

SECTION 2: CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES AND MINISTRIES OF NURTURE

All sections were approved by the indicated votes and were included in the consent calendar affirmative vote. The votes shown are those from the legislative section for each item.

CAMPING AND RETREAT MINISTRY (CRM)

Greg Nissen, Acting Executive Director

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

Executive Summary

101. The Camping and Retreat Ministry (CRM) operates three properties (Epworth, Kingswood and Quinipet) that serve thousands of United Methodists and others. Epworth and Quinipet found it necessary to do capital improvements totaling \$2,127,000 over the period 2006 to 2010. As a result, the CRM borrowed approximately \$1.1 million from the New York Annual Conference (NYAC) and another \$248,000 in a commercial line of credit.
102. At this time, the NYAC has requested repayment of \$850,000 of the \$1.1 million in order to fulfill its financial obligations. In addition, the CRM intends to pay off and close the line of credit.
103. Bishop Park established the Bishop's Camping Task Force, which has conducted a review of this matter as well as the CRM's operations, and concluded that the CRM should obtain interim bank financing, collateralized by a mortgage on one of the properties, Camp Quinipet, in order to partially repay CRM indebtedness to NYAC and close the line of credit. In addition, the Task Force will consider ways to operate another of the properties, Camp Epworth, where the operating deficit must be reversed, or, as a last resort, to determine if the property should be sold in whole or in part.
104. Set forth in the Corporate Resolutions area of this document are two resolutions which authorize: 1) the acquisition of \$1.1 million in term debt collateralized by a mortgage on Quinipet; and 2) further investigation and decision-making by the Bishop's Camping Task Force regarding the operational direction of the CRM's Epworth facilities, to improve cash flow or sell the property to repay the \$1.1 million in term debt.

Mission and Context

105. The Camping and Retreat Ministry of the New York Annual Conference offers natural settings where all are welcome. Experience and respect for God's creation connect people in an oasis of Christian community and adventure which invite spiritual growth.
106. The Camping and Retreat Ministry operates three properties across the lower part of New York State: Epworth Center, Kingswood Campsite and Quinipet Camp and Retreat Center. The Governing Board oversees the operation, maintenance and capital improvements at all three sites.

107. Camp Property Profiles		Kingswood	Quinipet
Location	High Falls, NY	Hancock, NY	Shelter Island, NY
Value/Size	\$1,300,000, 166 Acres	\$2,681,000, 766 acres	\$28,000,000, 25.6 acres
Program Participation			
	Retreat Programming	Family Camping	Retreat Center Facilities
	Dianova USA Leadership Training School	Intergenerational Camping	Day Camp
	Environmental Education –	Outdoor Sports and Recreation	Community Sailing Program
		Woodsmoke Sleep-away Camp	Traditional Sleep-Away Camp
		Green Building	
Financial Statistics			
Ave Ann Rev	\$279,000	\$65,000	\$1,178,000
Ave Ann Program Gain/Loss:	(\$39,000)	\$3,700	\$97,000
Fixed asset additions since 2006	\$370,000	\$109,000	\$1,648,000
Due NYAC - 12/2010	\$416,000	\$37,000	\$667,000
Commercial Lending	\$80,000	0	\$261,000
	Site Administrator: Stephanie Sharp	Volunteer Director: Cheryl Winship	Acting Executive Director: Gregory Nissen
	Facility Manager: Perry Sharp	Woodsmoke Director: Julie Wityk	Site Administrator: Lauren Laviola
	P-T Food Service Mngr	Family Camp Program: Holly Moore	Program Specialist: Joseph Young
	P-T Pool & Program Mngr		Food Service Manager: Chris Baer
			P-T School Group Coordinator, Food Service & Maintenance Workers
			60 Seasonal Camp Counselors, Sailors, & Educators

108. In 2010, Bishop Park formed a Task Force consisting of members of the following NYAC bodies: Bishop's Cabinet, NYAC Administrative Staff, Conference Board of Trustees, Conference Council on Finance and Administration and the Governing Board of the Camping and Retreat Ministry (CRM). The task is to deal with the current debt of the CRM derived mainly from expenditures on deferred maintenance and capital improvements and to determine the best way to operate efficiently and serve the mission going forward.
109. Within the denomination of the UMC, youth and family populations are shrinking, and traditional operating patterns of the CRM must adapt accordingly. The three sites vary greatly in usage demographics, facilities and infrastructure. Both Epworth and Quinipet have a large number of seasonal, 3-season and year-round buildings. Kingswood has only one year-round building (the Farmhouse) and 4 other buildings that are summer use only. Epworth and Quinipet have paid program and maintenance staff, some of whom live onsite. Kingswood is run mainly by a volunteer site committee that maintains and manages the property, with a mixture of volunteer and paid staff for summer programs.
110. Kingswood offers a small overnight youth camp annually that comprises 2 one-week sessions serving approximately 65 children over both weeks. The remaining 8-week season is open for family camping in 14 equipped sites and separate areas for tent, trailer and RV camping. The farmhouse is open for retreats during the off-season.
111. Quinipet provides administrative oversight for the CRM. The summer overnight camping program geared toward UM children and youth operates for 6 weeks and serves 400-500 campers annually. Quinipet's other summer programs – a very large day camp and community sailing program- both subsidize the cost of the sleep-away camp. Off-season programs include near-capacity UM and non-profit retreat bookings and public and private school environmental education.
112. Epworth has operated or hosted a day camp and is open year-round for church and non-profit retreat usage.
113. Epworth's overnight summer camping program was discontinued in 2005, due to dwindling demand and the lack of additional programming to subsidize summer camp and help keep costs low.

How is the Camp Ministry Funded?

114. Kingswood operates on a small (\$65,000) annual budget that is break-even. Every few years, needed capital expenditures are funded by harvesting timber on the 766-acre property and through small fundraising campaigns among its loyal constituency of about 500 individuals and families.
115. Quinipet has a long history and enjoys heavy usage by UM churches and organizations on Long Island. Further, it is located near and offers programs for the wealthy communities of Shelter Island and the Hamptons. These constituent users give generously. In addition, the school environmental programs and retreat usage in the offseason have generated a surplus over the last 5 years that has been reinvested in maintenance and capital improvements averaging approximately \$97,000 annually.
116. Epworth does not currently enjoy a broad or wealthy constituent user base and program losses average about \$39,000 annually. Its facilities and infrastructure are in need of upgrades and improvements, which could make the camp more appealing to prospective users and erase this deficit.

117. In 2005, the CRM implemented a unified accounting system and in 2006, began auditing its accounting records. The consolidation clearly showed the ongoing loss the program was incurring as a result of deferred maintenance issues, which were becoming emergent. The large cash infusions required were beyond the CRM's ability to cover through program fees and annual giving. The deteriorating conditions of Epworth and Quinipet were distorting the true operating costs of the camp properties, and the Camps Governing Board determined the need for a capital campaign. A fundraising firm was hired to do a feasibility study and subsequently recommended a capital campaign to raise \$2.3 million. The Camps Governing Board worked with the firm for three years, with disappointing results, and is currently in litigation to recover a portion of the funds expended on fees charged by the firm.
118. Although the capital campaign was unsuccessful, the need for maintenance and capital improvements continued, and \$2,127,000 has been expended on capital improvements from 2006 to 2010. Through 2010, approximately \$1,120,000 was borrowed from the Annual Conference, and \$248,000 was borrowed from a commercial lending source. In January 2011, the Conference Trustees released \$125,000 to replace the roof on the Dining Hall at Epworth and repair damaged infrastructure inside the building, with a request to be reimbursed as soon as possible. Despite the failure of the capital campaign, the additional needed funds were raised from many of you reading this report and other constituents and user populations. We praise God for those gifts and for the churches and individuals who believed in the mission of the CRM and supported our efforts.

Bishop's Camping Task Force Recommendation on Mortgage Resolution

119. The purpose of the mortgage resolution is to authorize financing in the amount of \$1.1 million secured by a mortgage on the Quinipet property to partially reimburse the NYAC advances for capital improvements and close the higher interest commercial line of credit.

Debt Service Viability

120. The scheduled repayment of the incurred debt will be funded by CRM operations and timber harvest proceeds initially. After that, additional capital needs will arise, stressing the CRM's ability to carry such a mortgage. Therefore, the Task Force will explore ways to make the CRM properties more profitable in order to sustain ongoing repayment of the mortgage note. Alternative scenarios may include partial or complete sale of the Epworth property in order to repay the note in its entirety and anticipate future capital requirements.

Bishop's Camping Task Force Recommendation on Epworth Center

121. By way of context, approximately \$400,000 of the current debt is held by Epworth. Over the next 2 – 3 years, Epworth needs to make additional capital improvements at a cost of approximately \$200,000 just to continue operations at status quo. In order for Epworth to become a thriving retreat center, an additional investment of approximately \$300,000 would be required in the near future. A strong business plan is needed to guide operations so that operating costs are fully covered and to improve the value of the accommodations for users, thereby allowing us to increase fees accordingly. If the Task Force concludes it is not possible to operate Epworth at a surplus to help repay the mortgage, it would be necessary to consider its sale.

122. The purpose of the Epworth Center resolution is to: 1) authorize the Task Force to explore the profitable usage of Epworth, including but not limited to, entering into a contract to lease the property to an outside group, such as a college or other non-profit organization, which would help to fund operations as well as needed capital improvements; 2) authorize the Task Force to act on opportunities to use the property in non-traditional income-producing ways; and 3) sell all or part of the Epworth property, if such reasonable offer was presented and the CRM's viability was in serious financial jeopardy.

Closing Thoughts

123. The two resolutions (listed in the Corporate Resolutions section) will be presented for vote at Annual Conference 2011 in June. The CRM's mission and programs are highly valued by thousands of United Methodists and others. Over the last five years, the CRM has been adapting to the changing needs, expectations and demographics of our constituents. The Sessions Woods Darling Fund has been available for emergency capital needs and planned capital improvements, such as to the Dining Hall at Quinipet and the renamed Sessions Lodge at Epworth. Funds to pay the capital campaign consultant also came from this Fund. The current balance is approximately \$136,000. Any funds recovered by the CRM as a result of pending litigation would be returned to the Sessions Darling Fund to serve as an endowment fund for the future, as it has in the past.
124. At this time, the CRM celebrates the coming summer season. We celebrate the 2010 completion of The George and Sue Klein Welcome Center at Quinipet, including the necessary new infirmary and administration offices for Quinipet and the CRM. Also in 2010, Sessions Lodge, an adult retreat building at Epworth, was completed. Kingswood is planning to restore the man made dam to improve the lake and will open an access-friendly equipped camp site to welcome campers with limited mobility this summer. The improvements for Kingswood will be funded by a pending timber harvest.
125. On behalf of the Bishop's Task Force and the Camping and Retreat Ministry, thank you for taking the time to read this report and for your thoughtful consideration of the information presented. We ask for your prayers and the opportunity to answer your questions. We implore you to use and recommend our camps often, make suggestions for change, and to support these two resolutions with your vote at Annual Conference in June.
126. Questions about this report can be sent to Greg Nissen, Acting Executive Director, Camping and Retreat Ministries, gwnissen@hotmail.com / 631.749.0430 x12 / Wed. of Annual Conference in the Arena Area

Task Force Membership:

Rev. Jeremiah J. Park, Resident Bishop

Cabinet Representation:

Rev. Dennis Winkleblack, Assistant to Bishop Park

Rev. Jeannette Bashinger-Ishii, DS NY/CT, Cabinet Rep. to Trustees

Rev. Ann Pearson, Connectional Ministries

Rev. James Moore, DS Cat/Hud, Liaison to Camps Governing Board

Ross Williams, Conference Treasurer

Conference Trustees:

