# - Teaching

After opening worship, the Saturday session began with a learning session lead by the Rev. Dr. Giovanni Arroyo, General Secretary GCORR, titled "Intercultural Disciple Leaders." He asked conference attendees to reflect on their own culture and identities to help understand preconceptions we bring to ministry to be better disciples. "An intercultural leader is able to recognize that one's culture is not the only cultural reality," he said, "that we have one understanding while another person may have a different cultural reality and perspective, and that those different cultural perspectives and realities does not create the polarization mindset they are inferior or superior to me."

## - Service of passage

Retired clergypersons were honored during a service of passage. A symbolic mantle was passed via representatives from the bishop to retired clergy to newly ordained clergy to commissioned clergy to local pastors to certified lay ministers. The names of those retired can be found <u>here</u>. District Superintendents read the new appointments in their districts. The full list of appointments is <u>on our website</u>.

## - Black College Fund

The Conference celebrated the Black College Fund with a message from Jalen Lawson, Black College Fund ambassador for the General Board of Higher Education, who spoke about her experience at the HBCU Bennett College in North Carolina. She thanked the United Methodist Church, United Women in Faith, and the United Methodists of Upper New York for their support.

## - Petitions

Recommendation A-9 "Request to Allocate the Cost of the Child Victims Act Legal Fees and Settlement Costs" was replaced with a substitute motion for a committee to further discern the allocations, which passed.

UNYAC23.1 supported with amendment UNYAC23.2 with editorial amendment passed UNYAC23.3 with editorial amendment passed UNYAC23.4 with editorial amendment was not supported Recommendation "Naming Scholarships for Africa University" supported Time expired before the Conference could vote on subsequent petitions

### - Closing

After voting on the final recommendation, Bishop Burgos Núñez asked Conference Secretary the Rev. Carolyn Stow to move to adjourn the meeting. The Rev. Stow moved to adjourn until the virtual special session on October 14, 2023, and then from May 30 to June 1, 2024, for the next regular session of Annual Conference.