
A. LEGISLATIVE SECTION REPORTS & PETITIONS

SECTION 1: MINISTRIES OF WITNESS

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. There were no petitions in this section.

BLACK METHODISTS FOR CHURCH RENEWAL

Daryl Norman, Chairperson

Concur: 103, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

- 101. Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ.
- 102. **The purpose:** To empower Black Methodists for effective witness and service among pastors, laity in local churches, conferences, schools and the larger community. To expose latent and overt forms of racism in local, regional and agencies and institutions of The United Methodist Church. To initiate, develop and implement strategies and instruments for the development, maintenance and growth of strong Black local Churches.
- 103. To this end we have addressed the issues of participation of both clergy and laity to our local chapter meetings and identified three primary areas which need development. They are information about BMCR, Clergy and lay participation and new ways to enhance attendance as we meet the challenges of information dissemination, and issues concerning our conference.
- 104. Our luncheon honored persons of service and provided a forum for information regarding BMCR locally, the NE Jurisdiction and nationally. The annual dinner meeting presented Rev. Vance P. Ross deputy general secretary for external connectional relations and strategic initiatives for the Board of Discipleship and we honored and identified new clergy members for 2010. We continue to be in dialogue with Board of Laity, Church and Society, United Methodist Women and various task forces on various resolutions.
- 105. We received copies of the Call to Action Report and will distribute this document at our annual dinner meeting at Conference. Thank you for the active participants. May God Bless our endeavors.

CONFERENCE COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN UNITY AND INTERRELIGIOUS CONCERNS

Rev. Dennis Winkleblack, Chairperson

Concur: 103, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

- 101. CCCUIC has had a slow second year in its most recent iteration. The cause of Christian Unity remains all too easy to relegate to back burners in favor of more pressing local and denominational concerns. Of course, this is nothing new. Our challenge remains that of keeping the passion burning for honoring Jesus' prayer that "all may be one" without either burning out in frustration or settling for institutional status quo.

102. On the Interreligious Concerns front, Rev. Mandy Iahn organized a Day of Mindfulness at Bluecliff Monastery in Orange County, one of the homes of Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh. The experience was well received by the dozen United Methodists who attended. A longer retreat may follow.
103. A sub-group of CCCUIC has continued in dialogue with the Diocese of New York of the Episcopal Church with whom we have an interim Eucharistic Sharing covenant. I was privileged to preach at a Eucharistic celebration at their denomination's headquarters in Manhattan and to assist with the sharing of bread and wine. Our scheduled worship service in which UMs would celebrate the Sacrament and an Episcopalian would preach was postponed because of weather.
104. Proceeding from the dialogue with the Episcopal Church will be a joint Eucharistic celebration that will also include the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (we celebrate the status of full communion with the ELCA!). Plans are being made for the three bishops to host a joint Eucharist in our area in early 2012.
105. Bishop Park, Bishop Mark Sisk of the New York Diocese of the Episcopal Church and Bishop Robert Rimbo of the New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church meet regularly to address common concerns in the parts of their jurisdiction which overlap.
106. We continue to rejoice in the number of United Methodist clergy who are executive directors of local councils of churches or their equivalents. Rev. Dr. Brian Bodt, the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport; Rev. Tom Goodhue, Long Island Council of Churches; Rev. Skip L'Heureux, Queens Federation of Churches and Rev. P.J. Leopold, Associated Religious Communities in Danbury, CT. Many others, clergy and lay, are elected officers of local, regional or statewide religious ecumenical bodies. Thanks be to God!

