

**Plenary Session #1**  
**Thursday, June 14, 2018**  
**8:30 am**

(Note that the conference members gathered Wednesday evening at Boise First United Methodist Church for a Memorial/Communion service of worship, followed by the Episcopal Address. Bishop Stanovsky provided time during her address for Donna Pritchard to report on her work with the Commission on a Way Forward.)

**NATIVE AMERICAN FIRST WORDS**

Ed Edmo lifted up a powerful prayer as the first words of plenary, and then told a story from his tradition, accompanied by Coyote Marie Hunter-Ripper.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Bishop Elaine Stanovsky called the 50th session of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference to order.

**ORGANIZATIONAL MOTIONS**

Laura Jaquith Bartlett, conference secretary, made the following motions to organize the work of the conference session:

1. The bar of the conference shall be established as the seats at the tables in the meeting room, including the tech booth and the Floor Manager tables but excluding the hospitality table.
2. The conference staff, interpreters, readers, mentors, technicians, and pages who do not hold voting privileges are allowed the privilege of working within the bar of the conference.
3. The pre-conference reports are hereby accepted for changes and perfections as determined by annual conference actions.
4. Clergy members of other annual conferences currently serving within the bounds of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference under par. 346.1 of the *Book of Discipline* shall be allowed seats within the bar of the conference, with voice but no vote.
5. Our official representatives from the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference shall be allowed seats within the bar of the conference, with voice but no vote.

**Passed.**

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Bishop Stanovsky introduced those with her at the head platform: Paul Cosgrove, parliamentarian and conference chancellor; Wendy Woodworth, agenda chair; Laura Jaquith Bartlett, conference secretary; and Jan Nelson, conference lay leader.

The bishop also introduced a few guests: Peter Hang from Wespeth; Gregg Sealey and Kristina Gonzalez from the Pacific Northwest annual conference. She noted that other guests will be introduced later during our time together.

Bishop Stanovsky also introduced her administrative assistant, Rhondalei Gabuat.

### SAFE SANCTUARIES

Lydia Henry, our Safe Sanctuaries coordinator, addressed the plenary session. She shared some sobering statistics about child abuse, and also offered five steps that we each can take to minimize the chance of abuse in our ministry settings. She noted that each of our local churches is required to adopt a Safe Sanctuaries policy. Lydia invited anyone who might feel threatened during our time together this week to contact one of the trained persons here who is wearing a Safe Sanctuaries button.

### NOMINATIONS REPORT

Lowell Greathouse directed attention to the light pink nominations report, along with the bright pink half-sheets, which are correction forms for the report. Changes to the report need to be made on the half-sheets by lunch today. Lowell pointed out the addition of a new position: Disability-Accessibility Ministries Coordinator. He offered a brief overview of the report.

### MINISTRY LEADERSHIP REPORT

Gwen Drake and Teri Watanabe shared the first of three MLT reports. The two of them reported a number of rather amazing “factoids” about the astoundingly diverse and powerful ministry that’s been happening in Oregon-Idaho over the past year. Lowell Greathouse introduced the leadership team, then showed a video that highlights a few examples of the remarkable revitalization work that is taking place, and also introduced the conference to our new Congregational Developer for Vitality, Leroy Barber. Lowell closed by asking the conference members to discuss in pairs these two questions, “What did you see?” “What is the challenge for the church?”

### COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Rick Beadnell, CF&A president, address the conference members and guests concerning the conference budget. He introduced members of the Council, and reminded us that where our treasure is, that is where our hearts will be. He led us in a summary of our fiscal activity in 2017. We paid 100% of our shared ministry apportionments to the General and Jurisdictional conferences, and 110 of the 184 OR-ID churches paid 100% of their shared ministry apportionments. But because 74 churches could not do this, we had a gap of about \$700,000, which was slightly worse than 2016, and also lags behind most other conferences in the denomination. The proposed 2019 budget is up about 3%.

### NORTHWEST FOUNDATION

Tom Wilson introduced the Rev. David Nieda and Julia Frisbie as two new staff members of the Foundation. The Foundation staff are available to help local churches with a variety of projects related to financial stewardship and investment.

### INTRODUCTION

The bishop introduced Bill Gibson from the Greater Northwest Innovations & Vitality team.