Joyce Palevitz, Chair; Rev. John Carrington, Member

Conference Council on Finance & Administration:

Rev. Tim Riss, President
Margaret Howe, Vice President
Rev. Steve Phillips, Member

Camp & Retreat Ministry Governing Board:

Betty Gastelua, Chair
Beth Ann Graf, Vice Chair
Marilyn Van Tine, Secretary
Gregory Nissen, Acting Executive Director
Mary Jones, Member/Epworth Rep.
Arnold Jones, Member/Epworth Rep.
Julie Wityk, Member/Kingswood Rep.
Carl Pallokat, Member/Quinipet Rep.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Lynda Gomi, Consultant

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. In 2010 with the support of the Connectional Ministries Office and the Perkins Foundation, Children's Ministries celebrated the first year of Vacation Bible School (VBS) on the Road. This new program was designed as an evangelism tool for churches to intentionally design programs that would build on connections made during summer VBS and link to fall programming.
102. Churches that participated in the VBS on the Road program were: Salem UMC, Danbury UMC, Monticello UMC, New Milford UMC and Westhampton UMC. The VBS staff from each church worked with Quinipet staff and Connectional Ministry consultants for a galactic adventure of cosmic proportions! Thanks and great gratitude to Quinipet staff members led by Thomas Gantt with Kohei Ando (Monticello), Aimee Vachon and Amanda Graff (New Milford), Sarah Ash and Shannon Voelkel (Westhampton).
103. Also, in conjunction with VBS on the Road, a VBS workshop, Galactic Blast: A Cosmic Adventure Praising God, was held in eight locations across the Conference to help teachers prepare for VBS and a VBS tips blog was initiated. Many thanks to our workshop leaders and consultants: Elizabeth Christie, Maxine Harris, Deb Mecca, Ann Pearson and Joe Young.
104. Teacher training workshops are held in the fall to encourage Sunday school teachers to embrace the interactive teaching style familiar to their students in order to make stronger connections with their students. Churches interested in hosting a teacher training workshop at any time of the year can contact me at lgomi@nyac.com.
105. Sunday school materials are made available for preview in the Learning Center as are magazines and seasonal material with worship, activity and craft ideas.

COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

Rev. Vicki I Flippin

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. Our Annual Conference supports and nurtures college students and seminarians of all ages through the Commission on Higher Education and Campus Ministry.

We support the work of campus ministers across our Annual Conference, and through the New York Education Society, we oversee the scholarship and loan opportunities made available through the Annual Conference and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

102. There are seven campus ministries supported by the New York Annual Conference. Four of the eight are ecumenical Protestant ministries. These four are: Rev. Ralph Merante at SUNY New Paltz; The Long Island United Campus Ministries (LIUCM), an umbrella organization for campus ministries at Long Island colleges and universities; SUNY Delhi (Rev. Martha Vink); and Western Connecticut State University (Rev. Mark Horton). Three are based out of United Methodist congregations: Westside Campus Ministry (Church of St Paul & St Andrew, Manhattan, Siobhan Sargent); Yale Methodist Fellowship (First & Summerfield, New Haven, Rev. Sara Lamar-Sterling) and United Church of Westville campus ministry (Rev. Won-Guen Kang). If your congregation would like to get started in this important ministry, please contact the Commission. We are happy to resource others who seek to reach out to students, faculty and staff at the higher education institutions within the bounds of the NYAC. A limited amount of funding is possible.

103. The New York Education Society administers our Annual Conference scholarships to support students from our Annual Conference who may not be eligible for aid from the General Board of Higher Education & Ministry (GBHEM), since those scholarships are geared towards United Methodist-related colleges and universities. This committee is chaired by Dr. J. Elizabeth Clark. The NY Education Society Fund is managed by GBHEM. The New York Education Society Scholarship disbursed \$14,000 in scholarship funds in 2010, for the 2010-2011 academic year. We were proud to have eight NYES Fellows this year, who were each awarded \$1200 scholarships. They were:

- Jonathan Brito (St. Paul and St. Andrew UMC),
- Kimberly Elizabeth Brown (Butler UMC),
- Donna J. Fringuello-Girot (Nichols UMC),
- Preet Korani (Community UMC),
- Julia Madden (St. Paul and St. Andrews UMC),
- Carla Esther Phillips (UMC of Pleasantville),
- Emma Rose Sanborn (St. James UMC), and
- Amanda Yau (Chinese UMC).

In 2010, we also had three NYES Scholars, who each received \$800. These were:

- Paul John (St. Mark's UMC),
- Jelani Magliore (Butler UMC), and
- Brandon Samuel (Butler Memorial UMC).

We also awarded four book grants of \$500 each to:

- Deonne Beverly John (St. Mark's UMC),
- Sushil Purushotham (Community UMC),
- Justin Cecil Thompson-Gee (Poughkeepsie UMC), and
- Andrew Yau (Chinese UMC).

104. The United Methodist Student Day offering is an essential way to support our Conference Merit Scholarship program. A rebate from this offering funds our Conference Merit Scholarship, which was awarded to Emily Peck-McClain

from St. Paul and St. Andrew UMC, who is pursuing her doctorate at Duke Divinity School. If your congregation doesn't usually participate in UM Student Day, encourage them to do so. It's a great way to assist students of all ages with the monumental task of paying for their educations. In addition, participating in World Communion Sunday offerings supports the Crusade Scholarship program of the General Board of Higher Education & Ministry. We encourage all NYAC churches to support these scholarship offerings to help educate the next generation of United Methodist leaders in our churches and our communities. Thank you for your support.

105. Many thanks to the members of the Commission for their commitment to students of all ages and to higher education in our Annual Conference. Your time and attention are greatly valued.

CONFERENCE MINISTRIES VISION TABLE

Ann A. Pearson – Director of Connectional Ministries

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. For Annual Conference, 2010, we continued the Quadriennial Theme, "For Such a Time as This." The secondary theme was, "We are Heart-Warmed Methodists," taking one of four phrases in the Conference Vision Statement. Each year of this quadriennium celebrates the four principles of our Conference Vision Statement.
102. A highlight for the Conference this year was the Conference-wide invitation by Bishop Park to gather for the Saturday that concluded the conference. Five thousand, five hundred people joined together for the Festival of Ministries. Three display tents, food and entertainment were featured Saturday morning, followed by an amazing on-stage program in the afternoon. Imagine the arena filled with 5,500 voices singing "How Great Thou Art"! A banner parade of 80 plus churches brought cheers and celebration. Bishop Park surprised us with 120 push-ups! We thank the members of the Sessions Committee, Hofstra University staff and the 600 volunteers who worked on Saturday morning for a memorable Annual Conference.
103. We are pleased to announce that 13,000 health kits were transported to Mission Central in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania for distribution to Haiti by UMCOR.
104. Seventy-eight displays were counted in the interactive ministries area. Thank you to all those who displayed not only for your presence, but also for your passion for ministry.
105. We were glad to welcome Good News TV as our audio/video team for 2010. GNTV will continue to be our technology team for the next 5 years.
106. The work of the Connectional Ministries Vision Table (CMVT) continues to prioritize its ministry in line with the Conference Vision Statement, adopted in 2006. To "build up a healthy body of Christ."
107. The Vision Table was asked to host the work areas for the Four Areas of Focus adopted by the Council of Bishops: Engaging in Ministry with the Poor; Stamping Out the Killer Diseases of Poverty by Improving Health Globally; Creating New Places for New People; and Renewing Existing Congregations.
108. The Office of Connectional Ministries partnered with the Frontier Foundation to present six Clergy Tax Seminars in March. Thanks to Keith Muhman and the host churches for their splendid participation.

109. Natural Church Development was introduced to the Annual Conference in 2006. By the fall of 2010, 104 local churches have taken surveys to begin the NCD process toward Healthy Churches. The 20 churches that have completed follow-up surveys have made extraordinary progress in areas identified for improvement. The Web site for the Natural Church Development is www.ncd-international.org.
110. The summer of 2010 began the first VBS on the Road. Churches were selected to participate in a partnership with the Office of Connectional Ministries for a week of Vacation Bible School. Criteria were met, including a demographic that supports year-round Sunday School. VBS team leaders continue to coach the host church for one year following the On the Road Event. Our thanks to host churches and our team leaders, especially *Lynda Gomi* – our Children’s Consultant. Funding for the VBS on the Road was provided by the Rev. Bill Perkins Fund for the Learning Center. Our thanks to the Perkins Family for their continued support.
111. We want to thank *THE VISION* editor, *Joanne Utley*, for her work. In conjunction with *Barbara Eastman*, our Webmaster, the online communications of the New York Annual Conference has developed beyond all expectations. In addition the E-mail newsletter of the Office of Connectional Ministries reaches 4,100 people weekly with the latest information from around the Conference. If you are not receiving the e-news – well, why not! Contact apearson@nyac.com.
112. *Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie* continues to bring energy and passion in *Mission and Outreach* to the Office of Connectional Ministries. International Volunteers in Mission from the New York Conference are involved in remarkable life-changing work. Joseph continues to train folks in the area of Disaster Relief. He travels with his message of mission when invited by local churches or districts. Joseph’s “Going for the Gold” program has brought outstanding response throughout the Conference. Are you wearing the mission hat?
113. *Rev. Jim Stinson* continues to serve as consultant for *Older Adult Ministries*. He has led district, cluster and local church seminars and is currently writing a very popular online column for *Older Adult Ministries* in *THE VISION*.
114. *Lynda Gomi* serves a dual role as Children’s Consultant and Learning Center Consultant. She continues to work with local churches upon request and has presented cluster and district workshops. Safe Sanctuaries is an important component of the training for Children’s Ministries. A special thanks to *Rev. Beth Perry* for her dedication to this important ministry. Please note that the catalogue of Learning Center resources is available online at www.nyac.com.
115. The Budget Committee of Conference Vision Table continues to adjust its budget to reflect the encouragement of new initiative ministries while supporting active committees. We are thankful for the work of *Rev. George Engelhardt* as Stewardship Consultant.
116. *Rev Arturo Maine* continues as our Hispanic Consultant. His dedication to building ministry has been gratefully appreciated by the Hispanic community.
117. *Neal Bowes* continues to consult in the area of Youth Ministries. Our special thanks to the Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM) under the leadership of 35 amazing youth and adult sponsors led by *Rev. Tisha Jermin*. They continue to sponsor IGNITE annually as well as worship leadership for the Bishop’s Confirmation Rally. Check out the Youth Web site www.umyouth.com.

118. My office could not function without my administrative assistant, *Jean Strong*. She is the “bring-order-out-of-chaos,” “how-to,” “where-is-it,” multi-tasking “go-to” person for Connectional Ministries! Thank you, Jean!
119. As director of Connectional Ministries, it is my role to be a “listener” around the Conference, to respond to the educational needs raised by committees, boards, the Cabinet and to be ever aware of the sparks of a new idea that may be developed into amazing ministry. It is my role as DCM to work with the vision of our Bishop Park, Cabinet and the Conference Vision Statement, toward a preferred future of ministry.

I continue to celebrate what God is doing through The United Methodist Church and the pockets of superb ministry that I encounter. I see evidence of “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors” everywhere I go! “We are the people of The United Methodist Church.”