2010 COOPERATIVE SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

Beverly Peck Risi, Dean

Concur: 103, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The School was held at Western Connecticut State University, Danbury, CT from July 22 to 24. The studies were the spiritual growth study, "For the Love of God: The Epistles of John." The study leaders were Rev. Janet G. Hodge, Rev. Robert M. Walker, Mariana Gil, and Rev. Gunshik Shim. The geographic study, "Sudan," was led by Rev. Anne Bracket, and the social issue, "Joy to the World: Mission in the Age of Global Christianity," was led by Dr. Glory Dharmaraj and Rev. Namsuk Kim.
102. Music was led by Rev. Timothy Riss ably assisted by Joseph Gordon.
103. The youth leaders were Gail Boykin, Andrea Smith and Paul Smith. Diana J. Collier was the children's study leader assisted by Miran Chun.
104. Mr. Gabriel Bol Deng from Sudan told the School of his life experiences. Rev. Marjorie Nunes led the Revival.
105. There were 136 adults, 8 children and 20 youth in attendance.
106. Those in attendance enjoyed the studies and were most appreciative of the study leaders.
107. Thank you to all the study leaders and those who served on the 2010 school team for making it a spirit-filled success.

HISPANIC AMERICAN COUNCIL OF THE NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Rev. Magaly N. Beltre, Chair

Concur: 103, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

“Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”

—I Corinthians 16:13-14

101. Brothers and sisters, may the peace and love of the resurrected Christ always be with you and your loved ones. We meet again as part of the people of God to review the work done last year. It was a year of questions, doubts, loss, achievements, but above all, a year of hope for the future. We know that our commitment is with the God of love, peace and justice.
102. The Hispanic Council of the New York Annual Conference, an entity that must care for the spiritual wellbeing, commitment and development of our faith communities, is also facing difficulties in carrying out the responsibilities because of the many challenges. We expected more work done in some areas.
103. We also celebrate the dedication, efforts and commitment of the United Methodist Hispanic Camp Committee which was very successful and a blessing to all the participating families. We continue to support and encourage the Hispanic United Methodist Women to attend the School of Missions. In December 2010 we had a retreat for clergy and another for laity led by the Rev. Dr. Ediberto Lopez, New Testament professor at the Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico, and a member of our Conference.
104. Thank you to all the brothers and sisters who visited some of our congregations as an intentional act to promote the work of the Council. The Lent season services continue to be a priority for our community of faith.
105. In the midst of challenges some of our congregations are facing, especially Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church, we stay united in supporting them knowing that “the One who has called us is faithful in his promises.”
106. The new year challenges us to be faithful with the commitment that each of us has building up the Kingdom of God. We foresee with hope a time when our churches can receive the needed attention to achieve the goals ordered by God.
107. The challenge is enormous, let us continue then, seeking the Lord’s leading in the struggle that each of us is fighting in our communities. Not looking at the past, not wasting our energy in what we could not reach, let’s look to the future where we will find the answer from the Lord.
108. **Hispanic-American Council**
Chair: Gladis Lobato
Vice-Chair: Magaly N. Beltre
Secretary: Ahyda Victoria Lozano
Age Level and Family Life: Marco A. Medrano
Methodist Family Camp: Sonia Jermin, Ithamar Malave
Church and Society: Gladis Lobato
Local Church Nurturing: Laura Keppis
Mission Outreach: Edda Reyes

Strategy Chair: Felix M. Thomas
 Finance Chair: Obdulia Rivera
 Treasurer: Nora Medrano
 Consultant/Mentor: Luisa C. Martinez-Buck
 Nominations: Arturo Maine, chair; Alicia Fils-Aime Wentler, vice-chair
 Members at Large: Sheridan Martinez, Adelaida Perez, Augusto Reyes
 Theological School/Escuela Teologica Task Force: Alicia Fils-Aime Wentler,
 Simon James, Daisy Tavarez
 Cantico Nuevo Choir Rep: Maria Garcia Toirac
 Hispanic UMW Chair: Daisy Tavarez
 Youth: Dorlimar Lebron
 UMM: Simon James