### LEGISLATIVE FORUM

Warren Light, coordinator of our legislative process came to the podium and introduced Adam Briddell and Ruth Marsh, who will be the legislative co-coordinators, starting in 2019. Adam and Ruth directed our attention to the Consent Calendars.

Warren moved the adoption of Consent Calendar A, action requests recommended for approval.

Clay Andrew moved the removal of AR-1, Revisions for Scholarship Policies of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Seconded.

**There were 40 votes, so it is removed.**

Voting moved to Consent Calendar A.

**Passed.**

Warren moved the approval of Consent Calendar B, standing resolution renewals.

**Passed.**

Warren directed our attention to AR-7, Return of Land (Lot #4900) in Wallowa County to the Nez Perce Tribe. Todd Bartlett, executive director of camp and retreat ministries, was invited to present the petition; he also introduced members of the tribal council who are with us this morning. Todd explained that this small parcel is no longer physically connected to our camp at Wallowa Lake, and is largely river bottom property, which is crucial to the tribe's work of restoring sockeye salmon to the river and lake.

Debbie Wallace, on behalf of the Legislative Assembly, moved the adoption of AR-7.

It was pointed out that the action request was apparently not distributed, but Rule 2.052 requires that reports be in the hands of conference members three hours in advance of action.

Jim Frisbie moved to suspend the rules in order to allow the vote on this item. Seconded.

**Passed.**

Voting moved to AR-7.

**Passed.**

#### ANATOMY OF PEACE PRESENTATION

Bishop Stanovsky introduced Brian Brown, our guest presenter for our conversations about *Anatomy of Peace*, which all conference members have been encouraged to read before our session this spring.

#### TABLE TALKS 2.0

Jenny Willison and Debbie Coutts developed the process of small groups to digest and reflect on what Brian has presented, as well as our reading in *The Anatomy of Peace*. Jenny and Debbie explained the process of moving into the groups. Participants are encouraged to tweet comments and questions at #UMOI.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laura offered parting announcements, and then Jenny and Debbie directed participants in waves out to their small group meeting rooms.

## LUNCH

Following lunch, the clergy and laity sessions met separately (with laity remaining at the Riverside Hotel venue, and clergy traveling to Boise FUMC). In the evening, all conference members returned to Boise FUMC to participate in the commissioning of Jessie Cummins, and to be inspired by the preaching of Leroy Barber.

### **Clergy Session Thursday, June 14, 2018 1:30 pm**

A small group of clergy musicians (Clay Andrew, Jon Umbdenstock, David King, Jill Plant, and Allen Buck) led us in some rousing gathering music.

Clay Andrew, chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, introduced our time together as a service of worship, within which we will care for the important work of the Business of the Annual Conference.

Laura Jaquith Bartlett, conference secretary, made the following motions:

- a) that the bar of the conference be this room;
- b) that ministers of other denominations currently serving within the bounds of OR-ID be allowed to be present without voice or vote; an individual minister of another denomination may be allowed voice upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the session;
- c) that clergy members of other annual conferences, who are currently serving within the bounds of OR-ID (under par. 346.1) be allowed in clergy session, with voice but no vote;
- d) that the bishop's administrative assistant, Rhondalei Gabuat, be allowed to be present in the room without voice or vote;
- e) that our sound and video technicians be allowed to be present in the room without voice or vote, along with our invited guests: Gregg Sealey, Paul Cosgrove, Leroy Barber, Shalom Agtarap, and Bill Gibson.

**Passed.**

Erin Martin, Columbia district superintendent and member of the BOM, called us into worship on the theme: Do This and You Will Live! Do What?

The actions of the body concerning the BAC are recorded below. For the full details, please see the Business of the Annual Conference report in the 2018 Conference Journal.

Q17: all answered yes, by the grace of God.

The Covenant of Conduct for a New Appointment: The BOM presented this covenant to the members of the Clergy Session for reflection and consideration. Janine DeLaunay pointed out

that, even though she has been a member of the clergy session for many years, she was once again handed a piece of paper (the text of the proposed covenant) for the first time during the session, and is expected to make a decision about it in that setting. It's harmful to continue this insensitivity to accessibility issues.

Adam Briddell moved to change the word "personal" to "pastoral" in the last section, #2. Seconded.

Eilidh Lowery moved to amend the Briddell amendment by removing the word "personal" and simply state "continued relationships." Seconded.

**Passed.**

The bishop ruled that we have now resolved the Briddell amendment, with the passage of the Lowery amendment.

