

**Alman, Rex (Zexa):** (RE) (W) 12/31/01. Retired. 5012 6TH PL Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 000-

0000/(601) 483-6005

**Alsworth, Marion Selby (Ellen):** (RE) (W) 01/27/27. Retired. 312 Shiloh Oaks Rd Pelahatchie, MS 39145 -(601) 546-2271

\***Altman, Mervyn Jonathan (Carol Lynette):** (FE) (W) 09/26/59. PM 1985; D 1985; E 1988; FC 1988. Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL, 85-86; Foxworth-Kokomo, 86-87; Meridian, Wesley, 87-90/Union-Mt. Zion 89-90, luka, 90-93, Lyons/Jonestown, 93-94; Elain (North Arkansas), 94-96; Methodist Medical Center, 96-01; Central MS Medical Ctr. 01-04; Belzoni: First-Swiftown, 04-05; Mount Olive, 05-06. Ovett, 05-07. Moselle, 06-07; Voluntary Leave, 07-. 214 N Church St, Florence, MS 39073 (601) 845-7720 jaltman@netdoor.com

**Anderson, Alvin D:** (FE) (AA) 04/25/58. PM 1988; D 1988; E 1992; FC 1992. Student, Gammon Seminary, 86-89; St. Stephens Parish, 89-94; Emory University Hospital, Pastoral Services, 94-96; Leave-Voluntary. 2865 Fairburn Circle SW Atlanta, GA 30331 (404) 588-4005/(404) 349-3052

\***Anderson, Lynne Elizabeth (William Jeff):** (PL) (W) 09/05/59. . Porterville, 99-2000; Daleville Associate/Wesley Foundation MCC, 2000-02; Pleasant Grove & MCC Wesley, 02. 11101 G. Joyner Rd Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 484-8641/(601) 737-5265 landerso@mcc.cc.ms.us

\***Anderson, Robert Mark (Melinda):** (FE) (W) 06/16/64. PM 1989; D 1989; E 1992; FC 1992. Rienzi-Blythe's Chapel, 84-85; Ebenezer/Hebron/Coxburg, 85-87; Millsaps College, 85-87; Student, Candler School of Theology, 87-90; Grenada, St. John's, 90-92; Friendship, 92-95; Verona/Palmetto, 95-99; Jumpertown, 99-02; Oak Grove, 02. 4915 Old Highway 11 Hattiesburg, MS 39402 (601) 264-8850/(601) 264-9715 ogumc@c-gate.net

\***Anderson, Samuel Napoleon (Viera Jean):** (FL) (AA) . Grenada: Vincent, 05-07; Meridian Parish, 07-. 4820 25th St, Meridian, MS 39307 (601) 693-1588 viverette02@cableone.net

**Anding, Robert Eugene (Billie):** (RE) (W) 08/25/21. Retired. 1256 Steens Creek Dr Florence, MS 39073 -(601) 845-3299

\***Ansell, Robert Wayne (Delores ):** (PE) (W) 06/05/54. D in AM 2002. Artesia, 94 96; Columbus, St. Stevens, 96 99; Sartartia, 99-02; Shipman-Winborn Chapel, 02-04; Stonewall, 04-06. Handsboro, 06-. 616 Anniston Ave., Gulfport, MS 39507 (601) 513-2468 wayne\_ansell@yahoo.com

\***Appel, Kurt Thomas (Claudia):** (FE) (W) 02/09/64. PM 95; D 95; E 98; FC 98. Gulfport, First Associate, 95-99; Pass Christian/Long Beach: Christ, 99-04; Cargill Associates, 04. 2369 Park Place Dr Gulfport, MS 39507 (228) 897-1625 mskurt@aol.com

\***Appleby, William Franklin (Minna):** (RE) (W) 12/12/01. Retired. PO Box 841 Lake Junaluska, NC 28745 (828) 456-5289 appel5289@bellsouth.net

\***Armstrong, Robert N (Gail M):** (PL) (W) 11/05/48. Pleasant Hill-Thornton, 00-05, Mount Olivet-Sartartia-Wesley Chapel, 05. Box 96 Santaria, MS 39196 (662) 873-4926/(601) 218-0990 armstr1@bellsouth.net

\***Armstrong, Terri Kay:** (FE) (W) 01/03/63. PM 1990; D 1990; E 1993; FC 1993. Methodist Hospital, Memphis, 90-91; Eudora First, 90-92; Caswell Springs (assoc), 92-94; Methodist Hospital, Memphis, 94-97; Family Leave, 97-98; Traceway Retirement Community, 98. 1103 Nixon Dr. Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 844-1441/(662) 844-4727 tpridmore@traceway.org

\***Arrington, Catherine M. (Arrington, Lee):** (RPL) (W) 04/14/31. . Memphis, 90-91; Eudora, First, Associate, 90-92; Caswell Springs, Associate, 92-94; Methodist Hospital, ; Retired. 312 East 5th St. Laurel, MS 39440 (601) 428-1670

\***Arrington, Donald Ray (Grace):** (PL) (AA) 04/26/55. . Memphis, 94-97; Family Leave, 97-98; Amory: St. James. 612 Cox St Amory, MS 38821 (662) 651-4990/(662) 256-3481

\***Arrington, Harold Eugene (Margie):** (PL) (AA) 09/24/46. Holmes County East, 00-05; New Chapel-Big Hill, 05-06; Ailesville, 06-. P.O. Box 1431 Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 844-4703 msrgiea@44@aol.com

\***Artmann Jr., Thomas Elton (Paula):** (FE) (W) 12/07/53. PM 1988; D 1988; E 1990; FC 1990. Clinton First, Associate, -90; Jackson, Christ, Associate, 90-96; Magee, 96-2000; Hattiesburg: Heritage, 00. 3 Barracuda Dr. Hattiesburg, MS 39402 (601) 261-3371/(601)264-4472 TArtmann@aol.com

**Ash III, John Lowry (Lenore):** (RE) (W) 08/07/24. Retired. 4111 Nottingham Ave Pascagoula, MS 39581 (228) 762-2686

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**Assink, Michael Lynn (Cindy):** (PL) (W) 04/17/51. Barlow . 2219 Norton-Assink Rd NW Wesson, MS 39191 (601) 892-3770/(601) 833-4187 mikescountry@msn.com

\***Atchison, William Floyd (Glenae):** (FE) (W) 12/07/55. D in Prob. 02. Sartartia, 91-95; Mt. Pleasant, 95-96; Independence/Hebron, 96-98; Hickory Flat, 98-2000; Bethlehem, 2000-2003; Fletchers Chapel-Bethany, 03. 5711 Fletchers Chapel Rd Yazoo City, MS 39194 (662) 746-1009 Skip2glenae@aol.com

\***Atkins, Charles Thomas:** (FE) (W) 10/18/51. . Pisgah & District Staff, 97- ; Star-Braxton -2002; Greenville: First, 02-05; Columbia: First, 05. 1221 Meadowood Dr. Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 736-7121/(601) 736-2073 1fumc@bellsouth.net

**Babb Jr., J.G. (Bernice):** (FE) (W) 08/23/24. Retired. 1505 E. CloverLane Corinth, MS 38834 (662) 287-9156 jandbbabb@dixie-net.com

\***Bailey Jr, Elisha Allen (Lavell):** (RE) (W) 08/03/21. D 1949; E 1950; FC 1950. Indianola: First, 98. P.O. Box 86 Indianola, MS (662) 887-4446/(662) 887-3505

\***Bailey Jr, Grady Sullivan (Virginia Lee):** (RE) (W) 08/18/38. Retired. Ellison/Pickens, 06-. 6806 Vaughn Rd., Vaughn, MS 39176 (662) 673-8217 Gradyandjbailey@bellsouth.net

\***Bailey, Michelle Ke:** (FE) (W) 05/10/65. PM 98; D 98; FE 2001. Dunkirk-Bethel-Center, (N.IN), 96-99; Starr-Braxton, 99-2001; Gulfport: Ramsay Memorial, 01. 12472 Dedeaux Rd Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 832-5849/(228) 832-1671 mkbailey@juno.com

**Baker, James Clay (Jane L):** (RE) (W) 12/29/37. OT 1964; D 1966; E 1968; FC 1967. Assoc. Water Valley Cr., 60-61; Oxford Parish, 61-64; Tishomingo, 64-66; Walnut, 66-69; Minter City, 69-72; Coldwater, 72-77; Pope, Dept. of Corrections, 77-78; MS Dept. Corrections; Oakland, 78. 7506 Eureka Rd Courtland, MS 38620 (662) 563-5393/(662) 563-8653

**Baker, Michael Ray:** (FE) (W) 03/13/73. PM 98; D 98; FE 2001. Bude, 99-02; US Navy, 02. PSC 1008 Box 3007 FPO AA, MS 34051 (787) 365-5652/(787) 865-5728 mrbaker@roads.med.navy.mil

\***Banes, Henry Eugene (Elsie White):** (FE) (W) 04/03/45. 1983; D 1983; E 1986; FC 1986. Holly Bush U.M.C., 77-78; Pucket/Johns Charge, 78-84; Independence, 84-86; Jackson Street/Hawkins Chapel Charge, 86-90; Centreville, 90-93; Mendenhall, 93-98; Moore/New Hope, 98-2000; Poplarville, 00-05; Hazlehurst: First, 05-06; Pelahatchie: First-Guide, 06-. P.O. Box 606 Pelahatchie, MS 39145 (601) 854-8082/(601) 546-2920

**Banks, Barron (Patricia Ann):** (PL) (AA) 10/27/46. Leave-Voluntary. 115 Carriage Hills Dr Jackson, MS 39212 (601) 373-8319

\***Banks, John Robert (Donna):** (OE) (W) 03/21/54. Rosedale-Gunnison, 01-06; Boyle-Linn, 06-. 1209 Farmer Cleveland, MS 38732 (662) 843-6319 jbk54@yahoo.com

**Barefield, Sam:** (RE) (W) 01/01/01. Retired. PO Box 1322 Franklin, TN 37065

\***Barham, Ronald Jerry (Carroll):** (FE) (W) 02/07/43. PM 1966; D 1966; E 1972; FC 1972. Emory University, 66-72; Rock Springs(GA), 68-73; Wesson, Decell Memorial, 73-75; Brookhaven, Jackson St., 75-78; Monticello/New Hebron, 78-83; Ellisville, First, 83-89. Long Beach, First, 89-95; Tupelo, St. Luke, 95-99; Dist. Supt. Brookhaven District, 99-04; Wood Institute / Sturgis-Big Creek, 04. PO Box 289 Mathiston, MS 39752 (662) 263-5352/(662) 263-4192 rbarham@woodinstitute.org

**Barksdale Jr, William Alford:** (FE) (W) 11/03/67. PM 1994; D 1994; FC 1995; E 1995. Madison, First, Associate, 93-97; Conference Staff, 97-2003; Madison, 03. PO Box 1696 Madison, MS 39130 (601) 624-8546 revbill@mumcyouth.com

\***Barkum, Nathaniel (Teresa):** (PL) (AA) 1/27/71. Picayune Circuit, 07- . 18025 Greenleaves Drive, Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 896-0758/(228) 831-4291 smoooth33one2001@yahoo.com

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**Barlow, Roy Nelson (Mary Lou):** (RE) (W) 01/28/25. Retired. 18824 Goff Farm Rd Moss Point, MS 39562 (228) 588-3229

**Barnes, Elsie Anderson (Thomas):** (RL) (AA) 08/12/35. Retired. 1713 - 61 Avenue Gulfport, MS 39501 (228) 875-4832/(228) 864-8855

\***Barnes, Elvina Thomas (Luther):** (PL) (AA) 03/30/41. Gulfport: St. Mark-Riley Chapel, 02-06; St. Rock, 06-. 6957 Kiln Delisle Rd Pass Christian, MS 39571 (228) 896-3316/(228) 255-7243 rvetbarnes@

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**Barnes, Jerry Franklin (Emily):** (RL) (W) 01/07/41. Retired. Homewood/ High Hill/Carr, 06-. 121 Hester Lane Pulaski, MS 39152 (601) 536-3947 jfbemb@peoplepc.com

**\*Barnes, Jimmy Loyd (Bessie):** (FE) (AA) 09/06/46. PM 97; D97; FE 2001. Nettleton: Palestine / Pleasant Grove, 95-2001; Okolona: Mount Pisgah, 01-06: Jackson: Central, 06-. 1831 Springridge Dr., Jackson, MS 39211 (601) 206-7770/(601) 355-7858 barnesbessie@aol.com

**Barnes, Paul V. (Sandra):** (PL) (W) 04/20/56. Holly Bluff, 05. 2 Biedenharn Dr Vicksburg, MS 39180 (601) 631-5571/(601) 634-8701

**Barnett Sr, Gerald T (Kristie):** (PL) (W) 03/25/71. . Desoto Charge, 00-04; Licensed Not Appointed. 244 Paulding St Shubuta, MS 39360 (601) 776-6993/(601) 776-6993 gerald@cyber.net

**\*Barron, Columbus (Dorothy):** (RPL) (AA) 06/29/22. Retired. 780 Arnett Rd. Louisville, MS 39339 (662) 773-6556

**Barton, Troy (Laurie):** (PL) (W) 06/10/62. . Love, 98-00; Rice's Chapel-Early Grove, 00-04; Free Springs, 06-. 8351 Colonial Hills Cove Southaven, MS 38671 (662) 349-4417/(662) 349-4417

**\*Bass Sr., Delmar Wayne (Jacqueline Evette):** (FE) (AA) 01/11/60. E 05. Abbeville Charge, 99-02; DeKalb Parish, 02. Rt 1 Box 39C DeKalb, MS 39328 (601) 743-5143/(601) 743-9543 DelmarBass@hotmail.com

**\*Battiest, Charles Ray (Marietta Ruth):** (RE) (NA) 12/31/69. Retired. PO Box 6065 Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 389-1900/(601) 656-4045 choctawmission@bellsouth.net

**Bayliss, Milford Gordon (Verna):** (FL) (W) 03/13/37. Rials Creek, 07-. 209 Monterey Rd, Richland, MS 39218 (601) 932-6399 baylisservices@bellsouth.net

**\*Baylot, Sylvia McGuffie (Erwin):** (PL) (W) 04/16/40. Pleasant Hill-Thornton, 02. 7107 Hwy 27 Vicksburg, MS 39180 (601) 636-2705 ebaylot2002@yahoo.com

**\*Beam, Jerry Bostick (Sally):** (FE) (W) 09/26/41. OT 1965; D 1965; E 1969; FC 1969. Student, Candler, 64-67; Forsyth Cr. Assoc., N.G.A, 64-65; Buena Vista, 67-68; Glenfield-Bethlehem, 68-71; Shannon, 71-75; Greenville, Trinity, Assoc., 75-77; Webb-Sumner, 77-78, Grenada, First, Assoc., 78-81; Moorhead-Caile-Swiftown, 82-85; Moorhead-Sunflower, 85-87; Tupelo, St. Mark, 87-89; Water Valley, First, 89-93; Moss Point, Dantzler, 95-2000; Philadelphia: First-Henrys Chapel, 00-05; Seashore District, 05-06: New Albany District, 06-. P.O. Box 686, New Albany, MS 38562 (662) 534-7733 / (662) 538-0520 nadist@netdoor.com

**\*Beam-Ingram, Alicia Beam (James):** (FD) (W) 10/09/68. FD-2001. Florence: Marvin, 96-98; Hattiesburg: Main Street, Education, 98-2000; Cokesbury, 00-07; Transitional Leave, 01/04/07 - . 1060 E County Line Rd. Suite 1, Ridgeland, MS 39157 (601) 978-3827/(601) 845-6626 beamebaby@yahoo.com

**\*Beam-Ingram, James Cary (Alicia):** (FE) (W) 02/15/72. PM-98; D-98; E-2000; FC-2000. New Hope, 98-2003; Brandon, First Associate 2003-04; Pelahatchie: First-Gulde, 04-06: Wesleyanna/ Center For Ministry, 06-. PO Box 13 Star, MS 39167 (601) 845-6626 wesleyannaumc@juno.com

**\*Beard, Timothy T (Marjorie):** (FE) (W) 06/13/49. PM 1988; D 1986; E 1990; FC 1990. Rose Hill Charge, 75-79; Sandtown, 79-81; Heidelberg, 81-86; Vossburg Charge, 86; Student, Candler School of Theology, 86-88; Meridian, Oakland Heights/Sageville, 88-92; Inverness-Caile-Isola, 92-02; Collins / Eminence, 02. PO Box 220 Collins, MS 39428 (601) 765-4906/(601) 765-6987 bear979@bellsouth.net

**\*Beasley, Zachary C (Sharon):** (FE) (AA) 03/19/55. PM 1990; D 1990; E 1992 FC 1992. Morton Circuit, 83-85; Brandon Circuit, 85-90; Student, Candler, 87-90; Gulfport: St. Mark-Riley Chapel, 90. Post Office Box 2927 Gulfport, MS 39505 (228) 864-3927/(228) 832-1241 zbeasley@aol.com

**\*Beatty, Leonard A:** (SY) (W) 11/19/55. Louin-Read's Chapel. PO Box 985 Bay Springs, MS 39422 (601) 635-2556/(601) 739-3349 leo.beatty@ms.usda.gov

**\*Beauchamp, Finis P.:** (PL) (W) 10/01/56. Flowood. 332 Wild Cerar Pl. Brandon, MS 39042 -(601) 824-3740

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**Belle, Preston C. (India):** (RE) (W) 10/26/26. Retired. 501 Locust Aberdeen, MS 39730 (662) 369-2093

**\*Benfield-Pfaff, Rachel (Scott Pfaff):** (FE) (W) 10/30/63. PM 88/91. D 88. E 91. FC 91. Gulfport: Handsboro, 99-06; Family Leave, 06-. 123 Bayou Cir., Gulfport, MS 39507 (228) 863-5170

- Beshell, Peckie Jill:** (RD) (W) 12/16/36. Retired. 4701 Lakeland Dr., Apt #27A Flowood, MS 39232  
-/(601) 420-0101 JBeshell@aol.com
- \*Bevill, Sally (Mario Solimo):** (FE) (W) 12/30/58. PM 1991; D 1991; E 1993. Lewisburg / Hernando Associate 91-93; Jackson, Van Winkle, 93-95; GBGM, 95-04; Ridgeland: First, 04-06; Biloxi: Beauvoir, 06-. P.O. Box 8870, Biloxi, MS 39535 (228) 388-1478/(228) 955-9393 SallyBevill@aol.com
- \*Biedenharn Jr, James Phelan (Clare):** (FE) (W) 08/28/46. (Tennessee) E 98; FC 98. Redbone, 96-98; Porter's Chapel, 98-04; Jackson: Epworth, 04-07; Byhalia, 07-. P.O. Box 6, Byhalia, MS 38611 (662) 838-2237/(662) 838-6038 jbieden@netscape.com
- \*Biedenharn, Dorothy Clare (James):** (FE) (W) 11/29/52. E 06; FC 06. D in Assoc. 02. Redbone, 98-02; Mount Olivet-Satartia-Wesley Chapel, 02-05; Bovina-Edwards, 05-07; Independence - Hebron, 07-. P.O. Box 152, Byhalia, MS 38711 (662) 233-2407/(662) 233-2330 beepthehorn@yahoo.com
- \*Biggers, Roy Harmon (Emily):** (RE) (W) 06/01/44. Retired. 3125 CR 16, Louin, MS 39338 (601) 764-4972 rbiggers@bayspringstel.net
- \*Bishop, Donald Lee (Nancy):** (FE) (W) 12/08/47. OT 1970; D 1970; E 1973; FC 1973. Hickory Flat, 67-69; Student, Emory, 69-72; Iuka, North, 72-75; Belden, 75-76; Winston Parish, 76-82; Ackerman, 82-87; Columbus, Wesley, 87-92; Fulton, 92-98; McComb, Centenary, 98-02, Batesville:First, 02-04; West Point: First, 04. P.O.Box 293 West Point, MS 39773 (662) 494-5133/(662) 494-9203 dbishop@wpms.net
- \*Bishop, Nancy Faye (Don):** (FD) (W) 08/02/46. . Magnolia, 98-02; West Point: Christ, 04-07; Artesia: New Hope (Assoc), 07-. 1007 Rich St, West Point, MS 39773 (662) 494-9203 nancyanddon@peoplepc.com
- \*Bishop, Ricky Hugh (Sharon):** (PL) (W) 3/18/53. Tishamingo South (co-pastor), 06-. 1308 Carrollville Ave., Baldwin, MS 38824 (662) 365-8946 rickbishop357@yahoo.com
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\***Woodrick Sr, James Rayford (Rosa Ann):** (RE) (W) 05/30/35. Retired. 353 W Oak Leaf Court Ridgeland, MS 39157 (601) 856-9581/(601) 206-1443 rayford@stm-umc.org

**Woodrick, Herbert Lavelle (Patricia):** (RE) (W) 03/27/30. Retired. PO Box 146 Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 656-8946 pw39350@bellsouth.net

\***Woodward, Jack L. (Nelda):** (RE) (W) 03/07/29. Retired. 5850 Kings Place Jackson, MS 39211 (601) 957-0203 woodwj@millsaps.edu

\***Wooten III, Earl Jack (April):** (FL) (W) 03/31/62. . Clearmont Harbor / Pearlinton, 95-2001; Buckatunna-Stte Line 2001-2003; Americus Parish: Crossroads-Refuge, 03-07; Ebenezer (Holmes)/ Lexington: First, 07-. P O Box 157, Lexington, MS 39095 (662) 834-1389/(662) 834-2298 first\_united@bellsouth.net

**Wright Jr, Clifford Calvin (Amy):** (FE) (W) 01/10/56. Northwest Texas - 01 Jackson: Christ, 01. 5301 Old Canton Rd Jackson, MS 39211 (601) 956-6974/(601) 607-7054 cwright@cumcjaxn.org

\***Wright, Clovis V:** (RE) (AA) 08/15/29. Retired. 1394 Will Wright Rd Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 483-3750

\***Wright, David Scott (Denise):** (FE) (W) 08/27/69. PM-98; D-98; FE-2001. Enterprise, 96-99; Benton / Midway, 99-2001; Byhalia-Fountainhead, 01-05; Calhoun City: Lewis Memorial, 05. PO Box 14 Calhoun City, MS 38916 (662) 628-5772/(662) 628-5467 BroScott@clergy.net

**Yearber, Kevin Wilburn:** (FL) (W) 04/15/68. Homewood-High Hill, 07-. PO Box 67 Mt. Pleasant, MS 38649 (662) 851-7909 (662) 851-7301 Kyear61@aol.com

**Yeates, John W. (Myra):** (FE) (W) 06/18/38. Retired. 2206 Finley Dr Florence, AL 35630 (205) 760-4568/(205) 670-0432 jyeates@hiwaay.net

**Yoo, Dong Yun (Ben) (Grace):** (OE) (Asian) 12/01/59. (New York Conf.)-. Redwood / Eagle Lake, ?-2001; Native American Parish (Choctaw), 2001-2003; McComb: St. Andrew's, 03. PO Box 1407 McComb, MS 39648 (601) 684-4678/(601) 249-3659 benyoo2@juno.com

**Yoo, Hongsik (Sunhee):** (FE) (Asian) 07/15/63. E 06, FC 06. Liberty, 03-07; Leave, 5/10/07-6/1/07; Desoto, 07-. 244 Paulding St, Shubuta, MS 39360 (601) 776-0323 hongsik63@yahoo.com

\***Young, Charles Christopher (Rebecca Ann):** (FE) (W) 09/03/68. PM-1992; D-1992; FC-1995; E-1995. Tupelo, First Associate, 92-95; Ellison-Pickens, 95-99; Longview-Adaton, 99-04; Columbus: Wesley, 04-07; Vicksburg: Hawkins, 07-. 3736 Halls Ferry Rd, Vicksburg, MS 39180 (601) 636-2242/(601) 619-6937 chris@hawkinsumc.com

**Young, David Ray (Belinda):** (FE) (W) 10/31/40. E 05. Columbia Circuit / Forrest Gen Hosp, 02. 341 Friendship Rd Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 288-4227/(601) 736-2182 dyoung@fgh.com

\***Young, J. Daniel:** (FE) (W) 09/07/52. OT-1975; D-1975; E-1979; FC-1979. Student, 75-78; Pontotoc, North, 78-79; South Tishomingo-Golden, 79-81; Student, Eden Seminary, 81-84; Chaplain, Cardinal Glennon Memorial Hospital, St. Louis, MO, 85-98; Riley Hospital for Children, 98. 9161 Sea Oats Dr Indianapolis, IN 46250 (317) 278-3888/(317) 585-1449 jdyoung@clarian.org

**Young, Kevin (Cassandra):** (PL) (AA) 10/21/69. . New Chapel / Big Hill Associate, 99-04; Snowtown, 04-05; Prarie Mount, 05. 1314 Baker St Tupelo, MS 38804 (662) 844-3334

\***Young, Paul W (Laura):** (RE) (W) 03/10/37. Retired. 100 Shadowood Ln Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 324-5900 LYoung7990@aol.com

\***Young, Willie J (Marguerite):** (FL) (AA) 05/06/48. . Preston-Deemer, 86-89; New Bethlehem, 89-90; Shubuta, 91-92; Meridian Circuit, 92-98; Raspberry, 98- & Wesley Foundation, MS Delta C C 2000-2001; Kosciusko: Wesley, 2001-04; Philadelphia Parish, 04. P.O. Box 961 Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 656-9437 wmtyoung@kopower.com

\***Youngblood, Rebecca Carol:** (FE) (W) 01/01/01. OT-1977; D-1977; E-1980; FC-1980. Seminary, Candler School of Theology, 77-79; Associate, Greenwood, St. John's, 79-83; Mt. Pleasant, 83-85; Oxford, South, 85-86; Cleveland, First-Merigold, 86-92; DS, Vicksburg-West Jackson District, 92-98;

---

Sabbatical, 98-99; Hernando, 99-2001; Iliff Institute for Clergy/Laity, 01-04; Center For Ministry, 05.  
P.O. Box 150041 Jackson, MS 39210 (601) 974-1488/(601) 956-3532 rebecca@centerforministry.com  
**Youngblood, Wesley (Louise):** (RE) (W) 09/02/20. Retired. 7521 Old Canton Rd. Madison, MS 39110  
(601) 607-2376

## B. Lay Members Of The Annual Conference MEMBERS AND/OR RESERVE MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED THE 2007 SESSION

\* Denotes those registered at Annual Conference

### Brookhaven District

#### LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Diaconal Minister - Girlie Magee         | * District President UMY - Phoebe Hathorn |
| * District Lay Leader - Pat Smith        |   |
| * District Lay Speaker - Joyce Stepney   | Young Adult Member -                      |
| * District President UMM - Dorman Howell | Youth Member -                            |
| * District President UMW - Jean Ricks    |   |

#### EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- |                      |                  |                     |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Jim Barnett          | * Ruth Lambert   | * Patrick Schott    |
| * Samuel Echols      | * Annie Magee    | * Ernestine Varnado |
| * Eunice Evans       | * Barbara Mingee | * Dorothy Wittig    |
| * Connie Felter      | * Emily Mote     |                     |
| * Juanita Franklin   | * W. Mote        |                     |
| * Maryann Hyatt      | * Julia Pittman  |                     |
| * Waudean Jackson    | * Laurie Raborn  |                     |
| * Mattie Jones-Lewis | * Lavorn Russell |                     |

#### LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| * Adams - Larry Allred                       | Hopewell-Mars Hill -                              |
| Barlow -                                     | * Johnston Chapel - Barbara Roberts               |
| Barlow Circuit -                             | Kokomo - Betty Walley                             |
| * Beauregard - Billie Cook                   | * Lampton: New Zion St Paul - Mary Louise Pittman |
| Bethel - Irene Calcote                       | Liberty -   |
| Brandon Bay / St. James - Lillie Magee       | Liberty Circuit -                                 |
| * Bridgeville New Hope - Ruth Watson         | Lorman - Jimmy Embry                              |
| * Brookhaven: First - David Calcote          | * Magnolia: First - Lem Mitchell                  |
| * Brookhaven: Jackson Street - Mark Allen    | Magnolia: St James - Bill Scott                   |
| * Brookhaven: Kynett - Edward Brown Bude -   | Mallalieu -                                       |
| Centreville - Vicki Netterville              | * McComb: Centenary - Renan Richmond              |
| * Columbia Circuit - Marion Ramey            | * McComb: Centenary - Ronald J. Smith             |
| * Columbia Valley Hub Chapel - Donald Hales  | * McComb: Pearl River Ave - Jewell Lovett         |
| * Columbia: First - Edna Burchfield          | McComb: St Andrew's -                             |
| * Crystal Springs Mt. Pleasant - Jim Waddell | McComb: St Paul - Henrene Matthews                |
| * Crystal Springs: New Zion - Brenda Benson  | * Meadville - Ed Youngblood                       |
| Ebenezer - Sarah Jones                       | * Monticello - Sadie Butler                       |
| Fayette Community -                          | * Mount Carmel - Ellie Cutrer                     |
| Felder - Robbie Travis                       | * Mount Pleasant - Adams - Mary Trimble           |
| Foxworth -                                   | * Natchez: Grace - Rayford Wilson                 |
| Gallman -                                    | * Natchez: Jefferson Street - Bryant Reed         |
| Georgetown Providence - Tammy Newman         | * Natchez: Jefferson Street - Jean Reed           |
| * Gloster - Sharon Brooks                    | * Natchez: Lovely Lane Kingston - Susan Minge     |
| * Hazlehurst: First - Jack Yates             | Natchez: St. Johns -                              |
| Hazlehurst: Mount Sinai -                    | New Bethel - Oak Grove -                          |
|  | New Fork Thirfield - Chris Cager                  |
|  | New Hebron - Bethesda - Mary Berry                |



- \* New Hope Memorial - Veronica Harvey
- \* New Hope Sweetwater - Fred Calcote
- \* Pisgah - Jeff Waller
- \* Pleasant Grove - Brenda Michael
- \* Pleasant Valley Zion Ridge - Mary Abram
- Roxie -
- Roxie -
- Saint Mary's Mount Salem - Jonnie Banks
- \* Sandy Hook Hopewell - Sue Fortenberry
- \* Sartinville - Mary Alice Renfroe
- St. Paul (Franklin) - Albert Brown
- \* Summit - Jim Quin
- \* Tilton - Eleanor Reid
- \* Tylertown - Truly Conerly
- \* Union Church - Ruthie Stampley
- \* Washington Church Hill - Larry Little
- \* Wesson: Decell Memorial - Jim Lightsey
- \* White Oak - Johnny Crisler
- \* Woodville - Macedonia - Charles Plitt

### *East Jackson District*

#### LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- \* Conference Episcopacy Chair - Howard Boone
- \* Conference Pensions Chair - Ed Jones
- \* District Lay Leader - Jorge Navarette
- \* District Lay Speaker - Richard Henley
- \* District President UMM - Ira Kyrnerd
- \* District President UMW - June Bragg
- \* District President UMY - Justin White
- \* Young Adult Member - Xavier Bolden
- \* Youth Member - Justin Sanders

#### EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- |                     |                   |                      |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| * Faye Barham       | * Gay Huff        | * Sandra Redd        |
| * C. Terry Bates    | * Theon Johnson   | * Martha Scarborough |
| * Mary Bobbitt      | * Vicki Jones     | * David Stotts       |
| * Luz Marina Campos | * Keith Neal      | * Nicki Thomas       |
| Marble Everett      | * Marcie Phillips | * Marty Vinson       |
| * Dessie Greer      | * Mae Rankin      |                      |

#### LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Andrew Chapel - Bob Coy</li> <li>* Brandon: First - Betty Howard</li> <li>* Brandon: First - Mary Beth Bounds</li> <li>* Brandon: First - Alford Ouida</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Brandon: First - Tommie Shows</li> <li>* Brandon: Trinity - Erma Redd</li> <li>* Braxton - Clara Watkins</li> <li>* Burns Gasque Chapel Pleasant Hill - Flora Headrick</li> <li>* Canton - Alice Scott</li> <li>* Canton: First - Kitty Maris</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Canton: Little Zion -</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Canton: St. John - Nona Parker</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Carthage: First - H. V. Neal Jr.</li> <li>* Carthage Wesley - Marjorie Smith</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Conway - Sheila Evans</li> <li>* Crossgates - Frank Shoemaker</li> <li>* Crossgates - Lamar O'Brien</li> <li>* Crossgates - Lucien Bourgeois</li> <li>* D'Lo Bethany - Leroy Boteler</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Drakes - Ophelia Shelton</li> <li>* Evergreen - Jacqueline Weakley</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Fannin - Carol Tubbs</li> <li>* Florence: Marvin - Louise Neely</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Flowood - Katherine McGee</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Forest - Marian Sistrunk</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Forest Charge - Sheldon Thomas</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Forest Grove -</li> <li>* Forest: Trinity Mission Church - Leticia Martinez</li> <li>* Freeny Sebastopol - Ann Freeny</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Greenfield - Pete Chase</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Green Grove -</li> <li>* Greer Chapel - Valerie Jenkins</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Harperville - Mira Frances Cochran</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Harrisville - Jim Breedon</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Holly Bush - Sarah Stewart</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Homewood - High Hill -</li> <li>* Independence - Edgar Purvis</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Jackson: Christ - Charles Lott</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Jackson: Christ - Hal White</li> <li>* Jackson: Christ - Hugh Montgomery</li> <li>* Jackson: Christ - Virginia Read</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Jackson: Christ - William McQuinn</li> <li>* Jackson: St. Marks - Christy Jones</li> <li>* Jackson: St. Marks - Bud Mullican</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Jackson: St. Marks -</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Johnson Chapel -</li> <li>* Kalem - Jean Harvey</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Lena - Regina Harkins</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Lillian Circuit -</li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Lodebar - Murl Culberson</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

**East Jackson District, Continued...**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Lone Pine - Daniel Semanek                 | Mitchell                                     |
| Madden - Ruby Swan                         | * Pelahatchie: Little Zion - Ida Jones       |
| * Madison - Cyndi Brewer                   | Puckett - Jimmy Patrick                      |
| * Madison - Joanne Jones                   | * Raleigh Unity - Sally Henderson            |
| * Madison - Coralen Cain                   | Rexford - Evelyn Harper                      |
| * Madison: St. Matthews - Jan Roebuck      | Rials Creek - Jack Bryar                     |
| * Madison: St. Matthews - Robert Young     | Richland -                                   |
| * Magee: First - Mary McCarty              | * Ridgeland: First - Rita Hawthorne          |
| * Mendenhall - Amanda Herring              | * Sharon - Penny Douglas                     |
| * Monterey - Beth Woodmansee               | * Shiloh - Mae Usry                          |
| Morton Circuit - Bettye Jones              | * Singleton - Marilyn Freeny                 |
| Morton Circuit - Brenda Keys               | * St. James - Flosie Jones                   |
| * Morton: First - Sarah Strohm             | * Taylorsville: First Bethel - JoAnn Padgett |
| * Mount Pleasant - Willie Myers            | Thornton Chapel -                            |
| * Pearl: First - Charles Westbrooks        | Walnut Grove -                               |
| * Pearl: McLaurin Heights - Alice S. Heard | * Wesleyanna Kathleen Clark                  |
| * Pelahatchie First Gulde - Vernon         |  |

**Greenwood District**

## LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| * Conference Cosrow Chair - Thelma Collins      | * District Lay Speaker - Thomas Jones    |
| * Conference President Umy - Matthew Moore      | * District President UMM - Tommy Barrett |
| * Conference Young Adult Chair - Annie Williams | District President UMW - Susan Blaine    |
| * District Lay Leader - H. C. Redmond           | * District President UMY -               |
|   | * Young Adult Member - Kia Lucas         |
|   | Youth Member -                           |

## EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- |                  |                  |                    |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| * Jane Ashley    | * Newby Cook     | * Bevelyn Shepherd |
| * John Ashley    | * F. Harris      | * Erie Stuckett    |
| * Thelma Barnes  | * John McClay    | * Meril Thomas     |
| * Robert Berry   | * Jack Marshal   | * Julia Tupper     |
| Edna Beverly     | * Emma Meeks     | * Mark Weaver      |
| * Charles Branch | * Margaret Moore | Mary Willis        |

## LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Acona Black Hawk - Enon - Beth Tingle     | * Ebenezer: Mt. Zion - Carol Anderson    |
| * Avon Glen Allan - Danny New             | * Epworth - Frances Hodges               |
| Barwick - W D Brown                       | * Galilee Treadwell - Sallie Rule        |
| * Belzoni Circuit - Matilda Burns         | * Georgeville-Franklin - Carol Dilworth  |
| * Belzoni: First Swiftdown - Beth Ducrest | Glendora - Mike Sturdivant               |
| Benoit Pace - Dale Ward                   | Goodman - Glenda Longshee                |
| * Binford Chapel - Leroy Nash             | * Greenville: First - Conrad Longfellow  |
| * Boyle Linn - Travis Cooper              | * Greenville: Grace - Gordon Tupper      |
| * Carrollton - Heather Harper             | * Greenville: Revels - Mary Ann Govan    |
| * Cleveland: First - Diane Elliot         | Greenville: Revels -                     |
| * Cleveland: St Luke Shipman Chapel -     | * Greenville: Trinity - Jack McNeil      |
| Blake McGaughey                           | * Greenwood: Decell - Gladys Hodges      |
| Cleveland: St Mark - Mound Bayou          | * Greenwood: First Valley Hill - Charles |
| Wesley - Jessie Lowry                     | Bowman                                   |
| * Columbiana Midway - Cathey Curtis       | * Greenwood: First Valley Hill - Bety    |
| * Drew - Jane Wilson                      | Fraiser                                  |
| * Durant: First West - Roy Sims           | * Greenwood: St John's - Terrell Cobb    |
| Ebenezer (Holmes) -Bubba Barton           | * Greenwood: Wesley - Regena Lucas       |

- \* Grenada: First - Turner Trapp
- \* Grenada: Grace - Gore Springs - Beverly Williams
- \* Grenada: Vincent - Donna Hardiman
- \* Holcomb - Barbara Watson
- \* Hollandale - Grace Clarke
- Indianola: Christ - Sammy Ely
- \* Indianola: First - Turner Arant
- \* Indianola: First - Russell Black
- \* Indianola: Raspberry - Sterling Smith
- \* Inverness Caile Isola - Jim Sibley
- Itta Bena: First - Wiley Jenkins
- \* Itta Bena: Samuel Chapel - Lloyd Porchia
- \* John Wesley - Walden Chapel - Sunde Glover
- \* Kilmichael Parish - Tommy Lott
- \* Leland - Carleton Ranney
- Lexington: First - Henry Walterer
- \* Martin Grove - Brenette Nichols
- Merigold - Jean Weatherly
- \* Minter City - Hal Pleasants
- \* Moorhead Sunflower - Joe Acree
- Poplar Springs-Good Hope - Bernell Saffold
- \* Rollins - Mary Riley
- \* Rosedale Gunnison - Leo McGee
- \* Ruleville Circuit - Otha Wells
- \* Ruleville: First - Ann Maxwell
- \* Shady Grove - Kilmichael - Mt. Zion - Hazel Dorris
- \* Shaw - Sarah Tapley
- Shelby - Lyle Dilworth
- Sidon - Ann Gray
- \* Spring Grove - Rocky Hill - Janice Hughley
- Spring Hill - James Cowans
- \* Union Memorial - Levora Levy
- Vaiden - Donnie Waller
- \* Vaiden: Haven - Rubye Miller
- \* Winona: Haven - Vera Latham
- \* Winona: Moore Memorial New Hope - Joe Moore

### **Hattiesburg District**

#### LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- \* Conference Lay Leader - Aubrey Lucas
- \* Diaconal Minister - Ed Walker
- \* District Lay Leader - L. Gavin
- \* District Lay Speaker - Ryan C. Grayson
- District President UMM -
- \* District President UMW - Wema Blackledge
- District President UMY - Sam Newman
- \* Young Adult Member - Joshua Mcfarland
- Youth Member -

#### EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- \* Matilda Adams
- Todd Bradley
- \* Gloria Bryant
- \* Mildred Calbert
- \* Kristy Goodwin
- \* Marcus Luckie
- \* Delois Milsaps
- \* Dewitt Napier
- \* Margaret Netterville
- \* Jolene Page
- \* Jack Ramsey
- Dortheann Rogers
- \* Charley Sue Speed
- \* William Still
- \* Mary Still
- \* Evelyn Wesley

#### LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- \* Antioch - Linda Rushton
- \* Asbury - Claude Mitchell
- \* Bassfield - Marion Tillman
- Batson - Margaret Miller
- \* Bay Springs Circuit - Marcelean Arrington
- \* Bay Springs Holders - Carr Alexander
- \* Beaumont: Bolton Chapel - Carlos McGilvery
- Boyles Chapel - Joe Clark
- Brooklyn - Walter Wellman
- \* Buckatunna State Line - Ouida Cochran
- Carson Goodhope - Jerry Broome
- Cedar Grove Sylvarena - Bobby Britt
- Chapel Hill - Deborah Edwards
- \* Clara - Reggie Dunn
- \* Collins - Betty Hollingsworth
- \* Crossroads (Jones County) - James Cox
- \* Dixie - Brenda Luckie
- \* Dudley Chapel - Erma Budd
- \* Ellisville: First - James Hollifield
- Eminence - Harold Smith
- \* Fairfield - Loretta Hayes
- Glade - Beverly Mesemore
- \* Hattiesburg: Bentley Chapel St John - Eleanor Goins
- \* Hattiesburg: Court Street - Dan Cranford
- Hattiesburg: Court Street - Mary Cranford
- \* Hattiesburg: Glendale - Erskine Pou

**Hattiesburg District, Continued...**

- Hattiesburg: Grandview - Jim Kirkpatrick  
 \* Hattiesburg: Heritage - Ginger Meador  
 \* Hattiesburg: Heritage - John Meador  
 Hattiesburg: Main Street - Larry Hammett  
 \* Hattiesburg: Main Street - Beverly Carter  
 Hattiesburg: Main Street - Jimmy McCay  
 \* Hattiesburg: Parkway Heights - Iva Brown  
 \* Hattiesburg: Parkway Heights - Lex Mason  
 \* Hattiesburg: Parkway Heights - William McDougald  
 \* Hattiesburg: St. Paul - Verna Miller  
 Hattiesburg: West Lake - Tommy Woolbright  
 Hebron - Janet Bond  
 Hebron (Wayne Cty) - Margie Moseley  
 \* Heidelberg - Robert Lewis  
 \* Hickory Grove - Doug Miller  
 \* Laurel: First - Louis Crumbley  
 \* Laurel: Franklin Gitano - David Sheppard  
 \* Laurel: Kingston - Jimmie Weems  
 \* Laurel: Mallalieu - Anthony Lockhart  
 \* Laurel: St Paul - Emma Gordon  
 \* Laurel: West Laurel - Jamie Foster  
 Louin Read's Chapel - George Wilson  
 \* Lumberton Circuit - David Collins  
 \* Lumberton Maxie - Sam Bishop  
 McLain -  
 \* McLain Circuit - Nenea Bivens  
 McLaurin -  
 \* Mize - Irvin Turner  
 \* Montrose Garlandville - Elaine Beatty  
 \* Moselle - DeBeth Hodges  
 Mount Olive (Jones County) - Billie Pierce  
 \* Mount Olive - Judy Leonard  
 \* Mount Olive: St. James - Otis Magee  
 \* Mount Zion - James Buckhaults  
 \* New Augusta Beaumont - Millard Perry  
 \* Oak Grove - Wally Wesley  
 Ovelt - Peter Dennis  
 \* Paulding - Henrietta Brown  
 \* Petal - Bill Netterville  
 \* Philadelphia - Mark Brown  
 Pleasant Grove - Laura Clanton  
 \* Pleasant Valley - Russell Thomas  
 \* Prentiss Santee - Carolyn McRaney  
 \* Providence - Mary Smith  
 \* Purvis Talawah - Alvin Adams  
 \* Richton - Marcus Stennett  
 Salem -  
 Sand Hill -  
 Sandersville -  
 \* Seminary Oakdale - Patricia Brantley  
 Soules Chapel - Marvin Windham  
 \* Stringer Old Bay Springs - Sue Sherman  
 Sumrall - Gary Cook  
 Vossburg -  
 Wayne County Circuit - Paula Smith  
 Wayne Haven - Mamie C. Weaver  
 Memorial - Wren Chapman  
 \* Waynesboro Circuit - Brenda Mosley  
 \* Waynesboro: First - George Alsworth  
 \* Wesley Chapel - Jacqueline Evans  
 \* Williamsburg Lone Star - Cornelia Easterling  
 \* Winchester - Rhoda Long

**Meridian District**

## LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- Conf. Archives And History Chair -  
 Mary Simpson  
 \* Conf. Dir. Lay Speaking Ministries -  
 Mary Ford  
 Diaconal Minister - Len Bobo  
 Diaconal Minister - Pat Fiedler  
 \* District Lay Leader - Faye Laboone  
 \* District Lay Speaker - Sarah King  
 District President UMM - Olin Thomas  
 \* District President UMW - Kay Risher  
 \* District President UMY - Taylor Ivey  
 Young Adult Member - Tim Thompson,  
 Jr.  
 \* Youth Member - Christopher Cross

## EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- |                   |                     |                  |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| * Annie Bohannon  | * Maurice Hall      | * Olivia Smith   |
| * Leon Cooper     | Preston Jones       | * Robert Turnage |
| * Ruby Clemons    | * Mary Parten       | * Jack Walters   |
| * Anal Clodfelter | * Anna Marie Powell | * Mary Welch     |
| * Nancy Crews     | * Kathy Price       |                  |
| * Nell Grissom    | * Annie Ramsey      |                  |

## LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| * Andrew Chapel - Howard Trawick                           | Meridian: Oak Grove - Frances Kidd                           |
| * Bethel - Mary Rutherford                                 | * Meridian: Poplar Springs Drive - Charles McElroy           |
| * Bethel James Chapel - Susie Harris                       | * Meridian: St. Paul - St. Elizabeth - Josephine Hughes      |
| * Chunky - Christie Rainer                                 | * Meridian: Wesley - Sherry Morgan                           |
| * Cleveland - Bill Howell                                  | * MS UM Choctaw Mission - Marietta Battiest                  |
| * Coker's Chapel - Ruby McDonald                           | * MS UM Choctaw Mission - Diane Wood                         |
| * Collinsville - Sonny Vincent                             | * Newton: First - Ellen Thoms                                |
| * Concord - Marilyn Harrison                               | * North Bend - Windell Jackson                               |
| * Cook's Chapel - Mars Hill - Lynda Madison                | Pachuta - Patsy Atwood                                       |
| * Cooper's Chapel - Shira Campbell                         | * Philadelphia Parish - Frances Foster                       |
| * Coy - Stallo - Stephen Hutcherson                        | * Philadelphia: First - Henrey's Chapel - Rayford Williamson |
| * Daleville - Arva Pigott                                  | * Philadelphia Southside - Hope - Shirley Burks              |
| * Decatur - Charles Boggan                                 | * Pleasant Grove (MER) - Dan Anderson                        |
| * DeKalb Circuit - DeWayne Hull                            | Pleasant Grove (MER) - Peggy Joyner                          |
| * DeKalb Parish - Mary Hare                                | * Pleasant Hill - Judy Collins                               |
| DeKalb Union - Raymond Cumberland                          | Porterville - Fred Stokes                                    |
| DeSoto - Eloise Miller                                     | * Preston Deemer - Johnnie Amerson                           |
| * Desoto-Quitman Circuit - Roy Keeton                      | * Quitman: First - Shubuta - Charles Davis                   |
| * Desoto - Shbuta Parish - Dorothy Stovall                 | Quitman: First - Shubuta - Jimmy Davis                       |
| * Elizabeth - Lauderdale: Pleasant Grove - Geneva Burton   | Quitman: First - Shubuta - Ronnie Davis                      |
| Enterprise - Brenda Reid                                   | * Quitman: Grace - Janice Tinsley                            |
| * Enterprise Circuit - Helen Byrd                          | Rose Hill - Frances Clayton                                  |
| Hickory - Minnie Burks                                     | * Rose Hill Garlandville - Lillie Gavin                      |
| * Lake - Edwin Windham                                     | * Sageville - B. J. Barrett                                  |
| * Lake Circuit - Thomas Evans                              | * Sandtown-Longino - Kiah Hitt                               |
| * Lauderdale - Erline Norman                               | * Scooba Binnsville - Cheryl Sparkman                        |
| Lynville Mellen - Maureen Lide                             | * Scooba Circuit - Sharon Bramlett                           |
| * Marion - Amanda Miles                                    | * Shubuta Parish - Sherry McFarland                          |
| * Meridian Parish - George Davis                           | Spring Hill - Barbara Raley                                  |
| Meridian: Bonita - Teddy Yeatman                           | * St Matthew - Annie Elliot                                  |
| * Meridian: Central - Jane Davis                           | * St Peter Meridian: Wesley Chapel - Mary Walker             |
| Meridian: Central - Bobbye Lowry                           | * Stonewall - Harriett McCann                                |
| * Meridian: Central - Bud Thompson                         | * Squalena - Jean Keller                                     |
| * Meridian: Central - Virginia Wheat                       | * Sylvester Wesley Chapel - Seab Coleman                     |
| * Meridian: Central - Ronnie Walton                        | * Tabernacle - Sadie Martin                                  |
| * Meridian: College Park - Nan Dees                        | * Union Mt Zion - James Crotwell                             |
| * Meridian: Druid Hills - Lost Gap - Mary Miller           | * Wesley Chapel - Fonda Rush                                 |
| Meridian: East End - Harold Thompson                       |  |
| * Meridian: Haven - Daleville - St. Mark - Linda Templeton |  |
| Meridian: Hawkins Memorial - W. D. Snowden                 |  |

### *New Albany District*

#### LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Conf. Parish And Community Chair - Lou Ann Staggs</li> <li>* District Lay Leader - Dalton Garner</li> <li>* District Lay Speaker - Gordon Crowe</li> <li>District President UMM -</li> <li>* District President UMW - Marjorie</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livingston</li> <li>District President UMY - Peyton Smith</li> <li>Young Adult Member - Shellie Ross</li> <li>* Youth Member - Callie Creekmore</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

#### EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Frank Bledsoe</li> <li>* Jerry Bonds</li> <li>* Colleen Burns</li> <li>* Diane Coleman</li> <li>* Judy Collier</li> <li>* Lelon Davidson</li> <li>* Bill Dennie</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Ray Gafford</li> <li>* Art Gaines</li> <li>* Margaret Gibson</li> <li>Hillary Glover</li> <li>* Eudora Kemp</li> <li>* Linda Leatherwood</li> <li>* Marvin Quarles</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* John Richardson</li> <li>* Anne Sanford</li> <li>* Bill Smallwood</li> <li>* Cathy Stewart</li> <li>* Dories Thompson</li> <li>* Walter Wynn</li> </ul> |
|---|--|--|

#### LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abbeville - James Herod</li> <li>* Ailesville - Gerald Campbell</li> <li>Ashland - Larry Roberson</li> <li>* Baldwin: First Asbury - Martha Bennett</li> <li>Belmont - Brian Credille</li> <li>Biggersville Shady Grove - Jean Riddell</li> <li>* Booneville: Christ Lebanon - Betty Eaton</li> <li>* Booneville: First - Carolyn Jackson</li> <li>* Booneville: Grace - Bob Kelly</li> <li>* Carolina Pisgah - Evelyn McComb</li> <li>Corinth: Box Chapel - Patti Whitehurst</li> <li>Corinth: Christ - Charles Clifton</li> <li>* Corinth: First - Harold Smith</li> <li>* Corinth: Gaines Chapel - Rachel Eaton</li> <li>* Corinth: Mt Moriah - Ann Walker</li> <li>* Crossroads - Marie Alexander</li> <li>East Prentiss Parish - Rod Taylor</li> <li>Falkner - Hugh Walker</li> <li>Golden Chapel Old Bethel - Becky Paden</li> <li>* Hickory Flat - Irene Tohill</li> <li>* Hopewell - Indian Springs - Sandra Fulghum</li> <li>* Ingomar Mt Zion - Mary Dodd</li> <li>* Iuka: First - Herbert Thomas</li> <li>* Iuka: North - E. Hudson</li> <li>* Iuka: South - Ray South</li> <li>Iuka: South - Thomas Havers</li> <li>* Iuka: West - Robin Glover</li> <li>* Jumpertown - Tina Moore</li> <li>Kossuth Pleasant Hill - Mary Hopper</li> <li>* Liberty - Sheryl Downs</li> <li>* Lowry Circuit - Vivien Richardson</li> <li>Lowry Circuit - Lana Pannell</li> <li>* Mt Pleasant Brownfield - Ann Carothers</li> <li>Myrtle Ebenezer - Marilyn Fink</li> <li>* New Albany: Bethlehem - Steve</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coleman</li> <li>* New Albany: Calvary - Barbara Gafford</li> <li>* New Albany: First - Jean Dillard</li> <li>* New Albany: First - Joy Fisher</li> <li>New Albany: Glenfield - Dorothy McMillen</li> <li>* New Albany: Mallalieu St Mary - Mary Shackelford</li> <li>* Oxford: Burns Hammitt Hill - Janice Brown</li> <li>* Oxford: Burns Hammitt Hill - Kenneth Wortham</li> <li>Oxford: Christ Cambridge -</li> <li>* Oxford: East - Sammy Gossett</li> <li>* Oxford: Oxford University - Susan Major</li> <li>* Oxford: Oxford University - Dana Brammer</li> <li>* Oxford: South - Mina Bryan</li> <li>* Oxford: St Andrews Abbeville - Edwin Potts</li> <li>* Pine Flat - Joyce Pope</li> <li>Potts Camp - Candis Cooper</li> <li>Rienzi - C. Edge</li> <li>Ripley: Adkins Chapel - Union Grove - James Prather</li> <li>* Ripley: First Blue Mountain - Lou Miskelly</li> <li>* Ripley: Moses Chapel - Mary Campbell</li> <li>* Ripley: St Paul - Helen Dixon</li> <li>* Salem Friendship Union Hill - Charles Collier</li> <li>* Tippah Circuit - Rachel Michael</li> <li>* Tishomingo Charge - Danny Brandon</li> <li>Tishomingo Charge - Diane Pruitt</li> <li>Tishomingo Charge - Bryan Southward</li> <li>* Walnut - Martha Wilson</li> <li>* Wheeler Meadow Creek - Betty Glover</li> </ul> |
|---|---|



**Seashore District**

## LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| * Conference CF&A Chair - Delmar<br>Robinson       | District President UMM - Robert Cole<br>District President UMW - Peggy Hubert |
| Conference Standing Rules Chair - Mary<br>Foretich | * District President UMY - Timothy<br>Powell                                  |
| * District Lay Leader - Robert Harry               | * Young Adult Member - Shawn Foles  |
| * District Lay Speaker - Sherry Judy               | * Youth Member - Lori Loeding   |

## EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- |                  |                 |                   |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| * Connie Coulson | * Dewey Lane    | * Charleen Smith  |
| * Larry Davis    | * Frank Lash    | * Wanda Smith     |
| * Ella Dedeaux   | * Jean Lightsey | * Jackie Spires   |
| * M. L. Goff     | * Floyd Mathis  | * Susan Voyovich  |
| * Rhett Hamiter  | * Barbara McCay | * Debbie White    |
| * Earline Hart   | * Laura Pickett | * Dixie Wilkerson |
| * Jennie Heberg  | * Robert Sharp  |                   |

## LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| * Americus Parish: Crossroads Refuge -<br>Barbara Dixon   | Oliver  |
| * Americus Parish: Pleasant Hill Salem -<br>Bill Wilkerson  | * Gulfport: St. Mark - Riley Chapel - Eloise<br>Williams  |
| * Bay St Louis: Main Street - Robert<br>Delcuze   | * Gulfport: Trinity - Bob Whitfield<br>Gulfport: Trinity -  |
| * Bay St. Louis: Valena C Jones - Holmes<br>Chapel - Evelyn Wells   | * Hurley - Kenneth Smith<br>Leakesville - Alma Douglas  |
| * Benndale Circuit - Shirley Fairley<br>Bendale Circuit - Rosie Fairley<br>Big Point Red Hill - George Taylor | * Long Beach: Christ - Bob Lytle<br>* Long Beach: First - Thomas Carroll<br>* Long Beach: First - Dick Lyon |
| * Biloxi: Beauvoir - Dawn Jacobs  | * Lucedale Circuit - Phyllis McDonald   |
| * Biloxi: First - Paul Conrad   | * Lucedale: First - Maxine Goff<br>Lucedale: Grace - Tom Brown  |
| * Biloxi: Heritage - Rick Murden  | * Mentorom - Cheryl Tootle  |
| * Biloxi: Leggett Memorial - Pal Reeves   | Midway - Gerald Alexander   |
| * Biloxi: St. Paul - Gulfport: Mt. Pleasant<br>- Glenda Marshall  | * Mississippi City - Gene Johnson   |
| Bolton Chapel - Betty Clark   | * Moss Point: Dantzer Memorial - Mack<br>Simmons  |
| * Bonnie Chapel - Paul Anderson   | * Moss Point: St Paul - Vickie Burts-<br>Williams   |
| * Byrd Wesley - Chris Wise  | Nugent - Clyde Keefer   |
| * Caswell Springs - Jean Goff   | Ocean Springs: St. James - Ralph Waller   |
| * Cedar Lake - Mike Scarborough   | * Ocean Springs: St Paul - Doug<br>Somerville   |
| Clermont Harbor - Pearlington - Linda<br>Rollins  | * Ocean Springs: St Paul - Terry<br>Fordemwalt  |
| * Coalville - Grace Stenum  | * Ocean Springs: St Paul - Nancy Wilson   |
| * Delisle: Mt Zion - Leona Jacobs   | Ocean Springs: St. Paul - Hal Galloway  |
| * Diamondhead - Bill Yordy  | * Ocean Springs: Wesley - Phil McCready   |
| * Fayard Chapel - Bill Millsted   | * Pascagoula: Eastlawn - Marge Carlow   |
| * Gateway - Evelyn Scruggs  | * Pascagoula: Faith - Clay Burton   |
| * Gautier: First - Nancy Green  | * Pascagoula: First - Jack Womack   |
| * Gulfport: Burton Memorial - Kay Gunter  | * Pascagoula: First - Alice Walker  |
| * Gulfport: First - Christie Mosely   | Pascagoula: Gautier - Theresa Haynes  |
| * Gulfport: First - Mary East   | Pass Christian: First - Chip Cloutier   |
| * Gulfport: Handsboro - Wanda Hurlbert  | * Pass Christian: St Paul - Thomas Barnes   |
| * Gulfport: Haven Chapel - Jeffery Isabell  |   |
| Gulfport: Ramsay Memorial - Dennis  |   |

**Seashore District, Continued...**

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| * Picayune Circuit - Mary Carter      | * Shipman Winborn Chapel - Margaret Mathis     |
| * Picayune Circuit - Teresa Barkum    | * St. Rock - Tequila Hall                      |
| * Picayune Circuit - Samantha Peters  | * Summerville Davis Chapel - Annie Louise Mass |
| Picayune Circuit - Laura Pickett      | * Tanners Chapel - Tonya Hembree               |
| * Picayune: First - Rosalyn Folks     | * Vanleave-Mt. Pleasant - Paul Lebatard        |
| * Picayune: Trinity - Katherine Furr  | Waveland - Gary Spahn                          |
| * Poplar Head - Saucier - Pat Houston | * White Plains - Marge Jones                   |
| * Poplarville - Edna Johnson          | Wiggins: Bond - Mary Coker                     |
| Roberts Chapel -                      | * Wiggins: First - Kathy Gordon                |
| Rosedale - Frank Ely                  | Wiggins: H. A. Brown Memorial - Linda Williams |
| * Safe Harbor - Barbara Byrd          |  |
| Safe Harbor - Bob McConnell           |  |
| Seashore Mission -                    |  |

**Senatobia District**

## LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| * Conference Resolutins Chair - David Beckley | District President UMM - William Sissell |
| * Diaconal Minister - Carolyn Tyson           | * District President UMW - Hattie Bunch  |
| * Diaconal Minister - Rosemary Woodall        | District President UMY -                 |
| * District Lay Leader - Carol Mullen          | Young Adult Member -                     |
| * District Lay Speaker - James Ferguson       | Youth Member -                           |

## EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- |                 |                  |                      |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| * Jim Ainsworth | * Cyndi Harvey   | * Peggy Solley       |
| * Amber Burke   | * W. J. Jones    | * Bernice Sykes      |
| * Wanda Bursi   | * Stephen Ludlam | * Shantee Sykes      |
| * Cheryl Denley | * H. Marlow      | * Betty Usry         |
| * Les Dicken    | * Kathy Marlow   | * Nevelle Vanderburg |
| * Mike Dorr     | * Jeannie Owens  |                      |
| * Mary Freeman  | * Joann Potts    |                      |

## LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| * Bakers Chapel - Clay Davis                | * Getwell Road - Billy Proctor                               |
| Barton - Shirlie Pounders                   | * Greenleaf Palestine - Jerry Todd                           |
| * Batesville: First - Nancy Thomson         | * Hernando - Sarah Ainsworth                                 |
| * Batesville: St. Paul - Loretta Kuykendoll | * Hernando - Curtis Usry                                     |
| * Byhalia - Carolyn Burrow                  | * Hinds Chapel Horn Lake - Collin Mayfield                   |
| * Charleston Tippto - Louanne Cossar        | * Holly Springs: Asbury - Mary Street                        |
| * Clarksdale: First - Dianne Estess         | * Holly Springs: Asbury-Calvins Chapel - Catherine Jefferson |
| * Clarksdale: Haven - Shirley Saddler       | Holly Springs - Asbury - St. Marys -                         |
| * Clarksdale: St Paul's - Dr. Ann Webster   | Holly Springs: Asbury Strickland -                           |
| * Cockrum Lewisburg - David Pierce          | * Holly Springs: Asbury - Taylors Chapel - Hazel Neely       |
| * Coffeerville - Joe Snider                 | * Holly Springs: First Waterford - Robert Tyson              |
| * Coldwater Arkabutla - Mary Tindall        | * Independence Hebron - Kenneth Denley                       |
| Como Parish -                               | Lifespring - Marian Williams                                 |
| * Como-Wesley Chapel - John Hudson          | Longtown - Pleasant Grove - Penelope Kirby                   |
| * Courtland - Helen Bell                    |  |
| Crenshaw - James Allison                    |  |
| Eudora Lake Cormorant - Barbara Norris      |  |
| Fountainhead - Cindy Wilson                 |  |
| Free Springs - Linda Jones                  |  |

- Longtown Charge -  
Love - Jennifer Hill
- \* Lula Friars Point - James Pharis
  - Lyon -
  - \* Marks Lambert - Barbara Wall
  - \* Mineral Wells - Sheila Sneed
  - \* Mineral Wells - Dan Williams
  - \* Minor Memorial - Jerry McCarson
  - Mt. Pleasant - Rosemary Coopwood
  - \* Oakland - Pam Daves
  - \* Olive Branch: Maples Memorial - Judy Goddard
  - \* Panola Charge - Ben Benson
  - Pleasant Hill - Ann Bridgforth
  - Pope - Brenda Hawkins
  - \* Rice's Chapel Early Grove - Sandra Nunley
  - Robinsonville - Robert Abbay
  - \* Sardis - Davis Chapel - Reid Dorr
  - \* Senatobia: First - Margaret Dicken
  - Senatobia: First - Les Dicken
  - \* Sledge - Melanie Wadlington
  - \* Southaven: First - Sue Holmes
  - \* Trinity - Sarah Cotton
  - \* Trinity - Sheykelor Hewlette
  - \* Tunica: First - Pat Bibb
  - Tutwiler Parish - Katie Cox
  - \* Victoria Red Banks - Gayle Pattat
  - \* Water Valley: First - Bethlehem - Gary Williamson
  - Water Valley: North Main - Harold Jaudon
  - Webb Sumner - J. Morrow

### Starkville District

#### LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Conference Umw President - Sarah Sanders        | District President UMM -                  |
| * Diaconal Minister - Betsy Hutchinson          | * District President UMW - Mae Wright     |
| * District Lay Leader - Larry Woodward          | * District President UMY - Haley Peterson |
| * District Lay Speaker - Lawrence (Larry) Rader | Young Adult Member -                      |
|   | * Youth Member - Scott Ming               |

#### EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- |                 |                        |                     |
|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| * Maudie Benton | * Dr. Stanley Hartness | * Jerry Redmond     |
| * Lee Burdine   | * Mike Hunter          | * Genesis Stallings |
| * Tommy Casteel | * Catherine Johnson    | * Sylvia Sutphin    |
| * Dave Dampier  | * Mary Nell Mosley     | * Bernard Tabor     |
| * Mary Ann Gray | * Julia Pendley        | * T.J. Tate         |
| * Gail Griffith | * Helen Randle         | * Marty Wiseman     |

#### LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| * Ackerman: First - Mary Grace Chambers   | Columbus: St. James (Wrights Chapel)      |
| * Ackerman: Mt Hermon - Chester L. Carter | - Addie Walker                            |
| * Artesia New Hope - Carolyn Allen        | * Columbus: St Stephens - Charlotte Black |
| Bellefontaine -                           | * Columbus: Wesley - Max Cullum           |
| * Brooksville Circuit - Henriene Monroe   | * Ethel - Johnny Belk                     |
| Brooksville Crawford - Peggy Jolly        | * Eupora: First - Martha Ballard          |
| * Buffalo Ethel - Thelma Winters          | * Eupora: Liberty - K.C. Pulliam          |
| Caledonia - Flint Hill - Dale Darnell     | * Kosciusko: Barlow - Carrie Meeks        |
| * Cedar Bluff - Siloam - Dale Randle      | * Kosciusko Circuit - Lavenia Miller      |
| * Chapel Hill Lebanon - Thomas Partridge  | * Kosciusko First - Beth Hartness         |
| * Columbus Circuit - Elnora Floyd         | * Kosciusko: First - Sara Hillman         |
| * Columbus: Broadacres - Cathy Vance      | * Kosciusko: Wesley - Charles Hull        |
| * Columbus: Central - Sherry Harmond      | * Longview Adaton - Kay Verrall           |
| * Columbus: First - Ken Kennedy           | * Longview Circuit - Linda Ferguson       |
| * Columbus: First - Laurice F. Smith      | * Louisville South - James Boydston       |
| * Columbus: First - Joe Fant              | * Louisville West - Teresa Ingram         |
| Columbus: First -                         | * Louisville: First - Sylvia Clark        |
| * Columbus: St James - Emma Brown         | * Louisville: Hopewell - Sheila Graham    |
|   | * Louisville: Maple Springs - Mary Goss   |

**Starkville District, Continued...**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Louisville: Piney Grove - Nellie Yates     | * Shaffer's Chapel - Pam Bray            |
| * Louisville: Wesley - Laura Williams      | * Shuqualak - Jean I. Reed               |
| Maben - Joyce Holt-Hays                    | Shuqualak: Asbury - Angie Rosamond       |
| * Macon: First - Alice Cooper              | * Starkville: Aldersgate - Doyle Pendley |
| Macon Circuit - A. R. Outz                 | * Starkville: First - Larry Box          |
| * Macon: St Paul Circuit - Sarah Bankhead  | * Starkville: First - Ann Walker         |
| * Mathiston - Jessie Frye                  | * Starkville: First - Bob Smith          |
| McAdams - Jo Betty Addy-Cawthon            | * Starkville: Griffin - James Little     |
| McCool - Kelly Black                       | * Starkville: New Zion - Curtis Bush     |
| Nanah Waiya - Ed VanDevender               | * Sturgis Big Creek - Carroll Barham     |
| * Noxapater - Dorothy Barron               | * Sturgis: Boyd Chapel - Linda White     |
| * Noxubee Circuit - Mary Bland             | * Webster Circuit - John W. Jones        |
| * Oktibbeha Clay Jones - Clarence Brooks   | * Weir Circuit - Lewis Wright            |
| Oktibbeha Clay - Lindsey – Surina Perry    | Weir Salem - Janet Alashti               |
| * Oktibbeha Clay - Plair - Frank Rogers    | * West Point: Christ - Carolyn Simmons   |
| * Oktibbeha Clay - Rock Hill - Rena Rogers | * West Point: First - Joanne Westbrook   |
| * Palestine - Keith Thompson               | * West Point: St Paul - Shirley Floyd    |
|  | * Whitehall - Ada Woodward               |

**Tupelo District**

## LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| * Conference Equitable Comp Chair - Steve McAlilly | * District Lay Speaker - Michael Nanney     |
| Diaconal Minister – Bessie Conner                  | District President UMM - Jimmy Langley      |
| Diaconal Minister – Margaret Hight                 | District President UMW - Lori Polk          |
| Diaconal Minister - Addie Mae Jamieson             | * District President UMY - Dwight Johnson   |
| Diaconal Minister – Estelle Jones                  | * Young Adult Member - Chara E. Fitzpatrick |
| Diaconal Minister - Nell Krueger                   | * Youth Member - Veronica Johnson           |
| * District Lay Leader - Polly Bailey               |   |

## EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- |                 |                    |                  |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| * Cecil Givhan  | David Hill         | * Bobby Sacus    |
| * Gene Grubbs   | * Wanda Houston    | * Eloise Scott   |
| * John Hall     | * Johnnie Kelso    | * Ellen Short    |
| * Debbie Hall   | * Minnie Leeper    | * Ken Smith      |
| * Dianne Harris | * Willie McClendon | * Janet Violette |
| * Lisa Hicks    | * Rose Roberts     | Joyce Word       |

## LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| * Aberdeen: First - Billie Pruett         | * Becker - Greenbriar - Howard Moon              |
| * Aberdeen: St. Mark - Daniel Lofton      | Belden - Wayne Hughes                            |
| * Aberdeen: St. Peter - Roger Cooperwood  | Bruce - Sue Cox                                  |
| * Aberdeen: St. Peter - Charlene Robinson | * Calhoun City: Lewis Memorial - Bill Williams   |
| Algoma - Wayne Deaton                     | * Carolina - Wanda Schumpert                     |
| * Amoty: First - Hal Holloway             | * Friendship - Hardin's Chapel - Carl Summerford |
| Amoty: First - Beckie McCullen            | * Fulton: First - Bill Jamieson                  |
| Amoty: St Andrew's - Ralph Salter         | * Fulton First - Kathleen Jamieson               |
| * Amoty: St James - Diane Standifer       | * Greenwood Springs - Kathy Brackett             |
| Amoty: St. James -                        | * Hamilton - Betty Robinson                      |
| Amoty: St. Matthews -                     |  |

- \* Houston North - Birdie Burdine
- \* Houston South - Anne Harrington
- \* Houston: First - Jack Dendy
- \* Mantachie - Hal Kelso
- \* Mooreville - Arthur Reed
- \* Nettleton: First Shiloh - Martha Underhill
- \* Nettleton: Palestine - Carol Pruitt
- \* Nettleton: Pleasant Grove - Ripple Foster
- \* New Chapel-Big Hill - Al Green
- \* New Hope Chickasaw - Tommy Gardner
- \* Okolona: First - Charles King
- \* Okolona: First - Betty King
- Okolona: Mount Pisgah - Shirlene Crump
- \* Okolona: Mount Pisgah - Jacquelyn Smith
- \* Ozark - William Wilson
- \* Pittsboro Jerry Bryant
- Plantersville Janie Williams
- Pleasant Valley - Liberty Mimi Blanchard
- \* Pontotoc Parish Eller Givhan
- \* Pontotoc Parish Gloria Fitzpatrick
- \* Pontotoc Parish - Billy Judon
- \* Pontotoc: Fairview Robbs - Janis Crawford
- \* Pontotoc: First - Maura Fields
- \* Prarie Mount - Tashinda Pruitt
- Salttillo - David Harris
- \* Shannon - Tom West
- Smithville - Dewey Hannon
- \* Snowtown - Carolyn McGaughy
- \* Thaxton - Elru - Joey Fitts
- Tranquil Grady's Chapel - Paula Gillentine
- \* Tremont - Cully Hartsell
- Tremont - Johnny Dyer
- Tupelo: Cornerstone - Les Bowers
- \* Tupelo: First - Beverly Clement
- \* Tupelo: First - Diane Ezell
- Tupelo: First - Toby Hedges
- \* Tupelo: St Luke - Elizabeth Ford
- \* Tupelo: St Mark - Wayne Beasley
- \* Tupelo: St Paul - Nettie Davis
- \* Tupelo: The Orchard - Sallie Belle Howell
- \* Tupelo: The Orchard - Philip Howell
- \* Tupelo: Wesley - Ray Wilkinson
- Vardaman - Linda Moore
- \*Verona Palmetto - Jean Harden

### **West Jackson District**

#### LAY MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

- \* Conference Elcc Chair - Dewey Handy
- Conference Religion And Race Chair - Twick Morrison
- \* Diaconal Minister - Joy Carr
- Diaconal Minister - Kathryn Clark
- \* Diaconal Minister - Kenneth Roberts
- \* District Lay Leader - Dora Washington
- \* District Lay Speaker - Bobbie Scott
- \* District President UMM - Sam Price
- \* District President UMW - Dorothy Portis
- District President UMY - Daniel Moore
- \* Young Adult Member - Ben Atchison
- Youth Member - Polara Grant

#### EQUALIZATION MEMBERS

- \* Nancy Ballard
- \* Henry Clay, III
- Julian Crawford
- \* Marilyn Freeman-Zachry
- \* Angela Griffin
- \* Joseph Guess
- Cheryl Haynes
- \* Fred Keeter
- \* Melanie Morrow
- \* Deborah Patterson
- \* John Scarborough
- \* Danny Thomas
- \* Dale Yates
- \* Ron Wilkinson

#### LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

- \* Anguilla Grace - Merlin Richardson / Susan Caselli
- Asbury (Bolton) - Bobby Cooper
- Benton Circuit - Robbie Brown
- \* Benton Midway - Virginia Matthews
- Benton - Wesley Chapel - Annette Wilburn
- \* Bolton: Memorial - Miller Dent
- Bolten: Memorial - Karen Mason
- \* Bovina Edwards - Joelyn James
- \* Bradley Chapel - Earline Alexander
- \* Byram: New Covenant - Sherry L. Brinson
- Cary: Goodman Memorial -
- Cayuga Rocky Springs - Jamie Ross
- \* Clinton: First - Jack Noel
- Clinton: First - Bill Sheffield
- \* Clinton: Lynch Chapel - Louise Kelley
- \* Clinton: Seven Springs - Christine Warden
- \* Clinton: St John's - Amos Manley
- Clinton: St Paul Blessed Trinity -

### *West Jackson District*

- \* Ellison Pickens - Lydia Ellison
- Fletcher's Chapel Bethany - Stuart McBride
- Flora Bentonina - Billy Keyes
- Holly Bluff -
- \* Jackson: Aldersgate - John Todd
- \* Jackson: Alta Woods - Helen Artmann
- Jackson: Alta Woods - Leola Meyer
- Jackson: Anderson - Donna McLaurin
- \* Jackson: Anderson - Jaice Thompson-Jones
- \* Jackson: Briarwood - Tommy Dyson
- Jackson: Broadmeadow - Mary Jo Beard
- Jackson: Broadmeadow - Helen Napier
- \* Jackson: Central - Warren Cox
- \* Jackson: Emmanuel - Brenda Thornburgh
- Jackson: Emmanuel - Robert Thornburgh
- Jackson: Epworth - James Ellington
- Jackson: Forest Hill B Ed Harding
- \* Jackson: Galloway Memorial - Kay Barksdale
- \* Jackson: Galloway Memorial - Tom Crews
- \* Jackson: Galloway Memorial - Sutton Marks
- \* Jackson: Galloway Memorial - Lamar Weems
- Jackson: Harris Memorial -
- Jackson: Leavell Woods - Jerald Beasley
- \* Jackson: Pratt Memorial - Luther Bates
- \* Jackson: St Luke - Babbs Strauss
- \* Jackson: Van Winkle - Tom Kelly
- \* Jackson: Wells Memorial - Lister Bowdoin
- Jackson: Wells Memorial - Earl Hill, Jr.
- Kingsley - Lois Flagg
- Louise Silver City -
- \* Madison: Parkway Hills - Bob Roberts
- \* Madison: Parkway Hills - Darlene Roberts
- \* Middlebrook - Howard Edmonson, Jr.
- \* Mount Olivet Satartia Wesley Chapel - Mernette Sibley
- \* Pleasant Hill - Erwin Baylot, Sr.
- \* Port Gibson Hermanville - Cecil Grisham
- \* Raymond Learned - Fred Brooks
- Redbone - Mavis Wilson
- \* Redwood - Eagle Lake - Laura Leon
- Rolling Fork - Billy Johnson
- Spring Ridge - Robert Oakes
- \* Utica Carpenter - Dale C. Yates
- Vicksburg: Clark's Chapel - Beverly Thomas
- Vicksburg: Crawford Street - Faye Wilkinson
- \* Vicksburg: Gibson Memorial - Josie Smith
- \* Vicksburg: Hawkins - Ann Perrier
- \* Vicksburg: Lynch Chapel - Louise Kelly
- \* Vicksburg: Porter's Chapel - Buford Evans
- Vicksburg: Wesley - Ann Stirgus
- \* Yazoo City: First - Frank Patty
- \* Yazoo City: St John's - Jimmy Chisolm
- \* Yazoo City: St Stephens - Willie McCoy



## SECTION III

## RULES

## A. Standing Rules

### The Mississippi Annual Conference

**PREFACE**

“The Annual Conference for its own government may adopt rules and regulations not in conflict with the *Discipline of The United Methodist Church*,” (Par. 604, *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, 2004*, hereinafter referred to as *The Book of Discipline*.) The Annual Conference is incorporated under the laws of the State of Mississippi as The Mississippi Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated, a non-profit corporation. All references to “Conference” or “Annual Conference” shall mean The Mississippi Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated.

**Rule 1: Rules of Procedure**

The Annual Conference shall be governed by *The Book of Discipline*; otherwise, the latest edition available through The United Methodist Publishing House of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern.