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES — CATSKILL HUDSON DISTRICT

Donna L Jolly, Chair

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The Catskill Hudson District was busy in 2010. We always feel blessed by God as we look around at the beauty and joy of each season. Especially we are grateful for the roof over our heads and the warmth of heating and cooling systems. Thank you God!
102. We are getting so good at celebrating the love and joy of being a United Methodist Christian Community. We had a great Camp Meeting/District Conference in May at Camp Epworth. Rev. Moore is getting really great at having a very short meeting, but not too short. Many people were recognized for their accomplishments including our new Lay Speakers and Emergency Response Team members. The churches who participated in Faith in Action Sunday, and were able to send in photos of what they did, were able to see them projected on the screen that ran most of the day. Rev. Moore also put together a slide show of all the churches in the District and that was shown as part of the loop. We were excited to our church on the big screen and other churches in the District. It was fun to see all the “Homes in Our District Community.”
103. October was the Festival of Praise music celebration. We had over 80 singers plus a children’s choir, a gospel group, and liturgical dancers. Our very talented duo teamed up again for an original hymn written for the occasion. The pièce de résistance was the presence of our Singing Bishop!! What a glorious time!!!
104. Instead of two large District training events we tried single events. Lay leaders held four workshops for pastors and lay leaders and Rethink Church-Worship workshop in Catskill UMC with Jorge Lockward. The attendance was great at all the events we hosted this year. The fall training event was postponed, timing was an issue and many other things were happening in the District at the local churches.
105. The Lay Speakers held a very successful Lenten Series with over fifty people attending. There was also a Youth Leadership Training event at Camp Epworth; it was a long 10-hour day with eight youth completing the class (ages 11-17).
106. We sent one youth from our District to Cambodia with the Youth Ambassadors in Mission. They installed a playground, built relationships and shared the love

of Christ with the children in the community. It was an amazing experience for her. She is grateful for the support of our District, for both the prayers and the financial support.

107. We worship, work and celebrate the love of Christ in our churches and outside our churches. We feel blessed to do that in the most beautiful District in the NYAC. Thanks be to God!!

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES — CONNECTICUT DISTRICT

2010/2011 Report for New York Annual Conference

Rev. Heather Sinclair, Chair

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. For the District Council on Ministries of the Connecticut District, the 2010/2011 program year has included several events aimed at connecting churches and ministries.
102. On October 9, 2010, a small group of dedicated runners, including Bishop Jeremiah Park and Ken Kieffer ran in the Hartford Marathon – Race for Mission. All proceeds went to the Bishop’s Partners in Mission. We look forward to finding a smaller venue for this event next year, so as to entice runners of all ages and abilities.
103. In an effort to reach more people, our District Resource Workshops were held on two dates, in two different locations. Mary Taylor UMC in Milford hosted on a Sunday afternoon and New Milford UMC hosted on a Saturday morning. Thank you to both congregations for their radical hospitality. The workshops were attended by a total of 140 people. Workshops included Evangelism, Missions, Youth, SPRC, Parish Nursing, Energy Conservation, Lay Leadership, Safe Sanctuaries, and Visitation Ministry. Thank you to all who were involved in the planning and teaching of the workshops.
104. Several youth events have been planned throughout the year. Thank you to all the leaders, especially Iwy Patel-Yatri, Erin Lafex, and Mike Jenkins who have made these events possible. DCOM is in conversation with youth and youth leaders as to how to create the most effective and exciting youth ministry possible.
105. The District Board of Laity, under the leadership of District Lay Leaders Mitch Underwood and Ximena Varas, has been created to support the laity of our churches.
106. The Lay Speaking Ministries, organized by Mary Brevigleiri, has offered several courses, including “Happiness and Holiness” led by Sara Gould Horne and Jerry Eyster. Twelve new lay speakers have received their certificates and will be recognized at District Conference in May.
107. VIM trips to Haiti continue on monthly basis. And we continue to pray for those who are sent and those who receive the blessings of their service in the name of Jesus. Several of our churches are involved in UMARMY (United Methodist Action Reach-Out Mission for Youth) and other VIM trips.

It has been my joy and privilege to work with so many enthusiastic people from around the CT District. I thank them all for their dedication to being a connectional church, transforming lives in the name of Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God for the creative, spiritual leadership of our District Superintendent, Rev. Ken Kieffer and pray for continued blessings on his ministry.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES — LONG ISLAND EAST DISTRICT**Rev. Gia Lynne Hall, Chair**

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. Blessings to you on behalf of the Long Island East District Council on Ministry. We had a wonderful year of service as the council met monthly at our various churches within our District.
102. Lay Speaking: Our District's annual lay speaker's classes were held this February and March. Many thanks to our dedicated instructors/facilitators: Fred Brewington, Kevin Lloyd, Dave Clark, Deacon Pat Intemaggio, Gloria Burgess, Rev. Gordon Bienvenue, Rev. Gertude Nation, Mr. Peter O'Neill and Rev Lee Gangaware. Our Lay Speakers program continued at Westbury UMC and Lake Ronkonkoma UMC. We had 29 people attending the adult basic class and 17 attending advanced courses. The Youth Lay Speaking Class was held on March 5th and 12th at Grace UMC, Lindenhurst, NY. There were 11.5 hours of instruction for the two days. Our two students were: Kailey Dowd of Bay Shore UMC, 17 years old, and Samantha Strait of East Northport UMC, 15 going on 16. Both girls are very spiritually gifted, sing beautifully and play instruments. Both of them planned and shared a devotion to a Men's & Women's Breakfast Group where there were 26 in attendance, including those in confirmation class. The people were moved by the singing and messages given! The young ladies did not seem nervous at all in sharing! They completed the entire book, and wrote a sermon on two assigned passages.
103. Our quarterly conference included a worship service and recognition of our new lay speakers. Leader-to-leader workshops were held afterwards and then the day concluded with lunch. Leader-to-leader workshops continue in the Fall and Spring and offer classes in evangelism, pastor parish relations, lay leadership, how to develop a stewardship program and upcoming VIM programs.
104. Our District Spiritual Life Team is chaired by Rev Bob Leibold, and with the district superintendent they visited every church in the District to pray. During the summer the team focused on visiting all churches that were appointed new pastors to pray with them. Our superintendent led a call to a District-wide Lenten Spiritual fast. The team develops and hosts our District clergy day apart.
105. Long Island East District continues its partnership with Habitat for Humanity as we had a partial build last year and plan to join with the Presbyterian Church of USA in an upcoming build.
106. Our District lay leadership is reorganized to complement our clergy cluster system with Lorraine Leak as our district lay leader, and seven associate lay leaders to represent the remaining clusters.
107. The L.I.E. District Committee on Ministry met on Saturday, October 30, at 11:00AM at Farmingdale UMC in order to be available to provisional/probationary members and others who may have had questions regarding the ordination process at the Annual Conference level.
108. Youth Council continues to meet monthly and planned the LI East annual retreat to Quinipet where last year's theme was "So you think you can dance." This year's theme is "Paying it forward." Attendance in this annual event is steadily increasing each year. The District "Youth Alive" event is also well attended and provides a spiritual kick off for the new school year with music and a youth motivational speaker.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES — LONG ISLAND WEST DISTRICT**Rev. Delroy Murdock, Chair**

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. This year, being my first in this leadership role, has been a learning experience. Thanks to Shirley Pettiford for the quality leadership she has given over the past four years, and the helping guidance she, along with the District Superintendent, continue to give as I assume this task.
102. In spite of all the challenges that have faced and continue to face the churches in this District we are confident that the church will prevail. There are signs of hope all around us: evident in the better-than-usual response to apportionment support in a depressed economy, and the commitment of the laity to Kingdom service.
103. Let me highlight some of the significant events that brought the churches of the District together. Our annual lay leadership training held at St. Francis College in Brooklyn brought out more than two hundred participants representing thirty churches, on a cold and windy winter day. There were workshops that provided training in the established work areas with the addition of a parish development workshop. Beyond this the District superintendent has proposed a P/SPRC training event to take place in May 2011.
104. Lay speaking school continues to play a vital role in the life of this District, providing the laity with the tools necessary to assist the pastor in the general ministry of the local church, and has set the feet of many on the path to ordained ministry.
105. Long Island West District has a Brooklyn campus which enrolled 42 persons this year, and a Queens/Nassau campus where another 38 were enrolled. This year saw a fall off of youth participants, and pastors are encouraged to be more intentional in pointing capable young people to the training these schools provide. Persons equipped through these schools feed in the Conference "Vision Bearers" program, and fulfill ministries in nursing homes and shelters for the homeless.
106. The director of this ministry has been exploring the possibility of bringing on line a Hispanic and a Haitian component.
107. Other significant happenings in the District include the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration service in Brooklyn and Queens. Attendance at this service was up this year in Brooklyn where the service was held at St. Marks with the Rev. Dr. Noel Leo Erskine, professor at Emory University, bringing the message.
108. The Cluster Lenten services began on Ash Wednesday. The South Brooklyn Cluster saw a capacity crowd at Vanderveer Park UMC. These services will alternate in the churches of the cluster through Good Friday.
109. Finally the LIW Annual District Conference is scheduled to take place on the 14th of May 2011 at First Church, Jamaica.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES — METROPOLITAN DISTRICT**Estella Abel, Chairperson**

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. Under the able leadership of Rev. Noel Chin, Metropolitan District Council on Ministries continued its commitment to spreading the good news, helping the poor, aiding the broken hearted, bringing release to the imprisoned and preparing both the laity and clergy in understanding and performing so the District's ministry is consistent with these goals. Therefore, the District has provided a variety of activities and events that would accomplish this.
102. In January and February the District held a series of identical training workshops in each area of the District – the Bronx, Manhattan, Staten Island, and Westchester County. In every area of the District the attendance was excellent and showed greater participation than last year. The workshops included running an effective meeting, stewardship, church development, and trustee training.
103. Throughout the District, joint Lenten services were held promoting fellowship, fostering connectionism and invoking spirit-filled worship. Pastors, choirs and congregations exchanged churches during this most holy season.
104. The District's Unit of the United Methodist Women led by Sis Ivy Mignot was active and spirit led. Their first event, the annual meeting, was held in October at First UMC, Mount Vernon. The District gathering at St Marks, Manhattan, was convened in December. In January they hosted a retreat and workshop at St. Stephens UMC in the Bronx. In February the unit instituted its First Annual Youth Prayer Breakfast at Butler Memorial UMC, Bronx. The officers' training was at Park Avenue UMC, Manhattan while the 31st Annual Communion Brunch at was Tremont UMC.
105. In February, the District held its first Bible Quiz competition at New Rochelle United Methodist Church. The teams were comprised of junior high through high school students. Seven teams competed for prizes and t-shirts. All the teams impressed the judges and the spectators with the depth of their knowledge, their enthusiasm and their calm demeanor under fire. It was a joy to see so many young people with such a wide and impressive knowledge of the Bible. The team from Trinity UMC, Bronx was awarded first place. Rev. Chin must be thanked for his persistence in ensuring the implementation of this competition.
106. The Prison Ministry, under the leadership of Emily Doctor and Arthur McLean, experienced growth and expanded its support. The Ministry met in various churches around the District collecting new clothing for the children of incarcerated persons, exchanging information, participating in letter writing and advocating for the fair treatment of prisoners throughout the state.
107. In November and in March, Parish Nursing, under the leadership of Deaconess Claris Skerritt held workshops, encouraging and reaching out to nurses, clergy, laity, and health care workers to become advocates for healthy lifestyle practices in the church and community.
108. The District is advocating the participation of qualified nurses to enroll in the training provided in June by the International Parish Nurse Resource Center.
109. In March, the Black College Luncheon was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in White Plains. The speaker was the Rev. Dr. Luther Felder, II, chaplain of Paine

College in Georgia. This event is an important part of the District commitment to the education of our youth and in support of the historical Black Colleges that have been supported by the Methodist church.

