



THE ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

of The United Methodist Church

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

Number 3, Events of Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Balloting

Voting on the amendments concluded Wednesday.

Amendments 8, 9, 15, 17, 22 received over 50%. 8, 9, 19, and 22 received at least 66.7%.

Totals may be found on the Conference website, arumc.org.

Churches of the Year

Category I

New Haven, C
Quitman, N
Chickalah, NC
Wilson Chapel, SE
Sedgwick, NE
L'Eau Fraiz, SC, (overall)
Newberry Chapel, W
Richmond SW
Betel, NW

Category II

Shiloh, NE
Brightwater, NW
Prescott FUMC, SW
Mt. Olive, W
Oaklawn, SC
St. Luke, SE
Pottsville, NC (overall)
Clinton, N
Oak Forest, C

Category III

Blytheville FUMC, NE
Elm Springs, NW (overall)
Monticello FUMC, SE
Magnolia FUMC, SW
Clarksville, W
Mountain View, N
Hot Springs Grand Ave., SC
Mabelvale, C

Category IV

Little Rock St. James, C
Cabot, NC
Piney Grove, SC
Jonesboro FUMC, NE (overall)
Mountain Home, N
Springdale FUMC, NW

News Briefs

Phone cards for deployed troops were blessed by the Conference.

Rev. Rodney Steele presented the bishop with a **personalized Arkansas license plate** bearing the word "BISHOP."

There was no presentation of a check to the pension from **Cokesbury** this year because the publishing house lost money this year. Cokesbury's profits are distributed to annual conferences' pension funds.

Resolution #1, printed in the Pre-Conference Journal to direct The General Board of Church & Society "to focus on gospel-centered issues that would unite the church" was amended to delete examples of what those issues might be and then the resolution was *defeated*.

Outdoor Ministries' recommendations that previous camping standards adopted by the Conference be rescinded and that all camps be encouraged to seek accreditation through the American Camp Assoc. was *adopted*.

Recommended changes to **Camp Tanako's** Articles of Incorporation were withdrawn to allow for further study.

Horizon Stewardship gave \$1500 for wells in the Congo and \$1500 for pensions in Africa. The conference's goal of \$7000 was met.

The new Discipline requires a specific **Audit Report** form be completed at **Charge Conferences**. The Conference has them available.

Nomination report was revised and approved.

Awards

Horizon Stewardship Award

Rev. Chris Cooper
Blytheville FUMC

COSROW award

John & JoAnn Miles

Widow's Mite Award

Mt. Zion, Carla Thompson

Denman Evangelism Awards

Jared Waylon Guinn, youth

Amy & Jerry Buckingham, lay

Rev. Carlton Cross, clergy

Jay Lawhon VIM Award

Gwen Efird

Micah Mission Awards

Shorewood Hills

Jacksonville FUMC

Springdale FUMC

Peace with Justice small grants

ATU Wesley Found. Age-to-Age

Shepherd's Center, Beebe

Think Justice, Philander Smith

Conway Cradle Care

Pioneer Club, Hamburg

Madres de Niños, Dewitt

Charter for Racial Justice

Jim Beal Barnabas Award

Rev. Jerry Nichols

7th Annual Interfaith Awards

Quapaw Quarter UMC

Bishop Kenneth Hicks

CF&A Report

CF&A proposes budget cuts for 2010 that would reduce local church apportionment levels from 10% to 9.4% of church expenses.

The Conference approves.

DSs have requested that their salaries be reduced to 2008 levels. Mileage reimbursement levels will be reduced to 50% of IRS levels for volunteers and 80% for paid staff.

Clergy may be paid for no more than one move expense per year.

Monitoring of Annual Conference

Monitors of the worship services wish to applaud Monday night's worship planners for their use of inclusive language in liturgy and prayers and Sunday night's inclusive hymns and inclusive participation of youth and young adults.

As a result of our data, which will be reported in the Arkansas UM newspaper, we would like to encourage in future conferences for out laity, both female and male, in lifting your voices during Annual Conference.