**Rule 2: Committee on the Annual Conference**

There shall be a Committee on the Annual Conference composed of the bishop, district superintendents, conference secretary, conference lay leader, presidents of the conference United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Youth, host pastor(s) (where applicable), Director of Connectional Ministries, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop, Director of Ministerial Services, Director of Financial Administration/Treasurer, and Coordinator of Communications, one member at large to be appointed by the bishop, and the chairperson of the conference committee on Worship and Music. This committee is authorized to develop the Annual Conference agenda, program, worship, and local arrangements, provided that the sacrament of the Lord's Supper shall be administered; and a Memorial Service shall be held during the annual conference for members of the Annual Conference (clergy, diaconal ministers, and lay members); their spouses and dependent children; and bishops, their spouses and dependent children, who are from Mississippi or who served the Mississippi Area, who have died during the past year. The bishop shall serve as chair of this committee.

### *Annual Conference Membership & Expenses*

**Rule 3: Conference membership shall consist of the following:**

- A. Clergy Membership shall include those identified in Par. 602, *The Book of Discipline*, as follows:
  1. Elders and Deacons in full connection
  2. Probationary members,
  3. Associate members,
  4. Affiliate members, and
  5. Local pastors under full-time and part-time appointment to a pastoral charge.
- B. Lay membership shall include:
  1. One lay member elected by each pastoral charge. Each pastoral charge served by additional clergy member(s) of the Conference under appointment shall elect an equal number of lay members.
    - a. Lay members shall be elected for a four-year term at the last regular Charge Conference before the beginning of their term of office. They shall assume their office on January 1, prior to the meeting of the regular session of the General Conference.
    - b. For each lay member of the Annual Conference from a pastoral charge, there shall be at least one alternate lay member elected to serve for a four-year term.

2. Designated lay membership:
  - a. Specified in the Constitution of The United Methodist Church, Par. 32, and Par. 602.4 *The Book of Discipline*:
    - 1) Conference lay leader,
    - 2) District lay leaders,
    - 3) Conference President of United Methodist Women,
    - 4) Conference President of United Methodist Men,
    - 5) Conference President of United Methodist Youth,
    - 6) Diaconal ministers,
    - 7) One youth (12-17) from each district,
    - 8) One young adult (18- 30) from each district,
    - 9) President or equivalent officer of Conference Young Adult Organization, and
    - 10) Chair of the Annual Conference College Student Organization
  - b. Specified by The Mississippi Annual Conference:
    - 1) The Chairperson of all Conference Boards, Committees, Councils and Commissions, if a layperson.
    - 2) District Presidents, United Methodist Men
    - 3) District Presidents, United Methodist Women
    - 4) District Presidents, United Methodist Youth
    - 5) Conference Director of Lay Speaking
    - 6) District Directors of Lay Speaking
- C. Equalizing lay and clergy membership:
 

When necessary, additional at-large members, as certified by the conference secretary before October 1, shall be named by the district superintendent in consultation with the district lay leader, to assure an equal number of lay and clergy members as set forth in Par. 32 of *The Book of Discipline*. Priority shall be given to consideration and election of additional young adult and youth members. When the number to be elected is unequal to the number of districts, the district(s) with the larger memberships shall elect an additional member in order of size. The Annual Conference shall provide their per diem expenses. The Conference Council on Finance and Administration shall provide funding for the expenses of the Annual Conference.

## *Annual Conference Reports*

### **Rule 4: Pastors' Reports**

No later than February 1, the pastors shall file the annual statistical report for each church served, as directed by the conference statistician.

### **Rule 5: Conference Committee on Standing Rules**

The committee shall review the Standing Rules annually and make recommendations regarding Standing Rules to the Annual Conference no later than the morning session of the second day. The recommendations shall lie on the table to be considered and acted upon the next day. The committee shall be authorized to make non-substantive, editorial changes as needed.

### **Rule 6: Reports and Resolutions**

- A. Reports and resolutions originating in Annual Conference agencies to be presented to the Annual Conference for action shall be typewritten, in triplicate, and shall be in the possession of the Annual Conference office on the date set by the conference Leadership Council.
- B. Procedures: All resolutions and petitions presented to the Annual Conference which do not originate in the cabinet or in one of the duly constituted conference councils, boards, commissions, committees, or agencies shall be typewritten in triplicate, signed by the presenters, and presented to the conference secretary and a copy mailed to the conference office for printing in the conference workbook addendum thirty (30) days prior to the opening session. These resolutions or petitions shall be referred to the conference Committee on Resolutions and Petitions for concurrence, non-concurrence, amendment, or appropriate referral; and the committee shall report

back to the Annual Conference. These resolutions shall be sent to each district superintendent prior to the pre-conference briefings as practicable, to be distributed at that time to the voting members of the Annual Conference.

- C. Conference Action: The conference Committee on resolutions and Petitions shall state its position concerning each resolution or petition and the rationale for such position at the time that the resolutions and petitions are first presented to the session of the Annual Conference. Resolutions and petitions shall lie on the table for at least 24 hours after being presented prior to being considered by the Annual Conference. As each resolution or petition comes up for consideration, the conference Committee on Resolutions and Petitions shall again present its position and the underlying rationale. The first floor speaker concerning the proposal shall be the designated representative for the person or organization that submitted the proposal, if one is present. Irrespective of any other limit placed by the Annual Conference on debate of the proposal, the same designated representative shall have the last word from the floor, following by a statement by the conference committee prior to the final vote by the Annual Conference.

#### **Rule 7: Apportionments and Audits**

All apportionment requests for Annual Conference causes, proposed budgets, and usages of such apportionments shall be submitted to the Council on Finance and Administration no later than sixty (60) days prior to the opening of the Annual Conference. Agencies receiving support from conference authorized funds or appeals shall submit annual reports to the Council on Finance and Administration as prescribed by the Council on Finance and Administration.

Any proposal requiring funding beyond the proposed budget shall be referred to the Council on Finance and Administration for a funding recommendation prior to the final vote on the budget.

#### **Rule 8: Official Journal and Yearbook**

The *Journal* editor, under the direction of the conference secretary, shall be responsible for editing and publishing the Annual Conference *Journal* each year and shall be authorized to contract and draw funds from the Conference Administration Fund for the cost of preparing and mailing the *Journal*.

- A. There shall be a conference Committee on *Journal* to assist the conference secretary in reviewing and editing the proceedings of the Annual Conference and publishing the conference *Journal*.
- B. The secretary shall recommend to the Annual Conference the material to be included in the *Journal* (§ 606.3, 2004 ed). All material to be published shall be in the hands of the conference secretary within seven days following adjournment of the Annual Conference. Copies will be provided the clergy and laity members of the Annual Conference and each conference, jurisdiction, and general council, board, or agency, and upon request, other leaders in the denomination.

#### **Rule 9: Memoirs**

Memoirs shall be published in the conference *Journal* for deceased ordained clergy, diaconal ministers, and local pastors, their spouses, and their dependent children.

- A. The committee will cooperate with the memorial worship service design team and be responsible for securing the memoirs for publication in the conference *Journal*.
- B. A bronze plaque is to be presented by the Conference Board of Pensions to the families of deceased clergy.

### *Annual Conference Structure*

#### **Rule 10. Basic Conference Organization shall consist and be composed of the following:**

- A. Leadership Council: the bishop (who shall serve as the convener), conference lay leader, district superintendents, district lay leaders, conference secretary, conference statistician, conference director of lay speaking;  
Chairperson of each of the following conference committees: Camping Ministries, Education/Leader Development, Board of Church and Society, Ethnic Local Church Concerns, Evangelism/Spiritual Formation, Health and Welfare Ministries, Higher Education and Campus Ministry, Board of Laity, Mission Outreach, Parish and Community Ministries, Church Revitalization,

Worship and Music, Coordinating Council for Children's Ministries, Archives and History, New Church Development, Board of Ordained Ministry, Pastoral Care and Counseling, Council on Finance and Administration, Equitable Compensation, Pensions, Health Insurance, Trustees, Clergy/Diaconal Ministry Emergency Fund, Episcopacy, Adult/Older Adult, Annual Conference, Communications, Nominations, Personnel, Standing Rules, Status and Role of Women, Religion and Race, Hispanic Ministries, Native American Ministry, Christian Unity/Interreligious Concerns, president or equivalent officer of the Conference Young Adult Organization, and chair of Annual Conference College Student Organization.

Two representatives from United Methodist Men, one of whom shall be the president; United Methodist Women, one of whom shall be the president; United Methodist Youth, one of whom shall be the president; the director of Connectional Ministries; the administrative assistant to the bishop, director of Ministerial Services; the director of Financial Administration/treasurer and the coordinator of Communication. Ex-officio with vote: two United Methodist Native Americans and two United Methodist Hispanics, nominated by the Conference Committee on Nominations and elected quadrennially. Ex-officio without vote: conference and district connectional ministries related staff.

The council shall meet at least annually and as often as necessary to carry out the decisions of the Annual Conference session.

The purpose of the council shall be to: a) Implement the policies and directives of the General Conference and the Annual Conference; and b) Respond to the needs, requests, and concerns of the local churches and the districts.

- B. The ministries committees, unless specified otherwise, shall be composed of district coordinators of each ministry's area; the chairpersons shall be nominated by the Conference Nominating Committee. These ministry committees provide liaison relationships with the general boards and agencies.
- C. Board of Laity: organized in accordance with *The Book of Discipline*, consisting of the conference lay leader, the conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries, and presidents and one representative of each of the following organizations: United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, and United Methodist Young Adults, and the Conference Council on Youth Ministry; and in addition, the district lay leaders, conference Scouting coordinator, a district superintendent designated by the cabinet, the Director of Connectional Ministries and the presiding bishop. The conference lay leader shall serve as chairperson with other officers being elected from within the membership of the board. The Board of Laity will coordinate the work of the laity of the Mississippi Conference of The United Methodist Church.
- D. Council on Finance and Administration organized in accordance with *The Book of Discipline*; 21 members (one more lay than clergy).
- E. Board of Pensions: 15 elected members including two persons with pension expertise, none of whom is indebted to pension and benefit funds; one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergy. Ex-officio members: any Mississippi Conference member of the General Board of Pension and Medical Benefits, one cabinet representative named by the bishop, director of Ministerial Services, conference treasurer, conference benefits officer, one member of the conference treasurer's staff, and the conference pension liaison officer.  
Committee on Medical Benefits: 15 elected members including two members with health benefits; one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergy who participate in the Conference Insurance Plan. Ex-officio members: any Mississippi Conference member of the General Board of Pensions and Medical Benefits, one cabinet representative named by the bishop, director of Ministerial Services, the conference treasurer, the conference benefits officer, one member of the conference treasurer's staff, and the conference pension liaison officer.
- F. Board of Ordained Ministry: up to 60 members organized in accordance with *The Book of Discipline*; three cabinet representatives; and the administrative assistant to the bishop, director of Ministerial Services.
- G. Board of Trustees: organized in accordance with *The Book of Discipline*.
- H. Commission on Religion and Race: 15 members, one from each district, representing an equitable balance in laywomen, laymen, and clergy; two youth at large; a cabinet representative; and conference staff relating to Religion & Race.

- I. Commission on the Status and Role of Women: 18 members, one more lay than clergy, one from each district and six at large, including one UMW representative.
- J. Commission on Equitable Compensation: 15 members, one from each district, three at large and a district superintendent, with one more lay than clergy.
- K. Commission on New Church Development: 15 members with one more lay than clergy and each district represented as practicable; ex-officio members without vote; Equitable Compensation Commission chairperson; Ethnic Local Church Concerns representative; and a cabinet representative.
- L. Commission on Church Revitalization: 15 members, with one more lay than clergy and there should be one person from each district; ex-officio members without vote: conference connectional staff, a cabinet representative, a representative from the Ethnic Local Church Concerns and the Equitable Compensation Commission.
- M. Commission of Parish and Community Ministries: 15 members, with one more lay than clergy and there should be one person from each district; ex-officio members without vote: the UMRP President, the chair of the Church and Community workers advisory committee, a cabinet representative, conference connectional ministries staff, and a representative from Ethnic Local Church Concerns on Commission.
- N. Commission on Archives and History: 15 selected members, one from each district, two at large, archivist, and a cabinet representative, with one more lay than clergy.
- O. Committee on Episcopacy: 17 persons—three laymen; three laywomen; three clergy persons; three persons to provide inclusiveness; and three persons appointed by the bishop; provided that one lay person shall be the conference lay leader. Ex officio without vote: the lay and clergy members of the Jurisdictional Committee on the Episcopacy.
- P. Commission on Communications: 11 members, six lay and five clergy, organized in accordance with the Book of Discipline.
- Q. Committee on Pastoral Care and Counseling Concerns: 13 members, one from each district, two at-large, one more lay than clergy.
- R. Committee on Clergy/Diaconal Emergency Fund: Seven members, two clergy; chairpersons of Council on Finance and Administration and Board of Ordained Ministry; cabinet representative; two representatives from United Methodist Foundation.
- S. Committee on Standing Rules: 9 persons—three lay and three clergy nominated by the Conference Committee on Nominations and elected by the Annual Conference; the administrative assistant to the bishop/director of Ministerial Services, director of Connectional Ministries, and conference secretary shall be ex-officio members.
- T. Committee on Resolutions and Petitions: eight persons, four clergy and four laypersons.
- U. Committee on Memoirs: secretary of the Annual Conference; the secretary of the Annual Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits; the secretary of the Commission on Archives and History; two lay and two clergy appointed by the cabinet.
- V. Committee on Journal: six members, three lay and three clergy. The conference secretary shall be an ex-officio member.
- W. Committee on Courtesy: six members, three clergy and three lay.
- X. Committee on Personnel: 13 persons, including the resident bishop and the conference lay leader, the majority of whom shall be laity. Membership shall include at least two ethnic persons, one lay and one clergy. One of these shall be the chairperson of the Ethnic Local Church Concerns Committee. The director of Ministerial Services, director of Connectional Ministries, and the coordinator of Communication shall be ex-officio, without vote.  
The Personnel Committee shall be responsible for developing Conference Personnel Policy, which is consistent with the Discipline of the United Methodist Church, the laws of the United States and the laws of the state of Mississippi.  
The Council on Finance and Administration shall implement such policy as it relates to the Director of Financial Administration/Treasurer and the Financial Administration employees. The Personnel Committee shall implement such policy as it relates to all other conference staff.
- Y. Committee on Nominations: The bishop, who will serve as the chairperson; conference lay leader, who shall be the vice-chairperson; the conference secretary, who shall be the secretary; and the district lay leader and district superintendent from each district. The additional members shall include: conference presidents of the United Methodist Women, United Methodist

Men, United Methodist Youth, and United Methodist Young Adult organizations; the director of Connectional Ministries; the administrative assistant to the bishop/director of Ministerial Services; and the director of Financial Administration/treasurer. When one of the above does not include an ethnic youth, ethnic laywoman, ethnic layman, and ethnic clergyperson, the cabinet in consultation with the Commission of Religion and Race shall select such persons to ensure inclusiveness.

- Z. Coordinating Council for Children's Ministries 15 elected members, with at least one more layperson than clergy. In addition, the following shall be ex-officio members: a representative of UMM, UMW, conference Camping Ministries Committee, the cabinet, the director or a representative of each of the Community Centers, the Hispanic Ministry, and the director or representative of The Methodist Children's Home. Each district shall have at least one representative among this membership.

The purpose of the Council shall be to provide vision, leadership and assistance in the development and implementation of ministries with children and their families by congregations, districts, and the conference.

- AA. Committee on Hispanic Ministries 12 members; with sensitivity to the different Hispanic nationalities as determined by the conference.
- AB. Committee on Native American Ministry 12 elected members with the majority being Native Americans and including at least two Choctaws. Ex-officio without vote: director of Mississippi United Methodist Choctaw Indian Mission; a representative of board of directors of Mississippi United Methodist Choctaw Indian Mission; a representative of Ethnic Local Church Concerns Committee; a representative of conference Commission on Religion and Race; conference representatives to SEJANAM; and conference staff relating to Native American Ministry.
- AC. Christian Unity/Interreligious Concerns Committee: 15 members, one from each district, three at large, and the chair.

## *Nominations & Elections*

### **Rule 11: Conference Committee on Nominations**

- A. The committee shall make the following nominations for the Annual Conference: a secretary, a statistician, trustees of property, a lay leader, members of all quadrennial councils, boards, commissions, and committees as specified by *The Book of Discipline*, Annual Conference Standing Rules, not provided for otherwise. The committee shall obtain consent of each person nominated before including that person's name in the report.
- B. The committee shall nominate the chairpersons of the councils, boards, commissions, and committees unless *The Book of Discipline* directs otherwise.
- C. The committee, in making nominations, shall ensure inclusive representation on all councils, boards, commissions, and committees; and may choose to add up to three additional persons on any board, commission, or committee to insure inclusiveness or expertise.
- D. The committee shall prepare and mail its quadrennial report to each member of the Annual Conference no later than twenty (20) days prior to the opening session of the Annual Conference; provided that amendments to the report shall be submitted in writing no later than the morning of the first full day of the conference; and provided further that, except for those nominations which require immediate election in order that the business of the Annual Conference session may proceed, the report shall lie on the table until the day following the completion of the report of the Committee on Nominations.
- E. At least 30 days, but not more than 90 days, after the adjournment of Annual Conference all conference boards, committees, commissions, and councils shall meet and elect officers. The bishop shall appoint a convener and a nominating committee for those boards, committees, or commissions that are designated by the *Book of Discipline* to elect their own officers.
- F. Except where *The Book of Discipline* provides otherwise, vacancies shall be filled at the next session of the Annual Conference, when the vacancy shall be filled by election.



**Rule 12: Membership on Conference Councils, Boards, Commissions, and Committees**

- A. Tenure: Unless The Book of Discipline or institutional charters direct otherwise, no clergy or layperson shall serve more than eight consecutive years on any quadrennial council, board, commission, committee, or board of directors or trustees; further, each member shall not be renominated until four years has lapsed.
- B. Limitation of Membership: No clergy or layperson shall serve on more than one quadrennial body, provided that this rule does not apply to those committees which function only during sessions of the Annual Conference (Refer to Rule 10.R, 10.S, 10.T, 10.U), or to ex-officio members.
- C. Conflict of Interest: It is provided that members of committees are to avoid any conflict of interest in their service and therefore, any member who serves on a committee, commission, board or council who has a personal interest in or is a recipient of a grant, loan or other monetary award to either that member or to the church she/he serves, which is paid from that committee's disbursements, shall not vote on considerations affecting his or her position and shall abstain from participating in the discussion regarding the same.
- D. Nominations from the Floor: The privilege of nominating from the floor shall be reserved for members of the Annual Conference.
- E. Cabinet Representatives: The bishop may name a cabinet representative to each quadrennial body, unless the district superintendents are placed there by The Book of Discipline or Standing Rules.
- F. Attendance at Meetings: Elected members of a council, board, commission, or committee shall forfeit membership when they are absent from two consecutive regular meetings of which they have been duly notified, unless they have notified the chairperson of valid reasons for nonattendance. The Committee on Nominations shall be notified of such absences by the chairpersons before April 1, so that a replacement can be placed in nomination at the Annual Conference.
- G. Open Meetings: The meetings of councils, boards, commissions, committees, and boards of directors or trustees shall be open to all members of The United Methodist Church within the conference. This rule does not apply to cabinet meetings. Those planning to attend a stated meeting shall give the chairperson at least a week's notice, so that adequate space can be provided. Persons attending such meetings shall have the right to speak only with the permission of the body but shall not have the right to vote. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall hold executive sessions for the purpose of examining candidates for conference membership or other relationships under its jurisdiction. Boards of trustees or directors may vote to hold executive sessions when it is deemed necessary.
- H. E-meetings: Councils, boards, commission, and committees may use such technical means such as telephone conferences or secure Internet links to conduct electronic meetings, provided all members have access to such means. Members shall receive adequate notice of such meetings, and recorded minutes shall be required.
- I. Orientation and Training of Trustees: The Annual Conference shall provide an orientation and training program for all trustees as to their roles, legal responsibilities, and relationships to the Annual Conference and the institutions by the appropriate committee that relates to the institution.

**Rule 13: Bishop's Administrative Assistant**

The resident bishop may appoint a clergy member in full connection to serve as administrative assistant to the bishop. The bishop's assistant shall be a member of the Cabinet and have the same limit on term of service as district superintendents. The administrative assistant to the bishop shall serve to fulfill such administrative functions as the bishop shall assign. The position shall be accountable to the bishop and the Conference Personnel Committee.

**Rule 14: Director of Ministerial Services**

The resident bishop may appoint a clergy member in full connection to serve as the director of Ministerial Services. The position shall be accountable to the bishop and the Conference Personnel Committee.

**Rule 15: Director of Connectional Ministries**

There shall be a Director of Connectional Ministries (Par. 607 *Book of Discipline*). The director shall be accountable to the bishop and the Personnel Committee. The director shall exercise oversight and coordination to the conference Connectional Ministries staff, and work with the conference Leadership Council, the district staff, and local churches to promote relationships of ministry, service, and mission between and among local congregations for the fulfillment of the primary task of local churches, which is the making of disciples for Jesus Christ. A limit to the term of service for the director shall be the same as district superintendents.

**Conference Finances & Property****Rule 16: Fiscal and Administrative Policies**

The fiscal and administrative year of The Mississippi Annual Conference shall be from January 1 to December 31.

The conference Council on Finance and Administration shall develop, maintain, and administer a comprehensive and coordinated plan of fiscal and administrative policies, procedures, and management services for the Annual Conference as set forth in Par. 611.1, *The Book of Discipline*.

**Rule 17: Authority to Borrow**

If between sessions of the Annual Conference, operational funds cannot support the conference operational costs, and if the contingency fund is inadequate, the Council on Finance and Administration is empowered to negotiate a loan or loans for emergency needs not to exceed a total of \$175,000.

**Rule 18: Capital Funds Campaigns**

There shall be only one Annual Conference capital funds campaign during two consecutive quadrennia. The campaign may begin and end at any time during the eight-year period. No pay period may begin sooner than three years from the end of the previously designated pay period.

**Rule 19: Advanced Notice of Proposed Action**

When the board of trustees or directors of any institution belonging to, related to, or governed by The Mississippi Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, whether in whole or in part, or any persons or group of persons desiring the approval of authority of The Mississippi Annual Conference on any matter or proposed action concerning the properties or funds of the Annual Conference or institution, the trustees, directors, or persons shall:

- A. File a written petition and resolution stating concisely the action that is desired and the reasons therefore, no less than sixty (60) days prior to the opening session of the Annual Conference. Copies shall be filed with the following:
  1. the presiding bishop,
  2. conference secretary,
  3. chairperson of the Council on Finance and Administration; and
  4. chairperson of the related board or committee which has a responsibility and interest in the proposed action.
- B. A true copy of the proposal and resolution shall be mailed to the lay and clergy members of The Mississippi Annual Conference at least twenty (20) days before the opening of the conference.
- C. No conference action shall be taken on any proposal concerning properties or funds of the Annual Conference or any of its institutions unless advance notice is given.

**Rule 20: Sale of Conference Property**

When Annual Conference abandoned property is sold, the mineral rights shall be reserved for the conference with any net proceeds received to be used by the Commission on New Church Development.

The *Discipline* Par. 2548.3 indicates that the conference trustees are ultimately responsible for the disposition of any abandoned local church property within the bounds of the annual Conference. To help the conference trustees be efficient stewards of this responsibility, when the disposition of the property of a discontinued or abandoned church is handled locally or by the district trustees, a report of the completion of the sale/transfer and distribution of any funds shall be forwarded to the conference trustees for their records.

**Rule 21: Trustees/Directors of Conference Institutions**

All trustees or directors of institutions related to or belonging to The Mississippi Annual Conference shall be elected by the Annual Conference upon nominations made in accordance with the pertinent paragraphs of *The Book of Discipline*.

When the election is otherwise provided for in the charter of an institution, this rule shall not apply; in which case, however, the names of the trustees shall be submitted to the Mississippi Annual Conference for ratification.

The Camping Ministries Committee, in consultation with the trustees/directors of conference camping facilities, shall serve in an advisory capacity to the conference nominating process for selecting trustees/directors of those institutions.

***District Matters*****Rule 22: Number of Districts**

There shall be eleven (11) districts in The Mississippi Annual Conference, in which a district conference may be held annually upon call of the district superintendent, who shall specify the time and place.

- A. Membership of the District Conference: District superintendent, who shall preside; the lay, clergy and diaconal members of the Annual Conference residing within the district, including the retired clergy, diaconals and deaconesses, and part-time and student local pastors; district officers or organizational officers; members of the District Leadership Team; district trustees; district Committee on the Superintendency; district Committee on Church Location and Building; directors of Christian education and music; local church lay leader; Administrative Board or Administrative Council chairperson; Council on Ministries chairperson; presidents of United Methodist Men, Women and Youth; and any members or staff persons of conference, jurisdiction and general councils, boards, commissions, and committees residing in or from the district.
- B. There shall be a District Leadership Team to coordinate district planning, program implementation, and leader development (lay and clergy). The Leadership Team will provide a forum for building a shared vision. Membership shall be composed of district superintendent, district lay leader; district staff person; chairs of Board of Church Location and Building; district Board of Trustees; district Board of Missions; district Committee on Ordained Ministry; district Council on Youth Ministry; Committee on District Superintendency (which serves as personnel committee); president of United Methodist Women; president of United Methodist Men; cluster clergy Coordinators and cluster chairpersons; district Finance Committee chairperson; and, three to five at-large persons for inclusiveness.
- C. District ministry coordinators shall be nominated by the conference Nominating Committee upon recommendations of district nominating committees to serve on Conference Ministry Committees. They may request time with the Leadership Team for advocacy and support and serve as coordinators of task groups for district priorities in their assigned areas.
- D. The district treasurer and other district officers shall be nominated by the district nominating committee and elected by the district leadership team. The district nominating committee shall have the responsibility of developing a pool of persons from their district for district and conference positions.
- E. The District Lay Leaders shall be nominated by the district nominating committee and elected by the district leadership team to a four year term of office. The district nominating committee shall be composed of the district lay leader, who shall serve as chairperson; district superintendent; district presidents of United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Youth; cluster clergy coordinators; and, where applicable, cluster chairpersons.

***Amendments***

**Rule 23:** Standing Rules may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting at the Annual Conference, only after the proposed amendment has been presented in writing, read to the conference, and laid on the table over night; provided that no amendment shall be offered later than the second day of the conference.

## B. Mississippi Conference Clergy Behavioral Policy

### Policy on Professional Sexual Misconduct

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#### **I. Purpose**

A church professional (see definition in III.E.) is in a position of great trust, power, and responsibility. This provides the opportunity for unique relationships of grace and caring. Church professionals sometimes violate the trust given them. Sexual misconduct is one of the gravest violations of this trust.

This policy seeks to address the abuse of power by all church professionals, both men and, women, who engage in sexual misconduct.

The intent is to provide guidance to both laity and clergy of the Annual Conference and the local church regarding sexual misconduct.

It is both the ethical and legal responsibility of the Annual Conference to ensure that there are mechanisms for addressing grievances in matters of sexual misconduct.

This policy, which includes procedures for complaints, will serve to guard against inappropriate behavior and will outline a means for handling grievances should sexual misconduct occur.

#### **II. Theological Foundation**

All persons are created by God. In the Genesis stories, as in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, it is affirmed that we are created in the image and likeness of God. God values human life, intending all women, men and children to have worth and dignity in all relationships with God and others. God calls us into covenant with each other in God. We are one connected body, holy in Christ, created equal. Where one part of the body is injured, physically, emotionally or spiritually, the entire body is rendered less than God's intended wholeness. We are called to use our bodies, including our sexuality, in a responsible way. Sexual misconduct of any kind violates a person's integrity and is an unjust use of status and power, and a sinful behavior against God and one another. The United Methodist Book of Resolutions (1996, p. 481) states:

*"Jesus was sent into this world that we might experience whole relationship with each other and God. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28 RSV)."*

One who repents for sinful behavior is promised forgiveness. However, discipline should be distinguished from forgiveness. A church professional guilty of sexual misconduct needs and may receive forgiveness and be offered avenues for redemption and change. And yet, the church must still take steps to protect the people of God.

#### **III. Definitions**

- A. **SEXUAL MISCONDUCT** occurs when a church professional engages in sexual contact or sexualized behavior with a congregant, client, employee, student, staff member or other person (adult, teenage or child) within the professional relationship, or misuses the professional relationship in unwanted behavior with any individual. Sexual misconduct includes sexual harassment and any form of criminal sexual conduct. Sexual misconduct includes inappropriate use of electronic communication (i.e. email, voice mail, Instant Messaging, internet websites) and any deliberate access of pornographic internet sites for the purpose of sexual gratification.
- B. **SEXUAL HARASSMENT** is any unwanted sexual advance or demand, either verbal, or physical, which is perceived by what a reasonable person of the same sex as the accuser would perceive

as demeaning, intimidating or coercive under the same or similar circumstances. “Sexual harassment must be understood as an exploitation of a power relationship rather than as an exclusively sexual issue. Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, the creation of a hostile or abusive working environment resulting from discrimination on the basis of gender.” (2004 *The Book of Discipline*, ¶161,1) Sexually oriented humor or language, inappropriate questions or comments about sexual behavior or preference, unwelcome or undesired physical contact, inappropriate comments about clothing or physical appearance, or repeated requests for social engagements are sexual harassment in a situation where there is an employment, mentor, or colleague relationship between the persons involved.

- C. COMPLAINANT is a person who communicates a concern regarding alleged sexual misconduct.
- D. GRIEVANT is a person who submits a written allegation of sexual misconduct. A grievant may be a parent or responsible party for a minor or an adult incapable of self-reporting.
- E. For the purposes of this policy, a church professional is a clergy person, diaconal minister, or local pastor whose appointment is set by the Bishop.

#### IV. Ethics Response Teams

- A. The purposes of the response teams:
  - 1. To provide support to the complainant, the accused, and the congregation affected by allegations or incidents of misconduct.
  - 2. To provide the complainant with a safe, non-threatening environment within the church family in which he/she can reveal allegations of misconduct and receive support, compassion, and direction.
  - 3. To provide support, compassion, and direction for a person accused of misconduct.
  - 4. To offer congregations affected by incidents of misconduct support and recommendations regarding care and healing for their community and the individuals and families involved.
  - 5. To offer information about the misconduct policy to persons who are referred to the response team.
- B. The makeup of the response teams:
  - 1. A response team or teams may be named by the Bishop.
  - 2. A response team may consist of three or more persons who are sensitive to issues of sexual harassment, misconduct and abuse. A team may include church professionals (clergy or diaconal), mental health professionals and lay persons. Members of a support team may be chosen from within and beyond the Mississippi Annual Conference.
  - 3. Training on issues of misconduct shall be available and the names of persons receiving such training shall be made available to the Bishop. Such training shall be the responsibility of those to whom the Bishop assigns said responsibility.
- C. Structure and Function
  - 1. A team may be instructed by the Bishop to respond to the needs of any or all of the following: complainant or grievant, the accused professional, the congregation.
  - 2. A team will:
    - a. explain the procedures available within the structures of the church for dealing with the problem;
    - b. offer resources and consultation to the accused professional, the complainant and/or the congregation and assist in any appropriate manner;
    - c. encourage the person making the allegation to keep a diary listing time, place, and nature of the offenses;
    - d. support the person if they choose to submit a written grievance;
    - e. accompany the person to meetings with the church authorities if he/she desires it.

#### V. Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Complaints of Misconduct

- A. Anyone who desires to discuss a concern regarding misconduct may contact their pastor, another United Methodist clergy person, a district superintendent, the Bishop, or a person trained to function as a member of a Sexual Ethics Support Team.
- B. The provisions of Paragraphs 362, 413 and 2702-2706 of *The Book of Discipline* (2004) shall determine the procedure.

- C. When an allegation of misconduct is subject to mandatory reporting requirements by the state (as in the case of a minor or an adult incapable of self-reporting), it shall be reported to the Bishop, and to the appropriate authorities and agencies.
- D. When appropriate the Bishop may utilize the services of one or more of the Ethics Response Teams.

## **C. Parsonage Guidelines**

Adopted 1990

### **PARSONAGE STANDARDS THE MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE**

Whereas, parsonage standards are needed to provide a uniformity so that ministers and churches may know what is expected of each other, to keep moving expenses with changing furniture and storage to a minimum, and to help clear the way for appointments to be made based upon abilities and gifts rather than upon size and needs of families - with the understanding that some churches provide housing allowances, but that these standards apply to most of the parsonages in the Mississippi Conference at the present - in order to provide an atmosphere by which clergy are able to care for their families and recharge for ministry and to provide economy, convenience and good will for both parsonage families and churches, the following guidelines are recommended as parsonage standards:

#### **I. The parsonage should have:**

- A. At least three bedrooms (four bedrooms, if possible) with ample closet space in each (double closets, if possible). In two story houses, one bedroom with a full bath should be on the ground floor. The parsonage should be accessible to persons with handicapping conditions
- B. At least two full baths with shower and tub facilities in each
- C. A family room or den.
- D. A living room separate from the den (if possible).
- E. Adequate room in the kitchen for family meals or a breakfast nook.
- F. An adequate dining room. It would be best for the parsonage family for the dining room to be separate from the living room.
- G. Adequate kitchen cabinets with counter tops of standard heights.
- H. Adequate storage space.
- I. Dry storage, space large enough for extra mattresses, furniture, trunks, books, out-of-season clothes, etc. (Basements are not usually satisfactory.)
- J. Sufficient electrical receptacles, fire extinguishers and smoke detectors complying with building and/or fire codes.
- K. Modern energy efficient central heating system and central air conditioning, and an attic exhaust fan. These systems should be designed so that unused areas can be turned off.
- L. Insulation in ceilings, floors and exterior walls to meet current codes.
- M. Storm windows (or insulated windows) and storm doors.
- N. Garage or carport (double, if possible).
- O. Adequate security devices.

#### **II. The pastoral charge should provide:**

- A. Inside the house:
  - 1. Appliances
    - a. Frost-free refrigerator with freezer compartment
    - b. Kitchen stove
    - c. Standard water heater: 40 gallon minimum; quick recovery; energy efficient
    - d. Washing machine
    - e. Dryer
    - f. Dishwasher
  - 2. Basic furniture for each room, plus



- a. Chests
  - b. Bedroom chairs
  - c. Bookcases
  - d. Lamps
  - e. Curtains and draperies
  - f. Carpeting or other floor covering for entire house
- Discarded furnishings and previously owned furnishings should not be placed in the parsonage.
- 3. Double sink in the kitchen
  - 4. Telephone—either purchase a phone or pay base rental
  - 5. TV cable connections
- B. Outside the house
- 1. Power lawn mower, in safe working condition, (if needed)
  - 2. TV antenna (if cable not available)
  - 3. Adequate outside lighting
  - 4. Outside electrical receptacles

### III. Care and maintenance

- A. The Trustees are responsible for care and maintenance.
- B. The parsonage family is responsible for routine care of the parsonage and grounds.
- C. The parsonage is to be mutually respected by the pastor's family as the property of the church and by the church as a place of privacy for the pastor's family. The chairperson of the Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations, the chairperson of the Board of Trustees, and pastor shall make an annual review of the church-owned parsonage to assure proper maintenance. (*2004 Book of Discipline*, Par. 2532.4)
- D. Current inventory of furnishings should be kept.
  - 1. The pastor and the church office (and/or the trustees chairperson) should each have a copy.
 

For insurance purposes, a file should be kept in the church's safety deposit box—photos of each rooms' furnishings, purchase date and cost.
  - 2. Gifts to the pastor and/or parsonage should be clearly designated.
  - 3. The Trustees must approve and accept gifts for the parsonage.
- E. A book or file of pertinent information should be compiled by the parsonage family and kept in the parsonage. It should include:
  - 1. Service and repair phone numbers.
  - 2. Appliance invoices, warranties, repair information, etc.
  - 3. Cleaning methods for carpets, draperies, walls, windows, and furniture .
  - 4. Heating, cooling and plumbing systems warranties; manuals, and service records.
- F. Insurance equal to 90% of the replacement value of the house and furnishings should be carried as minimum, to be paid by the church/charge.
 

Ministers are encouraged to provide for insurance on their personal property.
- G. The annual church budget should include adequate funds for maintenance.
- H. There should be an annual pest control inspection, and treatment if necessary.
- I. The parsonage should be kept well painted inside and outside. It is preferable that the painting of the parsonage interior coincide with the beginning of pastorates.
- J. The parsonage family is responsible for any and all damage done to the parsonage by their pets.

### IV. Changes of pastors

When an impending move is evident, the chairperson of the Trustees and the chairperson of the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee should meet at the parsonage with the pastor and inspect the parsonage using the following guidelines:

- A. A complete check of the inventory shall be made.
- B. Each room shall be inspected for needed repairs, refurbishings, paint, etc.
- C. The electrical, heating, cooling and plumbing systems shall be inspected.
- D. An evaluation of the structure, inside and outside, including furnishings, appliances and systems shall be made.
- E. The pastor shall provide information about the condition of appliances and systems that only the person living in the house would know.

- F. The Trustees shall arrange for needed repairs, refurbishings, painting, etc.
- G. The parsonage family shall leave the parsonage in a clean and sanitary condition (including the yard, attic and basement) All personal items shall be disposed of or removed from the premises. The parsonage family shall have repaired at their expense any damage due to negligence and/or pets. If a satisfactory solution/agreement can not be reached by the pastor and church on this matter, the District Superintendent shall be contacted and the superintendent shall appoint a committee of two ministers and two lay persons beyond this local charge to determine the extent of damage that is due to negligence.

- H. If at all possible, utilities should be in the church's name with the parsonage address to avoid termination of services.

While setting the process for the new pastor's covenant meeting, also set a walk through of the parsonage. The outgoing pastor (and spouse), representatives of the Parsonage Committee (Trustees), representatives of the Pastor (Staff) - Parish Relations Committee, the incoming pastor (and spouse) and the District Superintendent shall participate in the walk through.

It is further recommended that, in keeping with the reference to annual conference parsonage standards in paragraph 256.3f of the 1988 *Book of Discipline*, and that all these guidelines here presented, having been refined and approved,

*Parsonage Standards Task Group*

*Robert L. Carter, III, Merlin Conoway, Jean Cornelius,*

*Lisa Hicks, Norma Hubbard, Marshall Jenkins*

*The Cabinet*

*Rev. Bert Felder, Dr. Carl Grubbs, Rev. Jerry Beam*

## D. Clergy Vacation and Days Off Policy

Adopted as a Guideline June 2005

The Mississippi Annual Conference recommends that all charges of the conference provide their pastor(s) with paid annual vacation periods of at least the following schedule and make necessary financial arrangements for pulpit supply during the pastor's absence from the pulpit. Guidelines for vacation periods shall be based on the total credited years of service published annually in the conference Journal. This policy is for pastors serving appointments within the bounds of the Mississippi Conference.

Regardless of years of service, part-time pastors and retired ministers serving under appointment are recommended to receive two weeks including Sundays annual paid vacation, with the charge responsible for pulpit supply.

<b>Conference Relationship</b>	<b>Years of Service</b>	<b>Vacation Time</b>
Full-time Local Pastors in process, Attending the four-week Course of Study		2 weeks incl. Sundays
Full-time Pastors (Full Members, Probationary Members, Assoc. Members, Full Connection Deacons, FTLP)	5 years or fewer	2 weeks incl. Sundays
Full-time Pastors (Full Members, Probationary Members, Assoc. Members, Full Connection Deacons, FTLP)	6 to 10 years	3 weeks incl. Sundays
Full-time Pastors (Full Members, Probationary Members, Assoc. Members, Full Connection Deacons, FTLP)	More than 10 years	4 weeks incl. Sundays

NOTE: "Years of service" refers to years of service in an annual conference(s) of The United Methodist Church, not years of service in the local church to which the pastor is appointed. These years of service include years under appointment to seminary or beyond the local church.

Vacation time is on a conference-year basis. Vacation time not used in one year cannot be carried over into the next year. It should also be remembered that participation in camping programs and similar conference activities, plus time used for Continuing Education, as defined by *The Book of Discipline* of the United Methodist Church and according to the rules set by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, shall not be considered as vacation time or used instead of vacation time. It is the joint responsibility of the pastor and the PPR committee to see that such participation does not become abusive and a hindrance to effective ministry within the local church. Meanwhile, it should also be remembered that we are a connectional faith and should expect to reasonably share our talents to uplift the whole Body of Christ where needed.

Churches should encourage their pastor(s) to participate in physical exercise programs, good nutrition programs, and to get regular checkups with their doctors. Pastors and churches should work together to establish a days off policy which will accommodate church tasks while providing time for the pastor to maintain personal and spiritual health.

This policy is to be printed each year in the Journal of the Mississippi Annual Conference. The Cabinet of the Mississippi Annual Conference will send a copy of this policy to the chairpersons of the Pastor-Parish Relations Committees in each district.

## **E. Safe Sanctuaries Policy and Minimum Requirements for Conference Ministries and Guidelines for Local Church Ministries**

The 2006 Annual Conference approved a resolution that the conference “shall develop safety and risk-reducing policies and procedures for the purpose of providing protection to children, youth, and vulnerable adults that come to us, to staff and volunteers from unwarranted allegations of abuse, and to limit the extent of legal liability.” A task group developed the following policy, which will be presented at the 2007 Annual Conference for adoption.

### **Introduction**

Jesus said, “Whoever welcomes a child...welcomes me” (Matthew 18:5). He also said, “If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones...it would be better for you if a great millstone were fasted around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea.” (Matthew 18:6) Our Christian faith calls us to offer both hospitality and protection to those who cannot protect themselves. We affirm this responsibility for the safety of children at each child’s baptism by our congregational response, pledging: “With God’s help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that this child, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.” (*Book of Worship*, Baptismal Covenant, Congregational Pledge, 11)

### **Purpose**

Building on our theological and spiritual foundation, our purpose for establishing this policy and accompanying procedures is to demonstrate our absolute and unwavering commitment to create a safe environment that will foster the comprehensive health, growth and development of all within our charge and care.

### **Intent**

As a Christian community of faith, the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church, we pledge to conduct the ministry of the gospel in ways that foster the safety and spiritual growth of all. Nothing in this policy or procedure is designed to hinder or prevent the investigation of suspected, reported, or confirmed violation of any Mississippi criminal laws.

We hereby declare our intent to:

1. Follow reasonable safety measures in the selection and recruitment of staff and volunteers.
2. Provide adequate training for staff and volunteers regarding the implementation of our policies and procedures.

3. Implement prudent operational procedures in all programs and events that will encourage the development of our adults and children.
4. Design a clearly defined procedure for reporting instances of injury, harm or abuse in accordance with the requirements of state and federal laws.
5. Respond with compassion and integrity to needs as they present themselves following incidents of harm, injury, or abuse.
6. Review our policies and procedures regularly to meet changing legal, health, and safety standards.

### Conclusion

In all of our ministries, the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church is committed to demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ so that each person is “surrounded by steadfast love... established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.” (*Baptismal Covenant II, United Methodist Hymnal*, p.44).

### Definitions

ADULT – Any person 18 years or older

CHILD – Any person under the age of 18

CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES – Any activity or program for children or youth sponsored by the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church, its local churches, or Conference affiliated ministries

CONFERENCE – The Mississippi Conference of The United Methodist Church

NATIONAL BACKGROUND CHECK – A Background check that includes

- National Criminal Background Check
- National Sexual Offenders Check
- Social Security Number Verification

RESIDENTIAL CAMPING – Any overnight event is considered residential camping. This includes but is not limited to residential camping settings, conference camps, a conference or district lock-in, youth related overnight events, or mission work outside the boundaries of your residential dwelling

STAFF PERSON – Any person employed by the conference who is responsible for youth or children’s activities

SUPERVISOR – The person who has direct and immediate oversight and responsibility for any event

VOLUNTEER – A person 18 years of age or older who assists in conducting youth or children’s activities under the supervision of a staff person

VULNERABLE ADULT – Any person over 18 years of age with diagnosed diminished physical, mental, or emotional capacities

### 1. Selection and Recruitment of Staff and Volunteers

- 1.1 All persons employed to serve in a supervisory capacity for children/youth shall:
  - 1.1.1 Be at least 21 years of age (in certain circumstances, such as Camp Wesley Pines and Camp Lake Stephens leadership, 18 years shall be the acceptable minimum age when combined with adequate training in the conference policies and procedures and competent oversight by a qualified adult, such as the camp director.)
  - 1.1.2 No one shall be employed in a supervisory capacity unless he/she is at least four years older than the oldest student
  - 1.1.3 Complete an application/commitment form
  - 1.1.4 Provide three character references with full contact information
  - 1.1.5 Demonstrate an active relationship with their local church for at least 6 months prior to employment
  - 1.1.6 Be interviewed by the director of the ministry/program
  - 1.1.7 Consent to a national background check
- 1.2 All volunteers serving in a supervisory capacity for children/youth shall:
  - 1.2.1 Be at least 21 years of age
  - 1.2.2 Complete an application/commitment form
  - 1.2.3 Demonstrate an active relationship with their local church for at least 6 months prior to serving in a supervisory capacity
  - 1.2.4 Be interviewed by the director of the ministry/program

- 1.2.5 Consent to a national background check
- 1.3 All volunteers serving in a helping capacity for children/youth shall:
  - 1.3.1 Complete an application/commitment form
  - 1.3.2 Be interviewed by the director of the ministry/program
  - 1.3.3 Consent to a national background check
- 1.4 In the event that a substitute worker needs to be brought in under last-minute circumstances, that person must:
  - 1.4.1 Complete an application/commitment form
  - 1.4.2 Complete a basic orientation/training provided by the director or other supervisor before actually beginning work.
- 1.5 All information obtained from background checks will be received and reviewed by the Conference Director of Connectional Ministries or their designee, who may, in their discretion, share applicable information with the appropriate supervisory staff person(s). Additionally, if the record of a staff member or candidate for a staff position shows a criminal conviction, the Conference Director of Connectional Ministries or their designee will consider the employment on a case-by-case basis. Otherwise all such information will be held in confidence, except for any disclosure required by lawful court action.
- 1.6 Any prospective volunteer or candidate for a staff position with a conviction for a sex offense or abuse or neglect of a minor is prohibited from work with children or youth. All other convictions will be considered on a case by case basis.

## 2. Training

- 2.1 Training must be a mandatory component of each event's design. The design team shall be responsible for assuring that adequate insurance for the specific event and/or activities either from the conference or the district is in place.
- 2.2 The design team must have a person available at the event who is trained and certified to receive any report of allegations of abuse and follow through according to the conference guidelines and the requirements of state law.
- 2.3 All workers shall be trained annually in safety, first aid, and child abuse prevention.
- 2.4 Training shall include information, explanation, and discussion of :
  - 2.4.1 The annual conference policy
  - 2.4.2 Behaviors or other indicators which may signal problems
  - 2.4.3 Requirements of Mississippi law for reporting incidents of abuse
  - 2.4.4 Procedures for response to incidents of abuse and for reporting incidents of abuse.
- 2.5 All persons serving as directors shall complete certification training for processing allegations and reports of child abuse.
- 2.6 All workers and leaders will sign a covenant to abide by the conference policy at the conclusion of each training prior to an event.

## 3. Operational Procedures for Programs and Events

All district and conference ministries with children/youth shall be governed by these guidelines:

- 3.1 Two unrelated adults shall be present at all times.
- 3.2 If there are both male and female participants, then the adult leaders should also include both males and females.
- 3.3 The number of adult leaders and chaperones required for each event (above the minimum of two) will be set by the established conference ratios as follows:
  - 3.3.1 Day Care/ Nursery Programs (In compliance with Mississippi State Regulations)

### *Infants*

(Non-handicapped & Not Walking) 1 Adult to 5 Infants

### *Toddlers*

(Walking, Non-handicapped)

1 Adult to 9 Toddlers
2 years of age 1 Adult to 12 Children
3 years of age 1 Adult to 14 Children
4 years of age 1 Adult to 16 Children
5 years of age 1 Adult to 20 Children
6 years of age & Older 1 Adult to 25 Children

### 3.3.2 Mixed Age Groups

6 weeks to 30 months	1 Adult to 5 Children
2 to 4 years	1 Adult to 8 Children
2 to 3 years	1 Adult to 10 Children
2 ½ to 3 years	1 Adult to 12 Children
2 ½ to 5 years	1 Adult to 14 Children
3 to 5 years	1 Adult to 16 Children
Grades 1-4	1 Adult to 16 Children
Grades 5-12	1 Adult to 20 Children

### 3.3.3 Residential Camping

Grades 1-8	1 Adult to 10 Children
Grades 9-12	1 Adult to 12 Children

- 3.4 In residential camping situations, the adult chaperone must always be the same gender as the campers he/she is supervising.
- 3.5 Unauthorized visitors/volunteers will not be allowed to remain with the group.
- 3.6 Participants will not be allowed to leave the designated meeting area without permission/supervision.
- 3.7 During ministry events, one-on-one activities shall not be conducted “behind closed doors” or in an isolated area away from trained supervisory persons.
- 3.8 All ministry events will be carried out in appropriate locations with adequate equipment and trained adult supervisors present.
- 3.9 Registration materials for activities in which children are outside direct supervision of their parents/guardians shall require a signed written permission form that includes pertinent health information in order to participate.
- 3.10 If the participants are old enough to understand, they shall sign a covenant of participation listing rules for all trips, overnights, etc.
- 3.11 This paragraph three (3) shall be advisory guidelines only, as applied to ministries in the local church and shall not be considered as requirement for the local church.

## 4. Reporting Incidents

- 4.1 All reporting of alleged incidents or actual incidents of child abuse must strictly follow Mississippi law.
- 4.2 A worker who has reasonable cause to suspect that child abuse has occurred should secure the safety of the child, if possible, and then immediately report the incident to the director/supervisor and the certified safety person of the ministry event. It is never the responsibility of a worker with children or youth to investigate allegations of child abuse. The director/supervisor and the certified safety person will then follow all appropriate procedures for reporting to the child's parents or guardian, authorities of the annual conference and/or district, and local law enforcement and/or child protective service agencies.

## 5. Responding

- 5.1 A quick, compassionate and unified response to an alleged incident of child abuse will be initiated. All allegations will be taken seriously.
- 5.2 The Communications Director of the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church, or her/his designee, is the only person authorized to make statements to representatives of the media. All requests for statements should be directed to the appointed Safe Sanctuaries person for the event.
- 5.3 Pastoral support will be available to all persons involved in the incident.

## Conclusion

We take our policies to reduce the risk of child abuse seriously and are committed to their enforcement for the safety and security of all our children, youth, and those who work with them. All conference and district ministry events are required to comply with these policies. Each conference ministry event



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shall be subject to review by the Safe Sanctuaries Committee of the Conference Office of Connectional Ministries and the conference staff person related to that event.

Each district ministry event shall be subject to review by the executive committee of the District Council on Ministries or its equivalent.

Conference and district ministry events not sponsored by the Conference Office of Connectional Ministries or the district council or its equivalent will be subject to review by the team, committee, or board that initiates the event.

Non-compliance with these policies shall result in potential loss of sponsorship by the Conference Office of Connectional Ministries, district council, or the sponsoring team, board, or committee.

The Conference Office of Connectional Ministries shall review these policies and procedures at least biannually.

*MS Annual Conference  
Approved 2007*



## SECTION IV

## BUSINESS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## A. MINUTES OF THE DAILY PROCEEDINGS

ORGANIZATION PLENARY SESSION  
MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2006

**Bishop Ward** called the session to order at 9:45 a.m. We began by singing “And Are We Yet Alive.” The Theme for this year’s Conference is “Arise! Shine! Rejoice!” **Cary Stockett** gave a warm welcome to everyone. **Bishop Ward** welcomed **Rev. Joseph Rono**, **Bishop** of African Gospel Church of Kenya.

**Rev. Roger Puhr** moved that the roll call of the conference be all members of the conference who have registered and who are wearing their badges and this was approved by a hand vote of the conference. **Rev. Puhr** also moved that the bar of the conference be the floor area, as well as the stage and the choir loft. This was approved by a hand vote of the conference. **Rev. Puhr** then offered nominations for the following secretarial staff: **Larry White** (Assistant Secretary and *Journal* Editor), **Rosemary Williams** (Assistant Secretary) and **Rheannon Miller** (Recording Secretary). They were elected by a hand vote of the conference.

**Rev. Puhr** proposed that the list of Tellers listed on the screen be accepted. This was approved by hand vote of the conference.

**Bishop Robinson** moved that the printed agenda in the tri fold form given to delegates at registration be accepted as the official agenda. The agenda was adopted by a hand vote.

“We Are One” presentation was shown for the 2008 delegates. **Bishop Ward** led us in prayer.

**Rev. Puhr** gave instructions for balloting with corrections to the clergy list: 236 was removed from the list, 641, **Nancy Bishop**, was added to the bottom of the list, and number 642, **Tiffany McDonald** was added to the list. A ballot was taken.

**Bishop Ward** led us in prayer followed by a presentation. **Bishop Ward** told a story of a church being burned and a sign being put in the yard that said, “Do not rebuild this church.” **Bishop Ward** reminded us to not live in fear of the world, but in response to the invitation of God upon our lives.

A presentation was shown on Katrina Recovery.

**Bishop Ward** read Psalm 131. She pointed out that we continue to move forward together and she reminded us to give thanks for the many thousands of friends from around the globe and told us that between now and Labor Day, thousands more will come. She told us that our gifts continue to support the warehouse on the coast. She stated that Hurricane Katrina destroyed over 70,000 homes on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. She stated that we are grateful that we have hope in God in this instance when everything is a challenge in our lives. A presentation was given.

**Bishop Ward** stated we can make a difference if we continue to be a light in the world. Another presentation was given. She also stated it is so very true that the children in our community do want to be around us. It is important that we be in their presence. Sunday school can be children’s guide all across the area of our annual conference, in many, many, many places, because in all of our communities there are children. A presentation was shown.

**Robert Sharp**, the Director of Recovering Ministries of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, brought greetings from the Mississippi United Methodist Disaster status response. He stated as a United Methodist, we have sought to be a living expression in God’s love to those who are hurting and without hope. To date, over 45,000 fellow United Methodists and Christians have helped come to rebuild in this effort. Over 1,500 local United Methodist Churches and organizations across the country have sent over 3,000 volunteer teams, logging in over one million volunteer items, providing close to 25 million dollars of savings to home owners. They have been hosted by over 35 local churches and six long term recovery centers, and have worked over 8,000 cases returning families to their homes. Mississippi conference churches became shelters, food and water distribution centers and medical centers. Our sanctuaries and Sunday school rooms became dormitories for volunteers. Now, you’ve seen what He said, you praised what He did, now come and practice what He preached. As John Wesley said, do all that you can, by all the means you

can, and all the ways you can, in all the places you can, and all the times you can, to all the people you can as long as you can.

**C.J. Caufield**, Disaster Response Coordinator, stated that their primary focus is disaster response, health and welfare, refugee issues, hunger and sickness and sticking to things that makes things stick. He stated they're creating better agencies here to provide a better response to more persons in need and suffering, working with the volunteer organizations of natural disasters, Mississippi Management Agency, Homeland Security, etc. We are working on providing more education and training to prepare for the next one.

**Jim Salley** from Africa University gave thanks for all that we do for Africa University. He stated that 368 students graduated this past Saturday and it wouldn't have been possible if it wasn't for the Mississippi Annual Conference.

There was a ballot reading. A motion was made that only 15 and above be read from the ballots. The motion was seconded. That motion was approved by a hand vote. A ballot was taken.

**F. Belton Joyner**, "Being Methodist in the Bible Belt," stated that when it comes to God talk, truth telling is important. God talk is an essential tool for truth telling. What we say about God shapes the way that we live. People live and people die based on what they hear and believe of God talk. God talk is another word for theology and we are all theologians. The four theological standards of a United Methodist for God talk are: Articles of religion, confession of faith, New Testament, and standard sermons of John Wesley. He stated that there are ten points in Wesley theology. Number 1 is salvation. A house is like salvation. The porch is essential. The door of the house is justification. The house itself is holy living, sanctification.

**Break in Proceedings – 12:30 p.m.**

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Memorial Service began at 2:00 p.m. with the prelude "A Call to Worship Medley." The processional hymn was "For All the Saints." **Bishop Ward** gave the greeting. **Reverend Stephen Cook** gave the opening prayer. **Reverend Theodore R. Williams Jr.** gave special music. **Rev. Martha M. Williams** read Isaiah 66:10-13 and **Rev. Elvina T. Barnes** read Acts 10:34-43. The gospel lesson was read by **Rev. Lynn Motes** from John 14:1-6, 27. Riley Chapel and St. Mark United Methodist churches sang special music. The sermon was given by **Bishop Ivan M. Abrahams**.

The names of the deceased were read and candles were lit and a bell tolled with each name. Deceased clergy honored were: **Hiram Jessie Hedgepeth**, **Marie A. Watts**, **William G. Mills**, **Glenn Roland Grammer**, **Dr. Ray Clarke Earls**, **John D. Humphrey, Sr.**, **Joseph Albert Bridewell**, **L.C. Kitchens**, **Wayne Vincent McCord**, **Algernon M. Oliver**, **Arnell N. Harrell**, **Hubert Gill Wallace**, **Borden Frank Camp**, **Thomas Murphy Johnson**, **Robert Edward Andress**, **Archie L. Meadows**, **Leslie D. "Pete" Busby**, **LaFayette Shaw Gaddy**. Deceased spouses honored were **Madeleine (Blanton) Doggett**, **Annie Mae (Clovis V.) Wright**, **Idie Bell (Viril V.) Collier**, **Mary Lee Blain (Prentiss) Gordon**, **Josie Lee (William) Dement**, **Jewel Loretta (Faban Scott) Clark**, **Lydia (Albert Gladwin) Clark**, **Flarzell (Handy) Trigg**, **Cathryn Vance (Joseph Silas) Johnson**, **Helen (Dean) Jones**, **Vivian K. (Travis A.) Filgo**, **Virgie G. (Roy) Bonner**, **Jeanette (Henry) Story**, **Syble Hinson (Archie L.) Meadows**, **Belinda (Irvin C.) King**, **Evelyn Newman (Joseph William) Carroll**, **Ruth (E.S.) Furr**, **Mary (Robert Lee) Ellis**, **Sarah Agnew (John M.) McCay**, **Bernice B. (Calvin) Jackson**, **Retha (Chester) Smith**. **Bishop Ward** dismissed the service with the benediction at 3:30 p.m.

**Break in proceedings**

## AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2007

Bishop Ward called the session to order at 3:45 p.m. Turner Arant, Laity, and Steve McDonald, Clergy, were elected. Bishop Ward then led the conference in prayer. A ballot was taken.

Embra Jackson, Health and Wellness, introduced Jane Ehrman who is a specialist in mind and body. Jane Ehrman stated that health is about body, mind and spirit and that spirituality can be the essence of who we are. The many aspects of spirituality are self knowledge, finding meaning in life, direction and purpose, connecting our self to others and the great universe. She also stated that Christ is balance. She stated that there is a lot of hurting and unbalance in our local congregations and we should continue to address the importance of health care. She stated also that a patient can have the best physician and technology, but if they are burdened spiritually, their health is a serious challenge.

Lisa Garvin invited everyone to come out and walk or run with them in the morning. Allison Earles gave a report that this conference leads the world in wellness programs. She stated that God never asks you to walk by yourself. You do not need to take the wellness journey alone. It is too hard in this society to try to do it alone. This is a program unlike any other. It blends spirituality, physical health and emotional health. She explained how the program works.

Delmar Robinson, Council on Finance and Administration, gave the proposed budget for 2008 (p.61-83 of *Workbook*). David Stotts gave the layout of the numbers (p.70-83 *Workbook*). He stated that in Recommendation Number 1, in the apportionment formula that we're asking for the apportionment when they are computed in 2008 to not include property insurance.

David Beckley reported from Resolutions and Petitions. There are 17 petitions on the table. David Beckley recommend acceptance of Petition Number 1. It was accepted by a hand vote. He also recommended acceptance of Petition Number 2. It was accepted by a hand vote. There are 15 petitions on the ballot for tomorrow.

Gary Gunderson, Methodist Healthcare, stated that healthy patients depend on healthy communities and healthy communities depend on healthy congregations and healthy congregations depend on healthy clergy. He hopes that our vision reflects 100 years of Mississippi leadership in health and faith. A presentation was given on health care. Steve Casteel gave nominations to lay on the table (p. 35-39 of *Workbook*) with two additions (p. 1-4 of *Workbook*), Rayford Woodard and Lindsey Robinson.

Michelle Foster gave action items for the Safe Sanctuaries proposals to be considered, (p. 46-50 of *Pre Conference Workbook*). The items are: Number 1, training of safe sanctuary leaders; Number 2, participate in the two adult rule; Number 3, open door teaching counseling; Number 4, design to follow the clear procedure for reporting allegations and instances of harm and abuse; Number 5, respond compassionately and with integrity to all parties involved in any instance; and Number 6, review and revise policies and procedures regularly. It was approved by a hand vote. There were some discussions.

A motion to reconsider was made. It was seconded. It was approved by a hand vote. A motion was made to change Safe Sanctuary policies and minimum requirements for conference ministries and guidelines for local church ministries. The amendment was approved by a hand vote.

Jim Hall offered an amendment to paragraph 3.11 to become advisory guidelines only as applied to ministries in the local churches and shall not be considered as requirements in the local churches. The amendment was seconded. The amendment was approved by a hand vote. All items were approved with the above mentioned amendments by standing vote. A ballot was taken. Bishop Ward adjourned with prayer.

Afternoon Plenary Session adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

## MONDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE

Mission Service with Conference Mission Offering began at 7:30 p.m. The youth and child worship took a mission offering. Bishop Ward preached on what the U.M. Church needs to return to. We are not to be content with where we are but to preach Jesus. We need to step out in faith and enter into a new world. The spirit is seeking to make all things new. Let us go with a renewed assurance.

Elizabeth Cumbest sang "Of God's Anointing."

Worship service was adjourned.

## MORNING PLENARY SESSION TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2007

Bishop Ward called the session to order at 8:30 a.m. and led us in prayer. Rev. Puhr gave balloting instructions. There was a ballot reading with no election. Willis Britt led us in prayer. We sang "Standing on the Promises."

F. Belton Joyner Jr., "Being Methodist in the Bible Belt," continued with the 10 points to Wesley theology. Number 2, sin; number 3, the church; Number 4, the Bible; Number 5, four guidelines for doing theology: Scripture, tradition, reason and experience; Number 6, Baptism; Number 7, losing grace; Number 8, Holiness; Number 9, politics; and Number 10, all the others.

Bishop Ward led us in prayer and singing, "Blessed Assurance." Bishop Ward recognized the Bishop of Nigeria, Rev. Dr. Joseph Ajayi. Tim Thompson was elected on the Clergy ballot. Bishop Ward led us in prayer and gave the reading of the ballots. Giles Lindley led us in prayer for the ballot. Rev. Puhr gave balloting instructions and a ballot was taken.

Embra Jackson, Connectional Ministries, reported they came up with five initiatives: Wellness, congregational development, small membership church, mission and racial reconciliation. Ten persons will be going to congregational development school in Kansas City this year. Jackson stated their goal for this coming quadrennial is to plant three new churches at a minimum each year. There will be three new churches in the Jackson Metro area. They are as follows: John Hugh Tate on Lakeland Drive, Jim Taylor in Brandon, and Tim Howard in Anderson South.

Bryan Collier gave a list of the individuals who will be attending the Church Planter's School for the 2007-2008 year: Will Rambo, Brian Scott, Jim Taylor, John Hugh Tate, Pat Ward, Stephen Bittick, Todd Sanders, Ben Barlow, and Tim Howard. He also listed the participants in the 2007-2008 Pastor's Leadership School: Rob Gill, Barry Male, Cliff Burris, Trey Lambert, Ellis Ray Howard, Trey Harper, Ray Owens, Andy Stoddard, Tom Potter, Stephen Sparks, Laurie Raborn, Matthew Pharis, Thomas Jennings, Jr., Eddie Kirby, Jimmy Criddle, Karen Koons, Jason Harms, and Tim Howard. Bishop Ward gave a prayer for the above mentioned names.

Theon Johnson shared some words about the involvement of young people in our church. He stated that we have several young people in the Mississippi conference who have been involved in the life of our church. He stated that there is much good progress and many points that are coming forth from our young people. He also mentioned "Nothing but Nets." He explained how this program works. He encouraged us to involve the young people in our local congregations in the life ministries in the church. They are voices of God that will help us to a Rise, to Shine, and Rejoice.

Vicki Tandy and Timothy Thompson gave a report on Global AIDS Fund. Vicki stated within this year, they will provide current data about the AIDS epidemic and other programs that will teach us about AIDS and the effect it's having in our world.

Timothy Thompson gave current statistics on AIDS and illness for the future. He stated that AIDS affects all races, religions, and sexes. He made an offer for consideration to invite church leaders together to discuss HIV and AIDS issues with medical and social experts in our conference and to hold this gathering in Jackson or the Delta. He also offered to have an ongoing task force to develop a comprehensive strategy on how to respond to this disease and to have a conference wide service on AIDS day on December the 1st. He also offered to have a conference to focus on the young and ethnic conference and for the Methodist Hour to help co sponsor these events.

Richard Branson, Parish and Community Ministries, proposed (yellow hand out at registration) interest earned from cash on deposit is reserved for the funding resources for effective small membership church programs of the Mississippi annual conference. Funds will be granted based on the budget submitted to the PCMC by the recipient program. The interest income from loans would serve to supplement, not supplant, funding of the partnership and church improvement grant fund and the parish ministry grant fund, to be distributed between the two funds at the discretion of the committee according to needs rising from the grant application. The refinement of language was approved by a hand vote.

Bishop Ward presented Jimmy Carr a check for \$4,294.00 for the Bafay (phonetic) Welcome Center which will be dedicated July 9 at 11:30 a.m. The mission offering collected \$97,325.05.

Steve Casteel, Standing Rules, brought a proposed amendment to the standing rule number 6 (front page of addendum, section 2). It was laid on the table.



David Beckley, Resolutions and Petitions, recommended concurrence of Resolution Number 4. It was accepted by a hand vote. Resolution Number 8 was recommended it be referred to the appropriate committee. It was referred by a hand vote. Resolution Number 9 was recommended as concurrence. It was voted concurrence by a hand vote.

Sara Hillman and Mary Ford were elected for the Laity. Bishop Ward led them in prayer and then read the ballot results. A ballot was taken. Rev. Puhr gave balloting instructions. Carl Rhodes led prayer for balloting.

Steve Casteel gave instructions for break out workshops.

Bishop Joseph Ajaya dismissed us with prayer.

## SERVICE OF RECOGNITION OF RETIRING CLERGY

The service of recognition of retiring clergy was held at 11:45 a.m. at the annual conference in Jackson. Each retiring person was presented to the Annual Conference, along with their spouses.

The very touching service of “Passing the Torch” was held. Rev. Jerry Mitchell represented the retiring class and Rev. Tiffany McDonald represented the 2007 class of ordinands. The ordinands stood with Rev. Mitchell and lit the candle from the Christ light and Rev. McDonald received this light as her class of ordinands stood with her. The service was adjourned with all singing “Blest Be the Tie that Binds.”

## AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2007

Bishop Ward called the session to order at 2:00 p.m. We began with singing, “Marching to Zion,” “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms,” “When We All Get To Heaven,” and “Worship His Majesty.” Dr. Aubry Lucas led us in prayer.

Shelia Cumbest was elected for the Clergy and Jack Ramsey was elected for the Laity. Bishop Ward led them in prayer and read the ballot results. Rev. Puhr gave balloting instructions and a ballot was taken. Bishop Ward led us in prayer.

Dr. Frances Lucas from Millsaps College brought three students, Woods Curry, John Forrest, Ashley Hewitt, to give thanks to the UMC. They all spoke on some of their experiences and how Millsaps College has been a blessing and life changing event in their lives. A presentation was then given on Millsaps College.

Dr. David Beckley from Rust College stated he gave a report handout for an update on Rust College. Dr. David Beckley brought two students, T.J. Williams and William Montgomery, to give us thanks and told of their experiences and life changing events at Rust College.

Rev. Lee Reynold Jones led Rust Choir in a presentation of singing.

Bishop Ward led us in prayer.

Bishop Ward read the ballot results. Roger Puhr gave balloting instructions. A ballot was taken.

Rev. Jerry Beam led us in prayer.

**A break in proceeding at 3:30 p.m.**

Larry Robinson from the Black College Fund introduced Shastic Stelle. She came forward to give thanks and sang “Thank You” to the UMC for our support.

Bill Barksdale gave the Higher Education Awards. Susan Vuyovich was the recipient of the Frances Asbury Higher Education Award. The Cooper Fund Grant recipients were John Wesley Pepper, Charles K. McGill, III, Ryan Paul Parker, and Frank Newell. The Annual Conference Merit Award recipients were Hunter C. Berch, Clifford E. Coile, Jonathan S. Ebelhar, and Donald Charles Munro, IV.

Mitchell Hedgepeth presented the Harry Denman Award to Mark Gehers. Chris Young presented the Harry Denman Award to Prentiss Gordon, Senior. Heath Hensarling presented Bishop Ward with a life mantel. Juanita Franklin presented the Emma Elzy Award to Rev. Keith Tonkel, Wells United Methodist Church. Heather Hensarling presented Rev. Lindsay Robinson with a gift of appreciation. Mary Simpson presented the Tobias Gibson Award to Rev. Dr. H. Wayne Webster.

Bishop Ward led us in prayer.

**Bishop Ward** read the ballot results and **Roger Puhr** gave balloting instructions. A ballot was taken.

**Steve McAlilly**, Ministerial Services, Equitable Compensation, reported that our church provides that every elder in full connection shall receive a decent living wage. He stated that we will spend over \$500,000 in new church development, special mission opportunities, unique missions, and ethnic congregation development. Our budget request this year is \$480,975.00. There were three amendments. Number 1: Churches approved for a commission on equitable compensation grant or the supplemental will be eligible for only one grant; Number 2: Conference average salary will be 32,823.00 for an elder in full connection. A breakdown was shown on the screen; and Number 3: Increase the total amount of new church development to \$140,000 from \$130,600.00. These recommendations were presented to the conference. They were approved by a hand vote.

**Clint Gill**, Ethics Response Team, stated they have established, on the basis of belief, that truthfulness and openness are essential first steps to healing. A brochure was handed out about the work of the Ethic Response Team and on misconduct in general.

**Sam Morris**, Board of Ordained Ministry, gave thanks to many board members. **Robert Rambo**, Ministerial Education Fund, stated that 53 students were supported financially at eight different schools of theological education to an amount of some \$209,000 by the annual conference. **Scott Larson**, Conference Relations, stated we have three types of leave: Voluntary leave, family leave and incapacity leave. **Chris Young** recognized persons who have completed the Course of Study. They are **Linnie Juanita Booker** and **Carl Heberg**, full time local pastor study. Part time local pastors who have completed the Course of Study: **Juanita Cook**, **Glenn Albert Hoskins**, **Willie Albert Kinslow**, **Jimmy Aaron Lamb**, **Lonnie Nicholson, Sr.**, **Jerry Donnell Norrells**, **Willie Williams**. **Sam Morris** recognized **Richard Rawlings** and presented him with a Spiritual Formation Certificate.

**Sam Morris** recognized and presented a certificate to those who have served 50 years. They are: **Robert Butts**, **Jesse Moore**, **Leslie Nabors**, **Joe Morris**, **Hugh Whiteside**, **Cecil B. Jones**, **Jack Lofflin**, **Tommie Price**, **Martin Case**, **Tommy Gilbert**, and **Thomas Douglas Price**.

**George Buhl** and **Bishop Ward** recognized and presented with a certificate and Bible those who have been received into Associate Membership: **Linnie Juanita Booker**, **David Joseph Bryant**, and **Patrica Ward Twiner**.

**Bishop Ward** led us in prayer. **Bishop Ward** read the results of the ballot.

**Rev. Puhr** gave balloting instructions. A ballot was taken. **Bishop Ward** prayed.

**David Beckley**, Resolutions and Petitions, recommended that Resolution Number 3 be concurrence as amended. **Mary Chambers** made an amendment to retain the eight year language in the first part. It was accepted by the committee. The Resolution was accepted with the amendment by a hand vote. **Rex Wilburn** recommended that Resolution Number 6 be concurrence. It was accepted by a hand vote. **David Beckley** recommended that Resolution Number 14 be referred to the Board of Ordained Ministry. It was accepted by a hand vote. Resolution Number 17 was recommended concurrence. It was accepted by a standing vote.

**Bishop Ward** read the ballot results. **Steve McAlilly** was elected by the Laity and **Mike Childs** and **Ginger Holland** were elected by the Clergy.

**Rev. Puhr** gave instructions for balloting.

**Billy McAlilly**, **Robert Sharp** and **Mary Ford** gave **Bishop Ward** a contribution to the **Sam Morgan** Memorial Fund to help build the second multi purpose building in the Seashore District for disaster recovery. **Mary Ford** gave a \$1,500 check to Camp Hope in memory of Sam Morgan.

Afternoon session was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

## WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship service began at 7:30 p.m. It was Charles Wesley's 300th Birthday Celebration. Charles wrote over 6,000 songs in his day and today we still sing many of them. Special Wesley songs were sung by the Christ UMC Choir and Orchestra, **Jonathan Moore**, Delta State University Wesley Praise Band, and Trinity Mission Church Praise Band of Forrest, MS. There was also congregational singing. **Rev. Jim Matheny** shared about Charles Wesley's life.

Worship Service was adjourned.

Service ended at 3:35 p.m.

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## MORNING PLENARY SESSION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2007

**Jim Matheny** led us in an opening response, “Oh, Lord, Open Our Lips and We Shall Prepare Your Praise.” We sang hymn number 64, “Holy, Holy, Holy.”

**Rev. Dr. Joseph Ajaya** made a presentation.

**Karen Koons** led us in prayer.

The scripture reading from II Kings 5:1-19 was read by **Tom Adkins**.

**Rev. Lindsay Robinson** led us in prayer.

**Bishop Ivan Abrahams** spoke of Isaiah, Chapter 1:1-3. He spoke of the healing and transformation of Naaman. He pointed out three points. Number 1: Examine the road of the servants. Number 2: Naaman went to the wrong address. Number 3: That rank, position and money cannot buy healing. He stated that none of us are immune from sickness.

**Jim Matheny** led us in singing, “There is a Balm in Gilead.”

**Bishop Ward** gave the ballot results. **Dalton Garner**, **Kay Barksdale** and **Jack Walters** were elected by the Laity. **Bryan Collier** was elected by the Clergy. **Rev. Puhr** gave balloting instructions. **Bishop Ward** led us in prayer. A ballot was taken.

**Ed Jones**, Board of Pensions, (p64 of *Pre-conference Workbook*) recommended the pastor service rate be increased to \$441. On page 57, there was a clerical error on **B. Franks Camp**. **Louis Jackson** presented a check of \$1,000,000 to the clergy pension. The recommendations were approved by a hand vote.

**Debra Strong**, Board of Medical Benefits, stated that this year they have added a high deductible plan, an optional plan for vision and dental, a new wellness plan, and added a second partner to provide data and to troubleshoot for individuals.

**David Stotts** gave four action items for insurance plans. They were listed on the screen. All four action items were approved.

**David Beckley**, Resolutions and Petitions, continued with seven resolutions. Resolution Number 15 (addendum) was recommended non concurrence and it was approved non concurrence by a hand vote. Resolution Number 16 was recommended non concurrence and it was approved non concurrence by a hand vote. Resolution Number 11 was recommended concurrence and it was approved concurrence by a hand vote. Resolution Number 12 was recommended concurrence and it was approved concurrence by a hand vote. Resolution Number 10 was recommended concurrence and it was approved concurrence by a hand vote. Resolution Number 5 was recommended concurrence. **Garry Ruff** made an amendment that following each instance of the words “Course of Study” add “or have earned a Master of Divinity degree at a school of theology listed by the University Senate.” It was approved concurrence with the amendment by a hand vote.

**David Huffman** made a motion that when reading a ballot to read the top 15. It was approved by a hand vote. **Bishop Ward** read results of the ballot. **Rev. Puhr** gave balloting instructions. **Bishop Ward** led us in prayer. A ballot was taken.

**David Beckley** recommended Resolution Number 7 be concurrence and it was approved concurrence by a hand vote. He made an announcement that **Bishop Ward** is now **Dr. Bishop Hope Morgan Ward**.

**Roger Puhr** gave the nominations (p35-39 of the *Pre-conference Workbook*) corrections: Add **Rayford Woodrick** as chairperson of Hispanic Ministries, **Lindsay Robinson** as chairperson for Revitalization Committee. And on page 4 of the addendum it should state “add to the list on page 38.” These were recommended for approval. They were approved by a hand vote. **Bishop Ward** led us in prayer.

**A break in proceedings was had.**

**Steve Casteel**, Standing Rules, (p1 of addendum) restated Number 6. It was approved by a hand vote.

**Bishop Ward** read the results of the ballot. **Rev. Puhr** gave balloting instructions. A ballot was taken.

**Jim Matheny** led us in singing “Lead me Lord.” **Delmar Robinson**, Council on Finance and Administration, explained how the budget was determined. He stated that Report Number 1 should read standing rule 17 instead of 16. It was approved by a hand vote. **Lindsay Robinson** made an amendment

to include “Stop Hunger Now” as a part of the events that were listed. The amendment was approved. **John C. Moore** made a motion that the Annual Conference ask **Bishop Ward** to establish an ad hoc committee for the purpose of developing a financial strategy to include a means of funding at least 20 percent of the conference’s funding needs in other ways than through available local church dollars, and that the strategy be presented to the Annual Conference no later than 2009. The amendment was seconded and approved by a hand vote. Report Number 1 was approved as a whole by a hand vote. Report Number 2 was approved by a hand vote.

**Jim Matheny** led us in singing the Doxology.

**Steve McDonald**, District Property Resolutions, (p15 of addendum), recommended Resolution Number 1: A change in district lines in Chapel Hill UMC in Grenada County and Barlow UMC in Attala County. It was approved by a hand vote. Resolution Number 2, that the St. Mark UMC, Cleveland District, be discontinued. It was approved by a hand vote. Resolution Number 3: Wesley Chapel UMC of Vaiden Charge be discontinued. It was approved by a hand vote. Resolution Number 4: A name correction. There was no action needed. Resolution Number 5: Name change resolution, St. Matthew UMC to be changed to the New St. Matthew UMC. It was approved by a hand vote. Resolution Number 6: Mashulaville UMC be discontinued. It was approved by a hand vote. Resolution Number 7: Mount Nebo UMC be discontinued. It was approved by a hand vote.