KOREAN COUNCIL

Rev. Chong Kim

Concur: 103, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The Korean Council of the NYAC strives to serve ethnic Korean clergy members of the NYAC so that ethnic Korean clergy remain a vital part of the NYAC in both serving their appointed church and in connection with the Annual Conference through mutual sharing of the experiences in personal and ministerial life. Also, the Korean Council seeks to promote fellowship among its members through regular meetings where they can find mutual support. Attendance in each regular meetings averages between 30-40 members.
102. Activity Details:
1. Jan. 2010: Annual celebration of the New Year service was held, followed by fellowship luncheon.
 2. Mar. 2010: First bi-monthly meeting was held, with a small seminar focusing on apportionment and retirement (financial) issues.
 3. May 2010: Korean Council General meeting was held to inform and discuss issue of interest prior to Annual Conference.
 4. Jun. 2010: The Korean Council meeting during the Annual Conference is by far the most attended meeting as members who are far away attend while they are at the Annual Conference. Newly ordained members are introduced and retiring members are recognized, and other matters of business are discussed.
 5. Sep. 2010: The highlight of the Sep. meeting was sharing ministry experiences and church programs. Volunteers were asked to present their church's programs and experiences so that others could benefit from their presentation.
 6. Nov. 2010: The focus was on prayer as Thanksgiving, Christmas, and planning for the New Year was ahead. Members gathered and prayed for and with each other.
103. **Radio Ministry Project:** With the help of Annual Conference funding, a radio ministry was launched with 11 Korean pastors participating (Korean Radio dial am 1660). Each Saturday evening, a program called "The Korean United Methodist Hour" was aired and pastors took turns preaching. Also, church programs and activities of Korean United Methodists were announced to help promote the presence of the Korean United Methodist Churches in the metro area.

LAY SPEAKING MINISTRIES

Peter O'Neill, Conference Director

Concur: 103, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. I am pleased to report that our District Committees on Lay Speaking Ministries, through the dedicated service of many lay and clergy persons, continue to provide excellent training opportunities throughout our Conference. At this writing in mid-March, 98 individuals have completed basic course training with another 175 completing advance courses. Two of our districts have training events scheduled for April 2011.
102. In February Eugene Knoth and I had the opportunity to attend the four-day convocation of the Association of Conference Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries held in Indianapolis. This year's event was a joint meeting with conference lay leaders. This year's focus was on the "Call to Action" Report and Dr. Lovett Weeks led classes on laity involvement in church revitalization. We also had the opportunity to meet with many representatives from our sister conferences around the country and with some of the GBOD staff to gain a better insight into the global connection of our church. Some of the conferences have begun to develop on-line training programs with the expectation that these may become available to all district and conference lay speaking committees in the future. There is also a training course for district committee members in the development stage. There is also a Web-based program for district record keeping which we can hopefully look to employ in the future to simplify our own lay speaking records. The representatives of 25 of our conferences have indicated their support of a GBOD initiative to retitle Lay Speaking Ministries as Servant Ministries, with greater emphasis on leadership and servanthood than merely "pulpit supply."
103. We have a number of innovative programs in use by several of our districts. To date, there is little commonality throughout the districts as to how lay speaker training is conducted. As we continue to meet together, it is hoped that we can foster greater uniformity, without sacrificing local flavoring.
104. Representatives from all of our district committees on lay speaking met via conference call in March. District directors are also active participants at our Conference Board of Laity meetings.
105. Finally, I must say how greatly appreciative I am for the enthusiastic support and encouragement of our Bishop, Jeremiah J. Park, and for the assistance provided by Rev. Ann Pearson Thank you too to our Conference Lay Leader, Renata Smith, and all who serve on the Conference and district levels to promote laity and lay speaking within the New York Annual Conference. To God be the glory!

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

Judy Stevens, Chair

Concur: 103, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. This year, CCOSROW supported the work of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women through monitoring and raising awareness about the status and role of women in The United Methodist Church. CCOSROW monitored

plenary sessions of Annual Conference, legislative section meetings, and the commissioning and ordination services. The following categories were monitored:

- Clergy / Laity
- Male/Female
- Race & Ethnicity
- Younger / Older Adult, and
- Persons with Disability.