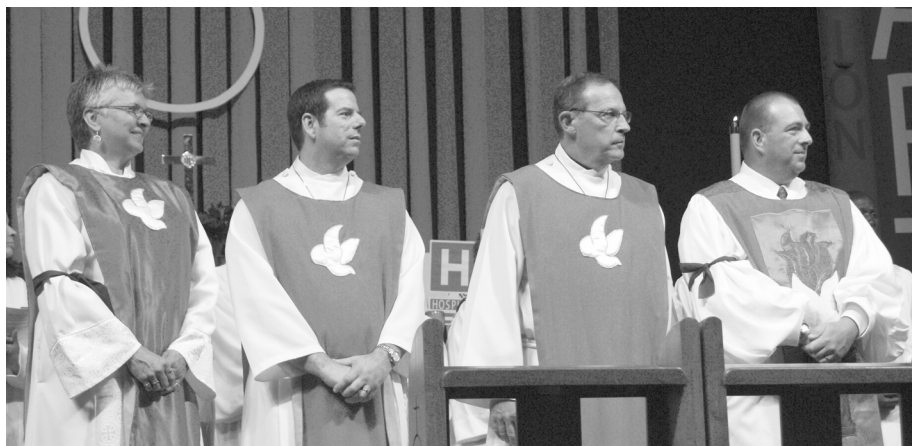
110. In April, the District hosted its annual Lay Speaking Training at the Mamaroneck United Methodist Church in Westchester County. The workshop was well attended with participants from all parts of the District.
111. In December, the District superintendent hosted an annual holiday party where clergy can gather, fellowship and enjoy a casual social event with family.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES — NEW YORK/CONNECTICUT DISTRICT

Rev. Matthew T. Curry, Chairperson

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The New York/Connecticut District Council on Ministries strives to empower the laity and clergy of the District to more effectively live out the mission of making disciples for the transformation of the world. We do this through programs of support, education and connection.
102. Foremost in our work is the training of laity. This happens through Sunday school training and consulting and our annual Local Church Officers' Training event.
103. We are proud of our local and certified lay speakers, and glad to offer exciting, in-depth and relevant training. Our lay speakers are doing tremendous ministry throughout our District.
104. Our program year will come to a close with District Conference. As always, this will be an inspiring time of worship and holy conferencing.
105. Our District and its churches have made missions an important part of our work and identity.
106. Thank you to all the members of the District Council on Ministries for your faithfulness and spirit. A special thank you and fare-well to the Rev. Jeannette Bassinger-Ishii for her leadership and guidance during her time as our District Superintendent. We look forward to a new chapter in our shared ministry with the Rev. Betsy Ott as our Superintendent.



HISPANIC CONSULTANT TO THE NY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Rev. Arturo Maine

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The following outlines activities and meetings in which I engaged as part of my function during the year 2010:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Jan 30: Meeting with Hispanic Pastors | Apr 14: New Church Plant Task Force |
| Feb 9: Meeting with D.S. Kenny Yi | Apr 15: Stony Point |
| Feb 18: Meeting at Passionate Retreat Center with the Bishop and Cabinet | May 6: Conference Center |
| Feb 26: Conference Center with the Bishop and Cabinet | May 14: Hispanic Pastors |
| Mar 6: Hispanic Council | July 10: Hispanic Council |
| Mar 16: Conference Center New Church Plant Task Force | Aug 11: Conference Center |
| Apr 8: Meeting Conference Center | Sept 17: Path 1 Orientation |
| Apr 13: Meeting with Hispanic Pastors | Sept 18: Path 1 Conference Center |
| | Oct 16: Small Church Workshop |
| | Nov 6: New Church Plant Task Force |
| | Dec 11: Retreat with Rev Edilberto Lopez and Hispanic Pastors |

102. These are the activities of major involvement. (Countless calls and brief visits to other Hispanic activities are not included.)

LEARNING CENTER

Lynda Gomi, Coordinator

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The Learning Center is run by the Connectional Ministries Office to offer support for churches and UM organizations through books, periodicals, curriculum samples, multimedia resources, puppets, and worship materials such as the labyrinth, as well as space for meetings, workshops and day retreats.
102. The Resource Library catalogue went online in 2009 thus making materials equally accessible to everyone across the Conference. Usage increased steadily over the 2010 year as more people became aware of this easy-to-access resource. (http://nyac.com/resource_find.asp) As new materials are acquired for the Resource Library, they appear in the “What’s New in the Learning Center” blog <http://nyac.com/blogs>.
103. With the completion of the new kitchen next to the Learning Center, hospitality options for meetings in the Learning Center have been made easier and will lead to an increase in use of the Learning Center for meetings and retreats in 2011.
104. Also in 2010, the Learning Center helped to coordinate Safe Sanctuaries Workshops across the Conference with the Safe Sanctuaries workshop leader, Rev. Elizabeth Perry, and collaborated with the Frontier Foundation for the Clergy and Spouse Tax Seminar series.

MISSION AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie, Mission Table and the Conference Mission Coordinator

Concur: 156, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

By the Grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ we have experienced another successful year in our mission work around the world. As a Conference Mission Coordinator I had the privilege of leading seven VIM teams to different work sites including: Haiti, Ghana and Cambodia. The Volunteers in Mission and Disaster Response ministries have brought much enthusiastic spirit into many local churches. I would like to report on the following areas of our ministry:

1. The Conference Disaster Response
 2. The Conference Volunteers In Mission
 3. The District Mission Coordinators
 4. Youth Mission Ambassadors
 5. Mission Gold Award
101. **Conference Disaster Response** — Our five years of disaster response ministry in Biloxi Mississippi ended officially in September 2010. Nevertheless, due to the strong relationships developed during the past few years, some local churches continue to send volunteers to Biloxi.
102. **Haiti Disaster Response** — When the moment came for us to help our brothers and sister in Haiti, many volunteers including pastors and our Bishop Jeremiah Park dedicated their resources and personal time and traveled to Haiti. Since the beginning of June 2010 to March 2011 we have sponsored five teams. The sixth team to travel to Haiti is scheduled on May 6-13, 2011. NYAC has developed a strong relationship with Fond Doux community where we are rebuilding their church which was destroyed by the earthquake. It is our hope and prayer that the new church will be completed by the end of June 2011. More information about our disaster response ministry in Haiti could be found on our Web site: www.nyac.com
103. **Conference Disaster Administrative Committee (CDAC)** — The CDAC continues their important role by providing the administrative framework that helps us to respond effectively to any disaster. There have been two main changes in leadership since last year. The Rev. Wesley Daniel is currently the Conference disaster response coordinator replacing Rev. Thomas Vencuss who is serving in Haiti as the volunteer management coordinator. In his role as the disaster response coordinator Rev. Wesley Daniel has led two teams to Haiti. Terry Temple requested to be relieved from the position of Conference Volunteer In Mission coordinator due to a lot of other commitments. Terry also serves as the District mission coordinator in her district (NY/CT).



Again my appreciation goes to the following members of CDAC (Conference Disaster Administrative Committee):

Conference Disaster Coordinator:

Wesley Daniel

District Disaster Coordinators:

- Metropolitan District – Mary Ellen Kris
- Connecticut District – Cassandra Broadus-Garcia
- New York/Connecticut District – William Clark
- Catskill Hudson District – Dale Ashby
- Long Island West – Wesley Daniel
- Long Island East – Warren Ferry

Members at Large:

- M. Craig Fitzsimmons
- Paul Hibbard
- Janet Hodge
- James Law
- Enrique Lebron
- Leigh Lewandoski
- Evana Lewis
- Evelyn McDonald
- Linda Nealon
- Charles Straut

104. **Conference Volunteers In Mission (VIM)** — The spread of God’s Love around the world through the work, witness, and fellowship of our volunteers in mission resonates throughout our Conference with joy and enthusiasm. Please join me to say a big thank you to our dedicated VIM leaders whose diligence and devotion have brought a great success to our ministry worldwide.

Bolivia Mission

Rev. Carl Franson

Cambodia Mission

Rev. Laura Galbriath

Costa Rica Mission

Robert Hawkins

Ecuador Mission

Rev. Oscar Destrugue and Rev. Judith Stevens

Ghana Mission

Mr. Jay Hockenberry

Haiti Mission

Rev. Tom and Rev. Wendy Vencuss

Mozambique Mission

Mrs. Annette Griffith

105. **District Mission Coordinators (DMC)** — Our DMCs continue to play a vital role in resourcing and training local churches mission chairpersons. Three new DMCs who have resumed their active roles are, Rev. Sonia Jermin from Crawford UMC, Phyllis Machledt from Golden Hill UMC and Gillian Prince from Fenimore UMC

Connecticut District – Phyllis Machledt

Metropolitan – Rev. Sonia Jermin

New York/Connecticut – Terry Temple

Long Island West – Gillian Prince

Catskill Hudson – Rev. Dale Ashby

Long Island East – Sue Macaluso

106. **Youth Ambassadors in Mission Program (YAM)** — The nine young people who participated in this year’s trip to Cambodia are:

Long Island West District:

- Brian Clarke (Fennimore UMC)
- Christopher Blair (Fennimore UMC)
- Stephen Alston (Grace St. Albans UMC)
- Kavona Walker (Grace St. Albans UMC)
- Nicole Daniel (Bethany UMC)

Catskill Hudson District:

- Rachel Bortin (Reservor UMC)
- Connecticut District:
- Hannah Cover (Simsbury UMC)
- New York/Connecticut District
- Tori Mason (Jessie Lee UMC)

Thanks to the adults leader who provided the necessary care and support to our young people:

Donna Jolly, (St. James UMC) and Gillian Prince (Fennimore UMC)

Schedule for next trip: YAM travel to Ghana in February 2012.

Since 2005 the Conference has been providing a special volunteer in mission opportunity to young people from our local churches. One of the main purposes of Youth Ambassadors for Mission (Y.A.M) is to give our youth and young people a unique firsthand cross-cultural life-changing experience.

Youth mission trips have the potential of accomplishing several goals such as:

1. Bring youth from across the New York Annual Conference together with a common experience.
2. Begin to develop youth leadership for our Conference Youth Ministry.
3. Inspire our youth with the traditional Wesleyan mission spirit.
4. Help youth learn and experience the other culture by working and interacting with others.
5. A life-changing experience of encountering Christ again in a strange environment.

Participation

1. Each of the six districts identifies and recommends TWO youth who have interest in mission.
2. The district and the local church partially fund the trip and support their candidates with prayers.
3. Candidates may apply for Conference Mission Scholarship.
4. After the mission experience, each participant becomes a core member of Conference Youth Ambassador for Mission. They will be recognized at the Annual Conference session in June of each year. They will give presentations at district workshops during that year, sharing their experiences and inspiring other youth for mission.

107. **Local Church Outreach Ministry** — Local churches continue to use the Go for Mission Gold model to enhance their mission and outreach work. This program provides resources and incentives that encourage mission and outreach ministries in the local churches. Special Mission Gold awards are presented to churches during Annual Conference session.

You qualify for a mission gold award if your church paid in full the shared ministry apportionment and participated in two or more of the mission areas listed below:

1. Supported at least one local mission project.
2. Received Special Sunday offering or similar mission related offerings.
3. Fulfilled a covenant relationship obligation
4. Supported at least one Conference Mission Initiative such as Mozambique, Cambodia, Bolivia, Haiti, Burundi, etc.)
5. Sent at least one or more persons on a Volunteer In Mission Trip.
6. Attended Cooperative School of Christian Mission.
7. Celebrated Mission Sunday with a mission speaker.
8. Took a group on a Mission Study Tour or Volunteer in Mission Trip.
9. Offered a new mission experience. Did something new that your congregation has never done before.