**Bishop Ward** read the ballot results. **William Scott** was elected by the Laity. **Mattie Gipson** was elected by the Clergy. **Bishop Ward** led them in prayer. **Rev. Puhr** gave balloting instructions. **Bishop Ward** led us in prayer.

**Steve McDonald** recommended that the Mt. Zion UMC be discontinued. It was approved by a hand vote. He also recommended that the Seashore Mission UMC, Seashore District, be discontinued as a church congregation and continue as a Mission and Extension Ministry, that the title of the property shall be transferred to Seashore Mission, Incorporated. It was approved by a hand vote. He recommended that Pittsboro UMC, Tupelo District, be discontinued. It was approved by a hand vote. It was also recommended that Rayford’s Chapel UMC, Tupelo District, be sold based on abandonment. It was approved by a hand vote.

**Steve McDonald** gave a report on the Changes in Charge Lines.

**Bishop Ward** gave recognition to Counselors.

A short DVD was shown on Katrina Recovery.

**Steve McAlilly** led us in prayer.

**Jim Matheny** led us in singing “It Is Well With My Soul” while taking an offering.

## AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION JUNE 13, 2007

**Jim Matheny** led us in singing.

**Bishop Ward** called the session to order at 1:30 p.m. and then led us in prayer. **Warren Black** was elected by the Clergy. **Bishop Ward** read the results of the ballots. **Rev. Puhr** gave balloting instructions. A ballot was taken.

**Bishop Ward** stated we received in the last offering \$7,451.81.

**Bishop Ward** gave recognition to Griffin UMC youth group of Starkville, **Rev. Steve McDonald** and wife, and **Rev. Rayford Wallace** and wife. She also introduced two new superintendents.

The list of pastors’ new assignments were read by each district (see list). **Bishop Ward** then led the pastors all in prayer.

**Bishop Ward** gave the results of the ballots. **Sam Morris** was elected by the Clergy and **Elizabeth Cumbest** was elected by the Laity. **Rev. Puhr** gave balloting instructions. **Bishop Ward** then led us in prayer.

**Rev. Puhr**, *Journal* Committee, reported that the minutes were in order and asked that we have editorial privileges as completing work. Permission was granted by a hand vote.

**Bishop Ward** stated that the 2008 Annual Conference will meet on June 8 11, 2008.

**Cary Stockett** gave an invitation to have the Annual Conference at Christ UMC in Jackson again for 2008.

Thanks were given to all involved with the Annual Conference.

**Jim Matheny** led us in singing.

**Bishop Ward** read the results of the ballot. **Rev. Puhr** gave balloting instructions. A ballot was taken. **Bishop Ward** led us in prayer.

**Jim Matheny** led us in singing.

**Bishop Ward** read the results of the ballots. **Patricia Battle, Dewey Lane, Dr. Sara Sanders** were elected by the Laity. **Phillip Heidelberg, Karen Koons** and **Tommy Artmann** were elected by the Clergy. **Bishop Ward** led them in prayer. **Rev. Puhr** gave balloting instructions. A ballot was taken.

**Steve McDonald** made a motion that the first two Lay and Clergy delegates to Jurisdictional Conference serve as reserves during the legislative week of General Conference, and the 3rd Lay and Clergy delegates to Jurisdictional Conference be added during the plenary week as additional reserve delegates at Conference expense. It was seconded. This was approved by a hand vote.

**Bishop Ward** recognized all youth.

The Miracles offered music.

**Bishop Ward** read the results of the ballots. **Billy Keyes** and **Gaye Huff** were elected by the Laity. **Victoria Sizemore Tandy** was elected by the Clergy. She then led them in prayer. **Rev. Puhr** gave balloting instructions. A ballot was taken.

The Miracles offered music.

### COMMISSIONING SERVICE

The Miracles sang "The Lord is My Shepherd."

**Justin Sanders** did the call to worship.

**Jim Matheny** led us in singing "Lord, You have come to the Lakeshore."

A video presentation was shown, "God is Calling."

**LaDaysha Smith** led us in prayer.

The Miracles sang "I Can Only Imagine."

**Bishop Ward** gave the introduction. Name of candidates were read. Probationary Deacon was **Diane Lynne Braman**. Probationary Elders were: **Darian Elise Duckworth, Tanya Yvette Edwards Evans, Jason Wayne Franklin, Johniel Lee Henry, Jr., Justin Kyle Ivy, George Richard James, Len Edward McRaney, Allison Stacey Parvin, Gavin Lance Presley, Bradford Darrell Robinson, Eric Christopher Sanford, Amanda Lea Seward, Deanna Smith, Eugene Hunter Stockstill, Annie Louise Travis, and Jonathan Darrell Wallace.**

**Bishop Ward** gave the Charge reading from Isaiah 61:10, 62:3,10 12 and the examination of the candidates, followed by prayer with each candidate.

In closing, we were led in singing "We Rejoice" and a closing prayer by **Rev. Dawn Douglas Flowers.**

Service was concluded at 4:20 p.m.

**Bishop Ward** read the Jurisdictional ballot results. **Fred Britton, Giles Lindley, Jim Genesse** and **Lisa Garvin** were elected by the Clergy. **Bishop Ward** led us in prayer.

Conference adjourned sine die at 4:30 p.m.

## B. Condensed Minutes

### THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH THE BUSINESS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Minutes of the Mississippi Annual Conference, Held at Christ United Methodist Church in Jackson, Mississippi, from June 10 through 13, 2007. Bishop Hope Morgan Ward Presiding. Date When Organized, June, 1989. Number of This Session , Nineteenth.

#### Part I - Organization And General Business

1. Who are elected for the quadrennium (§603.7, 617):

**Secretary?**     **Roger Puhr**  
Mailing Address: 18601 Hwy 63, Moss Point, MS 39562  
Telephone: (228) 588-6546

**Statistician?**   **David Greer**  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8704; Moss Point, MS 39563  
Telephone: (228) 475-7888

**Treasurer?**     **David Stotts**  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1201; Jackson, MS 39215  
Telephone: (601) 354-0515

2. Is the Annual Conference incorporated (§603.1)? Yes

3. Bonding and auditing:

a. What officers handling funds of the conference have been bonded, and in what amounts (§617, 2511)?

b. Have the books of said officers or persons been audited (§616, 2511)? (See report of Journal, Vol II.)

Baddour Memorial Center - John Hill, Chairman of the Board, Steve Dickie, Executive Director, Jerry Harmon, Director of Finance; \$1,000,000.; Yes.

Bethlehem Center - No response

Delta Resources Center - Charles Moore, Chairman of the Board; Roger A. Smith; Thelma Barnes; Ralph King; Janice Redmond; \$20,000; Yes.

Director of Financial Administration / Treasurer (Mississippi Annual Conference) - Brack Sholoemer, Director; Dorothy Ellis; Cheryl Webb; \$1,000,000; Yes.

Edwards Street Fellowship Center - Rick Voss, Kathy Young; \$1,000,000; Yes.

Good Shepherd Community Center - Marden Boyd, Accountant, Lucille Ables, Secretary, Rev. Tommy Miller, Director, Yvonne F. Williams, Daycare Director; \$1,000,000. Each, Yes.

Gulfside United Methodist Assembly - Marian Martin, Director; Cynthia Necase, Shondel Humphrey, Irma Hawkins; \$50,000. Yes.

Lake Stephens - Joe E. Paslay, Warren C. Paslay, Sarah E. Bone; \$50,000. Yes.

Leggett Memorial UMC - No response

Millsaps College - Frances Lucas-Taucher, President; All Employees; \$2,000,000 blanket; Yes.

Mississippi Methodist Foundation - Jerry Mitchell, Executive Director; Billie Sprayberry, Treasurer; \$50,000. Each. Yes.

Mississippi Rural Center - Mary Gordner, Bookkeeper, Joyce Stephney, Executive Director; Dorothy Gray, Treasurer; Sherry McGowan, Secretary. \$2,500,000; Yes.

Mississippi United Methodist Advocate - No response

Moore Community House - Arlene Sand-McCreight, Financial Director; \$2,000,000 aggregate; Yes.

Rust College - Donald Manning-Diller, Business Manager; Gregory Sykes, Comptroller; Lillie Bolton, Gifts & Grants Coordinator; Sandra Dawkins, Head Cashier; Cynthia Thompkins, Cashier; Marjorie Sise, Business Office Receptionist; \$2,000,000; Yes.

St. Andrews Mission, McComb - Elsie Martin, Treasurer; Leslie Hendricks, Financial Secretary; \$50,000; Yes

Seashore United Methodist Assembly - Yes.

(The) United Methodist Children's Home - Ed O. Theiss, President & CEO; Lee Ann McGinty,



Conference Policy; Yes.

United Methodist Native American Mission - No response

United Methodist Hour - Connie Shelton, Executive Director; Claudia Kim Kay, Office Manager, Ruth Bryant, Executive Assistant; \$50,000; Yes.

United Methodist Senior Services - Steve McAlilly, CEO; Steven Ward, Vice President for Finance; \$250,000 blanket; Yes.

Wesley Community Center - Nell L. Grissom and Elaine Byrd; \$40,000; Yes.

Wesley Pines Camp - Ted Giordano, Director; Haley Smith; \$50,000; Yes.

Wood College - Robert Loudermilk, President; James H. Whitt, Director of Fiscal Affairs; Vicki Vaughan, Rose Reed, Bookstore. \$2,500,000; Yes.

4. What agencies have been appointed or elected?

a. Answer Yes or No for each of the councils, boards, commissions, or committees listed:

1. Board of Ordained Ministry (§634)? Yes
2. Board of Pensions (§638)? Yes
3. Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference (§2512)? Yes
4. Committee on Episcopacy (§636)? Yes
5. Committees on Investigation (§2703.2, .3)? Yes
6. Administrative Review Committee (§635)? Yes

b. Indicate the name of the agency (or agencies) in your annual conference which is (are) responsible for the functions related to each of the following general church agencies (§609.1):

1. General Council on Finance and Administration? Conference Council on Finance and Administration.
2. General Board of Church and Society? Church and Society Ministry Committee.
3. General Board of Discipleship? Education / Leader Development Ministry Committee.
4. General Board of Global Ministries? Mission Outreach (Global) Ministry Committee.
5. Higher Education and Campus Ministry? Higher Education and Campus Ministry.
6. General Commission on Archives and History? Commission on Archives and History.
7. General Commission on Christian Unity and Inter-religious Concerns? Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.
8. General Commission on Religion and Race? Commission on Religion and Race.
9. General Commission on the Status and Role of Women? Commission on Status and Role of Women.
10. United Methodist Communications? Commission on Communications.

c. Indicate the conference agencies which have responsibilities for the following functions:

1. Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries (§655)? Church and Society.
2. Disability Concerns (§652)? Church and Society
3. Equitable Compensation (§624)? Commission on Equitable Compensation.
4. Laity (§630)? Laity Ministries Committee.
5. Native American Ministry (§653)? Mission Outreach (Global) Ministry Committee.
6. Small Membership Church (§644)? Parish and Community Ministry Committee.

d. Answer Yes or No for each of the following conference or district organizations:

1. Conference United Methodist Women (§646)? Yes
2. Conference United Methodist Men (§647)? Yes
3. Conference Council on Youth Ministry (§648)? Yes
4. Conference Council on Young Adult Ministry (§649)? Yes
5. District Boards of Church Location & Building (§2518)? Yes
6. Committees on District Superintendency (§666)? Yes
7. District Committees on Ordained Ministry (§663)? Yes

e. What other councils, boards, commissions, or committees have been appointed or elected in the annual conference? Leadership Council; Committee on Ethnic Church Concerns; Committee on Pastoral Care and Counseling Concerns; Committee on Standing Rules; Committee on Resolutions & Petitions; Committee on Memoirs; Committee on Journal; Committee on Nominations; Committee on Group Insurance; Committee on Conference Program and Agenda; Committee on Courtesy; Coordinating Council on Children's Ministries., Committee on Native American Ministries, Committee on Religion and Race

5. Have the secretaries, treasurers, and statisticians kept their respective records according to the pre-

- scribed forms (§606.8)? Yes.
6. What is the report of the statistician? (See report, part II of *Journal*.)
  7. What is the report of the treasurer? (See report, page 289 of *Journal*.)
  8. What are the reports of the district superintendents as to the status of the work within their districts? (See Minutes of the Daily Proceedings.)
  9. What is the schedule of minimum base compensation for pastors for the ensuing year (§§342, 624.3)?
    - Full Connection – \$32,823
    - Probationary (educational requirements of elder completed) – \$30,197
    - Probationary (educational requirements of elder not completed) – \$27,781
    - Associate – \$27,781
    - Full Time Local Pastor – \$25,558
    - Full Time Student Local Pastor – \$23,513
  10. What amount has been apportioned to the pastoral charges within the conference to be raised for the support of the district superintendents for the ensuing year (§613.1a)? \$1,092,644
  11. What amount has been apportioned to the pastoral charges within the conference to be raised for the support of the pension and benefit programs of the conference for the ensuing year (§§613.1d, 1507)?
    - Medical Benefits - \$5,155,857
    - Pensions - \$4,452,564
  12. What are the apportionments to this conference for the ensuing year:
    - a) For the World Service Fund? \$1,611,853
    - b) For the Ministerial Education Fund? \$523,857
    - c) For the Black College Fund? \$205,597
    - d) For the Africa University Fund? \$46,065
    - e) For the Episcopal Fund? \$421,533
    - f) For the General Administration Fund? \$141,892
    - g) For the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund? \$41,375
  13. If the annual conference apportions to the local church a fund that combines two or more general apportioned funds with one another, or that combines one or more general apportioned funds with funds other than a general apportioned fund, list below for each combined fund: a) the name and amount of each general fund included in the apportionment; b) the percentage of the combined fund total that corresponds to each general fund apportionment (§§613.3d, 614.4). None
  14. Conference and district lay leaders (§§603.9, 658):
    - a) Conference lay leader: Name: Aubrey Lucas  
Mailing Address: 3200 Jamestown Rd.; Hattiesburg, MS 39402
    - b) Associate conference lay leaders: None
    - c) District and associate district lay leaders:
 

BROOKHAVEN – Pat Smith	SEASHORE – Robert Harry
EAST JACKSON – Jorge Navarette	SENATOBIA – Carol Mullen
GREENWOOD – H. C. Redmond	STARKVILLE – Larry Woodward
HATTIESBURG – John Gavin	TUPELO – Polly Bailey
MERIDIAN – Faye LaBoone	WEST JACKSON – Dora Washington
NEW ALBANY – Dalton Garner	
  15. What local churches have been:
    - a. Organized or Continued)? None
      1. New Church Start (§§260.2,.3) None
      2. Mission Congregation (§§260.1a) Seashore Mission
      3. Chartered Local Church (§§260.5) (Please list only churches chartered this year.) None
    - b. Merged (§§2545, 2546)? None
    - c. Discontinued or abandoned (§§229, 341.2, 2548)? (State which for each church listed.)
      1. New Church Start (§§260.2,.3) None
      2. Mission Congregation (§§260.1a) None
      3. Chartered Local Church (§§260.5) Yes
        - St. Mark; Cleveland – Discontinued
        - Wesley Chapel; Vaiden Charge – Discontinued

- Mashulaville – Discontinued  
 Mt. Nebo; Mathiston Charge – Discontinued  
 Mt. Zion; Seashore - Discontinued  
 Pittsboro – Discontinued  
 Rapers Chapel – Abandoned
- d. Relocated and to what address? None
- e. Changed name of church? (Example: “First” to “Trinity”)
- | Former Name | New Name        | Address                         |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| St. Matthew | New St. Matthew | 9238 Cook Rd., Bailey, MS 39320 |
- f. Transferred this year into this conference from other United Methodist conference(s) and with what membership (§§41, 261)? None
- g. What other changes have taken place in the list of churches? Name Correction – Correct spelling to be “Thraikill” as opposed to “Thirkiel.” Meridian District
16. What changes have been made in district and charge lines?
- BROOKHAVEN DISTRICT:**  
 Sandy Hook – Hopewell Charge will be dissolved. Sandy Hook will stand alone. Hopewell will stand alone.
- GREENWOOD DISTRICT**  
 Remove Cleveland: St. Mark from the Cleveland: St. Mark – Mound Bayou: Wesley Charge as it is being discontinued. Mound Bayou: Wesley will stand alone.  
 Add Chapel Hill and Barlow from the Starkville District.
- NEW ALBANY DISTRICT**  
 The Tishomingo Charge shall be dissolved. Dennis and Tishomingo will form the Tishomingo, South Charge. Paradise, Rutledge – Salem and Boggs Chapel will form the Tishomingo, Trinity Charge.
- The Ripley – Blue Mountain Charge shall be dissolved. Ripley will stand alone. Blue Mountain will stand alone.
- SEASHORE DISTRICT**  
 Remove Red Hill from the Big Point – Red Hill Charge. Red Hill will stand alone.  
 Add Big Point to Rosedale to form the Big Point – Rosedale Charge.  
 Dissolve the Clermont Harbor – Pearlinton Charge. Pearlinton will stand alone.  
 Add Clermont Harbor to Waveland to form the Clermont Harbor – Waveland Charge.  
 Remove Wesley Chapel from the Lucedale Circuit Charge. The Lucedae Circuit Charge will consist of St. James and Mt. Pleasant.  
 Add Wesley Chapel to Bolten Chapel to form the Bolton Chapel – Wesley Chapel Charge.  
 Remove Mt. Zion from the Bendale Circuit Charge, as it is being discontinued. Sweetwater will stand alone. Change the name of the Bendale Circuit Charge to Sweetwater.

## Part II - Pertaining To Ordained Ministers and Local Pastors

17. Are all the clergy members of the conference blameless in their life and official administration (§§604.4, 605.6)? Yes
18. Who constitute:
- a. The Committee on Investigation (§2703.2)? (v)  
 Principals: Robert Whiteside, Billy Owen, Elijah Henry, Tommie Cardin (lay), Bob Peden, Fint Dewese (lay), Karen Koons  
 Alternates: Eddie Rester, Jim Glass, Tommy Gilbert, George Pulliam, Marjorie Walker, Jim Roberts (lay)
- b. The Administrative Review Committee (§633)? (v)  
 Principals: Dixie Holder-Cummings, Jim Curtis, John Ed Thomas  
 Alternates: Vicki Landrum, Larry G. White
19. Who have received the certificate of candidacy for ordained ministry? (§§311, 312 —Include the names and year of certificate of all candidates for ordained ministry who have been certified or approved for continuance by the district committee on ordained ministry. Do not list as continued those licensed as local pastors in question 21 or as probationary members in question 28.)

## a. This year?

Russ, Randy EJA  
Shumaker, David EJA

White, Justin EJA  
Boyd, Lamar STA  
Hunter, Lewis M. STA

Pepper, John Wesley STA  
Richter, Raleigh F. STA

## b. Continued?

McGehee, Hollis 03 BRO  
Seal, Bob 01 BRO  
Thornhill, Bobby 02 BRO  
Thornhill, June 02 BRO  
Messner, Philip 04 WJA  
Rives, Belinda 03 EJA  
Beverly, Edna 05 GWD  
Chambers, Hattie 05 GWD  
Coleman, Mattie 04 GWD  
Elder, Shirley 00 GWD  
Forrest, Rosie 03 GWD  
Foster, Dianna 01 GWD  
Carpenter, Elizabeth 04 GWD  
Marshall, Jack 06 GWD  
McCaleb, Kari Sue 06 GWD  
Mutherey, Kriste 03 GWD  
Reed, Clara 03 GWD  
Sartor, Brad 04 GWD  
Thomas, Meril Denise 04  
GWD  
Ward, Clell G., Jr. 04 GWD  
Williams, Annie 04 GWD  
Williams, Terry 04 GWD  
Willis, Mary 04 GWD

Beatty, Leo A. 04 HAT  
Bradley, Todd E. 05 HAT  
Guthrie, James HAT  
Wells, Heather 05 HAT  
Crowell, Phillip 02 NAL  
English, David 99 NAL  
Flemons, Herman 00 NAL  
Gossett, Dennis 06 NAL  
Jones, Camilla H. 00 NAL  
Little, Barbara J. 02 NAL  
McAnally, Jason 05 NAL  
Napier, Bennie Kay 06 NAL  
Rencher, Jamie Ray 01 NAL  
Wells, Richard 05 NAL  
Flottman, Lisa 03 SEA  
Kilgore, Mike 01 SEA  
Kirby, Martha SEA  
Maugh, Celeste 03 SEA  
McLean, Anne Clayton 04  
SEA  
Peters, John W., IV 03  
SEA  
Thornton, Christopher 05  
SEA

Butler, Benjamin H. 02 STA  
Cameron, Pamela 05 STA  
Casteel, Russell 04 STA  
Clay, Peggy STA  
Dixon, Linda 99 STA  
Sanford, Emily Lauren 05  
STA  
Young, Kevin TUP  
Rogers, John Jameson TUP  
Alexander, Joel 03 WJA  
Cook, Robert 03 WJA  
Corban, William Bradford 06  
WJA  
Edwards, Vernell 03 WJA  
Griffin, Kimberly 01 WJA  
Howard, Elizabeth 03 WJA  
Magee, Frenchy 05 WJA  
Mannery, Jerry 03 WJA  
McKinley, Frederick 03 WJA  
McCoy, Gustavus 02 WJA  
Smith, Ramon 06 WJA  
Wilson, Jake 06 WJA

## c. Discontinued?

Caston, Marsha 02 WJA

20. Who have completed the studies for the license as a local pastor, are approved, but are not now appointed? (§315 — Indicate for each person the year the license was approved.)

Brown, Larry 97 BRO  
Cager, Brenda 07 BRO  
Danforth, David Beam 01  
BRO  
Deaton, Diana M. Baker 01  
BRO  
Gaston, J Walt BRO  
Lynch, Ellis 84 BRO  
McClain, Linwood O 93 BRO  
Hanna, David 84 EJA  
Hanna, Joseph 99 EJA  
Rankin, Richard 97 EJA  
Elder, Shirley A. 00 GWD  
Rouse, William 00 GWD  
Sartor, Brad\* 04 GWD  
Williams, Annie 04 GWD

Cline, Kevin Joseph 04 HAT  
Henderson, Delicia 06 HAT  
Jones, Richard Hollis 99 HAT  
Malone, Viola 97 HAT  
Boose, Patti 06 MER  
Howard, Aubrey E. 64 MER  
Malone, Charlotte 06 MER  
Crowell, Philip 02 NAL  
Palmer, Carl NAL  
Rencher, Jamie 01 NAL  
Ward, Charles Patrick 04  
TUP  
Weatherford III, John 02  
NAL  
Caldwell, Lettie 95 SEA  
Goodwin, John Jeffrey SEA

Fairley, Shirley SEA  
Kilgore, Michael T. 03 SEA  
McLean, Anne Clayton 04  
SEA  
Ruff, Garry 03 SEA  
Vice, Michael SEA  
Williams, Phyllis 04 SEA  
Clay, Peggy 07 STA  
Peters, Herman 05 STA  
Shelton, Linda 02 STA  
Stephenson, Julia 03 STA  
Veasley, Mary Ann 96 STA  
Rambo, Will 04 TUP  
Alexander, Joel 03 WJA

-21. Who are approved and appointed as: (indicate for each person the first year the license was awarded. (v)

a. Full-time local pastors (¶318.1) and what progress has each made in the course of study? (Indicate with an asterisk those who have completed the five year course of study or the M.Div. — ¶319.4):

Brooks, David* BRO	Gipson, Frank* 97 HAT	Lewelling, George Otis (RL)
Davis, Frank 14 02 BRO	James, Randy* 99 HAT	96 SEA
Gerber, Fred* 01 BRO	Napier, Samuel O. 5 04 HAT	Mitchell, Elijah 15 99 SEA
Hart, Kenny 94 BRO	Tillman, Stephen E 01 HAT	Moore, Harrell 11 99 SEA
Newsome, Burnell* BRO	Webb, Robert S 12 02 HAT	Morris, David 16 04 SEA
Peters, Don 94 BRO	Wilson, David Brooks* 94	Thornhill, Bobby 2 03 SEA
Sibley, Judy (RL) 8 97 BRO	HAT	Weaver, Betty 05 SEA
Spencer, Eddie 04 BRO/WJA	Windham, Sarah 17 HAT	Williams Jr, Theodore 17 02
Taylor, David Wayne 15 88	Anderson, Sam 06 MER	SEA
BRO	Boose, Charlie* 95 MER	Williamson, Stirman 12 03
Wallace, James L. BRO	Chambers, Mack 14 96 MER	SEA
Woodall, Diane* 97 BRO	Cooksey, Chris 06 MER	Stephenson, Tommy 18 96
Bayliss, Milford "Buddy" 06	Hampton, Gary* 97 MER	SEN
EJA	Hare, James (RL) 4 86 MER	Bray, Curtis 14 01 STA
Carpenter, Travis* 04 EJA	Harrison, Don M* 95 MER	Caufield, Jr., Chester G. 05
de la Cruz, Goyo 04 EJA	Jackson, Carl 2 85 MER	STA
Felder, Joe Girling 16 88 EJA	Maxwell, Skipper MER	Dowd, Thomas Michael 06
Gomillion, Ron EJA	Owen, Kenneth* 02 MER	STA
Morris, James* 92 EJA	Pollock, Bennie 11 MER	Forrest, Jimmy L 81 STA
Porter, Frank EJA	Randall, Pam 5 03 MER	Gage, Roosevelt 18 78 STA
Upshaw, David 17 06 EJA	Roller, Amy Pearson* 07	Jones, Dean Everette 8 03
Yearber, Kevin 01 EJA	MER	STA
Anderson, Samuel Napoleon	Roller, Paul* 07 MER	Stallings, Tyrone Michael*
2 GWD	Young, Willie J* 98 MER	99 STA
Cain, Bobby (RL)* 20 02	Downs, Walter 1 NAL	Thomas, Ronald D. 8 05 STA
GWD	Falgout, Scott 2 NAL	Coggins, Charles 7 04 TUP
Collins, Johnny L* 03 GWD	Forbus, Greg 20 04 NAL	Lampkin, Steve 99 TUP
Felts, George Eugene (RL)	Glazier, Gary Arthur 8 04	McGrew, Sue 97 TUP
GWD	NAL	Perry, Billy 9 TUP
Grant, Robert Wilson GWD	Hall, Jim 06 NAL	Wilburn, Danny 06 TUP
Jackson, Carl* 85 GWD	Peterman, James NAL	Bowdoin, Lister 1 06 WJA
Jones, Mark 3 03 GWD	Stone, Sr., Joseph Lex*	Griffin, James* 97 WJA
King Sr, Robert L* 03 GWD	NAL	May, Chance* 05 WJA
Raine, Claude* 91 GWD	Crawley, JW* 91 SEA	Miller, Beth 9 99 WJA
Wooten, Jack 12 84 GWD	Gore, Willie 12 88 SEA	Robertson, Cleavern* 91WJA
Brewer, Bobby 19 01 HAT	Heberg, Carl* 20 01 SEA	Spencer, Eddie 2 04 WJA
Chambers, Shirley 14 95 HAT	Hill Jr, Willie* 20 98 SEA	Winstead, Davis 07 WJA
Cornell, Ovee 06 HAT		

b. Part-time local pastors (¶318.2) and what progress has each made in the course of study? (Indicate with an asterisk those who have completed the five-year course of study or the M.Div. — ¶319.4):

Assink, Michael 4 93 BRO	Magee, Ethel 1 BRO	Raborn, Laurie 2 BRO
Calcote, Dennis 3 05 BRO	McClinton, Jimmy* 0 92	Smith, Carl 6 04 BRO
Crawford, Joe 0 89 BRO	BRO	Thomas, Terry 10 04 BRO
Dubose, Mike 12 02 BRO	Norrells, Jerry Donnell 99	Tillman, Richard 12 99 BRO
Killingsworth, Howard (RL)	BRO	Beauchamp, Finis P 0 04 EJA
0 BRO	Smith, Ronnie Linton BRO	Handy, Willie Lee* 0 97 EJA
Lamb, Jimmy Aaron* 93 BRO	Peters, Don BRO	Hannah, Haywood* 96 EJA
Lockett Jr, James* 0 93 BRO	Poole, Bobby 5 03 BRO	Hoskins, Glenn* 20 00 EJA
Lowe, Barbara 6 04 BRO	Preston, Daniel* 0 BRO	King, Marlin Bennett* 0 91
		EJA

Koon, Milton Glenn 0 EJA	May, Lewis D 19 93 MER	Black, Jr., James M 05 STA
Lobin, Stan 6 02 EJA	Moore, Dale 7 03 MER	Bradley, Anne Russell 3 05 STA
Shavers, James 18 98 EJA	Nicholson, Sr., Lonnie* (RL) 2 00 MER	Crawford, Ross 06 STA
Shepard, EJ 12 02 EJA	Poe, Kim J* 0 92 MER	Casey, Kenneth STA
Taylor, Barbara 4 04 EJA	Pollock, Clifford 6 01 MER	Forrest, Nelson 12 78 STA
Terrell, Dino 1 06 EJA	Raley, Paul L* 0 63 MER	Geeter, Lyndon B. 17 00 STA
Cartlidge, Robert L* 0 90 GWD	Satcher, Elbert 6 04 MER	Hinton, Eddie 11 01 STA
Cook, Juanita* 18 02 GWD	Tubby, Daniel 17 96 MER	Hinton, Jerry 17 99 STA
Cosnahan, Calvin 15 03 GWD	Alexander, W Clinton 3 99 NAL	Jefferson, Ron 11 99 STA
Forrest, James E. 3 03 GWD	Arrington, Harold* 82 NAL	Kelly, Charles 1 82 STA
Herron, Olivear 8 03 GWD	Bishop, Ricky 0 06 NAL	Lawson, Rickey 16 92 STA
Hill, Bobby E 6 01 GWD	Bonds, Jerry 06 NAL	Lowe, Franklin 6 STA
Johnson, Kenyon GWD	Darling, Daniel Sean 12 01 NAL	Malone, David STA
Reece, Ricky Lloyd 13 GWD	Dollar, Larry E 16 81 NAL	Miller Jr, Robert Glenn 6 99 STA
Ross, James L* 0 96 GWD	Ford, Rebecca Annette* 0 95 NAL	Miller, Leon 14 99 STA
Shepherd, Rickey 3 06 GWD	Gipson, Marvin* NAL	Minor, Rochelle STA
Tanner, Benton 8 00 GWD	Glover, Jimmy Milton* 0 82 NAL	Scott, Sr., Robert Payne Scott 10 94 STA
Williams, Willie* 97 GWD	Kelly, Jerry Buchannan* 0 90 NAL	Sutphin, Cary 1 06 STA
Beatty, Leonard 4 04 HAT	Kennedy, Steven Paul 1 92 NAL	Arrington, Donald Ray 3 03 TUP
Bufkin, Greg 00 HAT	McGill, Charles 1 95 NAL	Carr, Perry 0 05 TUP
Cessna, Trudy (RL) 15 HAT	Shelton, Early Michael* 0 86 NAL	Cherry, Donnell* 0 97 TUP
Crawford, Ray E 16 01 HAT	Tohill, Brownie (RL) NAL	Diggs, Christopher C. 0 03 TUP
Garvin, Joe 02 HAT	Wells, Richard 0 04 NAL	Fair, Lynn* 0 92 TUP
Hartfield, Huston* 0 95 HAT	Barnes, Elsie 16 00 SEA	Owens, Steven 0 04 TUP
Howard, Ray E 8 02 HAT	Barnes, Elvina 2 01 SEA	Parks, Glenn 3 04 TUP
Jordan, Terry 0 98 HAT	Craft, Douglas Sam 2 93 SEA	Upshaw, Harrison (RL) 0 TUP
King, Irvin 8 00 HAT	Craft, Shondreka 1 04 SEA	Armstrong, Robert N 12 99 WJA
Manning, W. Z. (RL) 0 83 HAT	Davis, Vanjo 0 93 SEA	Baylot, Sylvia 9 01 WJA
McDonald, Cecele* 99 HAT	Dedeaux, Wilmer N.* 0 95 SEA	Carroll, Robert 06 WJA
Phillips, Claude D (RL) 72 HAT	Handy, Richard 0 04 SEA	Donnell, Denise WJA
Polk, Dennis 3 02 HAT	Lightsey, Max 1 04 SEA	Greene, David 04 WJA
Porciello, Laurie 7 04 HAT	Pickering, Larry 06 SEA	Hawkins, Jr., Sam (RL) 0 07 WJA
Read, Fred (RL) 0 HAT	Tyndall, Edward (RL) 2 04 SEA	Lee Jr, Samuel (RL) 0 02 WJA
Shows, Glenn 19 98 HAT	Barton, Troy 10 SEN	Piazza, Mary Elizabeth 2 04 WJA
Smith, Jody 6 01 HAT	Brown, Kent Russell* 20 89 SEN	Taylor, Beth 9 03 WJA
Smith, Lavon 8 02 HAT	Bursi Jr, Charles 13 02 SEN	
Stepney, Godfrey 4 HAT	Flemmons, Herman 1 SEN	
Wilkes, Robert C 8 95 HAT	Lawson, Anita W. 06 SEN	
Anderson, Lynne* 0 99 MER	Myers, Walter 3 04 SEN	
Cole Sr, Theodore 6 99 MER	Wages, Jerry 17 99 SEN	
Downing, Carlotta 5 03 MER	Ward, Eddie 13 97 SEN	
Everett, Dock (RL) 0 MER	Ward, Emma 13 97 SEN	
Jones, Jimmy D. 3 98 MER	White, Kenneth 8 01 SEN	
Kinslow, Willie* 20 00 MER		
Kirtley, Frank MER		
Lucy, Curtis Dearman 9 99 MER		
Luke, Charles Rayner* 0 88 MER		

## c. Student local pastors (§318.3), and in what schools are they enrolled?

Lemmon, William Todd MSU (01) EJA	McGraw, Allen Robert MTS SEN
Sims, Kordell JSU (05) GWD	McGrew, Matthew MTS (04) SEN
Long, Jesse MTS HAT	Sappington, Larry NEC (01) SEN
Matthews, Greg O. USM HAT	Schwake, Ron MTS(01) SEN
McDonald, Alvin CAN (97) HAT	Ashford, Anthony MTS (93) STA
Murray, Anthony J. MTS (04) HAT	Broughton, Ronald Scott MSU(05) STA
McGill, Charles K. UMA(04) MER	Franklin, Jason Wayne MTS (99) STA
Miller, Thomas Coy Liberty (04) MER	McCoy, David MTS (05) STA
Ducker, William Gregory MTS (04) NAL	Robinson, Bradford D. MTS (02) STA
Thomas, Sapada Rust NAL	Stokes, Jonathan MSU (05) STA
Newton, Don E MTS NAL	Foster, John MTS TUP
Powell, Kerry MTS TUP	Henry, Domini MTS (05) TUP
White, Creighton MTS(99) NAL	Newell, Frank Michael MTS (04) TUP
Bradley, Kevin Candler (07) SEA	Montgomery, William Rust (05) TUP
Gibson, Peggy MTS (05) SEA	Owens, Steven MTS (04) TUP
Evans, Michael MTS SEN	Smith, Maurice MTS(07) TUP
Ford, Eddie Joe MTS (05) SEN	

d. Students of other denominations serving as local pastors and enrolled in a school of theology listed by the University Senate (§318.4)? Moore, Joe AL/WF EJA

e. Students of other denominations serving as local pastors and enrolled in a school of theology listed by the University Senate (§318.4)? No One

f. Persons serving as local pastors while seeking readmission to conference membership (§§364.4, 365, 367.3)? (If not in this conference indicate name of conference where serving.) No One

## 22. Who have been discontinued as local pastors (§320.1)?

Bobo, Donnie NAL	Sanders, Robert Melton 12/2006 HAT
Gray, Willie J. 03/2007 HAT	Sessions, Rodney 12/2006 HAT
McGowin, David (SP) 11/01/06 MER	Tapp, Richard 05/2007 HAT
Patton, Rose Marye 08/29/06 SEN	

## 23. Who have been reinstated as local pastors (§320.4)? No One

## 24. What ordained ministers from other Annual Conferences or Methodist denominations are approved for appointment in the Annual Conference while retaining their conference or denominational membership (§§331.8, 346.1)? (List alphabetically; indicate Annual Conference or denomination where membership is held. Indicate credential.)

Banks, John R. Memphis – OE GWD	McArn, Carl Western North Carolina – OE (retired) SEA
Foster, Michelle Western North Carolina – OPD WJA	Rhodes, Cecil Methodist Church of Southern Africa GWD
Kitchens, Ron Arkansas – OPE BRO	Smith, Crystal Salyers Holston - OE HAT
Kingsbury, Chad Downing Memphis- FD STA	Sturm, James L. West Virginia – OE SEA
Olivier, Ross Methodist Church of South Africa - OE WJA	Walters, Jon South Indiana – OE MER

## 25. What clergy in good standing in other Christian denominations have been approved to serve appointments or ecumenical ministries within the bounds of the Annual Conference while retaining their denominational affiliation (§§331.8, 346.2)? (v) (Designate with an asterisk those who have been accorded voting rights within the annual conference. Indicate credential.)

Myers III, Bruns M. – OF 10 yr Episcopal Ch EJA, Steveline, David – OF 2 yr Free Methodist BRO

## 26. Who are affiliate members: (List alphabetically; indicate annual conference or denomination where membership is held.)

a. With vote (§586.4 [v])? No One

b. Without vote (§§334.4, 344.40? (v 2/3)

Blakemore, Steven Holston Conference Wesley Biblical Seminary  
Revord, Mike West Ohio Chaplain Methodist Hosp./Memphis



NOTE: If your conference has admitted or ordained persons as a courtesy to another conference, list these persons in Question 44 only. If persons have been admitted or ordained by another annual conference as a courtesy to your conference, list these persons in Questions 27-43, whichever are appropriate, giving the date and name of the accommodating conference.

27. Who are elected as Associate Members (¶420 [1992])? (v) (List alphabetically—see note preceding Question 27):

a. ¶420 [1992] No One

b. ¶322 [2004] Booker, Linnie Juanita; Bryant, David Joseph; Twiner, Patricia Ward

28. Who are elected as probationary members (under ¶¶322, 324, 325)? (v)

a. Probationary Deacons:

1. Under the provisions of ¶324.4a, c? (v) Braman, Diane Lynne SEN

2. Under the provisions of ¶324.5? (v) No One

b. Probationary Elders:

1. Under the provisions of ¶324.4a, b? (v)

2. Under the provisions of ¶324.6? (v) No One

3. Under the provisions of ¶322.4? (v) No One

29. Who are elected as probationary members under the 1992 Discipline? (List alphabetically—see note preceding Question 27.) No One

a. Under the provisions of ¶415 (1992)? (v) No One

b. Under the provisions of ¶416.1 (1992)? (v 3/4) No One

c. Under the provisions of ¶¶416.2, 421 (1992)? (v 3/4) No One

30. Who are continued as probationary members, and in what year were they admitted to probationary membership (¶317):

Duckworth, Darian Elise BRO

Edwards-Evans, Tanya Yvette HAT

Franklin, Jason Wayne STA

Henry, Johniel Lee, Jr. TUP

Ivy, Justin Kyle NAL

James, George Richard EJA

McRaney, Len Edward MER

Parvin, Allison Stacey STA

Presley, Gavin Lance TUP

Robinson, Bradford Darrell STA

Sanford, Eric Christopher GWD

Seward, Amanda Lea NAL

Smith, Deanna HAT

Stockstill, Eugene Hunter TUP

Travis, Annie Louise HAT

Wallace, Jonathan Darrell HAT

a. In preparation for ordination as a deacon? (¶326.1)

Bowers, Christopher S. 06 MER; Davis, Julian 05 HAT; Hutto, Warren Patrick 06 HAT; Stanford, Reid 04 SEN

b. In preparation for ordination as an elder? (¶326.2)

Barlow, Roy Benjamin 05 SEA

Bittick, Stephen Karl 05 EJA

Box, Oliver James 06 TUP

Burt, Ever Jean 03 GWD

Carr, Susannah Grubbs 06 WJA

Cheney, Charlene Nicole 06 MER

Cothen, Joseph 04 GWD

Criddle, Jimmy Earl 05 TUP

Flowers, Alma Dawn Douglas 05 HAT

Haggard, Sr., Larry Joe 05 STA

Hutson, Mary Ruth 06 NAL

Jennings, Jr., Thomas Gene 05 MER

Kirby, Edwin C. 06 SEA

Lemmon, Diane Patricia Griffin 05 STA

Liu, Gerald 06 WJA

McShepard, Selber Mae 05 WJA

Mote, Carol Lynn Bowman 05 BRO

Murden, Robert Elver 05 SEA

Pearson, Andrew Nelson 05 STA

Pearson, Roy 03 HAT

Pharis, Matthew Leo Larry 05 GWD

Pitts, Rachel Evelyn 05 WJA

Powell, Kerry Lee 06 NAL

Robertson, Luther 05 SEN

Sparks, Stephen Lawrence 05 SEA

Stamps, Vera Hall 06 BRO

Tate, John Hugh 05 EJA

Trantham, Kevin 03 GWD

Warren, Gilman DeWayne 06 STA

Watson, Todd Owen 06 WJA

Wilkerson, William Henry 05 WJA

Williams, Ada C. 06 GWD

Williams, Martha 05 GWD

- c. Probationary deacons who became probationary elders? (indicate year) No One  
 d. Probationary elders who became probationary deacons? (Indicate year) No One  
 e. Probationary members who transferred from other conferences or denominations? (¶347)  
 No One
31. Who are continued as probationary members under the 1992 Discipline, what progress have they made in their ministerial studies, and in what year were they admitted to Probationary Membership (¶369.1, 417, 424 [1992]):
- a. As students in approved schools of theology? (¶417(1) [1992])—Indicate for each person the number of years completed and the year admitted to probationary membership): No One  
 b. In the advanced ministerial course of study? (¶417(2) [1992])—Indicate for each person the number of years completed and the year admitted to probationary membership): No One  
 c. Following completion of their educational requirements? (¶424(1) [1992])—Indicate for each person the year admitted to probationary membership): Ansell, Wayne 04 SEA; Haynes, Rickey Lynson 97 SEN
32. Who have been received from other Christian denominations (¶347.3): (List alphabetically—see note preceding Question 27):
- a. As Probationary Members (¶347.3a, b)? (v) (date received) No One  
 b. As Local Pastors (¶347.3a)? (v) (date received) No One
33. Who are elected as members in full connection? (List alphabetically—see note preceding Question 27. Anyone appearing on this question must also be listed somewhere in questions 34-35 or 37, unless the clergy's orders from another denomination were recognized on question 43 in a previous year.):
- a. Deacons: McGough, Oscar Marion EJA  
 b. Elders
- |                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bolden, Maxine Simmons EJA | Lambert, Mickey Trey NAL      |
| Carrubba, Earle Bryan WJA  | Lawrence, Paul Jeffrey NAL    |
| Carter, Kevin Andrew EJA   | McDonald, Tiffany Padgitt SEN |
| Douglas, Stacy Joe STA     | McDonald, Raymond Anthony WJA |
| Hilliard, Terry Lynn SEA   | Prather, Timothy Thomas TUP   |
| Howse, Gary Lee GWD        | Taylor, James Howard, III EJA |
| Keeton, Keith Russell GWD  | White, Gilbert Edwin SEA      |
| Knight, Paul Ford MER      | Wilson, Earl, III WJA         |
34. Who are elected for ordination as deacons in full connection: (List alphabetically—see note preceding Question 27)
- a. Under the transitional provisions for diaconal ministers (¶369.3)? (v 2/3) No One  
 b. After probationary membership (¶330)? (v 2/3) McGough, Oscar Marion EJA  
 c. Transfer from elder in full connection? (309.3) (v 2/3) No One
35. Who are elected for ordination as elders?
- a. Under the transitional provisions for associate members (¶369.2)? (v 2/3) No One  
 b. After probationary membership under the 1996 Discipline (¶335)? (v 2/3)
- |                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bolden, Maxine Simmons EJA | Lawrence, Paul Jeffrey NAL    |
| Carrubba, Earle Bryan WJA  | McDonald, Tiffany Padgitt SEN |
| Douglas, Stacy Joe STA     | McDonald, Raymond Anthony WJA |
| Hilliard, Terry Lynn SEA   | Prather, Timothy Thomas TUP   |
| Howse, Gary Lee GWD        | Taylor, James Howard, III EJA |
| Keeton, Keith Russell GWD  | White, Gilbert Edwin SEA      |
| Lambert, Mickey Trey NAL   | Wilson, Earl, III WJA         |
- c. Transfer from deacon in full connection? (309.3) (v 2/3) No One
36. Who have been elected and ordained deacons under the 1992 Discipline (¶369.1; ¶434 [1992]): (v) (List alphabetically—see note preceding Question 27. Indicate by an asterisk the names of persons elected but not ordained.)
- a. As associate members (¶434.1 [1992])? No One  
 b. As probationary members (¶434.2 [1992])? No One

37. Who have been elected and ordained elders under the 1992 Discipline (§369.1; §435 [1992]): (v)  
 (List alphabetically—see note preceding Question 27. Indicate by an asterisk the names of persons elected but not ordained.)  
 a. As theological graduates (§435.1 [1992]): Carter, Kevin Andrew EJA  
 b. As probationary members previously associate members (§435.2 [1992]): No One
38. What probationary members, previously discontinued, are readmitted (§363)? (v) Kirk, Bennie R.
39. Who are readmitted (§§364–366 [v], §367 [v 2/3]):  
 a. As associate members? No One  
 b. As members in full connection? No One
40. Who are returned to the effective relationship after voluntary retirement (§359.7): (v)  
 a. As associate members? No One  
 b. As probationary members? (Indicate credential) No One  
 c. As members in full connection? (Indicate credential) No One
41. Who have been received by transfer from other Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church (§§347.1, 416.5, 634.2m)? (List alphabetically. Indicate credential. See note preceding Question 27.)
- |                              |        |                                 |        |
|------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|
| Ashton, Loye B. New England  | 7/1/07 | Reiff, Joseph T. Holston        | 7/1/07 |
| Ashton, Rwth New England     | 7/1/07 | Vinson, Stephen W. Pennsylvania | 7/1/07 |
| Collins, Julie Poval Holston | 7/1/07 |                                 |        |
42. Who are transferred in from other Methodist denominations (§347.2)? (List alphabetically. Indicate credential.) No One
43. What clergy, coming from other Christian denominations, have had their orders recognized (§348): (v)  
 a) As deacons? No One  
 b) As elders? Knight, Paul
44. Who have been ordained as a courtesy to other conferences, after election by the other conference? (See note preceding Question 27. Such courtesy elections or ordinations do not require transfer of conference membership.)  
 a. Deacons in full connection? Foster, Michelle L. Western North Carolina  
 b. Elders in full connection? No One  
 c. Deacons under 1992 Discipline? No One  
 d. Elders under 1992 Discipline? No One
45. Who have been transferred out to other annual conferences of The United Methodist Church (§416.5)? (List alphabetically. Indicate credential. See note preceding Question 27.)
- |                                      |          |                                  |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|----------|
| Allen, Virginia Phillips Louisiana   | 06/01/07 | Kirk, Bennie (PD) Louisiana      | 06/01/07 |
| Allen, Augustus Massillon Louisiana  | 06/01/07 | Taylor, Mark Jason (PE) Oklahoma | 08/01/06 |
| Dorr, Wesley Patton (PD) N. Illinois | 08/01/06 |                                  |          |
46. Who are discontinued as Probationary Members (§327.6)? (v) McKenzie, David NAL; Stone, Sr., Joseph NAL
47. Who are on location?  
 a. Who have been granted honorable location (§360.1)? (Give date when this action became effective. Record Charge Conference where membership is held. Indicate credential.):  
 1. This year? (v)  
 Shaw, John Victor 07/01/07 First UMC, Sante Fe, New Mexico  
 2. Previously?  
 Oliver, H. Bufkin  
 Colenberg, John K. 04/05/89  
 Cornelius, Michael A. 06/04/86 Lebanon UMC, Oneonta, AL 35121  
 Daniel, Paul 06/92 220 W Lisa Drive, Pearl, MS 39208  
 Eakes, Fred S. Water Valley, MS  
 Gong, Ying 1995 Desoto County, 502 Rasco Rd W, Southaven, MS 38671  
 Harpole, James Young  
 Hudson, C Nolen 4662 David Court, Bay City, MI 48706  
 Loper, John O 521 Giles Lane, Madison, MS 39110

- McDole, William D 06/05/75 2395 Ridgepole Dr., #406, Dillard, GA 30537  
 Monroe, Cathy Wells 06/14/06 15203 Martin Glen Terrace, Midlothian, VA 23112  
 Morrow, Tommy 2534 Bomar Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76103-2214  
 Pittman, Tom Getwell Road, 4411 Sweet Flag Loop, Southaven, MS 38647  
 Rosenkrans III, Duane 1995 Box 2366, Starkville, MS 38671  
 Rushing, C. Frank 06/01 Porter's Chapel, 141 Morningsview Dr, Vicksburg, MS 39180  
 Stephens, Ronnie Houston 06/11/72 First UMC, 701 Magnolia Drive, Tupelo, MS 38804  
 Thomas, Mitchell Pontotoc First 102 S Main, Pontotoc, MS 38863
- b. Who on honorable location are appointed ad interim as local pastors? ¶360.2) (Indicate date and appointment.) No One
- c. Who has been placed on administrative location (¶362.4c)? (Give date when this action became effective. Record Charge Conference where membership is held. (Indicate credential.):
1. This year? (v) No One
  2. Previously? Brewer, Leland - RE - 06/95 WJA
48. Who have been granted the status of honorable location—retired (¶360.3)? (Record Charge Conference where membership is held. Indicate credential.)
- a. This year? (v) No One
  - b. Previously? No One
49. Who have had their status as honorably located and their orders terminated (¶360.2)? (v) (Give date when this action became effective. Indicate credential.) No One
50. Who have had their conference membership terminated? (Give date when this action became effective. Indicate credential.)
- a. By withdrawal to unite with another denomination (¶361.1, .4)? (v) No One
  - b. By withdrawal from the ordained ministerial office (¶361.2, .4)? (v) Tucker, John David
  - c. By withdrawal under complaints or charges (¶¶361.3, .4; 2719.2)? (v) No One
  - d. By termination of orders under recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry (¶354.5)? (v) Ashford, Jr., Wilson; Madison, Charles Michael; Penfound, Matthew R.
  - e. By trial (¶2713)? (v) No One
51. Who have been suspended under the provisions of ¶362.1c or ¶2704.2c or 2711.3? (Give effective dates. Indicate credential.) No One
52. Deceased (List alphabetically in the spaces provided):
- a. What associate members have died during the year?  
 Effective:  

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Busby, Leslie D.	12/03/1919	06/23/06
Camp, B. Frank	03/02/1931	09/19/06
Kitchens, L. C.	09/13/1932	01/18/07
Mills, William G.	12/04/1934	04/25/07

 Retired: Smith, Clarence Jude 01/14/06
  - b. What probationary members have died during the year? Indicate credential.  
 Effective: No One  
 Retired: No One
  - c. What elders in full connection have died during the year?  
 Effective: No One  
 Retired:  

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Bridewell, Joseph Albert	09/09/1914	01/24/07
Earls, Ray Clarke	06/17/1935	02/26/07
Gaddy, LaFayette Shaw	11/08/1915	06/28/06
Grammar, Glenn Roland	09/14/1925	03/31/07
Harrell, Arnell N.	07/01/1916	10/16/06
Hedgepeth, Hiram Jessie	02/09/1934	05/24/07
Humphrey, John D., Sr.		02/18/07
Johnson, Thomas Murphy	12/12/1937	08/11/06
Meadows, Archie L.	09/24/1914	07/09/06
Oliver, Algernon M.		11/02/06
Wallace, Hubert Gill	04/29/1915	10/12/06

d. What deacons in full connection have died during the year?

Effective: No One

Retired: No One

e. What local pastors have died during the year?

Active:

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death
McCord, Wayne Vincent (SP)	08/30/47	12/10/06
Watts, Marie A.	03/21/42	05/04/07

Retired:

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Address, Robert Edward	02/27/1927	07/23/06

53. What probationary or ordained members have received appointments in other Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church while retaining their membership in this Annual Conference (§§331.8, 346.1)? (List alphabetically; indicate Annual Conference where appointed. Indicate credential.)

Name	Conference			
Boone, Jimmy Michael	Alabama-West Florida	FE	NAL	06/15/07
Culbreth, Micheal	South Georgia	FE	SEN	06/13/06
Fuquay, David	Florida	FE	WJA	01/01/06
McDonald, Tiffany (Padgitt)	Minnesota	FE	SEN	07/01/07
Mosley, Albert	Eastern Pennsylvania	FE	WJA	07/01/06
Ray, Glenn	Iowa	FE	SEN	07/01/05
Shelton, Connie	North Carolina	FE	HAT	01/01/05
Shelton, Joey	North Carolina	FE	HAT	01/01/05

54. Who are the probationary or ordained members on leave of absence and for what number of years consecutively has each held this relation (§354)? Indicate credential. Record Charge Conference where membership is held.)

a. Voluntary? (v; v 2/3 after 5 years)

Abrams, Robert 06/03/98 9 SEA	Meyers, Stacey Dion (PE) 06/01/03 4 WJA
Altman, Mervyn Jonathan 07/01/07 1 HAT	Norris, Jerry 02/27/04 3 SEN
Anderson, Alvin WJA	Pearson, Roy 11/01/06 1 HAT
Buckley, Marjorie 06/08/05 2 NAL	Pittman, Greg 06/02/02 5 BRO
Grace, Whitney Ford 01/01/02 5 SEA	Thomas, Glenn 09/01/04 3 WJA
Holland, Wade 07/01/06 1 TUP	Trantham, Kevin 03/17/06 1 GWD
Martino, Eugene 06/01/03 4 SEA	Travelbee III, John 10/31/98 9 MER
Mauldin, William M. 06/08/05 2 STA	

b. Involuntary? (v 2/3) No One

c. Who have been placed on leave of absence since the last session of the Annual Conference (ad interim):

1. Voluntary? Boone, Jimmy Michael 06/10/07 NAL; Yoo, Hongsik 05/10/07 BRO

2. Involuntary? No One

d. Who on leave of absence have had their leaves terminated since the last session of the Annual Conference (ad interim)? Yoo, Hongsik 06/01/07 BRO

55. Who have been granted family leave, and for what number of years consecutively has each held this relation (§355)? (Indicate credential) (v; v 2/3 after 5 years)

a. At this session of the annual conference (include names of persons listed in Question 55b, if their leaves are continuing)?

Benefield-Pfaf, Rachel –FE 06/30/06 1	Jenkins, Sherry – FE 06/98 9
Blackwell, Sylvia- FE 06/02/02 5	Kaufman, Ann 07/01/07 2
Brooking, Chris – FE 06/30/06 1	Thomas, Jill – PE 12/31/02 5

b. Since the last session of the Annual Conference (ad interim)? No One

c. Who have had their family leave terminated since the last session of the Annual Conference (ad interim)? No One

56. Who are granted sabbatical leave (§350)? (v) (Give date when this relation became effective; if Associate Member, so indicate.) Chapman, Jerry - FE 07/01/07; Gary, Jr., George Robert - FE 07/01/07
57. What actions have been taken concerning disabled members (§358)?
- Who were granted incapacity leave since the last Annual Conference session (§358.2)? (Give effective dates): No One
  - Who have had their incapacity leave terminated since the last conference session (§358.3)? (Give effective dates of termination): No One
  - Who are granted incapacity leave at this session (§358.1)? (v)
 

Bolton, Larry D 03/01/97 10 AM	Samson, Tom L. 07/01/05 2 FE
Bond, John W. 04/01/01 6 PM	Perrine, Marilyn 07/01/06 2 FE
Crumble, Cora 09/01/02 5 FE	Phillips, Patrick Leon 07/01/07 1 FE
Davis, Harry B. 07/01/03 4 FE	Sebren, Jr. Richard R. 04/01/02 5 FL
Dial, Stephen G. 06/01/89 18 FE	Shell, Bobby Joe 07/01/90 17 FE
Glenn, Dale F. 06/01/04 3 FL	Staggs, John 07/01/07 FE
Hughley, Walter C 11/01/01 6 FE	Tucker, John Thomas 07/01/98 9 FE
McCain, Don R. 07/01/05 2 FE	Willoughby, David J. 07/01/07 1 FE
Perez-Bonilla, Carlos 01/01/04 3 FE	
58. What deacons have been granted transitional leave (§357)? (v) Beam-Ingram, Alicia 01/04/07
59. What members in full connection have been retired (§359): (List alphabetically giving full name—first, middle, last—in that order. If retiring in the interim between conference sessions (§359.2d), indicate the effective date of retirement.) (Under §359.1, no vote required; under §359.2, v; under §359.3, v 2/3)
- Deacons
- This year? No One
  - Previously? No One
 

Elders

    - This year?
 

Battiest, Charles Ray	Henry, Sr., Elijah	Mitchell, Doyle Ray
Boren, Aubrey Linden	Herndon, James Earl	Mitchell, Thomas Jerry
Brant, Robert Roy	Jackson, Jr., George	Nelson, Benjamin Charles
East, Thomas Randolph	Carradine	Sheffield, Charles Wayne
Harper, John Hamlin	McCallister, Thomas	Stokes, Ray Eldridge
Harrison, James Martin	Bertrand	Wallace, Raiford Payne
    - Previously? See Previous *Journal*.
60. What Associate Members have been retired (§359): (List alphabetically giving full name first, middle, last—in that order. If retiring in the interim between conference sessions (§356.2d), indicate the effective date of retirement.) (Under §356.1, no vote required; under §356.2, v; under §356.3, v 2/3)
- This year? Cox, James Raymond; Staudy, James Robert 12/31/06
  - Previously? No One
61. What Probationary Members have been retired (§356): (If retiring in the interim between conference sessions (§356.2d), indicate the effective date of retirement.) (Under §356.1, no vote required; under §356.2, v; under §356.3, v 2/3)
- This year? No One
  - Previously? No One
62. Who have been recognized as retired local pastors (§346.5):
- This year?
 

Cain, Bobby Ray	Nicholson, Sr., Lonnie	Sibley, Judy Powell
Glover, Jimmy Milton	Pepper, Bunyan Eugene	Smith, Phillip R.
  - Previously? See previous *Journal*.

63. Changes in clergy membership: What is the number of ordained ministers: (NOTE: The numbers in parenthesis following each category listing are the question numbers in this report form where ministers in that category are listed. The number reported below should agree with the number of names listed in the corresponding questions.)
- a. Elected as associate members?..... (27) 3
  - b. Elected as probationary members? ..... (28a, b; 29a, b, c) 17
  - c. Elected as deacons in full connection?..... (33a) 1
  - d. Elected as elders in full connection? ..... (33b) 16
  - e. Readmitted?..... (38,39a,b) 1
  - f. Retired made effective? ..... (40a,b,c) 0
  - g. Transferred in?..... (32a, 41, 42) 5
  - h. Transferred out?..... (45) 5
  - i. Discontinued as probationary members?..... (46) 2
  - j. Honorably located this year?..... (47a1) 1
  - k. Administratively located this year? ..... (47c1) 0
  - l. Withdrawn ..... (50a, b, c) 1
  - m. Termination of orders?..... (50d) 3
  - n. Terminated by trial?..... (50e) 0
  - o. Deceased..... (52a,b,c) 18
64. What is the number of:
- a. Pastoral Charges? 722
  - b. Local Churches? 1133
65. What is the number of clergy members of the Annual Conference:
- a. By appointment category and conference relationship?

NOTES:

1. Where applicable, the question numbers on this report form corresponding to each category have been placed in parenthesis following the category title. Where these question numbers appear, the number reported in that category should agree with the number of names listed in the corresponding questions.
2. For the three categories of Appointments to Extension Ministries, please report as follows: ¶335.1a, c): the number of clergy members appointed within United Methodist institutional structures, including district superintendents, or to an ecumenical agency. ¶335.1b, c): the number of clergy members appointed to extension ministries, under endorsement by the Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry ¶335.1d): the number of clergy members appointed to other valid ministries, confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference. See the *Discipline* paragraphs indicated for more detailed description of these appointment categories.)

Categories	Deacons in Full Connection	Elders in Full Connection	Probationary Deacons	Probationary Elders	Associate Members & Affiliate Members with Vote	Full-time Local Pastors	Part-time Local Pastors
Pastors and deacons whose primary appointment is to a Local Church (¶¶331.1c, 339)	15	271	9	48	31	112	175
Deacons (in full connection and probationary) serving Beyond the Local Church (Para.331.1a, b) (87)	13	0	3	0	0	0	0



**Question 65 continued...**

Categories	Deacons in Full Connection	Elders in Full Connection	Probationary Deacons	Probationary Elders	Associate Members & Affiliate Members with Vote	Full-time Local Pastors	Part-time Local Pastors
Appointments to Extension Ministries (¶316.1; 344.1a, c) (88a)	0	41	0	6	2	2	0
Appointments to Extension Ministries (¶316.1; 344.1b, c) (88b)	0	13	0	0	0	0	0
Appointments to Extension Ministries (¶316.1; 344.1d) (88c)	0	15	0	0	0	1	0
Appointments to Attend School (89)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Appointed to Other Annual Conferences (53)	0	10	0	3	1	0	1
On Leave of Absence (54a, 54b)	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
On Family Leave (55a)	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
On Sabbatical Leave (56)	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
On Incapacity Leave (57c)	0	13	0	1	1	2	0
Deacons on Transitional Leave (58)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retired (59, 60, 61)	4	274	0	2	30	74	1
Total Number, Clergy Members	33	656	12	61	65	191	177
Grand Total, All Conference Clergy Members	1185						

b. By gender and racial/ethnic identification? (NOTE: See the instruction for item 64 for guidelines to assist in the racial/ethnic identification count.)

Categories	Deacons in Full Connection	Elders in Full Connection	Probationary Deacons	Probationary Elders	Associate Members & Affiliate Members with Vote	Full-time Local Pastors	Part-time Local Pastors
Female	22	65	1	20	8	26	33
Male	11	591	11	41	57	155	144

Categories	Deacons in Full Connection	Elders in Full Connection	Probationary Deacons	Probationary Elders	Associate Members & Affiliate Members with Vote	Full-time Local Pastors	Part-time Local Pastors
Total Number, Clergy Members*	33	656	12	61	65	191	177
Grand Total, All Conference Clergy Members*	1185						
Asian	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
African American/ Black	3	88	3	9	14	63	78
Hispanic	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Native American	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
White	30	560	7	48	49	127	95
Multi-Racial	0	5	2	2	2	1	3
Total Number, Clergy Members*	33	656	12	61	65	191	177
Grand Total, All Conference Clergy Members*	1185						

\*The totals entered in these spaces should agree with the comparable totals in the bottom two lines of question 65a).

### Part III - Certification in Specialized Ministry

(¶632.2t, *The Book of Discipline*)

Note: Indicate credential of persons in Part III: FD, FE, PD, PE, AM, FL PL, SP, and lay.

66. Who are the candidates in process for certification in specialized ministry?

Biedenham, Clare- FE                      Harms, Dianne - FD                      Johnson, Sherry - FD  
Robinson, Lindsey - FE                      Wimberley, Rebecca - FD

67. Who is certified in specialized ministry? (List the areas of specialized ministry. Indicate by an asterisk those certified this year.) Robbins, Richard – FE Spiritual Formation\*

68. Who are transferred in as a certified person in specialized ministry? No One

69. Who are transferred out as a certified person in specialized ministry? No One

70. Who have been removed as a certified person in specialized ministry? No One

### Part IV - Diaconal Ministers

(Paragraph numbers in question 71-82 refer to *The 1992 Book of Discipline*)

71. Who constitute the Committee on Investigation (¶2625.4)? (v)

Principals: Joy Carr; Ed Walker  
Alternates: Patt Fiedler; Dorothy Townsend

72. Who are the candidates for diaconal ministry (¶304–305)? No One

73. Who are consecrated this year as diaconal ministers (¶307)? (v) (List alphabetically): No One

74. Who are reinstated as diaconal ministers (§313.3c)? (v) No One
75. Who are transferred in as diaconal ministers (§312)? No One
76. Who are transferred out as diaconal ministers (§312)? No One
77. Who have had their conference relationship as diaconal ministers terminated by Annual Conference action (§313.3)? (Under §313.2a, no vote; under §313.2b, v 2/3) No One
78. What diaconal ministers have died during the year?
- Effective: No One
  - Retired: No One
79. What diaconal ministers have been granted leaves of absence under §313.1a, c, d) (disability, study/sabbatical, or personal leave): (v)
- Since the last session of the Annual Conference? (Give effective date of each): No One
  - At this session of the Annual Conference? (Include names of persons listed in Question 78a, if their leaves of absence are continuing): No One
80. What diaconal ministers have been granted an extended leave (§313.1e):
- Since the last session of the Annual Conference? (Give effective date of each): No One
  - At this session of the Annual Conference? (Include names of persons listed in Question 79a, if their leaves of absence are continuing): No One
81. Who have returned to active status:
- From disability, study/sabbatical, or personal leave of absence (§313.1a, c, d)? No One
  - From extended leave (§313.1e)? (v) No One
82. Who have taken the retired relationship to the Annual Conference as diaconal ministers (§313.2): (Under §313.2b, v 2/3)
- This year? Carr, Joyce Taylor 12/31/06
  - Previously? No One

## Part V - Appointments and Concluding Business

83. Who are approved for less than full time service?
- What associate members, elders and probationary members (1992) are approved for appointment to less than full-time service, what is the total number of years for which such approval has been granted to each, and for what fraction of full-time service (in one-quarter increments) is approval granted (for purposes of equitable compensation claim and pension credit) (§338.2, 342.2, 1506.4b)? (v 3/4):
 

Ashton, Rwth ½ EJA	Dye, James 2 ¾ NAL	McAnally, Earl 1 ½ NAL
Flowers, Roger 19 ½ HAT	Gibbs, Anjohnette 17 ¾	Coker, Hiram 1 ¾ MER
Ford, Cora 11 ½ GWD	GWD	
Haynes, Rickey 7 ½ SEN	Ivy, Terry 3 ¾ HAT	
  - What deacons in full connection and probationary deacons are approved for less than full-time service (§331.7)? No One
84. Who have been appointed as Interim Pastors under the provisions of §338.3 since the last session of the annual conference, and for what period of time?
- LuQuire, Russell 12/01/06 Scooba-Binnsville MER
- Milner, James 03/01/07 Benton-Midway WJA
- Moffat, Curtis 09/10/06 Rocky Springs-Cayuga WJA
- Whiteside, Bob 01/01/07 Tunica, 1st SEN
85. What changes have been made in appointments since the last Annual Conference session? (Attach list. Include Appointments Beyond the Local Church and Appointments to Extension Ministries. Give effective dates of all changes.)
- Camp, Cathron 08/23/06 Centreville BRO
- Minor, Rochelle 09/10/06 Griffin: Assoc. STA
- Moffat, Curtis 09/10/06 Rocky Springs/Cayuga WJA
- Garvin, Joe 11/01/06 West Laurel HAT
- LuQuire, Russell 12/01/06 Scooba-Binnsville MER
- Staudy, Jimmy 01/01/07 Minter City GWD
- Pruett, Jeff 01/01/07 EM-Habitat. LA Louisiana Conf.