Todd Bartlett asked the Board to re-examine this document with the information we're receiving at this annual conference session from Brian Brown; this document deals with behavior and not about mindset.

Carol Thompson moved to refer the covenant back to the BOM in light of both Todd's and Janine's concerns. Seconded.

**Passed.**

Orders Reports:

Joyce Sluss, co-chair of the Order of Deacons, offered a report about a series of ministry discernment events hosted by the Order and the BOM around the conference this past spring for persons who are discerning whether God might be calling them into some form of ministry. We reached 46 persons in this initiative. Joyce encouraged all clergy session members to keep track of persons in their own ministry settings who might be good candidates to be invited to the next event!

Todd Bartlett, co-chair of the Order of Elders, reported on behalf of himself and Kate Conolly, who is not able to be here due to the fragile health of both her brother and her parents. Todd reported that he and Kate will be passing the mantle of leadership to the next chairs of the Order.

Michele Holloway reported as chair of the Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors. She invited all members of the Fellowship, including Lay Persons Assigned, to breakfast tomorrow morning.

Q18: Gwen Drake has been added to the membership of the Administrative Review Committee. The members were elected.

Q64. This is on hold.

Q48. Clergy who have died during the past year were named and honored as candles were lit.

Q72a The list was approved.

Q76c. Ministry settings were approved.

Q28. Clay moved that Jessica Cummins be elected and commissioned as a provisional member.  
**Passed.**

Q21a. The list was approved.

Q21b. The list was approved.

Q25. The list was approved.

Q26b. Ann Blair was approved and added to the list.

Q38. By vote of affirmation, Robert Walters was transferred into Oregon-Idaho from Great Plains, effective July 1, 2018.

Q39. No vote is required, but we rejoice that Joshua Clark and Karlene Clark are transferred into Oregon-Idaho from the Free Methodist Church, effective July 1, 2018.

Q53. This year's full member retirees were officially voted into the retired relationship, within the context of "Remembering Faithful Ministry."

Q50. The list was approved. A brief statement was read about each of the three persons who are being placed on leave this year: Bill Hays, Patty Meyers, and Courtney McHill.

Q52. Terry Neal gave a brief update about each of the two persons on Medical Leave. The clergy session voted affirmatively on both.

Bishop Stanovsky thanked everyone who worked on the huge administrative task of preparing the BAC.

Clay said his farewell as the chair of the BOM, and offered a prayer. The Clergy Band then returned to lead us in a closing song.

**Plenary Session #2**  
**Friday, June 15, 2018**  
**8:30 am**

## LAITY ADDRESS

The conference members and guests gathered with a short time of worship, including the Laity Address by Jan Nelson, conference lay leader.

Bishop Stanovsky introduced her spouse, Clint.

On behalf of the annual conference planning team, Laura Jaquith Bartlett offered an apology for the ways that we have failed to live up to our value of making a place for everyone, in particular in not making materials at yesterday's clergy session accessible for everyone. The team has pledged to greater intentionality in making sure that all aspects of annual conference are accessible for all.

## MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Greater Northwest Area Innovation & Vitality Team was introduced to the conference: Bill Gibson, Kristina Gonzalez, Shalom Agtarap, and Leroy Barber. After a short video, Bill offered a summary of the exciting work the team is doing across the Area: "It's time for disruptive innovation!"

## EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

Daryl Blanksma, chair of the Commission on Equitable Compensation, directed our attention to the commission's report, including its recommendations for minimal compensation for clergy in the annual conference. This recommendation represents at 1.5% increase over what was approved for 2018. The Commission is also recommending a 3% increase in the housing allowance.

Daryl moved the Commission's recommendations as follows:

The Commission on Equitable Compensation recommends that for 2019 the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference fix the *minimum* base compensation, including the use of a parsonage, at the following rates:

**\*\*Elder in Full Connection/Associate Member: \$39,382**

**\*\*Provisional Elder: \$37,504**

**\*\*Local Pastor: \$35,424**

In addition, the minimum cash salary shall be increased by \$100 per year of service in the United Methodist Church, capped at a maximum of ten years or \$1,000.

**Passed.**

## NOMINATIONS

Lowell Greathouse lifted up the addendum to the Nominations Report, which was distributed last night and is also on the plenary tables.

Lowell placed the report (as amended on the addendum) before the conference for adoption.

