

## 2017 UNYUMC Annual Conference Daily Notes Saturday June 3, 2017

- **Worship led by Young People**

At the Young People Worship on June 3, various young adults emphasized the phrase, “God is enough” as well as trusting in God, which are part of the 2017 Annual Conference session’s theme: “Together in Prayer: Trusting that God is Enough.” Former Conference Council on Youth Ministry co-chairs Katie Allen and Elyse Muder took the stage to give an update on CCYM for the past year. They also passed the baton to the new co-chairs — Sam Smith and Maria Schermerhorn. Elyse also took time to thank and present a plaque to the Rev. Ted Anderson, pastor at the Fairport United Methodist Church, for his 35 years of service to CCYM. Emily Lasher and Gabriella Wilson, who went on the 2017 Mission of Peace trip to Nicaragua, gave a brief presentation about their trip as the Mission of Peace offering for the 2018 trip to Cuba was taken. The sermon “Trust: God is Enough” depicted three young people sharing their struggles, followed by scripture relating to the story.

- **Conference celebrates ethnic local churches**

Director of New Faith Communities, the Rev. Dave Masland, honored the Conference’s ethnic local churches and recognized people involved with these churches and communities: The Rev. John Bizimana, Elisia Blades, Tommy Castilla, Pastor Sean Chanthasone, the Rev. Yohang Chun, Luis Cordova, Doris Delgado, Pastor Alfredo Garcia, Diczan Gonzalez, Pastor Olga Gonzalez-Santiago, Irma Iglesias, Scott Johnson, The Rev. Dong Ki Kim, Carlos and Carmen Maldonado, Stephen McKnight, David Morales, Hector Plantation, Cesar Renzha, Hector Rivera, Pastor DJ Robinson, Pastor Jose Rodriguez, Aurea Rosa, the Rev. Carlos Rosa-Laguer, Sai Shwe, Steven Simban, and Pastor Jee Hae Song.

- **Anti-Racism Task Force (ARTF)**

Last July, delegates at the 2016 Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference pledged to work together as United Methodists to fight the scourge of racism. As a result, Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb created an Anti-Racism Task Force for UNY, with 16 members. ARTF member Tereasa Sivers introduced the purpose of the ARTF, citing page 105 in the *Book of Discipline*, which affirms that racism is a sin. Scott Johnson, also an ARTF member spoke about how racism plagues him nearly daily and how it has even afflicted him in Christian settings. Harold Wheat admitted that he has had racist tendencies in the past, but he refers to himself as a “recovering racist” because through prayer and confession, he is transforming to the point where racism no longer holds power over him.

- **UMM Award Presentation**

This year’s Suzanna Wesley Award of Excellence music was presented to Vicki Swanson for her distinctive intellect, unwavering devotion, loyalty, competence, and friendliness. Vicki was surprised; she said, “This is amazing, Thank you so much! I am more than surprised. I am truly shocked.”

- **Advanced Specials**

The list of Advance Specials was presented to the Conference and they were supported. [Click here](#) to see the full list.

- **Resolutions and Petitions**

The remainder of the Resolutions and Petitions were presented to the Conference. [Click here](#) for a full list of the Resolutions and Petitions and their results.

- **The Service of Commissioning and Ordination**

Bishop Webb ended the 2017 session of Annual Conference with the Service of Commissioning and Ordination. This year, there were two commissioners for the work of a deacon (Nancy Elizabeth Dibelius and Rebecca L. Guthrie) and nine commissioners for the work of an elder (Sung Ah Choi, Anna Kathryn Blinn Cole, Patricia M. Hubman, Marilyn Jane Kasperek, Eunice Sunae Kim, Brian P. Lothridge, David Bradley McKinney, Rachel Erin Stuart, and Ruth Rosa Warner). There were three ordinands to the order of a deacon (Molly Joy Turner Golando, Rebecca Lynn Naber, and Carrie Colleen Sturtevant Wolfe) and seven ordinands to the order of an elder (Penny Lee Brink, Abigail Cady Browka, Susan K. Hadley, Derek Hollis Hansen, Gary Mark Kubitz, Phillip Wayne Phaneuf, and Chad Michael Sayers). Also, Yohan Moon’s orders were recognized as the order of an elder. The Ordination and Commissioning Service sermon, *Resources for the Journey*, was delivered by Dr. Junius B. Dotson, The Discipleship Ministries General Secretary; he described the importance of readiness, accountability, and commitment as the commissioners and ordinands move forward on the journey. The offering collected during this service went to the New Faith Community Fund.

To see more coverage of the 2017 Annual Conference session, visit <http://tinyurl.com/AC17news>.