102. The categories were applied to persons presiding and presenting, and to those who were recognized to speak from the floor. These areas for improvement were noted:
1. In general, women who were recognized as speakers during plenary sessions were white clergywomen.
 2. The number of women recognized as speakers during the administrative plenary sessions, i.e. CF&A and Health Benefits, was less than 25% of the whole
103. To date, CCOSROW-sponsored meetings have been held in these districts: Metropolitan, New York/ Connecticut, and Connecticut. Plans are being made for spring meetings in Long Island East and West, and the Catskills. The focus of these meetings were: report on monitoring of Annual Conference, encourage women to attend the Clergywomen's Consultation in Lancaster, PA, encourage clergywomen to participate in the Anna Howard Shaw Retention Study, educate women about General & Jurisdictional Conferences and encourage them to run as delegates.
104. COSROW sponsored a retreat for women held in February at The Grail. The retreat was led by Rev. Lucy Jones and Rev. Evy McDonald.
105. In the coming year, CCOSROW will continue to work toward empowering and equipping lay and clergy women for leadership in our New York Annual Conference.

NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT FOR THE UNITED METHODIST MEN

John D. Lewis, NYAC Conference President

Concur: 103, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

Working through God's Grace and wisdom as United Methodist Men for the common good as Christians in God's Church.

*"Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father,
and attend to know understanding,
For give you good doctrine, forsake ye not
my law.*

*For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved
in the sight of my mother.
He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart
retain my words; keep my commandments, and live.
Get wisdom, get understanding, forget it not; neither
decline from the words of my mouth" — Proverbs 4:1-6*

101. Greetings to the New York Annual Conference from the NYAC United Methodist Men. We began the year with several agenda items centered around

not only our three annual events, i.e., Bishop's luncheon, Annual Conference, and the Fall Retreat, but also campaigns that address the issue of getting more participation from men in the church as well as visibility for UMM throughout the Conference.

102. The United Methodist Men have underscored this year with a challenge for "commitment" by leadership in becoming more accessible and visible as leaders in the eyes of the men throughout the Conference.
103. We began with a meeting with the Laity Board by discussing the issue of how men can be more effective in the Church by more participation. We addressed the problem by taking steps in becoming more visible and attending more church services as to as many churches possible. We have also taken steps, as leaders in the Conference, to rotate our executive committee meetings outside of the Conference center in White Plains to as many churches in order to gain more visibility and interaction with the men.
104. As an organization, we are set on becoming more viable in our participation within the Church as men, particularly at the local church level. It is our goal this year to get as many churches organized with a men's unit to strengthen the role of men in our churches throughout the Conference. We will work in partnership with our district superintendents, pastors, lay leaders, as well as the Bishop, in efforts to meet the challenges ahead in getting more men involved in the Church.
105. Our annual fall retreat is one such effort, Conference wide, that is suppose to introduce the men at the local level, specifically, to the concept of both spiritual and social nourishment. This gathering is a viable tool in the process of getting men in tune to each other, as well as the church. If more and more men would attend this retreat, the experience would allow them to be exposed to prayer, scripture, educational information about United Methodist Men, history, workshops on Christianity, and most of all, spirituality. This gathering is designed to bring men to the church, as well as closer to God. Here, the men can learn the importance of their role in the Church, as well as how vital they are as men in Christ.
106. Another gathering is our annual Bishop's luncheon, which is usually held each March on the third Saturday. However, this year the luncheon is rescheduled for September 17, 2011 as a concerted effort, with our Bishop and district superintendents in support, to gain a greater number of men in attendance for this event. As a measure of gaining more visibility within the Conference, a change of venue from White Plains was suggested for the event for the purpose of greater exposure and widespread participation.
107. In partnership, we all can make a difference by working together in these efforts in getting the men to become more involved in the Church. We can all do better as leaders in reaching our men to assist them in developing a more concerned commitment in serving for Christ.
108. As leaders, we have to be committed to the idea of both visibility and as messengers. The most important message we can give to the men is that we need them in leadership roles, ministry programs, scouting, and of course missions. We need to know how we, as Conference leaders, can better serve the men at the local level in order to get that message across.