- Pickering, Larry 01/01/07 Clermont Harbor SEA  
 Whiteside, Bob 01/01/07 Tunica, 1st SEN  
 Piazza, Elizabeth 01/01/07 Rocky Sp./Cayuga WJA  
 Smith, Deanna 01/14/07 West Laurel HAT  
 Barkum, Nathaniel 01/14/07 Merrill Chap(Pic.Cir) SEA  
 Rhodes, John 01/14/07 N.Main, Water Valley SEN  
 McRee, James 02/01/07 Pleasant Valley HAT  
 King, Irvin 02/01/07 St. James HAT  
 Murray, Anthony 02/01/07 Pleasant Valley HAT  
 Howell, Hollis J. (retired) 02/01/07 Tanners Chapel SEA  
 Porter, Frank 03/01/07 St. Marks EJA  
 Richter, Raleigh 03/01/07 Christ, West Point STA  
 Milner, James 03/01/07 Benton-Midway WJA  
 Garvin, Joe 03/15/07 Montrose HAT  
 Gray, Willie 04/01/07 Chapel Hill HAT
86. Who are appointed to ministry to the local church and where are they appointed for the ensuing year? (Attach a list. Include: Elders, Deacons, Associates, Local Pastors, and Probationary Members.) See appt. list
87. What deacons in full connection are appointed beyond the local church for the ensuing year (§331.1a,b)? (Attach a list. Include: Deacons in full connection and probationary.)
- Ashton, Loye B. Tougaloo College EJA  
 Bowers, Christopher Disaster Recovery Center MER  
 Carr, Jimmy Executive Director SEJAC WJA  
 Collins, Julie DREAM/Parkway Heights HAT  
 Cumbest, Sheila Mississippi Conference SEA  
 Dickerson, Allison Director, Bethlehem Center WJA  
 Foster, Michelle Mississippi Conference WJA  
 Frazier, Walter L Grace Counseling Center WJA  
 Garvin, Elisabeth Anne Chaplain, Millsaps College WJA  
 Johnson, Sherry Bryant Associate Director Center for Ministry Jackson, MS WJA  
 Keen, Rusty District Program Staff TUP  
 Keen, Rusty Gilmore Foundation TUP  
 Miller, Thomas Emory Director Good Shepherd Center Vicksburg, MS WJA  
 Van Every, Eugene Coor., Child/Adolescent Development Ms Band of Choctaw Indians Philadelphia, MS EJA  
 Rollins, F Lloyd Director of Development Africa University SEA  
 Whited, Linda UM Publishing House GWD  
 Willis, Edward William DSU Wesley Foundation GWD
88. Who are appointed to extension ministries for the ensuing year? (Attach a list. Include: Elders and Probationary Members.)
- a. Within the connectional structures of United Methodism (§344.1a, c)?
- Giordano, Ted Camp Wesley Pines BRO  
 Stamps, Vera Hall Alcorn State Univ BRO  
 Heidelberg, Phillip District Superintendent BRO  
 Tillman, J. D. District Staff BRO  
 Beam-Ingram, Jim Course of Study, Director EJA  
 Lindley, Giles District Superintendent EJA  
 Owen, LaRue UM Foundation, Director of Development EJA  
 Burt, Ever Jean District Staff GWD  
 White, Vickie District Superintendent GWD  
 Pitts, Rachel Wesley Foundation MDCC GWD  
 Walker, Marjorie Wesley Foundation MUSU GWD  
 Williams, Martha Holmes CC GWD  
 Flowers, Dawn Douglas USM Wesley Foundation HAT  
 Cessna, Trudy District Staff HAT  
 Price, David District Superintendent HAT

- Shannon, Jeff Wesley Foundation JCJC HAT  
 Shelton, Connie Duke Divinity HAT  
 Shelton, Joey Duke Divinity HAT  
 Stanford, Larry Shane United Meth Hr HAT  
 Stanford, Larry Shane Conference consultant Congre Dev HAT  
 Crosby, Johnny Wesley Foundation ECCC MER  
 Thompson, Timothy District Superintendent MER  
 Beam, Jerry District Superintendent NAL  
 Gaughf, Keith NEMCC Wesley Foundation NAL  
 Hathorn, Dale Approved Evangelist NAL  
 Richardson, John Birmingham South College NAL  
 McAlilly, Bill District Superintendent SEA  
 Burnett, Carol Moore Community House, Executive Director SEA  
 Mitchell, Elijah Seashore Mission SEA  
 Culbreth, Michael South Georgia Conference SEN  
 Garrott, John Approved Evangelist SEN  
 Landfair, Sr., Ozell CCC Wesley Foundation SEN  
 McNair, Mark NWCC Wesley Foundation SEN  
 Pepper, Doug Approved Evangelist SEN  
 Ray, Glenn Dale Iowa Conference SEN  
 Sizmore-Tandy, Victoria District Superintendent SEN  
 Barham, Ron Wood Institute STA  
 Griffith, Hugh MS State Univ. Wesley Foundation STA  
 Fuquay, David Wesley Foundation/Fla Univ STA  
 Hillman, Adam Byrd Pensions Liaison STA  
 McDougald, Ron Trinity Place, Columbus STA  
 Rambo, Robert District Superintendent STA  
 Grubbs, Carl District Superintendent TUP  
 Newell, Frank M. Wesley Foundation ICC TUP  
 Shock, Roger Mississippi Conference TUP  
 Vinson, Stephen United Methodist Senior Services TUP  
 Britt, Willis District Superintendent WJA  
 Jackson, Embra Administrative Assistant to Bishop WJA  
 Casteel, Steve Mississippi Conference WJA  
 Lovett, Fitzgerald Mississippi Conference WJA  
 Mosley, Albert EPA Conference WJA  
 Prowell, Dwight Wesley Foundation, Jackson State Univ WJA  
 Reiff, Joseph T. Emory and Henry WJA  
 Youngblood, Rebecca Director, Center for Ministry WJA
- b) To ministries endorsed by the Board of Higher Education and Ministry (§344.1b, c)
- Baker, Michael US Navy BRO  
 Leverette, Walter US Navy BRO  
 Lord, Gerald Exec. Comm. on Colleges EJA  
 Stoglin, Richmond US Marine Corp GWD  
 Campbell, Charles B. US Army HAT  
 Flowers, Roger Wesley Hosp HAT  
 Young, Daniel Riley Hospital for Children NAL  
 Norris, Edward C Methodist HC Systems SEN  
 Ranager, Joseph Methodist HC Systems SEN  
 King, Marvin Morris Brown College STA  
 Richardson, James NMMC Hospice TUP  
 Armstrong, Terri Traceway Retirement Community TUP  
 Hamlin, Wayland US Army WJA
- c. To other valid ministries under the provisions of §344.1d? (v 2/3)
- Crump, A.W. Prof., Jackson State Univ. EJA

- Hall, John Robert Holmes Community College EJA  
 Knight, Gary MS State Hospital EJA  
 Payne, Nathan Joseph Atlanta Regional Hospital EJA  
 Ross, Sally Fran Lutheran Episcopal Services GWD  
 Woodard, Susan Alpha Project HAT  
 Owen, Dorothy Dale North Atlanta Tri-Hospital HAT  
 Appel, Kurt Cargill & Associates SEA  
 Dickson-Rishel, Dorothy Memorial Hosp., Gulfport SEA  
 Lobasso, Michael Crossroads Hospice of Tennessee SEN  
 Pruett, Jeffrey G. Habitat for Humanity SEN  
 Miskelly, W. Hall Cargill & Assoc TUP  
 Smith, Casey American Family Association TUP  
 Threadgill, Oma Jean Parish Nurse-Ittawamba Probe Staff TUP  
 Alexander, Martha Operation Shoestring WJA  
 Tashiro, Paul Wesley Biblical Seminary WJA
89. Who are appointed to attend school (§416.6)? (List alphabetically all those whose prime appointment is to attend school.)  
 Associate Members: No One  
 Probationary Members: Presley, Gavin Lance TUP  
 Members in Full Connection: Matheny, Kristen Williams - GWD
90. Where are the diaconal ministers appointed for the ensuing year (§310) [1992 *Discipline*]? See appt. list.
91. What other personal notations should be made? (Include such matters as changes in pension credit (§1506.6), corrections or additions to matters reported in the "Business of the Annual Conference" form in previous years, and legal name changes of clergy members and diaconal ministers.)  
 Question 85 – Holland, Wade – Should not have been listed as on involuntary leave, but rather voluntary leave.
92. Where shall the next Conference Session be held (§603.2, 3)? Jackson, Mississippi

## C. 2007-2008 Appointments

### *Appointment Codes*

<p>DM DIACONAL MINISTER  DR RETIRED DIACONAL MINISTER  AF AFFILIATE MEMBER  AM ASSOCIATE MEMBER  PD PROBATIONARY DEACON  FD DEACON IN FULL CONNECTION  FE ELDER IN FULL CONNECTION  PE PROBATIONARY ELDER  OA ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCE  OD DEACON MEMBER OF OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCE  OE ELDER MEMBER OF OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCE OR OTHER METHODIST DENOMINATION  OP PROBATIONARY MEMBER OF OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCE</p>	<p>OF FULL MEMBER OF OTHER DENOMINATION  RD RETIRED DEACON IN FULL CONNECTION  RE RETIRED FULL ELDER  RA RETIRED ASSOCIATE MEMBER  RP RETIRED PROBATIONARY MEMBER  RL RETIRED LOCAL PASTOR  FL FULL TIME LOCAL PASTOR  PL PART TIME LOCAL PASTOR  SP STUDENT LOCAL PASTOR  LP OTHER LOCAL PASTOR  LM CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER  SY OTHER SUPPLIES</p>
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### *Brookhaven District*

<p><b>District Superintendent-Phillip Heidelberg- FE (4)</b>  Adams-Kenny Hart-FL (2)  Barlow-Michael Lynn Assink-PL (15)  Barlow Circuit-Jimmy McClinton-PL (2)  Beauregard-Carl Smith-PL (6)  Bethel-Howard Killingsworth-RL (4)  Brandon Bay/St. James- Charles (J.D.)  Tillman)-FE (6)  Bridgeville-New Hope-James Lockett, Jr.-PL (24)  Brookhaven: First-H Wayne Webster-FE (3)  Brookhaven: Jackson Street-Allen King-FE (2)  Brookhaven: Kynett-Donald Lee Peters-FL (4)  Bude-William Sanford-RE (2)  Centreville-Cathron Camp-RA (2)  Columbia Circuit-David Ray Young-FE (7)  Columbia Valley-Hub Chapel-Tommy  Charles Greer, Sr.-FE (7)  Columbia: First-Charles Thomas Atkins-FE (3)  Crystal Springs: New Zion-Arthur Lewis-FE (1)  Crystal Springs-Mt. Pleasant-John Mark  Branning-FE (4)  Ebenezer-Aaron Lamb-PL (3)  Fayette-Community-Laurie Raborn-PL (1)  Felder-Fred Gerber-FL (1)</p>	<p>Foxworth-Reed Houston-SY (14)  Gallman-Dan Gibson-SY (1)  Georgetown-Providence-Ivan Cray-SY (1)  Gloster-David Brooks-FL (6)  Hazlehurst: First-David Steveline-OF (2)  Hazlehurst: Mt Sinai-Wilbert Charles  Bryant, Sr.-AM (16)  Hopewell-Tyler Bridge-SY (1)  Hopewell MarshHill-Robert Craton Seal, Jr-  SY (7)  Johnston Chapel-Allen Dearing-FE (2)  Kokomo-Dennis Calcote-PL (2)  Lampton: New Zion-St. Paul-Bobby E.  Dailey-FE (3)  Liberty-TBS  Liberty Circuit-Marvin Eanos-SY (2)  Lorman-Curtis Gibson-SY (2)  Magnolia: First-Philip R. Gerber-RE (2)  Magnolia: St. James-Ethel Hill Magee-PL (1)  Mallalieu-Charles Earl Brister, Jr.-RE (5)  McComb: Centenary-Karen Koons-FE (2)  McComb: Centenary-Pat Schott-FD (5)  McComb: Pearl River Ave- Fred Gerber-FL (1)  McComb: St. Andrew's Church-Felisto  Mutoya-SY (2)  McComb: St. Paul-Joseph Crawford-PL (19)  Meadville-David Earl Cox-FE (5)  Monticello-Daniel Speed-FE (2)  Mt. Pleasant-Adams-Richard Andre</p>
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Tillman-PL (12)  
 Mt. Carmel-George Cutrer-SY (2)  
 Natchez: Grace-Darian Duckworth-PE (1)  
 Natchez: Jefferson Street-Ed Temple-FE (1)  
 Natchez: Jefferson Street-Helen Faye  
 Hudnall-FD (5)  
 Natchez: Lovely Lane-Kingston-Frank  
 Davis-FL (4)  
 Natchez: St Johns-Barbara Lowe-PL (1)  
 New Bethel/Oak Grove-Jerry Norrells-PL  
 (2)  
 New Fork-Thirkiel-Daniel Preston-PL (10)  
 New Hebron/Bethesda-Michael Dale  
 Dubose-PL (9)  
 New Hope Memorial-Terry Thomas-PL (4)  
 New Hope-Sweetwater-Carol Lynn Mote-PE  
 (3)  
 Pisgah-Larry Wallace-FL (2)  
 Pleasant Grove-David Wayne Taylor-FL (4)  
 Pleasant Valley-Zion Ridge-Joseph  
 Crawford-PL (16)  
 Roxie-Bobby Poole-PL (5)  
 Roxie-William Jennings Poole-RE (4)  
 Saint Mary's-Mount Salem-David Bryant-  
 AM (13)  
 Sandy Hook-Ron Kitchen-OP (1)  
 Sartinville-Carolyn Fulgham Webster-FD (3)  
 St. Paul-J.D. Tillman-FE (1)

Summit-Loyd Versie Calcote-RE (7)  
 Tilton-John Maki-FE (1)  
 Tylertown-Nell Maki-FE (1)  
 Union Church-Burnell Newsome-FL (5)  
 Washington-Church Hill-Diane L. Woodall-  
 FL (7)  
 Wesson: Decell Memorial-Ronnie Smith-FL  
 (2)  
 White Oak-Eddie Spencer-FL (5)  
 Woodville-Macedonia-Van Moore-AM (1)

### **Extension Ministry**

Brookhaven District(Staff)-Judy Sibley-RL  
 (1)  
 Brookhaven District (Staff)-J.D. Tillman-FE  
 (1)  
 Camp Wesley Pines (Dir)-Ted Giordano-  
 AM (11)  
 US Navy Chaplain-Michael Baker-FE (5)  
 US Navy-Walter N. Leverette-FE (20)  
 Wesley Fnd (Dir) Alcorn Univ-Vera Hall-  
 Stamps-PE (2)  
 Wesley Fnd.(Dir) SWCC-Kim Stotts  
 Burkett-SY (2)  
 Wesley Fnd (Dir) Co-LinCC-Louis  
 Burghard-SY (1)

### **East Jackson District**

**District Superintendent-William Giles  
 Lindley-FE (2)**  
 Andrew Chapel-Harrell Booth Poole-RE (8)  
 Brandon: First-(Senior)-Kelly Eugene Pope-  
 FE (4)  
 Brandon: First-(Assoc)-Linda Rickman-FD  
 (5)  
 Brandon: First-(Assoc)-James H Taylor, III-  
 FE (4)  
 Brandon: First-(Assoc)-Travis Carpenter-FL  
 (1)  
 Brandon: Trinity-Elbrist Mason-FE (2)  
 Braxton-Sampson Spivey Burton, II-FE (4)  
 Burns-Gasque Chapel-Pleasant Hill-John  
 Robert Hall-FE (1)  
 Canton-Leon Collier-FE (10)  
 Canton: First-C. Joseph Landrum-FE (2)  
 Canton: First (Assoc)-Todd Sanders-FE (1)  
 Canton: Little Zion-James Earl Shavers-PL  
 (7)  
 Canton: St John-Dianne Powell Harms-FD  
 (5)  
 Carthage: First-Thomas C. Hawks-FE (2)  
 Carthage: Wesley-Haywood I Hannah-PL  
 (2)

Conway-Barbara Taylor-PL (4)  
 Crossgates-(Senior)-John Clark Moore-FE  
 (2)  
 Crossgates-(Assoc)-Rwth Samson Ashton-  
 FE (5)  
 Crossgates-(Education)-Oscar Marion  
 McGough-FD (4)  
 D'Lo-Bethany-Glenn A. Cain-SY (7)  
 Drakes-Glenn A. Hoskins-PL (4)  
 Evergreen-Kevin A. Carter-FE (2)  
 Fannin-Stephen Karl Bittick-PE (3)  
 Florence: Marvin-Carol Lynette Little-FE  
 (1)  
 Flowood-Finis Beauchamp-PL (4)  
 Forest-Larry Glynn Patrick-FE (1)  
 Forest Charge-Robert Edward Brown-FE (7)  
 Forest: Trinity Mission Church-Goyo de la  
 Cruz-FL (5)  
 Forest Grove-TBS  
 Freeny-Sebastopol-Todd Lemmon-SP (1)  
 Greenfield-Milton Thomas Whatley-FE (1)  
 Green Grove-Dino Terrell-PL (2)  
 Greer Chapel-Maxine Simmons Bolden-FE  
 (4)  
 Harrisville-Joseph A. Moore-SP (2)

- Holly Bush-Eugene A. Van Every-FD (10)  
 Homewood-High Hill-Carr-Kevin Yearber-FL (1)  
 Independence-C. Stan Lobin-PL (4)  
 Jackson: Christ (Senior)-R.Carrington Stockett, III-FE (3)  
 Jackson: Christ (Assoc)-George Richard James-PE (1)  
 Jackson: Christ (Assoc)-Vicki Watkins Landrum-FE (1)  
 Jackson: Christ (Assoc)-Charles Hallford-FE (2)  
 Jackson: Christ (Assoc)-David R. Upshaw-FL (2)  
 Jackson: St. Mark's (Senior)-James Williams Matheny-FE (1)  
 Jackson: St. Mark's (Assoc)-Mitchell Cochran-FE (5)  
 Jackson: St. Mark's (Music)-Sandra Thomas-FD (12)  
 Jackson: St. Mark's (Youth)-Frank Porter-FL (1)  
 Johnson Chapel-Sheldon Thomas-SY (4)  
 Kalem-George Brantley Butler-RA (2)  
 Lena-Jefferson Edington Williams-SY (8)  
 Lillian Circuit-Noah Lee Moore-FE (3)  
 Lodebar-John Floyd Carter-RE (20)  
 Lone Pine-Todd Sanders-FE (1)  
 Madden-Jerry Monroe Williamson-RE (10)  
 Madison (Senior)-C. Henderson Rasberry-FE (7)  
 Madison (Assoc.)-Ronald G. Gomillion-FL (2)  
 Madison (Youth)-W.A. (Bill) Barksdale, Jr.-FE (5)  
 Madison: St Matthew's (Senior)-C. Rodney Borders-FE (2)  
 Madison: St Matthew's (Assoc)-Harold Claude (Rusty) White-FE (1)  
 Magee: First-Barry Lee Male, Jr.-FE (4)  
 Mendenhall-Bradford E. Hodges-FE (2)  
 Metro Jackson: New Church-John Hugh Tate-PE (1)  
 Monterey-Milton Koon-PL (1)  
 Morton Circuit-E. J. Shepard-PL (5)  
 Morton Circuit (Asst. to Pastor)-Joseph B. Hicks-RA (5)  
 Morton: First-Edward P. Saunders-FE (2)  
 Mount Pleasant-Willie L. Handy-PL (2)  
 Pearl: First-Brian Thomas Gordon-FE (1)  
 Pearl: McLaurin Heights-Douglas(BB) Watson-FE (1)  
 Pelahatchie: First-Gulde-Eugene Banes-FE (2)  
 Pelahatchie: Little Zion-James L. Morris-FL (6)  
 Puckett-Sampson S. Burton, II-FE (7)  
 Raleigh-Unity-Mary Stewart-FE (3)  
 Rexford- Joseph A. Moore-SP (2)  
 Rials Creek-Milford (Buddy) Bayliss-FL (1)  
 Richland-Marshall Gilbert Jenkins-FE (1)  
 Ridgeland: First-John C. (Chuck) Meador-FE (2)  
 Sharon-Todd Sanders-FE (1)  
 Shiloh-William Sanford Dodd-FE (2)  
 Singleton-Scott Berry-SY (1)  
 St. James-Marlin Bennett King-PL (8)  
 Taylorsville: First-Bethel-Joe Girling Felder-FL (8)  
 Thornton Chapel-C. Joseph Landrum-FE (2)  
 Walnut Grove- Thomas C. Hawks-FE (2)  
 Harpersville-Larry Glynn Patrick-FE (1)  
 Wesleyanna-James Beam-Ingram-FE (2)
- Extension Ministry**  
 Atlanta Reg Hospl (Emrg)-Joseph Payne-FE (15)  
 Center for Ministry(COS)- James Beam-Ingram -FE (2)  
 Exec. Comm. on Colleges (Southeastern Assoc)-Gerald Lord-FE (17)  
 Holmes Community College-John Robert Hall-FE (3)  
 Jackson State Univ.-Alfonso Wadsworth Crump, Jr.-FE (4)  
 MS State Hospital (Chaplain)-Gary Knight-FE (1)  
 MS UM Fnd(Dir of Development)-LaRue Owen-FE (1)  
 Univ of MS(Student)-Kristen W. Matheny-FE (5)
- Deacons Appointed Beyond the Local Church**  
 MS Band of Choctaw Indians (Child/Adol Coord)-Eugene A. Van Every-FD (8)  
 Tougaloo College(Professor)-Loye B. Ashton-FD (1)

### *Greenwood District*

- District Superintendent-Victoria L. White-FE (1)**  
Acona-Black Hawk-Enon-Rickey Lloyd Reece-PL (4)  
Avon-Glen Allan-Clint Edward Ware-FE (2)  
Barlow-Kordell Sims-SP (2)  
Barwick-James Earp Forrest-PL (3)  
Belzoni Circuit-Anjohnette W. Gibbs-FE (20)  
Belzoni: First-Swiftown-Keith Russell Keeton-FE (3)  
Benoit-Pace-David E. Rhea-RE (10)  
Binford Chapel-James Earp Forrest-PL (5)  
Boyle-Linn-John Robert Banks-OE (2)  
Carrollton-Joseph H. Cothen, III-PE (1)  
Chapel Hill-Leslie Keith Williams-FE (1)  
Cleveland: First-Billy Norman Owen-FE (5)  
Cleveland: St. Luke-Shipman Chapel Dixie R. Holder-Cummings-FE (2)  
Mound Bayou: Wesley-Kenyun LaCale Johnson-PL (2)  
Columbiana-Midway-Robert Louis King, Sr.-FL (5)  
Drew-Robert Wilson Grant, Jr.-FL (1)  
Durant: First-West-Billy Earnest Develin-AM (4)  
Ebenezer (Holmes)-Jack Earl Wooten III-FL (1)  
Epworth-Olivear Herron-PL (5)  
Galilee-Treadwell-Cora Givhan Ford-FE (2)  
Georgeville-Franklin-Bobby Eugene Hill-PL (5)  
Glendora-Gary Lee Howse-FE (5)  
Goodman-Bobby Ray Cain-RL (5)  
Greenville: First-Phillip Steven Dearman-FE (3)  
Greenville: Grace-Cecil Rhodes-OE (1)  
Greenville: Hope Ministries-Matthew L. Pharis (Co- pastor)-PE (1)  
Greenville: Hope Ministries-Stephen Tyrone Cook (Co- pastor)-FE (3)  
Greenville: Revels-Matthew L. Pharis (Assoc)-PE (1)  
Greenville: Revels-Stephen Tyrone Cook (Senior)-FE (10)  
Greenville: Trinity-Davis Roy Carothers, Jr.-FE (3)  
Greenwood: Decell-Robert L. Cartledge-PL (15)  
Greenwood: First-Valley Hill-Glenn Ervin Seefeld-FE (7)  
Greenwood: First-Valley Hill-Audrey Rebecca Wimberley-FD (4)  
Greenwood: St. John's-Mitchell Granville McDonald-FE (1)  
Greenwood: Wesley-Ever Jean Burt-PE (1)  
Grenada: First-Guss Jenkins Shelly-FE (1)  
Grenada: Grace-Gore Springs-Leslie Keith Williams-FE (2)  
Grenada: Vincent-Carl Ezekial Jackson-FL (1)  
Holcomb-Rickey Lee Shepherd-PL (2)  
Hollandale-Eric Sanford-PE (1)  
Indianola: Christ-Susie Aline Jones-FE (1)  
Indianola: First-David A. Hill-FE (1)  
Indianola: First-Elisha Allen Bailey, Jr.-RE (20)  
Indianola: Raspberry-Mark Anthony Jones-FL (5)  
Inverness-Caile-Isola-Ray Neal Daniel, Jr.-FE (2)  
Itta Bena: First-Mitchell Granville McDonald-FE (1)  
Itta Bena: Samuel Chapel-Marjorie Walker-FE (6)  
John Wesley-Walden Chapel-Martha Marie Williams-PE (3)  
Kilmichael Parish-Andrea Kersh Johnson-FE (2)  
Leland-Cecil Rhodes-OE (1)  
Lexington: First-Jack Earl Wooten III-FL (1)  
Martin Grove-James L. Ross-PL (11)  
Merigold-Billy Norman Owen-FE (5)  
Minter City-Jimmy R. Staudy-RA (6)  
Moorhead-Sunflower-Franklin Wilson Ray-RE (5)  
Ebenezer: Mt. Zion-Kordell Sims-SP (2)  
Poplar Springs-Good Hope-Johnnie Lee Collins-FL (12)  
Rollins-Willie Williams-PL (6)  
Rosedale-Gunnison-Travis Hugh Holder-Cummings-FE (2)  
Ruleville Circuit-Claude Raine-FL (13)  
Ruleville: First-Gary Lee Howse-FE (5)  
Shady Grove-Kilmichael: Mt.Zion-Benton C. Tanner-PL (4)  
Shaw-Susie Aline Jones-FE (1)  
Shelby-Robert Wilson Grant, Jr.-FL (1)  
Sidon-Joseph H. Cothen, III-PE (1)  
Spring Grove-Rocky Hill-Walter C. Hughley-FE (3)  
Spring Hill-Sheldon Vernard Williams-SY (4)  
Union Memorial-Johnnie Lee Collins-FL (8)  
Vaiden-Calvin Brister Cosnahan-PL (1)  
Vaiden: Haven-Juanita W. Cook-PL (2)  
Winona: Haven-Carrollton: Vincent-Ada C.

Williams-PE (2)  
 Winona: Moore Memorial-New Hope-  
 Lawrence A. Creel-FE (1)

### Extension Ministry

US Marines (Chaplain)-Richmond E.  
 Stoglin-FE (3)  
 Greenwood District (Staff)-Ever Jean Burt-  
 PE (1)  
 Lutheran Episcopal Svcs-Sally Fran Ross-FE  
 (1)  
 Wesley Fnd. HCC-Martha Marie Williams-  
 PE (2)

Wesley Fnd. MDCC-Rachel Evelyn Pitts-PE  
 (6)  
 Wesley Fnd. MVSU-Marjorie Walker-FE (6)

### Deacons Appointed Beyond the Local Church

General Bd of Discipleship-Linda R.  
 Whited-FD (20)  
 Wesley Fnd. DSU-William Edward Willis-  
 FD (4)

## Hattiesburg District

**District Superintendent-David S. Price-FE**  
 (5)  
 District Superintendent-David S. Price -FE  
 (6)  
 Antioch-Orville Glenn Freeman-AM (7)  
 Asbury-Jason Edward Harms -FE (1)  
 Bassfield-Stephen E. Tillman-FL (7)  
 Batson-Richard Tapp-SY (6)  
 Bay Springs Circuit-Shirley Chambers-FL  
 (6)  
 Bay Springs-Holders-John Calvin Wood-  
 AM (5)  
 Beaumont: Bolton Chapel-RC Wilkes-PL  
 (12)  
 Boyles Chapel-Orville Glenn Freeman-AM  
 (2)  
 Brooklyn-Chris Klingenfus-PL (2)  
 Buckatunna-State Line-John Willis  
 Cochran-RE (5)  
 Carson-Goodhope-Glenn Shows-PL (3)  
 Cedar Grove-Sylvarena - Fred H. Read-RL  
 (4)  
 Chapel Hill-Willie James Gray-SY (9)  
 Clara-Jesse F Long-SP (5)  
 Collins-Timothy T. Beard-FE (6)  
 Crossroads-Dennis Polk-PL (2)  
 Dixie-Bobby L. Brewer-FL (3)  
 Dudley Chapel-Terry J. Jordan-PL (11)  
 Ellisville: First - Jeffrey Stephan Shannon-FE  
 (5)  
 Fairfield-Gregory O. Matthews-SP (4)  
 Eminence-Timothy T. Beard-FE (6)  
 Glade-Mary Cecele McDonald-PL (9)  
 Hattiesburg: Bentley Chapel-St John-  
 Godfrey Stepney-PL (2)  
 Hattiesburg: Court Street-Bruce Jerry Case-  
 FE (3)  
 Hattiesburg: Court Street (Assoc)-Laurie  
 Porciello-PL (2)  
 Hattiesburg: Glendale-Roger A. Flowers-FE

(9)  
 Hattiesburg: Grandview-W. Z. Manning-RL  
 (3)  
 Hattiesburg: Heritage-Thomas E. Artmann  
 Jr-FE (8)  
 Hattiesburg: Heritage(Assoc)-James Porter-  
 FE (1)  
 Hattiesburg: Heritage(Assoc) -Patrick  
 Hutto-PD (2)  
 Hattiesburg: Main Street (Lead)-Vicki Loflin  
 Hughes-FE (2)  
 Hattiesburg: Main Street (Teaching)- Larry  
 Shane Stanford-FE (2)  
 Hattiesburg: Main St (Diaconal) -Ed  
 Walker-DM (19)  
 Hattiesburg: Parkway Heights-Thomas  
 Edwin Rester-FE (2)  
 Hattiesburg: Parkway Heights (Assoc)-Julian  
 Lamar Davis, Jr.-PD (3)  
 Hattiesburg: Parkway Heights (Assoc)-  
 Jonathan Wallace-PE (1)  
 Hattiesburg: Parkway Heights (Associate)-  
 David Carey Sellers-FE (3)  
 Hattiesburg: St Paul-Mattie D. Gipson-FE  
 (4)  
 Hattiesburg: West Lake-Greg Bufkin-PL (2)  
 Hebron- Sessions Polk-RE (1)  
 Hebron(Wayne County)-Randy G. James-  
 FL (5)  
 Heidelberg-Joe Lofton-RE (1)  
 Hickory Grove-Sammy Napier-FL (4)  
 Laurel: First-Donald Leslie Patterson-FE (3)  
 Laurel: Franklin-Gitano-David Slaughter-FE  
 (2)  
 Laurel: Kingston-Mark E. Covington-FE (8)  
 Laurel: Mallalieu-Frank Lee Gipson-FL (6)  
 Laurel: St Paul-Eddie David Brown-FE (4)  
 Laurel: West Laurel-De Smith-PE (2)  
 Louin-Read's Chapel-Leonard A. Beatty-PL  
 (4)

- Lumberton Circuit-Claude D. Phillips-RL (14)  
 Lumberton-Maxie-Hillman Barlow Miller-FE (3)  
 McLain-James Edwards-RE (16)  
 McLain Circuit-Ray Howard-PL (6)  
 McLaurin-Ray E. Crawford-PL (6)  
 Mize-Glenn Howell-RE (2)  
 Montrose-Garlandville - Joe Garvin-PL (1)  
 Moselle-Rodney Smith-RA (1)  
 Mount Olive(Jones County)-Rodney Smith-RA (2)  
 Mount Olive: St. James-Irvin King-PL (2)  
 Mount Olive-Ovee Cornell-FL (2)  
 Mount Zion-Billy Joe Hayes-RE (2)  
 New Augusta-Beaumont-Terry Alan Ivy-FE (5)  
 Oak Grove-Robert Mark Anderson-FE (6)  
 Overt-Cecele McDonald-PL (1)  
 Paulding-Tanya Evans-PE (1)  
 Petal-David Wilson-FL (1)  
 Philadelphia-Mark E. Covington-FE (5)  
 Pleasant Grove-Randy G. James-FL (7)  
 Pleasant Valley-Anthony J. Murray-SP (2)  
 Pleasant Valley-James McRee-RE (1)  
 Prentiss-Santee-Charles Waddell-FE (2)  
 Providence-Elbert Lavon Smith-PL (6)  
 Purvis-Talawah-Curtis Lamar Cain-FE (4)  
 Richton-Lamar Massingill -FE (3)  
 Salem-Jody L. Smith-PL (2)  
 Sand Hill-Elbert Lavon Smith-PL (2)  
 Sandersville-De Smith-PE (1)  
 Seminary/Oakdale-Grover C. Glenn, III-FE (2)  
 Soules Chapel-Eugene Covington-RE (4)  
 Stringer-Old Bay Springs-Jimmy D. Dobson-FE (7)  
 Sumrall-Crystal Salyers Smith-OE (1)  
 Vossburg-Joe Lofton-RE (1)  
 Wayne County Circuit-Jody L. Smith-PL (7)
- Wayne Haven-Mamie C. Weaver-Sarah Windham-FL (1)  
 Waynesboro Circuit (Lead)-Annie Travis-PE (2)  
 Waynesboro Circuit (Assoc)-George Price-RL (2)  
 Waynesboro: First - Robert Paul McDonald-FE (2)  
 Wesley Chapel-Huston Hartfield-PL (4)  
 Williamsburg-Lone Star-Rob Webb-FL (1)  
 Winchester-Jesse F. Long-SP (5)

### **Extension Ministry**

- Alpha Project (Exec Dir)-Susan L. Woodard-FE (11)  
 Hattiesburg District (staff)-Trudy Cessna-RL (4)  
 St Joseph Hosp-(Chaplain)-Dorothy Dale Owen-FE (19)  
 United Methodist Hour (Preacher/Program Director) - Larry Shane Stanford-FE (2)  
 US Army(Chaplain)-Charles Burton Campbell-FE (5)  
 Wesley Fnd JCJC (Dir) Jeffrey S. Shannon-FE (5)  
 Wesley Fnd USM (Dir)-Dawn Douglas Flowers-PE (3)  
 Wesley Hospital (Chaplain)-Roger A. Flowers-FE (23)  
 Conference Congregational Development Consultant - Larry Shane Stanford-FE (2)  
 Duke Divinity School (Staff)-J. Joseph Shelton-FE (4)  
 Duke Divinity School (Staff)-Connie M. Shelton-FE (4)

### **Deacon Appointed Beyond Local Church** DREAM-Julie P. Collins-FD (1)

### **Meridian District**

- District Superintendent-Timothy Charles Thompson -FE (2)**  
 Andrew Chapel-Gilbert H. Prince-FE (2)  
 Bethel-Hubert Rutherford, Sr.-RA (14)  
 Bethel-James Chapel-Lonnie Nicholson-RL (9)  
 Chunky-Gerald A. Chaney-RL (2)  
 Cleveland Charge-Thomas Gene Jennings-PE (2)  
 Cokers Chapel-Paul Roller - FL (1)  
 Collinsville-Thomas Alan Randall-AM (2)  
 Concord-Don M. Harrison-FL (2)  
 Cooks Chapel-Mars Hill-Thomas Coy Miller-SP (6)  
 Cooper's Chapel-George Barry Skelton-FE (2)  
 Coy-Stallo-Britton Hoover (Skipper) Maxwell-AM (1)  
 Daleville-Wilton D. Pigott-RE (8)  
 Decatur-Johnny J. Crosby-FE (5)  
 DeKalb Circuit-H. Owen Gordon, Jr.-FE (5)  
 DeKalb Parish-Delmar Wayne Bass, Sr.-FE (6)  
 DeKalb-Union-Richard Williams-AM (3)  
 Desoto-Hongsik Yoo-FE (1)  
 Desoto-Quitman Circuit-Willie A. Kinslow-

- PL (4)  
 Desoto-Shubuta-Mack A. Chambers-FL (2)  
 Elizabeth-Lauderdale:Pleasant Grove-Elbert Satcher-PL (4)  
 Enterprise-Don M. Harrison-FL (2)  
 Enterprise Circuit-James William Hare-RL (34)  
 Hickory-Frank Kirtley-PL (2)  
 Lake Charge-Rebecca Smith-SY (1)  
 Lake Circuit-Clifford A. Pollock-PL (7)  
 Lauderdale-Larry Davis Wilkinson, Sr.-AM (11)  
 Lauderdale(Assoc)-James Martin Harrison-RE (1)  
 Lynville-Mellen-Troy (Ted) Ellis Dukes, Jr. – SY (1)  
 Marion-Paul Ford Knight-FE (2)  
 Meridian Parish-Sam Anderson – FL (1)  
 Meridian: Bonita-Lewis Douglas May-PL (5)  
 Meridian: Central-Len D. Bobo-DM (4)  
 Meridian: Central-Tommy D. Gilbert-RE (14)  
 Meridian: Central(Assoc)-Amy Roller-FL (1)  
 Meridian: Central- Steven Charles McDonald-FE (1)  
 Meridian: Central-Robert H. Peden-FD (13)  
 Meridian: Druid Hills-Lost Gap-David William Meadows-AM (6)  
 Meridian: East End-Samuel Jay Hull-RE (11)  
 Meridian: Hawkins Memorial-Hiram Coker-FE (1)  
 Meridian: Oak Grove-Dale Edward Moore-PL (5)  
 Meridian: College Park-Kenneth Owen-FL (1)  
 Meridian: Poplar Springs Drive-Robert Noel Gill-FE (4)  
 Meridian: Haven-Daleville: St Mark-Cynthia A. Cross-PE (5)  
 Meridian: St. Paul-St. Elizabeth-Ludrick Himmick Cameron-FE (2)  
 Meridian: Wesley-Curtis Dearman Lucy-PL (2)  
 MS UM Choctaw Mission-Jon Walters-FE (1)  
 MS UM Choctaw Mission(Assoc)-Daniel Lee Tubby-PL (5)  
 Newton First-Thomas W. Sorrel-FE (4)  
 North Bend-Charles Rayner Luke-PL (4)  
 Pachuta-George A. Pugh-FE (9)  
 Philadelphia Parish-Willie J. Young-FL (4)  
 Philadelphia Southside-Hope-Kimmy J. Poe-PL (7)  
 Philadelphia: First-Henrys Chapel-Fred S. Britton-FE (3)  
 Pleasant Grove-Paul Ford Knight-FE (2)  
 Pleasant Grove(Assoc)-Lynne Elizabeth Anderson-PL (6)  
 Pleasant Hill-Kenny McGill-SP (1)  
 Porterville-Charles Alfred Robbins-RE (8)  
 Preston-Deemer-Bennie Arthur Pollock-RL (9)  
 Quitman: First-Shubuta-William Hilton Dowling, Sr.-FE (2)  
 Quitman: First-Shubuta (Youth Worker)-TBS  
 Quitman: Grace-Shelby Singleton-AM (2)  
 Rose Hill-Kathy Price-SY (1)  
 Rose Hill-Garlandville-Theodore Cole, Sr.-PL (8)  
 Sageville-Pamela E. Randall-FL (1)  
 Sandtown-Longino-Jeffery Lee Switzer-FE (8)  
 Scooba Circuit-Jimmy David Jones-PL (4)  
 Scooba-Binnsville-Russell LuQuire – RE (1)  
 Shubuta Parish-Charlie R. Boose-FL (10)  
 Spring Hill-Paul L. Raley-PL (25)  
 New St. Matthew-Dock Everett-RL (3)  
 St. Peter-Meridian:Wesley Chapel-Charlene N. Cheney-PE (2)  
 Stonewall-Chris L. Cooksey-FL (2)  
 Suqualena-Jimmie E. Gunn-RA (7)  
 Sylvester-Wesley Chapel-Gary Hampton-FL (4)  
 Tabernacle-Carlotta Marie Downing-PL (3)  
 Union-Mt. Zion-Len Edward McRaney-SP (3)  
 Wesley Chapel-Pamela E. Randall-PL (4)
- Extension Ministry**  
 Wesley Fnd-ECCC-Johnny J. Crosby-FE (5)
- Deacons Appointed Beyond the Local Church**  
 Disaster Recovery Center-Chris Bowers-PD (2)

### *New Albany District*

- District Superintendent-Jerry Beam-FE (2)**  
 Abbeville Charge-Juanita Booker-AM (1)  
 Ailesville Charge-Harold Arrington-PL (2)  
 Ashland: William Vance Kemp -RE (13)  
 Baldwin: First-Asbury, Robert McCoy- AM (7)  
 Belmont-Greg Forbus-FL (2)  
 Biggersville/Shady Grove-Jimmy Glover-RL(11)  
 Blue Mountain-Jerry Bonds-PL (1)  
 Booneville: Christ-Lebanon-Keith Gaughf-FE (8)  
 Booneville: First-Phillip Box- FE (5)  
 Booneville: Grace/Thrasher-Gary Glazier-FL (2)  
 Carolina-Pisgah: Dwain Whitehurst-FE (1)  
 Corinth: Box Chapel-Scott Falgout-FL (1)  
 Corinth: Christ-Steve Kennedy-PL (5)  
 Corinth: First-Andy Cotten-FE (2)  
 Corinth: Gaines Chapel -Tony Pounders-FE (5)  
 Corinth: Mt. Carmel-Hank Story-RE (5)  
 Corinth: Mt Moriah-Sapada Thomas-SP (4)  
 Crossroads-William C. Alexander-PL (9)  
 East Prentiss Parish-Steve Powell-SY (4)  
 Falkner-Daniel Darling-PL (7)  
 Golden Chapel-Old Bethel-Bobby Hankins-RE (1)  
 Hickory Flat-Brownie Tohill- RL (8)  
 Hopewell/Indian Springs-Rick Wells- PL (2)  
 Ingomar/Mt. Zion-Kerry Powell-PE (2)  
 Iuka: First-Jon Kaufman-FE (1)  
 Iuka North-Steve DeVore-FE (1)  
 Iuka South-Aubrey Boren-RE (1)  
 Iuka South (Spring Hill) (Assoc.)-J.B. Burns-SY (4)  
 Iuka West-Wayne Napier-FE (5)  
 Jumpertown-David Huffman-FE (3)  
 Kossuth/Pleasant Hill-Trey Lambert-FE (3)  
 Liberty-Walter Downs-FL (2)  
 Lowry Circuit-Michael (Doc) Shelton-PL (22)  
 Lowry (Assoc)-Scott Falgout-FL (3)  
 Mt. Pleasant/Brownfield-Larry Dollar-PL (25)  
 Myrtle/Ebenezer-Dennis Fink-FE (6)  
 New Albany: Bethlehem-Jeff Lawrence-FE (5)  
 New Albany: Calvary/Mt. Olivet-Creighton White-SP (4)  
 New Albany: First-Bruce Taylor-FE (2)  
 New Albany First (Assoc)-Amanda Seward-PE (1)  
 New Albany Glenfield-Earl Cooper-RA (5)  
 New Albany: Mallalieu/St. Mary-W.T. Mayfield-FE (19)  
 Oxford: Burns/Hammitt Hill-Deborah Palmer-FE (4)  
 Oxford: Burns/Hammitt Hill(Assoc)-Marvin Gipson-PL (2)  
 Oxford: Christ/Cambridge/Abbeville-Jim Petermann-FL (3)  
 Oxford East-Dennis Gossett-SY (3)  
 Oxford: The Orchard-Pat Ward-SY (1)  
 Oxford: University UMC-Warren Black, Jr.-FE (12)  
 Oxford: University UMC(Assoc)-Claire Dobbs-FE (4)  
 Oxford South, Taylor-Rebecca Annette Ford-PL (13)  
 Pine Flat-Chris Kelly-SY (2)  
 Oxford: St. Andrews-John Kramer-FE (5)  
 Potts Camp-Don Newton-SP (3)  
 Rienzi-Jerry Kelly-PL (11)  
 Ripley: Adkins Chapel/Union Grove-James Dye-FE (7)  
 Ripley: First-Andy Stoddard-FE (1)  
 Ripley: Moses Chapel-Joe Stone, Sr.-FL (5)  
 Ripley: St. Paul-Joe Stone, Sr.-FL (13)  
 Salem, Friendship, Union Hill-Kyle Ivy-PE (1)  
 Tippah Circuit-William G. Johnson-FE (4)  
 Tishomingo South Co-pastor-Earl McAnally-FE (2)  
 Tishomingo South Co-pastor-Ricky Bishop-PL (2)  
 Tishomingo Trinity-Charles McGill-PL (2)  
 Walnut-Mary Ruth Hutson-PE (10)  
 Wheeler/Meadow Creek-Jim Hall-FL (2)
- Extension Ministry**  
 Approved Evangelist-Herbert Dale Hathorn- FE (5)  
 Riley Hospital Chaplain-Daniel Young-FE (11)  
 Wesley Fnd NEMCC-Keith Gaughf-FE (8)  
 Wesley Fnd-Ole Miss-Donald (D.) Merricks-SY (1)  
 Birmingham Southrn College (Chaplain)-John Richardson-FE (1)



*Seashore District*

- District Superintendent: William T. McAlilly-FE (2)**  
 Americus Parish: Crossroads-Refuge—William Gregory Ducker—SP (1)  
 Americus Parish: Pleasant Hill-Salem—Gilbert Eddwin White—FE (4)  
 Bay St. Louis: Main Street—Frederick Lee Brooks, III—FE (6)  
 Bay St. Louis: Valena C. Jones-Holmes Chapel—Bobby McGill—FE (14)  
 Big Point-Rosedale—Kevin C. Bradley—SP (1)  
 Biloxi: Beauvoir—Sally Beville—FE (2)  
 Biloxi: Beauvoir (Assoc)—Elijah Mitchell—FL (1)  
 Biloxi: First—Gary Dwayne Thompson—FE (5)  
 Biloxi: Heritage—David Lee Cumbest—FE (5)  
 Biloxi: Leggett Memorial—James Lee Sturm—OE (5)  
 Biloxi: St. Paul-Gulfport: Mt. Pleasant—Lindsey Robinson—FE (1)  
 Bolton Chapel-Wesley Chapel-H. C. Hill—RA (1)  
 Bonnie Chapel—J A Sharp—RE (16)  
 Byrd-Wesley—Carl Heberg—FL (2)  
 Caswell Springs—Roger Harold Puhr—FE (2)  
 Cedar Lake—William Earl Matthews—FE (11)  
 Clermont Harbor-Waveland—Victor Chatham—FE (1)  
 Coalville—Joseph Harry Reynolds—FE (4)  
 Delisle: Mt. Zion—Rose Mary Hayes Williams—FE (12)  
 Diamondhead—David Lamar Newton—FE (2)  
 Fayard Chapel—Bill Milsted—SY (1)  
 Gateway—Stephen Lawrence Sparks—PE (2)  
 Gautier: First—Ronald Al Stanley—FE (11)  
 Gulfport: Burton Memorial—Stirman L. Williamson—FL (5)  
 Gulfport: First—Charles Andrew Johnson—FE (1)  
 Gulfport: Handsboro—Robert Wayne Ansell—PE (2)  
 Gulfport: Haven Chapel—Wilmer Nathaniel DeDeaux—PL (11)  
 Gulfport: Ramsay Memorial—Michelle Ke Bailey—FE (7)  
 Gulfport: St. Mark-Riley Chapel—Zachary C. Beasley—FE (18)  
 Gulfport: Trinity—James Richard Curtis—FE (1)  
 Gulfport: Trinity (Assoc.)—Betty Weaver—FL (2)  
 Hurley—Thomas Randolph East, Jr.—RE (1)  
 Leakesville—Wanda Lou Knighton—FE (2)  
 Long Beach: Christ—Patrick Thompson—FE (3)  
 Long Beach: First—James Peter Genesse—FE (6)  
 Long Beach: First (Assoc)—Roy Benjamin Barlow—PE (3)  
 Lucedale Circuit—Willie Gore—FL (3)  
 Lucedale: First—Willis Ray Poole—FE (7)  
 Lucedale: Grace—Harrell Moore—FL (2)  
 Mentor—Bobby Thornhill—FL (5)  
 Midway—Patricia Ward Twiner—AM (1)  
 Mississippi City—Roderick Elliot Dickson-Rishel—FE (8)  
 Moss Point: Dantzler Memorial—David B. Greer—FE (3)  
 Moss Point: St. Paul—Robert E. Pittman—FE (1)  
 Nugent—Larry Hudson Hilliard—FE (4)  
 Ocean Springs: St. James—Peggy Gibson—SP (2)  
 Ocean Springs: St. Paul—Christopher Oris Cumbest—FE (1)  
 Ocean Springs: St. Paul (Assoc—Min. of Evangelism)—Clifton Louis Burris—FE (2)  
 Ocean Springs: St. Paul (Assoc—Min. of Missions & Children)—Leanne Bennett Burris—FE (2)  
 Ocean Springs: Wesley—David C. Keller—AM (4)  
 Pascagoula: Eastlawn—Gene Ford Vance—FE (1)  
 Pascagoula: Faith—Edward A. Tyndall—RL (4)  
 Pascagoula: First—James Twiner—FE (1)  
 Pascagoula-Gautier—J. W. Crawley—FL (8)  
 Pass Christian: First—Terry Lynn Hilliard—FE (4)  
 Pass Christian: St. Paul—Theodore R. Williams, Jr.—FL (4)  
 Pearlinton—Richard F. Handy—PL (1)  
 Picayune Circuit—Gloria Hogan McKinney—FE (3)  
 Picayune Circuit (Assoc)—Nathaniel Barkum—SY (1)  
 Picayune Circuit—(Assoc)—Vanjo Davis—PL (7)  
 Picayune: First—David L. Lowery—FE (4)  
 Picayune: Trinity—John Marion McCay, III—FE (4)  
 Poplar Head-Saucier—Eddie Kirby—PE (2)  
 Poplarville—Toby Eugene Lofton—FE (3)  
 Red Hill—Cecil Locke—SY (1)

Roberts Chapel—Otis George Lewelling—RL (12)  
 Safe Harbor—Thomas Lee Potter—FE (1)  
 Shipman—Winborn Chapel—Carl McArn—OE retired (2)  
 St. Rock—Elvina Barnes—PL (2)  
 Summerville—Davis Chapel—Willie Lee Hill, Jr.—FL (9)  
 Sweetwater—Douglas Sam Craft—PL (6)  
 Sweetwater (Assoc)—Shondreka B. Craft—PL (4)  
 Tanners Chapel—Max Lightsey—PL (1)  
 Vancleave—Mt. Pleasant—Robert Elver Murden—PE (1)  
 White Plains—Robert DeWitte Jones, Jr.—RE (7)  
 Wiggins: Bond—Larry Pickering—PL (1)  
 Wiggins: First—Larry Gene White—FE (6)  
 Wiggins:H.A. Brown Memorial—Carolyn Ann Abrams—FE (15)

### Extension Ministry

Cargill Associates—Kurt Appel—FE (4)  
 Gulfport Mem. Hospital (Cntr for Behav Health)—Dorothy  
 Jane Dickson—Rishel—FE (10)  
 Moore Community House (Dir)—Alice Carol Burnett—FE (5)  
 Seashore Mission (Dir)—Elijah Mitchell—FL (3)

### Deacons Appointed Beyond the Local Church

Africa Univ. (Office of Dev.)—Felix Lloyd Rollins—FD (9)  
 Conf. Ministerial Services (Dir)—Sheila R. Cumbest—FD (5)

### Senatobia District

#### District Superintendent—Victoria Sizemore—Tandy—FE (5)

Bakers Chapel—Charles Harold Reed—FE (1)  
 Barton—Waid Wilkes—RE (5)  
 Batesville:First—Pat W. Ludlam—FE (2)  
 Batesville: St. Paul—Kent Russell Brown—PL (8)  
 Byhalia—James Biedenham, Jr.—FE (1)  
 Charleston—Tippo—Tommy Stephenson—FL (1)  
 Clarksdale: First—Billy Ray Stonestreet—FE (6)  
 Clarksdale: Haven—Ozell Landfair, Sr.—AM (2)  
 Clarksdale: St. Pauls—Jeffre H. Dalton—FE (2)  
 Cockrum—Lewisburg—Mark McNair—FE (3)  
 Coffeetown—Danny Harold Minnix—AM (1)  
 Coldwater—Arkabutla—Rickey L. Haynes—PE (5)  
 Como—Wesley Chapel—George Randolph Owen—FE (4)  
 Como Parish—Gary Newton—SY (4)  
 Courtland Charge—Larry Sappington—SP (4)  
 Crenshaw—Michael Lobasso—FE (5)  
 Eudora—Lake Cormorant—Edward C. Norris—FE (7)  
 Fountainhead—Allen McGraw—SP (2)  
 Free Springs—Troy Barton—PL (2)  
 Getwell Road—William T. Beavers—FE (8)  
 Greenleaf—Palestine—Joseph R. Lawson—AM (2)  
 Hernando—Danny Neil Dabbs—FE (7)  
 Hernando(Discipleship)—Amy Lann Daniels—

FD (7)  
 Hinds Chapel—Horn Lake—Cyrus Ray Owens—FE (8)  
 Holly Springs: Asbury—Charles Edward Moses—FE (1)  
 Holly Springs: Asbury—Calvins Chapel—Charles Edward Moses—FE (1)  
 Holly Springs: Asbury—St. Marys—Eddie Joe Ford—SP (8)  
 Holly Springs: Asbury—Strickland—McDonald—Herman Flemmons—PL (4)  
 Holly Springs: Asbury—Taylors Chapel—Keith Mason—SY (1)  
 Holly Springs:First—Waterford—John Milton Boyd—FE (3)  
 Independence—Hebron—Clare Biedenham—FE (1)  
 Lifespring—Rick Williams—FE (9)  
 Longtown Charge—Matthew McGrew—SP (4)  
 Longtown Charge(Pleasant Grove)—Kenneth White—PL (6)  
 Love Station—Charles Joseph Bursi, Jr.—PL (6)  
 Lula—Friars Point—Luther M Robertson, Jr.—PE (5)  
 Lyon—Howard Charles Langford—SY (10)  
 Marks—Lambert—Charles D. Simmons—FE (8)  
 Mineral Wells—Scott Gregory Larsen—FE (7)  
 Mineral Wells (Minister of Discipleship)—Catherine Larsen—FD (7)  
 Minor Memorial—Donald Lee Russell—FE (7)  
 Mt. Pleasant—R. Scott Broughton—SP (1)  
 Oakland Charge—James Clay Baker—RE(19)

Olive Branch: Maples Memorial-John W. Sudduth, Jr.-FE(3)  
 Panola Charge-John Douglas Pepper-FE (7)  
 Paris-TBS  
 Pleasant Hill-David Charles Laird, Jr.-FE (3)  
 Pope Charge-Michael Dwayne Evans-SP (3)  
 Rice's Chapel-Early Grove-Walter Myers-PL (3)  
 Robinsonville-Donald Duncan Lewis-RE (4)  
 Sardis-Davis Chapel-Dayna Goff-FE (1)  
 Senatobia: First-Eugene L. Horton-FE (8)  
 Senatobia: First-Ron Schwake-SP (5)  
 Sledge-Michael Lobasso-FE (5)  
 Southaven:First-Jimmy C Glass-FE (5)  
 Trinity (Co-pastor)-Eddie Eugene Ward-PL (6)  
 Trinity (Co-pastor)-Emma Sue Ward-PL (6)  
 Tunica: First-E. Ray Branch-FE (1)  
 Tutwiller Parish-Cecil Jerry Wages-PL (8)  
 Victoria-Red Banks-Anita Lawson-PL (2)  
 Water Valley: First-Bethlehem-Barry Dickerson-FE (3)  
 Water Valley: North Main-John B Rhodes-SY (4)

Webb-Sumner-Cecil Jerry Wages-PL (9)

### **Extension Ministry**

Appvd. Evangelist-John Douglas Pepper-FE (6)  
 Appvd. Evangelist-John Garrott-FE (2)  
 Habitat for Humanity(LA Conf)-Jeff Pruett-FE (1)  
 Iowa Conf (346.1)-Glenn Ray-FE (5)  
 Meth. Hospl Memphis (Chaplain)-Edward Norris-FE (20)  
 Meth. Hospl Memphis (Chaplain)-Joe Ranager-FE (14)  
 MN Conf(346.1)-Tiffany Jo McDonald-FE (1)  
 S GA Conf (346.1)-J. Michael Culbreth-FE (2)  
 Wesley Fnd. CCC (Dir.)-Ozell Landfair, Sr.-AM (2)  
 Wesley Fnd.-NWCC(Dir.)-Mark McNair-FE (3)

### **Starkville District**

#### **District Superintendent-Robert E. Rambo-FE (1)**

Ackerman: First-Bryan Carrubba-FE (1)  
 Ackerman: Mt. Hermon-Ronald S. Jefferson-PL (9)  
 Artesia- New Hope-Walt Porter-RE (1)  
 Artesia-New Hope (Assoc)-Nancy Bishop-FD (1)  
 Bellefontaine-Cary Sutphin-PL (2)  
 Brooksville Circuit-Jerry Hinton-PL (1)  
 Brooksville- Crawford-Howard N. Carroll-RL (4)  
 Buffalo-Ethel-Leon Miller-PL (4)  
 Caledonia-Ronald McDougald-FE (4)  
 Cedar Bluff-Siloam-Wesley Pepper-SY (1)  
 Columbus Circuit-Anthony Ashford-SP (5)  
 Columbus: Broadacres-Ronald D. Thomas-FL (3)  
 Columbus: Central-Prentiss M. Gordon, Jr.-FE (2)  
 Columbus: First-Samuel O. Morris-FE (6)  
 Columbus: First (Assoc.)-Stylon A Proctor-FE (5)  
 Columbus: First (Assoc.)-Chad D. Kingsbury-OD (3)  
 Columbus: First (Assoc.)-Anne Russell Bradley-PL (3)  
 Columbus: St. James-Fredrick Henry Brown-RE (3)

Columbus: St. James(Wrights Chapel)-Ethel Parker-SY (1)  
 Columbus: St. Stephens-James M. Black-PL (4)  
 Columbus: Wesley-Andrew Nelson Pearson-PE (1)  
 Ethel-Adam Byrd Hillman, Jr.-RE (7)  
 Eupora: First-Trey Harper-FE (1)  
 Eupora: Liberty-Jimmy L. Forrest-FL (5)  
 Kosciusko Circuit-Chester G. Caufield, Jr.-FL (5)  
 Kosciusko: First-James Melvin Salter-FE (6)  
 Kosciusko: First-Betsy Hutchison-DM (26)  
 Kosciusko: Wesley-Arthur Louis Johnson-FE (2)  
 Lebanon-Raleigh Richter-SY (1)  
 Longview Circuit-Eddie Hinton-PL (2)  
 Longview- Adaton-Bradford Darrell Robinson-SP (5)  
 Louisville: First-Michael F Childs-FE (3)  
 Louisville South-Larry Joe Haggard, Sr.-PE (3)  
 Louisville West-Thomas M. Dowd-FL (3)  
 Louisville: Hopewell-Charles W. Kelly-PL (1)  
 Louisville: Maple Springs-David Malone-PL (2)  
 Louisville: Piney Grove-David Malone-PL (3)

- Louisville: Wesley-David McCoy-SP (3)  
 Maben-Jonathan Stokes-SP (3)  
 Macon Circuit-Robert Glenn Miller, Jr.-PL (16)  
 Macon: First-Stacy Joe Douglas-FE (1)  
 Macon: St. Paul Circuit-Robert Payne Scott, Sr.-PL (6)  
 Mathiston-Franklin Cordell Lowe-PL (6)  
 McAdams-Lamar Boyd-SY (1)  
 McCool-Doyle Mitchell-RE (1)  
 Nanih Waiya-Inge Halbert-RE (1)  
 Noxapater-G. DeWayne Warren-PE (3)  
 Noxubee Circuit-Rickey E. Lawson-PL (7)  
 Oktibbeha Clay(Jones Chapel)-Ross Crawford-PL (4)  
 Oktibbeha Clay(Plair)-Kenneth Casey-PL (2)  
 Oktibbeha Clay(Lindsey Chapel)-Kenneth Casey-PL (3)  
 Oktibbeha Clay(Rock Hill)-Jerome Wilson-SY (1)  
 Palestine-Harold Doyle Robinson-RE (4)  
 Shaeffer's Chapel-Curtis Bray-FL (6)  
 Shuqualak-Michael Porter Evans-FE (3)  
 Shuqualak: Asbury-Antra Geeter-SY (2)  
 Starkville: Aldersgate-George Buell-FE (1)  
 Starkville: First-Danny R Rowland-FE (5)  
 Starkville: First (Assoc)-Allison S. Parvin-PE (2)  
 Starkville: First (Assoc)-Jason Wayne Franklin-SP (2)
- Starkville: Griffin-Eddie Lee Jones-FE (6)  
 Starkville: Griffin (Assoc)-Rochelle Minor-PL (2)  
 Starkville: New Zion-Tyrone Michael Stallings-FL(10)  
 Sturgis: Boyd Chapel- Roosevelt Gage-FL (5)  
 Sturgis- Big Creek-Ronald Jerry Barham-FE (4)  
 Webster Circuit-Nelson Forrest-PL (20)  
 Weir: First Unity- Salem-Lyndon B. Geeter-PL (7)  
 Weir- Salem-Owen Weddle-SY (1)  
 West Point: Christ-Mike Hunter-SY (1)  
 West Point: First-Donald Lee Bishop-FE (4)  
 West Point: St. Paul-Dean Everette Jones-FL (7)  
 Whitehall-Diane G. Lemmon-PE (3)

### Extension Ministry

- Morris Brown College TRIO Prog-Marvin King-FE (37)  
 MS Conf Pension Liaison-A. Byrd Hillman, Jr.-RE (7)  
 Trinity Place (Chaplain)-James Ronald McDougald-FE (5)  
 Wesley Fnd-MSU-Hugh Griffith, Jr.-FE (13)  
 Wesley Fnd.-Fla. U. (346.1)-David Fuquay-FE (2)  
 Wood Institute-Ronald Jerry Barham-FE (4)

### Tupelo District

#### District Superintendent-Carl W. Grubbs-FE (5)

- Aberdeen: First-Robert Lawrence Maugh, Jr.-FE (1)  
 Aberdeen: St Mark-Sue Crowder McGrew-FL (1)  
 Aberdeen: St Peter-Benjamin Wax-FE (32)  
 Aberdeen: St Peter-(Assoc) Jeffery E. Riddle-SY (5)  
 Algoma-Oliver Box-PE (2)  
 Amory: First-Warren Robert Coile-FE (1)  
 Amory: St Andrews-William Timothy Sisk-FE (1)  
 Amory: St Matthews-William Timothy Sisk-FE (1)  
 Amory: St James/Spruell Chapel-Johniel L. Henry, Jr.-PE (1)  
 Amory: St James/Spruell Chapel-(Assoc)-Donald Arrington-PL (5)  
 Becker-Greenbrier-Thomas R. Sheffield-RE (7)  
 Belden-Danny Wilburn-FL (2)  
 Bruce-Rex Alan Wilburn-FE (7)
- Calhoun City: Lewis Memorial-David Scott Wright-FE (3)  
 Carolina-Jimmy Criddle-PE (3)  
 Friendship-Harden's Chapel-William Harold Manning-FE (3)  
 Fulton: First-James A. Fisher-FE (2)  
 Fulton: First (Assoc)-Frank M. Newell-SP (2)  
 Greenwood Springs-Ronald Michael Ratliff, Jr.-SY (4)  
 Hamilton-Michael Edwin Lips-FE (5)  
 Houston North-Darrell Sanderson-AM (2)  
 Houston South-Stephen A. Lampkin-FL (2)  
 Houston: First-Walter E Goldsmith-FE (3)  
 Mantachie-Charles Ronnie Goodwin-FE (12)  
 Mooreville-Sammy Joe Washburn-AM (7)  
 Nettleton: First-Shiloh-Wallace B. Cason III-FE (4)  
 Nettleton: Palestine-Christopher C. Diggs-PL (5)  
 Nettleton: Pleasant Grove-Perry Lincoln Carr-PL (2)

New Chapel-Big Hill-Glenn Parks-PL (4)  
 New Hope Chickasaw-Donnell Cherry-PL (6)  
 Okolona: First-Frank R. Millender-FE (2)  
 Okolona: First-(Assoc) William E. Harrison-RE (22)  
 Okolona: Mount Pisgah-Billy Perry-FL (2)  
 Okolona: Mount Pisgah-(Assoc) Preston D. Everett-SY (5)  
 Ozark-(Co-pastor) James C. Threadgill-RL (3)  
 Ozark-(Co-pastor) Oma Jean Threadgill-RL (1)  
 Pittsboro-Billy Q. McCord-RE (4)  
 Plantersville-Lynn Fair-PL (10)  
 Pleasant Valley-Liberty-TBS  
 Pontotoc Parish-Maurice Smith-SP (1)  
 Pontotoc Parish-(Assoc) Domini Henry-SP (3)  
 Pontotoc Parish-(Assoc) Maurice McIntoh-SY (2)  
 Pontotoc: Fairview-Robbs-Ginger Jones Holland-FE (2)  
 Pontotoc: First-Brian F. Scott-FE (2)  
 Prairie Mount-Phillip Colyer-SY (2)  
 Saltillo-Timmy A. Green-FE (17)  
 Shannon-Edward Truman Thompson-FE (3)  
 Smithville-John Clinton Burkes, Jr.-FE (2)  
 Snowtown-Steven G. Owens-PL (3)  
 Thaxton-Ecru-William Montgomery-FL (3)  
 Tranquil-Grady's Chapel-Harrison Upshaw-RL (2)  
 Tremont-Eugene Stockstill-PE (3)  
 Tremont-(Assoc) Casey M. Smith, Jr.-FE (3)  
 Tupelo: Cornerstone-Charles E. Coggins-FL (4)  
 Tupelo: First-Andrew Ray-FE (2)  
 Tupelo: First-(Assoc) Elizabeth Raigan Miskelly-FE (3)

Tupelo: First-(Assoc) Timothy Thomas Prather-FE (4)  
 Tupelo: First-(Youth) Roger N. Shock-FE (1)  
 Tupelo: St Luke-Richard Michael Hicks-FE (9)  
 Tupelo: St Mark-Donny R. Riley-AM (4)  
 Tupelo: St Paul-George R. Pulliam-FE (25)  
 Tupelo: The Orchard-Bryan D. Collier-FE (10)  
 Tupelo: Wesley-Raymond J. Rooney, Jr.-FE (3)  
 Vardaman-John T. Foster-SP (3)  
 Verona-Palmetto-William Don Sparks-FE (3)

### **Extension Ministry**

American Family Assoc-(Staff)-Casey M. Smith, Jr.-FE (16)  
 Cargill Associates-William Hall (Rocky) Miskelly-FE (8)  
 Itawamba Cnty Probe Staff(Parish Nurse Dir)-Oma Jean Threadgill-RL (3)  
 MS Conf(Dir of Youth/Young Adults)-Roger Shock-FE (1)  
 MS Meth Senior Svcs-Stephen L. Vinson-FE (1)  
 North MS Medical Ctr (Chaplain)-James Richardson-FE (14)  
 Traceway Manor-(Chaplain)-Terri Armstrong-FE (10)  
 Wesley Fnd-ICC-(Dir)-Frank M. Newell-SP (2)

### **Deacon Appointed Beyond the Local Church**

Tupelo Dist Prgram Staff-Steven P. (Rusty) Keen-FD (4)

### **West Jackson District**

**District Superintendent-Willis Britt-FE (4)**  
 Anguilla/Grace-Lannis May-FE (3)  
 Asbury/Kingsley Chapel-Sam Lee, Jr.-RL (1)  
 Benton Circuit: Couparle/Mt Pleasant-Cleavearn R. Robertson-FL (17)  
 Benton/Midway-Will Wilkerson-PE (1)  
 Benton: Wesley Chapel-Sam Hawkins-RL (1)  
 Bolton: Memorial-John Eric Pridmore-FE (4)  
 Bolton: Memorial-Lisa Ann Pridmore-FE (4)  
 Bovina/Edwards-Lister Bowdoin-FL (1)  
 Bradley Chapel-Harry Hawkins-RE (3)  
 Byram: New Covenant-Jerome Goddard-LM (2)

Cary: Goodman Memorial-Beth Miller-FL (1)  
 Cayuga/Rocky Springs-Elizabeth Piazza-PL (2)  
 Clark's Chapel-Rachel E. Pitts-PE (4)  
 Clinton: First (Senior)-Mitchell Hedgepeth-FE (1)  
 Clinton: First (Assoc)-Davis Winstead-FL (4)  
 Clinton: First (Assoc)-David Greene-PL (2)  
 Clinton: St. John's-Todd O. Watson-PE (2)  
 Clinton: St. Paul/Blessed Trinity-Paul E. Lockett-FE (18)  
 Clinton: Seven Springs-James Griffin-FL (2)

Clinton: Lynch Chapel-John Cornelius, Sr.-RE (3)  
 Ellison/Pickens-Grady Bailey-RE (2)  
 Fletcher's Chapel/Bethany-William (Skip) Atchison-FE (5)  
 Flora/Benton-David Scott Carter-FE (3)  
 Holly Bluff-Grover Greer-SY (1)  
 Jackson: Aldersgate-Dwight Prowell-FE (3)  
 Jackson: Alta Woods(Senior)-David Carroll-FE (2)  
 Jackson: Alta Woods(Assoc)-Eddie Spencer-FL (4)  
 Jackson: Anderson (Senior)-Joe Willie May-FE (6)  
 Jackson: Anderson(Assoc)-Earl Wilson, III-FE (3)  
 Jackson: Briarwood-Millsaps Dye-FE (2)  
 Jackson: Broadmeadow-Robert C. Hill-FE (3)  
 Jackson: Broadmeadow(Assoc)-Denise Donnell-PL (2)  
 Jackson: Central-Jimmy L. Barnes-FE (2)  
 Jackson: Emmanuel-Everette Ray Watts-RE (17)  
 Jackson: Epworth-Milton Whatley-FE (1)  
 Jackson: Forest Hill-Steve Casteel-FE (1)  
 Jackson: Forest Hill(Assoc)-James Milner-RA (1)  
 Jackson: Galloway(Senior)-Ross Olivier-OE (4)  
 Jackson: Galloway(Assoc)-Michelle Foster-OD (3)  
 Jackson: Galloway(Assoc)-Susannah Carr-PE (2)  
 Jackson: Galloway(Assoc)-Kim Parker-FD (2)  
 Jackson: Harris Memorial-Robert Carroll-PL (2)  
 Jackson: Leavell Woods-Sue Michael-FE (1)  
 Jackson: Middlebrook-Fitzgerald Lovett-FE (1)  
 Jackson: Pratt Memorial-Selber McShephard-PE (3)  
 Jackson: St.Luke-Heather K. Hensarling-FE (2)  
 Jackson: Van Winkle-John Norman Evans-AM (10)  
 Jackson: Wells Mem(Senior)-Keith Tonkel-RE (39)  
 Jackson: Wells Mem(Assoc)-Todd Watson-PE (3)  
 Louise/Silver City-Don Sampley-AM (1)  
 Madison: Parkway Hills(Senior)-Richard Robbins-FE (4)  
 Madison: Parkway Hills(Assoc)-Beth Taylor-PL (5)

Mt Olivet/Satartia/Wesley Chapel-Robert N. Armstrong-PL (3)  
 Pleasant Hill-Sylvia McGuffie Baylot-PL (6)  
 Port Gibson/Hermanville-David Lee Harrison,Sr-FE (9)  
 Raymond/Learned-Michael Sahler-FE (1)  
 Redbone-Thomas Shreve-RE (4)  
 Redwood/Eagle Lake-Barbara O. Hite-FE (3)  
 Rolling Fork-Beth Miller-FL (1)  
 Spring Ridge-Anthony McDonald-FE (3)  
 Utica/Carpenter-Lauren Porter-FE (3)  
 Vicksburg: Crawford St.-W. Geoffrey Joyner-FE (8)  
 Vicksburg: Gibson Mem.-Greg Hazelrig-FE (2)  
 Vicksburg: Hawkins-Chris Young-FE (1)  
 Vicksburg: Porter's Chapel-Dural Ragsdale-FE (4)  
 Vicksburg: Wesley-Bob Ford-SY (3)  
 Vicksburg: Lynch Chapel-Rachel Pitts-PE (1)  
 Yazoo City: First-Jerry Smith Horton-FE (6)  
 Yazoo City: St. John's-Chance May-FL (3)  
 Yazoo City: St. Stephen's-Rachel Pitts-PE (3)

### Extension Ministry

Center for Ministry (Dir)-Rebecca Youngblood-FE (4)  
 E PA Conf(346.1)-Albert Mosley-FE (4)  
 Emory & Henry College(Professor)-Joseph T. Reiff-FE (1)  
 MS Conf.(Adm Asst to Bishop)-Embra Jackson-FE (3)  
 MS Conf. (Dir Ethnic Local Churches)-Fitzgerald Lovett-FE (1)  
 MS Conf (Dir of Connectional Min)-Steve Casteel-FE (2)  
 Operation Shoestring(Staff)-Martha Ann Alexander-FE (1)  
 US Army-Wayland Hamlin-FE (1)  
 Wesley Biblical Seminary-Paul Y. Tashiro-FE (2)  
 Wesley Fnd JSU-Dwight Prowell-FE (3)

### Deacons Appointed Beyond the Local Church

Bethlehem Ctr (Dir)-Allison Dickerson-FD (3)  
 Center for Ministry(Assoc Dir)-Sherry Bryant Johnson-FD (3)  
 Good Shepherd Ctr (Dir)-Thomas Emory Miller-FD (10)  
 Grace Counseling Ctr (Dir)-Walter L. Frazier-FD (9)  
 Millsaps College(Chaplain)-

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Elisabeth(Lisa)Garvin-FD (3)  
MS Conf (Safe Sanctuaries)-Michelle L.  
Foster-OD (1)

SEJ Adm. Council (Exec Dir)-Jimmy L.  
Carr-FD (8)





## SECTION V

### REPORTS

#### A. Connectional Ministries

##### REJOICE!

Connectional Ministries has had several reasons to rejoice. There are key areas of transformation and cooperation that are directing our focus:

1. Our Connectional Ministries office will focus on developing a comprehensive plan of discipleship that will include a family systems approach as well as a very practical assortment of tools to teach and deploy disciple makers in our local churches.

2. Collaborative effort to revise the apportionment statement with the office of Finance and Administration. Listening sessions and conversations with conference Finance and Administration has resulted in a new apportionment report.

3. Collaboration with the Cabinet and the office of Congregational Development's A2 team has resulted in a redirection of resources and staffing in Connectional Ministries. The staff's new configuration is a deliberate attempt to address the needs discovered in the A2 process.

The key needs of

- Leadership
- Discipleship
- Children/Youth
- Mission
- Stewardship

have all been considered and the staff will be:

1. Director of Connectional Ministries (with primary responsibilities of Discipleship and Lay Leader Development)
2. Team leader for Strengthening the Black Church
3. Director of Young People's Ministry
4. Team Leader for Safe Sanctuaries
5. Team Leader for Congregations for Children
6. Director of Missional Development (who will be a layperson)

The other key of this redesign is that many of the staff will have field placement in local churches to make sure we're teaching and learning in a way that strengthens the local church.

The 2007-2008 year will culminate the latest reorganization of our Annual Conference structure. In response to the A2 Indicators and widespread feedback, the Leadership Table/ Council has embraced the idea of change. In the fall of 2007, the bishop and director of Connectional Ministries will lead a series of day-long retreats in each district to help engage and clarify this vision. The purpose of this entire process is to align our structure with our mission and ministry. Please join us in a year of renewal, revisioning, and prayer. There will be a structural proposal and the accompanying nominations submitted to the 2008 Annual Conference.

Connectional Ministries has invited our mission outreach ministries, campus ministries, and other institutions into a visioning and coalition building process to help them generate and share resources. A brief report will be shared at Annual Conference.

##### **Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century (SBC-21)**

Six African-American churches which are located in growing areas are building there to respond to the ministry opportunities in their communities through the **African-American Pilot Program**. Most of these congregations had once been part time, meeting for worship less than four Sundays per month. Now, with the appointment of full-time pastoral leadership and resourcing from the conference, these congregations will provide us with a process that can be used for congregational development with other congregations seeking renewal. This effort is a partnership of the East and West Jackson districts, the

conference Office of Congregational Development and Ethnic Local Church Concerns/Strengthening the Black Church program.

In addition to the African-American Pilot Program, SBC-21 is working to assist ethnic congregations in developing action plans in response to the A2 Indicators survey, and more than 20 pastors attended the General Board of Discipleship's Convocation for Pastors of African-American Churches held in January in Dallas, Texas.

A strategic plan for Strengthening the Black Church will be developed during 2008 under the direction of the new team leader for Strengthening the Black Church.

## 1. COMMISSIONS

### *a. Religion and Race*

*If we Walk in the Light  
As God is in the Light,  
We have fellowship  
With one another.*

— I John 1: 7

The Commission on Religion and Race has continued with great energy the Journey Toward the Light, an intentional journey toward growing in love and fellowship across racial lines.

Individuals and congregations are invited to join the Journey as Light Partners by engaging in four spiritual disciplines: STUDY, WORSHIP, PRAYER, and ACTION. Since Light Partners was introduced at the 2006 Annual Conference, over fifty churches have made the commitment through God's grace to partner with the Cabinet and CORR, to take specific steps toward reconciliation. The Commission has prepared a brochure and a DVD/video to help churches, small groups, or individuals begin the Journey. These materials are available from the conference office through Lindsey Robinson, Staff, P. O. Box 1147, Jackson, MS 39215.

A special emphasis during the 2007 Lenten Season was preparing Mississippi United Methodists for the promise of Easter by using the forty days of Lent for self-examination and confession around racial issues. District Superintendents gathered believers in communities across Mississippi to celebrate how far we have come in the last forty years since the most violent time of the Civil Rights Movement. At the same time we celebrated progress, we acknowledged the difficult work ahead to reach God's Promised Land of love, justice, and fellowship.

A focus of Journey Toward the Light is visiting sites important to the Civil Rights struggle. Sites have included Ruleville in the Delta, Philadelphia, Oxford/University of Mississippi, Gulfside Assembly at Waveland, and McComb. Places visited during this conference year were Hattiesburg and Laurel. Learning opportunities were a workshop led by Dr. Tex Sample and a presentation on the Emmett Till Tragedy by Mike Wiley. Several Journeys and learning opportunities, open to anyone in the conference, are in the planning process for the next conference year. Details will be published in the Advocate.

During Annual Conference members of CORR and volunteers will be monitoring business sessions and the election process, reminding laity and clergy of the commitment to inclusiveness. The Emma Elzy Award for racial harmony will be presented with anyone in the conference eligible to make a nomination. Last year's recipient was Deaconess Maudessa Smith.

CORR plans two new features at Annual Conference 2007. A Light Partners Award will be made to the congregation, group, or individual who has made great strides in the four spiritual disciplines of study, worship, prayer, and action. Another feature will be a form for each church/charge to fill out, indicating acts or projects of reconciliation. CORR is trying to get an accounting of the many ministries that are happening across the conference both in churches who have signed as Light Partners and those who have not.

If we walk in God's Light, we will have true fellowship with one another.

*Twick Morrison, Chair Commission on Religion and Race*

## 2. LAY MINISTRY

### a. Lay Speaking Ministries

*Communicating—Caring—Leadership*

*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 11 If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen"*

– 1 Peter 4: 10-11 (NIV)

When we hear the words "Lay Speaking Ministries" most people associate this with speaking behind a pulpit. Lay Speaking Ministries involves speaking in many different areas. Certified Lay Speakers as well as other members of the United Methodist Church are found in the following places of service in churches across Mississippi.

1. Leading or teaching Sunday School classes
2. Reading Scripture for worship or making announcements to a congregation
3. Working with children and youth in Sunday School, UMYF youth groups or other activities outside of church
4. Showing care and concern with the Scriptures and music in nursing homes and to shut-ins at home
5. Supporting programs with groups suffering with addiction or visiting those in prison or recovery centers
6. Creating communication between church and community via Internet, newspaper or newsletters, etc.
7. Presenting short courses within the church with knowledge about "Our Wesleyan Heritage"
8. Providing assistance for persons with disabilities in worship services and at home
9. Participating in a prayer ministry or prayer group within the church
10. Leading Bible Study or UMW or UMM or other study groups within the church
11. Taking part in a phone or tape ministry with those unable to attend programs at the church
12. Cooking meals for those involved in areas of church ministry or outside the church in mission and much, much more.

Lay Speakers are members of the United Methodist Church who desire to know more about the church and its history and areas of service. The basic course and advanced courses are offered to these members each year throughout the state in order for those interested to attend. In 2006, the Camp Wesley Pines School was directed by the Brookhaven District. Other locations used for conference schools are Wood Institute, and Camp Lake Stephens. Seashore Assembly had been used before Katrina and hopefully schools will be held there once again soon.

2006 was a wonderful year in Lay Speaking Ministries. Schools were held not only at the above locations but in the following districts: Tupelo, New Albany, Senatobia, Meridian, Hattiesburg, and 2 at Seashore churches. The Brookhaven, Starkville, Greenwood, East and West Jackson Lay Speaking Directors assisted in some way at the Conference schools

Courses offered at the schools around the state included the following: Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition: United Methodist Heritage; Leading Worship; Using the United Methodist Hymnal; Discovering Spiritual Gifts; Leading Prayer; Leading Bible Study; Stewardship; Evangelism; Teaching Adults; Being Accountable Disciples: Cultivating Christian Community; Creating New Faith Communities; Leading Small Groups; Leadership; Telling Stories; Leading a Caring Ministry; as well as courses in Preaching.

Evaluations are done in each school in order to help leaders to improve areas in teaching -locations-communication- and accommodations.

In 2006, approximately 150 new Lay Speakers were introduced to Lay Speaking Ministries in the Basic Course. We look forward with anticipation to another great year in 2007.

*Mary Ford, Conference Director Lay Speaking Ministries*

## ***b. Senior Adult***

This is an era of great opportunities for Districts and Local churches to celebrate and lift up the senior adults of their faith communities. There are more adults turning 60 last year, this year and in the coming few years than ever in the history of the world. What a exciting time to reach out to the many unchurched and the 55 and older who feel left out and behind in their faith journey.

The two Methodist Camps, Camp Lake Stephens and Camp Wesley Pines, have been very supportive and creative this year in offering programs for Older Adults. Camp Lake Stephens had a very strong turn out for their spring and fall Fling. The programs provided a wide range of interest groups. This type programming for this age group by the camps has been highly acclaimed and requested more often.

The MS Conference was represented in August at the Lake Junaluska Older Adult Assembly by a number of attendees from across the state. Some Churches sent Older Adults to the Fall Fling at Lake Junaluska in October. Some churches had Senior Adult Day to celebrate the members of their congregations by age, longevity in membership and years of leadership. Ms Conference Older Adults went as work teams To the Gulf Coast. Older Adults took trips, delivered flowers and food to shut-ins, Worked with Local church Bible School, ministered in Food Pantries and Clothes Closets, taught Bible studies and Sunday School classes, visited the sick, prepared Meals, supported their pastors and churches thru prayers, service and offerings.

Older Adults lived out their vows and beliefs as United Methodist in a rich heritage of their relationship with their Lord Jesus Christ. We look forward to the many innovative ways that church congregations may affirm and endow their older adults in the coming days as they lift these persons as a light From God.

## ***c. United Methodist Men***

Since Hurricane Katrina, most programs have been directed toward helping the victims recover. We are in the process of planning “working retreats” on the Gulf Coast to be “doers of the word.” Steve Casteel, our Director of Connectional Ministries, will be working with Chris Cumbest as to the details later. They will be announced through the Methodist Advocate in time to make accommodations.

In the meantime, each organization of men should send it’s Annual Charter Recertification form along with a check for \$65.00 as a contribution to the mission of the:

*General Commission on United Methodist Men*  
 PO Box 440515  
 Nashville, TN 37244-0515  
 615-340-7145 (Phone)  
 615-340-1770 (Fax)

You may send the contribution to this address giving the name and address of your church, pastor, conference, president, and treasurer if you do not have the form. Two dollars of this fund goes back to your state treasurer. A leader’s guide of suggested programs for 2007 is available by calling toll-free 1-800-333-8330 or visit [www.faihtaliveresources.org](http://www.faihtaliveresources.org).

Every man is considered by the Discipline to be a member of United Methodist Men. To keep informed and involved, you are encouraged to join EMS (Evangelism, Mission and Spiritual Life). You may contribute \$35.00 or more to support the Mission, to enable every man to put Christ at the center of their lives.

You will receive UMMen, the magazine of United Methodist Men, which is published quarterly by the General Commission on United Methodist Men for \$25.00 a year. For the magazine only, the address is:

*UMMen Subscription Fulfillment*  
 PO Box 440515  
 Nashville, TN 37144-0515  
 615-340-7154 (Phone)

For the United Methodist Men EMS/Legacy Building, the amount is \$35.00 to \$110.00, or you may choose one of these programs:

- Bronze Legacy is \$10.00 monthly
- Silver Legacy is \$25.00 monthly
- Gold Legacy is \$50.00 monthly
- Platinum Legacy is \$100.00 monthly

The address is:

*United Methodist Men's Foundation*  
 PO Box 440002  
 Nashville, TN 37244-0002  
 615-340-7145 (Phone)  
 615-340-1770 (Fax)

Marilyn and I attended the President's meeting for the Southeastern Jurisdiction in Lake Junaluska for three days in December last year. I have airlines tickets for the three day conference in Nashville for the 1st thru the 4th of March to discuss some of the issues confronting the church for the coming year.

This requires a great deal of time and is extremely expensive because of the high cost of travel, food and lodging. I have also received an invoice for \$400.00 for President's dues for 2006 and 2007. The expense could become prohibitive unless our Conference can reimburse for at least part of the cost. The invoice for food and housing for me is \$419.30. Anyway, I will give you a report in the Advocate for the spring meeting for the National Association of Conference Presidents, United Methodist Men's Foundation and the Conference President's Association.

*Chet Dillard, UMM President*

#### **d. UMVIM**

Since our last report, UMVIM has been on the move. From the Mississippi Gulf Coast, to all the yearly trips over the world, UMVIM has been very active.

In many of our Churches there are no UMVIM program, however, I have found United Methodist people working and doing mission in their community, that's UMVIM.

UMVIM has been active in places such as: The Mississippi Gulf Coast, Mexico, Honduras, Puerto Rico, Costa Rico, Choctaw Mission, Nicaragua, and Russia.

We look forward to our continued work with all the good people of the United Methodist Church over the world.

From our own beautiful Mississippi Gulf Coast to wherever UMVIM may carry you, May God Bless you and His Ministry.

For more information on UMVIM or for information on how you many put a team together, please contact:

*Robert McCoy*  
 Box 146  
 Baldwin, MS 38824  
 662/365.5818 or 662/213.6400  
 Robert@baldwynfumc.org

*Robert McCoy, UMVIM Coordinator*

#### **e. 2007 Young Adult Council Report**

*"Staying Connected"*

Young Adults ages 19-30 (TBOD, paragraph 649) are single, college students, working persons, married, single with children and working, divorced, serving in the military, etc. The Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church is here to help you learn and lead by keeping you encouraged, active, connected and informed.

Young Adults and Young Adult Workers in the Mississippi Conference can be connected with other Young Adults and Young Adult Workers via the internet.

For those with access to the internet, you may access the Young Adult website from the Mississippi Conference web page at [www.mississippi-urc.org](http://www.mississippi-urc.org) then click on Links and scroll down to Young People's Ministry, click on Young Adult Ministries – Board of Discipleship, or click on Resource Hub for Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

For General Board of Discipleship go to [www.GBOD.org/youngpeople/youngadult](http://www.GBOD.org/youngpeople/youngadult) \*\*\* The United Methodist Church has an informative page at [www.lunc.org](http://www.lunc.org)

I encourage you to be connected and have fun learning while searching the above web pages. You may also find other information on Grants and Scholarships, Internship, Blogs, Forums, Family

Ministries, and Financial Ministries. Do check out the links to learn about your spiritual gifts, exploring your call to ministry, along with mission ideas.

An added plea to those who have access to this information, please tell others and copy and share this report and other needed information with other Christians' and Non-Christians who do not have access to the internet.

This can be your ministry in mission to share, encourage and help others. Thanks.

For more info on Young Adult ministry, you may contact me at [annwilliams2na,bellsouth.net](mailto:annwilliams2na,bellsouth.net) Remember to – Stay Connected!

