

The Connection

NEWS FROM ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT LAKE JUNALUSKA

Presiding over the conference was Bishop Paul L. Leeland, resident bishop of the Charlotte Area. The theme for the conference was: Go and Baptize the World (Matthew 28:16-20). Guest preachers during the Annual Conference included Bishop Leonard Fairley of the Kentucky Conference, and Bishop Lawson Bryan of the South Georgia Conference.

Major actions of the Annual Conference included:

- Voted on all five constitutional amendments on the first day of Annual Conference and the results were sent to General Conference officials.
- The approval of a proposal from the Board of Trustees to move the conference center from its current location to a site in Huntersville, North Carolina, adjacent to the United Methodist Foundation of Western North Carolina.
- Passage of the 2018 Budget of \$16,209,006 dollars for conference expenses and General Church Funds. An additional \$1.85 million dollars will be apportioned through the districts for missional engagement, church vitality and benevolence grants. This was a 1.19% reduction from 2017.
- Russ Pierce, Executive Director for Mission Engagement and Director of The Advance, with the Board of Global Ministries, recognized the Western North Carolina Conference for its leadership in the Southeastern Jurisdiction. The conference is first in giving to US-based projects to the Advance giving over \$488,000 dollars. The conference is also first in the jurisdiction for giving to UMCOR with \$820,000 dollars, and that is second in the entire denomination.

Twenty persons were ordained into full connection (3 deacons, 17 elders) and 16 provisional members were commissioned.

There were 54 retirees at this session of Annual Conference.

Membership stands at 282,618

Worship attendance stands at 104,557

Church school attendance stands at 42,191

Professions or reaffirmations of faith for 2016- 3054

Adults and young adults in small groups for 2016- 71,820

Worshippers engaged in mission for 2016- 75,457

A full collection of reports and media from the Western North Carolina can be found at ac2017.org. or videos on YouTube with search "umcwncc"

(continued on Back Page)

SUMMER CHOIR INVITATION AND INFORMATION

This month the Ensemble will be sharing Camp Meeting style anthems. If you love those Camp Meeting style hymns you won't want to miss these. This Sunday the Ensemble will sing *River in Judea*, July 16's anthem will be *Fly Away Medley* featuring a special trio, July 23's anthem will be *Just a Little Talk with Jesus* and July 30's anthem will be *Victory in Jesus*. **Ensemble members are reminded to come for a quick rehearsal in the choir room at 10:45am this Sunday.**



We will not have Wonderful Wednesday in July. **The UNCG Summer Music Camp will be using our Fellowship Hall for two weeks, July 7 through July 21.** The next Wonderful

Wednesday is **August 16**. We look forward to seeing you all back for the monthly meals in August.



UPCOMING EVENTS

July 7- 21 UNCG Summer Music Camp will be using our Fellowship Hall for the camp meetings 8am-9:30pm Mondays-Fridays, various times Sat. & Sunday

July 9 5th Sunday after Pentecost, worship at 11am

July 10 Church Leadership Council mtg. 6:30pm, JW Room

July 11 *Aerobics Class, 6pm, Early Discipleship classroom*

July 16 6th Sunday after Pentecost, worship at 11am

July 18 *Aerobics Class, 6pm, Early Discipleship classroom*

OUR PRAYER LIST

Frances, Vivian, Anna Mae, Helen, Marion, Nelson, Chester, Red, and Ty

(6/1) Max Hemphill & family, Ray Edwards, (6/5) Lorena Copeland, Russell Copeland, Sarah Welty (by Carol Campbell), (6/7) Butch Bryant (Chester's Cousin), (6/18) Margaret Ann Southern, Beulah Douglas, Bennett Glass (Julia Wright's brother), David Lee (Ella Crouch's son-in-law), (7/2) Rick Owens, Philip Gorham

Does anyone have a Portable Crib we could borrow from July 12 though July 31? Our great grandson, Zachary, age 15 months, will be visiting us from California during that time. We'll take good care of it. Please call Carol Campbell at 336-299-3690.

(con't. from front page) **Petitions** that were approved by the Annual Conference included:

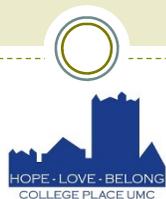
- The conference passed a petition that recognizes the 50th anniversary of the historic mergers with the Evangelical United Brethren and the Central Jurisdictions in 1968 and that the Archives and History Commission along with the Justice and Reconciliation Team will work together to implement celebrations at the 2018 Annual Conference.
- The conference passed the Western North Carolina Arrearage Policy submitted by the Commission on Equitable Compensation as required by the 2016 Book of Discipline.
- The conference passed a petition concerning Senate Bill 594 in the N.C. State Senate that would decrease the number of social service departments from 100 counties to 30 regional offices. The body voted to "strongly oppose North Carolina Senate Bill 594, urge its defeat in the legislature, and recommend to the Governor of North Carolina, Roy Cooper that he veto this law, if approved, so that every county Department of Social Services and infrastructures connected therein throughout North Carolina can promptly and effectively provide the help and care to those who need it the most."

article by Michael Rich, director of communications

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College Place United Methodist Church

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OUR VISION

College Place United Methodist Church seeks to be a Christ centered, diverse community open to everyone as they are. We believe all people are worthy of being loved and worthy of loving others. We strive to show God's grace, make disciples, and change the world with our hands, our hearts, our minds, and our words.

ALL ARE WELCOME

College Place United Methodist Church is a diverse community welcoming all persons and embracing differences of age, racial and ethnic background, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, family configuration, socioeconomic status, and physical and mental ability. We invite all to join our journey of faith toward greater love, hope, and acceptance in every aspect of our Christian life together.

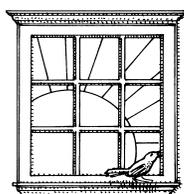
Opportunity to Help Others

UMW JULY/AUGUST PROJECT:

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR PECK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

During July & August, the United Methodist Women are receiving donations of school supplies for the pre-K to 5th grade children who attend Peck Elementary school. With budget cuts that our schools may be facing, these children and teachers need our help more than ever.

Please place any donations of school supplies in the baskets on the bench across from the John Wesley Room. Monetary donations should be made to College Place UMC and noted for Peck School.



CHURCH WINDOW PROJECT UPDATE

Contributions for the Window project are growing. To date we have received \$11,475 towards this project. If you'd like make a gift, indicate "window fund." Please remember, our general ministry and operations fund (budget) still needs your support.