

2016 UNYUMC Annual Conference Daily Notes

Saturday, June 4, 2016

- **Worship by Young People**

An early-morning worship service was led by young people. The service began with speeches by “bishop” JJ Warren, former Conference Council on Youth Ministry (CCYM) Co-Chairs Emily Allen and Maya Smith, and others. After the speeches, there was a spoken word performance by Laurel O’Connor, [Africa 360](#) field coordinator, and Riley O’Flynn. The overall message was to “Stop talking and *DO* something!” The service concluded with those gathered writing down on index cards what action God has called them to do this year, and posting them to a big board at the front of the room.

- **CSRW & CORR Report**

CSRW and CORR gave their final report on Saturday morning, sharing that there was a diverse mix of speakers and participants during reports and worship; however, there was still work to be done in sharing the floor during plenary. Graphs depicting the actual breakdown of speakers are available from the committees upon request.

- **GC Delegation Report**

The Rev. Bill Allen, who served as the head of the UNY delegation for General Conference (GC), provided an overview of GC; he said it was encouraging to realize that the majority of attendees wanted to remain one large *United* Methodist Church. More than anything, he said, “preparing for and attending the GC created strong relational bonds within the delegation.”

- **Episcopal nominations**

The two episcopal nominees were endorsed by the Annual Conference as prospective bishops to go through the process of balloting at the Jurisdictional Conference. The nominees were the Rev. Beckie Sweet and the Rev. Cathy Stengel.

- **Africa 360 culmination**

Africa 360 Field Coordinator, Laurel O’Connor, announced that the Conference raised more than \$773,000 for *Africa 360* – more than \$226,000 for *Imagine No Malaria* and more than \$536,000 for Africa University. Within the Conference, 452 congregations have participated in Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb’s [challenge](#) for each church to bring \$1,000 to AC session for *Africa 360*.

- **Findley Camp & Retreat Center substitute resolution**

Saturday morning, Rev. David Cooke proposed a substitute motion for his motion that was approved on Friday. He resolved, that the Board of Trustees be given the authorization, by the Upper New York Annual Conference, to determine the future use of Findley Camp & Retreat Center, based on the conversations with CRM, other interested UMC Cornerstone District congregations, and other interested Cornerstone District parties. If the participating parties have not defined a mutually acceptable alternative by September 30, 2016 the parties may continue their efforts and the Board of Trustees of the Upper New York Annual Conference, in accordance with paragraph 2516 of *The Book of Discipline*, hereby may sell the property presently occupied by Camp Findley and hold and restrict the proceeds for capital expenditures for other Camp and Retreat Ministries. This substitute motion was supported as amended.

- **Conference budget**

After much deliberation, the Conference budget passed with an added motion for CF&A to lead the production of a narrative budget that includes one paragraph describing the ministry and priorities of each line item in our 2018 ministry share budget for the 2017 Annual Conference to be posted on the UNYAC website at least two weeks prior to the 2017 resolutions and petitions deadline of February 1, 2017. This motion was further amended that through March and April of 2017, there be regional listening and interpretation gatherings for the entire conference.

- **Service of Ordination**

Saturday ended with a service of ordination, in which seven individuals were ordained and four individuals were commissioned.

To see more coverage of the 2016 Annual Conference session, visit <http://tinyurl.com/AC16news>. To see AC16 photos taken on June 4, visit <http://tinyurl.com/AC16-June4photos>.