109. It goes without question that we have failed in our overall approach to our missions' campaigns. We have not done enough as real men in Christ in seeing that we properly appropriate what is necessary in providing programs that are directed towards missions.
110. The good news is that we first recognize our failure as leaders; and now, we can direct our focus and attention on a missions project for 2011-2012 that should resonate throughout the Conference, rather than being a disaster relief program, hunger relief, care and aid relief, building program, or that involving another nation. We have to adjust our levels of commitment in order to be a factor in the lives of others. We, however, must know how to first partner as men within the Conference to start God's work and then partner with God in completing it.
111. We are going to have to do the same with relationship to commitment in our overall men's ministries i.e. prison ministry, street ministry, as well as the scouting programs.
112. Regardless of the past failures mentioned, we are marching forward with great optimism. We have all the confidence that the men will rise up and work toward this long awaited commitment in leading the church by being the "pillars" that we are.
113. We will partner with the United Methodist Women, as well, in accomplishing the great many things in the works for Christ. God loves us all and we must return that love with our full commitment to Christ in doing good works in celebrating his name.
114. Lastly, we must pledge to ourselves to get the younger men involved because the very survival of our organization depends on it. There will be a full initiative in the recruitment process of making our younger United Methodist Men feel part of the organization by becoming effective leaders at all levels of the local churches, districts, and the Conference.
115. We must establish ourselves as true Disciples of Christ by sharing the word and living it as well.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Deborah C. Jenkins, President

Concur: 103, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The God of Mission has called us as United Methodist Women some 142 plus years ago to be a community of women organized for mission. The total program of United Methodist Women is mission: mission as community building, mission as spiritual growth and social action, mission as acts of charity and acts of justice in this hurting world.
102. We as United Methodist Women understand our role as women in mission to be advocates for women, children and youth, and the marginalized in the world. We pray, learn, teach and act for change in today's injustice-filled world. As United Methodist Women the basic needs of women and children are still the same.
103. United Methodist Women support programs and projects through gifts to mission through our pledge dollars annually. We give thanks to God for the women of the New York Annual Conference who give tirelessly of themselves, their time, and talents. The women give to their local individual churches and give and make a pledge to the conference.

104. Our world and country are in an economic crisis. Through the generous prayers and monetary gifts of the women of New York Conference, we made our pledge to mission for 2010. As last year, we are proud to report that our Conference designated giving to Missions far exceeded our expectations. We made birthing and health kits and sent \$3,627.00 to UMCOR with most of the funds designated for Haiti; \$1,119.50 to Far Rockaway Mission; \$717.50 to Unity House and \$735.00 was designated to WAM. We continue to support our Appalachian Mission and to fund the Josephine Gibson Scholarship to first time participants to the Cooperative School of Christian Mission.
105. The Conference mission team experience has changed in its leadership as stated in our constitution and bylaws. At the end of this year, I will be completing my four years as president. I will be saying goodbye to the women of the Conference. I can honestly say it has been a joy and honor to have had the opportunity to serve the women of the New York Conference.
106. I would like to thank all the women who have served with me as leaders on the Conference Executive Team and those who have mentored me and supported me these last four years.
- The Conference Mission Team members are Susan Kim, vice president; Dianne Adone, secretary; Cynthia Morrow, treasurer; Sarah Sweetwine, chair;
 - Committee on Nominations: Sharon Noisette, spiritual growth coordinator; Barbara Becker, social action coordinator; Olga Alveranga, education and interpretation; Doris Richter, programs resources; Gail Boykin, communications coordinator; Rose King, membership nurturer and outreach; Daisy Tavez Majuers, Methodistas president; Ohyeun Lee, Korean Network president and language coordinator; Esther Abu Carr, Ghanaian president and language coordinator; Roena Littlejohn, Appalachian development ministries representative; Rev. Sonia Jermin, dean of Cooperative School Christian Mission and Patricia Knebel, assistant dean.

I truly would like to thank all of these women for their dedication and for all the work they do.

107. Our Annual Meeting 2011 will be Saturday, November 5, 2011 at Jesse Lee UMC in Ridgefield CT. NY/CT district will be our host. Our Conference theme is Building an Inclusive, Supportive Community of Women in Mission: On Purpose. Our speaker this 39th annual meeting will be Harriet Jane Olson, deputy general secretary of the Women's Division.
108. Again, I consider it an honor and privilege to have served the women of the New York Annual Conference United Methodist Women.