**Passed.**

## BOARD OF PENSIONS AND HEALTH BENEFITS

Danna Drum, chair of the BOP, addressed the conference to present the following health benefits recommendations for action:

1. The Conference Board of Pensions, in consultation with the Council on Finance and Administration, is authorized to adjust the Conference Budget for Health Insurance Premiums and the monthly billed amount between sessions of the Annual Conference, if necessary, due to the receipt of new premium rate information from Wespath.
2. The Conference Board of Pensions is authorized to adopt new eligibility policies as required by Wespath for the HealthFlex Program. These policies may include procedures for the cancellation of coverage due to various circumstances. The effective date of these policies will be determined as required by Wespath.
3. The Conference Treasurer is authorized to bill \$1294 per month to local churches and 100% of the premiums to other participants' ministry settings to support the defined contribution toward health insurance benefits. Participants will pay any difference between the defined contribution amount and the total premium for the plan and benefit options they select. The Conference Board of Pensions may approve use of the blended rate for non-local church settings if such change is mutually agreed upon by the ministry setting and the Conference Treasurer.
4. The CDHP C2000P2 with vision exam coverage and no dental coverage will be the default plan. The annual Defined Contribution for active HealthFlex Exchange participants in 2019 will be as follows:

Single Participant	\$9,348
Participant + Spouse	\$17,376
Participant + Family	\$22,224
5. The retiree health insurance plan is a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) stipend based on the number of years of service in the Oregon-Idaho, Pacific Northwest and Alaska Conferences per the eligibility policy and table above.
6. The following Health Insurance policies will be continued:
  - a. No premium subsidy or stipend will be granted to participants retiring prior to the age of their Medicare eligibility. They shall be responsible for the full payment of their health insurance premium. Those who are eligible to retire under the forty-year rule (§357.2c)) will be granted an exception to receive the retired subsidy or stipend for their medical expenses. Upon reaching the age for Medicare eligibility, and enrolling in the Medicare program, the clergy member shall be eligible for conference subsidy or stipend based on the then current schedule as approved by the annual conference.
  - b. The conference shall pay 100 percent of the medical insurance premium payment at the default level of benefits, for those persons eligible for benefits under the CPP Disability program. After one year the conference will pay the premium for the participant and 50 percent of the premium for the spouse and/or family.

**Passed.**

Next Danna presented the Board's pension and welfare plan-related recommendations for action:

### **Pension and Welfare Plans**

1. Effective January 1, 2019, the Pre-82 (MRPF) past service rate for ordained clergy and local pastors shall be \$631 per service year, with 70 percent continuing payment to the

surviving spouse, and that Addendum A of the Clergy Retirement Security Program be so amended.

2. Concerning the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP): The Conference Treasurer will bill each local church for CRSP at the rate of 13 percent of the pastor's compensation (including cash salary plus utilities and housing allowance [25% of cash salary if parsonage is provided]) for eligible clergy. Cash salary includes deductions from payroll and any contributions toward social security. Local churches served by retired clergy are exempt from this billing.
3. The Conference Treasurer will bill each local church (with a pastor appointed three-quarter time or full time) at a rate of 3.0 percent of the pastor's plan compensation for the Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) for eligible clergy.
4. The Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference meeting in Boise, Idaho, June 13-16, 2018, approves the Addendum: Resolutions Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired, Disabled, or Former Clergypersons of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference.
5. The Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference meeting in Boise, Idaho, June 13-16, 2018 approves the 2019 Comprehensive Benefit Funding Plan for the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference, as submitted by the Conference Board of Pensions and approved by Wespeth.

**Passed.**

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT VOTING

Full members of the annual conference were instructed in the voting procedure for Constitutional Amendment #1, as passed by the 2016 General Conference. Although this amendment was included in last year's votes, the entire denomination is voting again, due to incorrect language in the original amendment. The corrected text was presented and the ballot was taken. The tally from Oregon-Idaho's ballots will be sent to the Council of Bishops, and the final result will be announced when all conferences across the UMC have completed voting.

#### GENERAL CONFERENCE DELEGATION

Donna Pritchard, first elected clergy delegate, asked the entire delegation, including reserves, to the platform, so that the annual conference could see them and commit to support them in prayer as they prepare to attend the special called 2019 session of the General Conference next February. The bishop offered a word of prayer and blessing for our delegation.

