

## Upper New York Annual Conference 2022

### Daily Notes Friday Oct. 7

- The morning began with an eye-opening study session led by the Rev. Dr. Kim Reisman about how an embrace is the perfect metaphor for evangelism.
- Charles Syms presented the monitoring report of the speakers who came to the floor on Thursday Oct. 6, noting that there was close to an even split of women and men who came to the floor, a large disparity between white people and People of Color who came to the floor (74 vs 13 people) and that many more clergy came to the floor than laity (58 vs 39), noting that the topics were of more interest to clergy.
- The UNY Board of Trustees presented its 2022 report to the annual conference on October 7. The Rev. Pamela Klotzbach, president of the board, presented an overview of the board's work, which includes the purchase, sale and maintenance of Conference properties and managing the Conference's master insurance program. The board also presented resolutions for church closures, church disaffiliations, and an update on the lawsuits brought against the Conference under the Child Victims Act. Fifteen churches were closed, eight churches were approved for disaffiliation, and the full report was adopted.
- UNYAC2022.4—A Call to Sisters and Brothers leaving the United Methodist Church, was presented, and supported by 70.3% of the body.
- UNYAC2022.5: Creation 1 of a Buffalo 10 Scholarship, was presented, and supported 93.6 percent of the body
- After lunch, Ian Urriola presented the nominations report; 98.2 % of the body approved of individuals on each Conference level committee. 97.4 % of the body approved of the individuals on each District committee. A recommendation was made to amend the Organizational Rules (OR) of the UNY Conference, found on page 157 of the *2021 UNY Conference Journal Vol. II*, by adding a new paragraph about limiting the membership of Conference agencies. Because this involves changing an OR; it requires a 2/3 vote; this recommendation was supported by 71% of the Conference body. A second recommendation was made to amend the OR of the UNY Conference, found on page 157 of the *2021 UNY Conference Journal Vol. II*, adding that people who served two or more full-length terms may be invited by Nominations and Leadership Development (NLD) team to continue service as emeritus status, with voice and no vote; this recommendation was supported by 75.1% of the Conference body. A third recommendation was made to amend the OR on page 157 of the *2021 UNY Conference Journal Vol. II* about vacancies, stating that if there is a vacancy NLD can recommend a person to fill the vacancy and if they serve as half the term or more, they are considered to have served a full term. An amendment was presented to add "in consultation with the team in need of filling the vacancy after the Committee on NLD; this amendment was supported by 82.1% of the body. Recommendation 3 with the amendment was supported by 87.3% of the body. A fourth recommendation was presented to amend the OR on page 159 of the *2021 UNY Conference Journal Vol. II*, adding that Chairperson of the Rules Committee shall serve ex-officio with vote CORR, COSROW, CONAM, Conference Hispanics Ministries Team, the Conference Committee on Disability Concerns, The Conference Council on Older Adult Ministries, CCYM, and the Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries may each send one member, to be determined by the organizational meeting, to serve on this team ex-officio with vote." This recommendation was supported by 82.6% of the body. The Nominations Report in its entirety was supported by 93% of the body.
- The Council of Finance & Administration (CF&A) presented the 2023 Ministry Share Budget, noting that even after reducing spending in many Ministry Areas, the overall budget is \$275,000 more than the 2022 budget, mainly because of the need to increase salaries that have remained flat for many years. The budget was supported by 95.3% of the body. The CF&A Report was supported by 98.9% of the body.
- The day ended with Memorial Service, held at Liverpool UMC and livestreamed, celebrating clergy and clergy spouses who have passed away since the last Annual Conference. The Rev. Rhonda Kouterick delivered the message. She used Jeremiah 8:22 and John 14 to show guests where they can find in healing and hope in their time of grief.
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