10. Supported the Conference Disaster Preparedness & Response Team.
 11. Supported Justice for our Neighbors
108. **Mission Interpretation/Missionary Covenant Relations** — The New York Annual Conference continues to support and strengthen the relationship with the following mission initiatives:

International Volunteers In Mission sites

1. Mozambique Sister Conference Initiative – Annette Griffith
2. Bolivia Mission – Carl Franson
3. Costa Rica Mission – Robert Hawkins
4. Cambodia Mission – Laura Galbraith
5. Haiti Mission - Tom and Wendy Vencuss
6. Ghana Mission – Jay Hockenberry
7. Ecuador Mission (new project) – Oscar Destruge

National

1. Churches Saving Communities (Advance #982143)
2. Communities of Shalom (Advance #742566)
3. Homelessness in the U.S. (Advance #982385)
4. John St. Evangelization Program (Advance #341355)
5. Appalachia Service Project (Advance #982050)
6. Justice for our neighbors (Advance #901285)
7. Community Centers (Advance #982149)
8. 10. U. M. Army
9. Crop Walk
10. Bread for the World
11. Midnight Run

New York Conference Ministries

1. The Anchor House
2. The United Methodist Center at Far Rockaway
3. Farmworkers and Migrant Ministries
4. The Children’s Home of the Wyoming Conference
5. Methodist Homes and Hospitals

GBGM Missionary Support

The following are the missionaries related to the New York Conference.

Jae Hyoung (Jay) Choi	Advance # 13973Z	Philippines
Eun Ha Choi (Grace)	Advance # 13974Z	Philippines
Samuel Grano de Oro	Advance # 13032Z	Dominican Republic
Kalindi Thomas	Advance # 13966Z	Global
Sun Sook Kim	Advance # 10843Z	Philippines
Ediberto Lopez-Rodrigues	Advance #012860	Puerto Rico
Diedonne Karihano	Advance #3019569	Mozambique
Joel Medendorp,	Advance #773950	Red Bird Mission
Helen de Leon Camarce	Advance # 13953Z	Manila, Philippines
Joseph and Marilyn Chan	Advance # 12904Z	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Rosangela Soares de Oliveira	Advance # 14210Z	Latin America

CONSULTANT ON OLDER ADULT MINISTRIES

Rev. James Stinson

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. There have been several opportunities for working with our congregations on issues relating to Older Adult Ministries throughout the New York Conference. These included several all-day workshops for district lay speakers, preaching in local churches, speaking with smaller groups following worship and writing a regular column for *The Vision*.
102. Such events are already being scheduled for the coming months. Two events are set for April and May of 2011. The New Canaan United Methodist Church has scheduled one of these events and is inviting area United Methodist Churches to send people as well. The New York CT District has also scheduled a district-wide lay speaking training event. Both of these events will center on the spiritual and emotional needs of older adults and how the Church may speak to these needs.
103. I remain available for working with local churches, districts, and combined groups interested in exploring older adult ministry. Suggestions for other ways to assist in better ministry to and with older adults are always welcome. The Conference Web site has a link to a site containing information about the various programs offered and the General Church Web site has a link for older adult ministries with all kinds of material on the subject.

STEWARDSHIP CONSULTANT

Rev. George Engelhardt

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. Over the past two years, I have led workshops in all districts and in many churches throughout the Conference.
102. The topics that have been most helpful have included: (i) Transforming your line-item budget into a narrative which becomes the vehicle for members of the congregation to see themselves in the story of the ministry of their church. This invites them to give because they see how their giving makes a difference. (ii) Establishing a giving profile of the congregation as a means of setting a percentage goal for giving that meets the missional objectives of the budget. (iii) Surveying the most effective ways of reaching people with the stewardship invitation with an emphasis on testimony as the most effective motivation for giving.
103. I greatly appreciate the support I have had from Ann Pearson, the Bishop and Cabinet in making this resourcing possible.
104. Given the financial priorities of the Conference, my position will not be funded in the coming program year. I look forward to working directly with congregations and in any setting where conversation about effective stewardship might be helpful. I can be contacted by email at gcengelhardt@gmail.com and by phone at 203-676-0764.

SOCIETIES & INSTITUTIONS

AFRICA UNIVERSITY**James H. Salley, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Institutional Advancement**

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

Africa University: Serving God. All the Time. Everywhere.

101. Support from United Methodists around the world has enabled Africa University to strongly emerge from Zimbabwe's recent economic and political crises.
102. "As we have endured Zimbabwe's national crisis, we have, indeed discovered not only what we are, but reinforced whose we are," says Dr. Fanuel Tagwira, vice chancellor. "We are preparing Africa's newest generation of leaders while proclaiming our faith and allegiance to Jesus Christ."
103. The University is preparing to celebrate its 20th anniversary of ministry and service to Africa in 2012.
104. **The University offers its thanks** to the 21 annual conferences that met 100 percent of their apportionments for the Africa University Fund. In 2010, United Methodists contributed nearly \$2.2 million to the Africa University Fund. That represents more than 86 percent of the \$2.5 million goal. The Fund supports general operating costs, such as faculty and staff salaries and upkeep of facilities.
105. While meeting apportionments is important, second mile giving to the University's endowment for student scholarships is vital. Our students have a great need for scholarship support.
106. **Africa University graduated 349 students in June 2010**, and opened the 2010-2011 school year with 1,200 students representing 25 African countries. Since opening in 1992, more than 3,500 students have earned bachelor and master's degrees. Africa University prepares leaders in theology, agriculture, business and social sciences, health sciences, and peace and justice.
107. Africa University's curriculum and support of the surrounding community reflects our biblical commitment to service and our Wesleyan heritage. Our graduates are prepared to serve Africa in ways that reflect the church's four areas of focus, ministering to the poor, combating diseases of poverty, creating and revitalizing congregations, and developing principled Christian leaders.
108. The 2010 graduating class included 39 recipients of the University's inaugural master's degree in intellectual property. They represented 15 African countries. Africa University is the first university in sub-Saharan Africa to offer this degree. It stresses the value of protecting intellectual property for the people of Africa. It is one more example of the ethos of the University – preparing leaders who remain in Africa to serve Africa.
109. Another important aspect of the University is our commitment to gender diversity. Our student body is nearly evenly divided between females and males. That is a significant development in Africa – a positive sign for the expanding role of women across the continent.
110. **Another positive sign** is the commitment of African United Methodists to take an even more active role in supporting the University. African bishops broke ground in the 2010-2011 academic year on a new housing facility for staff –

funded by annual conferences in Africa. This housing unit is expected to be ready for the opening of the 2011-2012 academic year in September.

Africa University is preparing to add additional cyber campuses. Student applications far outstrip our ability to educate students on our Old Mutare campus. That is why we are adding more locations to our on-line cyber courses. Our first virtual campus is located in Maputo, Mozambique. As we broaden our service to all of Africa, we are planning virtual campuses in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire and Sierra Leone. A key to the success of these cyber campuses will be our new, expanded ability to reach the world through the Internet. We recently finished connecting with a new high speed, fiber optic cable system that links Zimbabwe with the world.

111. All of this is happening through the prayers and financial support of United Methodists around the world. Encourage your church to meet its Africa University Fund shared ministry obligation this year. Your support is part of The United Methodist Church's response to God's call to serve Africa. Your support helps to prepare Africa's next generation of leaders. They will spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, improve health care and living conditions, expand business and commerce, and educate another generation of leaders in this rapidly changing region of the world.

REPORT OF THE BLACK COLLEGE FUND

Veronica Fulmore-Darby, Chairperson

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The Black College Fund (BCF) supports the 11 historically black colleges and universities related to The United Methodist Church. Since 1972, the Black College Fund (BCF) has been an apportioned fund of the Church. The objective of "BCF" is to marshal financial support for the programs and ministries of the HBCU's related to The United Methodist Church.
102. Regular and consistent funding support is essential in continuing these colleges' important work. Most of these member institutions are well into their second century of service. They still need the continuing institutional support of this Church connection to continue their work of opening doors and extending opportunities to deserving students.
103. The historically Black Colleges and Universities today have increasing enrolment of Asian, Hispanic, white and international students. Several religious denominations support private HBCU's, however, The United Methodist Church supports the largest number of fully accredited HBCU's in the United States.
104. The eleven United Methodist Historically Black Colleges and Universities are:
- | | |
|---|---|
| Bennett College for Women,
Greensboro, NC | Meharry Medical College, Nashville,
TN |
| Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona
Beach, FL | Paine College, Augusta, GA |
| Claffin University, Orangeburg, SC | Philander-Smith College, Little Rock,
AR |
| Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA | Rust College, Holly Springs, MS |
| Dillard University, New Orleans, LA | Wiley College, Marshall, TX |
| | Huston-Tillotson, Austin, TX |

105. We presented to the 2010 Annual Conference a Lina McCord Intern/Ambassador, Kevin Michael Kosh, Jr., a senior at Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi and we collected \$3,148 in contributions. The Black College Fund Committee continues to sponsor the annual luncheon. On March 5, 2011, the luncheon was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, White Plains. The keynote speaker was Rev. Dr. Luther B. Felder, Campus Pastor/Assistant Professor of Religious Life/Religion and Philosophy, Paine College, Augusta, Ga. We sold 150 tickets and collected \$3,850 in contributions.

BROOKLYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HOME

Annual Meeting, April 16, 2011, President's Report

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. During the year since our last annual meeting a lot has occurred here at BUMCH – some of it bad and some of it good. I will try to review some of the issues, changes and solutions as I see them.
102. Last year about this time we received the results of our annual New York State Department of Health Survey. It was a disaster in which we were cited for a number of serious deficiencies. Let me suggest at least three reasons for this:
1. At the time of the survey the state inspectors had federal inspectors looking over their shoulders to make sure they found even the smallest problems.
 2. At the time of the survey and even during the survey anonymous complaints were being forwarded to the State.
 3. At the time of the survey we had serious problems keeping track of and administering medications particularly Coumadin a powerful heart medication.
- Although the State did not take the most drastic action they could have taken they did resurvey us, give us a schedule for compliance, and fined us.
103. I believe that several positive outcomes emerged out of this disaster.
1. We contracted with an excellent consultant, Phyllis Ramzel, who help staff work through the appropriate corrections required by the survey findings, gave a comprehensive presentation to the Board about the problems uncovered in the survey, did a mock survey of the facility in September, and helped produce a plan of action for us as we move forward.
 2. We hired a new Director of Nursing, Elaine Williams, who, coming on board during this crisis, has with grace and strength moved to correct deficiencies in the nursing area and is providing the in-house training and leadership we need.
 3. The Quality Control process – both monthly and meetings with the Board – has been redesigned and sharpened with the help of our consultant and our new DNS to insure that we do not find ourselves in this situation again and more important to insure that we give the level of care that our mission calls for here at BUMCH.
104. Relating to all of the above, last fall we finally introduced our new Electronic Medical Records system which after a period of introductory training will enable our facility to keep real-time records of all care given our patients. This will make monitoring for Quality Control easier and assure that we can bill accurately for the care given.

105. Unfortunately this year also produced some difficult financial realities. The State's re-auditing of our records, which has been going on for many years, has finally come to the point when the State is reclaiming money that they say we should not have been paid because we do not have the paper to justify the payment. After some negotiation we were able to reduce the State's recoupment from 15% down to 5% but the result is still that we are not receiving as much payment monthly from the State as we had been.

There are at least two adjustments that are pending with the State – repayment for the cost of building the Day Care Center, and a positive rebasing of the rates they have been using to reimburse us for care given. If the State moves from its chronic dysfunction and can resolve its budget crisis, we may find ourselves in better shape financially, but we have been waiting for a while.