Clay took a few minutes to report the delegation's commitment to speak justice and to work for full inclusion for all of God's children. Although our budget only supports one lay and one clergy reserve, the delegation (including all reserves) would like to remain intact and to work together in St. Louis. Clay lifted up the delegation's intent to make sure that Wendy Woodworth would be the primary clergy reserve when there is opportunity for a reserve to be on the plenary floor—in order to intentionally model our commitment to giving a voice to those who have been excluded by the church's polity.

Jan Nelson, head of the delegation, offered a special thank you to Donna for her work on the Commission on a Way Forward.

Sandy Kimbrow asked a question: could we take a special offering to support the delegation so that they don't have to travel to GC2019 on their own dime? Yes, says the bishop! Dan Wilson-Fey was directed to receive any donations toward the delegation expenses.

#### RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

Danna Drum returned to the podium, this time to recognize our retiring clergy and one lay staff member of Camp & Retreat Ministry. She started with a video montage of clips from the retirees. Those entering the retired relationship are: Gwendolyn Drake, David Hargreaves (Camp & Retreat Ministries), Steven Mitchell, Pamela Nelson-Munson, Lynn Rabenstein (3/1/2018), David Raines (11/1/2017), Laura Truby (Minister of Other Denomination), Robin Yim. The bishop offered a prayer of thanksgiving for the lives and ministries of all these persons.

#### LUNCH BREAK

#### CELEBRATION OF THE RETURN OF LAND TO THE NEZ PERCE TRIBE

In a moving ritual led by Todd Bartlett, executive director of Camp & Retreat Ministries, the annual conference served as witnesses to the symbolic return of a portion of land from our Wallowa Lake camp site to the Nez Perce tribe, who were represented by four tribal council elders. A stone from the land at Wallowa Lake had been brought to Boise, was blessed through word and action, and was then given to the Nez Perce elders. In late July, after the legal paperwork has been completed, that rock will be returned to the river in the Wallowa Valley, in a final ceremony marking this small but powerful step in the journey toward reconciliation.

#### COMMITTEE ON NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES

Duane Medicine-Crowe, co-chair of the Conference Committee on Native American Ministries (CONAM), introduced Allen Buck, who is the chair of the newly formed Western Jurisdiction CONAM. Duane then offered a "story prayer." He related the story of the Nez Perce when they were chased out of the Wallowa Valley to Canada. When they reached Crowe country they were expecting help, but the Crowe people did not help them. Duane has been grief-stricken about this for many, many years. He offered a deeply emotional apology to our four Nez Perce guests, along with gifts for each. The Nez Perce, in turn, were touched and honored by Duane's humility. Annual Conference members were able to serve as witnesses yet again, this time to a story of reconciliation from a different perspective.

#### MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

Lowell Greathouse opened with a familiar Isaiah scripture (I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?). He introduced Emilie Kroen to talk about our Abundant Health initiative. Emilie announced that Marshall Wattman-Turner will be appointed as our new Abundant Health Coordinator, starting July 1. Lowell also noted our conference's renewed work in Hispanic ministry. He introduced the Rev. Modesto Díaz, who will be appointed July 1 to the Ministerio Metodista Amistad y Fe in Wilder. Jorge Rodriguez Flores talked more about our growing commitment to Hispanic ministry, with settings in Wilder, Hillsboro, and Salem. Thanks to a grant from the Collins Foundation, we have been able this year to hire a part-time LGBTQ advisory coordinator, Brett Webb-Mitchell, who addressed the annual conference. He invited us to walk with him in the journey toward full inclusion—literally, when we walk together tomorrow at the Boise Pride Parade.

## CHURCH CLOSURES

Erin Martin, Columbia District Superintendent offered some words about the history of Weston UMC. On Oct. 25, 2017, with 11 active members remaining, the Weston UMC voted at its charge conference to close, and held its final service of worship on Dec. 23, 2017, under the leadership of the Rev. Tillie Makepeace.

Erin moved that the Weston United Methodist Church be closed effective July 1, 2018, and that all real and personal, tangible and intangible property shall be transferred to the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference Board of Trustees, according to paragraph 2549 in the Book of Discipline.

**Passed.**

Tillie then offered prayer.