\*\*\* (Resources for Young Adults (Ages 18-30)\*)

\*Printed from website: <http://www.gbod.org/youngpeople/youngadult/youngadult.htm> "The YA Network is the place where empowerment, networking, making connections, advocating, and training for young adults occur. Whether you are currently a part of a church, have never been part of a church, or are somewhere in between, we welcome you! We'd love to have you join a network with other young adults who are trying to build their faith in this high-tech, individualistic, consumerist world. Sign up. Drop us a line. We want to know you! Julie O'Neal at GBOD"

*Annie Williams, Chairperson of Young Adult Council*

### 3. BISHOP'S INITIATIVES

#### a. Small Membership Church

Through Parish and Community Ministries, the conference provided grant funds for church building improvement to churches with small memberships. Another facet of this conference initiative was the leadership school for congregations of small membership at Wood Institute. "Effective Small Membership Churches" includes 20 hours of basic instruction in such topics as stewardship, Christian education, and organizing for effective ministry and mission over five weekends. Plans are to add an advanced training component and provide this training in different locations throughout the conference.

#### b. Racial Reconciliation

"If we walk in the light as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another" (1 John 1:7). The Annual Conference continues to celebrate our Journeys to the Light. One focus has been on hearing each other's stories. In the listening, participants gain deeper better understanding of the events, and experiences that have shaped us as individuals and as Mississippians. The Commission on Religion and Race continues to encourage people of different races and ethnicities to engage one another in conversation to consider the progress we have made in race relations since the beginning of the Civil Rights movement.

The Lenten study guide "Between the Ashes and Alleluias" shared stories written by those who witnessed, experienced, and struggled with the injustice of racism and provided insights on the righteous response we are called make as followers of Christ. It is our hope that these conversations will show us how far we have yet to travel to realize a promise land of racial equality and justice that would mirror the kingdom of God.

#### c. Mission

The heart of our calling and purpose for being is to be a church in mission. The Mississippi Annual Conference celebrates all our congregations' mission ministries. Several years ago the conference created a handbook to assist congregations in developing new mission strategies or expanding those already in place. An upcoming update to this first edition will provide tools to assist congregations as they assess their communities and thereby develop action plans to be partners in the work of Christ. We continue to give oversight and support to the conference community centers and other mission institutions.

The new director of Mission Development will help coordinate a comprehensive plan to help local churches explore mission opportunities in their community and the world.

*Rev. Steve Casteel*  
*Director of Connectional Ministries*



### *d. Congregational Development*

Bishop Ward has assigned the staff leadership for congregational development and wellness to Administrative Assistant Embra K. Jackson. The following is a brief highlight of what was accomplished in these initiatives in the past year.

#### **Accomplishments**

We give thanks for creative response in congregational development in these areas since the 2006 Annual Conference.

- Diverse group from our Annual Conference attended National School of Congregational Development in San Diego in August. Plans are being developed to send a bus of lay and clergy to this year's school in Kansas August 2-7.
- Church Recovery Director Chris Cumbest assisted churches with their recovery efforts.
- New churches in Greenville, Oxford, and Jackson Metro Area are being planted. We mourn the loss of Wayne McCord, one of the pastors at the Hope Ministry in Greenville, in 2006.
- The bishop and Cabinet members have adopted the goal of planting a minimum of three (3) new churches each conference year.
- Implementation of the School of Congregational Development (SCD) led by the dean, Dr. Bryan Collier, with 20 pastors participating.
- The vitality assessment of churches was begun during the charge conference sessions via the completion of the A2 (Acts Chapter 2) Indicators.

#### **2007 Projected Strategies**

As we move "toward the light" in the area of Congregational Development a review of the statistics from the A2 Indicator surveys completed for charge conferences in 2006 indicate that our priorities are in the areas of disciple-making, stewardship, youth and children, and community outreach. These are in line with the five conference priorities for 2004-2008 (wellness, congregational development, small church, mission, and racial reconciliation). The Council of Bishops' Seven Pathways are also similar:

- Transformation of existing congregations
- Developing new congregations
- Strengthening clergy and lay leadership
- Teaching the Wesleyan model of reaching and forming disciples of Jesus Christ
- Reaching and transforming the lives of new generations of children
- Eliminating poverty in community with the poor
- Expanding racial/ethnic ministries

As a result each district has formed A29 and health ministry teams which are being trained via the Transformational Leaders' School to help churches respond to these challenges.

We look forward to moving all of our churches toward vitality during the 2007 Annual Conference year. With God's grace and love we will become more vital in our ministry together in the Mississippi Annual Conference.

### *e. Health and Wellness*

Health, healing, and wholeness – or abundant life – this is what Jesus came to bring us. Jesus' ministry was one of teaching, preaching, and healing; it was concerned with the whole person (physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, and social). This past year great strides continue as local churches embrace the concept of holistic health.

#### **Objectives**

- To enhance the local church's connections to the district and annual conference in regard to the conference's initiative on health and wellness (body, mind, spirit, relationships).
- To collaborate and share ideas about developing local church and community-based health and wellness ministries.
- To help close the health disparities that exist in our state between various social, economic, and racial groups.

### Accomplishments

We give thanks for the creative response of the annual conference, districts, and local churches toward wellness in the past year.

- More than 70 participants ran or walked in the second annual Arise! Shine! Run! 5K run/walk at Annual Conference.
- Districts and local churches engaged in wellness activities, such as Circuit Striders.
- Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, Embra Jackson, and Elaine Dye led sessions at the General Board of Global Ministries' Health & Wellness Conference in Memphis in October.
- Health and wellness leadership groups for conference, districts, and many local churches formed.
- Local health initiatives in Greenville, Columbus, Jackson, Brookhaven, and other communities formed. These include health clinics such as the Craft House and the Good Samaritan Health Center.
- Continuation of our relationship with Methodist Healthcare. Methodist Healthcare has provided leadership training, financial support for clinics, etc.
- Deployment of a "life clinic" kiosk in the conference office and implementation of Lenten walking journey with the conference staff using computerized pedometers.
- Elaine Dye trained over 20 health ministry team members,
- Second annual Circuit Ride Bike Tour set to occur May 12 on the Longleaf Trace.
- Various member of our conference participated in the Fifth Annual Clergy Conference in Memphis in November.
- Covenant agreements signed by the bishop and the appointive cabinet.
- Hosting of health screening at the Annual Conference each year by Methodist Healthcare continues.

### 2007 Plans

Collaborate with the conference's Board of Medical Benefits to introduce a wellness program that combines walking and Bible study. The program combines participating in a walking program with daily devotions and reward incentives. Distance walked, calories burned, etc. are recorded on computers using a pedometer.

The third GBGM Health and Welfare Ministries/Congregational Health Ministries National Conference will be held September 23–26, 2007, in Wichita, Kansas. The theme is "Empowering Ministries of Health: Starting, Implementing and Advancing."

We look forward to the 2007 conference year being even more successful in relationship to health and wellness than 2006. Bishop Ward's vision challenges us "toward the light" of wellness.

*Dr. Embra K. Jackson*  
*Administrative Assistant to the Bishop*

## B. Financial and Administrative Ministries

### 1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### *Report #1 - Abandoned and Discontinued Church Property*

Abandoned and discontinued church property that belongs to the conference is being studied and tracked to determine that conference approved actions are followed. Rapers Chapel in the Tupelo District was properly sold during the past conference year.

#### *Report #2 - Conference-Owned Property*

The conference Trustees are entrusted with the care of all property that is in the service of the annual conference as a whole. These properties consist of the United Methodist Building, the Episcopal Residence and the multipurpose buildings in the Seashore District. Two other modular buildings that were donated to the conference are also being utilized in the recovery effort.

#### **Maintenance of Properties**

The Episcopal Residence is properly maintained. Any needs made known to the Trustees have been cared for. Parking during committee meetings in the headquarters building has been addressed by

providing parking to the staff at a city-operated garage. The building is in good repair, and adequate office space for the current staff is available. The outside storage room was enlarged to provide additional file storage.

### Insurance

All properties of the conference are properly insured. The conference insurance is adequate at the present time. The Trustees believe the conference as a whole is better protected as a result of the minimum coverage standards adopted in 2004 and the conference wide program adopted in 2005.

The 2006 conference in session determined that the Trustees, CFA and Cabinet should determine the carrier for the conference wide program should there become a need to change from UM PACT. This group met in November 2006 and reviewed two proposals and determined that UM PACT continued to be the best provider for the conference wide insurance plan for 2007.

The required levels of liability insurance adopted at the 2004 Annual Conference are as follows:

#### Minimum Coverage Standards

1. Pastoral Professional Liability	
Limit Each Claim/Annual Aggregate	\$1,000,000 / \$3,000,000
2. Directors and Officers Liability-Claims Made Coverage	
Limit Each Claim/Annual Aggregate	\$1,000,000 / \$3,000,000
3. Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability (limit per accident)	
Leased Vehicles/Hired and Non-Owned Vehicles	\$1,000,000
4. Physical and Sexual Abuse Liability (Sexual acts liability)	\$1,000,000
5. Commercial Automobile Liability	
Church Owned Vehicles	\$1,000,000
6. Volunteer Liability	
Church Members with Respect To Duties As Such	\$1,000,000
7. General Liability	\$1,000,000 / \$3,000,000

The conference Trustees, conference treasurer and conference risk manager continue to work with those churches not in the conference-wide program. While the *Discipline* requires that the local church trustees determine the best insurance for their local church, the conference Trustees continue to believe that the conference-wide program is the best method to guarantee the best available coverage for all churches in our conference.

### Debt on Conference Properties

The debt on the United Methodist Building has been retired. In an effort to maximum interest earnings the Council on Finance and Administration authorized use of reserve funds to pay the headquarters building debt. The principal shall continue to be apportioned at the current level of \$39,512 until the \$140,242 is replaced in the reserve fund.

### Records and Legal Documents

The legal documents and records are held in the office of finance in Jackson.

*Rev. Henderson Rasberry, Chair*

## 2. BOARD OF PENSIONS

### *Report #1*

#### Recommendation for Service Rates

We recommend the following for 2008:

- Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) began January 1, 2007 with 3% for the defined contribution.
- CPP funding rate of 3%. All optional coverage costs shall be borne by the insured as described below in the special arrangements paragraph.
- Past Service Rate, \$441 per service year.
- Approved Supply Service Rate, \$441 per service year.

We recommend that surviving spouse support, for pre-82 years, be set at 75 percent of the minister's compensation.

**Pension: Benefits and Liaison Offices**

The work of the Board of Pensions is carried out through the conference benefits officer who is also the conference treasurer and through the pension liaison officer. At the present time, the conference benefits officer is David Stotts and the pension liaison officer is Byrd Hillman. These two offices interface with the General Board of Pensions and assist the bishop and Cabinet in pension matters. These two offices are also available to assist participants with questions that relate to pensions and health benefits.

The benefits officer can be contacted through the conference treasurer's office at 601-354-0515 or 866-647-7486 or at P. O. Box 1201, Jackson, MS 39215. The liaison officer can be contacted at 662-289-2484 or 1-800-586-0113 or at 25274 Highway 19 North, Kosciusko, MS 39090.

**Unfunded Liability**

Virtually all of the United Methodist clergy appointed by the Mississippi Annual Conference prior to 1982 are covered by Supplement One to the Ministerial Pension Plan. All assets of the plan are available to pay all benefits of the plan regardless of the annual conference from which contributions came or under which the benefits accrued. However, because each annual conference controls certain benefit provisions of the plan, funding requirements are determined separately for each conference.

Each year the Actuarial Department of the General Board of Pensions values the benefits provided under the plan and reviews our conference funding plan. At the end of 2006, based on January 1, 2006, results, our unfunded liability is estimated at \$2,146,667 for the \$429 rate. The assets that we have under investment to apply to this liability are \$6,605,548. Our liability increases when we increase the past service rate, and we reduce our liability when we make annual payments in accordance with our funding plan. Actuarial experience and investment performance are factors in this computation. Investment performance during the past year has challenged money managers to review long-term strategies. Your Board of Pensions is studying various plans to maximize return on invested funds. The revised plans will acknowledge reduced rates of returns for the short-term.

Our recommendation to the Council on Finance and Administration for the 2007 apportionment was based on a necessity to fund the CRSP and CPP payments with apportioned rather than borrowed funds or unrealistic projections of investment return. It was explained to the 2006 Conference Session that while the apportionments remained at the same level for 2007, the true cost would be in excess of an additional one million. The Board will continue to monitor the fund and will seek to replace these dollars in later years. The Board of Pensions recommends that in 2008 the apportionment level be set at \$4,452,564. Going forward, the board recommends that apportionments equal the anticipated contributions to the pension plan and administrative expenses.

**Pension Apportionments Must Be Paid in Full**

Each pastor and each church must understand the necessity of paying the pension apportionment in full each year. The board must pay the retirement payment to ministers and their surviving spouses and dependent children as well as make the CRSP and CPP payments for active ministers who are presently serving. The General Church feels that the pension apportionment is of such importance that it ranks equal to the pastor's salary. If the pastor receives his/her salary, so should those who have retired. (Par. 636.4, 2004 *Discipline*) It is the plan of the Board of Pensions to keep careful records of non-payment and to contact pastors, churches, and district superintendents where this has occurred for the purpose of collecting arrearage.

**Investments**

The money of the Board of Pensions is invested with the General Board of Pensions in what is called the Multiple Asset Account and the Short Term Investment Fund and with the Mississippi United Methodist Foundation. All of our investments are made with the consent of the conference board using the guidelines of the General Board of Pensions. At year-end, we had \$2,494,510 invested with the General Board of Pensions and \$4,111,038 invested at the Foundation.

**General SEF**

For several years we have received from the General Church an amount of money called the Temporary General Aid. This was to help with pension costs in conferences that merged with conferences of the former Central Jurisdiction. There is no longer a Temporary General Aid apportioned to the churches; however, a portion of World Service was designated for this purpose. Last year we received \$45,327.

### **Minister's Personal Contributions**

Each minister is given the opportunity to participate in the United Methodist Personal Investment Plan (UM PIP) of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Ministers can decide how much they want to invest each month. It can be tax paid or tax deferred. The minister may choose one of two ways to contribute the money: (1) salary reduction – The check must be sent by the church treasurer in order to qualify, and it should be so stated to the General Board. The amount is to be deducted from the W-2 form, and self-employment tax is not paid on this amount; the amount is not subject to income tax until withdrawn. (2) tax paid – Under this plan the minister must pay income tax on the amount contributed but will not pay tax on interest received until it is withdrawn.

If a minister moves he/she must make a new contract with the new church for his/her UM PIP and report it to the General Board.

### **Retired Ministers**

*Rental/housing allowances.* A resolution in regard to a rental/housing allowance is part of this report. Each retired minister is requested to study this resolution carefully. Let it also be emphasized that adequate records must be kept in order to justify expenses claimed.

Should a retired minister die during the year, exclusion for rental/housing allowance is available with respect to the income of the minister during the time he or she was alive. However, the exclusion is not available to the surviving spouse.

*Moving expense.* It is our recommendation that the moving expense for retirees moving to their retirement home be paid out of the conference administration fund. Guidelines have been recommended by CFA.

### **Special Arrangements for CPP and Death Benefit**

The conference Board of Pensions acknowledges that the benefits for clergy should be provided on an equal basis for all. Therefore, to be uniform in providing the CPP death and disability benefits, the Board recommends that all full-time clergy covered by CRSP be covered in the CPP program with the cost paid by the apportionments.

The board believes that coverage for death and disability should also be available to all clergy who are on sabbatical leave, family leave, incapacity leave not receiving CPP benefits, leave of absence, attending school, or appointed to less than full time service. The coverage is available through the General Board of Pensions CPP program. The conference Board of Pensions recommends that the coverage be made available to those listed and that the cost shall be paid by the insured participant.

### **Conference Authorization**

It is the policy of the conference Board of Pensions, through its treasurer, to place with the General Board of Pensions such funds as it receives from time to time. Such funds are to be invested by the General Board of Pensions for the use and benefit of said conference Board of Pensions, to transfer from the deposit account and/or STIRA an amount required for the monthly and annual payments to the General Board of Pensions for the cost of our pension program.

### **Program on Pensions**

We encourage districts to initiate programs for information on the new pension program. The conference benefits officer or the pension liaison officer and others representing the conference Board of Pensions will be glad to explain any phase of the pension programs to district ministers and their spouses, and to any called meeting of ministers and laypersons. Adequate time for full presentation and questions should be allowed.

In the fall of 2007 and the spring of 2008 we plan to offer education forums in structuring the salary compensation package and the explanation of the CRSP plan. In the spring of 2008 we plan to hold an informational workshop for those contemplating retirement within the next 5 – 7 years. Also, we plan to offer, in cooperation with the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, Lifetime Planning Seminars for younger pastors.

### **Gifts and Wills**

The conference Board of Pensions is keenly aware that the cost of pensions is expensive, and that the United Methodists of Mississippi have been most generous. We also know that you expect the board to provide a strong pension program for our retired ministers and their spouses. This we are seeking to do. At the same time we are working to keep down the cost as much as possible for the sake of the local church. Ministers and laypersons should be informed about the importance of endowments, gifts, and

bequests designated for this purpose. We appeal to persons with large estates to make gifts and bequests for pensions.

Your board does not want anyone to give money for pensions and neglect the work of the local church and conference. However, every appeal possible must be made to faithful supporters of local churches who have large sums of money, real estate, bonds and equities, and who give liberally to other causes that appeal to them. If the church does not present itself as a worthy cause to such persons, then one can be sure that projects outside the Church will appeal and likely receive substantial contributions.

### **Social Security for Ministers**

Social Security is a vital part of a minister's financial plan. This gives protection for retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, as well as Medicare. If a minister has any questions related to his/her relationship to Social Security, please contact your local Social Security office.

### **Apportionment**

We recommend that \$4,452,564 be apportioned by the Council on Finance and Administration for pensions and benefit support for the calendar year 2008.

*Dr. G. E. Jones, Chairman*  
*Rev. Byrd Hillman, Pension Liaison Officer*  
*David Stotts, Conference Benefits Officer*

## *Report #2*

### **ITEM NO. 1**

The following conference claimants have died during the 2006 – 2007 year:

#### **DECEASED CLERGY**

<u>DECEASED CLERGY</u>	<u>DEATH DATE</u>
Leslie D. Busby	June 23, 2006
L. Shaw Gaddy	June 28, 2006
Archie L. Meadows	July 9, 2006
Robert E. Andress	July 23, 2006
Thomas M. Johnson	August 11, 2006
B. Frank Camp	September 19, 2006
Hubert G. Wallace	October 12, 2006
Arnell N. Harrell	October 16, 2006
Wayne McCord	December 10, 2006
Joseph A. Bridewell	January 24, 2007
L. C. Kitchens	January 18, 2007
John D. Humphrey, Sr.	February 18, 2007
Ray C. Earls	February 26, 2007
Glenn R. Grammer	March 31, 2007
William G. Mills	April 26, 2007
Hiram Jessie Hedgepeth	May 24, 2007

#### **DECEASED SPOUSES**

<u>DECEASED SPOUSES</u>	<u>DEATH DATE</u>
Retha Smith	June 12, 2006
Bernice Jackson	July 7, 2006
Sarah McCay	August 9, 2006
Mary Ellis	August 14, 2006
Ruth Furr	October 17, 2006
Belinda King	December 11, 2006
Syble Meadows	January 1, 2007
Jeanette Story	January 10, 2007
Virgie Bonner	January 23, 2007
Vivian Filgo	February 8, 2007
Helen Jones	February 25, 2007
Cathryn Vance Johnson	March 6, 2007
Flarzell Trigg	March 7, 2007
Lydia Clark	March 19, 2007

#### **MINISTER OF CONFERENCE**

Chester Smith
Calvin H. Jackson
John McCay
Robert L. Ellis, Jr.
E.S. Furr
Irvin King
Archie L. Meadows
Henry G. Story
Roy E. Bonner
Travis A. Filgo
Dean E. Jones
Joseph Silas Johnson
Handy Trigg
Albert G. Clark

Jewel L. Clark	March 22, 2007	Faban Scott Clark
Josie Lee Dement	March 28, 2007	William Robert Dement
Mary Lee Blain Gordon	April 12, 2007	Prentiss Gordon, Sr.
Idie Bell Collier	May 1, 2007	Virl V. Collier
Marie A. Watts	May 4, 2007	Everette Ray Watts
Annie Mae Wright	May 6, 2007	Colvis V. Wright
Madeleine Doggett	May 7, 2007	Blanton Doggett
Carol Tillman	May 29, 2007	Charles Tillman

**Item No. 2**

Incapacity leave and renewals are granted only if disability benefits are approved from the Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) by the Disability Committee of the General Board of Pensions. We recommend that incapacity leave be granted to the following ministers:

Larry Bolton	Stephen G. Dial	Tom Samson
John Bond	Dale F. Glenn	Richard Sebren
Carlos Perez-Bonilla	Walter Hughley	Bobby Joe Shell (To retire in August 2007)
Cora Crumble	Don McCain	John Thomas Tucker
Harry Davis	Marilyn Perrine	

**Item No. 3**

The Board of Pensions recommends that the following dependent adult children of deceased ministers be granted a child's benefit based upon the pension credit of the minister:

<u>CHILD</u>	<u>MINISTER</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
E. Dean Gemeny	Edgar D. Gemeny	15.75
Beulah Irving	William R. Irving	4.75
Jo Ruth Lawhon	L. C. Lawhon	27.5
Isaac M. Leverette	Harold Leverette	18.5
Virginia Presley	Earl Presley	37.5

**Item No. 4**

The following ministers serving in Extension Ministries in 2006-2007 served with pension responsibility on the conference:

Jerry Beam	Hugh Griffith	Steve McDonald
Willis Britt	Vera Hall	David Price
Steve Casteel	Phillip Heidelberg	Lindsey R. Robinson
Chris Cumbest	Embra Jackson	Victoria Sizemore-Tandy
Sheila Cumbest	Ann Kaufman	Timothy Thompson
Dawn Flowers	Giles Lindley	Raiford P. Wallace, Jr.
Carl Grubbs	William T. McAlilly	

**Item No. 5**

The following ministers serving in Extension Ministries in 2006-2007 served with pension responsibility on the institution or agency served:

Kurt Appel	Hubert Dale Hathorn	James W. Richardson
Terri K. Armstrong	Terry Hilliard	Lloyd Rollins
Michael Baker	Sherry Johnson	Shane Stanford
Ron Barham	Marvin R. King	Joey Shelton
Alice Carol Burnett	Walter N. Leverette	Connie Mitchell Shelton
Charles Campbell	Gerald Douglas Lord	Roger Shock
Jimmy Carr	J. Ronald McDougald	Judy Sibley
Allison Carr Dickerson	Elijah Mitchell	Casey Marion Smith, Jr.
Jerry Chapman	William H. Miskelly	Richard E. Stoglin
Victor Chatham	T. Jerry Mitchell	David White
A.W. Crump, Jr.	Tommy Miller	Linda Whited
Michael Culbreth	Albert D. Mosley	Eddie Willis



Dorothy Dickson-Rishel  
 Roger A. Flowers  
 David Fuqua  
 John Garrott  
 Theodore James Giordano  
 John Robert Hall

Edward Norris  
 Dale Y. Owen  
 Tiffany Jo Padgett  
 Nathan Joseph Payne  
 Gregory Pittman  
 Joseph Ranager

Susan Lee Woodard  
 John W. Yeates  
 J. Daniel Young  
 Rebecca Carol Youngblood

#### **Item No. 6**

The policy of the Board of Pensions in determining pension responsibility for Extension Ministries is the pension responsibility lies with the salary-paying institution or agency. If the appointment's salary support is paid by the conference, then the pension responsibility belongs to the conference. If the appointment's salary support is paid by the institution or agency, then the pension responsibility belongs to the salary-paying unit. Note that ministers who are serving in an Extension Ministry must assume responsibility to see that their pension is being cared for. The Board of Pensions has entered into agreements with those extension ministries who desire to cover their clergy by CRSP. The cost shall be paid by the extension ministry.

#### **Item No. 7**

Annuity payments related to pre-1982 service in the Mississippi Annual Conference have been reviewed and have been found to be accurate. A copy of the detailed report has been filed with Conference Benefits Officer David Stotts and is available for review upon request.

*Dr. G. E. Jones, Chairperson*  
*David Stotts, CPA, Conference Benefits Officer*  
*Rev. Byrd Hillman, Jr., Liaison Officer*

### *Report #3 - Mississippi Annual Conference Funding Plan for Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program*

As of January 1, 2006, for 2007

The 2007 Past Service Rate (PSR) for the Mississippi Annual Conference is \$429 or .89 percent of Conference Average Compensation (CAC). Our conference Board of Pensions will seek to maintain a PSR increase of 2.0 percent per year for the foreseeable future. Our historical CAC increases have averaged 3.5% when we only consider the years without corrections. However, we do not expect these increases to continue in the future. Due to increased local church, conference, and recovery efforts we would expect increases in the CAC to be in the 3% range.

The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits has determined that the portion of the pre-1982 plan liability attributable to Mississippi Annual Conference is \$49,998,636 as of Jan. 1, 2006, based on 7 percent interest and a 3 percent PSR increase assumption and a 2008 PSR of \$441. Plan funds currently held with the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits have a value of \$43,477,218 as of Jan. 1, 2006.

The difference between the total plan liability and current plan funding is \$6,521,418 as of Jan. 1, 2006. Projecting this amount forward to 2007, recognizing the 2006 contribution of \$4,700,000 produces an unfunded plan liability of \$2,146,667. This unfunded liability will be provided through non-plan funds that are held in various investment sources. The conference intends for contributions to be made within the 16-year period, ending December 31, 2021. The annual contribution is currently estimated to be \$235,692 based on 3 percent PSR increases.

Our conference funds plan benefits through several potential funding sources. Both the interest and principal of non-plan funds may be available for retirement funding needs. Below is a description of the non-plan assets available to pay the present value of future contributions:

- The conference maintains a deposit account with the General Board of Pension And Health Benefits that has a value of \$1,692,948 as of January 1, 2007. Both the interest and principal from this account are available to meet future contribution requirements.
- The conference maintains a Superannuate Endowment Fund with the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits that has a value of \$801,562 as of January 1, 2007. The original principal in this fund was \$146,247.

- The conference maintains two investment funds with the Mississippi United Methodist Foundation that have a value of \$3,554,731 as of January 1, 2007. Both the interest and principal from these accounts are available to meet funding requirements. The conference maintains an account with Union Planters Bank that has a value of \$556,307, which includes a deposit in transit of \$543,343, as of January 1, 2007. The account is available to meet future contribution requirements.

The funding plan as of January 1, 2007, is summarized below:

Supplement One Liability* of	
PSR Increase of 3%, 1/1/2006	\$(49,998,636)
Current Plan Funding, 1/1/2006	43,477,218
Plan Funded Status, 1/1/2006	\$(6,521,418)
Expected Interest at 7% to 12/31/2006	(456,499)
Contribution for 2006	4,700,000
Expected Interest at 7% to 12/31/2006	131,250
Plan Funded Status, 1/1/2007	\$(2,146,667)
Additional Plan Assets, 1/1/2007:	
General Deposit Account	\$ 1,692,948
Superannuate Endowment Fund	801,562
Methodist Foundation Trust	3,554,731
Union Planters Bank	556,307
Total Additional Plan Assets	\$ 6,605,548

\*Assuming 7% and the RP-2000 mortality table

*David Stotts, CPA, Conference Benefits Officer*

### 3. BOARD OF MEDICAL BENEFITS

The conference group health plan successfully added the High Deductible Plan in 2007, allowing the participants to fund a health savings account. The dental and vision policies were put into effect August 1, 2006. Both were well received, and the participant numbers exceeded expectations. The committee believes that a well-rounded program for managing health care and promoting wellness is now in place. The board continues to work to provide good health care benefits to eligible participants (active and retired) and their families. The board has begun utilizing a new wellness program provider that requires accountability before rewards are given. In order for this well-rounded plan to continue, care must be given to personal health care and to the paying of the insurance apportionment in full.

The board asked for no increase in the group insurance apportionment for 2007 so as to be in support of the zero percent budget increase recommended by the Council on Finance and Administration. Participants experienced at least an 11.5% increase in their premiums for 2007. The board calls to your attention that funding for the health plan is approximately 67 percent from apportioned dollars. The total apportionment recommendation for 2008 is \$5,155,857.

The remaining 33 percent of revenues required to meet our obligations will have to come from participant payments both for a part of the individual coverage and for dependent coverage. The board will recommend a rate increase to cover the approximate 33 percent remaining cost of the plan. As in 2006 the projected 2008 rates will be presented at Annual Conference for approval. The board asks permission to reduce the projected rates after a study of the first 9 months of utilization of 2007. The rates will be announced before November 1, 2007, to become effective January 1, 2008.

The following additions to the plan are being proposed by the board:

#### **Action Item 1**

The Board of Medical Benefits is proposing the following routine well care amendments to the language as defined in exhibit C, item 30, to be effective January 1, 2008.

The conference medical benefit plan currently covers in-network routine well care services at 100 percent up to \$200 for persons under age 50 and up to \$250 for persons age 50 and over.

The board is proposing that adult routine well care as defined in exhibit C, item 30, continue with the \$200/\$250 benefit and that the amounts exceeding the dollar limits be applied to the deductible and out-of-pocket amounts. The routine well care services (as recommended by the American Cancer Society) will be subject to the following limitations and are not covered for non-network providers.

**For Women:**

Mammogram

Ages 35-40

1 to establish a baseline

Age 40 and older

1 per calendar year

Pap Test

1 per calendar year

**For Men:**

Prostate Exam

Age 50 and older

1 per calendar year

**For Both Men and Women:**

One of the following exams after age 50

Colonoscopy

1 every 10 years

Fecal Occult Blood Test 1 per calendar year (Combined with flexible sigmoidoscopy)

Flexible Sigmoidoscopy

1 every 5 years

Double-Contrasted Barium Enema

1 every 5 years

Skin Exam (for people at high risk)

Over age 20

Every 3 years

Over age 40

1 per year

The committee is also recommending that costs exceeding the well baby care benefit as defined in exhibit C, item 30, be applied to the deductible and out-of-pocket costs.

**Action Item 2**

Beginning January 1, 2008, surviving spouses who were on the plan at the death of the clergy will be required to pay for their continued coverage. The cost will be the lesser of (a) the clergy cost with credit for the years served or (b) the spousal cost. It will be determined annually in the same manner.

All surviving spouses receiving health insurance coverage at no cost as of December 31, 2007, will continue to receive the coverage at no cost.

*Debra Strong, Chairperson  
David Stotts, CPA, Conference Benefits Officer  
Rev. Byrd Hillman, Jr., Liaison Officer*

## C. Ministerial Services Reports

### 1. BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

In 2006-2007, the Mississippi Conference Board of Ordained Ministry continues our work to strengthen our primary tasks. The primary task of the BOM is to credential pastors and provide oversight to the educational and continuing education process as part of that responsibility. Vital to our work is RIM (Residency in Ministry) for commissioned pastors and deacons. RIM participants meet monthly in peer groups, attend directed retreats and in other ways go through a process that both enhance their ministry and their interaction in the Ministry of the Mississippi Conference.

This year, the board focused attention on strengthening our relationship with pastors serving in Extension Ministry appointments. With the assistance of the Office of Ministerial Services, the board is contacting all extension ministry pastors to request clearer understanding of how they are living out their call to ministry as defined by the Discipline of the United Methodist Church. Each pastor is returning a paper based on questions initiated through the board.

Another area aimed at strengthening our primary task is renewed contact with persons on Leave. While there are various categories of leave as defined by the discipline, our attention has been to refine our records and improve our communication with those pastors, both for support and to improve our process. Regular meetings with Bishop Ward and the Mississippi Conference Cabinet have helped to clarify the responsibility of the board in relation to the cabinet and vice versa.

MEF (Ministerial Education Fund), directs the money given by Mississippi UM Churches to support ministerial education. The board interviewed candidates for ministry, offered guidance and leadership for further development, worked with the Center for Ministry to oversee the Course of Study for Local Pastors and in many other ways, worked to support the local church through the development and nurture of leadership.

Because ordained elders are required to complete a CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) unit, the board is working diligently with qualified personnel to establish a “Parish based” CPE that will be more assessable and will be more closely directed to the work of a parish pastor.

The board of ordained ministry is dedicated and committed to our task.

*Sam Morris, Chair*

## 2. ORDER OF DEACONS

2007 marks the 10th anniversary of The Order of Deacon and the 30th anniversary of Diaconal Ministry in the United Methodist Church. The call of the diaconate is to keep the church community connected to the hurts and needs of world and to equip and deploy persons to go into the world in the name of Jesus. The Mississippi Conference is blessed to have 30 Deacons and 5 Diaconal ministers who are actively serving in a variety of capacities in local churches and appointments beyond the local church.

Dianne Harms, chair of the Order, represented the Deacons at a January gathering at Simpsonwood, Georgia. Other chairs of the Order of Deacons along with chairs of the Elder and Local Pastor's groups, met together to discuss the ministry study undertaken at the direction of the 2004 General Conference and to give input to the committee.

In January deacons and diaconals gathered at Alta Woods for a meeting with Bishop Hope Morgan Ward to nurture our fellowship and answer the question “How is it with your soul?” It is good to support one another as we seek to serve faithfully and with energy.

A retreat was held May 1 at Wilsonwood Lodge in Vicksburg. We worshiped and tried a new art form with workshop leader Stacy Wills and we visited many soul-nourishing and interesting places in the Vicksburg area. One stop was a small chapel that had been put together using discarded pieces from abandoned buildings and churches. What a wonderful metaphor what Christ can do with the broken pieces of our lives!

Our yearly Breakfast Meeting was held on Wednesday morning at Annual Conference. We welcomed Diane Braman, who was commissioned on deacon track at this Annual Conference, as well as newly ordained Deacon Oscar McGough. We celebrated the ministry of retiring diaconal minister

Joy Carr, whose service spanned the globe. We made plans to meet September 29th to discuss issues pertinent to our Order.

*Dianne Harms, Chair*

## 3. ORDER OF ELDERS

During this year the Order sponsored the “Sanctuary Event” on February 18-19 at Wood Institute, Mathiston, MS. The event focused on “Growing in Community Together”. It was open to all clergy under appointment. We spent a majority of our time considering a number of implications surrounding the Study of Ministry Commission Report released in January, 2007. The Commission's report is to be brought before the 2008 General Conference.

As a part of the Sanctuary Event, we learned there is a need to develop a common theological as well as practical understanding of ordination among the clergy within the Mississippi Annual Conference. Presentations from laity, local pastors, Elders, and those presently enrolled in the Residency in Ministry process affirmed the important role constant, consistent and correct communication plays in assisting individuals who are proceeding through the licensing and/or ordination process. The same is needed to enable local congregations better relate to their pastor as she/he proceeds through the process.

Additionally, the Order worked closely with the Continuing Education Committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry in an effort to formulate a Conference wide policy for life long learning which is inclusive of both continuing education events and opportunities for continued spiritual formation. In response to a request from the Board of Ordained Ministry, the Order helped initiate a discussion centering upon developing a process whereby clergy delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences would be able to publicly declare their interest in serving as a delegate without “all the politicking” that some view to be inherent in the way the Annual Conference presently selects delegates. This discussion included the members of the Council of Elders, the Director of Connectional Ministries, the Chair of the Order of Deacons, the Ministerial Services Director, Chairs of the Division of Elders and Deacons on the Board of Ordained Ministry. While the discussion proved productive it was generally agreed that we should

build upon this initial work in the coming year with the goal of coming before a future conference with a proposal that would be in place in time to elect clergy delegates to the 2012 General Conference.

In the past year the Order of Elders has worked closely with the Center for Ministry in recognition of the important role each plays towards the enhancement of clergy well being as well as the local church.

*George Buel, Chair*

#### 4. CLERGY/DIACONAL EMERGENCY FUND

The Clergy/Diaconal Emergency Fund is set up to meet the needs of active clergy, including retired supplies, and diaconal ministers arising from dire financial circumstances created by temporary disability of clergy/diaconal families, hospital bills or other emergencies beyond their control.

Listed below are the receipts and disbursements of the Clergy/Diaconal Emergency Fund for 2006.

Balance January 1, 2006	\$3,207.71
Receipts:	
Interest Income	147.53
Contributions	110.00
Disbursements	0.00
Balance December 31, 2006	\$3,465.24

The guidelines for the Clergy/Diaconal Emergency Fund are as follows:

1. The District Superintendent will request action of the Clergy/Diaconal Emergency Fund Committee.
2. The Committee is accountable to the Annual Conference.
3. The Clergy/Diaconal Emergency Fund Committee will meet annually. Approval of applications will be made by the Executive Committee. They will keep other members informed of their decisions.
4. Requests will cover needs of active clergy, including retired supplies, and diaconal ministers arising from dire financial circumstances created by temporary disability, hospital bills or other emergencies beyond their control.
5. The maximum payment to any one applicant is limited to \$1,200 per year, a one time payment, or as funds are available.
6. Distributions will be made through The Mississippi United Methodist Foundation, Inc.
7. Income and disbursements of funds will be printed in the Conference Program Book.
8. A contribution from each clergy and diaconal person of \$10 minimum per year is recommended. Lay persons will be given an opportunity to contribute.
9. The Chairperson of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and the Chairperson of the Conference Finance and Administration will serve on the committee.

*Rev. Prentiss M. Gordon, Sr., Chairperson*

#### 5. EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

**Purpose:** “It is the purpose of the Commission on Equitable Compensation to support full-time clergy serving as pastors in the charges of the annual conference by (1) recommending conference standards for pastoral support; (2) administering funds to be used in base compensation supplementation; and (3) providing counsel and advisory material on pastoral support to district superintendents and committees on pastor-parish relations.” (*The Book of Discipline, 2004, Para. 624.2*)

**Policies and Guidelines:** In keeping with the above-stated purpose, the Commission on Equitable Compensation has established the following policies and guidelines for its work of supporting ministry in the local churches of our conference.

The term “equitable compensation” refers to a fair compensation rather than an equal compensation. An equitable compensation for a clergy person infers remuneration commensurate with the classification of the individual and the demands and responsibilities required to serve a particular charge. The Commission on Equitable Compensation must be concerned with equitable remuneration for all qualifying clergy persons involved in United Methodist ministry within our conference in small membership churches. It must be concerned with inequities resulting from excessive travel demands, cost of living,

and assignment of experienced leadership to new churches and special situations.

Funds granted by the commission will not be viewed as a permanent means of compensation supplements to a particular situation, but for providing additional funds for a specific period so an equitable compensation can be paid while the charge increases in its ability to pay. In situations where such growth is not viewed as possible, the bishop and Cabinet will consider realignment of charges to obtain needed support locally. *Churches approved for a Commission on Equitable Compensation grant or supplement will be eligible for only one grant per year.*

The commission will recommend compensation ranges and guidelines for all qualifying clergy persons and provide counsel and advisory materials on clergy compensation to district superintendents, pastors, and committees on Pastor-Parish Relations.

“In some instances, for missional reasons, consideration may be given by the conference commission on equitable compensation to make funds available for the deacon in full connection when the primary appointment is to a local church. Consistent with the provisions of this paragraph, the primary responsibility for the payment of pastoral base compensation remains with individual pastoral charges” (*The Book of Discipline, 2004*, paragraph 624.4 & 624.5)

Membership: The Commission on Equitable Compensation shall be a 15-member body composed of one representative from each district, three at-large members, and a district superintendent named by the Cabinet. In accordance with *The Book of Discipline, 2004*, paragraph 624, these shall represent an equal number of lay and clergypersons.

## Compensation Ranges and Guidelines

### I. Classifications of Clergy Compensation

The equitable compensation base, taking into consideration the percentage increase of the conference average compensation, or CAC will be:

■ Full Connection	\$32,823
■ Probationary (education requirements for elder completed)	30,197
■ Probationary (education requirements for elder not completed)	27,781
■ Associate	27,781
■ Full Time Local Pastor	25,558
■ Full Time Student Local Pastor	23,513

The policy of this Commission is to supplement no more than 25% per appointment and therefore the local charge is strongly encouraged to pay an amount at least equal to the following in each category:

*Note: See Charge Qualifications, B.1*

■ Full Connection	\$24,617
■ Probationary (educational requirements for elder completed)	22,648
■ Probationary (educational requirements for elder not completed)	20,836
■ Associate	20,836
■ Full Time Local Pastor	19,168
■ Full Time Student Local Pastor	17,641

### II. Qualifications for Receiving Supplementary Compensation Support

#### A. Pastoral Qualifications

1. To be a claimant, a pastor must live within the bounds of the charge to which he/she is appointed. Pastors serving charges without a parsonage and one member of a clergy couple may be exempted from this requirement by Executive Committee action in consultation with the district superintendent prior to appointment.
2. In order to be considered “full-time” for purposes of qualifying for Equitable Compensation support, a pastor must work 40 hours on his/her charge and no more than 15 hours per week at any other employment. This must be certified by the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee of the charge and the district superintendent.
3. A pastor must have earned the continuing education credit as set by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry.
4. Local pastors must pursue the Course of Study presented to them or secure exemption by provision of *The Book of Discipline* requirements. Student local pastors certified by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry may be accorded full-time status and may receive supplementary compensation support, provided he/she lives on the bounds of the charge and his/her primary

source of income is from the charge being served. A student pastor may be exempt from the workload as defined under B below.

5. Persons without a valid local pastor's license employed by a district superintendent to serve a charge will not be eligible for supplemental compensation support.
  6. An assistant or associate pastor, minister of music, minister of education, or pastor(s) serving a church or charge of less than three churches employing more than one person on its professional staff, including the pastor, will not be eligible for compensation supplement from this commission.
  7. Travel supplement may be provided when total charge compensation is less than \$13,000 per year. He/she may receive \$900 annually if he/she travels more than 20 miles but less than 40 miles one way to his/her charge or \$1,200 annually if the distance is more than 40 miles one way.
  8. The same support may be given full time student local pastors when they travel this distance one way to school from their residence on the charge if their academic work is required to meet Board of Ordained Ministry guidelines.
- B. Charge Qualifications
1. The stated minister's compensation will include the total income and allowances paid by the pastoral charge, district, or other supplements.
  2. Charges must pay at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the equitable compensation scale for the current pastor serving the charge.
  3. No charge will participate in the fund if it reduces the compensation level below the previous year, unless such reduction is deemed justifiable by the Commission after recommendation by the District Superintendent in writing.
  4. No charge or church will be considered for supplementary support through the commission that does not provide a workload for the minister. A workload in this policy will be defined as a church or charge that has at least 150 members and/or at least three churches. A student pastor may be exempt from the workload as defined above.
  5. Station churches will not be eligible for Equitable Compensation support except in unusual circumstances which must be approved by the Executive Committee of Equitable Compensation after the Cabinet has made the request. One year is allowed to work this out. New churches are an exception.
  6. Charges with pastors receiving supplementary support will have a service of worship every Sunday, with due consideration for adequate services for each church.
  7. The charge whose minister receives supplementary support will provide a minimum of two (2) weeks paid vacation, including two (2) Sundays annually for the minister; and will provide expenses for a guest minister or lay speaker in the minister's absence.
  8. The district superintendent will be requested to share with the charge conference the following for information purposes only: the first sentence of paragraph three on page one of the Policies and Guidelines of this Commission will be stated to the charge conference; in addition, B.2 under Charge Qualifications and the amount of salary or travel supplement their pastor is receiving will be stated.

### III. Special Categories

#### A. New Church Development and New Church Revitalizations

New Church Development is defined as a new congregation organized where there is not presently a United Methodist Church. A new church revitalization is an existing church which exhibits outstanding potential for growth due to population changes and development may be declared a new church situation. A thorough study will be made to determine the need, support, and potential for each project.

1. The commission may participate in helping provide salary support for new church situations.
2. \$140,000 may be provided for compensation support for each new church situation for the first 5 and 1/12 years:

June to December (first year)	\$17,500
First full year	35,000
Second year	35,000
Third year	26,250



Fourth year	17,500
Fifth year	8,750
Total	*\$140,000

\*The \$140,000 reflects an increase of \$9,400 beginning in the year January 2008.

3. The procedure for qualifying for this compensation supplement:
    - a. A year's written notice of intent and for the study of the project, with the endorsement of the Cabinet, will be filed with the commission at its December meeting. The Cabinet with the approval of the commission may reduce the one-year's notice to six months in special situations.
    - b. Following the study for the project, a written application for funding the project will be presented to the commission the following December with supporting documentation and plans for the new church situation.
    - c. The project must have the unanimous approval of the Cabinet, certified in writing by their secretary.
    - d. The project must have the approval and endorsement of the New Church Development Commission or New Church Revitalization Commission.
    - e. The pastor appointed to the project must have at least four (4) years experience in the pastoral ministry.
  4. In no case will Equitable Compensation funds be used to support a minister beyond 150 percent of the applicable Equitable Compensation Scale, including the existing salary of the relocating/revitalizing church. In the case that the existing salary is decreased, the commission will not participate in such project according to our guidelines.
  5. Before funding will be granted for successive years, the pastor and Council on Ministries or Church Council must submit an annual report which identifies the specific plans and goals for advancement in ministry, which the pastor and church/charge anticipate the grant to enable. In addition, they will include an evaluation of the progress in ministry made the previous year.
  6. Each situation will be evaluated on its own merit.
- B. Cooperative or Exceptional Ministries
1. The "director" or "coordinator" must be a full conference member who has other clergy persons under his/his supervision. The clergyperson serving as "director" or "coordinator" must live within the bounds of the parish and meet the requirements of the annual conference Commission on Cooperative Parish Ministries.
  2. The maximum amount that the Equitable Compensation Commission may provide per year for this support is \$1,200 over the maximum Equitable Compensation support. If the director is not receiving regular Equitable Compensation supplements, a maximum of \$3,600 annually may be available.
  3. For directors to receive supplementary support, applications must be submitted in the same manner as applications for regular Equitable Compensation support.
  4. Before funding will be granted for successive years, the director must submit an annual report which identifies plans and specific goals for the coming year. This report will include an evaluation of the progress in ministry made the previous year.
  5. In no case will Equitable Compensation funds be used to support a minister beyond 150 percent of the applicable Equitable Compensation scale.

ECD is a fund geared to meeting some leadership needs in ethnic churches where there is a need for leadership with special expertise.

1. A maximum of \$10,000 per project may be allocated annually for each project. Clergy supplements from other sources will be considered in determining the amount granted from the Commission on Equitable Compensation.
2. For each additional year that approval is granted, the funding will be reduced by 25 percent from the beginning support figure.
3. The pastor must be a seminary graduate or have experience and proven ability to produce in the area of the particular need.
4. The Cabinet must approve and submit the projects to this commission 60 days prior to making the appointment.

#### D. Unique Mission Ministries

1. This category is designed to give additional support for “special situations” by providing Equitable Compensation for a pastor assigned by the bishop to serve an unusual appointment in which the charge cannot pay an adequate compensation.
2. Requests for funding will be initiated and approved by the bishop and Cabinet and forwarded to the chairperson of the commission not less than 60 days prior to Annual Conference. The request will identify the uniqueness of the church situation proposed for this enablement and, the specific qualifications of the pastor. In addition, the request will identify the specific goals for advancement in ministry, which the grant is anticipated to enable.
3. Funding for a Unique Mission Ministry will be considered and decided annually by the Commission on Equitable Compensation. There will be a limit of six (6) years of funding for the approved project with first-year support limited to a maximum of \$6,000. For each additional year that approval is granted, the funding will be reduced by \$1,000 per year from the beginning support figure.

#### E. Contingency Fund

If a situation arises which does not meet the guidelines but falls within the realm of responsibility of the Commission on Equitable Compensation, funding may be made available from the Contingency Fund of the Commission on Equitable Compensation.

### IV. Strategies for Vitalization

It should be the goal of every church/charge to become vital and self-supporting. To help bring this about, it is the mission of the Commission on Equitable Compensation to provide fair compensation support for a limited period. It is the goal of this commission to support ministerial leadership to those who can help in bringing a vital ministry to the church/charge. To this end, the commission will provide guidance and information on clergy support to district superintendents, pastors, and committees on Pastor-Parish Relations.

*Steve McAlilly, Chair  
Riley Burton, Vice-Chair  
Mitchell B. Hedgepeth, Secretary*

## D. Other Reports

### 1. MISSION OUTREACH

#### a. The Baddour Center

Since 1978, The Baddour Center has fulfilled its mission by offering a model residential community for adults with mild and moderate intellectual disabilities in an environment designed to promote maximum growth intellectually, spiritually, physically, socially, emotionally and vocationally. The Mississippi Conference helps us achieve this mission! The Baddour Center believes that individual potential is defined by God-given talent, not limitations, and we are committed to providing residents a place where blessings abound.

The Baddour Center offers 171 men and women a life that is tailored to their individual needs. Residents live in one of 14 group homes or in one of 4 on-campus duplex apartments. These men and women represent diverse religious backgrounds and ethnicities. Residents move to Senatobia from across the United States and currently come from 24 states.

The residents of The Baddour Center want to make valuable contributions to their communities; however, because of their disabilities, this can sometimes be difficult. At Baddour, residents are part of a special community created specifically to meet their needs, where they live, work, worship and enjoy life while reaching their full potential.

The Center's ministry includes the following programs and services:

■ The Programs and Residential Services Division designs and implements programs that assist residents with day-to-day living skills. Its purpose is to provide individual instruction in independent living skills in a warm, comfortable, family atmosphere. Each resident has a specially tailored living arrangement and individualized habilitation plan which is monitored and assessed regularly. With the guidance of

live-in "moms," called Direct Support Professionals, residents learn independent living skills, including household management, food preparation, money management and social skills.

■ The Community Life Division provides residents with opportunities to develop a strong spiritual base through ecumenical worship services and Bible study classes, appropriate social interaction, improved health and physical fitness, and talents in the expressive arts program. There are an abundance of recreation and leisure activities available for residents to participate in on a daily basis. Residents frequently take advantage of off-campus trips, including going to the movies, restaurants, sporting events and performances. Residents love going places and doing things and Community Life provides them with plenty of opportunities to do so.

■ The Vocational Division runs the on-campus work complexes where residents are employed. The Center offers innovative vocational programs that emphasize safety and quality, and instill a sense of confidence in residents. Vocational programs are designed to offer residents the opportunity to work in a positive, encouraging environment that builds self-esteem and helps them experience the reward of earning their own income.

■ The Horticulture Division operates the on-campus wholesale and retail nursery and greenhouses where residents are also employed. Residents who work there cultivate retail-quality plants for sale in the Baddour Garden & Gift Shoppe and to various retail outlets in the region. One of The Center's goals is to position the Shoppe to become a premier nursery in North Mississippi.

■ The Education & Research Division was established to promote quality living for all adults with intellectual disabilities, including those who live and work outside The Center's service delivery system. It is our belief that, through education and research, The Center can encourage the continued advancement of improved services and supports to this population. The Education & Research Division's goal is to develop programs that will establish The Center as an education and research resource in the fields of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Providing a well-rounded life experience for adults with intellectual disabilities depends on partners like you. As a faith-based, privately-funded organization, The Baddour Center does not accept any state or federal funding. In order to compensate for the real costs not covered by tuition and vocational income, The Center relies heavily on the contributions of generous individuals, churches, corporations, organizations and foundations that share The Center's vision and wish to invest in the lives of others.

The Baddour Center takes its responsibility of being good stewards seriously. The Center spends 87 percent of its annual budget to provide comprehensive resident care and to develop innovative programs and services for each resident and their family. The Center's administrative and fundraising costs are only 13 percent of the total annual budget.

For over 28 years, The Baddour Center's primary goal has been to promote the self-sufficiency and self-worth of individuals with intellectual disabilities. Since its inception, The Baddour Center has held steadfast to its vision of ensuring an environment where men and women with intellectual disabilities can lead lives of dignity and hope. Through opportunities made available to them by The Center, residents can achieve goals, develop lifelong friendships and make their greatest dreams come true.

I am pleased to report that we have made many achievements during the past year. Our residents and staff have accomplished many new and wonderful things. People who have recently visited The Center will find the overall appearance different in many ways. First, we renovated the Baddour Garden & Gift Shoppe. It is amazing what new paint, new signage, a new roof, and updated structural aesthetics can do to generate increased customer interest. It also helps significantly that the Garden & Gift Shoppe purchased new display tables and increased its product offering. Of course, customers continue to receive the attentive care and assistance that all customers want and deserve from our staff.

Second, Baddour's newly-updated logo is appearing more and more places. People from Senatobia to Memphis to New York City have seen "Squiggly" on the sides of our MCI bus. He's also been spotted on other Baddour vehicles, the sides of Baddour's vocational complexes, and in The Center's publications. An increasing number of Baddour families and friends now more easily identify The Center through this "branding," making it thus far an effective marketing strategy.

Even more important than what we've done to the outside of The Center is what we've done on the inside. The Education & Research Division continues to increase its presence on the Baddour campus, hosting two symposia, conducting group and individual sessions and classes, and coordinating and enhancing the professional development of our staff. Education & Research challenges each of us to think more deeply about the quality of care we provide residents, what that is and why it is so important, and the manner in which we deliver it. One such quality improvement has been the welcome addition of a

cutting-edge resident software program. Once fully integrated, we expect to manage and utilize data much more easily, resulting in a greater ability to assess and serve The Center's residents.

These are just a few of the exciting things that happened at The Baddour Center in the past year. Please understand that none of these accomplishments would be possible were it not for the generous support of the many families, friends, churches, companies, foundations, and, yes, residents and staff who share the vision of The Center. We are thankful that so many different people believe in our ministry to provide a total life experience for adults with intellectual disabilities. Baddour supporters make all of this happen!

God has blessed us with the privilege of touching many lives over the past 28 years. We give thanks to the Mississippi Conference and all its members for helping The Center make a significant difference in the life of every resident who calls Baddour "home." The Lord is truly doing wonderful things at The Baddour Center and we would love to have you be a part! For more information about our mission and ministry or to make arrangements for a tour, contact The Baddour Center at 1.888.4BADDOUR.

*Parke Pepper, Executive Director*

## **b. Camping Ministries Committee**

As we move further away from Katrina each year, our conference-related camps are moving ahead. Ravaged natural areas are showing signs of new life, and the scars of wind and water are healing.

Gulfside Assembly and Seashore Assembly continue to be "locations of recovery", sheltering and feeding hundreds of volunteers who still make their way to the Gulf Coast. Both of these facilities are continuing to find their way as they work to re-establish their ministries despite huge obstacles. As this report is written, both are involved in decision making processes about their future ministry and facilities.

As the annual conference has moved into doing its youth ministry differently, Camp Lake Stephens and Wesley Pines (and Seashore Assembly to an extent) are heavily involved in the programmatic aspects of the conference's ministry, with camp staffs taking direct responsibility for many youth ministry events. As our young people celebrate their connection as United Methodists and share in retreat experiences in larger settings, the camps are thrilled to serve as their venue and sponsor, and are committed to providing outstanding faith development opportunities.

As the A2 Indicators have shown, ministries for children and youth are high on the priority list of our United Methodist congregations in Mississippi, and our Mississippi United Methodist camps will continue to strive to extend hospitality and effective ministry to these age groups, as well as to adults of any age.

The quality of our camping ministries are reflected by the service of Darrell Whitaker, Director of Camp Lake Stephens, at the national level of United Methodist camping. Darrell has represented the Mississippi Conference at the National Summit of United Methodist camping leaders, and has been selected as part of a group that will further define United Methodist camping in the future.

What does the future hold? That is an unfolding story on the Gulf Coast, but the annual conference can look for some definitive movement on issues of location and re-building in the coming year. You can also look for a renewal of off-site camping and continued renovations as issues related to aging buildings are addressed.

Camping Ministries Sunday will again be observed in September, and we encourage all of our Mississippi congregations to receive that offering, as well as to support our camps through regular apportionment payment. Better yet, send us your campers, and you'll see how lives are changed as God works through Christian camping!

Working harder than ever before, our camping institutions continue to be a shining light of ministry across the state. We are thankful for your continuing support.

*David W. Carroll, Chairperson Camping Ministries Committee*

### **1. Camp Lake Stephens**

In September of 2006 Camp Lake Stephens celebrated our 60th anniversary. Over the past 60 years God has blessed us in so many wonderful and incredible ways and continues to do so each and every day. I would like to mention three of these areas:

1. Summer Camp - Over the years our summer camp program has been our primary mission and this

past summer we experienced an exceptional summer. Over 1,400 children and youth attended one of our camp sessions setting a new attendance record. We started our "adventure camp" program with a Junior High white-water rafting trip to the Ocoee River in Tennessee, which was extremely successful.

2. Year Round Programming - For a couple of years our Board has had a vision to move into programming throughout the year for children, youth, and adults of all ages. This past year we sponsored two older adult days, a confirmation retreat, and a youth worker training retreat. All were well attended and growing experiences.

3. Capital Improvements - We continue to work hard to upgrade our facilities. Thanks to the help of two NOMAD work teams we have renovated the restrooms and Program Office in the Ad Building. Also, our lake has been drained, our levee rebuilt, a new drain system has been installed, and lots of cleanup around the lake has been completed. The lake is now safer and looking better than it has in years!

As always, we are so thankful for the support we receive from the Annual Conference and each local church that helps us out by paying their Camp Lake Stephens apportionments. Because of your support we are able to grow and minister to the needs of our children, youth, and adults in a variety of ways.

We also thank all the volunteers who have come out over the last year and helped us clean up, paint, and renovate. Thanks for giving of your time so unselfishly!

The future is bright at Camp Lake Stephens! God is at work and we are excited about the new direction God is leading us.

*Darrell Whitaker Executive Director*

## **2. Gulfside Assembly**

In Waveland, Mississippi, sifting on 60 acres facing the Gulf of Mexico, there is a special place called Gulfside Assembly. It was founded in 1923 by Robert E. Jones, the first Black Methodist Bishop, who raised much of the money for it by asking people to save their pennies. It was the only place Blacks and their friends could meet for spiritual, educational and recreational activities in that era. Gulfside served the entire Central (Black) Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church until the merger of Central Jurisdiction (Black churches) into their regional geographical areas during the late sixties.

Gulfside has enjoyed a glorious heritage and also suffered its share of difficulties. It is recognized by The United Methodist Church as a Historical Site as well as by the State of Mississippi. Since there was no public school for Blacks during that time, Gulfside provided a boarding school for boys from rural areas, a day school for children from the community and a theological training center for Blacks pastors and lay persons from surrounding states of Texas, Louisiana, Alabama and all over the segregated South. Many prominent United Methodist leaders trace their spiritual roots back to Gulfside.

### **Marian Martin Retires**

Marian Martin retired as Executive Director of Gulfside Assembly. A service to honor her years of leadership is being planned by the Gulfside Board.

Marian Martin came to Gulfside for the first time in a temporary assignment. She returned to become the permanent Executive Director in 1989. Marian served Gulfside faithfully for seventeen (17) years. Through her connections across the Church, she was able to bring in assistance and people to rally around the needs of Gulfside. Her whole tenure was a missional service to the church. Her work was not about her, it was about making a difference in the lives of the people she served. The community, the people, the Board of Trustees and all who met Marian through her work will remember her faithfulness. She restored a strong presence and reclaimed a vote of confidence in Gulfside with the community.

### **Gulfside Staff Returns to Waveland**

After Katrina, all of Gulfside's buildings, including the newly dedicated Bishop Alfred L. Norris Center, were gone; the staff temporarily relocated to Atlanta, Georgia. One year later, Wilma Dunbar, our missionary and Business Manager returned to Waveland, Mississippi.

Our office has relocated back on the grounds of Gulfside's property. We share an office in the UMCOR building. We were asked by Bishop Hope Morgan Ward if it would be possible for UMCOR and Mississippi Disaster Recovery team to locate their building and equipment at Gulfside to work out to Waveland and surrounding areas. We saw this as an opportunity to partner in ministry along with the Amish Community Aid Relief Effort (C.A.R.E.) group. They came in January 2006 to also do mission volunteer work in the surrounding communities. Gulfside is hosting these two groups on our site and in doing so we feel a part of sharing the wonderful ministry that is happening on the Gulf Coast.

### **Gulfside's Future**

The Board is planning for the future very aggressively. We have paid down all of our indebtedness and a "Long Range Planning Strategy Team" is in place to take a look at the needs of Gulfside and its ministry for the future. Dr. Earl Bledsoe, Texas Conference, is Chairperson of this group. We have retained Ms. Tina Z. Moore-Council, owner and chief consultant of "I Am Pleased Development Center," to lead us through this process. What we will look like...? What will our ministry be...? When will all of this happen...? Only God really knows. This one thing we do know...we are moving forward; we are wide open to the directions of the Holy Spirit; and we will not be restricted by what was. For eight-three (83) years through many toils and tribulations, Gulfside has overcome. "WE DON'T BELIEVE THAT GOD HAS BROUGHT US THIS FAR TO LEAVE US NOW."

### **Where Do You Fit into the Picture?**

Gulfside Assembly and the Board of Trustees want to say thanks for the support that you have given us in the past. We as a Board know that you will continue to support Gulfside's ministry and we applaud you for that. We pray for the connectational system and all that it means to us as a church.

We are on target with God and seeking His guidance as we move into the future with greater hope than ever before. There are on-going listening and focus groups to offer feedback and suggested directions for Gulfside's future. Three groups have met so far in Dallas, Texas, Waveland, Mississippi, and Houston, Texas. Observations that have been gathered from the groups will be shared with the participants and throughout the Church.

The youth continue to be part of Gulfside's present and future. Fifteen youth participated in the annual Mission Education Studies Seminar which includes the College Tour and Harambee Event in June 2006. We are working on the plans for 2007.

Other Jurisdictions and Annual Conferences that are continuing us in their 2007 budgets are the Louisiana Conference (Bishop Hutchinson), the Texas Conference (Bishop Huie), and the Missouri Conference (Bishop Schnase) as well as the Southeastern Jurisdiction. A special thanks to the Texas Conference (Bishop Huie) who provided much needed funds to assist with the clean-up of Gulfside's property. The National Community Developers also responded to this need and have our appreciation. Certainly we say, "To God Be The Glory For All That God Has Done" for all of us. As a fellow United Methodist this means a lot to me personally as I travel across the Jurisdiction and beyond encouraging and informing churches on the importance of paying conference apportionments.

Our thanks go out to the many volunteers from the Mississippi, Missouri, Kansas, Florida, Colorado, and Virginia Conferences who helped with the restoration of the Thelma Stevens House where Wilma Dunbar lives. We also thank those from the Black Staff Forum, the Mississippi and Arkansas Conferences, and the Pacific Northwest Conference Camp and Retreat Program who volunteered and helped with the clean-up of the property.

Support Gulfside through the Capital Advance. (1) Make your checks payable to your local church. Write Gulfside Assembly and the Advance code number 760235 on the check and give it to your church treasurer, so that your local church and annual conference will get Advance credit; (2) Make your checks payable to "Advance GCFA." Write Gulfside Assembly and the Advance code number on the check. Send your checks to GCFA, P.O. Box 9068, GPO, New York, NY 10087-9068; (3) Call (888) 252-6174 to give by credit card; (4) Send direct gifts to P.O. Box 27 - Waveland, MS 39576.

Thank you for your interest and prayers. We eagerly look forward to hearing from you.

*Mollie M. Stewart, President, Gulfside Board of Trustees*

## **3. Seashore United Methodist Assembly**

God's gift to us does not always come wrapped in pretty packages. These gifts do not always come at what we would perceive to be the best times or in the most pristine settings, but they are just as richly God's gifts of Grace. A favorite gift of scripture for many people is 1 Corinthians 13, commonly called "the Love Chapter." This gift was given to the church in the midst of a letter to settle church squabbles in a town that was known for its immorality. At Seashore United Methodist Assembly (Camp SUMA) our neighborhood is not a forest; our neighbor's do not all go to church, but God has given us a gift of Grace in this wonderful setting for spiritual growth and renewal under some of the most beautiful oaks on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.



Camp SUMA has been busy this year with three different Disaster Relief Agencies here on the facility. We have fed and provided lodging for the thousands of volunteers, from all over the United States that has come to rebuild the Gulf Coast due to Hurricane Katrina. We were able to have two camps this summer for the alumni only, one was Jr. High Camp and the other was the Elementary Camp. They were sponsored by various scholarships. They were able to get away from their destroyed homes and come to CAMP SUMA and be filled spiritually and mentally. CONVO was able to hold their two and half day event here. SUMA put up a huge tent with 3 00 chairs, where Bishop Hope Morgan Ward was able to come out and speak to 300 youth. CONVO has agreed to hold their 2007 event here on Camp SUMA Grounds.

Much of our ministry is in the area of providing care to those on the Gulf Coast, who were effected by Hurricane Katrina. We hope to provide in the near future a new enclosed facility that would enlarge our program to receive many larger retreat groups and allow the flexibility of having more than one group in camp at a time.

*David Cumbest, Board Chair & Art Steinaway, Director*

#### **4. Wesley Pines Conference, Retreat, and Camping Center Gallman, MS**

Wesley Pines Conference, Retreat and Camping Center has been greatly blessed again this past year. The Board of Trustees is happy to report that with the outstanding leadership of Rev. Ted Giordano, we are continuing to experience growth and spiritual enrichment. Our facilities have been filled to capacity with summer camps as well as retreats and conferences.

Our summer camping program was a great success with excellent leaders and staff. Many children and youth developed a Christian relationship with our Lord. Also, groups and conference enjoyed a beautiful, peaceful setting for their meetings.

One of your long-range plans includes adding another Younger Elementary Camp, since we have such a demand for this age group! We are very happy to see this growth. There are many exciting challenges ahead for us, and we will continue to pray for the support of the Mississippi Conference and others who feel led.

Wesley Pines enjoyed a wonderful, spiritually enriched year. We look forward to the future as we plan even greater goals and opportunities to serve Him!

*Rosie Rhodes, Chairman of the Board*

#### **c. Choctaw United Methodist Mission Philadelphia, MS**

It is my privilege to report that The Mississippi Choctaw United Methodist Mission has made a lot of progress this year. The Board of Directors has worked hard and know that God gets all the praise. We have a hard time financially; but the Conference has helped us tremendously. We are still struggling but we will become more spiritually- minded and make more progress.

Although the churches that come under the Mission have a smaller amount in apportionments, they have begun to pay their fair share. That is both the District and Conference. Since the Katrina hurricanes, the amount of donations we previously received decreased drastically. We are glad that we have not been completely forgotten. There are still some churches and individuals who remember us.

Green Hill will have four Lay Speakers after this Lay Speaker session is over with. I praises God for these persons commitment to God. Great Spirit in Bok Chitto community is having great success in ministering to the children. John Memorial U.M.C. has a lot of potential also.

I could just go on with the great move of God in our area. However we must keep pressing on. This is my last report because I am retiring this year. Again, I have been blessed by coming here and being a servant with you all. I thank God for Diane Wood and Ms. Patricia Battle' Ms. Battle has helped us tremendously.

In closing, I ask you all to remember the Choctaw Mission in your prayers and financial support. Despite of the rumors, the Choctaw Tribe does not give any money to the Mission. I invite you all to come and visit with us.

*Charles Battiest, Director*



### **d. Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns Committee**

The Conference Committee on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns takes their task to interpret, advocate, and work for the unity of the Christian Church very seriously. The committee's desire for the coming years is to continue educating and participating in various ecumenical ministries. Also, we hope to stimulate understanding and conversations with other Christian bodies and other major world religions.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the committee did not meet for over a year. The committee realized that although we had not met, Christian unity was achieved during the recovery and ongoing rebuilding efforts in South Mississippi. The work of our fellow brothers and sisters in the vineyard proved we can do more together than alone. The enthusiasm of the committee has provided a clear direction that we wish to take our conference. One such effort of the committee was the endorsement of Wood Institute's efforts to work with small membership churches and rural ministries of other Christian faiths. Also, Mississippi is fortunate to have and host, The Legacy of Timbuktu: Wonders of the Written Word, as an exhibit to help educate and inform. On behalf of our conference, a \$500 contribution was made to support and advertise the exhibit. In addition, the committee unanimously sent to Bishop Ward our recommendation to have open dialogue with representatives of the Muslim faith. Our committee is also excited about an opportunity to celebrate a shared Service of Holy Communion with the Episcopal Church in Mississippi at our Annual Conference.

Our Conference is stepping up as a leader within the United Methodist Church to promote Christian unity and interreligious concerns. Therefore, it is the goal of the Conference Committee on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns for the United Methodist Church in Mississippi to be committed to the work of the Body of Christ.

*John M Mc Cay, III, Chair*

### **e. Church and Society**

The United Methodist Church has a long tradition of activism and advocacy with regard to issues of social justice. The purpose of the Church and Society committee in the Mississippi Conference is to make Mississippi United Methodists aware of the pressing social justice issues in our local communities and state. The preamble of our Social Principles states: "Grateful for God's forgiving love, in which we live and by which we are judged, and affirming our belief in the inestimable worth of each individual, we renew our commitment to become faithful witnesses to the gospel, not alone to the ends of earth, but also to the depths of our common life and work."

The Church and Society committee is committed to supporting the work of the five key quadrennial initiatives of the Mississippi Conference. In particular, Religion and Society seeks to support Congregations for Children and racial reconciliation in our state and congregations.

As the needs and initiatives of the Mississippi Conference change and evolve, the Church and Society will thoughtful and prayerfully seek new ways to connect the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all aspects of our personal and social lives.

*Rev. J. Eric Pridmore*

### **f. Delta Resources Committee, Inc. Greenville, MS**

Delta Resources Committee, Inc. (DRC) has been involved in several areas this year striving toward the goal of improving the quality of life of the persons we serve.

#### **1. Emergency Relief and Welfare**

Four hundred twenty-five (425) heads of household passed through our doors seeking service. We were financially able to serve only seventy-six (76) of these families representing two hundred twenty-eight (228) persons. Assistance was provided as follows: 44- lights, 14-gas, 12-water, 3-rent, 1-medicine, 1-fire victim, 1-household items.

Three hundred forty-nine (349) of these families were referred to other agencies for assistance as follows: 158-lights, 77-gas, 39-water, 35-rent, 6-transportation, 9-medicine, 4-furniture, 1-burn victim, 4-clothing, 4-food, 1-insulin needles, & housing, 1-docor's bills, 1-school supplies, 2-air conditioner, 2-school uniforms, 1-rook repairs, 1-Thanksgiving dinner, 1-funeral expenses, 1-medical bill, 1-house note.

*Note: The \$6000 grant received from King's Daughters and Sons Circle Number Two, Inc. designated for emergency relief was a blessing. The grant covers a twelve month period beginning in September, 2006. Quarterly reports including an itemized summary of disbursements are required.*

2. Cadet Program (after school-referrals from Youth Court)

DRC provided the services of an Americorps member for several months to assist in tutoring.

3. Hope Ministries

The Americorps member assigned to DRC is presently serving with Hope ministries, the new church development project. The financial share for DRC was provided by the Greenwood District of The United Methodist Church. It should be noted that the service year for this member ends August, 2007.

4. Good Samaritan Health Center

DRC participated in the development of the Center and is presently serving as the fiscal agent until the Center receives it 501c(3) status.

## **g. Edwards Street Fellowship Center**

The mission of Edwards Street Fellowship Center (ESFC) is to proclaim God's love through services to families and individuals with special needs and limited resources.

Edwards Street Fellowship Center has a 28-year history of ministry to families in a low-income area of southeast Hattiesburg. Currently, ESFC offers the following services:

### **Adolescent Girls' Program**

■ Provides a supportive group setting for girls to form friendships and develop life skills. The program enables the girls to:

■ Receive information, support, and encouragement in dealing with the challenges of the pre-teen years.

■ Learn to set goals, work together, and reach out to others.

### **Adult Programs**

There is an overwhelming need for services to adults which ESFC has just begun to address. Families are dealing with limited resources, rising cost of living expenses, and isolation. Our vision is to implement an Adult Education Program to address these social issues. The program currently in place is:

■ Monthly senior women's "day out" which provides a noon luncheon, devotional, and short program.

### **Boy Scout and Cub Scout Troops**

Currently four Scout Troops use our facilities for weekly meetings.

As Scouts they:

■ Learn by doing and working together.

■ Develop leadership skills.

■ Acquire life skills as they work to earn badges and experience camping.

### **Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry provides emergency food to families that fall at or below 130% of the Federal Poverty Level. Numbers have increased from 350 families served January 2006, to 641 families served December 2006. The food pantry is supported by many churches and individuals in the Hattiesburg District of the United Methodist Church. ESFC is an approved distribution agency of the Mississippi Food Network which provides for purchase of USDA surplus food at a reasonable cost. The food pantry is:

■ Operated primarily by volunteer workers.

■ Follows all the USDA guidelines for distribution of food to individuals

### **Small Miracles Child Development Center**

Small Miracles offers quality, multi-cultural, pre-school educational services to children between the ages of six weeks and five years.

The program:

■ Serves up to 30 children in a licensed facility at Court Street UMC.

■ Gives enrollment priority to parents pursuing education or job training goals.

■ Offers a sliding ability-to-pay tuition scale.

■ Accepts payment subsidies through "The District".

■ Provides lunch and snacks through federally funded Child and Adult Care Nutrition Program.

### Summer Programs for Children

Summer Programming offers a variety of enrichment and spiritual growth experiences. Summer activities include:

- Swimming lessons at the YMCA.
- Vacation Bible School
- Field trips and enrichment activities.
- Summer Reading Program.

ESFC recently began a capitol improvement project. Plans are underway to obtain new property and construct a new Food Pantry building. To continue operating the food pantry at the current level, a facility suitable for the storage and distribution of the food is critically needed. Presently, the storage space for the food, work area for the volunteers, and reception area for the families waiting to be served are totally inadequate. Parking in front of the building is limited and drivers leaving the food pantry have to back into a heavily traveled street. The continuation of our mission to supply emergency food to people in need is contingent on acquiring suitable facilities in a safer location.

Financial contributions by individuals and churches have increased somewhat in 2007. Volunteers continue to be utilized extensively in all program areas and in the upkeep of the facilities, grounds, and equipment. To obtain specific information about how your congregation can support the ministries at ESFC, contact us at 601-544-6149.

## h. Ethnic Local Church Concerns

The United Methodist Church is an inclusive church, reflecting the various gifts and graces of all ethnic people. This committee helps insure no ethnic group is left out of the body of Christ. Specifically, the ELCC provides for these functions:

- Keeping the vision of the ethnic local church concerns before the conference;
- Providing guidance and resources to the churches in the conference as they minister with and to ethnic constituencies;
- Coordinating conference strategies related to the ethnic local church concerns, including general church emphases and initiatives;
- Providing a forum for dialogue among the ethnic constituencies, as well as with conference agencies;
- Promoting training for conference and congregational leaders;
- Promoting and interpreting ethnic local church concerns to the conference; and
- Working with the conference to identify and nurture leaders, lay and clergy, of ethnic communities.

The committee gives oversight to three ethnic ministries/plans: Strengthening the Black Church (SBC), Hispanic Ministries, and Native American Ministries.

Highlights of this year include:

1. Working with a pilot project to help churches on transition from part time to full time mini.
2. Planning to work with ethnic churches to provide resources and technical assistance in response to A2 indicators.
3. Twenty three people from the Mississippi conference attended the convocation for pastors of African-American churches in Dallas.
4. The Convocation on the Black Church returned this year to Rust College in Holly Springs. Keynote Speaker for the event was the Rev. Elijah McGee. The theme for this year's event was "Walking in the Light." Workshops included:

- Tending Body, Mind, and Spirit
- Biblical Steps for a Vital Church
- Fellowship, Understanding and Race: An Invitation to Light Partners
- Beyond the Walls: Out of the Pews and into the Highways and Hedges
- Stirring up the gifts of your Small-Membership congregations
- Youth Ministry: Keeping It Real

Feedback from the event was positive.

## **i. Health and Welfare Committee**

This committee is established for oversight of those health and welfare ministries related to the Mississippi Conference. These ministries include the Baddour Memorial Center, The Children's Home, Methodist Healthcare (Memphis), Mississippi Methodist Rehabilitation Center, and Mississippi Methodist Senior Services. Our committee serves as a liaison between our Conference and each of these ministries.

Members of this committee represent each district within the Conference. We are charged to support, encourage, and pray for these vital ministries.

We meet annually to receive reports and to hear directly from representatives of each ministry. It is always encouraging to hear how each of these ministries are seeking to follow the words of Jesus as they minister to "the least of these." (see Matthew 25:40)

Sometimes our local churches need to hear more good news about what the United Methodist Church is doing in the lives of people. Our committee invites each church/pastor to learn more about the above named ministries. We believe your faith will be encouraged as you learn how the lives of individuals are being affected through these ministries, each of whom is very deserving of our prayer and financial support.

Special days/offerings are observed throughout the year asking for support of these important ministries. Our committee encourages each pastor/church to learn more about these ministries related to our Conference. Your prayers and financial support are greatly appreciated.

*Jim Ormon, Chair, Health and Welfare Committee*

## **j. Methodist Children's Homes**

### **Mission**

Serving God's children by providing safe homes, influencing futures and healing hearts and minds with Christian care.

### **Ministry**

Since 1897 Methodist Children's Homes has had a commitment and ministry of serving children and youth in out-of-home placement. Originally referred to and known as an orphanage, Methodist Children's Homes was an answer to the uncertainties experienced when families could not adequately provide for their children's basic life and educational needs. In congregations large and small, the Methodist church in Mississippi endeavored, in the spirit of Christ, for Methodist Children's Homes to become home to the children of those families.

Times change, as do the needs of families and children. In response to those changes, Methodist Children's Homes broadened the founding scope to include serving children and youth who were in State custody as a result of the unfortunate and challenging circumstances which had taken place in their lives. This scope and avenue of service was well-suited to meet the needs of children and youth for many years. Again, times change. The needs of children and youth spiraled upward due to deterioration in the fabric of and stability of their families. Methodist Children's Homes again responded by becoming a provider of therapeutic services to children and youth identified as having serious emotional disturbances. These children and youth require a higher level of supervision and must receive mental health services.