In the meantime, we have been experiencing a cash-flow problem that has been solved by moving sums of money from our endowment into general operations – this has helped in the short run but will not work in the long run. Although we set some of this money aside because we knew that we would have to repay the State at some point, we should not use more than we have to and should plan to rebuild the endowment for the future. Politics and prayer seem to be the only answer for this – I am concentrating on the latter! (Some of our expectations of State actions in our favor have come to pass since this report was presented at the Annual Meeting.)

106. Finally let me thank Victor Orriola and all of his staff for remaining faithful in caring for our elderly and frail populations even in the midst of all difficulty that the year has brought us. The demands made on all our staff – emotional and physical – in order to serve the needs of our clients in a loving and Christian way are great and I really appreciate what they do. There are many wonderful things that are happening here daily as we care for our folks and that should not get lost as we have to deal with crisis. Indeed, as suggested above, many of the changes made this year will improve the level of care that we give.
107. One additional change that I should live up. After a number of years as our chaplain, Rev. Eugenia Perez has retired and we have found and hired a new chaplain. Pastor Vera Isaacs, a United Methodist who has been an active layperson in one of our local churches and is in the process of being licensed as a local pastor, has been hired and – we hope - will be appointed here by the Bishop at the Annual Conference in June. We feel she will be an excellent addition to our care team here at the home.

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Jan Love, Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. Candler School of Theology prepares *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world. Our distinctive commitment to authentic discipleship and relevant ministry enables us to develop uniquely well-rounded leaders who are challenged academically, encouraged spiritually, and immersed in Christian service from the first day they arrive on campus.
102. As one of the 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church, Candler is grounded in the Christian faith and shaped by the Wesleyan tradition of evangelical piety, ecumenical openness, and social concern. As one of seven

graduate professional schools of Emory University, Candler provides a rich context for learning and formation supported by the extensive resources of a top-tier research university. As a school located in the major metropolitan area of Atlanta, Georgia, Candler offers students a learning laboratory that reflects the highly diverse communities of our 21st century world. There is no better place for ministry preparation that addresses our major denominational priorities: developing leaders, starting and growing churches, ministry with the poor, and improving global health.

103. Candler's student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful. Our enrollment stands at 469, with 358 seeking the Master of Divinity, 67 the Master of Theological Studies, 16 the Master of Theology, 14 the Doctor of Theology, and 14 enrolled as special, non-degree students. The total student population is 25% US ethnic minority, 9% international, and 52% women. Forty-six denominations are represented, with 52% of MDiv students being United Methodist. The median age of our entering class of MDiv students is 26, with 57% of total enrollment under thirty.
104. To ensure that our students are prepared for leadership in an increasingly global context, Candler continues its emphasis on internationalizing the curriculum. This fall, Rev. Dr. Beauty Maenzanise, dean of the theology faculty at Africa University in Zimbabwe, joined us as the 2010-11 McDonald Chair in the Study of Jesus and Culture, and the Rev. Dr. Margot Kaessmann, former head of the 14 million-member Protestant church in Germany, joined us for a semester as visiting Theologian-in-Residence. This year, Candler has academic exchange partnerships with theology schools across five continents and nine countries, including many related to The United Methodist Church. In addition to our ongoing summer internship program with the Methodist Church in the Bahamas, Candler once again partnered with International Relief and Development, Inc., to send eight student interns as far as Cambodia and as near as Gulfport, Miss., to address a broad range of issues, including democracy and governance, HIV/AIDS, child poverty and mortality, and community development. Travel seminars in 2010-2011 include the Middle East Travel Seminar in May-June and World Methodist Evangelism Institute evangelism seminars to the Philippines, India, and Colombia.
105. A hallmark of the Candler MDiv experience, the two-year Contextual Education program shapes our students' pastoral identities by interweaving service at ministry sites and churches with academic analysis in the classroom and spiritual reflection in pastor-led small groups. In any given week, Candler deploys more than 250 ConEd students throughout the region to minister to people in congregations, hospitals, and social service agencies. This year, we will expand Candler Advantage, a program designed to pay rising third-year MDiv students for summer internships in congregations so they can concentrate fully on honing their pastoral skills beyond the first two years of ConEd.
106. Candler's Lifelong Learning events strengthen the church by providing opportunities for clergy and lay leaders to learn more about the practice of ministry. Fall Conference 2010 focused on conflict transformation; the spring event featured poet, author, and funeral director Tom Lynch along with Candler's own Tom Long, addressing "The Good Funeral." The 2011 Fall Conference highlights "The Art of Preaching in the 21st Century," with a chance to learn from some of the most respected names in preaching.

107. In addition to our Lifelong Learning events, Candler oversees the educational process of more than 900 people each year through the Course of Study regional school and our five extension schools in the Southeast.
108. Despite today's challenging economic climate, Candler remains committed to making theological education financially possible for our students. Although our operating budget essentially remained flat this year, we increased our total financial aid investment to over \$5 million. Eighty-three percent of eligible students received Candler-based financial aid, with the average award covering 76 percent of tuition. In March, we hosted our third annual Leadership Candler event, an all-expenses-paid discernment experience that draws together top prospective MDiv students to explore the richness of life and study at Candler as they are considered for 30 top scholarships. In addition, Candler won a grant from the Carpenter Foundation to offer financial management training to our students. The grant also sponsored the public lecture series, "Simple Enough?" to explore the relationship between financial and spiritual well-being. Featured speakers were popular United Methodist pastors and authors Adam Hamilton and Paul Escamilla.
109. Our esteemed faculty continues to distinguish itself at the highest levels. Dr. Luke Johnson won the prestigious Grawemeyer award in religion, Dr. Carol Newsom received a Luce grant from the Association of Theological Schools, and Dr. Jacob Wright received a medal of honor from the Collège de France in Paris. In addition to their achievements in scholarship and teaching, faculty members continually demonstrate their dedication to the church through preaching and teaching engagements and service in parishes both local and across the country and world.
110. We celebrate the outstanding achievements of two of our United Methodist faculty as they retire this year: Dr. Russ Richey and Dr. Brooks Holifield. Both are highly regarded for their extraordinary work in their areas of expertise—the history of Methodism and American Christianity, respectively—and for their service to our denomination, both at the local and national levels.
111. Candler draws considerable vitality and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of *educating faithful and creative leaders for the church's ministries in the world* depends upon your support, gifts, and prayers. Thank you for the countless ways you strengthen this essential ministry in the life of our denomination. We invite you to visit us in person in Atlanta or online at www.candler.emory.edu to see firsthand how Candler prepares *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world.

DREW UNIVERSITY, THE THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

The Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, Ph.D., Dean and Professor of Hebrew Bible

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. My predecessor, Dean Maxine Beach, has said to me that Drew University Theological School is "a special place" on more than one occasion. Since coming to Drew, I have begun to see how right she is. It is a welcoming, hospitable, and caring community. We do not pretend to be a perfect community but we strive hard to welcome all who come through our doors and care for the *shalom*, the well-being, of each individual and as well as the Common Good.

102. Drew is “a special place” because of the many ways we seek to equip and empower leaders for Christian ministry through the numerous programs we offer:
- M.Div., S.T.M., M.A., M.A.Min., D.Min., and Ph.D.;
 - Continuing Education opportunities for pastors and lay people;
 - Internships through Communities of Shalom in Shalom zones world wide
 - Partnership for Religious Education in Prisons program in a local men’s prison and women’s prison, where Drew students and inmates study and learn together;
 - Certification in Spiritual Formation and Camp and Retreat;
 - Cross-Cultural Courses in India, Turkey, El Salvador, Mexico, Taize, and Ghana;
 - United Methodist Liaison and Deacon Liaison to assist students in their discernment.
103. In my first weeks, I have begun to visit churches and alumni in the vicinity. I believe very strongly that we can only do theological education *with* communities, both communities of faith and other kinds of communities that our alumni serve. In many ways, we owe a debt to our churches and other agencies that work *with* us to train and form our students for leadership.
104. We take pride in having a faculty that is perhaps one of the most diverse in theological education with an almost equal number of women and men. Our student body is equally diverse. We take seriously our United Methodist identity. Drew is well positioned to be a leading progressive United Methodist seminary. I welcome ongoing dialogue as we work together to shape a vision in equipping the saints for ministry. Together we can make Christian disciples that transform the world.

GARRETT-EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Report to the 2011 Annual Conference, Philip A. Amerson, Ph.D., President

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The core purpose of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary is to know God in Christ and, through preparing spiritual leaders, to help others know God in Christ. We continue our deep and abiding commitment to prepare bold and articulate leaders who share the transforming love of Jesus Christ.
102. Last fall, the seminary welcomed 122 new students, the largest entering class in more than twenty-years. The average age of the diverse and highly qualified M.Div. class is thirty-one, reflecting a decrease in the average age of entering seminary students.
103. Garrett-Evangelical provides \$2 million in institutional financial aid to students each year.
104. Class of 1961 alumnus Dr. James H. Cone, one of the world’s prominent liberation theologians, was the keynote speaker during the fall convocation. The event was part of the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Center for the Church and the Black Experience at Garrett-Evangelical.
105. To commemorate twenty-five years of leadership in Spiritual Formation studies, the seminary is raising \$2 million to endow the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation. The chair will assure the seminary remains at the forefront of developing and enhancing spiritual formation studies at the certificate, master’s, and doctoral levels. Garrett-Evangelical welcomes contributions to

the fund. They will honor Bishop Job and assure the ongoing nurture of spiritual leaders for the Church and the world.

106. The Institute for Transformative Leaders and Communities develops programs and events for the continuous education and lifelong learning for leaders and communities. The Institute's *MDiv Plus*, the first of its kind, is a cooperate program of the Garrett-Kellogg Leadership Certification executive education program. The three-year program is organized around six seminars and includes one-on-one coaching program that pairs individuals with certified coaches who are effective and experienced. All clergy with an MDiv degree are eligible to participate in the program.
107. The expanded Doctor of Ministry programs offers four tracks of study: Congregational Leadership; African-American Congregational Leadership; Spiritual Direction; and Mission in the Contemporary United States. The Garrett-Evangelical DMin program also is a portal to the ACTS DMin program in preaching.
108. Renovation of Loder and Lesemann Halls continues on schedule. When completed, Loder will feature a student center, student lounge, state-of-the-art classroom, kitchen and cafeteria, modern residence rooms, and guest suites. Lesemann will connect directly to the United Library and will include offices, a conference room, and facilities for the Stead Center for Ethics and Values. The new buildings will be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified.
109. Garrett-Evangelical is welcoming several new faculty and staff:
 - Dr. Anna Johnson, Visiting Assistant Professor of Reformation Church History; Ph.D. in Church History, and M.Div., Princeton Theological Seminary; B.A., St. Olaf College. She was an adjunct professor at Loyola University in Chicago.
 - Dr. Hendrik Pieterse, Associate Professor of Global Christianity and World Religions; D. Phil., University of Port Elizabeth, South Africa (now the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University). He was Director of Scholarly Research and Book Editor for the United Methodist General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.
 - The Rev. Becky Eberhart, Assistant Vice President for Enrolment Management. Previously, she was Director of Admissions and Student Services at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, and Program Associate for Programs for the Theological Exploration of Vocation, an initiative of the Lilly Endowment.
 - The Rev. Mary Ann Moman, Senior Advancement Specialist and Director of Course of Study, focusing on development, recruitment and extending the seminary's program reach. Previously, she was Associate General Secretary for the Division of Ordained Ministry, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.
110. The Rev. Dr. James Noseworthy Senior Assistant to the President, working with the president in administrative responsibilities, development, and grant writing. Previously he was president of United Methodist-related Hiwassee College, and Assistant General Secretary for the Division of Higher Education, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

111. Joining the seminary's faculty this summer include:
- Dr. Charles H. Cosgrove, Professor of Early Christian Literature; Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary. Currently, he is Professor of New Testament Studies and Christian Ethics at Northern Baptist Seminary. He has also taught in the Association of Chicago Theological Schools' Doctor of Ministry in Preaching Program
 - Dr. Virginia A. Lee, Associate Professor of Christian Education; Ed.D., Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education; M.R.E. The Divinity School, Duke University; B.A., The College of William and Mary. She currently is Associate Professor of Christian Education at Memphis Theological Seminary.
112. Garrett-Evangelical serves over 550 students in degree-related courses, certificate programs and our summer Course of Study School. We encourage you to visit our Web site, www.garrett.edu, and, if at all possible, to visit us on campus. Garrett-Evangelical's commitment to theological education will continue to expand and improve through 2011. We are proud to serve The United Methodist Church, and we ask for your continuing prayers and support as we pursue our mission and our renewed vision. Thank you.

NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

2010 - 2011 Program Report

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. **A Year of Change – New Office** — In 2010 the office moved to Pine Grove United Methodist Church, 1580 Central Avenue, Albany. The new location is accessible, has lots of parking and is near interchanges with major highways I-87 and I-90.
102. **A Year of Change – New Staff** — In December, Sylvenia Cochran retired as administrative assistant after working for the Council for 32 years. She will be missed by all who came in contact with her. Capably filling her shoes is Karen Lapierre. Karen is a former schoolteacher with a master's degree in education.
103. **Chaplaincy** — For many decades the Council has certified chaplains for service in state institutions of corrections, mental retardation and developmental disabilities, mental health and family and children's services. To be certified as a chaplain, one must first meet strict education, experience and Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) requirements then be interviewed by one of three geographically located certification committees composed of present and retired chaplains. Once certified and appointed to a position in a state facility, the Council's role becomes one of ombudsmen for concerns of the chaplains.
104. Thus the state budget situation had and will continue to have a huge impact on chaplains. The hiring freeze, in effect for more than a year, meant no new chaplains were or would be hired even though normal attrition brought chaplain vacancies to more than 30% in the Department of Corrections (DOCS). Because no positions were likely to be filled, the number of applications for certification were down. With all the uncertainty over the effects of state budget cuts in the department, chaplains often looked to the Council for support, and the work of the chaplaincy coordinator and the chair of the Chaplaincy Commission became vital.

105. Prisons that are only being kept open for economic development reasons need to be closed. The new governor intends to do just that and help communities whose employment suffers because of the closures. Thus, we can expect even fewer positions to be filled and pastoral care needs not being met. Since these problems are not only a concern for Protestants, the Council is taking the lead in organizing an interfaith response to this situation. Representatives from the New York Catholic Conference, the New York Board of Rabbis and the Council of Mosques were asked to attend a meeting of the Chaplaincy Commission in February at which time they planned cooperative strategies.
106. **2010 Meeting with the Governor** — In March, the Collegium met with the Governor. The ethical principles for making budget decisions developed by the Collegium two years ago served as a base line for economic discussions. Several chaplains who were guests of the Collegium were able to give concrete examples about how budget decisions affect the work they do. All expect relationships with the new governor to be as productive as with past governors. The issues discussed from year to year and often lead to meetings of Council leadership/staff with heads of departments responsible for the issue.
107. **Peace and Poverty Mission** — In May, 16 members of the Collegium and their guests attended the New York State Council of Churches Ninth Annual Peace and Poverty Mission to Capitol Hill. As usual the first session focused on the call of the church in relation to issues of the day. Then an entire day was spent on briefings about poverty related issues, Middle East Peace and immigration. This gave Collegium members the latest updates on the issues and special strategies to pursue in their visits on Tuesday and Wednesday.
108. In addition to the very important advocacy work that is done, the annual pilgrimage to DC has been extremely important in building relationships
- with the New York delegation in Congress. With year to year in-person contact supplemented by contact throughout the year, members of the Collegium are now seen by New York legislators and their staff as reliable sources of grassroots input and respected for the ethical grounding of issues.
 - with Church World Service (CWS). Ever since the Collegium began its annual pilgrimage to DC, immigration has been one of the issues on which members were briefed and then discussed with their legislators. The Council has successfully partnered with CWS in speaking with those shepherding legislation through the Senate and in securing a lead co-sponsor for legislation. This year CWS requested we highlight the work the Council does through this event in a video. It can be viewed on the Council Web site: www.nyscoc.org
 - with denominational offices in DC. At different times staff from denominational DC offices of the Episcopal, Society of Friends, Lutheran, Presbyterian, United Methodist, United Church of Christ churches and their colleagues at Churches for Middle East Peace, Sojourners, NAACP, Win Without War, Bread for the World and the Children's Defense Fund have made presentations to the Collegium on issues. The Presbyterian and Lutheran offices have also hosted the event.
109. **Public Policy Commission** — Not so long ago New York used its available resources to meet human needs. Advocates merely pointed out where the need was. State institutions were well staffed, including a full cadre of chaplains.

Congregations struggled to meet local needs but rarely had to turn people away for lack of resources. This is no longer true as more and more people are victims of budget cutting by both business and government.

110. How to go forward in this new reality was the focus of the October Public Policy Commission Planning Event. Attendees pondered how the words in Luke 4 and Isaiah 61 addressed the needs of the people who lived at that time. Then attention of the group focused on those often overlooked when considering who is vulnerable in our society. The incarcerated, the undocumented and youth and others who are victims of bullying and hateful acts join ongoing issues of peace and poverty as priorities for the year. After a discussion about how the church can meet today's needs with today's resources a work plan was developed.
111. **Sad Good-Byes** — In the past year, New York lost four giants of the ecumenical movement.
- The Rev. Dr. Clint McCoy, Presbyterian Northeast Synod Executive for Partnerships, died Sunday, September 12, 2010. In his many years of involvement with the Council Clint gave leadership to its focus on disaster and was serving as President of the Council at the time of his death.
 - The Rev. John Miller, UCC clergyperson and Director of the Capital Area Council of Churches, lost a long battle with lung cancer on September 11, 2010. John was active in many facets of Council life and was noted for his work with troubled youth on the streets of Albany.
 - The Rev. Robert Trost, former District Superintendent in the Troy Conference of The United Methodist Church, died October 21, 2010. Bob served many years in many capacities with the Council, including as chair of its Personnel Committee.
 - The Rev. Dr. Lee M. Miller, former ELCA Upstate New York Synod Bishop died on January 31, 2011. Lee had been active with the Council for decades, serving on the Program Cabinet and as Convener of the Collegium from 1997 until his retirement in 2002.
112. **Promising Welcomes** — The Council also welcomed Bishop Marcus Matthews who represents the new Upper New York Conference of The United Methodist Church and the Rev. Dr. Wayne Paulson, Interim Executive Minister, American Baptist Churches of New York State.
113. *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. — Luke 4:16-17*

LONG ISLAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The Rev. Thomas W. Goodhue, Executive Director

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The mission of the Long Island Council of Churches is the help diverse Christians to work together in mission and to help Christians and non-Christians to understand one another better.
102. One way in which we help churches to be in mission is by providing resources to the poor and struggling that are beyond the capacity of individual congregations. In the past year, we fed hundreds of people each week—we are serving 10%

more people in Suffolk County and in Nassau than last year, which was itself a record year. We often provide emergency food to more than 2100 people a month. In addition, we distributed hundreds of Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, fed 600 people at our Thanksgiving Dinner in Riverhead, distributed 8500 household items just in Riverhead, and helped more people with rent and mortgage assistance than ever before. We continue to need donations of non-perishable food and volunteer drivers to pick up these contributions.

103. Our Multi-Faith Forum presented its 260th Building Bridges program, a project without parallel elsewhere. This project sends hundreds of volunteers from eleven different faith communities and many races, nationalities, and cultures into schools, workplaces, and houses of worship to help Long Islanders understand their neighbors. Our volunteers represent the Bahai Faith, the Brahma Kumaris, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduisms, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Native American Spirituality, Sikhism, and Unitarian Universalism. If you are not familiar with all these traditions or did not know that they are your neighbors, you may need a Building Bridges program! We need more volunteers for the Forum, particularly Christians who are willing to tell how they practice their faith in their daily lives.
104. In the wake of the mortgage crisis and the subsequent recession, we have offered more seminars than ever before on how to be good stewards of our money. In the past year, for example, we have presented a dozen programs for unemployed people who are trying to hold onto their homes. Our financial experts have tackled such topics as how to find affordable housing, how to reduce household expenses, how to manage money in retirement, and how to know if a reverse mortgage is right for you. In the months ahead, we hope to expand the number of programs we offer on how to save money by using less energy both in your house of worship and in your home. Perhaps you would like us to do a seminar in your congregation? Perhaps as part of your stewardship program?
105. Through Ligerio Energy, we have begun to offer both churches and individuals substantial discounts on natural gas.
106. We have offered 10 programs in the last year on how to preach and teach about immigration issues and how to make your congregation more welcoming to our newest neighbors. We have also brought together leaders of local mosques with leaders of local churches to help them address common problems together, particularly the prickly issues surrounding building or expanding houses of worship.
107. We have launched new efforts to encourage ecumenical and interfaith dialogue in our region. In responding to our neighbors in need, we want to address the issues that divide us. We do not imagine that that we can unite the broken Body of Christ, but we can at least try to get out of the way of what God is doing to make us one. As Michael Kinnamon, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches, put it, "The ecumenical task is not to create unity but rather to address divisions of human origin in order that the unity God has given may be visible in the world."
108. None of this would be possible without the support of many people like you. Thanks!

THE METHODIST HOME FOR NURSING AND REHABILITATION

Jo Ann Landers, Director of Marketing & Development

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The Methodist Home for Nursing and Rehabilitation celebrates an esteemed heritage with 161 years of caring for others.
102. Located in the beautiful Fieldston section of Riverdale, New York, this 120-bed skilled-nursing facility offers short-term, out-patient rehabilitation and long-term care. Specialty programs include wound care, IV therapy, pain management, trach care, respite and palliative care.
103. Methodist Home is 5 Star Quality Rated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid with all private rooms and private bathrooms. The 2,000 sq. foot rehab center offers state-of-the art equipment and a "Home Suite" complete with a bathroom, tub, bedroom and kitchen helping residents' recovery and transition home.
104. Residents enjoy amenities that include a beautiful sensory garden with a waterfall and Koi pond. Our library is filled with large print books and audio tapes. Computers with Internet access, printers and Skype are always available. Wii games are on hand and our activities department continues to offer social, spiritual and physical activities for all the Residents.
105. The Home continues to offer free lectures, concerts and seminars onsite and throughout the community we service.

UNITED METHODIST HOMES

Robert L. Clapp, President**Rev. James Stinson, Director of Spiritual Life**

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. **United Methodist Homes (UMH)** provides retirement housing, assisted living and health care at four Connecticut locations, in Shelton, Farmington, Newington, and Sharon, and serves more than 1,000 residents annually. UMH also operates Foxbridge, an assisted-living community in Memphis, Tennessee, and a nursing and rehabilitation facility in Cloverdale, Indiana named Summerfield Health Care Center.
102. **Wesley Village.** Wesley Village, our main campus in Shelton, offers retirement living, assisted living, and nursing care and rehabilitation. As a Planetree Continuing Care community, Wesley Village celebrates the uniqueness of each individual and nurtures and supports the relationships that sustain a healthy and meaningful life.
103. **Crosby Commons at Wesley Village.** Crosby Commons features full-service assisted living in a friendly, comfortable atmosphere. A total of 68 one-bedroom and studio apartments—furnished and decorated by the residents themselves—include a living and dining area, a bathroom equipped with a sit-down shower, and a mini-kitchen. Meals, housekeeping, laundry, recreation programs, wellness programs, concierge services, and transportation are included in the monthly fee. If needed, personal assistance with dressing, bathing and other activities of daily living is also available at an additional cost.