Gwen Drake, Sage District Superintendent, reported that Ontario First UMC was founded in 1892. Gwen talked of the church's history and remembered that her mother, the Rev. Grace Drake, attended that congregation during the last years of her life. But the membership and energy has declined dramatically in recent years. The congregation has decided to leave a legacy gift. After much struggle, the Ontario First UMC sold its building for \$1 to a new and growing congregation that got its start in a storefront—just as the UMC had done so many years ago. The neighborhood is once again being served by a vibrant church that never expected to receive such a gift of extravagant generosity. Gwen noted that the annual conference will receive over \$120,000 from the sale of the parsonage and other financial assets. The bishop commented with admiration that “Gwen is a bulldog!”

Gwen moved that the Ontario United Methodist Church be closed effective July 1, 2018, and that all real and personal, tangible and intangible property shall be transferred to the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference Board of Trustees, according to paragraph 2549 in the Book of Discipline.

**Passed.**

Gwen offered prayers for the new life that has sprung forth from a dying congregation.

## INTRODUCTION

Jeffrey Kuan, the president of Claremont School of Theology, was introduced as a special guest, and addressed the conference members briefly. Dr. Kuan noted that CST has pledged to offer a full scholarship to Native students in any degree program. He also lifted up the work that is being done on a potential partnership with Willamette University, which would bring CST to Oregon-Idaho!

## STRETCH BREAK

## LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Adam Briddell, one of two the incoming legislative coordinators, led us through our work on legislation.

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Mike Benischek moved the adoption of AR-4, Electronic Distribution of the Conference Journal - Replace Conference Rules 4.052 and 4.053.

**Passed.**

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Paula Sadler moved the adoption of AR-5, Cause the Oregon-Idaho Conference to Affirm Unity in Diversity to the General Conference.

**Passed.**

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Ben Scranage moved the adoption of AR-6, Bi-Lingual Signage for Welcome.

Mark Bateman moved to amend the last sentence, line 17 by changing the word “will” after the word “Spanish” to “be encouraged to have.” Seconded.

Steve Ross moved the previous question on all that is before us. Seconded.

**Passed.**

Voting moved to the Bateman amendment.

**Passed.**

Voting moved to AR-6 as amended.

**Passed.**

Our legislative work is not yet finished, so conference leaders will confer about a time to continue this work (probably following the banquet this evening).

Scott Schmidt asked for personal privilege. He and Lisa Dawson are getting married here at annual conference at 5:15 this evening, with Ruth Marsh officiating!

The bishop lifted up a prayer concern that our floor manager, Dan Benson, has left the conference due to the death of his mother-in-law this morning.

#MeTOO

Erin Martin and others led us in a time of lament and proclamation concerning the pervasive and chronic abuse and oppression of women, including in and by the church.

The bishop asked the body for permission to extend the plenary session, following the banquet, so we can finish our business.

**Passed.**

ANATOMY OF PEACE

Brian Brown offered the third and final presentation.

TABLE TALKS 2.0

The body expressed appreciation to Jenny Willison and Debbie Coutts for coordinating this small group process, then left for the final discussion.

## BANQUET

Following a delicious dinner, Duane Anders served as the Master of Ceremonies for a celebration that included the One Matters Award (Arlington and Wasco UMCs); the Harry Denman Award (Audrey and Ralph Lawrence), the Francis Asbury Campus Ministry Award (Warren and Isabelle Light), as well as a variety of scholarships and other honors. Bishop Stanovsky presented the Bishop's Award to Yuni Rueda, who is a powerful witness to what it means to be a "Dreamer"—a young person who bears the label, "Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals."

## (PLENARY BUSINESS RESUMES)

### BUDGET VOTE

Rick Beadnell came to the podium to present the conference budget for a vote.

Rick moved the adoption of the 2019 conference budget.

Sandy Kimbrow moved that the annual conference cover the expenses of the eight reserve delegates for the 2019 General Conference up to \$1000 each. These expenses will be covered by a combination of contributions and conference budget funds. Seconded.

**Passed.**

Voting moved to the budget.

**Passed.**

Rick moved the adoption of the annual recommendations of CF&A as printed in the pre-conference reports.

**Passed.**

Rick moved the adoption of the non-budget support items.

**Passed.**

## LEGISLATION

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Ben Scranage moved the adoption of SR-5, Support for Inclusive Lay Staff Employment Policy.

**Passed.**

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Emilie Kroen moved the adoption of SR-6, Support the Abolition of Human Trafficking.