In 1989, the place where children received the care offered by Methodist Children's Homes changed. Methodist Children's Homes moved away from the traditionally known campus-based care which, for many years, had been located on Northwest Street in Jackson. Our care and redirection of lives is now provided in therapeutic group homes located in Clarksdale, Natchez, on the Gulf Coast, and in Ellisville. The age range for these youth is from 12 to 21. The youth who live in our group homes are cared for by individuals who have an educational background, special training, and bring from their own lives a deep commitment to helping children and youth who have special emotional needs and behavioral challenges. Our care and redirection of lives is also provided in therapeutic foster family homes which may be found in different communities across the state. Typically, children under age 12 are placed in foster family homes. These persons also receive special training and much support from the staff of MCH.

There are many pressing needs for the ministry of Methodist Children's Homes. One is for Christian families to become involved as foster parents. Another prominent need is that of serving older youth who have been in the foster care system for much of their life and need further preparation to enter adult-

hood. Still another need is addressing the educational deficits of children who often are working below grade level. This is also an area of need for older youth who must focus on GED preparation as they are chronologically too old for the school grade in which they would need to be placed. Still another need is working with youth who have issues related to drug dependency along with special emotional and behavioral challenges. All these things are experienced by youth as they struggle to find themselves, their place in the world, and believe that they are persons of worth and value.

Our State licensing and certifying Agencies, the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health, respectively, the Mississippi United Methodist Conference, and the community at large view MCH as an Agency which continually strives to improve the quality of care, treatment services, and life guidance to children of Mississippi who have experienced abuse and neglect.

Over the past 12 to 24 months Methodist Children's Homes has entered into historic and promising partnerships with fellow service providers such as local community mental health centers, and others, to maximize resources in the local communities. We have endeavored to become more vitally linked with our local congregations. We have endeavored to make more robust the quality of staffing in our group homes. We have endeavored to streamline costs in all areas of administration and programming. We have endeavored to actively pursue a diversity of funding streams to support the financial needs of MCH.

Methodist Children's Homes has a rich heritage of extending Christian care and love to children and youth. As with any ministry serving persons in need, there have been peaks and valleys. The level plain, however, is the steadfastness of commitment to serve, thus remaining true to our mission of serving God's children by providing safe home, influencing futures, and healing hearts and minds with Christian care. The future of Methodist Children's Homes is promising and filled with a myriad of opportunities to take a lead role in serving the abused and neglected children and youth of Mississippi.

*Becky Hawkins Hudgens, President/CEO*

## **k. Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare** *Memphis, Tennessee*

### **Our Mission**

Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare, in partnership with its medical staff, will be the leader in providing high quality, cost effective health care to benefit the communities we serve. Services will be provided in a manner which supports the health ministries and Social Principles of The United Methodist Church.

### **Our Vision**

Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare is a faith-based health care system that in partnership with its physicians will be nationally recognized for delivering outstanding care to each patient.

### **Our Values**

**SERVICE.** We will provide service that exceeds expectations with respect, professionalism, and a spirit of caring.

**QUALITY.** We are dedicated to providing the highest quality through our consistent delivery of the best practices, continuous learning and improvement.

**INTEGRITY.** Our behavior will be based on fair treatment and the highest ethical standards, reflecting the trust placed in us by our patients.

**TEAMWORK.** We will foster a culture of collaboration, accountability and dependability with a strong commitment to diversity.

Faith drives everything we do as a healthcare system. The soul of our mission is an unconditional concern for those in our care. This spirit has been part of our DNA since the very beginning. Started in 1918 by deeply committed United Methodist Laity and Clergy, we continue to build upon this legacy of care for the entire community with each new generation of Associates.

This past year, the spirit of healing that pervades Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare has touched over 700,000 persons and their family members. We provided this ministry of caring through the dedicated care of our 10,000 plus Associates and 2,000 plus physicians at our six adult hospitals, one pediatric hospital, and home health and hospital agency. We believe that we are given the wonderful gift of embracing the miracle in each person who comes to us for care.

In 2006, the Board of Directors of Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare created the Center for Excellence in Faith and Health to serve as a place of research, reflection, renewal, innovation, training

and discernment. Under the direction of Rev. Gary Gunderson, Senior Vice President of our Health and Welfare Ministries Division is leading a renewed focus on our church and conference relationships. We know this ministry of caring must be not only merciful, but just; not only just, but excellent. The new Congregation Health Network focuses on how congregations and Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare can partner to ensure a meaningful continuum of care throughout the life journey of those who come for care. This past year, one team from the Mississippi Conference participated in the first Institute for Public Health and Faith Collaborations held in Tennessee. The Institute is another of the innovative programs that is part of the Center for Excellence in Faith and Health. For more information on the Center of Excellence in Faith and Health, please visit our website, [www.methodisthealth.org](http://www.methodisthealth.org).

We believe that we are called to treat our patients as well as their families. We are elevating our commitment to creating a family friendly environment in all our facilities. From expanded visiting hours to updated facilities, every touchpoint is being examined with the goal of ensuring the patients and family members' experience is the best available. Renovation of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center to include private rooms for each tiny patient and the specialized joint replacement center rooms at Methodist North's Total Joint Center are two examples of our commitment to set the standard in the region for compassionate patient and family centered care.

Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare is excited to announce it has received approval for two major construction projects. Our Germantown Hospital will undergo major renovation and expansion. In addition, plans were announced for the building of a new state of the art patient care tower at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center. Please visit the Le Bonheur website, [www.lebonheur.org](http://www.lebonheur.org), for more information on the expansion project. These two projects will create new opportunities for ministry for decades to come.

In September 2005 Methodist Healthcare began providing Employee Assistance Program services to clergy and dependents in the Mississippi Conference. In the first 17 months of the program EAP counseling utilization has been 9%. In the weeks following Katrina, 11 critical incident stress debriefings were held through the EAP. Methodist Healthcare is committed to offering support to those most devastated by Hurricane Katrina. As this report is being prepared 10 support group meetings are planned for the Seashore District in late March, and extended EAP counseling sessions continue to be available at the Seashore.

Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare is committed to making a difference in not only the lives of our patients but to the whole mid-south area. From our commitment to diversity in employment and hiring, to our Associates serving on community Boards and Agencies, to in-kind goods and services to over 30 organizations, to financial contributions to 35 organizations, to our support of the clergy and congregations of our three founding United Methodist Conferences, Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare seeks new ways to be a good ministry partner. Please read the Embracing The Miracle report found at our [www.methodisthealth.org](http://www.methodisthealth.org) website.

Thank you for the opportunity to be a partner in ministry with the Mississippi Conference of The United Methodist Church.

*Gary S. Shorb, President and CEO  
Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare*

## **I. Mississippi Rural Center**

The center is currently providing services to the community and people. Since June 2006 there have been several changes at the Mississippi Rural Center restructuring of the Board and transition with the former Director. The Mississippi Rural Center housed a FEMA program for Katrina victims. During the program, several repairs were done to refurbish the center. The workers painted, repaired the center and cottage, cleaned up debris, and did repairs in community homes. One of the workers, Ms. Renada Wilson, was hired through the program and after the assignment ended, she was hired by the Mississippi Rural Center. She is currently working as Secretary at the Center helping with the transition. Ameri-Corps Vista Volunteer Coordinator's program is housed at the Mississippi Rural Center. Her goal for 2007 is to help get people out of poverty. She conducts workshops and monthly meeting for Leaders and Volunteers to get involve with Girl Scouting and Boy Scouting. She also is working on Adult, Family, and Youth Literacy grants funded through Dollar General Stores.

The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi has a program that is also housed by the Mississippi Rural Center. Program Director, Mrs. Maria Barnett, is working with county schools: Lamar and Marion.

She has several awareness meetings to update the status of the Tobacco program. The Alumni Clubs meets here at the Mississippi Rural Center. The consultant Carlton Carruthers was with us for a week to evaluate the Center status. The Center is still functioning, however, Pastor Godfrey Stepney has been appointed to be volunteer Interim Director until June 2007. Pastor Stepney will be working on the Centers 2004 Audit, completing monthly reports on due dates, completing charter renewal, and other various tasks. The General Board of Global Ministries will be sending a temporary Director. We are currently working on remodeling the cottage for the new Director arrival in June. NOMADS, the Browns, spent several weeks on painting the cottage. We were very grateful and appreciative for their hard work. Our after-school program has been temporarily shut down until we re cooperate from a transition. We are working on opening for summer activities for the children. We are doing a community-wide study so that we can effectively serve the communities in which we are directly connected.

*Pastor Godfrey Stepney Interim Director*

### **m. Mississippi UM Russia Initiative Volga District**

Since its beginning in 1995, our Russia Initiative has been very consistent in its ministry to the Penza Region to establish a UM presence there, foster new congregations, and support the churches/pastors in their local communities. Although consistent in our visits and support to the region, our initiative has seen substantial change. Dedication from our UM steering group resulted in the conception of the first congregation in 2002, New Life UMC in Penza, with Valeri Fomichov as pastor. Then in 2004 a second congregation was established, Heavenly Light UMC in Kuznetsk. In 2005, we began to work more directly with the District Superintendent of the Volga District (covers area 300-500 miles ESE of Moscow) and since that time have been working with the eight UM churches of the district (thus our name now reflects this). In the meantime, we expanded in our conference with our initiative now being comprised of churches from the Tupelo, New Albany, Senatobia, and Starkville Districts.

Although in cooperation with the entire district, we are more closely related to four of these churches which are located at Penza, Kuznetsk, Syzran, and Zhigulovsk. We have aided Syzran in the purchase of property and had a team from the Starkville District travel there in March, 2007 to do construction in a juvenile center, as well as Bible Study. Through the General Board of Global Ministries, we have annually supported congregations at Penza, Kuznetsk, and Zhigulovsk. For several years our initiative has been very directly and highly supportive of orphanages at Vasilievskaya, Kuznetsk, and Mokshan through the local churches in these regions.

We are currently going through a small transition in our cooperation with three of the churches due to the negative activity of the political and favored religious faction. The result has been that since our congregations at Penza, Kuznetsk, and Zhigulovsk do not have their own buildings to meet in, they have been evicted from public facilities, resulting in having to meet in tiny apartments. Therefore, our goal over the next two years is to raise funds to help these three congregations purchase their own facilities for worship. We feel we can do this because we are confident that God really desires for us to continue our work in the Volga District in supporting these Russian congregations to minister the love of Jesus Christ in their respective local communities and church families, while the door is open for freedom of worship. Please pray that it remains this way.

*Danny N. Dabbs, Director  
Mississippi UM Russia Initiative, Volga District*

### **n. Mission and Outreach Committee**

We continue to provide oversight for the conference community centers by interviewing representatives of the centers and making onsite visits. We make recommendations to the Council on Finance and Administration for their budgets. We also review request for Advance Special institutions and make recommendations to CFA on them. We hope to provide encouragement to these centers in their ministry.

Our committee has been seeking feedback on the mission handbook that was distributed last year. We plan to use this evaluation process to make the manual responsive to the needs of churches in our conference. We hope the mission handbook will provide guidance and structure for churches that are active in mission and outreach. Churches that are beginning to explore mission opportunities will find the manual full of ideas and information.



The Mission and Outreach Committee continues to recognize at Annual Conference small membership churches that are responding in mission from each district. We are exploring ways to contribute to mission opportunities in Zimbabwe, Africa and to assist The Society of St. Andrew in providing food to those in need.

*Lannis May, Chair*

## **o. Parish and Community Ministries**

The following grants and loans were approved for 2006 by action of the conference.

### **Partnership on Church Improvement Grants Issued**

<i>Congregation</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Anguilla/Grace - Brookhaven District	\$2,500.00
Meadow Creek - New Albany District	\$627.00
Christian Banner - East Jackson District	\$2,000.00
Kosciusko Circuit - Starkville District	\$5,000.00
Pisgah - New Albany District	\$5,000.00
Carolina - New Albany District	\$5,000.00
Walnut - New Albany District	\$5,000.00
Bolton Chapel - Seashore District	\$1,425.00

### **Parish Ministry Grants Issued**

<i>Congregation</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Church and Community Worker - St. Andrew's, McComb	\$8,000.00
Church and Community Worker - Choctaw Mission, Philadelphia	\$3,692.00

### **Partnership on Church Improvement Loans**

<i>Congregation</i>	<i>Amount</i>
St. Andrews UMC- Brookhaven District	\$26,417.00

### **Parish and Community Ministries**

The following grants and loans were approved for 2005 by action of the committee.

### **Partnership on Church Improvement Grants Issued**

<i>Congregation</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Moody Chapel - Hattiesburg District	\$3,000.00
Bolton Chapel - Hattiesburg	\$3,500.00
Mt. Nebo - Hattiesburg District	\$3,500.00
Wheeler - New Albany District	\$1,153.00
Lindsey Chapel - Starkville District	\$1,000.00
Redbone - West Jackson	\$1,000.00
Pleasant Hill - Starkville District	\$3,950.00
Trinity - Senatobia District	\$1,741.81
Ebenezer - New Albany District	\$3,950.00
Crossroads -New Albany District	\$1,500.00
Military Chapel - Starkville District	\$2,500.00
St. James - Seashore District	\$1,500.00
Mt. Pleasant - Seashore District	\$1,500.00
Wesley Chapel - Seashore District	\$1,500.00

### **Parish Ministry Grants Issued**

<i>Congregation</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Choctaw Mission Churches- Meridian District	\$6,000.00
Church and Community Worker- St. Andrew's McComb	\$7,750.00

## Partnership on Church Improvement Loans Issued

Congregation

Pleasant Hill- Starkville District

Amount

\$30,000.00

## p. Rural Life Ministries Committee

Those who would help in rural areas must remember that these communities and churches operate differently to urban and suburban communities and churches. Rural churches are basically constituted of one or two extended families. The community is also a closely-knit group with only a few extended families living there. In such communities, decisions are made with family in mind, change comes very slowly, and a traumatic or jubilant event in one family affects the entire community. With pleasure, in this environment Rural Life Ministries does its work.

When the Rural Life Ministries Committee was voted into existence six years ago, we were given three basic tasks. These tasks were:

1. To convey the nature of life on the farm and in rural communities.
2. To be informed on national issues that affect farmers and rural residents.
3. To help local churches organize in ways that will enable them to:
  - a. Lead in bringing needed change to strengthen their rural communities.
  - b. Give practical, spiritual and compassionate help in times of crisis.
  - c. Find ways to help farmers and rural communities shape their future.

This report is our opportunity to share with the conference some of what is being done to fulfill these three responsibilities.

### I. Convey The Nature Of Life On The Farm And In Rural Communities.

To raise the awareness of the public to our dependence on farmers, we distributed 5000 bumper stickers, and 2500 refrigerator magnets in the last year, starting with the 2006 annual conference session.

During the past year, five articles have appeared in the Mississippi Advocate that shared with the conference different aspects of life in rural Mississippi. We talked about life as it is and as it might become with faith in God and work under God's guidance.

We now have thirteen (13) Sunday school lessons available on the general subject of "Spirituality, Hardships and Joys of Mississippi Country Life." We recommend that all churches of the conference use these lessons in your adult and youth classes for one quarter during the 2007 - 2008 Sunday school year.

There is an order of worship available for the observance of Rural Life Heritage Sunday, which was set in the 2005 annual conference session for the fourth Sunday in April. If the Sunday school lessons were used in the spring quarter of March, April and May, and Rural Life Heritage Sunday observed the fourth Sunday in April, it would create a wonderful time for study and celebration of rural life.

### II. Be Informed On National Issues That Affect Farmers And Rural Residents.

Fred Stokes is actively working with a group of economic leaders from across the south and mid-west known as "The Association of Family Farms." They are developing an alternative marketing system for farmers. Through Fred's work we consider ourselves a supportive group to the work of this association. Fred regularly reports on the work of the Association of Family Farms, and keeps the committee informed on national issues that affect farmers and rural communities.

We stay further informed on these issues through reading articles in the news, as well as farm and mission magazines, like World Ark, which is published by Heifer International. We have shared some of this information with the conference through the articles printed in the Mississippi United Methodist Advocate.

Much of our work in Itawamba County is a "hands-on" response to these issues.

### III. Help Local Rural Churches Organize In Ways That Enable Them To Strengthen Their Communities.

This responsibility calls for "hands-on" action with the local rural churches. In order to carry out this charge, three years ago we recommended that the conference develop "Probe Staffs" in some potential areas of ministry in the conference. The idea is to let these probe staffs lead in developing "model rural communities."

While the idea of "Probe Staffs" has been in the discipline since 1976 [par. 206.3(h)] the use of a probe staff is new. In 2005 we started the first probe staff to ever be used in the Mississippi Conference,

and perhaps the first in the United Methodist Church. This probe staff is working in Itawamba County of the Tupelo District. Our first year was spent studying the county, and responding to crises.

In our second year we are preparing to respond more fully to on-going problems. A very obvious need is health care for low-income families. One of our probe staff members, who is a nurse, has now renewed her license so she can direct a county-wide parish nurse program.

The probe staff has now joined hands with the Itawamba County Cluster. The cluster has asked that the staff lead the way, and call on them when they can be of help. Last summer some of the laymen, under the leadership of the probe staff, helped four families start gardening. We plan to expand that program this year.

The probe staff has also formed an alliance with the Itawamba County Development Council (ICDC). This council is to develop the county economically, but it is having difficulty reaching the rural areas of the county. It is the hope of both groups that the probe staff, working through the local churches, can lead the way to solving some of the economic and social problems in these communities. We are now developing plans for some work in one of the more isolated areas of the county.

While there are some very exciting possibilities on the horizon, there is much hard work ahead if we are to see major changes in rural churches and communities. What we have done has not scratched the surface of what needs to be done. Our response to the task given to us by the conference is a response to the call of Christ on us and on the conference to make a difference in the rural communities of Mississippi. We ask your prayers and support as we move forward in this calling.

*Doyce W. Gunter, Chair*  
*Mississippi Conference Rural Life Ministries Committee*

## **q. St. Andrew's Mission, Inc.** **McComb, MS**

St. Andrew's Mission began the 2007-year in its new location. The mission's headquarter is now located at 615 Bendat Street. At the new location, you can visit the doctor to get your blood pressure checked and your hearing screened at our Medical Clinic. If you are feeling hungry, satisfy your taste buds each Friday and Monday with a hot lunch from our S.A.M.'s Diner. Maybe lending a helping hand or improving your community is something that peaks your interest; become a volunteer by signing up at our volunteer center. Finally, if you would like to improve your education, please sign up for our free computer and GED classes. These are just some of the programs we have at St. Andrew's Mission. We are hard at work trying to provide more programs that will benefit our community and the citizens in it.

Through our needs assessment, conducted last year, we came to the conclusion that McComb needed a place for senior citizens activities. Solution, we plan to open a Senior Citizen center this fall. Senior citizens will be able to socialize with other seniors and participate in activities, such as: field trips, arts/crafts, classic movies, daily meal, exercise classes and recreation. These are only a few activities that we attend to offer, but we have several other activities planned.

Hope to see you in the fall.

Having such a good 2006-year, we are definitely trying to make 2007 year better. Last year, we were able to answer the call of duty assisting Hurricane Katrina evacuees and housing volunteers who came to help our Recovery Network restore citizen's lives prior to the storm. After the storm the mission saw an increase in demands and in a decrease in money. Our free medical clinic, which opened prior to the storm, saw a dramatic clientele increase. Our FIG Tree Ministry saw 258 families last year; needless to say, this took a toll on our FIG Tree funds. We are asking for your help through monthly, quarterly or annually donations to our ministry.

St. Andrew's Mission would like to thank all those who contributed in 2006 and hope that you continue your support in 2007. Your contributions can help us to excel in our mission, "Helping people who are less fortunate." As many as we have helped, with your support, we will be able to help many more.

*Ed Coddling*

## **r. Report of Some Activities of the Parish Nurse Program/ St. Andrew's Mission**

1. Commissioned Deaconess with General Board Of Global Ministries with continued ministry focus being Parish Nursing.
  2. Supervisor of one of fourteen volunteer centers with the MS Commission On Volunteerism currently with a VISTA\* Volunteer staff person, 33 registered agencies and 225 volunteers.
  3. Assisted with health ministry teams in 5 congregations.
  4. Serving with a nurse manager, 6 volunteer doctors, receptionist and other nurses to staff St. Andrew's Free Health Clinic which serves those without insurance, Medicaid or Medicare serving 300 patients in 2006.
- I continue to serve to seek wholeness in body, mind and spirit.

*Deaconess Earnestine A. Varnado  
Church and Community Worker  
Parish Nurse*

## **s. The United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network**

The Appalachian Ministry Network is a partnership between annual conferences, mission personnel and General Church agencies. Its mission is to strengthen ministry of churches and their leaders, both lay and clergy, in the region designated as Appalachia.

The Network is designed to aid partner conferences, agencies and mission personnel when they find a lack of expertise or human resources to address needs relating to establishing, extending, or strengthening local ministry within a particular area of the region. Specific expertise that the Network can provide is;

- Advocacy on public policy issues affecting political, social and economic issues,
- Assisting partners to understand the cultural context of the region.
- Networking opportunities that bring church leaders together with each other and with community organizations to engage in popular education-learning from each other. Another function is to connect those interested in Appalachia with appropriate ways in which they can be in service.
- Interpreting the region's political, social and economic needs to the larger denominational family as well as the needs of churches and their leaders for leadership development, and
- Resourcing that includes collection of data on the region and its churches, models for ministry development, resource personnel, immersion experiences, referrals for volunteers, scholarships to training events, providing grants to local ministries that address root causes of poverty.

These resources and others along with salary for an Executive Coordinator is provided through Basic Support from constituent conferences, donations to the General Advance Special Appalachian Regional Ministries (#982041) and grants for specific work from general agencies.

UMAMN administers the Appalachia Hunger and Poverty General Advance Special (#982039) fund. Ten grants were awarded during 2006 totaling \$20,000. Many of these ministries are in isolated communities or low income neighborhoods where local resources are not available to develop or keep ministries functioning. Ministries include after school programs (some with satellite programs reaching out to other areas of the community), prescription drug program for underinsured or no insurance, equipment to expand a nutrition program to elderly and disabled persons, urban inter-parish nutrition program, a juvenile mentoring program, and ecumenical community outreach center,

On behalf of the United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network I want to thank our constituent conferences and our General Advance donors for their continuing support and participation in this partnership.

On a sadder note I want to share with conference members the news that the ecumenical partnership The Commission on Religion in Appalachia was disbanded in October, 2006. Commissioners elected by the Network were the presence and voice of the United Methodist Church in the important work that CORA did for justice in Appalachia.

*N. Sharon Leatherman Executive Coordinator  
UM Appalachian Ministry Network*

## t. The United Methodist Foundation, Inc.

*In Service with You for Forty Years*

The Mississippi United Methodist Foundation was incorporated by The State of Mississippi on July 13, 1967. For forty years The Foundation has been blessed with outstanding people serving in various capacities on its Board. Through their leadership the Foundation has provided valuable services to the Methodist people of Mississippi. The first elected officers were:

President- Mr. C. R. Ridgway

Vice-President - Mr. Frances B. Stevens Vice-President - Mr. Olen Jourdan Secretary/Treasurer -  
Rev. R. J. Gilbert

The current officers of the Board of Directors are:

President - Mr. Howard E. Boone, Jr.

Vice President - Mr. John David Robinson Secretary - Rev. Lamar Martin

In April 2006 we moved into our newly constructed office building at 581 Highland Colony Parkway, Ridgeland, MS. Bishop Hope Morgan Ward dedicated the new facility to be used for the glory of our Lord. Through the vision of The Board we are able to provide meeting space for many churches, councils, boards, and agencies of The Annual Conference.

In 2006, during its fall meeting the Board adopted the following vision statement and goals for its future ministry:

**Vision Statement:** The Foundation is a ministry established to provide innovative financial services to benefit United Methodists in fulfillment of their Christian stewardship commitment in a rapidly changing society. The Foundation is committed to growing and an ever-larger involvement in the Church's outreach and global witness.

**Purpose:** To enable the Church in the achievement of her God-appointed missions providing resources that strengthen the ability of United Methodists to be faithful stewards, discover the joy of giving and philanthropy while advancing Christian ministries.

### Goals and Objectives:

1. Administer and manage investments on behalf of investors
  - Oversee the professionally managed investment portfolio
  - Performance monitored by the Investment Committee
  - Ensure efficiency of internal controls and compliance with the law
  - Conduct timely audits and reports
2. Provide opportunities for planned giving
  - Provide assistance establishing permanent endowments
  - Trust and Charitable gift annuity management
  - Seminars
    - Estate Planning (trusts, charitable gifts, endowments).
    - Investment and Retirement (End of Life Planning)
    - Personal Finances (Good Sense Financial Planning)
3. Assist believers in understanding and committing to stewardship principles
  - Educate and celebrate our Biblical and Wesleyan heritage of stewardship
  - Provide consulting services to clergy and lay leaders in addressing needs
  - Counsel and guidance for planning and conducting annual capital campaigns
    - Seminars and work shops
  - 'Journey of Faith'
  - Good Sense Financial Planning
  - A plan for year around stewardship education
4. Other outreach and services
  - Provide scholarships, grants and other gifts to worthy persons and causes
  - Support missions with available discretionary funds as needs are demonstrated
5. Communicating the Foundation's vision and commitment
  - Maintain a state-of-the-art website; E-news
  - Prepare and publish printed materials detailing the Foundation's opportunities
  - Develop a testimonials database on benefits of planned giving / stewardship

- Maintain a database of pastors, investors, donors and finance / stewardship chairs
- Publish a quarterly newsletter for mailing to persons in the database

As of December 31, 2006, the Foundation managed 897 accounts for net assets in excess of \$73,000,000.

The Foundation provides scholarships, created by donors, to college and seminary students. Since 1993 The Foundations has awarded \$354,636 in scholarships.

Rev. Dr. Jerry Mitchell who has been with The Foundation since 1984 is retiring at this Annual Conference. Mrs. Martha Scarborough has been elected as Executive Director beginning July 1, 2007.

## **u. United Methodist Hour**

For three decades, the ministry of The United Methodist Hour has proclaimed the Good News of Jesus, resourced the local church and been in partnership with the Mississippi Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Following a year of significant changes, which include a change in team leaders, operational structure, core values and program/format changes, the United Methodist Hour remains a consistent and valued voice within the Body of Christ.

The organizational changes are most noticeable in the life of our ministry in the areas of operation and administration. In June, after 18 months as the Executive Director, Rev. Eddie Rester returned to the local church as a pastor. Rev. Shane Stanford, formerly of the Mississippi United Methodist Foundation, joined The United Methodist Hour team as Team Leader/Host/Preacher. His duties include hosting the television program, Time That Makes The Difference and the new United Methodist Hour radio program, Salt and Light. Shane also participates in the radio program, Time that Makes The Difference, hosted by Rev. Keith Tonkel. Keith is now in his fourth decade as Ministry Advisor for The Hour.

Another change involved promoting Kim Kay from Office Manager to Chief Operations Officer. Kim provides for the day to day administration of The Hour including staff and personnel development. Other staff additions included Dana Smith as Production Assistant, Carol Thompson as Administrative Assistant and Joanna King as Programming Assistant.

The United Methodist Hour also made changes in market and format. This included a move into the Montgomery market through Frazer UMC Television. Also, a new radio program entitled, Salt and Light, co-hosted by Shane Stanford and Dr. Ronnie Kent, began. An issue based program, Salt and Light, continues the long tradition of programming excellence by The United Methodist Hour.

And, The United Methodist Hour again was awarded several awards for television and radio programming through the United Methodist Communicators Association. Those included the Award of Excellence for the Time That Makes The Difference Radio Program entitled "United in Christ," best in division for "Sailing Against the Wind" television program, and a Certificate of Merit for the television program "Remembering Katrina." The Mississippi Baptist Media Association awarded The United Methodist Hour the Award of Excellence for a feature presentation, the Award of Excellence for best radio program, Time That Makes The Difference, and the Award of Excellence for a worship service, Time That Makes The Difference 9/11/05.

As The United Methodist Hour moves forward, we are excited about where God is leading this ministry and look forward to all that God has in store. This includes continued support of our Prayer Ministry, which received nearly 1,500 calls last year through our toll-free prayer line, and also through our new United Methodist Hour Serving Initiative.

Of course, The United Methodist Hour appreciates the support of the Mississippi Annual Conference and is committed to resource the conference through media services both during the Annual Conference sessions and beyond.

*What a great God we serve! Blessings and peace,  
The United Methodist Hour*

## **v. Wesley House Community Center, Inc. Meridian, MS**

In June of 2006, Mrs. Nell L. Grissom retired after forty years of dedication in service to God's children, young and old, through your own United Methodist mission...Wesley House Community Center, Inc. Let me say what a privilege it is to follow in the footsteps of such a tremendous woman of God and to have the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful ministry. Although I could never fill my mother's

shoes, I can tell you that I have found a pair of my own and feel called to serve as we, (all of us), carry on the work at Wesley House, sharing God's love to those in need on a day-to-day basis through the six agencies that encompass the present day Wesley House Community Center. I personally would love to invite all of you to visit Wesley and will be happy to show you the work that is going on within its walls. You'll be so proud to claim it as one of your own ministries. But for now, let me fill you in on 2006 and our prayers for 2007!

We have been doing our best to work around the damage done by Katrina and Rita, repairing the roof, as well as trying to get rid of mold in the clothing room and the child advocacy interview room. We managed to save the floor tiling in the clothing room after Katrina but then Rita came along and destroyed the floor. That has been replaced. And here's the good news! After waiting for one year to be able to get these renovations done, it occurred to us that this was a grand time to tweak our building and perhaps restructure it a bit. So, the clothing room is going to move to another area of the building and in its place will be the Wesley Free Clinic. This is going to allow us to better serve those in need of health care and to also better serve victims of crime, especially the little children. Presently, after we determine whether or not a child has been hurt, it is at that point the child is sent to an emergency room for a medical forensic exam. What a blessing it will be to be able to determine the need for a medical exam and then merely walk the little one down the hall to do the exam on site, no hospital and the stigma that accompanies it for a child, and it will also help our emergency rooms out and save time and expense on their part. The new clinic will offer state-of-the-art facility with an entrance of its own, professional lighting and the privacy that each patient deserves. Did you know that we have the only truly "free" clinic in the state of Mississippi? No one is paid! Professionals in the medical field volunteer their time and expertise to serve those in need. The need is great. In fact, we spent close to \$22,000 during 2006. The good news is that we know that this is God's ministry and He always provides!

Since Katrina, Wesley House has been serving the needs of our new community. I say "new" because we currently have 5,600 new people in our area as a result of the storm. Numbers have escalated as these people have gone "home" and then had to face the reality that they have no home. What do they do? They come back to the places that embraced them in the aftermath of the devastation. All of that to say, we are providing the same services but more of them. So, we are now in the process of re-establishing our Christian Relief Agency that deals with immediate needs- food, clothing, utilities, transportation, medicine, etc. That agency will be located in the area that the Wesley Free Clinic is presently. This change will enable us to quickly serve clients food and clothing and offer individual case management for those who need help in setting up a budget. Wesley House has never taken a "band-aid" approach in serving people. You know what they say. If a man is hungry, give him a fish and he is filled for the moment. But if you want to have a real impact on a man's life, teach him how to fish and then he will be able to provide for himself for a lifetime. That's how it is here at Wesley House. Here's an example: a young mother applies for help on a utility bill. During the application process, she discloses that she had a fine job but couldn't work and stay and watch her children. We can help! We have a pre-school program for working parents and high risk children. We are open from 6 until 6 to serve those parents who must work shift jobs and need extended daycare service. Problem solved! See what I mean? With six agencies under the same roof, we have many opportunities to really make a difference for God's children.

Please know that there is a new level or category of need. These are the people that have worked hard their entire lives and because of some life situation, find themselves unable to carry the entire load. During Christmas, close to one half of the thousands of applicants we served were people who fell under this category. They have never had to ask for help and it is painful for many of them to ask for assistance. I know this because they call and ask if I will meet with them privately because they know one of our staff members or go to church with a Wesley volunteer and they do not want anyone to know about their need. These dear ones could be sitting next to you in church and you would never know it. Most people coming through our doors are truly in need and are embarrassed to ask for help. Fortunately, we are here for them and can help them through the valley that all of us are subject to at some time in our lives.

I could speak volumes about the tremendous ministry here at Wesley House Community Center, Inc. Each room is filled with heartfelt stories and tender opportunities shared with those who walk through the door. One person commented that she had come here feeling hopeless but felt God's love through the smiles and kindness that she had experienced through our loving staff. It doesn't get better than that!

Before I close, let me list our six agencies and encourage you to continue to prayerfully support this ministry. Please come and see God's hand in action! The Wesley agencies are as follows:



Educational Agency

- Pre-school program
- 12 week court ordered parenting program
- G.E.D.
- Personal Safety Program
- Child abuse prevention programs in grades 1-12

Community Agency, (Group and civic activities)

- Thanksgiving
- Girl Scouts
- Boy Scouts
- Parenting Support Group
- Victim Support Groups (Homicide, Sexual Assault, Incest Survivors)

Sexual Assault Agency

- 24 Hour Crisis Line
- Victim Intervention
- Professional Counseling
- Information and Referral

Child Advocacy Agency

- Crisis Intervention
- Multi-Disciplinary Team
- Forensic Interviews
- Play Therapy
- Professional Counseling
- Kid's Court
- Court Advocacy

Wesley Free Clinic

- Free Health Clinic
- Health Education and Prevention
- Licensed Health Care Professionals

Christian Relief Agency

- Food
- Clothing
- Rent and Utilities
- Household Goods and Furniture
- Transportation
- Medication
- Orthopedic Equipment
- Case Management

I have mentioned only a portion of the services offered at Wesley. Please continue to prayerfully support Wesley House. Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you in such an inspiring Spirit-led ministry. God Bless you.

*Ginger Grissom Stevens, Executive Director*

## 2. COLLEGE AND SEMINARY REPORTS

### a. Candler School of Theology

Candler School of Theology is grounded in the Christian faith and shaped by the Wesleyan tradition of evangelical piety, ecumenical openness, and social concerns. Its mission is to educate-through scholarship, teaching and service faithful and creative leaders for the church 's ministries in the world. These purposes define Candler's role as a school of Emory University and of the United Methodist Church and point to the unique challenges and opportunities we face in leading a national research university in re-discovering what it might mean to relate to a major denomination.

Our school, unique in its placement within a top twenty research university and its commitment to

educate pastoral and academic leadership, is poised to play an active role in the positive transformation of the church and the world. Religion has bound and divided communities since the beginning of time and now is no different. When polled about their research, over three hundred Emory professors named “religion” as a theme in their work. Ethically aware, theologically profound voices are desperately needed in our society, and Emory draws on its Methodist heritage and looks to Candler to bring wisdom, clarity, compassion, and tolerance to the conversation. For example, Mary Elizabeth Moore, professor of religion and education, is co-chairing one of our university strategic initiatives, “Understanding Religions and the Human Spirit.”

Candler’s faculty continues to be among the most distinctive in theological education. Forty-six members hold full-time appointments, and six hold part-time appointments. An additional fifteen serve in an adjunct capacity. Woodie White and Jack Meadors serve as the United Methodist bishops in residence. Bishop L. Bevel Jones III remains at Candler working with the Development Office.

In our commitment to the practice of ministry, we partner with eighty churches to ensure that ministerial preparation takes place in both the local church and on the campus. Candler’s Contextual Education program intentionally pairs a faculty member with supervisors from church and community ministries so that teaching teams represent the church and the academy. Twenty-nine teaching supervisors support our Contextual Education and Teaching Parish (student pastor) programs. Dr. Alice Rogers has broadened the Teaching Parish program, and it now includes students appointed to churches in the Alabama-West Florida, North Alabama, North Georgia, South Georgia, and South Carolina Annual Conferences.

This year, enrollment was 510, with 396 in the Master of Divinity program, 59 in the Master of Theological Studies program, 20 in the Master of Theology program, 9 in the Doctor of Theology program and 26 enrolled as Special, Non-Degree students. Eighty-three percent of students are enrolled full-time. The student population is 23% US ethnic minority, 10% international, and 51% women. More than 50 denominations are represented with 56% of MDiv students being United Methodist from 34 Annual Conferences. Other denominations of the Methodist family represented at Candler include African Methodist Episcopal, Free Methodist, Wesleyan Methodist and the Methodist Church of Korea.

Good things are happening as we develop and put into action a plan for the life-long learning of church leaders. A group of leaders in life-long learning, including a number of United Methodists, have given advice on enhancing our programs. Our Institute of Preaching and Pastoral Renewal led a group to the Holy Land after having taken a course in continuing education and funding for this program has been renewed for 2007. Information on upcoming events is available at [www.candler.emory.edu](http://www.candler.emory.edu).

Groundbreaking on Phase I of our new building is planned for spring 2007. Our full project two buildings-will provide faculty and administrative offices, state-of-the-art classrooms, new library facilities, a teaching chapel, and space for the University’s Ethics Center. The University plans to gather its rich religious resources within and near the Candler facilities to create a “religious complex” centered around Candler.

The faculty has begun to implement an inspiring strategic plan that calls for the facilities noted above, new faculty chairs, program support, and increases to our scholarship endowment. This year, 77% of eligible students received scholarship support from Candler with an average scholarship covering 78% of tuition. Gifts from the Methodist Education Fund (MEF) have played a large role in this support. However, so much more still needs to be done. More than 60% of Candler’s MDiv graduates leave school with educational debt. This burden undermines their effectiveness in ministry, such that some seek alternative employment. Your continued support, gifts, and prayers mean a great deal as we work to provide a strong educational program as well as support for the courageous and committed students who choose to undertake the challenge of theological education.

I am honored to be Candler’s dean as of January 2007. I am deeply grateful for the leadership of Russell Richey in the previous six years and for his help in ensuring a smooth transition. I look forward to his continued, powerful presence at Candler as a leading scholar of Methodism, as a teacher, and as one who makes significant contributions to the life of the church. Thank you for your many expressions of welcome and for your support of Candler. I very much look forward to getting to know you all better in the months and years ahead.

*Jan Love*

*Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics Candler School of Theology*

## **b. Duke Divinity School**

Duke Divinity School prepares students to become effective, faithful leaders in the church, the academy and the world through its attention to spiritual formation and transforming ministry as well as to academic rigor. The school is an integral part of Duke University, and divinity students enjoy and contribute to the university's intellectual, spiritual and social resources.

### **Programs:**

Duke Divinity School welcomed its first class of Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) students in the fall of 2006. The Th.D. program is designed to match the rigor of the Ph.D. program and focuses explicitly on the ministries and practices of Christian communities. Following university approval in late 2005, the Association of Theological Schools gave preliminary approval to the Th.D. in January, 2006. This program will enhance the education and formation of men and women for Christian ministry and leadership both in church-related positions and theological schools.

The divinity school continues its major work on grants from Lilly Endowment, Inc., including coordinating the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence program and our Advancing Pastoral Excellence initiative. In May of 2005, we hosted a major "Forum on Excellence in Ministry" in Indianapolis, which brought together 250 leaders from a variety of churches and church-related settings.

In early 2006 we launched a six-year program, "Thriving Rural Communities," in collaboration with the North Carolina and Western North Carolina Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church and The Duke Endowment. This multi-pronged initiative is designed to help strengthen rural communities, especially by working with the churches and the leadership in those communities. The program will identify eight thriving United Methodist churches and provide grants to support initiatives in those churches; create full-tuition scholarships for Duke Divinity students who plan to go into rural ministry and support leadership development for rural clergy.

### **Events and Activities:**

When Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast in Mississippi and Louisiana, Duke Divinity School faculty, staff and students sought to support our brothers and sisters there in meaningful ways. The school focused a period in the fall as "Autumn's Lent," a time when we had prayer, worship and fund-raising to support the recovery. In addition, we sent a group of faculty and staff, led by Bishop Kenneth Carder, to conduct a Sabbath-renewal continuing education event for Mississippi Annual Conference pastors in February, 2006. We also invited and financially supported pastors from both United Methodist conferences to come to Duke for one- to two-week study leaves for rest and renewal.

During 2005-06 the divinity school developed a strategic plan for the next five years. Entitled "Transformative Leadership," it seeks to sustain and strengthen the momentum we have built over the past five years. At the heart of our planning is the conviction that Duke Divinity School aims to be an agent of transformation for the church, the academy and the world. Our aspirations can be defined by four complementary measures: (1) academic research and teaching; (2) preparation of men and women for leadership in the church and other institutions, both through our degree programs and through lifelong learning; (3) engagement with major issues in church and society; and (4) our role in strengthening the broader academy, especially in theological education.

The divinity school continued its fundraising efforts related to Duke University's "Financial Aid Initiative," launched during the past year. Duke Divinity is pursuing a goal of \$10 million in endowment gifts for this three-year initiative (2006-08).

### **Students:**

In the fall of 2006, Duke Divinity enrolled a diverse body of 575 students from 40 states and seven foreign countries. Approximately 55 percent of the student body is United Methodist, 20 percent is Baptist, and the other students come from more than 30 different denominations in the Christian faith. The overall entering class had an ethnic minority enrollment of 21.8 percent, a slight increase over the previous year. The median undergraduate G.P.A. of the entering class was 3.55.

Our field education program continues to grow. More than 200 of our students experienced summer field education placements, including many in rural United Methodist congregations (whose stipends were supported by The Duke Endowment), 16 in our Teaching Congregations program, five in the Center for Reconciliation's Teaching Communities program, and international placements in South Africa (7), Guatemala and El Salvador (4), Uganda (2), Sri Lanka (2) and Peru (1).

**Faculty:**

We strengthened the faculty with the addition of two colleagues: Kavin Rowe joined us as assistant professor of New Testament, and Esther Acolatse became assistant professor of pastoral theology. Professor Rowe's academic research focuses primarily on the historical particularity of the New Testament and its relation to the later Christian theological tradition. Professor Acolatse explores the intersection of psychology and Christian thought, with interests in gender and the experience of Christianity, methodological issues in the practice of theology of the Christian life, and the relevance of these themes in the global expression of Christianity.

Notable books published by our faculty in 2005-06 include the following: *God's Potters*, by emeritus professor Jackson Carroll; *Wondrous Depth*, by Ellen Davis; *Left Behind?* by James Efirid; *The Conversion of the Imagination*, by Richard Hays; *Resurrecting Excellence*, by L. Gregory Jones and Kevin Armstrong; *A Future for Africa*, by Emmanuel Katongole; *The End of Words*, by Richard Lischer; *The Oxford History of Christian Worship*, co-edited by Geoffrey Wainwright and Karen Westerfield Tucker; *Isaiah*, by Jo Bailey Wells; and *God's Companions*, by Sam Wells.

David Steinmetz, Amos Ragan Kearns Professor of the history of Christianity, was elected to join the 2006 class of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, an international organization of the world's leading scholars, scientists, artists, business people and political leaders.

Timothy Tyson, visiting professor of American Christianity and Southern culture, won the prestigious Louisville Grawemeyer Award in Religion for his 2004 book "Blood Done Sign My Name."

The award is presented annually by the University of Louisville and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

The divinity school's 53,000-square-foot addition and renovation project, dedicated in late 2005, garnered two awards for Hartman-Cox Architects: an award of merit in architecture from the American Institute of Architects and an International Religious Art and Architecture award from Faith and Form/Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art and Architecture.

We are thankful for the relationships among the United Methodist Church, this Annual Conference, and Duke Divinity School, and we look forward to another year of working to prepare men and women for Christian ministry. To learn more about Duke Divinity School, please visit our website at [www.divinity.duke.edu](http://www.divinity.duke.edu).

*Dean L. Gregory Jones*

## SEMINARIES

### c. United Theological Seminary Trotwood, OH

**UTS MISSION STATEMENT:** United Theological Seminary is a Christ-centered graduate school of the United Methodist Church that equips leaders for the church in a pluralistic world through the nurture of piety, the love of learning and the pursuit of justice.

United Seminary has now completed its first full year at the new Trotwood, OH, facility after 80 years on the Harvard Boulevard Campus. The new facility is a state-of-the-art educational center, complete with the latest classroom technology, a media center for students and faculty, and a spacious new library. The EUB Heritage Center celebrates the long history of the seminary first founded by United Brethren Bishop Milton Wright, father of the Wright Brothers, and other area business leaders in 1871.

UTS is developing partnerships that reflect a lasting commitment to collaboration in urban ministries, wellness education, leadership formation, pastoral supervision, children's and youth programs, advocacy for women and children, and peace with justice. The seminary has an effective program of medical ethics with Wright State University, and has begun internship programs in urban work with area municipalities. The area YMCA, the City of Trotwood, and United are cooperating in the development of health care and related work for students, faculty, and staff. Utilizing the recreational and educational facilities on campus, United has become in effect a gathering place for church, business and civic groups.

The planning process that first led to the relocation of the seminary has also paved the way for the most relevant and effective academic plan including a dynamic Master of Divinity degree. The M.Div. focuses attention upon vital faith in Christ, scholarship, and a profound commitment to justice ministry

and outreach. The school has a long standing reputation as one of the top contextual education programs in the country, and also offers intercultural studies and cutting edge degree and certificate programs in pastoral care, liturgical studies, and media in minis

The seminary's doctoral studies program has long been committed to educating leaders in context through a strong mentor-based program supported by the school's tenured faculty. Degree candidates spend at least five intensives on campus along with numerous peer sessions in context with others. Research and projects document the depth of experience and scholarship associated with the degree.

Over the past several years UTS has engaged in consultation with the United Methodist Church and other judicatory partners in order to determine the most effective way to prepare pastors and laity for ministry locally and globally. The school is clearly dedicated to excellence in scholarship, faithfulness to Christ, and fruitfulness in service. At UTS we participate with others in equipping leaders, changing lives, and transforming communities.

*G. Edwin Zeiders, President*

## COLLEGES

### d. Millsaps College

Millsaps President Dr. Frances Lucas announced the College's \$160 million capital campaign, Legacy: A Campaign for Millsaps College, in November. "Millsaps has a rich legacy that has been shaped by the lives of the people who have called it home. This campaign offers us the opportunity to build on this tradition," Lucas said.

Proceeds from the campaign will allow Millsaps to increase scholarship money, to attract and retain exceptional faculty members, to enhance the campus landscape and facilities, and to continue to develop innovative programs that set Millsaps apart from other colleges in the country.

Campaign chair Murray Underwood, a 1963 graduate and member of Christ United Methodist Church in Jackson, officially kicked off the public campaign, announcing that Legacy had already raised \$71.3 million in both outright and planned gifts during its silent phase. "Although this is the most ambitious campaign in the history of Millsaps College," Underwood said, "this place and these people are worth the investment. This college is worth every minute I can give to her and every dollar I can raise for her. My legacy for Millsaps College will be one of giving back as much as I can and making as much of an impact as I can."

Millsaps received \$283,123 of its \$400,000 apportionment for 2005-2006, providing scholarships for 283 students this year. These scholarships often make the difference in a student's ability to afford tuition for a Millsaps education. All of the apportioned gifts received by the College from the United Methodist churches, except those designated for the Cain Archives, provide student scholarships.

"Our United Methodist affiliation is grounded in the Wesleyan commitment to intellectual growth and academic freedom," said Maurice Hall of Meridian, a 1967 graduate and chair of the Millsaps Board of Trustees. "Methodism supports Millsaps in its emphasis on free inquiry, social responsibility and respect for personal individuality. Our Methodist relationship has inspired our students to find their voice and place in the world." Hall is a member of Central United Methodist Church in Meridian.

The Methodist influence is evident on the Millsaps campus through several student programs, including the Campus Ministry Team, led by the Reverend Lisa Garvin, a 1993 graduate of Millsaps; The Faith & Work Initiative, led by Religious Studies Professor Dr. Darby Ray; and the McNair Fund for Christian Missions, led by the Reverend Dr. Don Fortenberry, a 1962 alumnus.

Newest of the programs, the McNair Fund was established in 2005 by a \$1 million pledge from Jackson alumnus David McNair. The program places students in Christian mission posts around the world, especially during the summers. After sites in Rwanda, South Africa, Honduras, India and southern Appalachia during the first years of the program, increased student participation during the summer of 2007 will include mission sites in Zimbabwe, Malawi, South Africa, Romania and India. This program reflects the passion of the donor for mission as the heart of Christian witness in demonstrating ministry among the poor and disadvantaged in the name of Christ.

The Campus Ministry Team (CMT) continues to serve as the primary ministry organization on campus. CMT is committed to "Building Community, Growing Spiritually, Serving the World" through 18 task groups that provide opportunities for the campus community to grow spiritually, engage in

meaningful dialogue and theological reflection on current events and global concerns, and participate in community service.

Wesley Fellowship provides opportunities for students to grow in their faith through fellowship and conversation each week. Local United Methodist churches provide lunch to a small group of students, and guest elders celebrate Eucharist with us monthly. This year, the group focused on distinctive characteristics of Wesleyan theology in the fall and practiced spiritual disciplines together in the spring.

The College's Faith & Work Initiative, now in its sixth year at Millsaps, helps equip students to create living and working identities that will be at the same time personally meaningful, socially responsible, and spiritually responsive. The Initiative also focuses special attention on ministry in the Christian Church, in order to support and encourage those students who feel called to ministry or whose gifts and aptitudes mark them as potentially gifted ministers.

### **e. Rust College Holly Springs, MS**

Established in 1866 by the Freedmen's Aid Society of the Methodist Church on a former slave auction site, Rust College reached another milestone in the 2006-07 academic year, the 140th anniversary of its founding. This achievement in and of itself is one that alumni, students, faculty, staff, and supporters from every arena can be particularly proud. After the Civil War, 59 schools were established throughout the South by the Methodist church. Rust is one of 11 Historically Black Colleges and Universities established during this period still in existence today.

Accomplishments for the 2006-07 year include:

- Rust College rehabilitated and/or reconstructed 11 homes on Martin Street after receiving a second Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant of \$600,000 through the Rust College Community Development Corporation. Under this grant and a previous grant, the corporation built five new homes, and did major renovation on three existing homes.

- Carlos Hardaway, a senior Elementary Education major from Byhalia, Mississippi, was the 2006 NCAA Division III Statistical Champion for the most stolen bases. In addition, the Rust College baseball team was the 2006 NCAA Division III Statistical Champion for the most stolen bases.

- The College hosted the 73<sup>d</sup> Annual Mississippi Association of Colleges Conference, October 22-24, 2006 with more than 300 administrators from senior and community colleges from across the state.

- The College hosted the Conference United Methodist Women's School of Christian Mission, July 18-21, 2006, with over 200 men, women, and children from across the Conference in attendance.

- Cultural outreach was enhanced with the addition of the Pre-Columbian Art Collection donated by Arnold A. Vernon. This very important gift is a great tool for teaching and learning about other cultures - particularly the Olmec era.

- Attorney Ben Cole, the executive director of North Mississippi Rural Legal Services, agreed to turn over the case file related to the landmark 1975 Ayers higher education desegregation lawsuit to the Leontyne Price Library for use of the campus community and researchers doing research on higher education in Mississippi.

- During the climax of the 140th Founders' Convocation, the College broke ground on the \$4.7 million, 18,044 square feet Hamilton Mathematics and Science Annex.

- The College ended the 2005-06 Fiscal Year with a balanced budget, making it the 38th consecutive year for balanced operations.

As you, our friends of the United Methodist Church, continue to uphold your promise of educational opportunity established any years ago, we the members of the Rust College family will uphold the promise made by our founder, Rev. A. C. McDonald, in 1866 "to do not hothouse work" but will work to build men and women morally, spiritually and academically sound. We are thankful to you for your prayers and financial support. Without it we would not have been able to sustain quality academic programs or offer scholarship assistance to needy students. Again, I thank you for your commitment to "our" legacy established 140 years ago. Your continued support is essential as we endeavor to build a stronger legacy for this generation and those in years to come who will look to Rust and our great Church for higher educational opportunities.

The College expresses thanks for the dedication and leadership of the following Trustees from the Mississippi Annual Conference: Bishop Hope Morgan-Ward, Dr. Earnest L. Henry, Mr. John McCarty, Dr. Joe N. Bailey, Dr. Jimmy Carr, Rev. John Moore, Dr. William Nelson, Dr. Robert Tyson, Dr. Dora S.

Washington, Mr. John R. Arnold, Mr. C. F. Brittenum, Mr. Charles Leggett, Jr., Dr. Joe May, Rev. Milton Boyd, Rev. Patrick Phillips, Dr. Jennie R. Calbert, Dr. Henry C. Clay, Dr. Leora M. Marcus, Mrs. Mary N. Mosley, Dr. Cora Norman, Dr. I. L. Rucker

*David L. Beckley, President 2007*

### 3. CAMPUS MINISTRIES REPORTS

#### a. ASU Wesley Foundation at Alcorn State University

In the fall of 2006 our beloved President, Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr. died on the university's track field. The late Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr. was a hero to the Alcorn State University family and alumni because he had a heart for the students. During my tenure as a lay (interim Director) at the ASU Wesley Foundation in 2003, I met with Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr. Dr. Bristow, Jr. stated that he wanted the students actively engaged after 7:45 p.m. when most evening/night classes ended on the campus of Alcorn State University. As the director, I knew this would take time, dedication, and charisma to attractive students after 7:00 p.m. to the ASU Wesley Foundation, which is off campus and a 1/2 mile from the main campus entrance.

After Dr. Bristow's death in 2006, I decided it was time to actively engage the students and I am actively engaging the students outside the classroom. In January 2007 the ASU Wesley Foundation launched its annual campaign, "Ministry outside the Classroom." "The Ministry outside the Classroom" campaign is in memory of our late president, Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr. The goal of the campaign is to raise \$30,000 beyond annual conference support. Eighty (81%) percent of the gifts goes directly to ministry and programming to help further the kingdom of God.

To date our College Night sessions begin at 8:00 p.m. the students enjoy the environment and the fellowship of other peers in a safe environment, known as a "safe haven" in which they can retreat. The students' desire for missions has increased since Statewide Wesley at Camp Wesley Pines. Our first mission trip is to help in the rebuilding efforts of Hurricane Katrina in Biloxi, MS. The ASU Wesley Foundation of Alcorn State University is a Ministry outside the Classroom, which actively engages students.

The ASU Wesley Foundation is a campus ministry for the Alcorn State University Community. It is located at 5362 Hwy 552 West in Lorman, MS. The ministry is under the leadership of Vera Hall Stamps, M.Div.

#### b. Delta State Wesley Foundation

The Delta State Wesley Foundation is continuing to grow with students attending worship services, community groups, retreats, and other activities. While the students are given a choice of activities, the central focus of the ministry is the Wednesday Night Worship, where students are led in music, video, and sermon, followed by a meal provided by a local church. (There is a coffee house format on the last Wednesday of each month where students can share their talents).

Musically it has been a wonderful year for the Wesley. The band recorded and released a CD entitled "180 degrees". This project is a compilation of modernized hymns, current contemporary numbers, and student originals. Musician Tom Lane produced this CD as a live project at the Wesley. The DSU Wesley also hosted the band "Alathea" for a 3 day event and also partnered with the Delta Music Institute to bring Dove Award winner, Ashley Cleveland for a Wesley and campus-wide event.

In July of 2006, the DSU Wesley Foundation purchased the adjacent lot and house next door, placing the ministry directly across the street from the University. This will enable the Wesley to have more of a presence for students and visibility in the community. Removal of the 1930's structure and landscaping is the immediate goal. The Wesley has raised all but one fourth of the cost of the property and hope, with the help of friends, donors, and fundraisers, to pay this off within the year!

Please visit [www.dsuwesley.com](http://www.dsuwesley.com) for an up to date look at the happenings of the DSU Wesley Foundation!

#### c. Meridian Community College Wesley Foundation

God is moving on the Meridian Community College campus. Several years ago a chapel on the campus was just a dream. Today it is a reality because with God nothing is impossible. God is also rekindling the fires of the Wesley Foundation Ministries. The organization was recently reorganized. Its membership



is small but very dedicated and Spirit filled. The group participated in the Christmas Shoebox Ministry and the Christmas Child program at Wesley House. They also sponsored a weekly devotion time and a youth rally with David Nasser. This campus ministry covets your prayers and support.

*Lynne Anderson*

#### **d. MGCCC–Jefferson Davis Campus**

The Jefferson Davis campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College located in Gulfport is a commuter campus with over 3,000 students. There were about 4,000 before Katrina. Some of the students are the traditional 18 year olds but many are older with families. The Wesley Foundation on this campus strives to minister to all ages, religious affiliations, and all lifestyles. The ministry recently began a free diaper distribution to students with babies and a Walmart gift card program at Easter and Christmas for the children of JD (as the campus is known) students. After Katrina the attendance at the Wesley decreased significantly but this Spring semester has been a time of growth and excitement. Every Tuesday at lunchtime there are at least 15 students who are enjoying the free lunch that is provided by local United Methodist churches, playing foosball, and listening to a “Five Minute Message” given by a local United Methodist pastor. The students participate in missions including Habitat for Humanity. Active members are eligible for need-based scholarships and leadership scholarships. The director, Janis Slade, welcomes visitors anytime and you can contact her by e-mail at wesley4jd@aol.com or by calling (228) 863-4296 or (228) 209-5268.

#### **e. MGCCC Perk Campus**

Katrina was a terrible storm a nightmare for those that stayed and endured her fury. And, for those that returned to find unimaginable disaster. The Perk Campus family suffered great losses from the August 2005 storm, but even Katrina paled in the wake of the nightmare we would endure six months later. Our Campus reopened 30 days after Katrina hit the coastal shores giving students a place to live and to access their now precious belongings left in their dorm rooms.

The first of the new year found the campus rebuilding structurally and recovering emotionally from a storm described as unbelievable. But, for Perk, the unbelievable lie just ahead. Six of our students were killed in a one car accident on January 12, 2006. Our entire Campus was devastated once again. Paralyzed in unbelief and sorrow; the students were well known and well loved. All were from a close knit Catholic community. One was our baseball pitcher. Two were sisters, and the only children of a widowed mother. Three were cousins and best friends. All were MGCCC students. All were from the Coast. And all were children of God.

Serving the Campus as Campus Minister since 1999, the days following the accident were the darkest of days. The time had come to re-evaluate our campus ministry efforts. Students were needing a place, closer to campus, to gather with friends. Their churches and other safe gathering places were gone - lost in Katrina. Our students were traveling extremely long distances to gather and to socialize in unsafe places. Thus birthed the vision for The Barn - The Christian Alternative. It is our hope for healing. Healing from death, and destruction. Healing physically, and emotionally, and spiritually. A place with signs of hope.

Most people that suffer a loss need to gather with friends and family for support. They need to share. Young people have a great need to socialize with one another during “normal” times. That need compounds during times of uncertainty. Hundreds of churches along the Mississippi Gulf Coast were destroyed, or heavily damaged from Katrina. As they seek to rebuild, parishes are meeting in schools and other temporary shelters. With their “sanctuaries” (safe places to gather) gone, college students looked for new places to go with friends. With the lack of places to meet with Christian morals, many students developed self-destructive habits.

Seeing this unfold first hand with our own students, the Perkinston Campus Wesley Foundation has joined forces with friends and supporters to build and furnish a large place for Perk student to gather. At The Barn, Wesley will host Barn BBQ's, Barn Dances, Barn Bible Studies, concerts, and our away football games via satellite. The Loft (the second floor of The Barn) will house our wellness and fitness center. Aerobics, palates, and meditation sessions are on tap for the Fall Semester. Speaking of tap, a children's outreach dance ministry is also planned.

By the time you receive this journal we will have completed the construction of The Barn. Volunteers throughout the community, including many current and former Perk students, have worked tirelessly to

see it to completion. For Perk Wesley, it is time to focus on the future. There are so many program possibilities for The Barn. And, with this new, safe place for young adults to connect and unwind near campus, we are looking forward to sharing the Gospel next semester like never before! We hope you'll visit soon. We know you'll find it a place, where once you enter the doors, no matter what still looms ahead - for the moment, all is well. The Barn is located at 1460 Wire Road West, just behind the Bulldog baseball field. We are still seeking donations to furnish our new facility so if you would like to help please send your gifts to Post Office Box 622, Perkinston, Mississippi 39574. Thank you for your continued support!

## SECTION VI

## RESOLUTIONS

## A. GENERAL CONFERENCE

RESOLUTIONS PRINTED HEREIN WERE ADOPTED  
AT 2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Bold indicates Addition / ~~Strikethrough~~ indicates Deletion**

*General Conference Petition Concerning Terms For Bishops*

WHEREAS, many United Methodists are concerned about the apparent disconnect between the episcopacy and the pew, and

WHEREAS, a number of bishops appear to be taking public positions that violate the spirit and even the letter of General Conference actions and Disciplinary standards, and

WHEREAS, our current practice of electing bishops for life makes it impossible to remove a bishop from office except for a chargeable offense;

THEREFORE, the members of the Mississippi Annual Conference petition the 2008 session of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church to establish church law that Bishops are to be elected for 8-year terms.

Garry Ruff

*Granting Local Pastors The Right To Vote*

WHEREAS, the present role of “Local Pastor” has developed from the rich heritage of Methodism dating back to John Wesley, who developed a system of mentoring laity for effective ministry, and

WHEREAS, Francis Asbury insisted that his fellow itinerant preachers confirm by vote his ordination as deacon, elder, and Superintendent by Rev. Thomas Coke at the Christmas Conference in Baltimore, 1784, revealing Asbury’s value and inclusion of lay ministers, and

WHEREAS, American Methodism was spread during the 18th and 19th centuries by circuit riding preachers, few of whom had the benefit of seminary training, and

WHEREAS, the emerging United Methodist Church in countries outside the United States is predominately a movement driven by trained lay ministers with the result being tremendous numerical growth, and

WHEREAS, the number of “Local Pastors” has greatly increased over the last decade in the United States, and our church will likely increasingly rely upon the ministry of effective “Local Pastors,” and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of the course of study for Local Pastors is verified by the success of these pastors assigned to multiple charges and one-point charges and or have earned a Master of Divinity Degree at a university listed by the University Senate, and

WHEREAS, Local Pastors increasingly are being appointed to churches formerly served by elders in full connection; therefore, assuming the same level of administrative and pastoral responsibility as once held by Elders in full connection, and

WHEREAS, these Local Pastors perform nearly the same ministerial responsibilities as elders in full connection, and serve as the primary link between their local congregations and the general church, and

WHEREAS, these dedicated Local Pastors are denied a voice in the selection of delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference, thus disenfranchising these local pastors and denying them a voice in determining church law and policy,

THEREFORE we propose that General Conference declare that all full-time Local Pastors and associate clergy members who have completed the Course of Study or have earned a Master of Divinity degree at a university listed by the University Senate have the right to vote in the election of delegates to Jurisdictional and General Conference by making the following changes to the *Book of Discipline*;

**AMEND** ¶35 of the *Book of Discipline* by deleting the words “by and” and adding the words “by the

clergy members of the annual or provisional annual conference as defined by the General Conference” so that the entire paragraph would read;

¶35. Article IV - The ordained ministerial delegates to the General Conference and to the jurisdictional or central conferences shall be elected ~~by and~~ from the ordained ministerial members in full connection with the annual conference or provisional annual conference **by the clergy members of the annual or provisional annual conference as defined by the General Conference.**

**AMEND** ¶316.6 of the *Book of Discipline* by adding a new sentence, “Local pastors under full-time appointment who have completed the Course of Study, or have earned a Master of Divinity degree at a university listed by the University Senate, shall have the right to vote on the election of clergy delegates to general, jurisdictional, or central conferences,” so that the entire paragraph would read;

¶316.6 The membership of local pastors under full-time and part-time appointment is in the annual conference where they shall have the right to vote on all matters except constitutional amendments, election of delegates to general, jurisdictional, or central conferences, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. **Local pastors under full-time appointment who have completed the Course of Study, or have earned a Master of Divinity degree at a university listed by the University Senate, shall have the right to vote on the election of clergy delegates to general, jurisdictional, or central conferences.**

**AMEND** ¶602.1c and d by deleting from both paragraphs the clause, “election of clergy delegates to the general and jurisdictional or central conferences” any by adding the following sentence to ¶602.1d, “Only local pastors under full-time appointment who have completed the Course of Study, or have earned a Master of Divinity degree at a university listed by the University Senate, shall have the right to vote on the election of clergy delegates to general, jurisdictional, or central conferences,” so that the entire paragraphs would read;

¶602.1c. Associate and affiliate clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except constitutional amendments, ~~elections of clergy delegates to the general and jurisdictional or central conferences;~~ and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.

¶602.1d. Full-time and part-time local pastors under appointment to a pastoral charge shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except constitutional amendments, ~~election of clergy delegates to the general and jurisdictional or central conferences;~~ and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. **Only local pastors under full-time appointment who have completed the Course of Study, or have earned a Master of Divinity degree at a university listed by the University Senate, shall have the right to vote on the election of clergy delegates to general, jurisdictional, or central conferences.**

### **RATIONALE**

Associate members and full-time Local Pastors represent an increasing percentage of competent, dedicated, and vital clergy in our annual conferences. These pastors perform nearly the same ministerial responsibilities as elders in full connection. It is appropriate they have a voice in electing the delegates which will decide on church law.

*Administrative Board of First United Methodist Church, Louisville*

### **Duties of Licensed Local Pastors**

WHEREAS, churches of small membership comprise a large percentage of the churches and their members a large percentage of the total membership of the Mississippi Annual Conference; and

WHEREAS, although local pastors may serve churches of any size, churches of small membership are overwhelmingly served by part-time and full-time local pastors in the Mississippi Conference; and

WHEREAS, there is consideration being given to change provisions in *The Book of Discipline* that would restrict the ministries of local pastors in the serving of the sacraments and certain other responsibilities and duties which have been and are now assigned to them; and

WHEREAS, the issue of serving all Methodist people in all of the congregations and locations has been an important legacy and critical principle of Methodist polity and practice from the very beginning of Methodism in America; and

WHEREAS, John Wesley himself held a firm position that all the Methodist preachers should be ordained, yet, because the reality of the demand to reach all and serve all required an alternative, he was

persuaded to reconsider, indeed changed his position, and made such provision; and

WHEREAS, persons licensed for pastoral ministry and their predecessors historically referred to as, “lay preachers, exhorters, licensed preachers, etc.,” have served the way of Christ and the Methodist movement faithfully, vigorously and effectively; and

WHEREAS, licensed local pastors are essential to serving all of The United Methodist Church congregations and their respective communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That The Mississippi Annual Conference petitions The General Conference to continue to allow United Methodist people and churches to receive the sacraments and to be served by their appointed pastor(s), including Licensed Local Pastors, according to the responsibilities and duties stated in paragraphs 316 and 340 of *The 2004 Book of Discipline*; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mississippi Annual Conference requests that all delegates to General Conference from the Mississippi Conference defend this position and resist efforts to restrict appointed licensed local pastors from serving the sacraments and other responsibilities and duties which have been and are now assigned to them by *The 2004 Book of Discipline*.

*Rev. Ron Barham, Mathiston*

*Rev. George Buell, Chair, Order of Elders*

### ***To Petition the 2008 General Conference to Amend The Book of Discipline Paragraph (161J) on Abortion***

WHEREAS, the Church has consistently witness and ministered, through the ages, to protect the unborn human life and the mother from abortion;

WHEREAS, scripture reflects a strong sanctity of life perspective which indicates that the unborn child is created and seen by God (Psalm 139:13-16), considered worthy to be called by name (Isaiah 49:1, 5), set apart for specific tasks (Jeremiah 1:4-5) and affirmed as a person (Isaiah 44:2, 24); Luke 1:41-45; Psalm 95:6-7, 100:3, 119:73);

WHEREAS, the United State Supreme Court’s 1973 decision, *Roe v. Wade*, overturned state abortion laws and established abortion rights throughout the United States;

WHEREAS, from 1973 until 2002, over 42 million abortions have been performed in American society (“Facts on Induced Abortion in the United State,” Guttmacher Institute, Facts in Brief, June 2006, [www.guttmacher.org/pubs/fb\\_induced\\_abortion.pdf](http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/fb_induced_abortion.pdf));

WHEREAS, during oral arguments before the United States Supreme Court regarding *Gonzales v. Carhart* which is a case testing the constitutionality of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003, Chief Justice Roberts asked Ms. Smith, attorney for abortionist Dr. Carhart, “We have no evidence either in the record before the Court or Congress as to how often that situation [serious underlying medical conditions... that makes the impact and the risks that are reduced by the intact D&E particularly important] arises?” Ms. Smith replied, “No, we don’t, Your Honor.” (*Gonzales v. Carhart*, Oral Arguments, United States Supreme Court, November 8, 2006, brackets earlier quote from Ms. Smith);

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States, on April 18, 2007, upheld the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003;

WHEREAS, prominent medical organizations and medical experts who disagree about abortion in general, all agree that the partial-birth procedure is never medically necessary:

“The partial delivery of a living fetus for the purpose of killing it outside the womb is ethically offensive to most Americans and physicians. Our panel could not find any identified circumstance in which the procedure was the only safe and effective abortion method.” – AMA President Dr. Daniel Johnson, Jr., in *New York Times*, May 26, 1997

“A select panel convened by ACOG could identify no circumstances under which this procedure... would be the only option to save the life or preserve the health of the woman.” – American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Statement of Policy, January 12, 1997

“I have very serious reservations about this procedure... You really can’t defend it. I’m not going to tell somebody else that they should not do this procedure. But I’m not going to do it... I would dispute any statement that this is the safest procedure to use.” – Abortionist Warren Hern in *American Medical News*, November 20, 1885, p.3;

WHEREAS, the viability for the premature infant has long since passed the 28 week gestational age definition that existed when *Roe v. Wade* was decided, and now has reached 21 weeks and six days

gestation with the birth of Amillia Taylor on October 24, 2006. Her neonatologist Dr. William Smalling stated, “It may be that we need to reconsider our standard for viability in light of Amillia’s case. Over the years, the technology that we have available to save these premature babies has improved dramatically. Today, we can save babies that would have never survived 10 years ago.” (Amillia, the Tiny Miracle Baby, Goes Home,” *Times Online*, Feb. 20, 2007);

WHEREAS, medical advances in neonatal medicine have proven that the development of the perception of pain begins at the sixth week of life, and by the twentieth week “all the essential components of anatomy, physiology, and neurobiology exist to transmit painful sensations from the skin to the spinal cord and to the brain” (Testimony for the U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, November 1, 2005, Jean A. Wright MD, MBA);

WHEREAS, a particular sentence in Paragraph 161J of *The Book of Discipline* (2004) – specifically, “In continuity with past Christian teaching, we recognize tragic conflicts of life with life that may justify abortion, and in such cases we support the legal option of abortion under proper medical procedures.” – can be interpreted so as to identify United Methodist social teaching on abortion with the “pro-choice” legal position of *Roe v. Wade*;

WHEREAS, aforementioned sentence from Paragraph 161J has allowed official agencies of The United Methodist Church to promote the legality of abortion not just in certain tragic circumstances, but in all circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Paragraph 161J expresses moral disapproval of most abortions that are performed, while the aforementioned sentence from Paragraph 161J has been, and is, used by official agencies of The United Methodist Church to approve all judicial decision, and legislative actions, that promote abortion rights;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2007 session of the Mississippi Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church hereby petitions the 2008 General Conference to amend Paragraph 161J of *The Book of Discipline* to read:

“Abortion – The beginning of life and the ending of life are the God-given boundaries of human existence. While individuals have always had some degree of control over when they would die, they now have the awesome power to determine when and even whether new individuals will be born. Our belief in the sanctity of unborn human life makes us reluctant to approve abortion. But we are equally bound to respect the sacredness of the life and well-being of the mother, for whom devastating damage may result from an unacceptable pregnancy. In continuity with past Christian teaching, we recognize ~~that abortion may be justified to protect the physical life of the mother~~ ~~tragic conflicts of life with life that may justify abortion~~, and in such cases ~~we support~~ the legal option of abortion under proper medical procedures **should remain available**. We cannot affirm abortion as an acceptable means of birth control, and we unconditionally reject it as a means of gender selection. We oppose the use of late-term abortion known as dilation and extraction (partial-birth abortion) and call for the end of this practice except when the physical life of the mother is in danger and no other medical procedure is available, ~~or in the case of severe fetal anomalies incompatible with life~~. We commit our Church to continue to provide nurturing ministries to those who terminate a pregnancy, to those in the midst of a crisis pregnancy, and to those who give birth. We particularly encourage the Church, the government, and social service agencies to support and facilitate the option of adoption. (See Paragraph 161L.) Governmental laws and regulations do not provide all the guidance required by the informed Christian conscience. Therefore, a decision concerning abortion should be made only after thoughtful and prayerful consideration by the parties involved, with medical, pastoral, and other appropriate counsel.”

### **RATIONALE**

The vague phrase “tragic conflicts of life” has been, and is, used by official agencies of The United Methodist Church to approve judicial decisions, and legislative actions, that promote abortion rights. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists identified no circumstances necessitating partial birth abortion to save the mother’s life.

*Dr. Eric Harding*  
*Terry McDonald, President of the United Methodist Men*  
*Genny Pearson, President of the United Methodist Women*  
*Bethlehem United Methodist Church*

**To Petition the 2008 General Conference to Delete  
“114. Support for the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice”  
from The Book of Resolutions (2004)**

WHEREAS, the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC) is dedicated to defending and expanding abortion rights – that is, legal rights to all abortions, whatever the circumstances, without exception – in American law;

WHEREAS, “RCRC was founded in 1973 to safeguard the newly won constitutional right to abortion,” according to The Reverend Carlton W. Veazey, RCRC president and CEO ([www.rcrc.org/about/index.cfm](http://www.rcrc.org/about/index.cfm), Dec. 10, 2006);

WHEREAS, RCRC’s founding mission remains intact: “The primary struggle for reproductive choice has shifted to the state level, with new legislation limiting access to reproductive health care traveling from state to state until enough momentum develops to bring it to the national arena. In such a climate, we need healthy state (RCRC) organizations so that we can stop each new threat as it arises” ([www.rcrc.org/getinvolved/affiliate.cfm](http://www.rcrc.org/getinvolved/affiliate.cfm), Dec. 10, 2006);

WHEREAS, RCRC works for abortion rights in any and all circumstances, while The United Methodist Church teaches that moral discernment, on matters related to abortion, is essential; for the church “(believes) in the sanctity of unborn human life,” “cannot affirm abortion as an acceptable means of birth control,” and “unconditionally reject(s) (abortion) as a means of gender selection” (*The Book of Discipline 2004*, Paragraph 161J);

WHEREAS, the UMC should continue promotion of HIV/AIDS education, sexuality education, quality health and child care, and clergy counseling training programs as mentioned in Paragraph 114, but should do so apart from the RCRC. For example, “the ‘respectable’ end of the porn business has made a point of hiring lobbyists, participating in charity, and campaigning for condoms against AIDS,” but this does not mean the UMC should support the pornography industry in order to advance AIDS prevention. (“*Pornography, Main Street to Wall Street*,” *Holman W. Jenkins, Policy Review, Hoover Institution*);

WHEREAS, other “mainline” denominations with similar positions on abortion to that of The United Methodist Church have either never chosen to be members of RCRC (e.g., the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Disciples of Christ), or have severed past ties with RCRC (American Baptist Churches USA and the Northern Province of the Moravian Church);

WHEREAS, the RCRC’s stance on the non-abortion issue of homosexuality is contrary to the Social Principles as exposed in Rev. Karen Booth’s “UM Judicial Council Brief on the Pro-Homosexuality Advocacy of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice”:

One part of the RCRC-produced article, “The Really Good News: What the Bible Says About Sex,” argues at length that “it is, at best, inaccurate to use scripture to condemn committed, consensual same-gender sexual relationships.” The article also asserts: “In contrast to its position on same gender sex, the Bible clearly condemns adultery.” This amounts to saying that the Bible has no clear position on “same-gender sex.” The title of this document attaches qualitative value to such assertions, suggesting that biblical teaching not truly being opposed to “same-gender sex” would amount to “Really Good News.”

By contrast, the United Methodist Social Principles clearly declare that “the practice of homosexuality” is “incompatible with Christian teaching” (Paragraph 161G). Furthermore, the Social Principles declare that “sexual relations are only clearly affirmed in the marriage bond” (161G) and that marriage is to be understood as a covenant “between a man and a woman” (161C). (UM Judicial Council Brief on the Pro-Homosexuality Advocacy of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice)

WHEREAS, RCRC consistently lobbies government for the preservation of partial-birth abortion rights, while The United Methodist Church “oppose(s) the use of late-term abortion known as dilation and extraction (partial-birth abortion) and call(s) for the end of this practice” with rare exceptions (Paragraph 161J);

Whereas, United Methodists hold various political positions on abortion, and therefore agencies of The United Methodist Church should not be permitted to join a particular political lobby on abortion, such as RCRC; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Timothy W. Whitaker of the Florida Area has declared: “At the 2004 General Conference, the church endorsed our [United Methodist] agencies’ continued participation in the



Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice without much of a debate about how participation in this coalition compromises our public witness against abortion” (“Do No Harm!,” a sermon);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2007 session of the Mississippi Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church hereby charges its conference secretary, using the entire rationale stated above, to petition, in a timely and appropriate manner, the 2008 General Conference to delete “114. Support for the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice” from The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church (2004).

*Dr. Eric Harding*

*Terry McDonald, President of the United Methodist Men  
Genny Pearson, President of the United Methodist Women  
Bethlehem United Methodist Church*

## **B. REGULAR**

### **RESOLUTIONS PRINTED HEREIN WERE ADOPTED AT 2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

#### *Prayer*

WHEREAS, JESUS is the Supreme Model of praying to GOD THE FATHER (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 5:12-16; John 17:1-26);

WHEREAS, JESUS paid the price of time in praying to GOD THE FATHER, morning and evening (Mark 1:35; Luke 6:12);

WHEREAS, the praying of JESUS TO GOD THE FATHER shows victories in The Kingdom of God (Matthew 14:19-21; Mark 5:1-20; John 11:30-45);

WHEREAS, JESUS shows us to be persistent in praying to GOD THE FATHER (Matthew 7:7-11; Luke 18:1-8);

WHEREAS, THE HOLY SPIRIT and JESUS pray to GOD THE FATHER in our behalf (Romans 8:26; 8:34);

WHEREAS, faithful praying by the disciplines of JESUS, His mother, His brothers, and some devoted women helped to spark a flaming Pentecost and powerful Church (Acts 1:12-14; 2:1-47)

WHEREAS, praying to GOD THE FATHER as JESUS prayed is a way of showing dependence upon THE HOLY SPIRIT (Luke 4:1-5);

WHEREAS, Bishop Hope Morgan Ward would continue to welcome our prayers for her many needs and for her family;

WHEREAS, all our clergy with their families, all our laity with their families, and all our children and youth are standing in need of praying;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That we continue our noon daily prayer time for The United Methodist Church in Mississippi and beyond; whether our prayers are several seconds, minutes, or longer in THE NAME OF JESUS: and that we depend upon THE HOLY SPIRIT to direct us in our praying for THE BODY OF CHRIST;
2. That we fervently ask our HEAVENLY FATHER’S help for the recovery and restoration of our KATRINA brothers, sisters, youth, children, and churches;
3. That we ask our pastors to inform the church briefly from time to time about the twelve o’clock hour, urging their praying;
4. That any time during the last two weeks prior to Annual Conference each pastoral charge have some type of prayer meeting GLORIFYING GOD THE FATHER, GOD THE SON, AND GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT; asking His help as we face Annual Conference with faith, hope, and love; and to give power to live the life of CHRIST in the world.