104. **Wesley Heights at Wesley Village.** This community offers HUD-subsidized independent and assisted living in 90 cottages with full kitchens and HUD assisted living in 90 apartments with meal service in a central dining room. In the Wesley Heights apartment building, UMH recently completed an \$11 million renovation project to provide a sunroom, library, and space for meetings, group, activities and worship, a new lobby, entrance, and brighter lighting and new decor and furniture in the central dining room and lounges. In addition, each apartment has been completely renovated to make the bathrooms and other areas fully wheelchair accessible.
105. **Bishop Wicke Health Center at Wesley Village.** Bishop Wicke Health Center is a nursing and short-term rehabilitation facility with accommodations for 120 residents. Specialized services include orthopedic and cardiac rehabilitation, hospice care, and pain management. A large proportion of the residents come to Wicke on a short-term basis for rehabilitation and then return to their own homes.
106. **Middlewoods of Farmington.** Affiliated with the neighboring UCONN Health Center, Middlewoods of Farmington provides 74 apartments for independent living, assisted living, and short-term respite care. The monthly rental fee provides a one- or two- bedroom or studio apartment, three meals a day, housekeeping, laundry, recreation, wellness programs and transportation. If needed, personal assistance with dressing, bathing and medication is also available at an additional cost.
107. **Middlewoods of Newington.** With 54 apartments, Middlewoods of Newington features full-service assisted living. The monthly rental fee provides a studio apartment, three meals a day, housekeeping, laundry, recreation, and transportation, with personal assistance also available at an additional cost.
108. **Sharon Health Care Center.** Sharon Health Care Center is a nursing and rehabilitation facility with accommodations for 88 residents. Specialized services include orthopedic and cardiac rehabilitation, cancer care, wound treatment and pain management.
109. Sharon Health Care Center also operates the onsite **Beginning Years' Children's Center**, an early childhood education program, and **Hospice Volunteers of Northwest Connecticut**, which provides trained volunteers to assist terminally ill patients and their families.
110. **United Methodist Homes/Long Hill Company.** The UMH team of senior care professionals is available to provide consulting and project development services to other organizations that are considering developing or expanding senior services and facilities. UMH is particularly interested in providing consulting and management services to other faith-based non-profit organizations.
111. The programs of UMH operate on an annual budget of approximately \$42 million. Donations support special care for hospice and Alzheimer's patients and services for low-income residents. Donors who arrange charitable gift annuities that pay them a lifetime income and bequests continue to build the long-term financial strength of UMH. The assistance of donors and volunteers from United Methodist churches enables United Methodist Homes to continue providing dignified personal services to senior adults.

UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

“Spirit led: Renewing the Church!”

By Wendy J. Deichmann, President, January 2011

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. United has one goal: to train dynamic leaders for the ministry of Jesus Christ. As you consider whether God is calling you or someone you know into ministry, we invite you to explore the opportunities at United!
102. United offers:
 - Degree and certificate programs relevant to today’s followers of Jesus Christ!
 - Emphases in Christian Ministry, Pastoral Care and Church Renewal!
 - New: An Online/Hybrid Master of Divinity that meets UMC and ATS standards!
 - A growing number of Life-Long Learning courses online and on campus!
 - New Doctor of Ministry degree focus groups and mentors!
 - Deep learning opportunities for both clergy and laity!
 - Appreciative theological reflection on the central teachings of the Bible and the doctrines of the Christian faith!
 - Spiritual formation in a variety of cultural contexts, including international communities!
 - A technologically advanced, fully accessible, state-of-the art campus!
 - A youthful, diverse, widely published faculty committed to the Christian faith!
 - Friendly and helpful staff and students!
 - A UM matching scholarship program and scholarships for others as well!
103. At United, we are committed to following the Spirit’s lead in renewing the Church for the mission of Jesus Christ in the world!
104. Enrollment at United is growing steadily and we invite you to call, visit or sign up for a class or program that meets your needs!
105. For more information, contact admissions@united.edu. 4501 Denlinger Road, Dayton, OH 45426, 937-529-2201 www.united.edu
106. Thank you for your prayers, partnership and service in the ministry of Jesus Christ!

WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, WASHINGTON, DC

Rev. Dr. David McAllister-Wilson, President

Concur: 148, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. Last conference year saw extraordinary growth and changes at Wesley Seminary. We had the largest and youngest entering class in our history. The dynamic weekly worship on campus has been enhanced by our newly refurbished and fully accessible Oxnam Memorial Chapel. We have a new dean in Dr. Amy Oden, a United Methodist. Dr. Oden came from her position as Professor of Church History to lead the Seminary in our transition from Dr. Bruce Birch’s retirement. Her gifts for shaping our vision and modeling leadership mark her as an obvious choice to continue in that position. Watch for announcements of a campus celebration of her appointment.
102. We welcomed Drew Dyson to the James C. Logan Chair in Evangelism. Professor Dyson is shaping new efforts to prepare students for ministry with youth and young adults. Drew is an ordained United Methodist

pastor who served churches and worked for the General Board of Discipleship before pursuing his Ph.D. Also new to the faculty is Sam Marullo, Director of Research on Missional Communities and Professor of Sociology. Dr. Marullo is a Deacon in The UMC. He comes to Wesley having chaired the Department of Sociology at Georgetown University while completing a Master of Divinity at Wesley. Dr. Marullo will be directing the Center for Missional Church from the Mount Vernon Square – our new downtown location.

103. We have dramatically revised the Course of Study School at Wesley, renewing the curriculum and making it easier for pastors to complete the course with alternative scheduling options. A Resource for Church Leaders – The Lewis Center for Church Leadership continues to provide groundbreaking research and resources for church leaders. Their free online newsletter, *Leading Ideas*, is our gift to you and your congregation's leaders with ideas you can use immediately. Find out more at www.churchleadership.com.
104. Two books on ministry were produced. Dr. Lovett Weems, co-authored with Tom Berlin, pastor of Floris UMC, *Bearing Fruit: Ministry With Results*, which gives ministry leaders tools to assess fruitfulness in their ministry. Dr. Michael Koppel and Dr. Denise Dombkowski Hopkins co-authored *Grounded in the Living Word: The Old Testament and Pastoral Care Practices*, which explores the connection between pastoral care and biblical interpretation.
105. We unveiled a mammoth and unique resource for global theological education in The UMC. Prepared by the Wesley Ministry Network, in cooperation with theological educators in the Central Conferences, the *Wesleyan Studies Project* is three DVD courses, structured as 12-lesson courses on Methodist History, Methodist Doctrine and Methodist Evangelism with video sessions by more than 50 scholars from 11 countries. They can be ordered at www.wesleyministrynetwork.com.
106. Next year bears similarly exciting news. We are delighted to add to our faculty this coming year Dr. Cedric Johnson as Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology. Dr. Johnson is well-published and brings extensive experience in pastoral care and counseling. He is affiliated with the Church of God in Christ, a denomination that grew from the continuing Wesleyan revival. We will renovate the library, making it the center of student life and creating an *Information Commons*.
107. We will launch two new tracks in the Doctor of Ministry Program. The first is a cohort of Military Chaplains focused on "*Religious Leadership in a Complex, Multi-faith Environment*." The second is "*Theological Education from a West African Wesleyan Context*." This has been designed in partnership with our United Methodist brothers and sisters in Liberia to prepare a generation of indigenous theological educators. And this summer, we will launch a portal that includes a collection of courses held on-campus, via distance learning, and Wesley-related events for which active clergy, alumni, professional laypeople and others can earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs).
108. God's call is bold. Your seminary should be too. Meet us at www.wesleyseminary.edu.

PETITION #2011-GC201 – RESTRUCTURING THE GENERAL AGENCIES/ BOARD/COMMISSIONS DURING CHANGING TIMES

Concur: 138, Non-Concur: 7, Abstain: 3; 95.2% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

Total Number of Pages:	2
Suggested Title:	Restructuring the General Agencies/Board/ Commissions during Changing Times
<i>Discipline</i> Paragraph:	¶1301, 1901, 1903, 703, 701
General Church Budget Implications:	Yes
Global Implications:	Yes

Rationale:

Effective mission engagement to save millions of apportionment dollars.

WHEREAS as United Methodists, we have often gathered and prayed together to discern where the reconciling and healing Spirit of Christ was leading us in order to be faithful in our call to ministry. The United Methodist Church’s connectional system has enabled us as a life-line of hope for the Methodists everywhere in our fragmented and marred world, for which we are grateful, and

WHEREAS, we, “Methodists,” are a diverse community of believers and who come from many nations, cultures and traditions who currently stand at a particular moment in the history and mission of our church which are being formed and shaped by the forces of globalization, technological advance, post-modernity and religious pluralism, and

WHEREAS when the missional landscape has changed more quickly and permanently than anyone imagined and the old Christendom has given way to “the southward shift of global Christianity,” toward Africa, Asia and Latin America, we, as a denomination, move toward unity and oneness to create a worldwide church in order to give a collective witness to the global community. And since we are well aware that what worked yesterday will not work today, and some of the theological concepts and ideas that we used during the earlier era, the metaphors that we employed in the last century, and the images that we applied to convey the message to the previous generation are not healthy and wholesome to everyone around in this generation, and

WHEREAS one of the biggest challenges in Christian mission today comes from ministering with the people of other religious faiths. Our current fragmented theology of mission which was created for a bygone era is not effective anymore as our notion of adherents of other faiths and the context and cultures of people outside of our hemisphere is only secondary and derivative. It is time to heed and engage the voices of Christians from other parts of the world who have a first-hand and living experience with people of other faiths. They are widely present in our churches across the denomination, and

Whereas we are grateful for the effective and on-going ministry and mission work of GBGM/Women’s Division and for their outstanding production of in-depth, book-length study materials and other resources before and since 9/11 for our constituents across the denomination. To quote just a few books they have produced: ***God Is One: The Way of Islam, Creating Interfaith Community, India-Pakistan, Israel-Palestine, Shalom, Salam, Peace***, and

WHEREAS the ecumenical movement that began as an organization in the nineteen forties in order to bring together the European churches which in later years embraced the global Christian community had served its purpose, and

WHEREAS in this century ecumenism has lost its steam and itself faces new challenges as it is poised to become ecumenicity of religions, and

WHEREAS when ecumenism is taken as a mission task it will yield lasting results. As Methodists, we need to redefine ecumenism within the context of our connectional policies and missional practices, and

WHEREAS GBGM has the experience and resources to work with the Methodists and non-Methodists from many different cultures, traditions and backgrounds. They have the knowledge and know-how to effectively minister both in interfaith and ecumenical contexts as well, and

WHEREAS by housing the office of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns under the General Board of Global Ministries, the denomination will be able to reduce the repetition and duplication of missional tasks among general agencies. Through the consolidation of the above mentioned two mission agencies, The United Methodist Church will not only be able to save millions of apportionment dollars but can offer an effective and dynamic witness to the worldwide community through a well-structured, experienced and organized General Board without any disruption in their on-going ministries as well.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the General Conference restructure the general boards, agencies and commissions in the context of today's changed world and in the light of the formation of a worldwide church, and assign the current mandate, function and responsibilities of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns to the General Board of Global Ministries in order to meet the emerging needs of both the local and global communities.

Submitted and endorsed by:

Inday Day, Asian Council, Beverly Risi, Joan Cordani, Hyoung Duck Yoo, James Law, Snehlata Patel, KunSam Cho, Constance Pak, Jacob Dharmaraj