**Passed.**

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Rand Sargent moved the adoption of SR-7, Climate Change.

**Passed.**

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Debbie Wallace moved the adoption of SR-8, Aligning Investments with Values Regarding Palestine and Israel.

**Passed.**

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Donna Ward moved the adoption of SR-9, Close the Western Hemispheric Institute for Security Cooperation (formerly named the School of the Americas of SOA).

**Passed.**

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Lydia Henry moved the adoption of SR-10, Human Rights for Incarcerated Children.

**Passed.**

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Steve Mitchell moved the adoption of AR-1, Revisions for Scholarship Policies of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

Teri Watanabe moved to amend on page 7 line 36 by adding a comma after “study/travel aid” and the words “once per quadrennium,” in the first paragraph of Section E. The Section would then read:

**E. Financial Aid for Study/Travel Leave or Renewal Leave**

I. Financial aid is available for study/travel aid, once per quadrennium, which is intended to benefit the clergyperson’s ministry. Applicants must be ordained clergy who have been a member in full connection for six (6) years or an associate member of the annual conference for eight (8) years. Study/travel leave may be up to three (3) months long, but leave beyond two (2) months will be considered as vacation.

Seconded.

**Passed.**

Voting moved to AR-1 as amended.

**Passed.**

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Kalina Malua Katoa moved the adoption of AR-8, Petition for Adoptees to Obtain US Citizenship.

**Passed.**

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Mike Benischek moved the adoption of SR-11, A Call to Prayerfully Address the Detention of Immigrant Children.

**Passed.**

**PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Karen Nelson and Kathy Boyes reported that Attorney General Jeffrey Sessions recently quoted from scripture to justify separating children from their parents at the border of the U.S.

Isabelle Light was granted permission to speak to the conference. She lifted up a number of appalling statistics about immigrant children who are being detained and separated from their parents as they attempt to enter the United States. Isabelle invites everyone into action; she asks

people to meet her in the lobby after we adjourn this evening. She encourages us to make connections and take action.

Steve Ross asks that whatever action we take on this to perhaps include a letter to go to the United Methodist Church where Jeff Sessions attends, and that Annual Conference members write to his pastor and church to express our outrage about quoting scripture in this abusive way. Bishop Stanovsky offered to produce a letter (supported by research from others), which could be signed by others, addressing this issue. The group that will meet later this evening will work with the bishop and Rhondalei to craft such a letter. By consensus, the body supports this.

#### 2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The bishop has authority to set the dates of the annual conference. She is giving us advance notice that she plans to set the same dates for the 2020 conference for both Oregon-Idaho and Pacific Northwest; the location is to be set by the annual conferences.

#### MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

We left the last portion of the MLT report undone earlier today. Louise Kienzle is our conference coordinator for United Methodist Volunteers in Mission. Louise highlighted the work of UMVIM, which is focused on bringing about change in our world. She celebrated persons in the room who have been on an UMVIM team sometime over the last year.

#### INVITATION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

John Tucker, Crater Lake District Superintendent, and Teri Watanabe, district lay leader for Crater Lake, offered an invitation to conference members to gather in Eugene, Oregon, on June 12-15 for the 2019 Annual Conference session.

Laura Beville offered thanks that the pages' expenses were all covered in the conference budget this year; Dan Benson wanted to make sure the conference members know how much that generosity has been appreciated.

#### THANK YOU'S

A series of slides listed the names of so many people who worked hard, who volunteered, who have planned and led and served us in many, many ways. Thank you!!!!

#### CLOSING WORSHIP AND READING OF THE APPOINTMENTS

Saturday morning at 8:30am the final worship service was held in the plenary space, including sharing communion as well as hearing and accepting the appointments for 2018-19. Just before the benediction, the conference secretary made this motion:

I move that the 50th session of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference be adjourned *sine die* following the benediction and our learning experiences; and that the daily proceedings of this Annual Conference be printed as the official minutes in the Journal, with such editorial corrections as are necessary.

**Passed.**

Following the benediction, conference members went forth into a variety of learning experiences for the rest of the morning, including “How Christians Can Respond to the Palestine/Israel Conflict,” “Making Generosity a Joy,” “Grateful Living: Developing a Grateful Journaling Practice,” “The Culture Shaping Church,” and “Intercultural Competency Training.” An offsite option was marching in the Boise Pride Parade.