*Johnny A. Dinas*

## *Housing/Rental Allowance For Retired and Disabled Ministers*

WHEREAS, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church has and functions through ministers of the Gospel who are ordained or licensed; and

WHEREAS, the practice of The United Methodist Church is to provide a parsonage or a rental allowance as part of the gross compensation for each of its active ordained or licensed ministers; and

WHEREAS, pensions paid to retired and disabled ordained or licensed ministers of The United Methodist Church are considered as deferred compensation and are paid to said retired and disabled ordained or licensed ministers in consideration of previous active service; and

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized that the Mississippi Annual Conference is the appropriate organization to designate a housing/rental allowance for retired and disabled ordained or licensed ministers who are members of this conference;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. An amount equal to 100 percent of the pension payments received during the year of 2008 be and is hereby designated as a rental/housing allowance for each retired and disabled ordained or licensed minister of The United Methodist Church who is or was a member of the Mississippi Conference at the time of his or her retirement;
2. This rental/housing allowance shall apply to each retired and disabled ordained or licensed minister who has been granted the retired relation or placed on disability leave by the Mississippi Conference and whose name and relationship to the conference is recorded in the Journal of the Mississippi Conference and in other appropriate records maintained by the conference;
3. The pension payment to which this rental/housing allowance applies shall be the pension payment resulting from all service of such retired and disabled ordained or licensed minister from all employment by any local church, annual conference, or institution of The United Methodist Church, or of any former denomination that is now a part of The United Methodist Church, or from any other employer who employed the minister to perform services related to the ministry and who elected to make contributions to the pension funds of The United Methodist Church for such retired minister's pension.

*G. E. Jones, Chair, Board of Pensions  
David Stotts, Conference Benefits Officer  
Byrd Hillman, Liaison Officer*

## *Camp Lake Stephens Property*

WHEREAS, Camp Lake Stephens in Oxford, Mississippi, owns 150 acres currently occupied by the core camp; and

WHEREAS, Camp Lake Stephens also owns a 250 acre plot of land separate from the core camp which is currently not being utilized; and

WHEREAS, development from the city of Oxford is rapidly encroaching upon the core camp; and

WHEREAS, there are two (2) pieces of land directly adjoining Camp Lake Stephens currently owned by individuals and/or families; and

WHEREAS, the price of property continues to rise in the growth area just outside of Oxford, Mississippi;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That in order to protect the core camp from encroaching urban sprawl, Camp Lake Stephens respectfully requests permission to give the Board of Camp Lake Stephens and their Executive Director, Darrell Whitaker, authority to sell or trade any or all of their 250 acres that is not adjoining the camp, for cash use to directly benefit the core camp, or for purchase or trade for the land which adjoins the core camp that would provide an important buffer against future impending development.

*Camp Lake Stephens Board of Trustees  
Eddie Willis, Chair*

### ***Regarding Organized Gambling in Mississippi***

WHEREAS, organized gambling preys on the poor and ignorant, and Jesus called us to protect the “least of these” in our society; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi’s casino gambling industry has continued to flourish, moving inland following Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, gambling is an addiction so powerful that it bankrupts many of those who attempt it, dissolves marriages, and impoverishes children; and

WHEREAS, gambling is recognized by the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church as “a menace to society, deadly to the best interests of moral, social, economic, and spiritual life, and destructive of good government;” and

WHEREAS, our Social Principles direct the Church to “promote standards and personal lifestyles that would make unnecessary and undesirable the resort to commercial gambling as a recreation, an escape, or as a means of producing public revenue.”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That the United Methodist congregations of Mississippi and their ministers serve as active role models for children and youth in their attitudes toward gambling, educating them in the Sunday school on the dangers of gambling, and urging The United Methodist Church to include such teachings in its curriculum program.

2. That United Methodists intentionally become involved with the entire church community through interfaith dialogue concerning the issues of organized gambling and its harm to society and our moral fiber, seeking ways in which the Church can minister to those who are adversely affected by this behavior and ways to favorably influence public policy.

3. That the Mississippi Conference convene a conference-wide discussion group to study the problems of gambling as well as the benefits as they relate to the people of Mississippi and to determine ways of helping those persons who are addicted and those families who suffer the consequences of that addiction. This group shall report their finding and recommendations for action to the 2008 session of the Mississippi Annual Conference.

*The Church Council of Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church  
Dr. W. Lamar Weems, chairman of the bishop’s ad hoc task force on gambling,  
appointed July 30, 1999*

### ***Resolution Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Bombing of Temple Beth Israel, Jackson, Mississippi, September 18, 1967 and other violent acts against churches***

WHEREAS, the role of the Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns is “to stimulate understanding and conversations with all Christian bodies, and to encourage continuing dialogue with Jewish and other living-faith communities, and to encourage and openness of mind toward an understanding of other major world religions,” (Discipline Par. 641g);

WHEREAS, the role of the Commission of Religion and Race is to [coordinate] “the conference support and cooperation with various movements for racial and social justice” (Par. 642h);

WHEREAS, the United Methodist Social Principles state that: “We deplore acts of hate or violence against groups or persons based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, or economic status (Par. 162);

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Conference in 2007 has been reflecting on the last 40 years of the Civil Rights Movement which included crimes of hate and injustice against the Jewish communities of Mississippi; and,

WHEREAS, remembering and commemorating important anniversaries of the Civil Rights Movement in a time of racist terrorism furthers our understanding of one another and deepens our commitment to continue to fight these injustices and acts of hate locally and around the world;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:

That the United Methodist Church in Mississippi will commemorate the bombing of Temple Beth

Israel on September 18, 1967, and all such acts by observing the one minute of silence at noon hour on Tuesday, September 18, 2007;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bishop Hope Morgan Ward send a letter on behalf of the Mississippi Conference to Rabbi Valerie Cohen and the congregants of Beth Israel expressing our deep sorrow and our intent to commemorate this tragic event in the life of that faith community.

*Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns  
Commission on Religion and Race*

### ***Responsible Stewardship***

WHEREAS, churches generate a large amount of waste that negatively impacts creation's natural order entrusted to humankind by the Creator; and

WHEREAS, plastics and Styrofoam are especially wasteful and problematic, both in the use of petroleum in manufacturing, and in the dispersal and length of time it takes for such to breakdown in the environment; and

WHEREAS, the subtle, evil concept behind the word "disposable" has aided the damage to and desecration of beautiful woods and waters, plants and creatures, walking paths and roadways, fencerows and quiet corners, with litter and ugly trash even as landfills are stressed to capacity; and

WHEREAS, the Church is called to "The Defense of Creation";

WHEREAS, good, responsible stewardship modeled at church gatherings has an ever-expanding and abiding influence;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that our churches of the Mississippi Annual Conference are requested to cut consumption of "disposable" Styrofoam and plastic items in our gatherings by at least 50 percent in the next 12 months, employing alternative items and methods such as safe, reusable items and simple dishwashing by men, women, youth, and children, and to continue to seek responsible practices friendly to the creation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that our churches are encouraged to recycle products as an act of responsible citizenship and Christian stewardship of God's good earth, which has increasing pressure on limited resources.

*Rev. Ron Barham*

### ***Regarding Food Ministry Grants***

WHEREAS, our Lord blessed us in service to others, "for one of the least of these," (Matthew 25:31-40); and

WHEREAS, our Mississippi Conference has no ongoing financial support for churches seeking to provide food ministry to the poor and elderly of our state; and

WHEREAS, many churches struggle financially to maintain an adequate food ministry in light of the growing needs of our poor and elderly; and

WHEREAS, we should as a Conference share in the work of our churches aiding the poor and elderly with necessary food.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Conference of The United Methodist Church shall establish an annual food ministry grant through the office of Connectional Ministry.

*Art Gaines, Pastor-Parish Relations Chairman*

*Sara Hayes, Lay Leader*

*Rev. Wayne Napier, Pastor*

*Harmony United Methodist Church, West Iuka Charge*

## C. Referred

### RESOLUTIONS PRINTED HEREIN HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO THE NAMED COMMITTEE

#### *Designating Delta Mission Foundation, Inc., as an Advance Special*

WHEREAS, The United Methodist Church is committed to making disciples; and  
 WHEREAS, the region known as the Mississippi Delta has suffered through decades of economic decline; and  
 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Delta has experienced population out migration; and  
 WHEREAS, the Trinity United Methodist Church and the Delta Mission Foundation, Inc. have brought people of all walks together; and  
 WHEREAS, these efforts provide spiritual, education, economic, and medical support and care; and  
 WHEREAS, the financial responsibilities are greater than can be locally provided;  
 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Delta Mission Foundation, Inc. is approved as an Advance Special of the Mississippi Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church at the 2007 Annual Conference.

*The Administrative Council of First United Methodist Church, Tupelo  
Karen Geddie, Secretary*

*Referred to Missions Committee*

#### *Empowering Ordained Deacons with the Right to Administer the Holy Sacraments*

WHEREAS, Acts 6:1-7, 8:5-40 and 21:8-10 detail the work of the deacon and evangelist, Philip; and  
 WHEREAS, the Apostles prayed over, laid their hands upon and commissioned Philip for his task (Acts 6:6); and,  
 WHEREAS, Acts 8:13 and 38 affirm Philip employed his authority as a deacon to baptize Simon and the Ethiopian eunuch, thereby incorporating those beyond the Jewish tradition into the Christian faith where upon God's Holy Church spread beyond Jerusalem; and  
 WHEREAS, The United Methodist Church began ordaining deacons into a lifetime ministry of Word and service to both the community and the congregation that connects the two following The 1996 General Conference, (The Book of Discipline 1996, Paragraph 320.1; The Book of Discipline 2000, Paragraph 320.1; and The Book of Discipline 2004, Paragraph 329.1); and  
 WHEREAS, the historic examination for admission into full connection and ordination as a deacon requires an affirmative response to the following two questions: "Do you know the General Rules of our Church? Will you keep the General Rules of our Church?" (The Book of Discipline 2004, Paragraph 330.4.d(6)(7)); and  
 WHEREAS, the General Rules of the Methodist Church anticipate those ordained shall first "do no harm" and second "do good" and third "attend upon all the ordinances of God" which includes "the Supper of the Lord" (The Book of Discipline 2004); and  
 WHEREAS, at present, the service of ordination ordains deacons into a lifetime of servant leadership "to take authority as a deacon to proclaim the Word of God, and to lead God's people to serve the world in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"; yet,  
 WHEREAS, the current rite of ordination of deacon into full connection does not authorize the deacon to administer the Holy Sacraments can be understood as a apparent contradiction to both biblical example and the General Rules of the Church which require those ordained to "attend upon all the ordinances of God"; and  
 WHEREAS, there is ample anecdotal evidence that the lack of authority for deacons to administer the Holy Sacraments of the Church has done spiritual and emotional harm to numerous individuals, has

precluded deacons from doing all the good they can do in the context of the setting of their service, as well as prohibiting them from attending upon all the ordinances of God;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church in session June 10-13, 2007, petitions the 2008 General Conference of The United Methodist Church to authorize the ordination of deacons into a lifetime of servant leadership by “taking authority as a deacon to proclaim the Word of God, and to administer the Holy Sacraments and to lead God’s people to serve the world.”

RATIONALE: Ordained deacons, within and beyond the bounds of the Mississippi Annual Conference serving in a variety of settings both within and beyond the local church, report that by not having the authority to administer the Holy Sacraments, spiritual and emotional harm has been done to youth, older adults, those economically disenfranchised and others in similar situations. For example, youth have not been able to receive the elements of Holy Communion during the context of various worship experiences where an ordained elder was not available to consecrate the elements of Holy Communion either beforehand or during the event, and youth have not been able to be baptized at numerous camp and retreat settings where an ordained elder was not present.

At the Gathering of the Chairs of the Orders of Elders and Deacons and the Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associated Members in Atlanta in February 2007, one ordained deacon serving the homeless in an inner city congregation (where the elder in charge was repeatedly unavailable) was forced to advise a poor woman she could not baptize her children. The deacon responded by advising she didn’t have the authority to baptize and the woman’s financial situation had nothing to do with her refusal to baptize her children. The poor disenfranchised and disheartened woman went away, never to return to the mid-week ministry the church had developed and specifically designed to meet the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of persons as herself and her children. A Church which promotes it has “Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors,” as The United Methodist Church does, should be consistent in its praxis as well as its philosophy of ministry.

*Rev. George W. Buell*  
*Clergy Member, Mississippi Annual Conference*

*Referred to Board of Ordained Ministry*

## **D. Property**

### ***Chapel Hill United Methodist Church and Barlow United Methodist Church District Realignment***

WHEREAS, the Chapel Hill United Methodist Church in Grenada County and the Barlow United Methodist Church of Attala County, both presently in the Starkville District, are served by pastors from the Greenwood District: and

WHEREAS, all affected parties have been informed as to the realignment of these two churches to the Greenwood District, effective at Annual Conference of 2007:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Chapel Hill United Methodist Church in Grenada County and Barlow United Methodist Church in Attala County are henceforth connected to the Greenwood District and Superintendent for supervision and fellowship.

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward*  
*Rev. S. Andrew Ray, Dean of Cabinet*  
*Dr. Steve McDonald, Secretary of Cabinet*

## 2007 Changes in Charge Lines

### *Brookhaven District*

Sandy Hook-Hopewell Charge shall be dissolved. Sandy Hook will stand alone. Hopewell will stand alone.

### *Greenwood District*

Remove Cleveland: St. Mark from the Cleveland: St. Mark-Mound Bayou: Wesley Charge, as it is being discontinued. Mound Bayou: Wesley will stand alone.

### *New Albany District*

The Tishomingo Charge shall be dissolved. Dennis and Tishomingo will form the Tishomingo, South Charge. Paradise, Rutledge-Salem and Boggs Chapel will form the Tishomingo, Trinity Charge.

The Ripley-Blue Mountain Charge shall be dissolved. Ripley will stand alone. Blue Mountain will stand alone.

### *Seashore District*

Remove Red Hill from the Big Point-Red Hill Charge. Red Hill will stand alone.

Add Big Point to Rosedale to form the Big Point-Rosedale Charge.

Dissolve the Clermont Harbor-Pearlington Charge. Pearlington will stand alone.

Add Clermont Harbor to Waveland to form the Clermont Harbor-Waveland Charge.

Remove Wesley Chapel from the Lucedale Circuit Charge. The Lucedale Circuit Charge will consist of St. James and Mt. Pleasant.

Add Wesley Chapel to Bolton Chapel to form the Bolton Chapel-Wesley Chapel Charge.

Remove Mt. Zion from the Benndale Circuit Charge, as it is being discontinued. Sweetwater will stand alone. Change the name of the Benndale Circuit Charge to Sweetwater.

### *West Jackson District*

Link Bolton: Asbury to Edwards: Kingsley Chapel to form the Asbury-Kingsley Chapel Charge.

## Discontinued Churches

### *St. Mark United Methodist Church, Cleveland Greenwood District*

WHEREAS, the St. Mark United Methodist Church has faithfully served God and its community for many years; and

WHEREAS, the remaining members of the St. Mark United Methodist Church met in a duly called Church Conference on April 24, 2007, and voted to discontinue the congregation effective June 13, 2007; and

WHEREAS, this resolution has the consent of the Bishop and Cabinet of the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Annual Conference, in session June 10-13, 2007, declares the St. Mark United Methodist Church to be discontinued;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the St. Mark United Methodist Church be transferred to the John Wesley United Methodist Church of Mound Bayou, Mississippi;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the property and furnishings of the St. Mark United Methodist Church be transferred to the trusteeship of the Greenwood District of the United Methodist Church, to be sold and the proceeds contributed to the support of Hope Ministries in Greenville, Mississippi; provided that the mineral rights be reserved for the Mississippi Annual Conference and any net proceeds from them be used by the Commission on New Church Development.

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward  
Rev. Raiford Wallace, Dean of Cabinet  
Rev. David Price, Secretary of Cabinet*



**Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church, Vaiden Charge  
Greenwood District**

WHEREAS, the Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church of the Vaiden Charge has served its membership and community faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, the membership of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church of the Vaiden Charge is completely depleted and services have been discontinued for some time;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mississippi Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, in session June 10-13, 2007, declares the Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church to be discontinued; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the remaining members of the Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church be transferred to United Methodist churches of their choosing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the property and furnishings of the Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church be transferred to the Old Plank Cemetery Association; provided that the mineral rights are reserved for the Mississippi Annual Conference and any net proceeds from them are used by the Commission on New Church Development.

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward  
Rev. S. Andrew Ray, Dean of Cabinet  
Dr. Steve McDonald, Secretary of Cabinet*

**Mashulaville United Methodist Church  
Starkville District**

WHEREAS, the Mashulaville United Methodist Church has faithfully served God and its community for many years, and

WHEREAS, there are only three remaining members of Mashulaville United Methodist Church who met April 8, 2007, in a duly called Charge Conference and voted to discontinue the congregation effective June 10, 2007, and the remaining members be transferred to the congregation of their choice, and

WHEREAS, this resolution has the consent of the Bishop and Cabinet of the Mississippi Annual Conference,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mashulaville United Methodist Church be discontinued and the property given to the Mashulaville Community Church who will elect trustees to care for the property, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the mineral rights shall be reserved for the Mississippi Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church with any money received to be used by the Commission on New Church Development.

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward  
Rev. S. Andrew Ray, Dean of Cabinet  
Dr. Steve McDonald, Secretary of Cabinet*

**Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church, Mathiston Charge  
Starkville District**

WHEREAS the Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church has faithfully served God and its community for many years, and

WHEREAS the remaining members of Mt. Nebo met on March 9, 2007, in a duly called Charge Conference and voted to discontinue the congregation effective June 10, 2007, and the remaining members be transferred to the congregation of their choice, and

WHEREAS this resolution has the consent of the Bishop and Cabinet of the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church, and

WHEREAS the Mt. Nebo Cemetery Association is interested in preserving and maintaining the church building for special services,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, in session June 10-13, 2007, declares the Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church to be discontinued,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the title of this property and building be transferred to the Mt. Nebo Cemetery Association and that the church building be used for services as determined by the Mt. Nebo Cemetery Association,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the mineral rights shall be reserved for the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church with any money received to be used by the Commission on New Church Development.

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward*  
*Rev. S. Andrew Ray, Dean of Cabinet*  
*Dr. Steve McDonald, Secretary of Cabinet*

### ***Mt. Zion United Methodist Church Starkville District***

WHEREAS, the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, located in McHenry, Mississippi, has faithfully served its members and community; and

WHEREAS, continuing as a congregation is no longer a viable option due to diminishing membership and resources; and

WHEREAS, the church now has only four remaining members, whose membership shall be transferred to nearby congregations; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Hope Morgan Ward and Cabinet have given their consent to this action;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church, in session June 10-13, 2007, declare Mt. Zion United Methodist Church to be discontinued;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the title to church property be transferred to the Trustees of the Seashore District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that proceeds from any sale of this property be placed with the Seashore District New Church Development Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the mineral rights shall be reserved for the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church with any money received to be used by the Seashore District New Church Development Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any remaining furnishings, contents, equipment, etc., of the building be disposed of by the district Trustees, and any monies in the church accounts be deposited with the Seashore District to be used in congregational and mission development in the Seashore District.

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward*  
*Rev. S. Andrew Ray, Dean of Cabinet*  
*Dr. Steve McDonald, Secretary of Cabinet*

### ***Pittsboro United Methodist Church Tupelo District***

WHEREAS, the Pittsboro United Methodist Church has been a place of worship as a United Methodist congregation for approximately 77 years; and

WHEREAS, many souls have been added to the book of life through this church; and

WHEREAS, couples have been united in holy matrimony and children have been baptized in this church; and

WHEREAS, this place of worship has provided comfort and healing to families who have lost loved ones to death; and

WHEREAS, this church has been God's representative in Pittsboro, Calhoun County, Mississippi and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS death has claimed many members of this church; and

WHEREAS the membership has been in steady decline over the last number of years; and

WHEREAS the remaining members met on May 6, 2007, and regretfully found no alternative but to recommend the discontinuance of this church at the close of the month of June 2007; and

WHEREAS this action has the consent of the Bishop and Cabinet of the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Conference of The United Methodist Church, in session June 10-13, 2007, declares the Pittsboro United Methodist Church to be discontinued; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the church building and its contents be given to the Calhoun County Historical and Genealogical Society to be used for their preservation of historical records, and to be a meeting place for the society, providing the mineral rights are reserved for the Mississippi Conference of The United Methodist Church and any net proceeds from them are used by the Commission on New Church Development.

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward*  
*Rev. S. Andrew Ray, Dean of Cabinet*  
*Dr. Steve McDonald, Secretary of Cabinet*

### ***Rapers Chapel Chapel United Methodist Church Tupelo District***

WHEREAS, *The 2004 Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (2548.c) deals with the abandonment of Rapers Chapel United Methodist Church, and,

WHEREAS, the membership of Rapers Chapel chose to no longer utilize Rapers Chapel United Methodist Church as a place for divine worship for the United Methodist church;

Therefore, the property was considered to be abandoned and with the consent of the bishop and majority of district superintendents, a suit was filed against the former trustees of Rapers Chapel United Methodist Church. At trial it was announced that the property would be sold and a deed was duly executed by the Conference Trustees to sell the property, and it was announced in open court that the property was sold to the former members of Rapers Chapel, along with the cemetery.

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward*  
*Rev. S. Andrew Ray, Dean of Cabinet*  
*Dr. Steve McDonald, Secretary of Cabinet*

### ***Seashore Mission United Methodist Church Seashore District***

WHEREAS, Seashore Mission United Methodist Church was originally organized as Seashore Mission, a nonprofit corporation, to minister to the homeless and those in need in the metropolitan area of Biloxi, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the buildings and facilities used in its mission work were totally destroyed in 2005 during Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, the former residents of East Biloxi remain scattered and the organization cannot properly function as an active United Methodist church; and

WHEREAS, there continues to be a need for an extension ministry and mission to serve those persons in need; and

WHEREAS, the members of Seashore Mission United Methodist Church met on April 23, 2007, in a duly called Charge Conference and recommended the Seashore Mission United Methodist Church should cease to be recognized as an active United Methodist church, and that its name should be changed to Seashore Mission, and it should function as a mission and extension ministry for the purposes originally organized and to operate as a nonprofit for such purpose; and

WHEREAS, this action has the consent of the Bishop and Cabinet of the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Seashore Mission United Methodist Church shall discontinue function as a church congregation and shall hereafter continue as a mission and extension ministry to assist the homeless and those in need in accordance with its original purpose; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the title to the property of Seashore United Methodist Church shall be transferred through name change to Seashore Mission, Inc., a Mississippi Nonprofit Corporation, subject to the existing Trust clause to be kept, maintained, and disposed of as per *The Book of Discipline* of the United Methodist Church.

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward*  
*Rev. S. Andrew Ray, Dean of Cabinet*  
*Dr. Steve McDonald, Secretary of Cabinet*

## **Name Changes**

### ***St. Matthew United Methodist Church*** ***Meridian District***

WHEREAS, the total membership of twelve active members of St. Matthew United Methodist Church met on January 10, 2007, and requested to change the name of their congregation from St. Matthew United Methodist Church to the New St. Matthew United Methodist Church,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church, in session June 10-13, 2007, that the St. Matthew United Methodist Church name be changed to the New St. Matthew United Methodist Church.

*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward*  
*Rev. Raiford Wallace, Dean of Cabinet*  
*Rev. David Price, Secretary of Cabinet*

### ***Thirkield United Methodist Church*** ***Meridian District***

Change the spelling to Thraikill United Methodist Church to correctly reflect the spelling of the person for whom the church was named, the Rev. C. P. Thraikill.

## SECTION VII

## HISTORICAL

## A. Historical Table

A listing of the sessions of various Annual Conferences within the state held prior to 1989 can be found in the 1989 edition of the Journal, pp. 385-392.

Sessions of the Mississippi Annual Conference since Merger of the former Mississippi and North Mississippi Conferences in 1988:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>BISHOP</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>
1989 June 22-26 .....	Jackson.....	Robert C. Morgan.....	Curtis Moffat Carl Grubbs
1990 June 11-14 .....	Tupelo.....	Robert C. Morgan.....	Carl Grubbs Curtis Moffat
1991 June 17-21 .....	Biloxi.....	Robert C. Morgan.....	Curtis Moffat
1992 June 8-11 .....	Jackson.....	Robert C. Morgan.....	Curtis Moffat
1993 June 7-10 .....	Jackson.....	Marshall L. Meadors .....	Curtis Moffat
1994 June 7-10 .....	Jackson.....	Marshall L. Meadors .....	Curtis Moffat
1995 June 5-9.....	Tupelo .....	Marshall L. Meadors .....	Curtis Moffat
1996 June 10-12 .....	Jackson.....	Marshall L. Meadors .....	Curtis Moffat
1997 June 2-4.....	Jackson.....	Marshall L. Meadors .....	Curtis Moffat
1998 June 1-3.....	Jackson.....	Marshall L. Meadors .....	Curtis Moffat
1999 June 14-17 .....	Hattiesburg.....	Marshall L. Meadors .....	Curtis Moffat
2000 June 5-7.....	Tupelo .....	Marshall L. Meadors .....	Curtis Moffat
2001 June 5-7.....	Tupelo .....	Kenneth L. Carder.....	Jerry Beam
2002 June 2-5.....	Jackson.....	Kenneth L. Carder (ill) .....	Jerry Beam Clay F. Lee, Presided
2003 June 2-5.....	Biloxi.....	Kenneth L. Carder.....	Jerry Beam
2004 June 1-4.....	Biloxi.....	Kenneth L. Carder.....	Jerry Beam
2005 June 5-8.....	Jackson.....	Hope Morgan Ward.....	Jerry Beam
2006 June 11-14 .....	Jackson.....	Hope Morgan Ward.....	Roger Puhr
2007 June 10-13 .....	Jackson.....	Hope Morgan Ward.....	Roger Puhr

## B. Memoirs

### Clergy

#### **Robert Edward Address**

**1927-2006**

Robert Edward Address, 79, of Ridgeland, MS passed away on July 23, 2006 at the Mississippi State Veterans Home in Jackson. Reverend Address was born in Andalusia, Alabama on February 19, 1927 and graduated from Sidney Lanier High School, Montgomery, Alabama. He served in the US Army from 1945 to 1947. He received his bachelor degree in Business from Huntington College and his Master's of Christian Education from Emory School of Divinity.

He served 25 years in the United Methodist Church as a diaconal/deacon of Christian Education. He later returned to Emory to receive his certification as a local pastor. He served 10 years as a Local Pastor. He served in Alabama/ West Florida, North Alabama and the Mississippi Annual Conferences. While in Alabama he served as Conference Director of Youth Ministries.

Cities he served in Mississippi include Hattiesburg, Waynesboro, D'Lo, Benton, Vicksburg and Gulfport.

In retirement Reverend Address served as chairman of both the East Jackson District and the Mississippi Annual Conference Retired Clergy groups.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 51 years Ruby Aaron Address ,his grandson Michael Reed Sprinkell and his parents Joseph and Ida Address.

*Submitted by his daughter Ruby Anne Address Crites*

#### **Borden Frank Camp**

**1931-2006**

Borden Frank Camp was born in Skene, Mississippi, March 2, 1931, and died September 19, 2006, at Guardian Angel Hospice in Raleigh, Mississippi.

After finishing high school, he joined the Navy. He became a corpsman and served in the Korean War on the sea with the Navy and on land with the Marines.

Frank taught math and science in high school in Tennessee and Mississippi before being called into the ministry. He was licensed to preach under his mentor and life-time friend, Rev. Johnny Dinas.

He served the charges of Ethel, Kilmichael, Durant, Thaxton, Kussuth, Courtland, and Centerville for almost 26 years.

The last two years of his life he fought pancreatic cancer, refusing to give up preaching until the very last. He always said that God called him, but He never did tell him to quit.

He is survived by his wife Cathron McMahan Camp; his son, Ronald and wife Suxanne of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; his daughter, Deborah and husband Ned Philips of Madison, Mississippi; his son, William and wife Heather of Lexington, Kentucky; and five grandchildren.

*Submitted by his wife Cathron M. Camp*

#### **Ray Clarke Earls**

**1942-2007**

Ray C. Earls was born on November 8, 1942, in Steele, MO to the late W. Lyon and Elouise Clarke Earls. Ray grew up in Steele where he was a Boy Scout and also played baseball and basketball while he was attending Steele High School from which he graduated. He attended the University of Mississippi "Ole Miss." At "Ole Miss" Ray was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha and Pi Sigma Epsilon a National Professional Fraternity in Marketing, Sales Management and Selling. Ray also played the clarinet in the "Ole Miss" marching band. Ray graduated from "Ole Miss" in 1964 with a BA in Business. He received his Bachelor of Ministry and Master of Divinity degree from Emory University Candler School of Theology and his Doctorate of Ministry from Vanderbilt University. Ray's thesis at Vanderbilt was: Baptism in American Methodism: Toward a Contemporary United Methodist Understanding of Baptism. This project was under the direction of Professor David Buttrick. Ray loved to read and study.

Often I would find him in his study with several Biblical translations and his Greek New Testament and Textual Commentary. He loved to read and study the writings and sermons of John Wesley.

Ray was very knowledgeable in Methodist history and polity as well as with John Wesley Doctrine. I remember him as a true Biblical scholar.

Ray began his ministry in the Missouri East Conference of The United Methodist Church in 1964.

He later transferred to the North Mississippi Conference and served several appointments there.

Ray and Denise M. Slobusky were married in 1978 in Kilmichael, MS. Ray and Rev. Denise Earls also served in the Mississippi Conference before Denise retired in 2002 and Ray in 2003. After retiring and moving to Charlotte, NC to be next to their daughter, Lynn, Ray served as Pastor of Victory Native American United Methodist Church in Indian Trail.

Ray was a dear, kind and generous man. He was a Pastor in the truest sense of the word. He cared about people. He always wanted others to find the joy in their hearts through a relationship with Christ which would bring joy in their life. He was a faithful servant to Christ and The United Methodist Church. He loved the church and loved to serve.

Dr. Ray C. Earls is survived by his wife Rev. Denise M. Earls; daughter Lynn Marie Slobusky, son Frank "Sam" Slobusky; two sisters, Loretta Reid and her husband Larry, Ann Lyon and her husband Pete; numerous nieces and nephews and a loving pet, "Girl Dog."

A graveside service was held on March 3, 2007, led by Rev. Kyle Thompson, Pastor at Light of Christ UMC.

A Memorial Service was held March 4, 2007, at Victory Native American UMC. by Dr. George Thompson, Superintendent of the Charlotte District and Rev. Sandy Giles, Superintendent of the Albemarle District.

Ray was a dear, kind, gentle person. He will always be greatly missed.

*Submitted by Ray's family*

### **Lafayette Shaw Gaddy** **1916-2006**

The man loved and revered as "The Bulldog of the Mississippi Conference" was born in Allen, Alabama, on November 8, 1916, to Linnie and John Gaddy, a Methodist minister, who died 28 days after his younger son was born. Although he never knew his father, Lafayette Shaw Gaddy always knew he wanted to be a Methodist minister. Educated in the public schools of Clarke County, Alabama, he began preaching at the age of 15; enrolled in Westminster Seminary and Bible Institute (Tehuacana, Texas); served the early Methodist Protestant Church as well as The Methodist Church; and answered his country's call to service as a U. S. Army chaplain during World War II. A favorite wartime memory is that of administering communion to the Duke of Windsor.

After the war, while stationed at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, he met Iris Spencer, an elementary teacher whom he married on March 11, 1944. They moved to Mississippi to begin their life and ministry. A daughter, Brenda, was born on April 7, 1948. She was a happily spoiled "only child," who was taught every day the importance of loving all others regardless of race, color, or creed.

Shaw served Mississippi Methodism for 50 years, "retired," and served for 17 more. A voracious reader, he was a self-taught expert in history; especially the history of the Methodist Church in Mississippi and the history of the United States; and theology, an interest which produced a small volume, *Baptism as Methodists Understand It*. Various appointments included Washington, Grace Church, Natchez; Brandon, Justice Heights in Laurel, Rolling Fork, Richton, Tylertown, Shubuta, and the Methodist Indian Mission in Philadelphia. After 50 years, Westminster awarded him an honorary doctorate.

Throughout his ministry he was known for his ready wit, generous heart, and strong conscience. Each year he championed the "Brotherhood Week" pulpit exchanges among the Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Jewish, and Roman Catholic congregations in various towns. "Liberty and justice for all" went right along with loving God with all one's heart, and loving one's neighbor as oneself, convictions which surfaced especially during the civil rights era. He reminded his own congregation each Sunday, and at least once a year, he reminded his conference with his annual speech on the conference floor; he lost no chance to "tell it like it is." When the Methodists became United Methodists; when the Mississippi Conference was completely united; and finally, when Mississippi welcomed its first female Methodist bishop, there were fewer speeches from this proud man who felt that he had "a little something to do



with” these signs of progress. In June of 2005, he attended the Mississippi Annual Conference for a final appearance, to present Bishop Hope Morgan Ward with an antique kneeler from the original Coventry Cathedral.

Four months after his wife’s death, Shaw Gaddy died on June 28, 2007, at home in Grove Hill, Alabama. Having exceptional health for a man of 90.5 years, he missed his beloved life companion, and his work on Earth was done.

*Submitted by Brenda Joyce Gaddy Cornell*

### **Hiram Jessie (H.J.) Hedgepeth** **1934-2007**

H. J. Hedgepeth was born, February 9, 1934 in Lawrence County, Mississippi, the son of Rev. Walter Roy (W. R.) Hedgepeth and Maude King Hedgepeth. He is a graduate of Basin High School and graduated from Perkinston Junior College and Mississippi Southern College, Hattiesburg, MS. He served in the United States Military from 1956-62.

He was admitted to the Mississippi Conference as a probationary member in 1963, received Deacon’s orders in 1965, received into full connection in 1966 and became an Elder in 1967. He served the following pastoral appointments in the Mississippi Conference: Stringer-Old Bay Springs, Mount Zion-Hebron, New Augusta-McCallum, Glade-Pendorff, Oak Grove-Grandview, Grandview, West Laurel, McLain-Beaumont-Leaf, Oak Grove-Grandview, Long Beach, Broad Street (Hattiesburg), Forest, Dantzer (Moss Point), Lucedale-Grace. Upon retirement in 1997 he served as pastor at Grace UMC (Lucedale) and Vernal Presbyterian Church.

He served on the Conference Standing Rules Committee, District Board of Ministry, and on the Board of Directors of Seashore Manor.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Orell Rouse Hedgepeth; four children and their spouses: Jacky Sparks (Larry), Rev. Mitchell Hedgepeth (Catherine), Michael Hedgepeth (Joanna), Rendy Foster (Jerry); 13 grandchildren: Jessi Prestage (Danny), Pam Bliss, Laura Fortenberry, Jakob Hedgepeth, Kresenz Hedgepeth, Will Hedgepeth, Tyler Sparks, Christopher Hedgepeth, Heather Hedgepeth, Rylee Foster and Kaylee Foster; and one great-grandson, Bryce Prestage; his mother-in-law, Orell Rouse; his sisters, Annelle Stephens, Loaree Harris, Mary Jones; one brother, Curtis Hedgepeth. He is preceded in death by his parents, sisters; Catherine Dunaway, Erlene Reid, Hilda Ashley, and Lucile King.

H. J. passed from this earthly life on Thursday, May 24, 2007 in Lucedale, Mississippi. The Reverend’s Bill Poole, Bill McAlilly, Loyd Calcote and Hollis Howell conducted the service of celebration at First United Methodist Church of Lucedale, Mississippi on Saturday, May 26, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. His burial was in Magnolia Cemetery in Lucedale, Mississippi.

In the weeks preceding his final breath he preached a series of messages based on Philippians 4:8 with emphasis on the words, “Finally, brethren”. “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things.”

*Submitted by his loving family*

### **John David Humphrey** **1918-2007**

John David was born February 17, 1918 in Tippah County, the son of John Newton Humphrey and Sara Elsie Tigrett Humphrey. He was a graduate of Mississippi State University, Emory University, and held an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Millsaps College.

John married Eugenia Hopper and they were the parents of John David, Jr.; Sara Eugenia and Sue Francis. Eugenia preceded him in death and he married Edith Goodwin who also preceded him in death and he married Patricia Hawkins.

After receiving a commission as a Second Lieutenant at Mississippi State, he served as an Infantry Officer during World War II, with combat in the Pacific Theater of Operations, and rising to the rank of Major. He was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star and Legion of Merit for his service during and shortly after World War II.

He taught school at Artesia, worked for the Mississippi Employment Service and served as Executive Secretary of the Mississippi Public Service Commission before entering the ministry.

After graduating from Candler School of Theology at Emory University, he served as Pastor at Mathiston and Professor of Bible at Wood Junior College. The conference leadership recognized his gift of administration and leadership and the remainder of his ministry was spent in Annual Conference and General Church administrative positions. He served as Director of Adult Education and Executive Director of the Interboard Council of the North Mississippi Conference. In 1965 he moved to Nashville to serve as Executive Secretary of Missionary Education for the United Methodist Church.

After graduating from Seminary he resumed his military service as a Chaplain in the Mississippi National Guard where he was awarded the Mississippi Magnolia Medal, and later in the U.S. Army Reserve he achieved the rank of Colonel and retired from U. S. Army Forces Command in 1978.

He was elected as a delegate to the General Conferences of 1960, 1968, 1972, 1976 and 1980. He was also a member of the 1964 General Conference, serving as Secretary of the Judicial Council, the Court of the Denomination. In 1968 he transferred to the Board of Education, serving three years as personnel and financial officer, then moving to the Board of Higher Education and Ministry in 1971, where he served as Associate General Secretary until retirement in 1983.

Upon moving to Tupelo in 1983, he served as a Supply Pastor, Executive Director for the North Mississippi Board of Pensions and Interim Executive Director for the United Methodist Children's Home. He entered into full retirement when he moved to Traceway Retirement community in 1994.

Dr. John David Humphrey passed from this life Sunday, February 18, 2007, at The Sanctuary Hospice House in Tupelo, Mississippi, the day following his 89th birthday.

*Submitted by his son John D. Humphrey, Jr.*

### **Thomas Murphy Johnson** **1937-2006**

Thomas Murphy Johnson, the third son of Marlin Fritz and Mildred Murphy Johnson was born December 12, 1937 in Yazoo City, Mississippi. He was blessed with a charming smile and a winsome way that served him well throughout his life. The old expression that 'he never met a stranger' could have been coined just for him.

While Tom never got into any serious trouble as he grew up, his curiosity and his love of adventure may have contributed to the fact that both his parents developed gray hair very early in their lives. Twice during his youth he made the front page of the Yazoo City Herald.

School was something to be endured, but sports were, definitely, much more interesting. Interesting enough that he attended and played football for Holmes Junior College at Goodman. One year of that was enough. The next opportunity that attracted his attention was the Marine Corps. They demanded the best; he gave it to them. He became a responsible man.

He came home on leave. I was Betty Claire's roommate at Holmes Junior College. He looked fantastic in his dress Blues. Eight months later we were married and moved to California. Three children later, we decided that California was not a good place for them to grow up. We settled in Jackson where Tom was, first, a salesman and, then, a branch manager for Bausch and Lomb Optical.

Our world began to change when five year old Elizabeth woke Tom with a question - one that she had asked several times before. "Dad, don't you want to get up and go to church with us?" This Sunday was Mother's day, and Tom knew that his going would be a gift that I would really appreciate. He was shocked that the children cheered when he rolled out of bed and dressed for church.

Dr. George Thompson, pastor of the Pearl UMC, knew just what to do. Before the following Sunday, he had persuaded Tom to commit to assisting him during services. In a couple of weeks Dr. Thompson had an 'urgent' need for more help with the MYF. Would Tom take up the slack? This remarkable youth group led their new leader into a better understanding of how God can change lives if He were given the chance.

October found Tom bringing the Layman's Day message. As he shared his talk on "Have You Lost Your Bible?" the Holy Spirit revealed to him how much he had lost when he let Jesus slip out of his life. Every person there knew something special had happened during that hour.

Within two weeks Tom was certain of his call to preach and shared that news with the Pearl Church. With the District Superintendent Rev. John Cook's help, on November 12th, The Quarterly Charge Conference at McLaurin Heights approved his License to Preach.

On January 18, 1968 we pulled into the parsonage driveway at Freeny UMC. As Tom turned off the engine, he let out a long sigh of relief. With tears welling in his eyes, he said, "Family, we are home!" And we were.

Thirty-eight years later, leaving the parsonage home for the last time, evoked many varied emotions, none as devastating as learning that Tom was very ill just months after leaving the active ministry. He died at home in Equality, Alabama, on August 12, 2006. Our loss was Heaven's gain.

*Submitted by his wife Gloria Johnson*

### **L.C. Kitchens** **1932-2007**

Rev. L.C. Kitchens was born in the Ozark community in Itawamba County, MS, on September 13, 1932, where he attended Houston and Mantachie schools. In 1952 he married Geraldine Hopkins of Golden, MS. L.C. began preaching in Mississippi Methodist churches in the mid 50's beginning at the Longtown charge near Crenshaw, MS. In 1959 L.C. and Geraldine adopted a baby girl, Lisa Kitchens, from Mississippi Children's Home in Jackson. Other churches he pastored were the Courtland charge in Courtland, MS, the Tula charge outside of Oxford, MS, the Pope charge near Batesville, MS, and the Winona charge in Winona, MS. The last charge that L.C. pastored was Duck Hill, close to Winona, MS. Due to illness, he took sabbatical leave. While pastoring L.C. also enjoyed his work with livestock, his family, being involved in politics, and any activity involving people.

In 1982 L.C. and Geraldine were given their only grandchild, James Underwood, whom they would help to raise over the next few years. Kitchens had a massive heart attack in 1992 that would require a five-bypass open-heart surgery. L.C. retired from the Methodist Conference in 2003 to enjoy time with his family and gardening. Illness struck again in late 2006 with numerous complications. The last news that L.C. would receive was that he would be a great-grandfather of a baby boy. Kitchens died on January 18, 2007 at Red Bay Hospital in Red Bay, AL.

L.C. enjoyed his time in the Mississippi Methodist Conference and the many people he pastored and met along the way, including his time at Emory University in Atlanta, where he met many long-time friends and made many happy memories.

*Submitted by his family*

### **Wayne Vincent McCord** **1947-2006**

Rev. Wayne Vincent McCord was born August 30, 1947 in Memphis, Tennessee to V.V. and Christine McCord. Wayne graduated from Christian Brothers College with a degree in Electrical Engineering. While working as an electrical engineer in Memphis, he met and married Patty, his wife of 29 years. Wayne also served in the Air Force Reserves for 6 years.

Wayne was always very active in church...from the day he was born until the day he died!! He served his Lord with all his heart and all his strength. From teaching many Sunday schools, to coaching many ball teams, to leading the choir for many years...to being a Certified Lay Speaker... he did it all.... while working in the secular world and never feeling as if he was doing what God wanted him to do with his life. At the age of 55, he finally listened to God's call....and began attending Memphis Theological Seminary. While attending MTS, Wayne was appointed two churches to pastor near his home in Red Banks, MS for a year. He was then given the opportunity to serve as a co-pastor for an inner city ministry, HOPE Ministries, in Greenville, MS. He always felt that taking God to the people on the streets was his calling! And what a blessing that was for ALL!! He loved this part of his ministry even though he was only able to serve there for 6 months. He was called home Dec. 10, 2006 while attending a Christmas Cantata in Greenville....singing and praising our Lord!!! On May 12, 2007 Wayne graduated posthumously from MTS with Honors!!! This man was definitely one of God's angels here on this earth!!

He leaves behind his wife, Patty; son and his wife, Kris and Amanda McCord; daughter Jenni McCord; brother, Randy McCord and 2 precious grandchildren, Grace and Brody McCord.

*Submitted by his wife Patty McCord*

**William G. Mills**  
**1934-2007**

Rev. William G. Mills (Bill) went to be with his Lord on Thursday, April 26, 2007. He was surrounded by his family and friends. He had been in poor health for the past two years and was in Baptist Memorial Hospital in Columbus at the time of his death. He left behind Betty, his loving wife of 53 ½ years and a daughter, Bonnie, her husband, Tim, two sons, David, his wife Laurel, and Scott and his wife Shannon, five granddaughters and one grandson-in-law.

Bill was born December 4, 1934 in McLean, Illinois, the son of Roy B. Mills and Vivian Kindred Mills. He married Betty Snyder on December 20, 1953. He was preceded in death by his parents and one daughter.

Bill served aboard the U.S.S. Haven Hospital Ship during the Korean War. He was a Boy Scout Leader and was responsible for forming several new Cub Scout Packs in Central Illinois.

In 1983, he answered the call to preach the Gospel and enrolled in Wood Junior College and attended Summer School at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, where he graduated in August 1988.

Bill served churches in Vardaman, Booneville, New Albany, Carthage and Louisville before retiring in 2005. He served as Director of Winston County Ministries for several years. At the time of his death he was serving Weir/Salem United Methodist Churches in Choctaw County, Mississippi. Bill preached his last sermon on Palm Sunday of 2007, and was planning to return to the pulpit at Weir/Salem in the middle of May. His life centered around his family and his preaching. His favorite saying was, "I strive to be always ready to pray, preach or die." He truly lived what he preached.

Bill was laid to rest at Memorial Park Cemetery in Louisville on April 28, 2007 after a beautiful memorial service at First United Methodist Church in Louisville. He will be sadly missed by those who loved him. He was a wonderful husband and father.

*Submitted by Betty Mills and Family*

**Algernon M. Oliver**  
**1918-2006**

Algernon M. "Al" Oliver, 88, of Pensacola died Thursday, November 2, 2006, at a local health facility in Pensacola.

Al was born in Yazoo City, MS, the son of Rev. and Mrs. A. S. Oliver. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Millsaps College, Jackson, MS and his Master of Theology Degree from Emory University, Atlanta, GA. He also attended Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. He was Methodist by faith.

Al served as a Chaplain in the U. S. Navy from 1943 to 1964. Assignments included three ships and various duty stations in the USA and abroad, duty with the U. S. Marines (infantry) in the Korean Conflict, Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Pentagon, the CO of the Navy Chaplains School, Newport, RI. In September 1964 he retired from the Navy and accepted a position as an overseas staff executive with the Church World Services Department of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, New York, NY. Until 1970 he served as Executive Director of Korea Church World Service, with headquarters in Seoul, Korea. He was recipient of the Republic of Korea's highest award for foreign citizens, receiving in May 1966 from President Park, Chung Hee, the order of Merit National Medal for his contribution to the social and economic development of that country.

Upon returning from Korea, he joined Goodwill Industries of America, Inc. and was first assigned to Miami, FL. He was later appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Goodwill Industries of Richmond, VA and later served in that same position with Goodwill Industries, Oklahoma City, OK.

In January 1977 Al again retired and moved to Pensacola, where he served during his Navy career. For a number of years, he was a technical consultant to Goodwill Industries of America, Inc. and Rehabilitation Services Administration, Department of Health Education and Welfare, and the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, state of FL.

For his Navy service, Al received the following awards; American Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal (2 battle stars), WWII Victory Medal, Navy Occupation Service Medal, China Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal (4 battle stars), United Nations Service

Medal, United States Presidential Unit Citation Badge, and the United States Department of Defense Badge.

In July 1995 he married Delores Hampton Simpson, and they spent their active retirement years at Azalea Trace, enjoying extensive travel in the USA and abroad. Al also played many years on the golf courses in the Pensacola area. Further, he and Dee spent most enjoyable additional time in Al's Mississippi timberlands and in Dee's home in Sarasota, FL.

He is preceded in death by his first wife, Elizabeth Barrett Oliver, who died in 1991, and a daughter Susan Oliver, who died in 1974. Survivors include his wife, Delores (Dee), a son Steve (Pat) Oliver and a daughter Ann Olson both of Lake Mary, FL; two grandchildren, Kara and Eric Olson; a step-son Robert (Carol) Simpson of Scotch Plains, NJ.

A Memorial Service was held in the auditorium at Azalea Trace on Sunday, November 5, 2006. A private committal service with full military honors was held at Barrancas National Cemetery.

*Submitted by Dee Oliver*

### **Marie Anita Black Watts**

**1942-2007**

Reverend Marie Watts, Co-Pastor with and wife of Reverend Everette Watts, was born in Hattiesburg, Mississippi on March 21, 1942. She died on May 4, 2007 at St. Dominic's Memorial Hospital in Jackson.

Marie was a faithful United Methodist Christian and worked diligently in both Church and Community activities. It is therefore with pride, we honor and celebrate her Life and Good Works upon this Earth.

Marie and Everette were united in marriage at the former Broad Street Methodist Church in Hattiesburg on December 3, 1960 by Bishop Marvin Franklin and Pastor Inman Moore, Sr. They had three children - Betty Rachel, Elaine Marie and Wendell Everette and seven grandchildren - Chris and Richard Ladnier, Emma and Mary Thomas and Austin, Brandon and Kelsey Watts.

Marie served the Emmanuel United Methodist Church as a Part-time Associate Pastor and worked Full-time as a Legal Assistant with the Watkins and Eager Law Firm in Jackson until her retirement.

Marie was a lovely Christian Lady possessing a number of talents, a keen intellect and a great sense of humor. She was a family oriented person with a deep, caring love for her husband, her children and her grandchildren. Her love extended to include her other relatives and friends as well. Her "Church Family" and her "Professional Family" held a special place within her heart.

Marie enjoyed preaching, teaching and sharing the Love of God as revealed through our Lord Jesus Christ. She was always good at planning and involving Church members in special Bible, Lenten and Advent studies as well as in Outreach Ministries.

Marie's Graveside Service was conducted by Reverend John Evans on May 8, 2007 at the New Hope Cemetery near Sumrall and was followed by a Fellowship Luncheon at the Sumrall United Methodist Church.

A Memorial Service was held at the Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Jackson on May 27, 2007. It was conducted by Reverend Willis Britt, West Jackson District Superintendent.

Marie walked through life with beauty and grace holding fast to God's hand and never once losing sight of the goal mentioned in one of her favorite hymns, "In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory". Celebrating the knowledge that she's reached her victory, we give thanks unto God for the Life and Happy Memories of Marie Watts.

*Submitted by the family of Marie Watts*

## Spouses

### *Evelyn Newman Carroll* 1931-2006

Evelyn Newman Carroll was born in Baldwyn, MS, on January 25, 1931, to newspaper publisher Forest Pearson Newman and his wife, the former Julia Elizabeth Tucker of Senatobia. The family relocated to Tupelo in the early 1930s, and experienced the devastating tornado of April, 1936. Two events of Evelyn's late childhood had lifelong impact, the early death of her father and the onset of juvenile diabetes. But Evelyn's mother Elizabeth proved to be a strong woman continuing the family's office supply business, and Evelyn proved to be just as resilient. She pursued a flowering interest in and aptitude for music, especially at the piano. She enjoyed a wide circle of friends with whom she kept close contact throughout her life. It was in Tupelo where the 16-year-old Evelyn met her future husband Joseph William "Bill" Carroll, a lifeguard at the local city pool.

Evelyn graduated from Tupelo High School in 1949, then that fall entered Millsaps College, where Bill was beginning his senior year. The next year Evelyn continued her studies at Millsaps, while Bill moved to Vicksburg to serve as an associate pastor at Crawford St. UMC and as founding pastor of Hawkins UMC. It was in Vicksburg, on the north steps of the old courthouse square, that they were engaged to be married.

Bill and Evelyn were married on Tuesday, September 4, 1951, at First Presbyterian Church in Tupelo. Their lives changed quickly as they returned from their honeymoon and boarded a train for Emory University in Atlanta with their Pullman trunks holding everything they owned. While Bill completed his seminary degree, Evelyn worked as a switchboard operator at Emory Hospital, and in November of 1953 gave birth to their first-born William Pearson Carroll. With Bill's early graduation in December of that year, they returned to Tupelo for a six-month stay as Bill served there as an associate pastor at First UMC.

At the annual conference of 1954 Bill was appointed to the seven churches on the Bruce-Pittsboro charge. While at Bruce, Evelyn gave birth to David Wesley Carroll in March of 1956. Succeeding appointments for the Carrolls included: Nettleton, Eupora, Oxford-University, Wesley Homes (Athens, GA), and Traceway Manor (Mississippi Methodist Senior Services) until Bill's retirement in the mid-1990s.

When the family returned to Tupelo in 1964, it gave Evelyn an opportunity to explore what became an engaging interest in interior design. And though her Millsaps studies had been interrupted by marriage, Evelyn returned to study at the University of Mississippi while in Oxford and completed a bachelor's degree in education in 1970. She taught for two years but upon returning to Tupelo, Evelyn decided to return to interior design at Reed's Department Store. The last twenty years of her life were spent mentoring juvenile diabetics and young at-risk mothers, nurturing the Hillshire Place neighborhood, traveling and house-boating with Bill, and enjoying her grandchildren Benjamin, Kathryn, and Mary Evelyn. It was en route to a family Thanksgiving vacation that Evelyn's life ended in a tragic automobile accident on November 21, 2006. Following a eulogy given by her sons, her body was laid to rest in Tupelo Memorial Park.

Evelyn was truly a conveyor of God's grace. Her gentle spirit still lives in those who knew her best.

*Submitted by her son, David Carroll*

### *Jewel Loretta Clark* 1924-2007

Jewel Loretta Clark, 83, widow of Rev. Faban Scott Clark was born March 14, 1924 in Tippah County, Mississippi. She passed away March 22, 2007 at Grenada Lake Medical Center in Grenada, Mississippi.

Mother supported Daddy in every aspect in their ministry whether it was ironing and packing his clothes for a revival, cooking food for dinner on the ground, or making angel halos for a Christmas play. She was there ready to help. She enjoyed decorating our home and making church members feel welcome anytime to the parsonage. She made crafts and attending county fairs where she won blue ribbons. She liked taking trips with the homemakers club and seeing new things. Her gentle, uplifting nature made her so easy to be loved by everybody.

After Daddy passed away in 1987, Mother continued to be our rock. A positive person and a great listener, Mother allowed us to make our own decisions, never criticizing. She prayed daily to God that we would make the right choices, knowing He would take care of us. God's love, compassion, and kindness radiated through her. She lived her life for others without hesitation never asking anything in return.

We miss Mother and Daddy. God truly blessed us with Christian parents that were wonderful and unique. We thank Him for allowing us to be their daughters.

*Lovingly submitted by Scottie C. Staudy and Jackie C. Blue*

**Idie Bell Collier**  
**1914-2007**

Idie Bell Collier was born in Itawamba County, MS on May 1, 1914. She married Rev. Viril V. Collier in 1931 and together they served Methodist Churches in Tremont, Salem, Friendship, Hickory Flat and Crowder. She raised two sons Charles D. Collier of Etta, MS and Gerald D. Collier of Baldwin, MS.

She lived in Baldwin and attended Baldwin First United Methodist Church until 1996 when she moved to Traceway Retirement Center.

She became suddenly ill and died May 1, 2007 at North MS Medical Center.

She is survived by her two sons along with five grandchildren, Bryan, Jason, Slate, John and Cole Collier as well as four great-grandchildren, Olivia, Houston, Sydney, and Kent Collier.

She is remembered for her crocheting names for friends and neighbors. She always had a smile and hello for everyone.

*Submitted by her family*

**Josie Lee Dement**  
**1916-2007**

Josie Lee Dement, better known to her family and friends as "Jo," was born in Liberty, Mississippi, on October 13, 1916. She died at Forest General Hospital in Hattiesburg on March 28, 2007.

While those two dates were momentous, there were thousands of other dates between the two that were life defining. The vast amount of time between her birth and death shaped Jo's life, as well as those of others who knew her.

She married her first husband in 1939 and eventually became a soldier's wife. She and her husband, James McMillan, had one daughter before he was killed on Iwo Jima in 1945.

Jo became a preacher's wife in 1952. She and Bill Dement were married for 48 years before his death in 2000. They served Mississippi churches in Auburn, Lumberton, where their daughter was born, Newton, Jackson, Wiggins, Picayune, and Lucedale.

Jo made friends, in and out of church, in every town where she and Bill lived. They eventually returned to Wiggins where they had served the Methodist church for seven years and retired.

When Jo retired from being an active preacher's wife, she did not retire from her life or other pursuits that were close to her heart. She kept active by teaching and helping to teach dancing. She was an integral part of her church and Sunday School class. And, she became kind of a mentor to other wives of Methodist preachers in Wiggins.

When Bill died, Jo continued to be active until the last year of her life when she was forced to slow down a bit. Her unwavering faith in God and love and concern for people and animals remained strong until her death.

While Jo Dement may no longer be a physical presence here on earth, she will always be remembered by her daughters, grandchildren, and other family and friends in ways that will bring joy and comfort to those who knew her best. She will not be forgotten.

*Submitted by her family*



**Mary Lee Blain Gordon**  
**1925-2007**

Mary Lee Blain Gordon was born September 19, 1925 in Choctaw County, Mississippi to Annie Golden Adams Blain and Lee Blain. She died on April 12, 2007 in Starkville, Mississippi. A family graveside service was held on April 13, at Mt. Zion Church in Choctaw County. A memorial service was held on April 15 in the Starkville First United Methodist Church. Mary Lee was married to the Reverend Dr. Prentiss M. Gordon, Sr. on November 29, 1942 in Choctaw County, Mississippi.

Mary Lee is survived by her husband, Prentiss and two daughters and two sons: Peggy Drane Gordon White and her husband Ernest, of Amory, Mississippi; Sandra Kathleen Gordon Eastman and her husband, Dr. William Porter Eastman of Starkville, Mississippi; The Reverend Dr. Prentiss M. Gordon, Jr. and his wife Sandra of Columbus, Mississippi; Dr. Stephen Blain Gordon and his wife Dr. Karen Gordon of Arlington, Virginia. She is survived by nine grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Mary Lee graduated from Weir High School in Weir, Mississippi and Mississippi State University with Bachelors and Masters Degrees. She taught special education in the public schools in Starkville, Rosedale, and Tupelo. She worked as a District Supervisor for the State Department of Education when her husband was the District Superintendent in Cleveland, Mississippi.

Mary Lee was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and friend to hundreds. She was always by her husband's side in the school years, the pastorates at Sturgis, Monroe, Georgia, Macon Circuit, Columbus Wesley, Louisville FUMC, Starkville FUMC, District Superintendent on the Cleveland District and Tupelo FUMC. She often said, "I try to be a good wife to the preacher rather than a good preacher's wife." She never played roles, and her authenticity as a person brought a response from people to her that was remarkable. Her husband, Prentiss, said at her memorial service, that it is a good thing she had the "protection" of being a preacher's wife because she was so pretty and hugged everyone she met.

As a mother, her husband said at the service, he would always have a picture in his mind of Mary Lee getting four small children ready on Saturday night for Sunday services, bathing, polishing shoes, and ironing clothes. In those first circuit charges she would take the children to three and four services each Sunday. And all of them still love the Lord and the church.

Shirley Franklin, in a letter to the Editor of the Starkville Daily News dated May 29, 2007 entitled, "Remembering a very warm, gracious lady" said, "Mrs. Gordon was one of those truly gracious individuals who made life so much more pleasant for everyone around them. She had the ability to make the 'least' feel they were the 'most'! She exemplified what Christian love is.... About two years ago I had the privilege of catering her family reunion meal in her beautiful back yard.... At one point I forgot I was supposed to be working because she treated me like family.... She had everybody feeling as if they were the reason the gathering had taken place. She will be sorely missed."

*Submitted by Prentiss M. Gordon, Sr. (Husband)*

**Ruth Hunter Allen Furr**  
**1921-2006**

Tupelo, Mississippi – Ruth Hunter Allen Furr died Tuesday, October 17, 2006, in Tupelo Mississippi. She and her husband of fifty-six years, the Reverend E. S. Furr, served for nearly forty years in the Mississippi Conference, formerly the North Mississippi Conference. She was a beloved minister's wife and a gracious parsonage hostess. Several people have said that her loving spirit and talents were greatly responsible for the effectiveness of E. S.'s ministry. The mother of one young ministerial candidate told him: "If you can find a girl like Ruth Furr, marry her quickly."

Ruth will be remembered as a loving mother, a committed Christian disciple, and a dedicated teacher. Through the years she fulfilled many roles in the church and community, using her talents and professional training in music and education.

Ruth was born on March 20, 1921, to William Harris Allen and Ruth Hunter Allen, in the Berlin Community of Marshal County, Tennessee. She was educated in the Marshal County schools, received her B.S. in Education from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro and he M.A. from the University of Mississippi. She taught school for thirty years in Marshal County schools, Davidson County / Nashville city schools, Atlanta city schools, and various city and county school districts in Mississippi.

During the last years of her life, one of Ruth's favorite activities was meeting informally with her bridge and birthday group of friends. This group was composed primarily of teachers and wives of retired

Methodist ministers, including three who have also died recently, Evelyn Carroll, Mary Lee Gordon, and Berlyn Davis. Evelyn usually initiated the scheduling of the birthday lunches, and Mary Lee provided for the cakes. E. S. likes to imagine the four of them having a great time laughing together in heaven. Other special members were Wright Poland, Martha Fleming, and Patricia McCormick, dear friends.

Ruth is survived by her husband, the Reverend E. S. Furr, and her children, Stan Furr (Lynda Rowland) and Anna Carol Furr (Cecil Terry Dexter). She was predeceased by her parents and her brothers. Thomas Hunter Allen and Harry Hunter Allen.

A graveside service and committal was held on October 18, 2006, by the Very Reverend Shannon S. Johnson, Rector of All Saints' Episcopal Church, at Tupelo Memorial Park, followed by a Service of Death and Resurrection held at First United Methodist Church in Tupelo, with the Reverends Andy Ray, Raigan Miskelly, and Terry Armstrong officiating.

*Submitted by E. S. Furr*

### ***Minta Jones Pearson*** ***1904-2004***

Minta Jones Pearson died Tuesday, October 19, 2004 at Baptist Hospital East. Mrs. Pearson, a resident of Fireside Villa of Kirby Pines would have been 100 years old on December 9, 2004. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Southaven, MS. The widow of Rev. W. L. Pearson, she is survived by three step-daughters; Marlanne Donahoe of Jackson, MS, Betty Moor of Greenwood, MS, and Weda Stafford of Memphis, TN, a brother; Raymond Jones of Cleveland, MS. Eight grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, five nieces and two nephews. Funeral services were held on October 21, 2004, at Memphis Funeral Home Poplar Chapel.

*Submitted by her family*

### ***Retha Lucile Smith*** ***1912-2006***

Retha Lucille Smith died on June 12, 2006 in Topeka, Kansas at the home of her daughter, Karolyn Kaye Clark. She was laid to rest in the Kendallville Cemetery in her home town of Kendallville Indiana.

She was preceded in death by husbands, Reverend John T. Bowers, Northern Indiana Conference, who passed away in 1961, Reverend James Campbell of Lafayette, and Reverend Chester Smith of the North Mississippi Conference.

Retha was born on July 23, 1912 in Kendallville, Indiana, called many places her home thru her husbands' evangelistic work and retired back in her home town of Kendallville. She was an expert pianist and organist and always backed up services held with her husband. She was guest pianist in her church for special occasions. She taught piano and organ for many years and enjoyed keeping up with the progress of her students over the years.

She was a lifetime student of the Holy Bible and lived her life as an example admired by all who knew her. Many considered her a social butterfly as there was hardly ever a church service or function that she missed. She was loved by all. She was a member of Faith United Methodist Church in Kendallville and additionally supported many other organizations like Youth for Christ, the Wheel, a place for teen gathering, and Feed the Children, just to name a few. Approaching her 90's she thought she should be a spectator of the Church Choir as she didn't want to chance falling down the steps during a service, but she could sing her heart out in the pews. A favorite song among many was "His Eye is on the Sparrow".

She is survived by her daughter, Karolyn, seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son, Thomas Allan Bowers, her parents and her brother, Rev. EE Herron of Cleveland.

*Submitted by her daughter Kaye Clark*

**Jeanette Story**  
**1937-2007**

How would you describe a beauty like hers?

Physical? Yes

Spiritual? Yes

A beauty that never had an unkind word to say about anyone.

A beauty that seen by all who looked upon her face.

A beauty that was heard in her voice, especially when she laughed. She never met a stranger. There were only friends she had not yet made. Her movements were swift and graceful. The lives she touched would never be the same after their contact with her. She was born physically in 1937 and she was born again in 1946. Each day began with speaking to her God and ended in the same way. She spoke with Him about everything. She read His word constantly. Her life was directed by His Holy Spirit.

You could ask how I know all these things and I would tell you that I know them because for over 47 years we shared our lives. There was nothing we did not share, our loves for each other, for our children, for our families, and most of all our love for God. Many have said they could see how much we cared for each other, but the depth of our love was more than could ever be seen. Never a day went by that we did not tell each other about how much we loved each other, in the morning when we awoke, at night before we slept, and many times during the day.

For almost 30 years she worked as a nurse, caring for those who sought help from the doctors for whom she worked. Both the doctors, and the patients, praised her for the concern she exhibited for those who sought their help.

For over 40 years she stood by my side as I did what I could to fulfill the call of God, on my life, to being a minister of the Gospel. In every place I was sent she was not just “the Pastor’s wife” she was my right hand. In all of the activities of the church she could be found filling in the blanks left by those who were more interested in other things than those of the church. She stood by me during years of pain when only a few believed what was going on in my body. She prayed as no other did. Years later, when she became critically ill I stood by her and prayed for her as she had prayed for me. Twice death came to her door, and twice God said, “not yet.” As time passed her health grew worse and her strength began to fade. So many times she would say how tired she was, through all of this she constantly fought, showing strength at which the doctors, and all others who attended her marveled. On January 10, 2007, she left us to be with the Lord. I will never forget her; I will always feel her love, and always remember her last words to me, “I want to thank you for standing by me through all of this.” She closed her eyes, drew one last breath, and with her head in my hand she went home. I know without a shadow of a doubt when she entered heaven she heard the sweet words of our Lord and Savior “Well done good and faithful servant.”

*Submitted by her spouse, Reverend Henry G. Story*

**Mrs. Annie Mae Chapman Wright**  
**1933-2007**

Funeral services for Mrs. Annie Mae Chapman Wright who died May 5, 2007 at University Medical Center were held on Thursday, May 10, 2007 at Central United Methodist Church, Meridian, Mississippi. She was the third of eighteen children, born April 4, 1933 to the late Mitchell Reese Chapman and Mamie Needham Chapman of Newton, Mississippi. Annie was a member of the Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church of Newton, MS as a young girl and later joined the Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church under the pastorate of her uncle, Rev. Fred Chapman. It was during one of his convicting sermons that she accepted Jesus and began the journey in which she served him diligently throughout her life. After marrying, she joined the Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church of Hickory, Mississippi where she served and was a member until her death.

On September 19, 1948 Annie was united in marriage to Clovis Victor Wright of Hickory (Goodhope), Mississippi. To this union fourteen children were born, of which three preceded her in death. She worked diligently as a dutiful wife, mother, homemaker, and servant of the Lord until her demise. She traveled with and supported her husband in life and ministry at various churches and pastorates of the United Methodist Church throughout the state of Mississippi for over forty years. She was a part of the United Methodist Women and United Methodist Ministers Wives as well as a faithful attendee and delegate to the United Methodist Annual Conference. She also served on the Pastor Parish Relations

Committee while a member of the Tabernacle United Methodist Church in Meridian.

Although she was denied an adequate formal education as a child, Annie loved learning and insured that each of her children completed high school and encouraged most of them through college. They could always rely on her to be in attendance of most games, athletic events, graduations, programs, and whatever minor or major endeavors in which they were involved. She was their greatest support. It always brought great comfort to know that “Mom” and “Grandma” was there. Annie was not only a mother to her own but to so many others both young and old, near and far. She inherited many surrogate children throughout her life. Those she mothered, fed, clothed, encouraged, disciplined, nurtured, and loved.

Annie was a true servant at heart. She always thought of others and looked to do whatever was needed to assist her family and neighbors, even cleaning their homes, driving miles out of the way, or tending to their sicknesses with some home remedy from days gone by and more.

On many days, when not in the kitchen cooking some southern delight, you might have found her engrossed in yet another of her many activities, sewing. She was a self-taught, skilled, seamstress who sewed many of her own clothes, linens, among other things but most often alterations for family, neighbors, and friends. Annie was never idle even down to her final hours. Indeed, she fulfilled the scripture “whatever your hands find to do, do it with all thy might.” Her philosophy was “there is always something to do.”

Her legacy will live on in the lives of all she touched. She was blessed among women: a virtuous woman of God in prayer, wisdom, love, strength, faithfulness, and undeniable servitude.

*Submitted by her daughter Gloria R. Christian*

## IN MEMORIUM

*We regret that a memoir was not available for the following persons:*

### *Clergy:*

JOSEPH ALBERT BRIDEWELL  
LESLIE D. "PETE" BUSBY  
GLEN ROLAND GRAMMER  
ARNELL N. HARRELL  
ARCHIE L. MEADOWS  
HUBERT GILL WALLACE

### *Clergy Spouses:*

VIRGIE G. BONNER  
LYDIA CLARK  
MARY ELLIS  
VIVIAN K. FILGO  
BERNICE B. JACKSON  
CATHERYN VANCE JOHNSON  
HELEN JONES  
BELINDA KING  
SARAH AGNEW McCAY  
SYBLE HINSON MEADOWS  
CAROL TILLMAN  
FLARZELL TRIGG

*And in loving memory,  
we dedicate this page to them.*

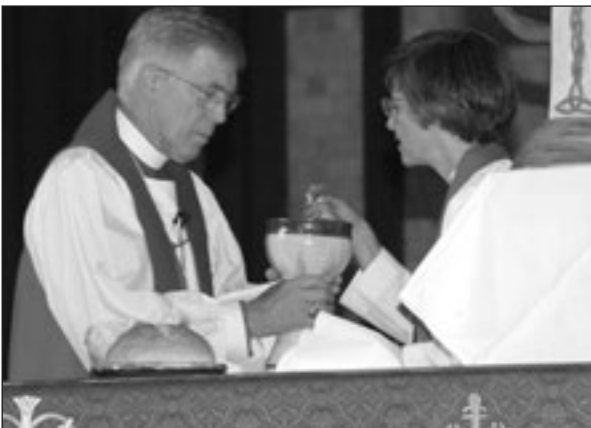
## C. Pictorial

### GLIMPSES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2007



*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward (left), the Rev. Ross Olivier (second from right) and Bishop Clay Lee (right) lay hands on the Rev. Michelle Foster during ordination.*

*Bishop Ivan Abrahams of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa preaches during the June 11 Mission Service.*



*Bishop Duncan Gray serves communion to Bishop Hope Morgan Ward.*



*D. Merricks pushes 5-month-old Isaiah through the water station during the Arise! Shine!Run! 5K with Corrie Merricks, Isaiah's mom and D.'s wife, following close behind.*



*Runners break away from the starting line in the third annual Arise! Shine! Run! 5K run/walk. The event drew more than 100 participants, the largest turnout so far. Participants ran or walked the course. The Rev. Leon Collier of Canton (center) finished first.*

## ORDINANDS



*Bottom from left to right are: Gary Lee Howse, Tiffany Padgitt McDonald, James Howard Taylor, III, Michelle Foster, Maxine Simmons Bolden, Keith Russell Keeton, Terry Lynn Hilliard, Oscar Marion McGough, Raymond Anthony McDonald, Timothy Thomas Prather, Mickey Trey Lambert, Stacy Joe Douglas, Earl Wilson, III, Kevin Andrew Carter, Earle Bryan Carrubba, Paul Jeffrey Lawrence, Gilbert Edwin White, and Paul Ford Knight.*



## AWARDS



*The Rev. Prentiss Gordon Sr. (left) and Mark Gehres of Ocean Springs were named clergy and lay winners of the Harry Denman Award for evangelism. Gordon was cited for his many years service as a pastor. Gehres was honored for his work following Katrina.*



*The Rev. Wayne Webster of Brookhaven (from left) received the Tobias Gibson Award, Susan Voyuvich of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Perkinston campus, won the Francis Asbury Higher Education Award and the Rev. Keith Tonkel and Wells UMC in Jackson won the Emma Elzy Award during ceremonies Tuesday at Annual Conference.*



*Children from around the conference sing Jesus Loves Me during the Mission Service held June 11.*

*A member of Rust College's A'Cappella Choir greets a member of the Mississippi Annual Conference during Tuesday's afternoon business session. The choir performed as part of the college's report to the conference.*



*Bishop Hope Morgan Ward (center) prays with Jack Ramsey of Hattiesburg and Sheila Cumbest of Caswell Springs following their election as General Conference delegates.*

## D. Rolls

### 1. Roll of Deceased Full Connection and Full Time Local Pastors Since Merger (1989)

*Note: For a listing of deceased clergy (Full Connection) prior to June, 1989, please refer to the 1989 Journal.*

	Birth Date/Place	Death Date/Place
Steele, Macon Henry (LP)	04/13/11	08/03/89
Harrell, John A.	11/11/1894	08/19/89
Alexander, Robert D.	05/24/31	08/30/89 Pontotoc
Courtney, John W.	12/03/03 Simpson Cty	09/27/89 Florence
Nix, John Paul	03/16/12	11/19/89
Moore, John Inman	9/5/1898 Biloxi	11/19/89 Ocean Spg
Presley, Earl	08/19/09 Vaughn	12/07/89 Jackson
Prewitt, O. Thomas	4/14/1899 Ackerman	12/11/89 Jackson
Stuart, James K.	11/06/22 Logan Ct.,T	01/01/90
Crisler, Joseph C.	4/15/1894	01/10/90
Nelson, Alfred L.	7/12/1889 Crystal Spg	01/23/90 Jackson
Young, Roosevelt	02/28/23	02/10/90
Landrum, Hollis T.	08/17/23 Harelston	02/19/90 Jackson
Pigott, Charles H.	09/15/32 Meridian	03/29/90 Jackson
Stephens, Kenneth (LP)	07/07/62 Saginaw, MI	04/05/90 Memphis,T
Lowery, Thomas G.	12/10/04 Carroll Cty	04/21/90 Carroll
Stephenson, W. M.	03/16/20 McComb	05/09/90 Vicksburg
Brantley, Miriam G.(AM)	Conway, MS	06/28/90 Kosciusko
Roberts, Q. C.	07/06/18 Vancleve	10/01/90 Gulfport
Cowan, Lucius	02/06/02 Cowan, FL	10/23/90 Hattsgb.
Duke, Charles D.	07/24/20 Sandersville	11/07/90 Jackson
Dillard, John Harmon	11/06/11 Clark Cty.	11/10/90 Canton
Russell, Paul Eugene	11/10/25 Sardis	11/22/90 Greenwood
Richmond, John W.	07/08/08 Lexington	12/13/90
Cameron, Roger	08/30/19 Shubuta	12/23/90 Beaugard
Cumberland, Lonnia A.	03/18/19 Philadelphia	01/03/91 Yazoo City
Peden, Harold	08/12/28 Philadelphia	01/08/91 Pearl
Bailey, A. W.	7/1/1888 Coldwater	02/08/91 Greenleaf
Ashmore, Charles E.(LP)	8/3/32 Lowndes Cty.	02/20/91 Pickens
Wise, Louis (LP)		04/30/91 Verona
Felder, Hugh R.	02/25/38 Felders	05/08/91 Felders
Byrnes, Percy Shields		06/19/91
Elliott, Ocel Lex	1910 Itawamba Cty.	06/19/91 Lowndes Cty
Long, Robert Lee, Sr.		06/21/91
Leggett, J. W., Jr.	10/11/07 Allen	07/18/91 Jackson
Epps, Dunlap (LP)	03/09/03 Biloxi	09/05/91 Victoria
Grisham, Roy Arnold	1905 Tippah Cty.	09/11/91 Montg. Al
Snow, Presley (LP)	1909	10/01/91
Foster, Arthur (AM)		10/22/91 Waycross, Ga
Pittman, Issac C.	Sandy Hook	11/21/91
Lindsey, Jordan Allen	10/06/12 Brandon	12/11/91 Milry, Al
Shelton, Thomas E.	05/08/10 Lamar Ct., Al	12/26/91 Columbus
Bridges, Lewis	08/28/34 Lena	02/07/92 Picayune
Grantham, W.E., (LP)		02/14/92 Lafayette, LA
Granberry, Seth W.	02/18/13 Wesson	03/07/92 Yazoo City
Hill, B. F. (LP)	02/05/05 Copiah Cty.	04/09/92
Bender, Nolan L. (LP)	08/10/09 Jasper Cty.	04/21/92 Laurel

Scott, Harry L. (LP)	09/18/07 Doloroso	04/24/92 Vicksburg
Hollingsworth, Rudolph	11/02/36 Carthage	05/19/92 Meridian
Twitchell, James O.	07/29/12 Kosciusko	05/27/92 Drew
Gallman, Andrew F. Sr.	1910 Centerville	06/16/92 Jackson
Johnson, Allen Levi	08/30/14 Pearlinton	09/01/92 Moss Pt.
Allen, Smith Willie	08/02/09 Ripley	10/16/92 Memphis
Stokes, Billy F.	1943 Homewood	11/02/92 Homewood
McLelland, William C.	07/23/15 Hattiesburg	11/15/92 Jackson
Hensen, William Howard	1929 Boonville	12/07/92 Boonville
Hinson, James Noel, Sr	08/04/08 Nettleton	12/30/92 Carrollton
Griffith, Walter Exo	09/15/06 Warren Cty.	03/01/93 Vicksburg
Holloman, Garland H.		08/08/93
Dement, Frank	07/17/11 Meridian	08/24/93 Hattiesburg
Beadle, Marvin Wallace		08/02/93 Metarie, LA
Brown, Harris A.	02/15/06 Marion Cty	09/14/93 Columbia
Lowery, Donald (LP)		10/29/93
Lane, Edwsard M.		11/15/93
Harris, James C.	08 Edwardsville, AL	11/16/93 Biloxi
Joyner, William O.	09/07/28 Lauderdale	12/12/93 Kemper Ct
Graham, John Harry	04/06/15 Corinth	01/06/94 Holly Spg
Price, John Calvin	03/01/22 Magnolia	01/10/94 Columbia
Dean, Harvill F. (LP)		01/08/94
Richards, Saint Joseph	02/21/49	04/03/94 Corinth
Norton, Lawrence E.	10/29 Meridian	04/06/94 Magee
Coleman, Lee Calvin		04/26/94 Louisville
Coleman, Victor S.	03/15/13 Welden, LA	05/21/94 Seminary
Thomas, Robert (AM)	10/09/41 Bruce	06/05/94 Bruce
Harden, Lloyd S.		06/14/94
Geralds, Albert Lee	10/14/09 Yazoo City	06/16/94 Enterprise
Payne, Charlemagne P, Sr.	Hallettsville, Tx	07/30/94 Waco, TX
Moorehead, Clay	04/04/13 Benton Ct.	08/16/94 Hickory Fl
Grisham, Marshall Dean	11/21/13 Wheeler	08/31/94 Friendship
Howell, James E. (AM)	03/16/21 Lucedale	09/13/94 Refuge
Rencher, Ollie L.	08/20/1894 Scooba	10/17/94 Holly Spgs
Clay, Wilmer H.	12/07/20 Kemper Ct.	11/01/94 Jackson
Whitenton, George	06/13/20 Marianna, AK	11/23/94 Meridian
Jordan, Frank	Sumrall	11/25/94 Sumrall
Fillingame, Don L. (AM)	08/27/28 Dixie	12/20/94 Dixie
Stokes, Wilmer V.	04/13/03 Guntown	01/10/95 Brewer
Kennedy, William D. (LP)	07/30/30 Magee	02/14/95 Biloxi
Turnage, James, Sr.	08/06/19 Indinola	03/27/95 Jeff Davis
Waugh, William David	10/06/12 Sallis	06/13/95 Taylorsville
Walker, James A.	05/03/25 Green Ct., Ky	08/02/95 Jackson
Reeves, Harry G.	07/18/20 Amite Ct.	08/10/95 Monticello
Upton, Ottis	04/22/29 Bushnell, Fl	10/18/95 Kemper Ct.
Jones, J. Melvin	07/20/11 Lackney, Tx	11/19/95 Lakeland, Fl
Hudson, Grady (AM)	1911 Hackleburg, AL	12/06/95 Belmont
Ellis, Ralph J.	04.25/13 Meridian	12/21/95 Natchez
Brantley, Otho M.	08/29/10 Newton Ct.	01/01/96 Jackson
Chaffin, Robert (AM)	08/24/42 Prentiss Ct.	10/12/96 New Albany
Grisham, James R.	02/26/14	01/14/96 Tupelo
Johnson, Joseph S. (LP)		01/29/96
Cantin, George Witte		02/15/96 Oxford
Moore, John Weems	04/01/02 Gallman	03/01/96 Biloxi
Scott, Roy T. (LP)		03/11/96 Lincoln Ct.
Styron, Richard J. (LP)	12/28/14 Smith Ct.	03/20/96 Brandon

Nix, Amos (AM)	01/13/31 Leakesville	03/31/96 Moss Point
Truman, Michael T.	08/27/00 Nedeau, MI	04/23/96 Piqua, OH
Welch, Horace T.	1908	05/06/96 Jackson
Johnson, Lee B. (LP)	Prentiss	05/15/96 Pascagoula
Potts, Charles L.	05/20/31 Potts Camp	05/17/96 Potts Camp
Edwards, Estes (LP)		06/11/96
Gladney, Earle (LP)	02/13/21 Nettleton	06/21/96 Nettleton
Tickell, Bobby Ray	07/05/33 Vicksburg	07/03/96
Knight, Connie M. (LP)	12/25/49 Union	07/09/96 Vicksburg
Franklin, Charles Ray	12/08/24 Gallman	07/17/96 Crystal Spgs
Curtis, George W.	08 Choctaw Ct.	07/28/96 Elizabeth, KY
Bailey, Berry Benton	09/28/08 Coldwater	08/26/96 Tupelo
Wynn, Porter	01/01/02 Gallman	09/09/96
Smith, Walter D.	03/28/09 Jackson	09/23/96 Ripley
Duke, Frederick	07/23/11 Allen, AL	10/18/96 Jackson, AL
Hazlip, Bryant (LP)		11/25/96
Payne, John P.	09/23/11 Braxton	11/30/96 Carpenter
Doggett, Blanton M.	1917 Kossuth	12/07/96 Picayune
Robertson, Murry D.	03/31/30 Sallis	12/24/96 Foxworth
Willoughby, James Evon	07/17/21 Carson	12/26/96 Jackson
Rogers Jr., Clair Landis	09/14/13 Metcalf, CA	01/16/97 Columbus
Richerson, William R.	11/16/12 Sara	02/10/97 Bullard, GA
Blumer, Ed H.	08/15/02 Cestos, OK	02/26/97 Adams
Tate, Rayford F.	01/04/08	03/02/97 Greenwood
Minty, William R. (AM)	09/16/31 Ft. Dodge, IO	05/17/97
Mullins, Greek L. (AM)	12/07/33 Cascilla	07/17/97
Oliver, Gilbert	03/11/14 Matherville	07/17/97 Meridian
Coleman, Archie B. (AM)	Vicksburg	07/03/97 Meadville
Williams, Burwell E.		08/08/97 Columbia
Burnett, Marshall E., Sr.	04/06/06 DeKalb	08/08/97 Meridian
Purvis, Rupert (LP)		07/09/97 New Albany
Stewart, Dudley (LP)		09/10/97 Hazlehurst
Bishop, Audie C.		09/24/97 New Albany
Randle, Charles L.	11/03/21 Vaiden	10/09/97 Pontotoc
Lander, Percy W., Jr.	11/05/27 Kreole	10/24/97 Caswell S.
Rushing, Lesley Wayne	05/28/32 Kokomo	08/31/97 Calif.
Parke, Cecil William (AM)	03/13/38 Elec. Mls.	10/27/97 Escatawpa
Dabbs, Joe		12/02/97
Holliday, James S.	08/11/20 Shannon	12/07/97 Jackson
Johnson, Rosweitha Elliot		12/26/97
Wiggers, Charles Campbell	11/11/26 Indianola	01/19/98 Oxford
Walley, Joseph Edward (AM)		02/17/98
Tourville, Elizabeth A.		02/26/98 New Albany
Haley, W. C. (LP)	Nesbitt	03/10/98 Como
Benson, James E.	01/27/28 Meridian	03/21/98 Meridian
Hopper, Jack Thaddeus (LP)		04/10/98
Arnett, Charles	09/08/26	05/03/98 FIRdUMC
Ray, Crawford Love	Caldonia	07/05/98 Amory
Heard, Linda Faye	1949	09/11/98
Gilbert, Russell Jackson	08/04/18	09/13/98 Meridian
Waters, Louis, Jr.		10/15/98 Newton
Baker, John Leland	01/01/19 Stone Ct.	10/17/98 Jackson
Thomton, Robert Andrew		01/19/98
Wilson, Edward Baxter		01/13/99 Batesville
Barron, Claude Edward	12/21/44 L.Rock, Ar	02/04/99 Noxapater
Mabry, William Leslie	Greenwood	02/20/99 Durant

Fair, Harold Loyd	08/02/24 Tyronza, Ar.	03/08/99 Nashville
Holston, Wilton, Sr.	12/22/29 Bond	03/10/99 Bond
Himebrook, Robert R.		03/19/99
Holder, James H. Jr.		04/07/99 S. Haven
Hegwood, Jerome Kerry	06/08/14 Tyler, TX	04/22/99 Waynesboro
Lindsey, Merrill W.	02/25/11 Holly Spgs	04/29/99 Marshall.
Whitehurst, Barry Gibbs	09/20/29 Wakefield	05/13/99 Cockrum
Park, David Franklin	07/21/44 Memphis	05/21/99
Rucker, Daniel H.	07/07/07 Cara	06/25/99 Lampton
McCurley, Thomas L. Jr.		07/09/99
Peden, Milton Jay	09/18/15 Philadelphia	08/04/99 Winona
Branning, Billy Joe	08/07/36 Sandtown	11/01/99 Sandtown
Speck, William Edward	05/23/24 Sherman	01/11/00 Blue Spgs
Smith, Aubrey B.	03/12/15 Liberty	01/26/00 Liberty
Appleberry, C. E.		01/30/00
Dement, W. D.		01/30/00
Miller, W. T.	1913	02/07/00 Hickory Gr
Williams, Jester C.	10/27/24 Greenwood	03/13/00
Perkins, James Q.		04/05/00
Dickson, Nathan A.	09/10/18 Hattiesburg	04/08/00 Columbia
Lewis, A. D.	05/11/07 Natchez	04/15/00 Pontotoc
L. B. Robinson	1913 Forrest C.	04/29/00 Brookhaven
Sharp, Marshall E.	11/18/06 Scott C.	05/15/00 Sebastopol
Lawrence, B. M.	05/25/02 Farmhaven	05/18/00 Union Ch.
McClung, George (Sonny)	11/16/39 Newnan, GA	06/03/00 Jackson
Volmer, Elmer	01/16/30 Chicago, IL	06/16/00 Seminary
McBride, G. Huff	07/15/12 Richton	06/27/00 Laurel
Scott, Ellis Winston	09/19/01	07/08/00
Carter, Malcom Ross	02/07/31 Hattiesburg	07/08/2000 Gulfport
DeWeese, C. Edward, Jr.	05/04/1930, Bay City, TX	09/02/00 Zachary, LA
Sampley, Charles W.	09/02/19 AL	10/10/00 Vidalia, GA
Slay, James Dudley	11/18/08 Purvis	10/22/00
Turner, Coleman Adelbert	08/08/08 Clinton	11/11/00 Clinton
Gilmore, Merle Quincy	04/16/15 Hazelhurst	11/13/00
Dexter, W.T.	1924 Tishomingo C.	2000 Iuka
Miller, Charles Leroy	10/03/15 Choctaw C.	2000
Wheat, Frank	07/18/36 Bay St. Louis	04/04/01 Greenwood
Walding, Lonnie M.	1922	07/05/01
McCafferty, James T., Jr.	06/14/20, Starkville	07/20/01, McComb
Hyde, Rowland	11/14/24, Lafayette Co.	08/01/01, Iuka
Ponder, L. P.		08/04/01
Moody, James		08/05/01
Roberts, James A.	01/11/41, Summit	09/28/01, Hattiesburg
Wroten, James D., Jr.	08/30, Ripley	10/09/01, Jackson
Allen, Clarence		10/10/01
Johnson, Claude W.	07/04/28, Kilmichael	10/13/01, Jackson
Wolfe, Thomas H.	12/06/31, Philadelphia	10/30/01, Hattiesburg
Simmons, William		11/15/01
Boone, Norman U.	02/06/11, Wanita, MS	11/20/01, Brookhaven
Foster, Charles		12/14/01
Boyer, Robert L.		01/11/02
Dolloff, Leavitt A.	06/06/29, Winthrop, MA	01/18/02
Huffman, Robert M.	09/26/36, Pelahatchie	02/08/02, Hattiesburg
Patrick, William D.		03/01/02
Palmer, Louis D.	1915	04/13/02, Moss Point
Taylor, Lee Allen	1966	04/26/02

Thompson, George K.	06/02/15, Taylorsville	04/01/02, Collins
Allie Mitchell Frazier		06/04/02,
Harold L. Miller		06/22/02,
James P. Perry		08/03/02,
Julius A. McRaney		08/31/02
William O. Marble	1948	09/14/02
Roy A. Givins, Sr.	02/09/10 Simsboro,LA	10/19/02
Robert Thomas Welch	1936	10/23/02
Bruce Dodge, Sr.		11/09/02
Robert Minor Matheny	06/22/16 Matherville	11/26/02 Meridian
F. L. Pendleton		01/01/03
Earl Howard	1920	02/17/03 Meridian
R. Stewart Smith	1917	02/20/03 / Jackson
Cawthon Bowen Burt		03/04/03
Curtis Lott	02/04/1930 Bassfield	03/08/03
J. C. Christian	1924	04/03/3
John Thomas Webb	1929 Meridian	04/18/03 Tipton, IN
Clifton Whitlock	1925 Meridian	04/23/03 Jackson
J. D. Ramey, Jr.		05/03/03
John Henry Jones	03/31/16	05/05/03
Jack M. Nabors		05/06/03
George Reese, Jr.		05/14/03
Joseph Roland Ballow		05/20/03
John Willard Legett, III.		05/26/03
Bishop, Jr., Allen David	09/38	06/22/03
Broadus, Lars	11/10	04/08/04
Lewis, Floyd		03/27/04
Bullock, Joseph Wells		03/15/04
Youngblood, Hollis	1918	03/08/04
Boyer, Charles		02/02/04
Nay, Robert		12/13/03
Savarese, Sr., Ralph		12/02/03
Speed, Larry Curtis	02/26/39	11/15/03
Howard, Robert	1920	10/18/03
Goodwin, Benjamin M.		07/21/03 Oxford
Cessna, William		06/26/03
Rowe, Jr., William M.		05/28/03
Jones, John Henry		05/05/03
Grisham, James E.	06/18/38 Tippah County	05/23/04 Iuka
Garrison, William Gray	11/30/35	06/03/04
Hill, Dennis Kenneth	09/28/48 Laurel	06/27/04
Walton, Roger Bernard	11/03/18	07/30/04
Lott, William Robert, Jr.	09/14/26 Amory	08/30/04 Memphis
Abel, Ferrel Leon	08/18/16	09/17/04
Street, Harold Monroe	09/01/18	10/22/04
Hartfield, William Earl	01/11/24 Lamar County	11/02/04
Phillips, Walter M.	09/26/23	11/17/04
Schultz, A. Miller	01/01/23 Anguilla	12/13/04
Pennington, Walter B.	09/19/23 Franklin Com.	12/22/04 Starkville
Muse, George D., Jr.	11/19/30	01/29/05
Holden, Wilton R.	11/30/32 Vancleave	02/13/05 Jackson
Chatham, John William Jr.	02/27/24 Meridian	03/03/05 Starkville
Clark, Albert Gladwin	07/06/19 Drew	03/24/05
Hubbard, Robert Kellis Jr.	07/26/26 Aliceville, AL	03/25/05 Starkville
Wasson, Resa Elijah	09/22/06 Atalla County	04/30/05 Tupelo



Davis, Clifford Elder Jr.	07/22/23 Guntown	07/11/05 Tupelo
Hagler, Donald Webster	12/08/54 Clio, AL	07/12/05 Troy, AL
Conoway, Merlin Dean	03/20/35 Amory	08/06/05 Tupelo
Hearn, Mary Monday		08/23/05
Grisham, Betty Marie		08/31/05
Hunter, Richard Warren	06/20/28 Birmingham, AL	09/24/05 Little Rock, AR
Jackson, Daniel Timothy, Sr.	05/14/08	10/09/05
Jackson, James Willard Jr.	10/31/42 Memphis, TN	10/17/05 Memphis, TN
Brooks, Truman D.	09/27/21 Independence, MS	11/21/05 Memphis, TN
Salley, Jerry		11/23/05
Landrum, Stanley Barnett	01/30/25 Walnut Grove	12/04/05
Smith, Clarence Jude	11/01/41 Coldwater, KS	01/14/06 Vancleave
Elliot, James Farrar		03/20/06
Hathorn, Howard Lee		03/30/06
Bowie, Harry J.		04/19/06
Hollowell, Thomas Linder	08/29/42 LaFayette Co.	05/05/06 Oxford
Taylor, Wendel P. C.		05-17-06
Miller, Owen		05/21/06
Busby, Leslie D. "Pete"	12/03/19	06/23/06
Gaddy, LaFayette Shaw	11/08/15 Allen, AL	06/28/06 Grove Hill, AL
Meadows, Archie L.	09/24/14	07/09/06
Andress, Robert Edward	02/27/27 Andalusia, AL	07/23/06 Jackson
Johnson, Thomas Murphy	12/12/37 Yazoo City	08/11/06 Equality, AL
Camp, B. Frank	03/02/31 Skene	09/19/06 Raliegh
Wallace, Hubert Gill	04/29/15	10/12/06
Harrell, Arnell N.	07/01/16	10/16/06
Oliver, Algernon M.	04/23/18 Yazoo City	11/02/06 Pensacola, FL
McCord, Wayne Vincent	08/30/47 Memphis, TN	12/10/06 Greenville
Kitchens, L. C.	09/13/32 Ozark	01/18/07 Red Bay, AL
Bridewell, Joseph Albert	09/09/14	01/24/07
Humphrey, John D., Sr.	02/17/18 Tippah Co.	02/18/07 Tupelo
Earls, Ray Clark	06/17/35 Steele, MO	02/26/07
Grammer, Glenn Roland	09/14/25	03/31/07
Mills, William G.	12/04/34 McLean. IL	04/26/07 Columbus
Watts, Marie A.	03/21/42 Hattiesburg	05/04/07 Jackson
Hedgepeth, Hiram Jessie	02/09/34 Lawrence Co.	05/24/07 Lucedale

## 2. Surviving Spouses — Mississippi Conference

\*Denotes new entry

- Abel, Celia (Abel, Ferrell Leon) - 519 Brookman Dr, Brookhaven, MS 39601  
Ainsworth, Claudine (Ainsworth, W. Earl) - P.O. Box 126, Marion, MS 39342 (601) 485-8924  
Alexander, Anne H. (Alexander Sr., Robert D.) - 409-D Hwy 9 S., Pontotoc, MS 38863 (662) 489-3724  
Alexander, Beulah B. (Alexander, Robert Ford) - 210 Birmingham St., Louisville, MS 39339 (662) 773-6126  
Alexander, Marcia Boyer (Boyer, Robert Lee) - 9829 Pokai Way, Diamondhead, MS 39525 (228) 365-9038  
Allen, Helen L. (Allen, Preston B.) - 319 23rd Ave., Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 693-3203  
Allen, Sophia M. (Allen, Clarence) - P. O. Box 1063, West Point, MS 39773  
Anderson, Bobbie Ruth (Spinks, Willie Clifton) - 114 Ollie Lawrence Rd., Lucedale, MS 39452  
Appleberry, Mary Louise (Appleberry, Clifton E.) - 44 Wood Boyd Rd., Tylertown, MS 39667 (601) 876-5415  
Arender, Mary Lou (Arender, Coley) - 500 Old Pearl Rd., Harrisville, MS 39082 (601) 846-3116  
Arender, Maxine (Arender, Clyde T.) - Westhaven Apt. 3, Ellisville, MS 39437  
Arinder, Ava Ann (Arinder, Robert Neil) - 11008 Turtle Creek Lane, Frisco, TX 75035

- Ashmore, Ora Grace (Ashmore, Charles Edwin) - 640 Highway 42, Sumrall, MS 39482  
Bailey, Nelda Frances (Bailey, James Leo) - 811 Fallwood Dr., Columbus, MS 39701  
\*Barlow, Barbara (Barlow, Hubert) - 5040 Beatline Rd., Apt. B, Long Beach, MS 39560 (228) 868-2638  
Barnes, Autra (Barnes, Julius Kirk) - 2800 W. Main St., Tupelo, MS 38801  
Barron, Dorothy Marie (Barron, Claude Edward) - P. O. Box 333, Noxapater, MS 39346 (662) 724-2281  
Bartee, Virgia Mae (Bartee, Harry) - 505 N. Singleton St., Canton, MS 39046 (601) 859-3289  
Bearden, Emma Jean (Bearden, Oland S.) - P. O. Box 1042, Hurley, MS 39555  
Benson, Alice (Benson, James E.) - 5412 31st Place, Meridian, MS 39305-1517 (601) 482-3745  
Berry, Cassie L. (Berry, Lawrence J.) - 58 Janie Catherine Davis, Holly Springs, MS 38635 (662) 851-7349  
Bonds, Jewell B. (Bonds Sr., John C.) - P.O. Box 173, Roxie, MS 39661  
Booker, Zephorah E. (Booker Sr., Warren Gammill) - 455 N. Carrollton St., Lexington, MS 39095  
Boone, Leola (Boone, Norman Udell) - 107 Hillcrest Dr., Brookhaven, MS 39601 (601) 833-1976  
Branning, Linda (, Billy Joe) - 12991 Road 610, Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601)-656-2604  
Bridges, Frances (Bridges, Lewis) - 4110 Hwy 80, Lawrence, MS 39336  
Buie, Martha (Buie, John) - 304 Varick St., Jersey City, NJ 07302  
Burt, Jeanette (Burt, Cawthon Bowen) - 3694 High Point Dr., Memphis, TN 38122 (901) 458-0869  
Busby, Shirley (Busby, Leslie "Pete") - 450 Bethel Rd., Enid, MS 38927 (662) 647-5779  
Butts, Nell J. (Butts, Stanton M.) - 140 Castlewoods Blvd, Apt. 236, Brandon, MS 39047  
Byrne, Judith R. (Nicholas, Bruce L.) - 15687 Ferncreek Dr., Chesterfield, MO 63017-0701  
Cantin, Flora King (Cantin, George Witte)  
Carter, Elizabeth Hahn (Carter, Ross) - 12408 Cypress Rd., Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 831-4579  
Chatham, Betty Jane (Chatham, John William "JW") - P. O. Box MU, Mississippi State, MS 39762 (662) 323-3382  
Christian, Dorothy Y. (Christian, Jefferson C.) - 135 Brookside Ln., Fayetteville, NY 13066  
Clay, Bettie (Clay, Wilmer H.) - 25 Autumn Hill Pl., Jackson, MS 39211 (601) 956-6274  
Coleman, Bobbie M. (Coleman, Archie) - 538 Coleman Ct., Auburn, AL 36830  
Coleman, Edrel Kelly (Coleman, Victor S.) - 1451 Hayworth Rd., Port Charlotte, FL 33952  
Conoway, Mary (Conoway, Merlin Dean) - 1010 Buchanan St., Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 842-8041  
Crump, Jennie Ruth (Crump, A. W.) - 1116 Forest Ave., Jackson, MS 39206  
Cumberland, Mary (Cumberland, Lonnie A.) - P. O. Box 720, Madison, MS 39130 (601) 790-4038  
Dean, Chelsea (Dean, Harvill F.) - 585 Northern Street, Hernando, MS 38632 (662) 429-5168  
Delmas, Francis (Delmas, James H.) - 111 Pittman Circle East, Pearl, MS 39208 (601) 939-9547  
Dement, Mamie Brothers (Dement Jr., Frank E.) - 246 Westover Dr., Apt. 453, Hattiesburg, MS 39402  
Denton, Dorcas G. - 9501 Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53224  
Dexter, Betty Sue (William Thomas) - Box 114, Iuka, MS 38852 (662) 423-1777  
Dickson, Mary (Dickson, N. A.) - 922 Meadowood Rd., Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 731-1711  
Dillard, Bobbye (Dillard, J. Harmon) - P. O. Box 147, Canton, MS 39046 (601) 849-1653  
Dodge, June (Dodge, Bruce Kenneth) - 11082 Noll Drive., Apt. B, D'Iberville, MS 39540  
Dolloff, Acka (Dolloff, Leavitt A.) - 101 Lee Ann, Hazelhurst, MS 39083 (601) 894-3773  
Duke, Velma (Duke, Fred) - 4663 Rosewood Drive, Mobile, AL 36608 (251) 342-8008  
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## SECTION VIII

# COUNCIL ON FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

## A. REPORTS

### *Report #1*

The Council on Finance and Administration (CFA) has examined the financial and administrative policies and procedures of the annual conference, including the whole process of agency and institutional funding and apportionments to local churches. Herein are our recommendations of procedures and policies to be followed by the Mississippi Annual Conference.

Realizing that education is the key to achieving a higher percentage of giving to the apportionments, CFA shall be available within clusters and districts to interpret and personalize the apportionments and to teach Christian stewardship to local churches. We shall provide districts and clusters with current materials explaining the apportionments.

### ***Agency/Institution Accountability and Distribution***

CFA recommends a funding process that requires accountability, responsibility, and communication. An annual review of agencies and institutions by the appropriate conference committee to which they relate shall encourage each agency and institution to consider the following:

- The option of not receiving conference apportionments and raising its own funds.
- A phase-out of conference funding after a five-year start-up when this plan is put into action by reducing the apportionment by 20 percent each year.

The Council on Finance and Administration requests that each institution requesting funds present a budget request as designed by the council for 2009, duly signed by the chairperson and secretary of the board of directors or trustees indicating that said budget has been approved by the governing body. The budget request is due by December 15, 2007. Boards, agencies, committees, or institutions of the conference not presenting a formal request properly signed will not be considered for funding by CFA for the 2009 budget.

The amount made available for the conference operation shall be determined by the percentage of apportionments received during the preceding year. Boards, committees, institutions, and agencies requesting an advance on their budgeted funds cannot receive an excess of 90 percent of the percentage paid to the conference for their cause in the preceding year.

All United Methodist agencies, community centers, camps, and affiliated institutions are strongly encouraged to develop donor support outside the Mississippi Conference budget. They are also encouraged to keep administrative costs at a minimum percentage of the organization's budget (as close to 20 percent as possible).

### ***Agency Audits***

The CFA acknowledges the differences in audit, review, and compilation reports issued by certified public accountants. The following descriptions continue to be approved by CFA:

- A. Audit - A financial audit is a systematic examination of financial statements, records and related operations to determine adherence to generally accepted accounting principles, management policies, or stated requirements. The examination of the records includes analytical procedures and verification of pertinent source documents to substantiate the financial statements. An audit provides the highest level of assurance that financial statements are fairly stated.
- B. Review - A review involves inquiry and analytical procedures that provide the accountant with a reasonable basis for expressing limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the statements for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. There is no requirement for the accountant to gather any evidence to corroborate the inquiries and analytical procedures, unless he becomes aware that the information is incorrect, incomplete or otherwise unsatisfactory. A review provides a limited level of assurance that the financial statements are fairly stated.



- C. **Compilation** - A compilation involves presenting in the form of financial statement information that is the representation of management without undertaking to express any assurance on the statements. To compile financial statements, the accountant should understand the industry and nature of the business in which the client is engaged, including the form of its accounting records, the qualifications of its accounting personnel, the basis on which the financial statements are to be presented, and the form and content of the financial statements. The accountant is not required to make inquiries or to perform any procedures to validate the information provided to them. A compilation provides a minimum level of assurance that the financial statements are fairly stated.

Comparative financial statements, and the accompanying opinion of a certified public accountant, shall be presented by each agency/institution to the Council on Finance and Administration by May 15 each year. These statements must include a balance sheet, a statement of activity, a statement of cash flows, and a copy of the accounting firm's management letter if one was provided. Statements containing a comparison of budget to actual expenditures are required. Each agency/institution shall include a statement of mission and purpose and a general description of activities. Disbursement of approved funding shall be contingent upon receipt of the previous years' financial statements. Any discrepancies or irregularities noted by the auditor or the CFA audit committee must be corrected in order for funding to be released to the agency/institution.

Audited statements will be required when annual apportionment revenue is \$200,000 or greater. For entities with annual apportionment revenues of less than \$200,000, the Audit Committee may accept an alternative engagement with a CPA. The alternative engagement will consist of reviewed or compiled financial statements (as defined above). The CFA Audit Committee may request additional agreed-upon procedures after review of the alternative engagement.

If a recipient of conference funds past year's report is not available by May 15, a copy of an internally prepared report, along with an engagement letter from the CPA engaged to do the report shall be submitted. The internally prepared report shall at minimum be a Statement of Activities and Balance Sheet. This report must be presented by May 15.

Regardless of budget, any agency required by federal or state law to have an audit will be asked to submit their audited statements to the conference. Only reviews or audits performed by an independent licensed CPA or CPA firm enrolled in a quality peer review program that received an unqualified opinion in its most recent peer review report will be accepted. No internal audits will be accepted. Failure to submit required financial statements by May 15 will result in the holding of all funds for the current year due the entity, beginning June 1, until such reports have been submitted and reviewed by the Audit Committee of the CFA.

All United Methodist institutions affiliated with the Mississippi Annual Conference are required to submit financial statements to the CFA, even though funds are not received from the conference.

The following are exempted from submitting the above-mentioned financial statements although a compilation and statement from the reviewing body must be presented:

- Campus ministry units, unless they are receiving conference capital campaign funds
- Clergy Spouses

Financial statements as defined in *Internal Controls for District Offices for District Funds* should be presented to the CFA each year. All funds held by the district must be included in the audit report. The CFA has reviewed the internal control document and found it to be acceptable.

### ***Capital Expenditures***

As a matter of policy, the CFA will not include proposed capital expenditures as a part of the regular budgetary process of the annual conference. Capital needs should be serviced through special appeals and/or capital campaigns.

### ***Conference Expenditures***

#### **A. ANNUAL CONFERENCE PER DIEM**

Each pastoral charge shall provide for the lodging and meal expenses of their pastor(s), lay members(s), deacon(s) in full connection, and diaconal minister(s) attending Annual Conference. The clergy and diaconal ministers in special appointments shall have their expenses paid by the agency served. Per diem expense paid by the conference will begin with the opening session of Annual Conference and

end with the closing session. Per diem expenses paid by the annual conference shall be at the following rate: fifty dollars (\$50.00) per night for lodging when staying in a motel/hotel and five dollars (\$5.00) per meal. There will be no reimbursement from the annual conference for travel.

Those eligible for per diem from the annual conference are the following:

- a. Retired Clergy
- b. Disabled Clergy
- c. Retired Diaconal Ministers
- d. Disabled Diaconal Ministers
- e. Conference Staff Persons
- f. Conference Lay Leader
- g. District Lay Leaders
- h. Conference President of United Methodist Women
- i. Conference President of United Methodist Men
- j. Conference President of United Methodist Youth
- k. President or equivalent officer of Conference Young Adult Organization
- l. Chairpersons of all conference boards, committees, councils, and commissions, if laypersons
- m. District Presidents of United Methodist Men
- n. District Presidents of United Methodist Women
- o. District Presidents of United Methodist Youth
- p. Equalizing lay members, as named by the district
- q. Seminary students who are certified candidates for ministry and approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry, except those students who serve churches within the bounds of the conference
- r. Special cases approved by the Cabinet, such as mission charges
- s. Conference and District Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries

## **B. CONFERENCE COMPENSATION**

The pay period of clergy shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30 of the next year. Compensation is to be paid as earned. In no instance shall compensation be paid in advance by the conference or any entity amenable to the annual conference.

Salaries of conference personnel, clergy and lay, shall be given priority and paid in equal monthly installments. Travel expenses in the work of the conference shall be paid on voucher at the rate established by the Internal Revenue Service for business miles. Staff persons on conference business shall provide the following documentation: purpose of travel, mileage, copies of hotel bills, documentation for meals, receipts for car rental, parking, tolls.

In situations where staff persons are requested to travel outside the conference on conference related business, rental cars should be requested only when their use will be more economical than public transportation or when a special situation applies, e.g., excessive material to carry, out-of-the-way location, extensive local travel.

If the roundtrip travel per mile exceeds the most economical airfare available for the date of travel at the time the travel request was submitted (plus airport-related ground transportation costs), the lesser amount will be reimbursed.

The conference treasurer is hereby authorized to withhold funds from the salaries of annual conference personnel for the purpose of investing said funds in tax deferred programs and for payment of salary reduction reimbursement plans in keeping with Internal Revenue Service policies when such request is made by conference personnel.

## **C. CABINET LEVEL COMPENSATION**

The Mississippi Conference shall provide equal salaries and equitable support packages for the district superintendents, administrative assistant to the bishop, director of Connectional Ministries, director of Ministerial Services, and director of Financial Administration/treasurer. The total compensation package includes salary (which may include salary reduction items, housing appurtenances, dependent hospital insurance premiums), travel expenses related to the position of the respective offices, and accountable reimbursement plans for related expenses. The total compensation package shall be adjusted annually by a percentage to be determined by CFA that is not larger than the percent of change in the Conference Average Compensation (CAC) as determined by the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits.

Each district shall provide a district parsonage and funding for utilities. The district shall also maintain, equip, and fund the operation of a district office, including all elements of compensation for a secretary or other lay employees.

The annual conference may provide a parsonage or housing allowance for the administrative assistant to the bishop, director of Ministerial Services, and director of Connectional Ministries when clergy are appointed to these positions.

The salary shall be remitted either semi-monthly or monthly from the conference treasurer's office. Travel, continuing education, and reimbursable expenses shall be paid after vouchers have been submitted with appropriate documentation. Travel expenses will be reimbursed using the same policy as conference staff.

The expenses to the required training experience for newly appointed district superintendents and director of Connectional Ministries shall be paid by the conference.

#### **D. MOVING EXPENSE**

The church receiving a new pastor shall pay all moving expenses. The moving expenses of incoming conference personnel shall be paid from the conference administration fund. The moving expenses of an incoming district superintendent shall be paid by the district from district funds.

Moving expenses for a retiring minister or a minister going on disability shall be paid by the conference treasurer in an amount to cover his/her approved expenses as defined below in an amount not to exceed \$1,800. The move of a minister's surviving spouse and immediate family following the death of a minister serving an appointment shall be paid by the conference from the conference administration fund in an amount not to exceed \$1,800. The conference payment will be limited to actual documented cost, but shall not include packing expenses and charges. A maximum of \$1,800 will be available toward the prorated cost of moves outside the bounds of the conference. The allowable reimbursement will be based on mileage inside the conference bounds divided by the total mileage of the move. The approved costs as described above multiplied by the percentage will determine the reimbursable amount. Moving expenses can be paid within one year of retirement, disability, or death of ministers.

The moving expenses for student pastors returning to the conference for an appointment shall be paid from their place of residence at the seminary to the annual conference line in an amount not to exceed \$1,800. The local church receiving such pastor shall pay the moving expenses from the conference line to said local church parsonage. The conference payment shall be paid from the conference administration fund and shall cover the actual documented costs but shall not include packing expenses and charges.

The moving expenses of an effective member of another annual conference transferring into this conference shall be paid from the conference administration fund from his/her place of residence to the annual conference line up to a maximum of \$1,800, if the move is initiated by the bishop and Cabinet. The local church receiving such transfer minister shall pay the expense from the conference line to said local church parsonage. If the minister initiates the move, he/she shall pay the expense to the conference line and the local church receiving such transferred minister shall pay the expense from the conference line to said local church parsonage.

#### **E. TASK FORCE EXPENSES**

The expenses of persons called by the bishop for meetings shall be referred to the CFA for funding at the usual rate for conference committee meetings unless otherwise provided.

#### **F. TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT-CONFERENCE COMMITTEES AND BOARDS**

Conference agencies, boards, and committees receiving church funds have both a fiduciary and stewardship responsibility to determine that all expenditures are reasonable, necessary, appropriate, and directly related to their mission.

In compliance with IRS regulations the conference shall pay travel at the rate established by the IRS for charitable travel on a per-mile basis by the most direct route. No mileage is to be allowed for persons attending meetings who are otherwise allowed travel expenses in connection with their positions in the church. No mileage is to be allowed for persons attending meetings in the town of their residence. No mileage is to be allowed for persons attending conference committee meetings at Annual Conference who are members of the annual conference. It is strongly recommended that travel to meetings be by

carpool. Travel shall be paid for conference meetings only if the meeting is within the bounds of the annual conference.

Travel to out of conference meetings should be approved by the chairperson of the sponsoring conference committee, agency, or board. The following documentation shall accompany the request for reimbursement: purpose of travel, copies of hotel bills, documentation for meals, receipts for car rental, parking and tolls. Rental cars should be requested only when their use will be more economical than public transportation or when a special situation applies, e.g., excessive material to carry, out-of-the-way location, or extensive local travel.

If the person to be reimbursed drives, and the round trip travel per mile exceeds the most economical air-fare available for the date of travel at the time the travel request was submitted (plus airport-related ground transportation costs), the lesser amount will be reimbursed.

No reimbursement will be made for lost time that is incurred by a person attending conference meetings.

All in-travel meal subsidies shall be set at the maximum of \$5 for breakfast, \$5 for lunch and \$5 for dinner. This does not apply to meals arranged by a board or agency during a meeting of the group. A group meeting all day or longer may arrange for a meal to be served at a higher cost if necessary. Any request for meal reimbursement, other than the allowances stated, must be accompanied by actual receipts.

Cash advances shall be kept to a minimum. If an advance is needed, the request shall be made on the Conference Voucher, and approved by the chairperson of the sponsoring conference committee, agency, or board. Advances should be for specific trips or events and shall be settled by the person within one week of the termination of a trip or event.

A form acceptable to the Internal Revenue Service to verify meeting travel expenses for income tax credit as a donation is available in the conference treasurer's office. This can be used when travel expenses are not reimbursed.

### ***Conference Operating Reserve/Authority To Borrow***

The Executive Committee of the CFA is authorized to use the conference reserves for emergency situations as determined by the committee. Additionally, under Standing Rule 17, the Executive Committee of CFA is authorized to borrow up to \$500,000 for emergency needs.

### ***Formula for Making Apportionments***

The information provided by each local church at the end of the year shall be used to provide the statistical base for each church's fair share of the conference budget. The last two years of available statistical data will be used in computing a resulting fraction that will become the local church's index, and represents its proportionate fair share of the budget. (Divide the average amount spent by the local church on the statistical line items 64 through 72 over the last two years by the amount spent by all churches in the conference on those items to compute the church's index.)

A. The base shall be statistical lines:

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| a. Line No. 64 | Pastor's Base Compensation  |
| b. Line No. 65 | Associate(s) Base Compensation  |
| c. Line No. 65 | Housing Related Allowances Paid Pastor and Associate(s)                   |
| d. Line No. 67 | Reimbursements Paid Pastor and Associate(s)                               |
| e. Line No. 68 | Other Cash Allowances Paid Pastor and Associate(s)                        |
| f. Line No. 69 | Diaconal Minister(s)/Deacon(s) Total Compensation                         |
| g. Line No. 70 | Other Staff Compensation and Expenses                                     |
| h. Line No. 71 | Current Expenses for Program  |
| i. Line No. 72 | Other Current Operating Expenses (Except property and casualty insurance) |

B. The apportionment for a new congregation shall be determined as follows: First full year after charter shall be a grace period. Apportionments shall be phased in over the next five years at twenty percent (20%) of the formula amount for the next year and increasing by twenty percent (20%) over each of the following four years. (A five-year phase in at 20 percent per year.)

C. The CFA recommends the continuation of the Merit Award program. Churches paying 100 percent of every apportioned line item of their conference apportionments will be commended by the CFA at each Annual Conference. Churches that have increased or improved their apportionment remittances will be recognized for their efforts. An appropriate certificate will be given to

each church by the district superintendent at the Charge Conference.

### **Church Grants**

All annual conference boards, committees, commissions, agencies or individuals related thereto, making application for General Church funds and/ or other grants administered by any conference, jurisdictional, or general agency of the United Methodist Church or any other entity, shall first furnish copies of such applications to those conference officers charged with the role of consultation in paragraph 718 of *The 2004 Book of Discipline*: the presiding bishop, the director of Connectional Ministries or equivalent, the Leadership Council, and the appropriate district superintendent(s). An accounting of actual use of funds must be presented to the conference treasurer's office within 90 days of the final distribution of funds.

### **Investment Policy**

All funds of the annual conference under the control of the conference treasurer shall be invested under the direction of the Council on Finance and Administration with priority given to the Mississippi United Methodist Foundation.

### **Depository**

In accordance with Section 614 of the *2004 Book of Discipline*, the conference treasurer is designated the authority by the CFA to designate a depository for all conference funds.

### **Local Church Bonding**

Local churches are reminded that all church treasurers and financial secretaries are now bonded under the conference-wide insurance program, provided the church has acquired their insurance through the conference wide plan. Any church that is not in the conference wide program shall provide at their own cost the bonding as required by the *2004 Discipline*.

### **Mailing Lists**

Mailing lists will be made available to United Methodist agencies and institutions from the conference office, as it is practical.

### **Special Appeals**

CFA urges institutions to work to encourage local churches to pay apportionments before they request any special funding. Agencies and institutions that are not United Methodist must have approval from CFA to solicit funds within the conference.

### **Conference Advance Specials**

- a. Burkley House, Jackson
- b. Chabadza Partnership with Zimbabwe
- c. Church and Community Worker Earnestine Varnado
- d. Contact, The Crisis Line
- e. Center for Independent Living, Inc
- f. Choctaw Mission
- g. Coast Prison Ministry, Gulfport
- h. Delta Resource Center, Greenville
- i. Gulfside Assembly, Waveland
- j. Hispanic Ministries
- k. Holmes County Town & Country Ministries, Goodman
- l. International Seamen and Truckers Center, Gulfport
- m. Moore Community House, Biloxi
- n. Mississippi United Methodist Penza, Russia Initiative
- o. Resource Center Network –The Center for Violence Prevention, Pearl
- p. Seashore Mission, Biloxi

- q. Shalom Communities
- r. Society of St. Andrew
- s. St. Andrew's Mission Community Center, McComb
- t. Stop Hunger Now
- u. UMVIM Mexico Medical Mission
- v. Wesley House Community Center, Inc, Meridian

### *2008 Special Day Offerings*

#### **General Church**

January 20	Human Relations Day
January 27	Golden Cross Sunday
March 2	One Great Hour of Sharing
April 6	Native American Sunday
May 18	Peace with Justice Sunday
August 24	Council Of Bishops Katrina Church Recovery Appeal
October 5	World Communion Sunday
November 30	United Methodist Student Day

#### **Mississippi Conference**

February 17	Millsaps College
March 16	Baddour Center
March 30	Methodist Rehabilitation Center
May 11	Mississippi Methodist Senior Services
June 15	The Children's Home
September 14	Camping Sunday
September 21	Bethlehem Center
November 9	United Methodist Hour
December 14	The Children's Home

Report #2  
**2008 Approved Budget (With 2007 Comparison)**

**NOTE:** Numbers to the immediate left of the item corresponds  
with budget numbers shown on the following pages.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
<b><u>UM NUMBER 1 AVENUE OF GIVING</u></b>		
1 World Service	\$ 1,611,853	\$ 1,482,872
<b><u>MS UM EXTENDED MINISTRY</u></b>		
2 Community Centers	\$ 382,500	\$ 382,500
3 Children's Home	155,850	155,850
4 Choctaw Mission	80,000	80,000
5 United Methodist Hour	65,000	65,000
6 Baddour Center	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
	<u>\$ 733,350</u>	<u>\$ 733,350</u>
<b><u>MS UM CONFERENCE CLERGY SUPPORT</u></b>		
7 Board of Medical Benefits	\$ 5,155,857	\$ 4,624,997
8 Board of Pensions	4,452,564	3,685,769
9 District Superintendents Fund	1,092,644	1,017,013
10 Equitable Compensation	480,975	335,975
11 Board of Ordained Ministry and Related Funds	<u>357,500</u>	<u>358,000</u>
	<u>\$ 11,539,540</u>	<u>\$ 10,021,754</u>
<b><u>MS UM CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP WORK AREAS</u></b>		
12 Connectional Resources	\$ 2,199,444	\$ 1,868,794
13 Congregational Development	687,000	650,000
14 Connectional Ministries	<u>493,520</u>	<u>523,220</u>
	<u>\$ 3,379,964</u>	<u>\$ 3,042,014</u>
<b><u>UM HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT</u></b>		
15 Mississippi Campus Ministries	\$ 672,838	\$ 635,017
16 Ministerial Education Fund*	523,857	535,095
17 Millsaps College	400,000	400,000
18 Black College Fund*	208,597	213,756
19 Rust College	200,000	200,000
20 Africa University*	<u>46,065</u>	<u>47,849</u>
	<u>\$ 2,051,357</u>	<u>\$ 2,031,717</u>
<b><u>MS UM CAMPING AND RETREAT CENTERS</u></b>		
21 Camp Lake Stephens	\$ 160,000	\$ 160,000
22 Camp Wesley Pines	160,000	160,000
23 Seashore Assembly	125,000	125,000
24 Wood Institute	100,000	100,000
25 Gulfside Assembly	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
	<u>\$ 585,000</u>	<u>\$ 585,000</u>
<b><u>UM GENERAL/JURISDICTIONAL</u></b>		
26 Episcopal Fund*	\$ 421,533	\$ 377,995
27 General Administration Fund*	141,892	130,523
28 Southeastern Jurisdiction Programming**	126,708	126,708
29 Interdenominational Cooperation Fund*	41,375	41,652
30 Lake Junaluska Levee Renovation Project**	<u>32,000</u>	<u>32,000</u>
	<u>\$ 763,508</u>	<u>\$ 708,878</u>
<b>BUDGET TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$ 20,664,572</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 18,605,585</u></b>

\* Apportioned by General Church

\*\* Apportioned by Southeastern Jurisdiction



## B. 2008 APPROVED BUDGET

### DETAILED BUDGETS FOR LINE ITEMS AS REFERENCED

#### NUMBER 1 AVENUE OF GIVING

##### *Fund 1: World Service (Apportioned by General Church)*

When United Methodist congregations pay their apportioned askings they participate in God's work around the world and right in their own parish. The World Service Fund is the heart of our church's ministry together.

World Service is God's people reaching out in love and compassion in the name of Christ. It represents a call and a challenge to each United Methodist. As *The Book of Discipline 2004* states, the full payment of the World Service Fund is each congregation's "first benevolent responsibility" (Paragraph 812).

The World Service Fund provides basic operating resources to eight general boards and commissions and one organization, and this support undergirds a network of missionaries and others who serve in the name of Christ and The United Methodist Church around the world; enables specific local church work with children, youth, singles, students, adults and older persons; provides leadership and coordination for denominational ministry with youth; continues nearly 200 years of commitment to quality college and graduate education; gives our denomination a presence in the mass media and makes new communications technologies accessible to the church; provides interpretation resources that promote giving; continues a proud tradition of cooperation and dialogue with other faith traditions through interdenominational and ecumenical work; and assures United Methodists speak and work to help encourage a more ethical, just, and humane world.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$1,611,853**

#### MS UM EXTENDED MINISTRY

##### *Fund 2: Community Centers*

This apportionment line item funds nine community centers around the conference that provide vital ministry and service to children, youth, and adults. The centers serve the poor and disadvantaged by offering affordable childcare and after-school care and other children's programs, training and educational opportunities, abuse prevention and intervention, summer enrichment, older adult services and other ministries.

Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office. The Mission Outreach Committee maintains oversight responsibility for the Community Centers budget request. The Mission Outreach Committee recommends the following amounts for the community centers:

Bethlehem Center, Jackson	\$ 60,000
Delta Resources, Greenville	12,500
Edwards Street Community Center, Hattiesburg	40,000
Good Shepherd Center, Vicksburg	65,000
Holmes Co. Town and Country Ministries, Goodman	20,000
Mississippi Rural Center, Columbia	35,000
Moore Community House, Biloxi	35,000
St. Andrew's Mission, McComb	45,000
Wesley House, Meridian	70,000

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$ 382,500**

### ***Fund 3: Children's Home***

The Children's Home plans to use the apportionments to operate and expand its Therapeutic Group Homes. These expenses include clothing, school supplies, telephone, utilities, food, medical, toiletries for the children, group home parent salary, vehicle expense, insurance, equipment expense, and building repairs. Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office. The conference Health and Welfare Ministry Committee has oversight responsibility for the budget request of the Children's Home.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$155,850**

### ***Fund 4: Choctaw Mission***

The Choctaw Mission will use the funds to provide pastoral leadership and programming in the Choctaw communities of Pearl River, Red Water, and Bogue Chitto and for utilities and general maintenance. Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office. The conference Mission Outreach committee has oversight responsibility for the budget request of the Choctaw Mission.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$80,000**

### ***Fund 5: United Methodist Hour***

The United Methodist Hour lives out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ by lifting up the Greatest Commandment in both word and practice. Although unique in its scope as a television and radio ministry, the United Methodist Hour fits within the purpose of the whole Body of Christ in helping to provide "hands and feet" for the Gospel. To that end, the mission of the United Methodist Hour is threefold:

- Proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ through the mediums of television and radio.
- Resource the local church and annual conference through video and communication services.
- Provide ministry opportunities through the United Methodist Hour Prayer Ministry and Serving Initiative.

Through our television program, *Time That Makes the Difference*, and our radio programs, *Time That Makes the Difference* and *Salt & Light*, the United Methodist Hour of Mississippi, as the only television/radio ministry of its kind in the United Methodist Church, is committed to providing high-quality programming that communicates the love of God, promotes grace and service, and lifts up the work of United Methodism around the world.

Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$65,000**

### ***Fund 6: Baddour Center***

Apportionment gifts from the churches will be utilized in scholarship assistance for the residents. The Baddour Center currently has 27 residents from 7 states whose families receive scholarship support, representing 16 percent of the Baddour Center's population. One-third of these families come from Mississippi.

As a faith-based organization, the Baddour Center does not accept any federal or state funding. In order to compensate for the real costs not covered by tuition and vocational income, the Baddour Center relies heavily on the contribution of generous individuals, corporations and private foundations that share its vision and wish to invest in the lives of others. The current cost for a resident is \$47,047. Tuition paid by the resident is \$23,504 with the balance being assumed by the Baddour Center. Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office. The Conference Health and Welfare Committee has oversight over the budget request for the Baddour Center.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$50,000**

## MS UM CONFERENCE CLERGY SUPPORT

### *Fund 7: Board of Medical Benefits*

The Mississippi Conference adopts the self-insured medical plan. The conference has the responsibility for providing the funding for the plan for active clergy appointed to the local church and conference. The apportioned dollars provide for the retiree credit based on years of service. The surviving spouse coverage is currently funded by the apportionments. The plan allows other salary paying units of the Mississippi Conference to be participants in the plan by paying the full cost for the participants. Participants are required to fund the dependent cost and a portion of the participant cost.

The Board of Medical Benefits is charged with the responsibility of administering the plan. Rates are set each year with conference approval. Following are the actual figures for 2006. The 2007 budget and the proposed 2008 budget are also presented.

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$5,155,857**

	2006 Actual	2007 Budget	2008 Budget
Claims	\$ 3,350,741	\$3,786,337	\$ 4,278,561
Scriptcare	2,108,382	2,466,807	2,886,164
Administration	846,456	1,025,190	1,178,969
Total Costs	<u>\$ 6,305,579</u>	<u>\$7,278,334</u>	<u>\$ 8,343,694</u>
Premiums	\$ 2,556,120	\$2,888,416	\$ 3,032,837
Apportionments	4,328,283	4,328,283	5,155,857
Rebates	36,549	37,000	37,000
Miscellaneous Income	117,629	118,000	118,000
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 7,038,581</u>	<u>\$7,371,699</u>	<u>\$ 8,343,694</u>

### *Fund 8: Board of Pensions*

The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits has the responsibility of proposing to General Conference a retirement plan for the denomination. General Conference adopts the plan and any amendments to it. This provides an equitable plan to all United Methodist clergy. The cost increase in 2007 and 2008 is due to the new Clergy Retirement Security Plan (CRSP) that came into effect January 1, 2007. CRSP is made up of two elements, a defined benefit piece and a defined contribution piece.

The Mississippi Conference Board of Pensions has the responsibility of administering the plan for the conference and providing education resources for the plan. The Mississippi Conference adopts an apportionment to fund the cost of the plan for the conference-responsible participants. Following are the actual costs for 2006 and the adopted budget for 2007. The 2008 budget is presented with the proposed apportionments for funding the plan.

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$4,452,564**

	2006 Actual	2007 Budget	2008 Budget
Receipts:			
Pension Apportionment Receipts	\$3,517,263	\$3,685,769	\$ 4,452,564
Gain On Dif And Mas Accts			
Including Interest	748,719	193,290	93,100
Other Interest	108,643	277,717	186,625
Interest On Superannuate Endowment	96,987	100,000	38,000
Misc Refunds	25,188	23,000	23,000
General Sef Distribution	21,130	21,000	21,000
Methodist Pub. House Distribution	15,584	15,000	15,000
Chartered Fund Distribution	87	387	387
Escrow From 2006	286,290	0	0
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 4,533,901</u>	<u>\$4,602,453</u>	<u>\$ 4,829,676</u>

Disbursements:			
Past Service Funding	\$ 4,700,000	\$ -	\$ -
MPP/PPP Contributions—CRSP DB/DC & CPP	3,752,336	4,588,258	4,768,126
Reserve For CPSR	286,290	-	-
Special Grants To Pre 82 PSR Participants	129,613	-	-
Clerical Salary And Benefits	25,849	25,849	27,150
Pub House Dist To Central Conf Pens Plan	15,584	-	-
Liaison Officer	8,500	8,500	8,500
Payment To Dependent Children	7,177	7,200	7,200
Professional Fees	4,543	5,000	5,000
Special Grants & GBOP Payments	3,938	4,000	4,000
Annual Conf. Retirees Luncheon	3,720	4,000	4,000
Travel Meals Meetings	3,241	2,000	2,000
Office Expense	1,689	1,200	1,200
Per Diem Annual Conf-Surviving Spouses	1,465	1,500	1,500
Retirement Seminar	1,120	1,000	1,000
Bank Charges	83	-	-
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 8,945,148</u>	<u>\$ 4,648,507</u>	<u>\$ 4,829,676</u>
Net Receipts Over (Disbursements)	<u>\$(4,411,247)</u>	<u>\$ (46,054)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

### ***Fund 9: District Superintendents Fund***

The District Superintendents Fund provides salary and reimbursable business expenses for the 11 district superintendents.

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$1,092,644**

Compensation	\$ 81,153
Reimbursable Business Expenses In District	<u>9,363</u>
Total per District Superintendent	\$ 90,516
	<u>x 11</u>
Total for 11 Districts	<u>995,676</u>
Reimbursable Expenses for Cabinet Related Travel	\$ 96,968
Total District Superintendents Budget	<u>\$1,092,644</u>

### ***Fund 10: Equitable Compensation***

This commission provides support for full-time clergy serving as pastors in the charges of the annual conference by: (a) recommending standards for pastoral support; (b) administering funds to be used in base compensation supplementation; and (c) providing counsel and advisory material on pastoral support to district superintendents and committees on pastor-parish relations. The commission in consultation with the Council on Finance and Administration recommends to the conference its estimate of the amount required to support the schedule of minimum base compensation and supplements for the pastors.

These dollars represent support to many small churches with potential for growth and in missional areas. It also provides travel supplements for pastors who are part-time and serving in retirement.

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$480,975**

a. Administrative Expenses	\$ 5,975
b. Program Expense - Travel	\$ 65,000
c. Program Expense – Salary Supplements	\$ 50,000
d. Program Expense – New Church Dev	\$ 215,000
e. Program Expense – Coop/Exceptional Ministries	\$ 10,000
f. Prog. Exp. – Ethnic Congregational/Mission Dev	\$ 100,000

g. Program Expense – Unique Ministries	\$ 25,000
h. Program Expense – Contingency	\$ 10,000

### ***Fund 11: Board of Ordained Ministry and Related Funds***

This board's primary task is for the enlistment and recruitment of ordained clergy and to credential such persons for ministry in the local church and beyond. The board cares for the needs of certified persons, diaconal ministers, local pastors, deacons, and elders. It shall, with the assistance of the local church committee on pastor-parish relations, conference agencies, and every ordained minister of the conference, enlist women and men of all races and ethnic origins and guide those persons in the process of education, training, and ordination, recommending colleges and schools of theology listed by the University Senate. (From *Book of Discipline* paragraph 634.2a)

A complete detailing of the board's responsibilities is found in the *Discipline*, on pages 407-413.

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$357,500**

a. Pastoral Care	\$ 20,000
b. Operations	\$ 38,000
c. Supervision	\$ 18,000
d. Training	\$ 20,500
e. Residency in Ministry	\$ 18,000
f. Course of Study – PT	\$ 60,000
g. MEF (FT & Seminary)	\$ 140,000
h. Clergy Spouse Fellowship	\$ 2,000
i. Moving Supplement	\$ 15,000
j. Nurse Education/CPE	\$ 26,000

## **MS UM CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP WORK AREAS**

### ***Fund 12: Connectional Resources***

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$2,199,444**

a. Conference Administration	\$ 845,963
b. Staff Compensation – CFA	\$ 288,946
c. Staff Compensation – Conference	\$ 962,536
d. Communications	\$ 100,000

### ***Fund 12 Detail: a. Conference Administration***

#### **CONFERENCE OFFICE EXPENSE**

Annual Dues	\$ 300
Audit	35,000
Bank Charges	11,400
Equipment Lease	28,000
Equipment Replacement	15,000
Office Supplies	29,000
Postage	17,000
Software Upgrades and Maintenance	19,000
Telephone	17,000
Total Budget	<u>\$ 171,700</u>

#### **CONFERENCE SECRETARY**

Operational Expense	\$ 1,000
Secretary Honorarium	2,750
Journal Editor Honorarium	1,800
Annual Conference Expense	1,250
Total Budget	<u>\$ 6,800</u>

<b><u>CONFERENCE STATISTICIAN</u></b>	
Honorarium	\$ 1,500
Secretarial Help	900
District Statisticians	1,100
Travel	1,200
Total Budget	<u>\$ 4,700</u>
<b><u>CONFERENCE TRUSTEES/PROPERTY</u></b>	
Property and Liability Insurance	\$ 200,000
Office Building Loan Repayment	39,512
Office Utilities	20,000
Maintenance	14,000
Legal Fees	10,000
Janitorial Service	7,500
Abandoned Property Expense	16,000
Supplies	13,000
Parking	3,500
Meeting Expense	500
Total Budget	<u>\$ 324,012</u>
<b><u>ANNUAL CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION</u></b>	
Legal Expense	\$ 10,000
Memorials	1,000
Episcopacy Committee	750
CFA meeting expense	5,000
General & Jurisdictional Conference Delegates	40,000
Bishop's Discretionary Fund	7,000
Contingency	275,000
Total Budget	<u>\$ 338,750</u>
<b>BUDGET TOTAL:</b>	<b><u>\$845,963</u></b>

***Fund 12 Detail: b. Staff Compensation – CFA***  
**CFA Personnel Committee Salaries and Expenses**

<b><u>SENIOR STAFF</u></b>	
Director Finance/Administration & CBO	<u>\$ 96,753</u>
<b><u>PROFESSIONAL STAFF</u></b>	
Assistant Treasurer	\$ 45,196
Administrative Assistant to Treasurer	37,500
Administrative Assistant to CBO	37,500
	<u>\$ 120,196</u>
<b><u>CLERICAL STAFF</u></b> (Part Time)	
	<u>\$ 25,000</u>
Subtotals	<u>\$ 241,949</u>
<b><u>OTHER BENEFITS AND ALLOWANCES</u></b>	
Payroll Taxes	\$ 19,153
Pensions/Death Benefits (Lay employees)	27,790
Health Insurance	29440
Reimbursable Business Expenses	16,500
Merit/Cost of Living Raises	8,414
Total CFA Personnel Request	<u>\$ 343,246</u>
Less reimbursed by Medical Benefits and Pensions	<u>-54,300</u>
<b>BUDGET TOTAL:</b>	<b><u>\$288,946</u></b>

**Fund 12 Detail: c. Staff Compensation – Conference  
Conference Personnel Committee Staff Salaries and Expenses**

**SENIOR STAFF**

Administrative Assistant to Bishop	\$ 96,753
Director of Connectional Ministries	96,753
Director of Ministerial Services	81,153
Director of Communications	74,780
	<u>\$ 349,439</u>

**PROFESSIONAL STAFF**

Director of Ministries with Young People	\$ 73,000
Advocate Editor	58,040
Director of Mission Development	55,000
Team Leader for Strengthening the Black Church/Religion & Race	37,108
Team Leader for Safe Sanctuaries	24,000
Team Leader for Congregations for Children	15,000
Total Professional Staff	<u>\$ 262,148</u>
Less: Funded by UM PACT Risk Management Fee	<u>-24,000</u>
Net Subtotals: Professional Staff	<u>\$ 238,148</u>

**SUPPORT STAFF**

Connectional Ministries Administrative Secretary	\$ 37,500
Ministerial Services Administrative Secretary	35,000
Receptionist and AV Librarian	35,362
Database Administrative Secretary	32,000
Subtotals: Salaries	<u>\$ 727,449</u>

**OTHER BENEFITS/ALLOWANCES**

Payroll Taxes	\$ 30,546
Pensions/Death Benefits (Lay employees)	48,922
Health Insurance	59,040
Reimbursable Business Expenses	83,500
Merit/Cost of Living Raises	15,079
	<u>15,079</u>

**BUDGET TOTAL:****\$964,536**

**Fund 12 Detail: d. Communications Commission**

The Communications Commission's mission is to help The United Methodist Church in Mississippi make disciples of Christ by providing excellent communications resources, guidance, and training. In 2008, the commission wants to expand its efforts to reach the unchurched by awarding \$500 Igniting Ministry welcoming seed grants to a church in each district twice a year (back-to-school and Advent) and placing Igniting Ministry "open hearts, open doors, open minds" messages across the state. Communications will also offer additional training opportunities for local churches, particularly on Web ministry, and continue to promote and interpret conference ministries through video, print, and Web resources.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$100,000**

a. Equipment/Software	\$ 6,000
b. Web & Technical Support	\$ 12,000
c. Workshops/Training	\$ 5,000
d. Internet/Intranet/Email Software	\$ 3,000
e. Advertising and Publicity	\$ 3,000
f. Igniting Ministry	\$ 28,060
g. Meetings/Commission Travel	\$ 1,400



h. Licensing	\$ 1,200
i. Promotion of Connectional Giving	\$ 10,500
j. UMAC Dues & Registration	\$ 1,000
k. Graphic Design Contract	\$ 28,840

### ***Fund 13: Congregational Development***

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$687,000**

a. New Church Development	\$ 207,500
b. Revitalization	\$ 367,500
c. Vital Congregations/Schools of Congregational Development	\$ 112,000

#### ***Fund 13 Detail: a. New Church Development***

The establishment of new faith communities is the major calling as Christians. The New Church Development Commission takes this role very seriously. However, recent statistical data reveal that as a denomination and as a conference we have not been very successful in this area of disciple making. For example, the Orchard's 1999 plant in Tupelo was our conference's most recent "successful" church plant.

Research reveals that planting new churches is the most effective and cost-efficient means of disciple making. Therefore, the Council of Bishops, the United Methodist Congregational Developers Network, and many annual conferences (including the Mississippi Annual Conference) have issued a challenge that we make the starting of new churches a major priority of annual conferences.

In Mississippi, we are excited about the planting of new churches in Greenville and Oxford and plans to start a minimum of three per year for the next four years.

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$207,500**

a. Grants	\$ 201,500
b. Meetings	\$ 5,000
c. Administrative	\$ 1,000

#### ***Fund 13 Detail: b. Revitalization***

The mission of the church to make disciples is our calling. However, in the life journey of individual churches, there are often times of both stability and decline. Many churches thus become centers of survival rather than disciple making centers. Inward rather than outward focus of their ministry consumes most of their resources and energy. Churches must then be reminded that an outward focus, ministry to others, is the way to become a vital congregation.

The Office of Congregational Development is assisting the Annual Conference churches in becoming vital disciple making centers. The A2 Indicators Assessment was the first of a four-phase process used to assist churches in their journey. The results of the A2 assessments are being analyzed, and district teams are being assigned to work with various congregations in order for them to become vital disciple-making centers. Lay and clergy leaders are participating in many areas of training as disciples. These include the School of Congregational Development, New Church Planters School, Transformation Leaders School, Conflict Mediation Teams, Congregation Health Ministry Teams, Model Church Mentoring, Coaching, etc.

Congregational Development's Revitalization Committee's task is to assist churches in the process of transformation so that they can reclaim their calling. In the past, this committee assisted churches with financial grants to help them improve their facilities and the committee has tentative commitments until 2010. However, in order to receive the grants, churches must verify that they are in the process of transformation. Future grants will be utilized for leadership development.

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$367,500**

a. Grants	\$ 363,000
b. Meetings	\$ 4,000
c. Administrative	\$ 500

### ***Fund 13 Detail: c.Vital Congregations and School of Congregational Development***

The Office of Congregational Development is assisting the Annual Conference in developing leaders by encouraging churches to become vital disciple making centers. The A2 Indicator Assessment was the first of a four phase process used to assist churches in this journey. The results of the A2 assessments are being analyzed and district teams are being assigned to work with various congregations in order for them to become vital disciple making centers. Local churches, lay and clergy leaders are participating in many areas of training as disciples. These include the School of Congregational Development, New Church Planters School, Pastor's Leadership School, and the Transformation Leaders School. In addition the following are also available to assist churches: Conflict Mediation Teams, Congregational Health Ministry Teams, Model Church Mentoring, Coaching, Vital Congregation Development Training, etc.

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$112,000**

a. Salary Support (consultant)	\$ 25,000
b. Training Events	\$ 85,000
c. Meetings	\$ 1,000
d. Administrative	\$ 1,000

### ***Fund 14: Connectional Ministries***

The Annual Conference is in the process of realigning resources and ministry. In order to provide both accountability and flexibility the Connectional Ministries budget has been reconfigured to more aptly describe how funds will be spent to resource primary areas of responsibility and service. Because the final form of structure is yet to be determined, the budget will be configured in resourcing pools that are based on the past year's expense performances for ministry groups and committees under the Connectional Ministries umbrella.

The seven central areas of service are:

1. Making disciples: The staff and ministry groups for the Annual Conference will center on helping provide the local church tools to make and grow disciples.
2. Leadership development: The resources of Connectional Ministries will be used to train and equip lay and clergy leadership at the Annual Conference, District and local church levels. Special attention will be given to the bishop's initiatives and to needs discovered in the A2 Indicators results.
3. Equipping congregations to serve communities: The Annual Conference will provide training and resources to help the local church serve in their communities and around the world in the name of Christ.
4. Connecting the local church to the district, conference, jurisdictional conference, General Conference, and the larger faith communities: Connectional Ministries will serve as a vessel to facilitate the sharing of resources between the general and local church.
5. Coordinating Annual Conference and implementing actions appropriately: Connectional Ministries will work with the appropriate groups to plan and execute the Annual Conference sessions and provide appropriate reporting and follow up on actions taken.
6. Provide required oversight of Annual Conference camps, community centers, and related institutions.
7. Monitor the diversity and inclusiveness of ministry and leadership throughout the Annual Conference and to provide strategic plans to improve both.

#### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$493,520**

a. Annual Conference	\$ 165,700
b. Grants	\$ 106,870
c. Ministry	\$ 79,000

d. Travel	\$ 45,900
e. Events	\$ 41,250
f. Training	\$ 31,450
g. Resources	\$ 19,300
h. Dues	\$ 1,450
i. Contingency	\$ 2,600

## UM HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT

### *Fund 15: Mississippi Campus Ministries*

The mission of the Higher Education and Campus Ministry Committee is to facilitate the Church's involvement in higher education as a ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The mission is to involve all individuals related to higher education and to influence the direction of institutions of higher education, including speaking a prophetic word. Because life is sacred, the mission involves the whole person: body, mind, and spirit in relation to others and all of God's creation. Toward this end, the final goal of United Methodists' involvement in higher education is the transformation of persons and society into God's image.

The HECM committee provides the salary support for all of our campus ministry units. In 2008 we are planning funding for 25 campus ministers (7 full-time, 2 half-time, 2 quarter-time, and 14 part-time). The committee provides administrative oversight to all 25 campus ministry units and establishes guidelines by which all campus ministry units must operate. The committee works in collaboration with the local Wesley Foundation boards and the Cabinet in regards to personnel matters.

### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$672,838**

a. Committee Expense	\$ 3,000
b. Statewide Wesley Retreat	\$ 5,000
c. Student Movement/Exploration	\$ 5,000
d. Emerging Ministries	\$ 15,000
e. Salaries, Housing, Fringe Benefits	\$ 432,760
f. Campus Ministers Training	\$ 2,000
g. Program Funding	\$ 109,578
h. Property Insurance	\$ 70,000
i. Accounting Review of Wesley Units	\$ 8,000
j. Employee Insurance	\$ 2,500
k. Salary Emerging Issues	\$ 20,000

### **Fund 16: Ministerial Education Fund** **(Apportioned by General Church)**

The Ministerial Education Fund was established by action of the 1968 General Conference as a means of engaging the total membership of the church in an effort to equip conferences, theological schools, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry to meet the need for increased resources for the recruitment and education of persons for ordained ministry. Since 1976, programs related to both diaconal and ordained ministry have been eligible for funding. And, since 1996, programs related to recruitment and education of both deacons and elders have received support.

Significant support is provided for the 13 United Methodist seminaries in the U.S. and global initiatives through GBHEM, as well as local pastor courses of study, continuing education, and other programs that strengthen the ministry of every local church. The 25 percent retained by each annual conference directly supports ministerial education in that conference. If fully funded, Mississippi's share will be \$130,964.

### **BUDGET TOTAL: \$523,857**

### ***Fund 17: Millsaps College***

The apportioned dollars will be used for student scholarships and financial aid to United Methodist students attending the United Methodist-related liberal arts college in Jackson. Higher Education and Campus Ministry has oversight responsibility for the budget request for Millsaps College. Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$400,000**

### ***Fund 18: Black College Fund (Apportioned by General Church)***

The 1972 General Conference established the Black College Fund as one of the apportioned General Church funds. The objective of the fund is to provide financial support for institutions of higher education that historically served the educational needs of black students. More than \$206 million has been raised since the fund was established to assist the programs and ministries of these schools.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$208,597**

### ***Fund 19: Rust College***

Rust College is a historically black United Methodist college in Holly Springs. The apportioned dollars will provide operations support including student scholarships. Higher Education and Campus Ministry has oversight responsibility for the budget request for Rust College. Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 62 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$200,000**

### ***Fund 20: Africa University Fund (Apportioned by General Church)***

Africa University in Old Mutare, Zimbabwe, is the only degree-granting United Methodist university on the continent of Africa. More than 1,200 students from nations across Africa attended the university in the 2006-2007 term. Since opening in 1992, Africa University has produced 2,317 graduates now at work in Africa and the world.

Mississippi has endowed two scholarships at Africa University with Annual Conference offerings in recent years, and Dr. Aubrey Lucas, conference lay leader, has served as treasurer for the university. Numerous groups from the conference have made mission trips to the campus and surrounding area, including a youth trip this May.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$46,065**

## **MS UM CAMPING AND RETREAT CENTERS**

### ***Fund 21: Camp Lake Stephens***

Camp Lake Stephens serves as primary United Methodist camp and retreat setting for north Mississippi. It is located outside of Oxford. The apportionment dollars will be used primarily for salary support. Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office. The Camping Ministries Committee has oversight responsibility for the budget request for Camp Lake Stephens.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$160,000**

### ***Fund 22: Camp Wesley Pines***

Camp Wesley Pines Conference, Retreat and Camping Center serves as the primary United Methodist camp for central Mississippi in a beautiful environment near Gallman. The apportionment dollars will support summer staff salaries, cafeteria food and supplies, and utilities. Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office. The Camping Ministries Committee has oversight responsibility for the budget request for Camp Wesley Pines.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$160,000**

### ***Fund 23: Seashore Assembly***

Seashore Assembly serves as the primary encampment for the Coast region. Although seriously damaged by Hurricane Katrina, it has been a hub for relief and rebuilding efforts in the aftermath of Katrina. The apportionment dollars will be used for ongoing operations. Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office. The Camping Ministries Committee has oversight responsibility for the budget request for Seashore Assembly.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$125,000**

### ***Fund 24: Wood Institute***

Wood Institute in Mathiston provides retreat facilities, programming and leadership training for clergy and laity focusing primarily on rural and small membership churches. Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office. The Camping Ministries Committee has oversight responsibility for the budget request for Wood Institute. The apportionment dollars will be used for utilities and compensation.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$100,000**

### ***Fund 25: Gulfside Assembly***

Gulfside Assembly located in Waveland is supported with other members of the jurisdiction. Total destruction of the facilities in Hurricane Katrina has caused the board to work with consultants to determine the future for this historic mission. The property is currently providing a location for hurricane recovery efforts. Audits/ financial reports in compliance with the CFA requirements beginning on page 63 are available for review in the conference treasurer's office. The Camping Ministries Committee has oversight responsibility for the budget request for Gulfside Assembly.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$40,000**

## **UM GENERAL/JURISDICTIONAL**

### ***Fund 26: Episcopal Fund (Apportioned by General Church)***

The Episcopal Fund, raised in accordance with *Discipline* paragraph 817.3, provides for the salary and expenses of effective bishops from the date of their consecration and for the support of retired bishops and surviving spouses and minor children of deceased bishops. The Episcopal Fund provides for the operation of the Mississippi Area office. Funding in the amount of \$10,000 helps provide for the Episcopal Residence.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$421,533**

***Fund 27: General Administration Fund  
(Apportioned by General Church)***

The General Administration Fund (*Discipline* paragraph 813) finances the General Church agencies that are specifically administrative as contrasted with programmatic, missional, or ecumenical. These include the General Council on Finance and Administration, General Commission on Archives and History, and Judicial Council.

The fund also provides interpretation resources and the quadrennial General Conference.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$141,892**

***Fund 28: Southeastern Jurisdiction Programming***

Mississippi and the 14 other conferences in the SEJ fund these jurisdictional expenses: Jurisdictional Conference, Jurisdictional Administrative Council, Lake Junaluska Assembly, Protestant Radio and Television Center in Atlanta and expenses of the jurisdictional conference committees. Lake Junaluska Assembly is a year-round retreat and conference center for the jurisdiction. It provides a program of conferences, retreats, workshops, and events to equip and inspire persons for ministry in their local church, district, and conference.

Lake Junaluska is the home of the Intentional Growth Center and World Council of Methodism headquarters. Other jurisdiction programs and ministries enabled by our support are the Hinton Rural Life Center, Gulfside Assembly, SEJ United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, Ethnic Minority Local Church, SEJ Native American Ministries, and SEJ Methodist Association of Rehabilitation.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$126,708**

***Fund 29: Interdenominational Cooperation Fund  
(Apportioned by General Church)***

The Interdenominational Cooperation Fund provides basic support for ecumenical agencies through which the United Methodist Church participates in God's mission in cooperation with other Christian communions.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$41,375**

***Fund 30: Lake Junaluska Levee Renovation Project***

The Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in session July 14-18, 2004, received the following amended recommendation from SEJ Conference Committee on Finance. "We recommend the establishment of a special asking known as Lake Junaluska Dam and Lake Restoration Fund be made at the rate of \$.50 for each member of each annual conference in the Southeastern Jurisdiction." These funds would be paid to the SEJ Administrative Council for the maintenance and restoration of the facilities at Lake Junaluska. The funds are to be paid over the 2005-2008 quadrennium.

We have paid \$24,342 and anticipate the same amount this year. Our membership at the end of 2004 was 189,369, yielding an apportionment of \$94,685. The 2008 apportionment should be \$32,000 to complete our payment of the asking. We will probably need to apportion an amount to complete the payment in 2009 of approximately \$21,659.

**BUDGET TOTAL: \$32,000**





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# CORRECTIONS

To publish a volume of this size and detail without errors is virtually impossible. Would you please assist us by notifying us of any errors which should be corrected before the next edition?

Your cooperation in calling this to our attention is both appreciated and helpful. Please forward your suggestions on how the Journal can be more useful and beneficial to you.

## CORRECTION NOTIFICATION AND SUGGESTIONS

On page \_\_\_\_\_, which reads \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Should be corrected to read: \_\_\_\_\_

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Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**TEAR FROM JOURNAL AND RETURN TO:  
LARRY WHITE / P.O. BOX 278 / WIGGINS, MS 39577**

Notes:



## GENERAL BOARDS AND AGENCIES

### **Archives and History**

P.O. Box 127, Madison  
NJ 07940  
201-822-2826 or 2787

### **Church and Society**

100 Maryland Ave., N.E.  
Washington, DC 20002-5664  
202-488-5636

### **Council on Ministries**

601 Riverview Ave  
Dayton, OH 45406-5543  
937-227-9400

### **Finance and Administration**

1 Music Circle North  
P.O. Box 340029  
Nashville, TN 37203-0029  
1-866-367-4232

### **Higher Education and Ministry**

P.O. Box 871  
Nashville, TN 37202-0871  
615-340-7400

### **Religion and Race**

110 Maryland Ave., N.E. #48  
Washington, DC 20002-5680  
202-547-2271

### **Christian Unity/Interreligious Concerns**

475 Riverside Dr., Rm. 1300  
NY, NY 10115  
212-749-3553

### **UMC Communications**

P.O. Box 320  
Nashville, TN 37202-0320  
615-742-5400

### **Discipleship**

P.O. Box 840  
Nashville, TN 37202-0840  
615-340-7200

### **Global Ministries**

475 Riverside Dr.  
NY, NY 10115  
212-870-3600

### **Pension and Health Benefits**

1201 Davis St.  
Evanston, IL 60201-4190  
847-869-4550 or 1-800-851-7701

### **Status and Role of Women**

P.O. Box 340029  
Nashville, TN 37203-0029  
1-866-367-4232

## 1-800 BOARD AND AGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Free, 800 telephone numbers are available for local church leaders who need answers or information concerning the ministries of the church or actions of the boards and agencies of the church, or who need resources and curriculum for church use.

### **Info-Serve:**

**1-800-251-8140**

M-F, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Central)

### **Local Church Address Line:**

**1-800-874-3211**

### **Upper Room Prayer:**

**1-800-251-2468**

### **Curric-U-Phone:**

**1-800-251-8591**

M-F, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Central)

### **Cokesbury:**

**1-800-672-1789**

### **Moving United Methodists**

**1-800-624-4130**